

# Coordinator e-News

## Symbol of Hope

In 2007, Mike Ross, an Appleton educator, had a stem cell transplant due to complications with Amyloidosis, a rare disorder where your body makes amyloid protein that builds up in your organs.

In the months following the transplant, Mike's hemoglobin counts were dangerously low – low enough to induce a heart attack or stroke. With such low counts, Mike was constantly out of breath, he couldn't go up stairs and a 200-foot-walk would take him 10 minutes.

Throughout the next year and a half, there were 5 occasions when Mike received emergency blood transfusions. Mike calls the transfusions "godsent," recalling that he would feel better immediately afterward.

Mike is thankful for all the donors who saved his life, saying, "I just took for granted that there would always be blood ready to go and it would always be good, clean blood. I found out from some friends, who have gone through

what I have gone through, that in some cities this is not always the case, but around here it's not an issue."

Mike hopes donors realize, the positive impact they have on others and how they are adding years onto peoples' lives.

Today, when Mike sees the bloodmobile around school he views it a little differently, "It's just so much more a symbol of hope than it ever was before. Before it was just a big vehicle, but now it's something completely different and so much more meaningful."



## October Coordinator of the Month

It was a **spooktacular** blood drive with witches, ghosts and goblins, but **no vampires allowed** at Northern Lights Harley-Davidson's blood drive on October 31st. It was the first blood drive for Doug Klumb and the local HOG chapter, and they had a great turn-out with 24 donors. Nancy Baumgardner made some bewitching barbecues and each donor received a Harley mug. One donor suggested a key to one of the motorcycles would make an awesome giveaway! Thank you for a fantastic first drive! See you on the road in the spring.



## Pump up the Holidays!



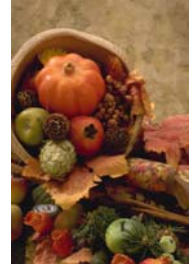
This holiday season let's encourage our friends, coworkers, and family to let our holiday spirit show! Everyone is always busy participating in all the holiday festivities; shopping, parties, school programs, baking, etc. We never seem to take a few minutes to actually enjoy our surroundings during the holiday season. Many of us are short on time and money. We encourage you to take one hour to rest, relax, and gather your thoughts. Think about everyone around you. What is the most important thing you can do for someone?

## Thankfulness

When someone expresses thankfulness, it not only impacts the receiver, but it also has benefits for the one giving thanks. Recognizing the positive things in your life and acting upon them regularly increases your awareness and appreciation.

Sharing your gratitude can improve your quality of life because it can result in positive emotions. Learning to appreciate what you have can also make life more valuable and meaningful.

Each day we're given a new chance to make a difference in the world. Albert Schweitzer, the Nobel Peace Prize recipient, once said, "At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us."



## Welcome New Sponsors!

A warm welcome to the following new sponsors and coordinators:

Beauty Resort in Eagle River - Tiffany Krueger

Agra Industries in Merrill - Carol Easter

Winter Park in Minocqua - Keith Smith  
Leadership Academy in Minocqua - Kim Zattera

**Did you move? Get married? Change your name? Let us know!** We like to stay updated with you, so please contact us if you've moved to a different address, changed your mailing address, or donated under a different name. To share updates and changes, contact the Community Blood Center at (800) 280-4102.