



# NORTH STAR MUSEUM

## BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

# Museum News

August 2010

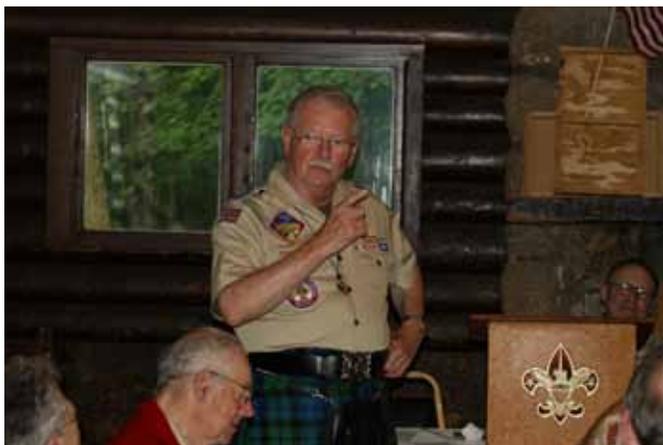
### *The Skunks Meet Again!*

On June 1, 2010, the Skunk Reunion returned to Good Medicine Lodge at Fred C. Andersen Camp for the first time in several years. Attendance was good, and, as usual, spirits were high. Attendance reached 31, filling the grand old building nicely. Our annual survey of Scouting experience revealed a total of 1414 years in Scouting, which averaged out to 47.1333 years per person!

Our keynote address this year featured current Northern Star Council President Tom Alt. Dr. Alt regaled the group with his Scouting experiences and told some excellent stories. As always, the event was capped off with the presentation of Skunk of the Year. However, we were first treated to a recently discovered vintage Skunk of the Year ceremony dating back to the 1930's. Read about the Skunk of the Year honorees elsewhere in this issue of Museum News.

The food for this year's Skunk Reunion was home made. Boy was it good. Special thanks to Charlie Opp, Joan Robbins and Barb Herrmann.

It is not too early to start planning for next year's Skunk Reunion. We will be back to a 10:30 a.m. brunch format on Saturday, June 4 at the still brand new Swanson Lodge at Fred C. Andersen Camp. Get this on your calendar and plan on bringing a friend who has never before experienced a Skunk Reunion!



Northern Star Council President Tom Alt makes a point during his keynote address at the Skunk Reunion.



Jim Rupert, Russ Edhlund, Fred Riehm and Roy Nauertz present the actual 1930's era Skunk of the Year ceremony.

## ***CLAUDIA'S CORNER (From the Director)***

I've got collections on my mind.

What sets history museums apart from other educational institutions is their collections—the artifacts, documents, photographs, films, and other bits of our collective past that sit in store rooms, exhibit cases, and appear in two-dimensional form in publications and online. The chief assets of any museum are its collections, in all of their stunning, mundane, interesting, important, and messy glory.

As the curator of this collection, and a former collections manager, it pains me that I have to find things by rooting through boxes, rather than examining our written and electronic records to find what I am looking for. It is a principle of good museum management that you can pick something off the shelf and locate all of its paper records, simply by following the artifact's number. Likewise, you want to be able to select an artifact's number out of the database and lay your hands on the artifact. Unfortunately, that is not something we can do right now. While we have been really good at collecting, we have not been nearly as good at accounting for what we have. However, a new day is about to dawn on our collections.

This fall we will hold a community discussion about the collection—what we need to collect, and what we can safely let go of. The business of keeping a collection is an expensive one and no museum can afford to collect without regard to cost. The Collections Committee and I have been developing our thinking in connection with these issues. This summer, we are working on a Collections Management Policy for the Museum. This document, when adopted by the Board, will establish the principles by which we manage the collection, from acquisition through to de-accession, and everything in between.

As we work through each bit of our collection, such as the patch collection, and now, the periodical collection, we will accept the task and responsibility of weeding and consolidating the collection. Our efforts will ensure that we can continue to collect. We will also ask you to join the discussion of what the North Star Museum collection is, and what it ought to be. I welcome the opportunity to discuss with you the professional management of museum collections, and what that means for ours.

Claudia



Improved signage is on the way! Here is an artist's rendering of our new corner sign that will go in as soon as the necessary approvals are received. With the new sign, the Museum will be much more findable in downtown North St. Paul.

### ***TIGERMANIA RETURNS***

For the second consecutive year, the North Star Museum is partnering with the Northern Star Council's Tigermania program. The program provides program opportunities to Tiger Cubs who choose to register in the months prior to their first grade year.

This year, the young cubs will invade the Museum on Saturday morning, August 7 and on Sunday afternoon, August 8. The program will acquaint families new to Cub Scouts about how the program works, as well as get newly-minted Tigers excited about fall activities that are just around the corner. The kids and their families will spend some time learning about Boy Scout history, participate in a few activities, and enjoy a bite to eat. The program was designed and will be executed by North Star Museum volunteers Barb Herrmann, Kurt Leichtle, Gary Gorman and Nell Nere.

## *Two Skunks of the Year*

The 2010 Skunk Reunion was a special treat for everyone who attended because they got to witness a unique event. Not one, but two Skunks of the Year were recognized. Talk about odor! The honorees were John Twohig and Bob Rosene.



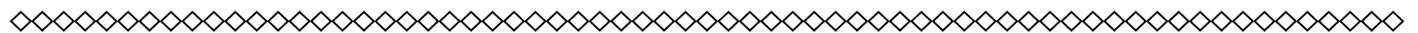
**Bob Rosene and John Twohig accept their Skunk of the Year award, as Russ Edhlund looks on in the background.**

John Twohig served in the U.S. Air Force in Japan and Korea during the Korean War. He also served as a Post Commander in the V.F.W. John has been a registered Scouter for over 30 years.

As a Scouter, John served in the Commissioner Service for a good many years, including 3 years as District Commissioner; received the District Award of Merit and Silver Beaver Awards; had the Vigil Honor conferred; and, was a co-founder of T-408 and C-408, serving as their Chartered Organization Representative since inception. John's working career included being an Associate Warden in the Minnesota Department of Corrections at Stillwater. John has also been active in his Church and took church youth members to Bible Camp in the Rockies.

Bob Rosene enjoyed a long and productive career as civil engineer. Among his awards and recognitions was the 1993 Engineer of the Year Award from the Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers and he received the Charles W. Britzius Distinguished Engineer Award in 1999. However, Scouting and the North Star Museum have been particular passions of Bob's. Bob has been a registered Scouter for over 50 years. He earned the Eagle Scout award, and received the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. Bob also served on the Board of Directors for Indianhead Council, and now Northern Star Council; as Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster and troop committee person for many years; as Council Vice Chair for Major Gifts; and, as an originator of the Eagle Scout Scholarship committee, served on the Scholarship Selection Committee. Bob is also Wood Badge trained, is a James E. West Fellow and is a Centennial Commission member.

Next time you see Bob and John, don't forget to offer your congratulations. Also, if you have someone in mind for next year's Skunk of the Year, you can download the nomination form from the Museum website and send it in at any time before May 1, 2011.



## *Get Ready For Some Merit Badges*

Plans are underway to offer a number of merit badge opportunities in the coming months. The Museum's Merit Badge Workshop program has been extremely successful over the past two years. For this reason, a Merit Badge Workshop subcommittee was formed to manage the effort. The subcommittee has developed a list of the counselors and merit badges that will be made available. Included will be a unique opportunity to earn the brand new Scouting Heritage merit badge. Keep checking the website and future issues of the Museum News to be sure you do not miss your opportunity to sign up yourself or a Scout that you know before sessions are full. It will be first come first served!

## *One of Our Own Recognized*

On July 16, 2010, Museum member and long-time Scouter Will Sulzbach was honored as 2010 Ramsey County Senior Citizen of the Year at the Ramsey County Fair. Will has been an active member of the Museum for a number of years, and recently worked on the committee that produced our Boy Scout Centennial exhibit.

Recipients of Senior Citizen of the Year must be nominated. The nomination form emphasizes community service and the person's benefit to the community. Anyone who knows Will knows that he fits the bill perfectly.

Will is not the first Museum member to be so honored. The late Dave Klinkhammer and John Twohig are past recipients of this honor. Next time you see Will, give him your congratulations.



**Will Sulzbach receives his Senior Citizen of the Year award from Shoreview City Councilmember Ady Wickstom**

*Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, John Guthmann, Claudia Nicholson and John Raymond.*

*North Star Scouting Memorabilia Inc. is a Minnesota non-profit corporation, a member of the American Association of Museums, Association of Midwest Museums, and the Association of Scout Museums International. We are a 501(c)(3) with the mission to collect, preserve, share and interpret the history and significance of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting in the upper Midwest.. We adhere to the Code of Ethics of the American Association of Museums and the Donor Bill of Rights.*

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First Class