

APRIL
2024

NORTH STAR MUSEUM
OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING
Museum News

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REGISTER NOW FOR THE JUNE 1, 2024 ORDER OF THE ODOR REUNION

The last of our Spring snow is melted, the frost is out of the ground, and our area golf courses are open. There is no mistaking that a certain fragrance is in the air—and it isn't good. No, it is not the fresh aroma of Spring. It is the putrid scent of the loyal members of the Order of the Odor. Our smelly lot recently emerged from their winter slumber and they are preparing for their annual reunion on the hallowed shores of the great St. Croix River. Can't you smell it?

Calling all Skunks to gather on Saturday, June 1 at Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp. Our reunion will be held in the Swanson Lodge on the Upper Level. Fol-



low your nose and arrive at 10:00 a.m. for coffee, tall tales, and fellowship.

The official program will begin at 11:00 a.m. After the program, a delicious lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. The cost **(Continued on Page 2)**

Join Us at the Museum's Annual Meeting

The North Star Museum is holding its annual members meeting and volunteer celebration on Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is for you!

The Museum's annual meeting offers you a special opportunity to socialize with board members, volunteers, and fellow Museum members, review all of our accomplishments and events during the previous year, and see the first copies of our written annual report. Members get a copy in the mail, but attendees at the annual meeting see it first! The annual meeting is also when we recognize our volunteers for everything they do. If you are a volunteer, please come to the annual meeting so we can recognize you in person.

The annual meeting is also a chance for you to see our current and future exhibits. Since last year's annual meeting, the Homefront exhibit opened. Have you seen it yet? An exhibit to commemorate the Centennial of the Order of the Arrow in our area is also in the process of installation. Get a "sneak peek" as it nears completion.

Of course, a bit of food and something to wash it down with are a staple of the Museum's annual meeting. Last year, we served dessert. Come to the annual meeting at the Museum on May 16 at 6:30 and find out what is being served. No pre-registration is necessary. See you there!

REGISTER NOW FOR THE JUNE 1, 2024 ORDER OF THE ODOR REUNION (Continued from Page 1)

for the program and lunch is \$17.00. A registration form is included in this issue of the *Museum News* and you can also register on line at nssm.org. The event registration deadline is May 24. Don't miss the deadline or you'll be an even bigger stinker.

Our featured speaker this year is long-time Scoutmaster and Northern Star Council Archives Committee Chair, Jim Schuster. Jim has been Scoutmaster of

Troop 9089 since 2001 and he is the founding and only chair of the Northern Star Council Archives Committee since its formation in 2011. He is a Vigil member of the Order of the Arrow, a Silver Beaver and District Award of Merit recipient, and he is the proud father of two Eagle Scouts. Jim will discuss the Council Archives Committee's mission and its connection to the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting.

One of the highlights of the program each year is the announcement of the Skunk of the Year recipient. Please nominate a worthy and odiferous person using the nomination form included in this issue of the *Museum News*. Nominations for Skunk of the Year will be accepted up until May 17.

You will not want to miss the 2024 Skunk Reunion. Sign up today!

From the Chair's Perspective By Lorena Palm, Board of Directors Chair

As Board Chair, I would like to share some updates with you and leave you a thing or two to think about as our Spring ramps up. First, citing personal reasons, Executive Director Kristina Viktora Croke announced her resignation in early March. A search is already underway for a new Executive Director. We wish Kristina the very best.

Second, our brand-new HVAC system is finally installed and supplying fresh air to the Museum. Rooftop HVAC units are not glamorous objects, but ours is very important to the Museum and the safety of our exhibits and collections. Since it is on the roof, you will not see it when you visit the building but we all will benefit from it. It took about twenty months from application to finished product. Our building

now has reliable and year-round temperature and humidity control thanks in part to funds provided by Minnesota taxpayers through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Finally, something to think about. The Museum is supported predominately by memberships, fees for service, and gifts of cash. With a budget of close to \$200,000, we need help from all of you. As another tax season closes, remember the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. One of the easiest ways to give is to become a sustaining member. Small monthly gifts are the easiest way to do that. Go to www.nssm.org and click on Support and then on Donate. Then click on the box for Sustaining and get started.

If you are over 70 1/2 have you thought about giving to the Museum directly from an IRA to reduce your Required Minimum Distribution? Have you thought about the big picture of your end of life assets and have you made a plan for legacy giving? Did your plan include the North Star Museum? For more information about any of these ideas, feel free to contact me – Lorena Palm – at lpalm@nssm.org.



Get Ready for the 2024 Edition of Super Merit Badge Weeks

Be on the lookout for a big announcement. Super Merit Badge Weeks are returning in the summer of 2024. Super Merit Badge Weeks is the Museum's most popular educational program. What better way to spend the dog days of summer when units are not meeting and camp only takes up a week or two of the three-month summer break when school is not in session. There is no need for concern, for the Museum is planning an exciting summer of merit badge offerings once again.

The big announcement foreshadowed in the first sentence of this article is the announcement of this summer's class schedule. The class schedule will be announced soon but you should put this summer's Super Merit Badge Weeks dates in your calendar now so you are ready to sign up when the class schedule is announced. June merit badges will be scheduled during the week of June 17-22. July merit badges will be scheduled during the week of July 15-20. The final summer week of Super Merit Badge Weeks will be the week

of August 12-17. Each week of programming will be announced about thirty days before the scheduled week. As always, you can register and pay online at nssm.org. Prices remain unchanged--\$15 per person or \$12 for Museum members. Be prepared for Super Merit Badge Weeks!



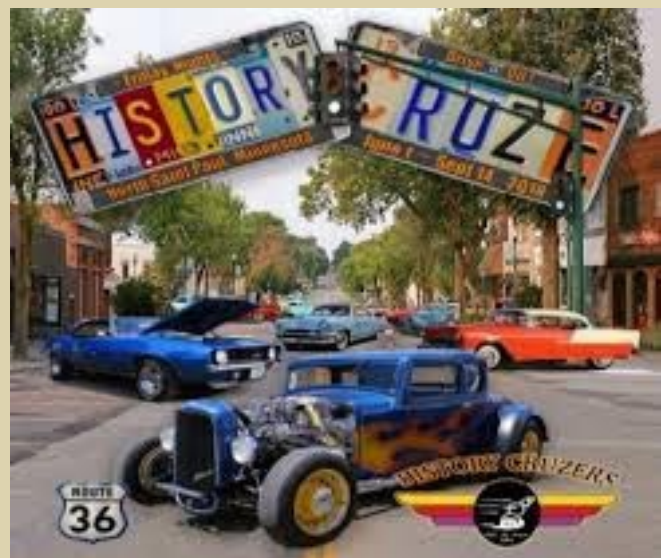
The Cruzers are Coming! We Need You to Volunteer This Summer!

The city of North St. Paul hosts a Cruzers car show along Seventh Avenue every Friday in the summer. Great old cars, lots of food, and good music are all part of the entertainment.

This summer, the Museum is taking part in the fun. To help make it happen, we invite you to join the fun and volunteer at the Museum at the same time! The Museum will be open on Friday nights for casual tours, and we will also have a table in front of the building to greet car show patrons and distribute information. Volunteers are needed to serve as informal tour guides and outside greeters from 5:30-8:00 p.m. each Friday night this summer. The car show runs until 10:00 p.m., so plan to spend some time "cruzing" after your shift. Cruiser Car shows are held June 7-September 20 (except for June 21).

In addition to the regular Cruiser activities each Friday, we will also be hosting a special Cruzers Derby Night on August 23. Running a Derby Night for Cruiser creates a special opportunity for the Museum to connect with our neighbors in North St. Paul. To run the Derby Night, we will need many volunteers—stay tuned for more infor-

mation! If you'd like to volunteer or have questions, head to the Museum website at www.nssm.org and look for the Summer Friday Cruiser Event Job Description. You can text or call Museum Board Chair Lorena Palm at 763-234-7994 to reserve a date to participate. We hope to see you on Friday nights this summer. Keep on cruising!



Greetings to all Museum Members

Veteran Scouters and Skunks

2024 Skunk Reunion



It's 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 Scouts of America or Girl Scouts of the USA for three or more years.

When: Saturday, June 1, 2024

Where: Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp, former St. Croix River Camp. This year we will be back in the Swanson Lodge located on the upper level of the camp.

Time: 10:00 am Fellowship, beverages provided
11:00 am Program
12:00 Noon Lunch

Cost: **\$17.00 per person. Preregistration is mandatory!**

Registration: You can register online by going to www.nssm.org, calling the North Star Museum between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm Tuesday-Thursday (652-748-2880) or mailing a check into the North Star Museum at 2640 Seventh Avenue East, North St. Paul, MN 55109.

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

The deadline for registration is May 24, 2024

My name is _____

Yes, I'm coming! Put me down for the reunion. Here is my \$17.00.

I will be bringing guests Number of guests _____ x \$17.00 (Names: _____)

I need a ride.

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

Skunk of the Year Nomination Form



Nomination for Skunk of the Year due by May 17, 2024

Section One:

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

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: _____

Nominator's name: _____	
Address: _____	
City/State/Zip: _____	
Phone number: _____	Email: _____
Best time to reach you: _____	

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

2024 Founders Hall Recognition and Celebration—A Special Success

On Saturday, April 13, 2024, nearly fifty people gathered to enjoy the Museum's Founders Hall Recognition and Celebration. During the event, our guests demonstrated their enthusiastic support for the Museum and its programs while welcoming the two newest members to the Davis and Randall Founders Hall.



The master of ceremonies for the Founders Hall Recognition and Celebration was Founders Hall Member Hugh Gwin.

Before the newest Founders Hall members were enshrined, those present enjoyed a delicious lunch topped off with a dessert of various Girl Scout cookie varieties. Our keynote speaker enjoyed a homecoming of sorts. Former Executive Director Claudia Nicholson, now known as The Museum Lady, described her current work offering technical assistance, curatorial advice, and other expertise to Minnesota's small museums. Minnesota features hundreds of small museums and

each occupies a unique niche that warrants time, attention, and preservation. We learned from Claudia that the North Star Museum is no exception.



The keynote speaker for the Founders Hall event was the Museum's former Executive Director Claudia Nicholson.

Following the keynote, the newest members of the Founders Hall were introduced. Don "Ranger" Lee was posthumously introduced as a Trailblazer by Emily White. We learned that when the Girl Scouts turned 100 years old, the River Valleys Council honored 100 women with three honorable "MENTions". One of the three was Don "Ranger" Lee. Don and his wife Marlyce volunteered to lead their oldest daughter's troop in 1975. At the first meeting, Don taught the girls to build a campfire and the rest is history. He continued as a Girl Scout volunteer for over 45 years. He was a natural teacher who used his outdoor training and leadership skills to

empower girls and their leaders. Accepting the recognition on behalf of Don's family was his daughter, Christy Marietta.



On behalf of her family, Christy Marietta accepted her father Don "Ranger" Lee's Founders Hall citation.



Kim Andreas and Christy Marietta pose with the canoe paddle presented to Don "Ranger" Lee around 1986. Don received the paddle for his service as outdoor skills trainer at Camp Lakamaga.

Tom Simone introduced Trailblazer Bradley (Brad) Johnson. Brad's Scouting experience began when he joined Troop 50 in **(Continued on Page 7)**

2024 Founders Hall Recognition and Celebration—A Special Success (continued)

1965. He became the troop's Scoutmaster in an unusual way. While he serving as Senior Patrol Leader, the current Scoutmaster stepped down, leaving the position vacant. Brad moved directly from SPL to Scoutmaster and went on to serve in that role for fifty years (1973-2023). Brad was encouraged and supported over the years by a broad volunteer network, resulting in multi-generational involvement with the troop. His service was recognized through the many awards he received, including: Eagle Scout; Order of the Arrow; Scouter's Key; Scouter's Training Award; Wood Badge; Good Shepherd Award; Scoutmaster Award of Merit; District Award of Merit; and Silver Beaver Award. Brad was on hand to receive his

Founders Hall citation along with his wife Sue, family members, and many past and present troop members.



Brad and Sue Johnson pose with Brad's Founders Hall citation.

Following the program, guests had the opportunity to explore the Museum. The recognition plaques were unveiled during the

program. So, if you did not have a chance to attend this year's event, come out to the Museum to learn about our 2024 honorees.



Scott, Freya, Torben, and Erika Hiland (l to r) shown checking in at the Founders Hall registration table. They came for Brad Johnson's induction as a Trailblazer.

Derby Event at the Museum



On April 14, the Roseville Girl Scout Service Unit held a Pinewood Derby event at the Museum. A total of 45 cars entered the race. Look at these great designs!



The Roseville Service Unit of Girl Scouts brought quite an entourage to its Pinewood Derby event at the Museum on April 14.

DATED MATERIAL



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Phone: 651-748-2880

We're on the web
www.nssm.org

Don't Miss These Upcoming North Star Museum Programs

This is an active time of year for the Museum. With all of the activity, don't forget to sign up for two unique and fun events that will be here before you know it. On May 9, there is a special program for Cubs and Webelos called "Rockets and Space Art." The program runs from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Registration for the event is \$15 per person.

On June 13, also from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., the Museum will run a Tie Dying program. If you have ever wanted to express yourself through the art of tie dying, this is your chance. The program is for youth and adults and registration is \$15 per person.

To register for these programs, just go to the Museum's website at nssm.org. You can also call Carissa Meyer at the Museum at 651-748-2880 or email her at carissa.meyer@nssm.org. See you at our Spring programs!



Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, 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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