



NORTH STAR MUSEUM

OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

Museum News

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Time for Some Aromatherapy! — Come to the Skunk Reunion

"In the land of the skunks he who has half a nose is king."

Chris Farley

In this era of COVID-19, there is still something for us to look forward to and smell-abrate—the annual reunion of that fetid group of men and women known as The Order of the Odor—or The Skunks. Because of COVID-19, we have planned for both our usual spring weekend and a back-up weekend. So, here are the stinky facts: Saturday, May 30, 2020, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Fred C. Andersen Camp's Training Building. The registration fee is only

\$15.00. Just follow your nose. Or, if COVID-19 forces a postponement, the alternate date is Saturday, August 22, 2020. The time, price, and smell are the same but if we need to use the back-up plan, the alternative location is Swanson Lodge. Put both dates on your calendar, send in your registration form, and be sure to include your contact information. We will contact you if forced to use the back-up date and we will keep the Museum website current.

You do not think you have the in-stinkt to be a Skunk? Do not be so



Barb Herrmann and Jim Rupert lead the program at a past Skunk Reunion.

stinkin' sure of yourself. Do not sniff around looking for a Skunk. Chances are that you are a Skunk and you do not even know it. If you are a Museum member and you have been active in Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting for fifteen years or more, **YOU ARE a Skunk.** So, there is no excuse to keep Continued on Page 2

FOUNDER'S HALL EVENT POSTPONED TO AUGUST 8

We were all set for a great 2020 Founders Hall Recognition and Celebration at the Museum in April. Then COVID-19 struck. To make sure we all remain safe and healthy it became necessary to postpone the event.

The new date for our 2020 Founder's Hall event is **Saturday, August 8.** Other than the date, we

expect everything else about the event remains the same. As reported in the February *Museum News*, we will recognize two deserving Founders—Tisha Bolger and Jon Pederson. The 2020 Founders Hall program begins at 11:30 a.m. Following the program, lunch will be served. Further information about the event will be published in the

June *Museum News* and on the Museum's website, nssm.org. In the meantime, please put the new date on your calendar. It is certainly not too early to register. Reserve your spot by calling or emailing Diana Foss today. The number is 651-748-2880 and the email address is dfoss@nssm.org. See you at the Founders Hall on August 8.

Time for Some Aromatherapy! Come to the Skunk Reunion (Cont.)

that aroma to yourself by missing the Skunk Reunion, 2020's most putrid event. Be there!

Fellowship begins at 10:30 a.m., so come out to camp and catch up with your fellow stinkers. After quickly airing out the room, you will enjoy a totally frowsty program.

This year, our speaker is Darrell Charboneau. In addition to his funky status as a Skunk, Darrell is a member of the Board of Directors of the Pine Bend Association, the group that owns the Birch Bend camp near Onamia, Minnesota. Darrell spends many weekends each summer at the camp, and, coupled with his long experience on the Board, he is able to speak with authority on all phases of camp operations and programming. He is also knowledgeable about the Pine Bend Scout Club, a group that dates to 1932, or almost as far back as the Order of the Odor. A film of the boys in the club building their cabin in Pine Bend during the 1930's is a prized Museum possession. You will enjoy what Darrell has to say—it is sure to be absolutely malodorous. After Darrell wraps up his talk, the building will really get rank when we announce the 2020 Skunk of the Year recipient. After the program, you can enjoy more fellowship over a great lunch. Your miasmic hot meal includes chicken, Coleslaw, and potato salad. As always, nose plugs are not included.

We need an accurate count for lunch; so please RSVP. To let us know you are coming before we can detect your pongy approach, please contact Diana Foss at 651-748-2880 or email her at dfoss@nssm.org. There is also a registration form on Page 4 in this issue of the *Museum News*.

As already mentioned, one of the highlights of the Skunk Reunion is the awarding of the Skunk of the Year. To insure selection of the most qualified and olid candidate, please nominate your choice using the form in this edition of the *Museum News*. Nominations are due no later than May 2.

Whether the weather is fair or the stench is foul, join your fellow Skunks at Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp on May 30 (or August 22) for the 2020 Skunk Reunion. See you there!



The coveted Skunk of the Year Award will be given to a deserving recipient at the 2020 Skunk Reunion. Past recipients are shown in this photo, which was taken in 2011.



This year our speaker at the Skunk Reunion is Darrell Charboneau. Here he is enjoying beautiful Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies.

In Memoriam: Jim Lee

Long-time Museum member Jim Lee passed away on March 17, 2020. Jim was also an active leader in the Northern Star Council. He served as the Council Commissioner in the former Indianhead Council and held many different leadership roles in Scouting for decades. He and his wife Linda provided Law Enforcement Exploring Scholarships in memory of Jim's dad Allan G. Lee, and they were recognized as Scoutmasters of Philanthropy in 2013.

The following excerpt is taken from the obituary that ran in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*: Jim was a devoted husband, loving father, and proud grandfather. His last moments were spent in the presence of his wife, Linda; his children, Kathy and Michael; his granddaughter, Esther; as well his loving sister, Karen. Jim's life was profoundly affected by the untimely death of his father, a St. Paul police detective, who died heroically from a gunshot wound in 1949 at the age of 42. Jim was on the Board of Directors of the Boy Scouts for 30 years, was an avid year-round fisherman, an avid golfer and a member of Midland Hills Country Club for 30 years. Jim was Chief Financial Officer with the Pohlada Family for 20 years, and Senior VP and CFO with Soo Line Railroad for 15 years. Jim and Linda are grateful for the fellowship of the community at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, where they worshipped for over 40 years. Jim was a beloved friend to so many dear companions, was known



for telling a great story and always had a quick joke at the ready. His many close buddies would like you to know that Jim was always known as "one of the good guys". He was for years an avid ham radio operator, enjoyed flying his single engine plane, and in his retiring years he and Linda found a passion for traveling the world together with close friends. They also found peaceful times at the family cabin on South Center Lake in Lindstrom, MN, and enjoyed wintering in Naples, FL. Jim relished the company provided by several family holiday gatherings throughout the year, many of which he and Linda hosted. His whole family were singers, they often sang grace before meals, and Jim was crooning his favorite tunes right until the end. Jim was an avid barbershop singer, was treasurer of the International Barbershop Harmony Society, and was president of the Land O' Lakes district of that group from 2005-2006. Jim and Linda also sang with the semi-professional couples group Friends, who remind us "Friends are Friends forever". Private family interment was held at Roselawn Cemetery. A gathering for a memorial service will be announced at a later date.

New Family Membership

- Rebecca Skally

Tribute to All Founders

- Tish Bolger - I am humbled and honored

Tribute in Honor of Jon Pederson

- Jon Theobald

**Know of anyone
interested in joining?**

Contact:

Diana Foss

651-748-2880 or

dfoss@nssm.org

Greetings to all Museum Members, Veteran Scouters and Skunks!

2020 Skunk Reunion

It's Spring! Time to get together, swap stories,
and report on the progress of the museum



Who: People who are Museum members and have
been registered in Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting for
15 or more years.

When: Saturday, May 30, 2020 (alternate date is August 22)

Where: Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp, former St. Croix River Camp. This year, we
will be in the Training Building (or Swanson Lodge if August 22 back-up date is used).

Times: 10:30 am Fellowship, beverages provided
11:00 am Program
12:00 noon Lunch

Cost: \$15.00 per person. **Pre-registration is mandatory.**

Directions: Take Minnesota 36 across the new St. Croix River crossing and proceed on
highways 35/64 to the Andersen Scout Camp Road (there is signage). Turn left. The camp
is 1.2 miles further. Once in camp, follow the signs.

The deadline for registration is Wednesday, May 27, 2020

My name is _____

Yes, I'm coming! Put me down for the reunion. Here is my \$15.00

I will be bringing guests Number of guests _____ x \$15.00

These are the names of the guests who will be attending with me.

I need a ride

I can pick-up supplies and/or help by driving. Please call me at _____

Please fill in the form and return with your check to: North Star Scouting Museum
2640 Seventh Avenue East
North St. Paul, MN 55109

Skunk of the Year Nomination Form



Nomination for Skunk of the Year due by May 2, 2020

Section One:

Award Criteria: This award is presented to a person who has been affiliated with Boy or Girl Scouting or the North Star Museum for at least 15 years and is a current member of the museum.

<p>CANDIDATE/ Name of individual being nominated: _____ Current museum member? Yes / No Registered member of Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts? Yes / No Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____ Phone number: _____ Email: _____</p>
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<p>Nominator's name: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____ Phone number: _____ Email: _____ Best time to reach you: _____</p>

Section Two:

Please provide a statement of support for the individual being nominated. The statement should address the award criteria and this individual should receive this award. Include tenure with the museum, special or extraordinary things done during the year, other Boy Scout/Girl Scout activities he/she may be involved with, and the amount of time spent on museum activities. Use an extra sheet of paper if necessary.

Section Three: (optional)

Attach a letter of recommendation supporting your nomination from a person other than yourself. This person may be a museum member, Boy Scout or Girl Scout, adult volunteer in Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting, or someone else who knows of the individual's contributions.

Nominator's Signature _____ **Date** _____

Mail nominations to:

Selections Committee
North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting
2640 E. Seventh Avenue
North St. Paul, MN 55109

This form can also be downloaded from: www.nssm.org

Help Us Tell the Story

What is the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting without you? It is a very empty building. No one to share the history of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting with you. It is our members and volunteers who make all of this worthwhile.

The Museum is totally operated by volunteers except for our bookkeeper and office assistant Diana Foss. Diana is the person most often answering your questions or directing you other volunteers. You may contact her with any questions at dfoss@nssm.org or 651-748-2880. She is available Wednesday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Our vision is to be a forward-thinking institution recognized for expertise in the key areas of education, citizenship, community service, and personal integrity. Our mission is to collect, preserve, share, and interpret the history and significance of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting in the upper Midwest.

Once we reopen following the COVID-19 emergency, you will have the opportunity to view:

- An updated camping exhibit featuring winter camping
- Installation of the final hands-on exhibit containing uniforms for youth to try on

- A new Escape Room adventure that is ready for testing
- A unique 1950 Main Bocher Girl Scout Adult uniform used by former GSUSA national staff—complete with the story of the uniform and its owners.
- Super Merit Badge Weeks and other merit badge workshops
- Expanded Girl Scout activities
- Fall Jamboree on the Air

But all of this would not be happening without you. If your membership has lapsed, please renew. Better yet, become a sustaining member for as little as \$10 a month. Or, consider donating a portion of your IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). If you reached the age of 70½ in 2019, and you must take your first RMD by April 1, 2020. If you reach age 72 in 2020 or later, you must take your first RMD by April 1 of the year after you reach 72. Those who are under 72 should obtain information on creating a Donor Advised Fund. Please note that people who are required to take RMD need not do so in 2020 due to COVID-19.

We need you to help us tell the history of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. To renew your membership, become a sustainer or donate. To become a member or donate, go to nssm.org, click on Support at the top of the

home page. Select “Membership Levels”, at the bottom of the page you will see a box “Become a Member or Donate.” Select it and the online payment page will be displayed. Donating online through our website is very easy to navigate but if you have questions, feel free to contact Diana Foss. You may also mail a check to the museum.

On behalf of your fellow volunteers, we thank you for your ongoing support. We could not do it without you.



When the Museum reopens following the COVID-19 emergency, one of the first new programs kids and adults can enjoy will be our new Escape Room. Pictured above is one of the four rooms.

A Quiet Before Activity

The Museum is quiet, the building empty except for an occasional staff or volunteer visit. Such is the reality for the last month in most museums. We are using the time to prepare to welcome you back with new programs and new exhibits.

The Escape Room with an Egyptian theme is finished and waiting for some participant testing to fine tune an adventure that will intrigue youth and adults alike. The long-awaited Winter Camping exhibit is waiting for final editing of the text and the artifacts and mannequins are waiting for your arrival.

Wait! You can help! The history of both Klondike Derby and the Zero Hero award is sketchy. Go to our Facebook page and

share your experiences with either or both and tell us when you earned your Zero Hero award. The exhibit could use more information on Winter Challenge in the Girl Scout program. Volunteers who are now grandparents have mentioned their experience as youth in the local program. Tell us your experiences. Your posts will help us tell the story of this interesting part of the history.

On the horizon, hopefully in early August, volunteers Bob Elliott and Clint Voorhees will help mount an exhibit on international programs serving Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. These programs involve far more variety than you may suspect.

Our volunteers are looking for-

ward to beginning the range of summer programs. They are looking at ways of offering web-based programming so the Museum may serve Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and their families no matter the state of the world.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, youth and adults, are social people who thrive on getting together. We are looking forward to that time. Meanwhile, tell us your stories on Facebook and watch for announcements there and on the webpage as things return to something we recognize as normal.

Take care, see you soon.

Lorena Palm, Board Chair
Kurt Leichtle, Interim Executive Director

What the Museum Means to Me During Tough Times - What Does It Mean to You?

This is what the Museum means to me - it's not just the building, exhibits, and archives, it's the people who volunteer.

The volunteers are the people who keep the Museum going. Our one employee can't do it all and we can't do it without her.

You ask what do the volunteers do?

- Volunteer Board.
- Volunteer training.
- Exhibits - there is so much we want to do and to finish.
- Clean, take care of the garbage and recycling program.

- A volunteer put her blood, sweat and tears into an escape room that no one can escape into or from right now.
- Volunteers work on the collection of Boy Scout and Girl Scout stuff that has been donated.
- We help our lone employee when needed to do mailings and cover the Museum if she can't be there.
- Cover the Museum on Saturdays.
- Two or three, sometimes more, manage the Merit Badge workshops.

- Set up tables and chairs for events,
- Plan events and fund raisers.
- Schedule paying events.
- Do anything else that might come up.

I am sure there is a lot more the volunteers do. We miss doing our part and the people.

I hope you will continue to contribute and volunteer your time so when we can reopen, we will be able to get it done together. As for now, all we can do is wait.

Anonymous

DATED MATERIAL



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

APRIL 2020

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

We're on the web
www.nssm.org

Coming Soon—Super Merit Badge Weeks

Super Merit Badge Week is the Museum's oldest and most popular educational program. During the era of COVID-19, we still expect to be operating the program in 2020. If camps are running, there are plenty of weeks during the summer to fill. If camps are not operating, boys and girls will be stir crazy and looking for program opportunities. If COVID-19 prevents us from running merit badges in person, we are looking into our ability to run merit badges through video remote technology. Stay tuned.

For 2020, it is our goal to fill one week during each of the months of June, July, and August with as many merit badges as we can schedule. We are presently lining up the merit badges and the counselors. We are also assessing our technological capabilities. All you need to do is put the weeks on your calendar so you are ready to pounce when the schedule is announced—classes fill up and sell out quickly. This year, Super Merit Badge Weeks are the weeks of June 15-19, July 13-18, and August 10-15. Once the schedule is set, we will send out an email blast several weeks in advance of each Super Merit Badge Week and post schedule for that week on our website. The schedule for July and August will also be in the June *Museum News*. Don't be left out in the summer heat. Be ready.

Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, Diana Foss, 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.

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