

ST. CROIX TRAIL BLAZERS

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 16 | AUGUST 2019

Special Olympics Equestrian Competition

Riders have been busy since the last week of May practicing for Special Olympics Equestrian Competition on Friday, August 16th at Northwest Saddle Club in North Branch. We have a team of 25 athletes participating again this year! They will be competing in showmanship, western equitation, working trail, barrels, and pole weaving.



events because of the class they were in. This year Special Olympics opened those two events up to another class. This made our riders very happy!

The heat has tried to interfere a few times but instructors, volunteers, and riders have persevered and haven't skipped a beat. Everyone is going to do a fabulous job. A follow-up from competition will be in the next newsletter.

Good luck everyone!

"Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Special Olympics Athlete Oath

Riders are divided into classes by the event, the level they are participating at such as walk only, walk/trot, or supported, etc.; and age.

In past years, some riders weren't able to compete in the barrels or pole weaving

Meet Maddie, Our Newest Instructor

Madeline "Maddie" Davis has been around horses her whole life. She first rode a horse at the age of three and has been riding ever since. She started taking English Jumper lessons in middle school with her favorite quarter horse, JJ.

Lessons ended in high school, but she kept up her



experience with grooming and riding when her family moved to a farm with 40 acres of trail riding. She even started training her horse, Baymont, to barrel race.

Once college came, Maddie found her passion for horses

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MISSION

Trail Blazers mission is to provide horseback riding, training, and competitive sports opportunities to individuals with special needs in a safe learning environment through the adaptive equine experience.

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again with St. Croix Trail Blazers as a volunteer. Maddie graduated in Business

Marketing and continues to practice her degree through nonprofits.

Rider in the Spotlight: Payton Peters

SCTB: How long have you been riding with St. Croix Trail Blazers?

Payton: 2 years, 3 months.

SCTB: What horse(s) do you ride?

Payton: Diezel most of the time.

SCTB: Do you have a favorite horse?

Payton: Diezel, but I really like all of them.

SCTB: What is your favorite thing about riding?

Payton: Trotting and talking to the horses.

SCTB: Do you have any hobbies?

Payton: Reading, watching YouTube, playing games on my phone, and hanging out with my sister and friends.

SCTB: Do you play other sports?

Payton: Basketball and bowling.

SCTB: Anything you want to add?

Payton: I really like the horses and the cats. I love all animals. I have two dogs, named Sydney and Sheldon. I have two cats, named Bluebell and Fiona.



New Roof for the Barn

The hailstorm that came through in June 2017 did a lot of damage to our buildings. We are almost done getting everything repaired.

By the time this newsletter comes out, we expect to be done with putting new roofs on the riding arena and the blue shed. The crews have been removing roof panels during the morning, then putting them

back in the afternoon so that lessons can go on as scheduled in the evenings.

A few weeks ago we finished putting a new roof and new siding on the farmhouse. (You may have noticed the color changed from white to silver-grey.) Fortunately, we have insurance to pay for almost all of the repairs.

Pond Monster

Reports are coming in of a huge black creature surfacing in the pond and blowing water out its mouth. This may be the legendary prehistoric black pond monster from the depths coming back to life, or it may be the new aerator that was recently installed.

The aerator will help improve the water quality and reduce weeds in the pond by boosting the dissolved oxygen concentration in the water. That should make the pond a better place to live for the ducks and turtles...if they can escape the pond monster!

Guide to St. Croix Trail Blazers' Horses

Billy looks like a Quarter Horse but the vet tells us he's actually a Paint. He was born



in 2008. He is a chestnut color and has four white socks. The white mark on his face is called a blaze. In the summer, his mane and tail turn a pretty copper color and his coat shines like

it has copper highlights. Billy is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.

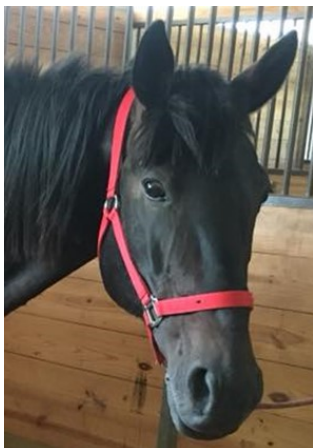
Casper is a rescued horse. The vet



speculates he is Quarter Horse, Arabian, and Foxtrotter and estimated he was born in 2007. He's a gentle soul and eager to learn. Casper is Fleabitten color and his "flea bites"

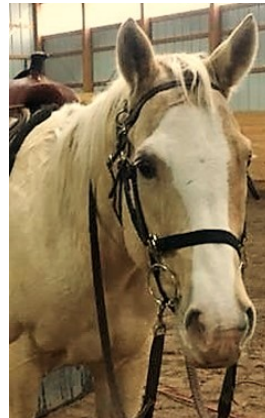
are brown. He is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.

Cooper is a Standardbred/Draft Cross.



The age given to us indicates he was born in 2004. He is dark brown with a lighter brown nose. Cooper was trained by the Amish for driving. He is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.

Diezel is a Quarter Horse. He was born



in 2005. He is a Palomino color. The white mark on his face is called a blaze. He also has one blue eye and three white socks. Diezel is a trained barrel and therapy horse. He is a leased horse.

Jag is a Paint Cross. He was born 1996. He



is a Skewbald which means white patches with any color but black. The white mark on his face is called a blaze. Jag has the outline of Mickey Mouse on his right side. Jag is a

leased horse.

Kelly is a black/white Paint. He is owned



by the Weiss family but they have asked us to us to give him a job. Kelly was born in 1999.

Kelly is a gentle soul and loves having a job. If you look at Kelly's neck, you will notice he has a "ghost" imprint.

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Onyx is a rescue horse. The vet speculates he is a Quarter Horse and Thoroughbred and estimates he was born in 2009. Onyx is black. The white mark on his face is a blaze and he has a white patch on the right side of his neck. He loves his people and

any attention you can give him. Onyx is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.



Vanna is an Arabian. The age given to us indicates she was born in 1999. She is a retired show horse. The white mark on her face is a star. Vanna has become Rocky's friend. She is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.



Rowdy is a Draft Cross. He was born in 1997. He is a chestnut color. The white mark on his face is a blaze. Rowdy also has four white socks. He is a big guy with a big heart. He's also the leader of the herd. Rowdy is owned by

St. Croix Trail Blazers.



Zip is a Quarter Horse. His age given to us indicates he was born in 2005. He is a Palomino Paint so he is blonde with white patches. He is a gentle giant who is eager to work. Zip is owned by St. Croix Trail Blazers.



Make-Up Reminder



If St. Croix Trail Blazers cancels your lesson, you will have a make-up lesson. **You have 30 days to schedule that lesson with Kellie.** Please do so by email so there is a written record:
kellie@stcroixtrailblazers.org.

Thanks!

BLACKSMITH LOUNGE

17205 FOREST BLVD
HUGO, MN 55038



9-22-19

SUNDAY
9AM-3PM
-RAIN OR SHINE-

FIRST ANNUAL CHARITY CAR SHOW

HOSTED BY ST. CROIX TRAIL BLAZERS

100% of Proceeds to Benefit St. Croix Trail
Blazers Inc., a 501c3 Serving Individuals with
Special Needs and Veterans

PRIZES!

BEST IN CLASS "GIVEAWAY"
RAFFLES
DOOR PRIZES

- ~\$10 Entrance Fee
- ~Pre-registration Preferred,
but Not Required
- ~Spectators are FREE
- ~All Makes, Models, and Years Welcome!



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT [KELLIE@STCROIXTRAILBLAZERS.ORG](mailto:kellie@stcroixtrailblazers.org)
612.207.4127

Our Email Addresses

You can reach these people at their email addresses:

Karen: karen@stcroixtrailblazers.org

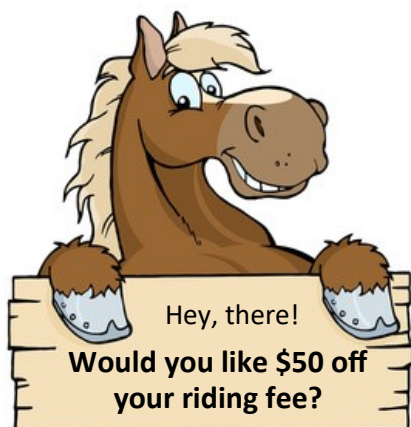
Kellie: kellie@stcroixtrailblazers.org

Keri (treasurer):

keri@stcroixtrailblazers.org



Please remember to check your spam or junk folder for any updates from St. Croix Trail Blazers.



If you bring a new rider who joins the team, we'll give you \$50 off your next month's fee!

Rider must pass evaluation with instructor.



Special People Needing Special Horses

Contact Us



Email: karen@stcroixtrailblazers.org

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St. Croix Trail Blazers is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service.

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