

About Carlton County

Carlton County is located in northeast Minnesota and serves a population of 33,000 people. The courthouse is located in the county seat of Carlton and serves as the gateway to Jay Cooke state park. Neighboring Minnesota counties include: St. Louis county to the north; Pine county to the south; and Aitkin county to the west. The Wisconsin county of Douglas lies to the east.

Carlton County was first created in 1857.

Cities, towns and communities include:

- Barnum
- Carlton
- Cloquet
- Cromwell
- Esko
- Holyoke
- Kettle River
- Mahtowa
- Moose Lake
- Scanlon
- Thomson
- Wrenshall
- Wright

Carlton County
Mounted Posse

A non-profit
organization providing
community service

For more information
or to make a donation,
call 218.384.3236



Dedicated Volunteers Serving
the Community



Carlton County Mounted Posse



Mission Statement

The Posse's primary function is to assist with searches and public relations.

It is also the function of the Posse to promote good horsemanship, sportsmanship, and safety practices within our community.



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Message from the Sheriff

The Carlton County Mounted Posse was formed in 1995 under the request and direction of the Carlton County Sheriff.

The citizens of Carlton County are well served by the volunteers who dedicate countless hours to provide service to those of us in and around Carlton County. Your continued support of the Carlton County Mounted Posse is greatly appreciated.

The Posse is a non-profit organization independent from the Carlton County Sheriff's Office. The all volunteer unit consists of both riding and non-riding members. The Posse consists of approximately 28 volunteers who provide service to the Carlton County community and the surrounding area.

Your Sheriff, Kelly Lake



Our mission is to cooperate with all law enforcement officers and/or agencies, in the safety and preservation of all human life.

Functions of the Posse

Non-Emergency Situations

- Assist the public in non-enforcement situations (giving directions, aiding lost children, etc.)
- Maintain public peace through the visible presence of the Mounted Posse at public events

Emergency Situations

- Airplane Crashes
- Emergency/Crime Scene Security
- Accident Scenes
- Evidence Searches
- Tornadoes
- Search and Rescue
- Emergency Evacuations
- Homicides
- Floods

Membership Requirements

Posse Members

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must pass a Criminal History background check
- Must attend meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Carlton County Jail

Posse Horses

- Can be of any breed but must have a good disposition, be healthy, and show no signs of lameness.
- Must be well-trained and exhibit basic knowledge such as gait changes, backing and trail work.
- Must pass an annual sensory training clinic which will help detect if the horse can tolerate the numerous situations that it will be exposed to.

Posse Team

- Both horse and rider must qualify for the posse as a team.
- The rider must own tack, truck and trailer.
- The rider must demonstrate good riding ability and horsemanship prior to acceptance as a member.

Attendance Policy

Active members shall participate in:

- At least 60% of the horse related events
- 75% of the meetings, and
- 60% of the non-horse events

In a calendar year unless excused. To receive an excused absence a member must contact an attending member prior to the meeting or event. Three unexcused absences within one year will require an appearance before the Executive Board who will ascertain the member's interest and future participation in the Posse.

The Posse would like to thank all the contributors for their donations towards search and rescue equipment. Without their support, none of this would be possible.



Community Involvement

The Posse has participated in the following events:

- Air Show at Cloquet Airport
- Carlton County Fair
- Local Parades
- National Night Out
- Public Safety Expo
- Search and Rescue Training
- Trail Ride Fundraiser

Other Activities

Other activities Mounted Posse members can be active in are:

- Drill Team—which meets once a week starting at the end of April until the performance at the Carlton County Fair
- Sensory Training in Verndale, MN

Mounted Posse—Chain of Command

The Posse functions under the direction of the Sheriff. Internally, the **Captain** directs the posse as a group. The chain of command within the Posse needs to be followed. If you become aware of an opportunity of any sort for the Posse, you must advise the Posse Captain. The Captain must contact/advise the Sheriff.

Captain—Directs the meetings and generally oversees events the posse is involved in.

First Lieutenant—Assists the Captain with administrative duties and other responsibilities as directed.

Second Lieutenant—Keeps a well maintained record of the posse members at events to keep with the attendance policy; assists Captain in any event.

Sergeant—Maintains order at all functions; inspects all members and their mounts at all public events; and responsible for disbursement of all official equipment.

Treasurer—Keeps and maintains an account of all monies received and disbursed.

Sensory Testing

Each spring Posse horses will be tested for stability and safety.

- Each horse will be required to demonstrate a walk, trot and extended gait on cue.
- There will be a series of obstacles, which can include tires, a tent, ramp and shallow water crossing.
- Horses will be exposed to the sound of shots, flares, smoke and a police siren.

Each event is based on safety. Each horse will be given a pass or fail grade. All Posse horses must pass the sensory test to be involved in posse events.