



**Inside this issue:**

A Year of Change 2  
 Support the Museum (cont.) 2  
 Derby Night (cont.) 3  
 New Members 3  
 Annual Meeting Highlights 4  
 Annual Meeting Highlights (cont.) 5  
 Webelos Invade the Museum 6  
 Holiday Hop 6  
 Museum Featured in *Smithsonian* Magazine 7  
 Museum Featured by the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society 7  
 Super Merit Badge Week Holiday Tradition 8

**As the Year Draws to a Close, Support the Museum and Its Programs**

Thank you for your continuing support of the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. This year has been marked by turmoil and unrest from coast to coast. It is more important than ever to convey the positive imprint of the Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs on our youth and our nation. Your gifts to the Museum help serve this important mission. Your gifts help the Museum expand its

presence and its programming.

The Museum has great plans for 2019—plans that you can help make reality. Two large exhibits are planned. The first is Camping stage 3—*Winter Camping—Challenging Nature*. For this exhibit, our Exhibit Committee is planning a display environment as unique as winter itself. The second, *Preparedness: Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts on the Homefronts in*

*the 20th Century*, examines the roles the two youth groups played in raising money, collecting material, and helping to maintain a positive spirit during the two World Wars. The Museum collection contains interesting and rare artifacts, such as the WWI bronze medallion recognizing bond sales, a hand wheel cultivator, and others.

Continued on Page 2

**The Best Derby Night to Date**

It is hard to imagine, but we did it! The sophomore *Derby Night at the Museum* offered more fun, excitement, and opportunity than the maiden event a year ago. It was also a successful fundraising night for the Museum—and that was the idea all along.

This year, there were many enhancements to the already fun program. The silent auction was back, but this year it was bigger and better. The silent auction filled the

Founders Hall and offered a wide variety of options, including collectibles, sports memorabilia, restaurant gift cards, fine cordials, and even camping gear (yes, the portable toilets sold). For the first time, we offered not one, but two raffles. There was both a “heads and tails” raffle and raffle drawings for five “Walls of Wine” and five “Bricks of Beer.” Let’s just say, there were a lot of happy people.

To go along with all of the



**The race winners stand proudly with their trophies. From left to right are Lorena Palm, Tom Welna, and Adam Seifert.**

fun, the event also offered food and drink for sale. Since the wine and beer was donated, sales benefited the Museum. In addition, a wonderful barbecue chicken dinner was

Continued on Page 3

## A Year of Change

The year 2018 was a year of change at the Museum. Our most recent change is saying “thank you” and “farewell” to our former Executive Director and Curator, Claudia Nicholson. She came to the Museum in 2005 and touched many lives. During her fourteen years, Claudia helped establish the Museum in its new building and catalog the collection. Many of the programs she established remain in place today. We extend to Claudia our best wishes.

As many of you know, the Museum lost many of its primary funders and fund raisers in the past twelve to eighteen months. Consequently, we are experiencing challenging times as the Museum looks for new funding streams and new efficiencies.

One efficiency is to reduce the hours of our Executive Director, Brenna Barrett. While she continues in her same role with an ongoing mission to grow the Museum, her hours have been limited for the time being.

There is one core strength of the Museum that has not changed since day one: a dedicated core of volunteers. The Museum is yours and we need you now more than ever. For most of the Museum’s history, it has persevered, succeeded, and grown with no employees and no permanent site—only a core group of volunteers. With your help, we look forward to continued success.

Thanks to our volunteers, our programs continue to be strong

and well attended. We plan to continue that tradition. Look for further program and program volunteer opportunities on our web site and in the *Museum News* as we enter 2019.

On behalf of our staff and the Board of Directors, thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers! The Museum would not be the same without you!

Sandy Craighead, Board Co-Chair

Thomas Welna, Board Co-Chair

## Support the Museum (continued from Page 1)

In January, the Museum will also start a new type of short-term exhibit that offers a special opportunity for our local Boy Scout and Girl Scout units. Many units appreciate and document their own history, but few outside these units know these stories. For the first time, the Museum will give local units the chance to create a display of their unit’s history and experiences. Come visit the Museum during the new year to see these exciting new exhibits.

Each gift to the Museum makes it possible for more and more

people to see our presentation and interpretation of the transformative message of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in the United States. Your generous donation is the cornerstone of the Museum’s future and shows that you understand and appreciate the importance of the Museum’s goals. Make your gift before the end of the year to maximize your potential charitable deduction. Thank you for your continued support.

Brenna Barrett  
Executive Director



## Derby Night (continued from Page 1)

available for purchase. Nothing like bidding on silent auction items with a full stomach.

Of course, the big race was the focal point of the event. The race was managed by Dean Thompson at the entry table and Paul Bartyzal at the computer. This year's race featured a team of racers from one of our event sponsors—Old National Bank. They had a great time and they were competitive. In the end, however, that

cagy Scouting veteran, Museum Board Chair Tom Welna, could not be beat. He entered two cars in the race, but Welna #1 was the star. The car took both first place and ran the fastest individual heat. Lorena Palm finished second and Adam Seifert finished third.

Like last year, there was also a best derby hat competition. Renee Thompson won the female division and Tom Welna topped off

a winning night by taking the male division. Yes, there are pictures.

So, start building your speedy racers for next year's *Derby Night at the Museum*. Or, spiff up a car from your youth and make it the winner that eluded you in your youth. Start working on your head wear as well. Someone needs to make it their mission to unseat Tom Welna. Remember, it is all for a good cause.

### New Members

- **Russell Bagley**
- **Eric Esnough**
- **Ken & Mary Lillemo**
- **Dan Kuntz (gift membership from Paul Bartyzal)**
- **Mary McMenomy**



**Best Derby Hat winners Renee Thompson and Tom Welna model the headwear that made them famous.**



**Adam Seifert and the Old National Bank racers display their near-winning car.**

**Derby Night racers and guests enjoy their meal and fellowship while silent auction bidding goes on around them.**



**Know of anyone interested in joining?**

**Contact:**

**Diana Foss**

**651-748-2880 or**

**[dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org)**

### Annual Meeting Highlights

On October 18, 2018, over thirty Museum members and staffers attended our Annual Meeting. In addition to the meeting, attendees had a chance to test their knowledge during the Museum Trivia Contest and experience the Museum's exhibits. Highlights for the year included a record number of new exhibits to educate more people about the history of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, a new marketing plan, expanding our exhibit space both inside and outside with our new Tribute Gardens concept, and a new multi-pronged fund-raising effort. Executive Director Brenna Barrett emphasized the Museum's ongoing operational goal of keeping overhead low while increasing educational opportunities at the Museum through quality programs and exhibits.



**Kurt Leichtle** oversaw the Museum Trivia Contest at the Annual Meeting.

During the meeting, the annual election results were announced. All returning and newly nominated Board officers and directors were elected. So, on January 1, 2019, we will welcome new Board members Natalie Broshar

and Idelle Erickson. Our officers will be Chair Lorena Palm, Vice-Chair Sandy Craighead, Secretary Barb Herrmann, and Treasurer Jim Stevenson. We welcome back Board members John Guthmann, Emily White, and  
(Continued on Page 5)



**Tom Welna**



**Gary Gorman**



**Kurt Leichtle**



**Terri Anderson**



**John Guthmann**



**Paul Bartyzal**

### Annual Meeting Highlights (continued from Page 4)

Bonna Scherer. Finally, our members approved the proposed By-Law amendment to institute term limits for the Board of Directors.

The highlight of the meeting was recognition of the Museum's volunteers. Each volunteer present was honored with a special tribute by Volunteer Coordinator Bonna Scherer. Photos of the event surround this article. The program energized all in attendance for an even better 2019.



**Jim Rupert**



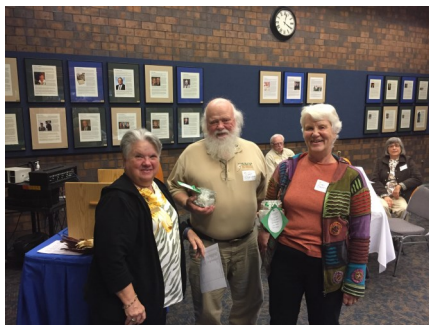
**Biz Omara**



**Barb Hermann**



**Jim Stevenson**



**Chuck and Judy Clausen**



**Idelle Erickson**



**Kent York**



**Russ Edlund**



**Jan Frolik**



**Mary McMenemy**

## Webelos Invade the Museum – Learning and Earning All the Way

On November 24, almost two dozen Webelos and their parents gathered at the Museum to work on their Webelos requirements. The program was called “Webelos at the Museum.” During the session, the Webelos worked on ten requirements in five different areas. These areas included parts of Building a Better World, Camper, Scouting Adventure, Looking Back, Looking Forwards, and Cast Iron Chef. Our “Webelos at the Museum” program lasted about three hours.

There are other ways Webelos Dens can earn their way forward at the Museum. One method is to schedule your Den for program-specific events. In fact,

three Webelos Dens have used the Museum to meet most of the requirements for Looking Back, Looking Forward in the past month. The volunteer staff enjoyed working with the Webelos Dens and the members of these Dens had fun.

If you have a particular requirement you would like your Den to work on, the individual den sessions last two to three hours. Contact the Museum to set up an appointment. The Museum can handle 20-25 Webelos for the Saturday sessions and parents are encouraged to attend. The requirement-specific workshops can be scheduled evenings, late afternoon, or Saturdays (the latter depends on other events

at the Museum). For these sessions, up to fifteen Webelos can be accommodated. Admission/event fees are discussed when making the reservation.

You can also look for future “Webelos at the Museum” sessions. A spring “Webelos at the Museum” session is being scheduled so watch Facebook and the Museum’s webpage for dates and times.

The Museum looks forward to seeing your Webelos. Spread the word.

## Holiday Hop



The Holiday Hop was a big hit at the Museum on December 1. Pictured here are the boys of Pack 37. As the official food vendor, they made sure that no one at the event went hungry.



Santa Claus (Chuck Clausen) is joined at the Holiday Hop by Jim Lindfors and Carl Magnvson, who is wearing a vintage Boy Scout uniform.

### Museum Featured in *Smithsonian Magazine*

As one of the few Museums in the nation to present both Boy Scout and Girl Scout history, the North Star Museum has gained a national reputation. This fact could not be better demonstrated by the use of our collections in the most recent Smithsonian magazine. The Smithsonian did a piece to show “[h]ow scouting has encouraged boys and girls to be prepared over the years.” The full-page spread featured

twelve Boy Scout and Girl Scout badges, identified each badge and explained how each badge was connected to important events of their time. The Museum was credited by name in the article.

**Smithsonian magazine credited the Museum for providing artifacts depicted on this page of its most recent issue.**

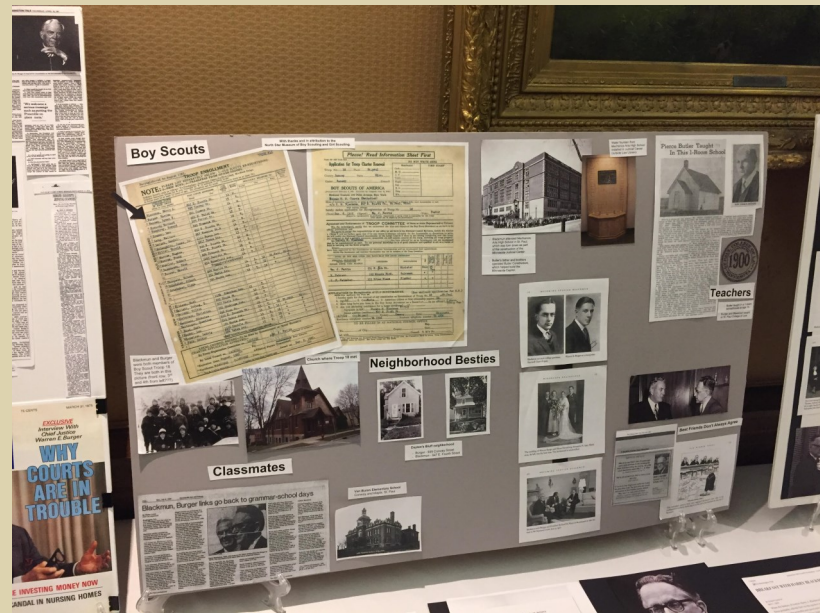


### Museum Featured by the Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society

The North Star Museum has both a national and a local reputation as the “go to” source for the material culture of the Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts, USA. In early November, one of our members received a call from Minnesota’s Chief Administrative Law Judge, Hon. Tammy Pust. She was developing a Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society exhibit on Minnesota’s United States Supreme Court Justices. She asked, “Do you know where I can find any information on the Boy Scout involvement of Justice Harry Blackmun and Chief Justice Warren Burger? I know they were in the same troop.” Judge Pust came to the right place. The Museum was able to provide a copy of the roster featuring the two future justices along with a photo of the troop. The Museum received credit in the exhibit.

The Museum’s involvement may have another benefit. We know that both Warren Burger and Harry Blackmun are in our photo, but no positive identification of which boy is which has ever been made. Using other pictures from their youth and early adult years, Judge Pust believes

she accurately identified them in the picture, side by side. We have the pictures that Judge Pust used to make her identification. Should you ever wish to see if you agree with Judge Pust, we can make the pictures available to you for comparison. Just give us a call.



**The Museum got credited for supplying Warren Burger and Harry Blackmun materials for this Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society exhibit.**

DATED MATERIAL



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DECEMBER 2018

North Star Museum  
of Boy Scouting  
and Girl Scouting  
2640 East 7th Avenue  
North St. Paul, MN 55109

Phone: 651-748-2880  
E-mail: [dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org)

We're on the web  
[www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org)

## A Super Merit Badge Week Holiday Tradition

The Museum is continuing a new holiday tradition this year. Our summer Super Merit Badge week program was born out of the “dog days of summer”. For kids out of school, what week is slower than the week between Christmas Day and New Year’s Eve? So, once again, we are running a Super Merit Badge week during the last week of 2018.

This year, we have increased the merit badge offerings to eight different badges with some being run more than once. The first publicity blast went out in November so some badges already have a waiting list. So, if you are hearing about this opportunity for the first time as you read this article, act fast.

Scouts can sign up for and attend sessions in Citizenship in the Community (12/28/18 at 8:30 a.m. (sorry, this is already FULL) and 12/27/18 at 1:00 p.m.); Citizenship in the Nation (12/26/18 at 8:30 a.m.); Citizenship in the World (12/29/18 at 8:30 a.m.); Cooking (12/28/18 at 8:30 a.m.); Personal Management (12/28/18 at 9:00 a.m.); Communications (12/26/18 at 8:30 a.m. and 12/28/18 at 1:00 p.m.); Scouting Heritage (12/27/18 at 8:30); and, Family Life (12/27/18 at 8:30 a.m.).

As always, the cost for participating in the workshops is \$15 and \$12 for Museum members. To sign up, just go to [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) and search on “North Star Museum”, where you will find a listing of all of the Museum’s events.

*Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, Brenna Barrett, John Guthmann, 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.*

© 2018 North Star Scouting Memorabilia Inc.