



# ST. CROIX TRAIL BLAZERS NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 11 | JULY 2018

Tickets are limited so get yours now!  
Tickets can be purchased directly from  
Kellie Grayden, Karen Harjes, or Karen  
Malmskog. You can also send your check

to us at: 6659 Jasmine Court North,  
Stillwater, MN 55082 and we'll mail your  
tickets to you. Please join us for an  
evening of fun for a good cause!

**GALA**  
SUMMER GIVING  
A FUNDRAISING EVENT

Please join us for an evening of  
dinner, dance, and fundraising!

Gather..... 5:30pm  
Silent Auction..... 5:30-8:00pm  
Dinner (The Bones Brothers)... 6:00-8:00pm  
Dance..... 8:00pm

**TICKETS \$25**  
12 AND UNDER » \$15

ST. CROIX TRAIL BLAZERS  
SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 2018  
5:30-10:00PM

6659 Jasmine Court North, Stillwater, MN

SEE ANY STAFF MEMBER FOR TICKETS OR CALL KAREN M (612.306.0491)

## 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 adaptive equine experience.

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## Rider in the Spotlight: Miley

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

Miley: I've been riding for one year and I ride once a week.

SCTB: What horse(s) do you ride?

Miley: I have ridden different horses: Jag, Vanna, Rowdy, and Shooter.

SCTB:

Do you have a favorite horse?

Miley: Yes, Vanna!

She takes command well! I have learned a lot from her and she is a very pretty horse!

SCTB: What is your favorite thing about riding?



Miley: My favorite thing is cantering and tacking. It's very fun to ride and I like my teacher Kellie!

SCTB: Do you have any hobbies?

Miley: Baking, swimming, crafts, dance, singing, riding my bike, and riding horses!

SCTB: Do you play other sports?

Miley: I bowl, swim, cheer team, and will be going back to Woodbury dance after doing past summer camps when I was younger to join Darby's dancers now.

SCTB: Anything you want to add?

Miley: I am looking forward to my first competition at the SCTB Special Olympics but I am a little nervous.

## Potato Chip Bird

At the nature center the other day a naturalist mentioned the "Potato Chip Bird." Since that was a new name for me, I listened up. Apparently this little bird can be recognized by its call while on the wing - "potato chip, potato chip." Also, from its up-and-down flight pattern, one can tell that it likes to *dip*. Hence the name. This little bird can be seen in open fields around Jasmine Meadows, and it is a frequent visitor to our bird feeders even during the winter months. It is none other than the American Goldfinch.



As the leaves begin to change from green to yellow, orange, red, and brown, there are some birds that are also undergoing change. This is because these birds, when they go into a molt at the end of the nesting season, their bright plumage turns to drab as their new feathers grow in. In our area the most dramatic change

takes place in the male American Goldfinch. The male loses its bright yellow plumage, and with its new feathers it becomes almost indistinguishable from the females and the hatching year birds. Often we see them on the feeder eating niger or thistle seed in the winter months.

More than once I have had to look twice to identify them, but they retain their black wings with white wing bars, and that gives them away.

Now that summer is coming, the goldfinches have gone into a molt once again, and as their winter plumage is

being replaced. The males once again are regaining their characteristic bright yellow which gives them their name. So the cycle continues for the "Potato Chip Bird."

*Harlan Baxter*

## New Email Addresses

We've updated our email!

You can reach these people now at separate emails:

Karen: [karen@stcroixtrailblazers.org](mailto:karen@stcroixtrailblazers.org)

Kellie: [kellie@stcroixtrailblazers.org](mailto:kellie@stcroixtrailblazers.org)

Keri (treasurer):

[keri@stcroixtrailblazers.org](mailto: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](mailto:karen@stcroixtrailblazers.org)

Website: [www.stcroixtrailblazers.org](http://www.stcroixtrailblazers.org)

Facebook: [St. Croix Trail Blazers](https://www.facebook.com/St.CroixTrailBlazers)

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Send submissions to: [hsgrubb@gmail.com](mailto:hsgrubb@gmail.com)

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

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