



Exceptional Equestrians Celebrates its Volunteers

February 9, 2016 — Exceptional Equestrians' annual Volunteer Banquet and Service awards were Tuesday, February 9 at Exceptional Equestrians. It was a celebration of all those who generously share their time to help children and adults get horseback therapies. In 2015, a total of 218 volunteers logged 4,392 hours of volunteer service at Exceptional Equestrians. The event was sponsored by BayCare Green Bay Eye Clinic.

Volunteers who have reached milestones received special recognition and awards.

500 hours of service:

Rod Leadley
Birgit Dierberg

300 hours of service:

Darrell Kuntz

150 hours of service:

Morgan Miller

100 hours of service:

Nicole Curran
Jerry Heim
Dionni Wheeler
Lexi Young
Susan Endries
Leaha Lindsley
Destiny Lemus



Grace Vecchie

[Lisa Kafka \(left\)](#) addresses volunteers [Dioni Wheeler](#), [Hannah Johnshoy](#), [Birgit Dierberg](#), [Betsy Sprout](#), [Darrell Kuntz](#), [Grace Vecchie](#), [Leo Skarlupka](#), [Jenna Dais](#), [Jerry Heim](#), [Grace Rundquist](#), and [Samantha Merkel](#).

Volunteers who have served 300 hours are featured on the Wall of Recognition at Exceptional Equestrians. They are eligible to be nominated for local, state, and national community service awards. They are eligible to be profiled in the EE newsletter, and are eligible to be selected as Exceptional Equestrians' Volunteer of the Year.

Exceptional Equestrians also recognized those who donate their time outside of the riding arena:

- board members who advocate for EE in the community
- veterinarian Brian Darkow from Countryside Veterinary Services
- board member Nancy Jacobs who supports EE with her bookkeeping skills.
- CK and EE staff and volunteers who help with the Horse Show, Boots & Bling, Pink Flamingo corn roast, and other fundraisers
- John Schaefer, who helps us in every way including facility maintenance, chores, and much more
- Glen Vanniewenhoven, our Horse Show Grand Judge, horse leader, side walker, and corn roaster



Veterinarian Dr. Brian Darkow and EE staff members Sarah Ankerson, Lisa Kafka, Kristina Bink, and Catherine Bergmann

Thanks event sponsor BayCare Green Bay Eye Clinic, guests enjoyed a catered dinner of parmesan chicken and pesto pork pastas, fresh salad, cheese garlic bread, and root beer floats. Six lucky attendees won door prizes.

Founded in 1999, Exceptional Equestrians provides hippotherapy, therapeutic riding, and equine-assisted learning programs that promote physical health and development, communication, community integration, self esteem, and achievement of functional skills. The non-profit organization located in West De Pere serves 175 families from throughout Northeastern Wisconsin annually with its team of experienced staff, volunteers, and therapy horses. For more information about Exceptional Equestrians, visit exceptionalequestrians.org or call (920) 347-3174.

Media Contact: Nancy Williquette
 (920) 347-3174
nwilliquette@exceptionalequestrians.org