

Featuring Bill and Cindy Seng
Joined the Posse in 1980
37 year Members!!!

Bill and I joined the Lake County Mounted Posse in 1980. We were sponsored by Sharon and Claude Dekirmandjian, who were our neighbors down the road, and we rode together along with Lee and Patsy Vik in what is now the Des Plaines River trail area. At the time, we were roping, bulldogging and barrel racing here at the farm and went to many IRA rodeos and speed shows, most notable those at the Big Z Arena. Some of those shows went into the early morning hours! The Posse afforded us a chance to meet wonderful people and enjoy the many events offered. It would give our child and the two to come a place to grow up around good people, nice horses and animals of all descriptions. The Posse play-nights were held at the Lake County Fairgrounds, and we had many a memorable time there, it was just a great opportunity to share the joy of horses, friendships and competition. At the time, we hauled our Posse trailer with all the supplies and a beer and pop dispenser on the side. Bill's shining moment was being elected President of the club in 1985, and thereafter in 1991. The Fall Ride was the highlight of the year, held at Temple Farm. In those days, member Harry Dahm would stay overnight in his motorhome and everyone would show up early to set up the tables and serving areas, etc. Bill and Roy Westergard and others would take a day before the ride to survey the trails, mark them, cut off low branches, review the conditions and plan the route. We used to set a limit of 350 tickets, but in the year Bill was President Ruby Holmquist, longtime secretary, advised just to keep selling tickets, and we ended up with an astounding 750 people, some to just eat, but in all, 600 riders. In those days we had a holding area and allowed 100 riders out at a time. I led many a ride on my horse LadyTJet, and our big guys handled the river crossings--Bill, Alan Dilg, Roy, Gordon Turnbull and other good horsemen would ride ahead and be ready in the middle of the crossings to aid or sometimes pull reluctant horses through the crossing...it made for many exciting moments to say the least. At one point, we rode along Hunt Club road and seeing 100 or so horses in line was really a sight to see. In 1991, Bill wanted to change the menu from steaks to ribs, as it was hard to cook that many steaks and have everyone happy. Dennis Whiston hauled and provided the tables and chairs with generous help from Roy Westergard's crew. It was quite the event, and the Posse was very proud of the way everyone pulled together to provide such a great day for people in and out of the club. Other memorable events include the Christmas Parties at the Rustic Manor, bus trips to Arlington Park Racetrack, the good times at the Big Z, and too many others to mention.

To say we met the finest people would be an understatement. Ruby Holmquist became my mentor, I admired her spirit greatly, and she was truly First Lady of the Posse. We became fast friends with Fred and Vicki Carney, and to this day they teach us so much more about horses than we ever could ask for. We remember with great fondness our departed friends, Art Weiler, Red Combs, Harry Dahms, Dick Lencioni, Ruby Holmquist, Gerrit deKoning, Randy Brock and Wayne Reinke to name just a few.... there were many others who shaped the club with their good humor, friendship and camaraderie. The friends we made are dear to us to this day. So, for two suburban kids, with just the love of horses, Bill and I have come a long way!

All in all, our life with the Posse has been rich in every way. Through its many changes over the years, we can still proudly declare it the best club of its kind in the nation. The friendships we developed, the opportunities it presented for our children, and the places we've been with the Club have been a remarkable ride, indeed.