

Featuring Anie Weiler  
Joined the Posse in 1969 and became full member 1970  
47year member!!

Our family, Art, Anie, Ghislaine and Marie France, moved into our country home in Mettawa in 1968. We didn't have a horse at that time but we soon became friends with our neighbor's Bernice and Art Juhrend who were Posse members. They became our sponsors to join the Posse. This is when our friend bought the girls their first horse, a beautiful white horse named "Martini"! Soon realizing... we had 3 pastures but no fence or shelter... we had to board him at the Juhrend's until our fences were finished in 1969. My husband used to say to the girls "no good grades, no horse!" (This may explain why Ghislaine is still in school pursuing her Bachelors ☺ . ) The Posse was known at that time as the Lake County Sheriff's Posse. I rode a thoroughbred when I was young and living in France. I didn't ride at Posse events, only at home, but the girls taught my husband to ride, and eventually Martini became his horse. He would ride at Posse rides. We never missed a meeting. The first meetings I recall were held in a barn at Vern Smith's on St. Mary's road. Later the Pegleows would also host events at their farm, they even had sleepovers rides. Riders would tie horses in the barn and throw down their mattresses! I would take the girls home to sleep but we sure had fun. The play nights then were held at the Libertyville Saddle Shop, these are my best memories, although the fall ride...anyhow, I remember the kids always being looked after at the shows, Hadley Campbell, George Graham, Bob Park and may others. Allen Dilg... they knew how to run the show. The kids could not wait until the next play day! There was an event every other week. We learned so much about caring for our horses. I eventually became a leader for the 4H Ravine Ranglers, comprising Mettawa, Lake Bluff, Lake Forest and Libertyville until Ghislaine took over at the age of 19! It was a good life for young people. In looking back at the Posse directory and former presidents a big smile came to Anie when she came to Pete Jackson. "He was the best, he knew how to reach out to people". Oh.. and Betsy, she was very, very good." Back to the fall rides... of course Ed Fredricks and the wagon rides and eventually Gerrit, were so much fun. Our auctions use to raise a lot of money, I remember Gerhardt, son of Carl Henrich taking off his coveralls to be auctioned! They raised a lot of money, and then Jim Ferguson joined in! Oh yes, there is the Christmas Party. We used to have so much fun and stay up so late we would stop for breakfast on the way home in the morning! I have to say, there are so many good times, and memories but it's the people and the time spent with them that make the best memories. This is why I like to sell my jam... I get to meet and talk to Posse people.