

JUNE
2023



Museum News

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FUN TIMES at the Museum this Summer

There are a number of fun and educational activities taking place at the Museum this summer. You can participate in an activity or two every month. Each of these events run from 6:30 to 8:30 in the evening. The cost for all but the September 21 Pinewood Derby session is \$12 for Museum members and \$15 for non-members. Get the word out to your kids, your family, and the units you work with. Sign up and enjoy these events yourself. They are not just for kids. Here is what we have planned:

Cast Iron and Box Oven Cooking

Come to the Museum on July 6 and exorcise your worst cooking fears. Are you afraid to use a Dutch oven? Do you know how to clean your Dutch oven? Have you ever cooked in a cardboard box? Come to the Museum and learn

some tricks on how to cook with this unique equipment and sample some delicious foods made in each. Never fear them again! Register by July 3.

Dreaming About Producing the Fastest Pinewood Derby Car?

Come to the Museum on July 20 and learn the secrets behind producing a winning Pinewood Derby car. Whether you are planning to race in our Derby Night Fundraiser in November or you are preparing your Scout/Girl Scout for an event this winter, you will learn how to make or "help" make the fastest and best looking car on the track. In this class, you will learn the art and the science behind the Pinewood Derby cars you always wished were yours, and what is going on behind the scenes before the race? Register by July 17.

(Continued on Page 2)

Are You Ready for Super Merit Badge Weeks 2023?

Super Merit Badge Week is the Museum's oldest and most popular educational program. This summer marks the thirteenth time the North Star Museum has offered Super Merit Badge Weeks—the perfect antidote for the dog days of summer. Once again, the program offers robust schedule of merit badges. Included in the offerings is the newest Eagle-required badge –

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Fun Times at the Museum this Summer (Continued from Page 1)

Rockets, Rockets, Rockets

Thursday, August 10, is Rocket Night. Come make a rocket from a water bottle and then launch it in the parking lot. All ages are welcome. Cost \$12 Members, \$15 non-members. Register by August 7.

Building Your Very Own Pinewood Derby Car

On Thursday, September 21, come and make your very own Pinewood Derby car from an official kit. You will design it, cut it out, and paint it that evening. You will also weigh it according to the official specifications for a Pinewood Derby race. The cost is \$20, which includes admission

and all supplies to make your car the winner. Consider racing your car at the Museum's Derby Night Fundraiser on November 4. Register by September 15. Registration for each of these summer programs is easy. Call Carissa Meyer at the Museum at 651-748-2880 or email her at Carissa.meyer@nssm.org. Don't miss the fun!



Are You Ready for Super Merit Badge Weeks 2023?

(Continued from Page 1)

Citizenship in Society. According to the national BSA, it is also the most popular merit badge in the United States.

The schedule and instructions for electronic registration for our 2023 Super Merit Badge workshops is now posted on the Museum's website at <http://www.nssm.org/> under the Programs and Events tab. Please review the workshop requirements posted under each individual class to make sure you (or your Scout) is a good fit for the class. In addition, Rifle Merit Badge classes include a second session at the range on the same day as the classroom portion.

Remember the registration fee for classes is \$12 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Registration for each month opens about a month before the program week so watch for our email alerts and watch the website.

Upon registration, you will be sent preparation instructions prepared by the instructor. It is essential that you read and follow the instructions because Scouts are prepared! All of the merit badges will be taught in person at the Museum. Sign up today!

Week of June 20-24

June 21

- ◆ **Rifle:** Dennis Stolp, from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for the classroom session and the range portion of the class will be from 1:30 to 3:30 the same day at Bald Eagle Sportsman's Club (limit 10)
- ◆ **Citizenship in the Community:** John Capecchi, from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

June 22

- ◆ **Citizenship in Society** – Mike Fratto from 9:00 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

June 23

- ◆ **Citizenship in the Nation** – Kurt Leichtle from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

June 24

- ◆ **Citizenship in the World** – John Guthmann from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

Week of July 18-22

July 18

- ◆ **Rifle** – Dennis Stolp from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. for the classroom session and the range portion of the class will be from 1:30 to 3:30 the same day at Bald Eagle Sportsman's Club (limit 10)

July 19

- ◆ **Citizenship in the Community** – John Kysylczyn (Noon to 3:00 P.M.) (limit 10)
- ◆ **Music** – Sara Kysylczyn (Noon to 3:00 P.M.) (limit 10)

July 20

- ◆ **Citizenship in the Nation** – Mike Fratto from 9:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. (limit 10)

July 21

- ◆ **Scouting Heritage** – Kurt Leichtle from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

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Are You Ready for Super...? (Continued from Page 2)

July 22

- ◆ **Citizenship in the World** – John Guthmann from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

Week of August 14-19

August 14

- ◆ **Citizenship in Society:** Mike Fratto, from 9:15 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. (limit 10)

August 16

- ◆ **Citizenship in the Community** – John Capecchi from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

August 17

- ◆ **Dog Care**– Carissa Meyer from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. (limit 10)

August 18

- ◆ **Citizenship in the Nation** – Kurt Leichtle from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

August 19

- ◆ **Citizenship in the World** – John Guthmann from 8:30 A.M. to Noon (limit 10)

Let's Just Do Everything!

The Museum offers great program opportunities for kids. They include merit badge workshops, overnight camp outs, and the Escape Room. On April 29-30, Troop 5 said, "Aw shucks, let's do all three." Twenty-Seven Scouts and five unit adults camped overnight at the Museum. During their weekend campout, they rotated through the Escape Room and their merit badges.

Thanks to Museum volunteers Nell Nere, Bonna Scherer, and Kurt Leichtle, the visit was a success. The troop is pictured in the photo that accompanies this article.

You and the unit you work with can have an experience at the Museum just like the experience enjoyed by Troop 5. Simply call or email Carissa Meyer at carissa.meyer@nssm.org



Troop 5 is pictured above during its campout at the Museum on April 29-30.

Know of anyone
interested in joining?
Contact:
Carissa Meyer at
651-748-2880 or
carissa.meyer@nssm.org

The Order of the Odor Rides Again Still Stinks

The 2023 Skunk Reunion was attended by sixteen real stinkers on May 13, 2023 at the Fred C. Andersen Camp's training building. One did not even need to hold their nose to enjoy the odiferous funk of fun, fellowship, and food. It was that good.

The master of ceremonies for this year's reunion was Skunk Senior Patrol Leader Russ Edlund. He began the program after a brief welcome by John Guthmann. Paul Bartyzal oversaw the traditional counting of the years. Even with a late-comer's numbers missing, there were 747 years of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting experience in the room for an average service equaling an impressive fifty years.

Rather than a keynote address, the main program this year was a panel discussion. The topic was "What Makes a Good Museum Memorable and How Can We Make the North Star Museum Better." The discussion was moderated by Kurt Leitchle and Jack Johnson. How would you, the reader, answer this question? Send your ideas to carissa.meyer@nssm.org and we will advance your thoughts to the Board of Directors.

As always, the highlight of the reunion was presentation of the Skunk of the Year. This year's honoree was Becca Emmons. Becca was recognized for "Herculean efforts" that led to the revival and reestablishment



Before the meeting started, and as Skunks arrived, the room filled with a pungent odor that can only accompany the Skunk Reunion social hour.

of the Museum's Collections Committee. Eight to ten years ago, the committee disbanded. Thereafter, several thousand donations to the Museum were not processed or were processed improperly. The Collections Committee reformed in May 2022 and Becca joined the committee. Becca familiarized herself with the Museum's collections policy and worked with other committee members to ensure that they understood the policy and the Museum's collection protocol. She also taught committee members and volunteers how to use the Past Perfect Web software to create the necessary database structure required to track existing and newly accessioned items. Becca's spent

several hundred hours on these efforts. For bringing order to chaos and her work righting the Museum's collections ship, Becca was honored as Skunk of the Year. Congratulations!

Following a moment of silence for the Skunks we lost in the past year and the singing of Scout Vespers, the meeting concluded. All those in attendance enjoyed a box lunch and more social time. After cleaning up the room and leaving no trace, there was only a slight stench in the air. Otherwise, no one would know that the Skunks had been present. But, there are the memories. See you at the 2024 Skunk Reunion!

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The Order of the Odor ...

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Kurt Leichtle and Jack Johnson moderated a discussion at the Skunk Reunion. The topic was panel discussion. The topic was "What Makes a Good Museum Memorable and How Can We Make the North Star Museum Better." To Kurt Leichtle's right is Gary Gorman.



Bob Hannah presents Becca Emmons with the Skunk of the Year award.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2023

July 4 Weekend — CLOSED

Will reopen for regular hours Wednesday, July 5.

July 6

Cast Iron and Box Oven Cooking

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Afraid to use a Dutch oven? Ever cooked in a cardboard box? Don't know how to clean and care for it? Learn tricks on cooking; sample delicious food. Register by July 3.

July 20

Dreaming about Your Pinewood Derby Car?

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Whether you are planning to race in our adult derby in November or preparing your Scout/Girl Scout for their event this winter, Learn the science behind making a fast and good looking car. Register by July 17.

July 18-22

Super Merit Badge Week

Registration opens 30 days before each Merit Badge Week.

August 2023

August 10

Rockets, Rockets, Rockets

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Make a rocket water bottle and launch it. All ages welcome. Register by August 7.

August 15-19

Super Merit Badge Week

Registration opens 30 days before each Merit Badge Week.

September 2023

September 2-4

Museum Closed Labor Day Weekend

Will reopen for regular hours Wednesday, September 6.

September 21

Building Your Pinewood Derby Car

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Come and actually cut out your car from a pre-made kit. You design it, cut it out and paint it that evening. You will also weigh it according to specifications of the race. Cost is \$20— includes admission and all supplies to make your car the winner. Register by September 15.

For more events, visit <https://www.nssm.org/calendar-of-events.html>

Annual Meeting a Success!

On May 18, 2023, the Museum held its annual meeting for members. The annual meeting also gave the thirty or so members in attendance their first opportunity to see the “pretty much” completed Home Front exhibit.



The Founders Hall was filled with Museum members at the annual meeting

The annual meeting is always a special time because the Museum’s volunteers and members rarely get a chance to just socialize. Many of the volunteers are specialists so they never get to see other volunteers who do other things. In addition to socializing, volunteers were recognized for all they did in 2022. Each attendee received a copy of the Annual Report summarizing the Museum’s accomplishments in 2022. Thanks to Terri Anderson for assembling and designing an attractive and informative report. For members not in attendance, the Annual Report was mailed. On top of everything else, the event featured a delicious selection of

desserts to enjoy.

One of the meeting highlights was the recognition of two special 2022 Volunteers of the Year—Bonna Scherer and Bob Hannah. Bonna Scherer is the Museum’s volunteer and building coordinator. The Museum has fifty or more volunteers, each of whom gives their valuable time and they each specialize in some way. Somehow, Bonna keeps track of it all while at the same time helping to keep the lights on, the walks shoveled and the grass cut. Bob Hannah is a retired Boy Scout professional who has a

unique interest in collectibles related to Boy Scouting. Bob has devoted many hours helping with the Museum’s collections by screening objects that are donated to the Museum and by working with the Museum’s Collections Committee. His expertise identifying and valuing historical objects is itself invaluable. Congratulations to both Bonna and Bob.

Another annual award is the Board Chair’s Chair Award. The award is a traveling trophy in the shape of a chair that was originally built and awarded by the late Ron Phillippo. The 2022 Board Chair’s Chair Award was given to Dave Novy. Dave was recognized by Board Chair



At the annual meeting, Bonna Scherer and Bob Hannah were recognized as Volunteers of the Year.

Lorena Palm for his outstanding work leading a committee—the Collections Committee. Under his guidance, the Collections Committee was reassembled,

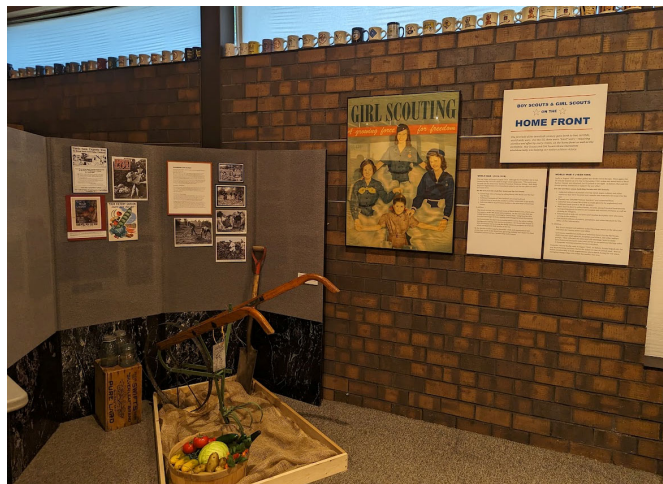


Board Chair Lorena Palm presents Dave Novy with the Board Chair’s Chair Award.

volunteer committee members recruited, and our immense backlog of items to consider for accession and deaccession was tackled. Volunteers who Dave helped recruit have also been extraordinary in their own right. Congratulations Dave.

Following the meeting, members circulated through the gallery to enjoy the exhibits. The new Home Front exhibit was open for the first time. The exhibit chronicles the volunteer work performed by Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts during the First and Second World Wars. The

exhibit contains an attractive and informative mix of original artifacts, photographs, illustrations, and text. Come to the Museum soon because the exhibit will not be up forever and you are sure to find it interesting.



Above are photos of the new Museum exhibit, "Home Front."

Out-of-State Visitors Enjoy Trip to the Museum

We love company. We're a museum—of course we do. Over the years, the Museum has had visitors from all over the world. Recently, the Museum received a visit from a group of former camp counselors at GS Camp Shantituck in Louisville, KY. The women were counselors at the camp in the 1960's and 1970's. They came to Minnesota to visit fellow camp counselor and camp director Judy Hunter (known by the camp name of "Louie") and Lorena Palm (never a camp counselor).

During their visit, Judy and Lorena brought them over to



the Museum. Seeing the Museum's Girl Scout and other exhibits gave them a trip down memory lane that they truly enjoyed. A photograph of the group accompanies this article. From left to right, the name, state of residence and camp name for each of the women in the group are: Cindy Rosch, Wisconsin, "Sonny"; Mary Jo

Martin, Florida, "Jo Jo"; Jill Diana, Minnesota, "Woody"; Colleen Reeve, Texas, "George"; and Madonna Evans, Indiana, "Doc".

These women once again proves that anyone with youth or adult experience in the Boy Scout or Girl Scout programs would enjoy a visit to the North Star Museum. Who do you know? Who would you like to bring?

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and Girl Scouting
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We're on the web
www.nssm.org



More photos of the new
Museum exhibit,
"Home Front."



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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