



NORTH STAR MUSEUM

BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

Museum News

February 2010

CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL AT THE MUSEUM

In 2010 the Boy Scouts of America are celebrating their centennial on both a national and local level. So, we are celebrating too. Plan now to come out to the Museum for our Boy Scout Centennial celebration on April 24 and 25!

This will be one extra-special celebration—something to be enjoyed by Scouts and Scouters of all ages. There will be a parade of puppets in historic uniforms. You will have a chance to meet Scouting founder, Lord Baden-Powell, in person and enjoy our 100th Anniversary exhibit of Scouting and its role in American history. The history of Scouting in the United States will be told in exhibits, films and talks throughout Saturday and Sunday.

If you think you are so smart, you can test your Scouting skills and if that is enough to make you hungry, we will have snacks and real Scout food available. Join in activities for all ages, including the creation of a time capsule filled with memories of today's Scouts—Tigers, Cubs, Boy Scouts, and Venturers - to be opened on Scouting's 150th anniversary.

As a special treat, Dave Kenney, author of *Honor Bright: A Century of Scouting in Northern Star Council* will be present on Saturday afternoon to autograph your copy of his book and chat. If you don't already own a copy, they are available for purchase at the Museum.

So, plan now. Get this special centennial celebration weekend at the Museum on your calendar. For a specific schedule of events and directions see the museum web page, <http://www.nssm.org/> in March. For more information, call the museum at 651-748-2880.

2010 Merit Badge Workshops Are Coming

One of the educational programs that the Museum provides is the opportunity for youth to earn advancement at our facility. In 2010, the Museum will offer a new array of Merit Badge Workshops.

The first workshop of the new year will take place on Saturday, February 20 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. During the session, boys will have a chance to earn Citizenship in the World merit badge. The cost is only \$7 and includes a mid-morning snack. Space is limited. For questions or further information, call Carol Forrest at 651-437-4104, or e-mail csforrest@comcast.net. Then, check the web page and future issues of the Museum News for information on future workshops.





***“HONOR BRIGHT” NOMINATED FOR MINNESOTA BOOK AWARD
COME MEET THE AUTHOR***

On January 30, 2010, it was announced that *Honor Bright: A Century of Scouting in Northern Star Council* was one of four books nominated for a Minnesota Book Award in the Minnesota category. We could not be prouder. As you may know, the book was co-published by the Museum. A four-year project, this unique book takes the reader through a lively and colorful journey that chronicles the birth and growth of Scouting in our area. The book was released in November, 2009.

The Minnesota Book Awards will be given at a gala event in downtown St. Paul on April 17, 2010. Now, you have a chance to buy an award-nominated book, meet the author and get your book autographed in one fell swoop! On February 20, 2010, from 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. you should make plans to drop by the Museum to meet and greet *Honor Bright* author Dave Kenney.

When you come to the Museum to meet Mr. Kenney on February 20, bring your copy of *Honor Bright* to be autographed. You don't have a copy yet? Don't worry—you can buy one at the Museum gift shop and get it signed on the spot. See you on the 20th of February!

Celebrating the Journey

After many months of preparation and the completion of a moving and informative case statement, the Celebrate the Journey fund raising campaign was up and moving in 2009. Despite our challenging economic times, the campaign is off to a great start. As of the end of calendar year 2009, the campaign had generated \$283,826 in cash and pledges towards the 1.5 million dollar goal. Most notable was the \$50,000 gift from the Hardenbergh Foundation, which was both announced and received in December. Such a significant commitment from a major foundation is a credit to both the strong programs offered by the Museum and the superb leadership being provided by our Development Committee and co-chairs Nancy Randall Dana and Michael Galvin. Also, a special thanks should be extended to campaign counsel John Martin and John Schwietz of MGI. Look for more reports on the campaign in coming issues of the Museum News.



MEET YOUR NEW BOARD CHAIR

On January 1, the North Star Museum welcomed its new Board of Directors Chair - Barbara Corti Herrmann. Barb has a tough act to follow, as she replaces Charlie Opp, whose two-year term ends as Barb's begins. Thank you very much to Charlie for the great job he did as Board Chair.

Barb is former Director of Instructional Technology for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU), and currently works as an educational consultant for them. She is the Executive Secretariat/Treasurer for the International Vocational Education and Training Association (IVETA). She has been involved with Indianhead/Northern Star Council since 1977, and currently serves on the President's Cabinet, the Centennial book committee, and is past chair of the Diversity Committee. For the past four years, she has tutored children from a Hmong immigrant family. She was one of the Saint Paul Foundation's Ambassadors for the "Facing Race" Initiative. She is on the Vestry of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, a member of the Alumni Board of Elmira College, and former president of her homeowner's association. She was a Girl Scout for 15 years.

Barb is no stranger to the North Star Museum. A volunteer for many years, Barb has served on the Board of Directors since 2005. As the Museum works to complete the Celebrate the Journey Campaign, we look forward to Barb's leadership.

From The Director

Well, 2009 was quite a year! We further developed our merit badge workshops for Boy Scouts, seeing large numbers of Scouts earn the badges they needed and wanted to further their Scouting careers. We saw more Girl Scouts than we have ever seen before, and had several successful collaborations with them on interesting projects. And, we began our first-ever major fundraising campaign, *Celebrate the Journey*, designed to take the Museum to the next level of existence.

Boy, am I tired. But it is time to look ahead with renewed energy.

We had a successful transfer of "power" from one board chair to the next. I look forward to working with Barb Herrmann to see that the Museum continues on its upward trajectory. We are fortunate indeed that many individuals have opened up their wallets to support us—some for the first time—and we hope that many others will do so this year. We saw the successful publication of *Honor Bright*, the Northern Star Council centennial history book, in which we are important partners. We are indeed fortunate to have the opportunity to celebrate with you the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America in 2010 and the centennial of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America in 2012. This is an important time for us, as the past and present of these important youth movements will come together as never before—with us right in the middle. You can be sure that the work we do this year and in the next two will just be a foretaste of what we are capable of doing in the years ahead.

I would like to invite each of you to bring a friend to the Museum. While it is true that no organization ever has enough friends, these are particularly important times for the Museum. Our friends and members are our first-line supporters, our mouthpieces in the community, and our biggest cheerleaders. I have no doubt that all of you know at least one person who shares your passion for the past of Boy Scouting, Girl Scouting, or both. Please call me, and together, we can show them why the work of the North Star Museum is important.

I look forward to seeing you here. Let's have a great year together.

Claudia



Retiring Board Chair Charlie Opp (right) shares some knowledge with incoming Board member Tim Jopek

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

In the December edition of Museum News, you had the opportunity to see pictures of our outgoing Board of Directors being thanked for their service at the annual meeting in October. Now, it is time to welcome a number of new faces - people who have never before served on the North Star Museum Board of Directors.

Welcome Tim Jopek. Tim serves as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, where he is also a Chartered Organization Representative. Tim has been a Webelos Den Leader, Troop Committee Chairman, Scoutmaster, Metro Region Vice Chair for the Council training committee and has served as staff on five Wood Badge courses. Tim will serve as Assistant Course Director for the 2011 Winter Wood Badge Course. In 2010, Tim will attend the Centennial National Jamboree and serve as a Counselor for Citizenship in the Nation merit badge on the Merit Badge Midway. He lives in South Minneapolis with his wife Helen.

Welcome Lorena Palm. Lorena (pronounced “Lorna”) is a retired Executive Director/CEO with 22 years of experience in two Girl Scout Councils. She has been a member of the Girl Scouts for 45 years, and has a B.A. in Volunteer Management from Metro State University. The skills and experience she brings to the board include fundraising, strategic planning, governance, budget management, property management, and personnel. She has connections with both current Girl Scout Councils in Minnesota, having grown up in Bemidji, volunteered in Northfield, worked in St. Paul, and was CEO in St. Cloud.

Welcome Kent York. Kent is Marketing Director for the Northern Star Council of the Boy Scouts of America. An Eagle Scout, Kent has served as a professional Scouter in field, program, and support positions since 1976. He advises the council’s Marketing and Innovation committees, and served as staff advisor to the Council Consolidation Identity Task Force, responsible for naming and logo creation for the new Northern Star Council. The council’s marketing efforts under Kent’s direction have won numerous awards. Kent holds an MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

With Tim, Lorena and Kent joining an already strong group, Executive Director Claudia Nicholson expressed excitement about the Museum’s future: “We have a strong strategic plan, engaged members and a wonderful Board. With our new Board members, the prospect of meeting our ambitious goals grow brighter each day.” Next time you see our new Board members, give them a hearty welcome and “thank you.”

Volunteer Corner

By Gary Gorman, Volunteer Team Leader

This article is the third in a series that features our volunteer staff at the museum.

Joan Henry, this month's featured volunteer, became a Museum volunteer via the Girl Scout organization and was recruited by our late curator, Dick Carroll. Joan has fifty-plus years in the Girl Scout movement, starting out in Chicago at age eleven as an Intermediate (now Cadet). When asked about her experiences as a Girl Scout, Joan said that she will always remember one saying that troop leader Miss Wood taught her: "Service is the price we pay for our room on Earth." As an adult volunteer, Joan has served on many levels of the Girl Scouts as a troop leader, service unit leader, and two terms as a St. Croix Valley Council Board Member. Joan is a recipient of the Thanks Award, which is equivalent to Boy Scout's Silver Beaver volunteer award. As some of us may be aware, the Girl Scouts have also recently merged Councils, in fact five councils merged! As part of that merger activity, Joan and her Archivist volunteer associates have formed a Heritage Committee made up of members from the five former Councils. The committee meets regularly to work on preservation activities. Presently, the committee is struggling to computerize its artifacts and materials with the Past Perfect Program.

Joan first got interested in the preservation of Girl Scout history and memorabilia about 17 years ago. She and several other local Girl Scout volunteers with like interests attended the Girl Scout's week long training program for Archivists at the National training Center in New York State, Camp Edith Macy. As Joan describes it, the camp was founded in large part due to the efforts American Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low. Just as Gilwell Park is significant to English and American Boy Scouts, Camp Edith Macy has great historical significance to American Girl Scouts.

Once Joan became interested in the preservation of Girl Scout History, it would not be long before she and the North Star Museum crossed paths. Joan first met North Star Museum curator Dick Carroll at a TCART meeting in about 1995. What is TCART, you ask? It stands for Twin Cities Archival Round Table. Primarily an organization of professional archivists, it also includes trained volunteer archivists. The organization meets monthly and, at that time, met in different parts of the state. Dick encouraged Joan's collaboration with the North Star Museum and she has been an active volunteer ever since. The North Star Museum is fortunate to have her as a current member of the Collections committee.

To learn about our Museum's Girl Scout exhibit and how it came to be, Joan has all the answers because she and two other women put it together. The exhibit was first assembled in 2005, just as the Museum's North St. Paul facility was getting ready to open. Along with Joan, Midge Andreas and Sharon Reece developed, assembled and updated the displays. Like all good archivists, Joan now speaks of the need to change out the Girl Scout uniforms in the exhibit because the light is beginning to affect the textile materials that are on display.

On a personal level, Joan describes herself as semi-retired high school English teacher who taught in North Saint Paul and occasionally still teaches Adult Education classes. Joan's son was in Boy Scouts and her daughters were both in Girl Scouts.

When examining the varied activities of this month's museum volunteer, it is plain to see that she is, through her service, as the saying goes, "paying the price for her room on Earth." Certainly, Miss Wood would be proud.

A Thanks for Thinking of the Museum

At the end of each calendar year, Executive Director Claudia Nicholson distributes a letter to all Museum Members and other friends of the Museum to update them on our accomplishments and to seek help with our funding needs. In 2009, the Museum faced the same challenge faced by all for profit and not for profit organizations—a down economy. Nevertheless, despite the economic challenges being faced by our membership, the year-end appeal was quite successful. We raised a total of \$7,297. This money was raised on top of the cash and pledges received to date in connection with the *Celebrate the Journey* fundraising campaign. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

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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