



# NORTH STAR MUSEUM

## OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

### Museum News

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### Don't Miss a Special Edition of S'mores with Juliette

This is the time of year when all Girl Scouts know that camping season is close at hand. That means it is time to brush up on your camp cooking skills. With your eager anticipation of outdoor cooking in mind, we planned a special edition of S'mores with Juliette just for you. To participate, just bring your quest for outdoor cooking knowledge and your appetite to the Museum on Friday, May 1, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The theme of our special S'mores with Juliette program is "Cooking with Pie Irons." Meat pies, desserts—you name it. It can all be prepared outdoors using pie irons. The "Cooking with Pie Irons" program will give you hands on experience utilizing this wonderful outdoor foods. Event Leader Robbi Moore will share her favorite recipes with you along with her extensive knowledge of cooking techniques and safety when using pie



This could be you cooking with pie irons at the May 1 S'mores with Juliette event.

irons round the campfire.

The cost is just \$6 per person to cover materials. To register, RSVP to Stephanie at 651-748-2880 or [sweiger@nssm.org](mailto:sweiger@nssm.org). See you and your appetite soon—around the campfire!

### Reunite With Fellow Skunks on June 6th

You will not want to miss the 2015 reunion of veteran Scouters. Yes, put the Skunk Reunion on your calendar for Saturday, June 6, 2015! This year, we will meet once again at the Swanson Lodge at the Fred C. Andersen Camp. Join everyone at 10:30 a.m. for conversation and reminiscences. The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will follow at noon.

Is the Skunk Reunion something that involves you? If you are reading this article, it probably does and you should probably attend. A Skunk is anyone who has been affiliated with the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or the North Star Museum for fifteen years or more and is a member of the North Star Museum. You don't want to miss your own reunion, do you? At-

tending the Skunk Reunion is an opportunity for you to renew your old Scouting acquaintances and make some new friends. Bring a friend to share some memories and introduce them to both the Skunks and the Museum. As always, the more, the merrier—and the smellier.

After the meeting and a keynote address by a spe-

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Skunk Reunion (from Page 1)  
 cial guest speaker, the air will be thick with odiferous anticipation as the 2015 Skunk of the Year is announced. The coveted Skunk of the Year is awarded based on an individual's long and outstanding service to youth in the Scouting program. Chuck Clausen was last year's stinker. With your help, we will identify and select yet another out-

standing individual. Just fill out the nomination form in this issue of *The Museum News* and send it in. The more information you include about the candidate you nominate, the easier it will be for the selection committee to evaluate your choice.

This issue also has a registration form for the Skunk Reunion; so you can both register and nomi-

nate at the same time. Both forms are also available on the Museum website if you wish to do everything on line. Please submit your nomination form no later than May 4 and your event registration no later than June 3, 2015. See you at the Reunion!



## The Compass—Scouting's Quintessential Tool! Our Gold Members Will Never Lose Their Way

The Museum's new multilevel membership program continues to receive rave reviews from both long-time and new members alike. With the new program, you will continue to enjoy the many benefits of membership. The benefits of membership include: discounts on programs and events, priority booking for special events, member only events, the *Museum News*, and discounts at the trading post. In addition, you also receive an attractive member pin as our gift, AND you have the option to receive a lovely premium gift for your membership level. Gold Level Members, the wait is over! The rugged sportsman's/military style compass is here and it is beautiful. For years we have been saying "the compass points North to the North Star Museum," and now we can prove it. There is no reason for our members to ever lose their way.

Membership Levels, annual dues for each level, and premium for each level are as follows:

**Bronze:** \$50 to \$74—Elegant coffee mug with Museum logo

**Silver:** \$75 to \$99—Rugged flashlight with Museum logo (on order)

**Gold:** \$100 to \$149—Military style sportsman's compass

**Platinum:** \$150 and above—Handsome folio with Museum logo

For those of you who are interested in buying the compass or coffee mug, these items are in stock at the gift shop/trading post. The mug is \$8.00 and the compass is \$12.00

The benefits of belonging to an organization you are passionate about go beyond mugs, pins, and tangible goods. As a Museum member, you are part of a unique organization that is making a difference in the lives of

Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Alums, Scouting families, and history buffs. We are growing and blooming. There is so much happening here at our "little museum." Spread the word to your non-member friends. There has never been a better time to be a North Star Museum member!



This compass could be yours with a gold level membership

## Take A Trip through Time with the Camp Neibel Totem Pole\*



The former Camp Neibel totem pole is shown in its attractive new display at the Museum.

Totem poles are beautiful symbols of clan and tribal stories, carved and painted by Native American peoples of the Pacific Northwest. Used to express the stories and legends of its people, totem poles served to protect the tribe and be a focal point for ceremonies. No less legendary, the totem pole from Camp Neibel was a wonderful symbol of adventure for many, many years. While Camp Director at Square Lake Camp, Harry Bartelt carved this pole from a log and erected it outside the camp building. This was in the 1920's.

Square Lake Camp was

replaced in the 1930's by Camp Neibel, and the totem pole was moved to its new location on the shores of Balsam Lake. Our time machine now moves forward to 1954. Camp Neibel closed. When the last truckload of camp equipment was ready to travel to the new camp, the totem pole was simply knocked over and left on the ground at the old camp....for 33 years!

Fast forward again to 1987 when Camp Neibel staff member Jim Rupert stopped in on his return from the Tomahawk Scout Reservation. While taking pictures of the camp gates, the then current owner of the property came out and they discussed the camp's history. The owner showed Jim around what was left of the camp, including the totem pole. Jim was delighted to pack up the totem pole and bring it home. He set about restoring this recovered treasure. Decayed sections were cut away and filled in with a mixture of sawdust and glue. The original colors were still visible, but the designs had vanished.

After researching in books and the National Geographic, Jim spent another 23 hours painting, producing the present appearance of the pole as it stands today in the North Star Scouting Museum. Truly an historical treasure, we are grateful to Jim Rupert for saving this wonderful piece of Scouting history. And the story continues. Now it's 2015. Original photos of the totem pole at Camp Neibel showed a set of wings at the top of the pole – wings that had long since fallen off. Thanks to volunteer Jack Johnson, the wings were painstakingly recreated to be an exact replica of the original set.

Now, fully restored to its former glory, the totem pole sits in a place of honor and greets visitors to the North Star Museum, telling tales of late night campfires and lonesome loon calls on Square and Balsam Lakes!

*Visit our Facebook page for more photos of the Camp Neibel totem pole and other marvelous artifacts!*

\*This article is reprinted from a submission to the Northern Star Council e-*Navigator*.

### New Members Since February 2015

- **Paul O. Johnson**
- **Jean J. Keller**
- **Columba and Svetoslav Popov**
- **Michael Prueher**
- **Daniel E. Zimlich**

Know of anyone  
interested in joining?

Contact:

**Stephanie Weiger**  
651-748-2880 or  
sweiger@nssm.org

*Museum News Editorial Team:  
Terri Anderson, Shirley De la Torre, 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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## Troop Returns for Second Overnight at the Museum!

The Cadettes of Girl Scout Troop #16045 recently visited the North Star Museum for their second Overnight at the Museum. This time they brought some new friends: Troops 16475, 15292, and 16614. The group decided to use the event to earn their Night Owl Badge. The girls were busy from the moment they arrived, beginning with a visit from Brenda and Barb of the Tamarack Nature Center. With them came two “creatures of the night”— a tiger salamander and a northern Sawhet owl. The girls learned about species adaptations for nocturnal life. Then it was craft time, which involved making

fireflies that glowed in the dark. After songs round the campfire, the girls all headed outside into the night for “observe your world at night” and a night-time scavenger hunt.

Following the scavenger hunt, it was time to set up camp in the gallery. With the camp ready, the girls enjoyed s’mores and had an extensive astronomy lesson, learning about our solar system, each of the planets, and making star wheels for night sky viewing this summer. The group also got to watch a recording of the complete solar eclipse that happened the day before. Wow! The next morning the girls enjoyed a pancake break-

fast with fresh strawberries, bananas, and oranges, followed by making a camp journal with lessons and puzzles on all the Night Owl topics they learned about.

Two of our campers became Club Bruce members, making Bruce the Moose VERY HAPPY! After packing up, the girls shared the Friendship Circle and skipped out the Museum doors full of giggles and smiles. Congratulations, Girl Scouts, on earning your Night Owl Badge at the North Star Museum. Hope we get to see everyone again. We could say the third time will be the charm, but the second time was itself pretty charming.



**Above Left: S'mores--Need we say more?**

**Above: The girls were captivated by this Northern Sawhet Owl from the Tamarack Nature Center.**



**Left: Lots of smiles demonstrate that the girls had a great time at the Museum.**

### Women Making History at the North Star Museum

The Museum has many “shining stars” whose support and service make both our institution and our community shine. A recent press release highlighted the service of three extraordinary women who have “made history” with their achievements, here at the Museum and beyond.

The first is our very own Claudia J. Nicholson. In February, Claudia celebrated her ten-year anniversary as Executive Director of the Museum. With a background rich in museum work and a heart that is passionate about history, Claudia has made a profound difference for our “little museum,” getting our collection in order, creating engaging exhibits, establishing new programs for youth and adults, and cultivating countless community partners, donors, supporters, and members for the Museum. Claudia continues to

shine with her extraordinary talent, devotion to Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting, and her passion for history.

Second, in March, Emily White received the “Forever Green” award from the Girl Scouts Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys Council. Emily is the most recent addition to the Museum’s Board of Directors. The award recognized her tremendous service to Girl Scouts over the years as well as her innovative efforts in programming and leadership.

Finally, lifetime Girl Scout, and long-time North Star Museum Volunteer, Bonna Scherer, recently received the “Thanks Badge,” which is the highest award given to adult Girl Scouts. Bonna’s extensive contribution of time, talent, and treasure to the Girl Scouts was recognized by the Minnesota and Wisconsin

River Valleys Girl Scout Council through this very prestigious award.

We applaud these extraordinary women who make a difference for our Museum and our community. Congratulations, ladies!



Bonna Scherer



Emily White



Claudia Nicholson

## Have You Answered “The Call?”

The North Star Museum is celebrating TEN YEARS in our present location, and what a decade it has been! You have seen our growth. The Museum’s growth covers every facet—increases in programs, staff, and revenue, an expanded membership program, a growing collection of Boy Scout and Girl Scout artifacts and memories, and new exhibits.

In 2015, the Museum’s growth in exhibits and programs continues. Coming this summer, the Museum debuts two new exhibits:

*\*Firm Bound in Brotherhood: A Century of Cheerful Service* will profile 100 years of Order of the Arrow activity in this region.



*\*Hands-on-History* is an exhibit that will transform a portion of the Museum into a destination for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts both to learn and participate in traditional “Scout skills” like

trail marking and line of sight measuring. This one-of-a-kind exhibit will make history come alive for each visiting participant.

The excitement surrounding our new exhibits heralds our emergence as the museum you have always wanted us to be. To continue our forward momentum, we need your help! Earlier this month you received a letter asking for your support as we blaze forward into 2015. Your generosity and your faith in us have been – and will always be – the driving force behind what we do here at “the little museum that could,” and we are so grateful! Please answer this “Call to History” and make a gift to the North Star Museum today. *Every dollar you give makes a big difference!*

The bugle is sounding. Help keep the Museum going as we spread our wings to soar higher than ever before. The North Star Museum—Values Kept Here!



## The Value of History—Seven Seven Ways It Is Essential

History is nice. But is history relevant? Well, according to the operators of a new web site, history is ESSENTIAL. Check out the History Relevance Campaign on line at this web address: <http://www.historyrelevance.com/#!/history-is-essential/c206y>. The project began in 2012 out of concern that history is being marginalized in our society. According to the web site, “both knowledge of the past and the practice of researching and making sense of what happened in the past - is crucially important to the wellbeing of individuals, communities, and the future of our nation.” Without the perspective provided by a keen knowledge of history, lessons are lost and citizens become more susceptible to misinformation and deception by their leaders.

The web site organizers have identified seven ways in which history is essential. With a sense of IDENTITY, a people find a connection with their families, communities, and nation. History also teaches CRITICAL SKILLS, such as research, writing, citing references ethically and with accuracy, understanding biases, and appreciating multiple perspectives. A VITAL PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK is not possible without a historical context that provides the foundation for strong and resilient communities. Of course, history creates opportunities for ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT because cultural heritage is an economic asset and, according to the web site, “[p]eople are drawn to communities that have preserved a strong sense of historical identity and character.” If our population

has a strong “history IQ,” we will have ENGAGED CITIZENS with a perspective that increases the likelihood that today’s complex problems can be solved. Stories from the past inspire LEADERSHIP and great leaders. Finally, history provides a LEGACY that forms the foundation for future generations.

If you think about the Seven Ways, you can see an immediate connection between the values of history and the values taught by the Boy Scout and Girl Scout organizations, the history of which is the mission of our Museum. The symmetry is perfect. Check out the History Relevance Campaign web site. Perhaps you will appreciate your work with Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, and the Museum all the more.

## Have You Scheduled Your Unit’s Reunion at the Museum?

The Museum is a perfect place for former Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to hold their unit reunions. In March, veterans of Girl Scout from Troops 192 and 8 (a Mariner troop) held their reunion celebration at the Museum.

Organizer “Cinny” Sobieski arranged the visit with our staff. Some of the attendees had not seen each other since high school. The ladies brought a potluck lunch and many mementos and artifacts from their “Scouting days.” They also

shared songs, stories, and laughter. Executive Director Claudia Nicholson spent the afternoon with the Girl Scouts, hearing all their tales of adventure and giving them a tour of the Museum. Of course, their favorite part of the tour was our superb Girl Scout exhibit. One of the ladies joined the Museum and all the ladies vowed to come back and see us again.

Once a Girl Scout, always a Girl Scout! Thank you, Girl Scouts

from Troops 192 and 8 for sharing your stories and your memories with the Museum. If you would like to hold a unit reunion at the Museum, just give us a call and get it scheduled.



The former members of Girl Scout Troops 192 and 8 enjoy their reunion at the Museum.



## Tribute Gifts from February 1, 2015 to April 7, 2015

### In honor of Ron Phillippo's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Kevin Balfanz  
Shirley Bethke  
James and Jayne Bradshaw  
Darrell Butterwick  
Chuck and Judy Clausen  
Sandra and Donald Craighead  
Nancy Randall Dana  
David R. Denn  
Judith P. and Richard J. Diedrich  
Bill and Diane Ellis  
Michael and Frances Galvin, Jr.  
Mary R. Gillespie  
Edward and Eileen Gordon  
Susan K. Hedlund and Brian O. Peterson  
Marilyn Hobbs  
C.A. and Scott Howe  
Judy Hunter  
Paul O. Johnson

Eileen M. Karl  
F. Alexandra and Robert C. Klas  
Wesley J. Laseski  
Richard L. Meyer  
Gordon and Valerie Minnichsoffer  
John J. and Katherine Rinkleff Overland  
Delores L. Kaese  
Gerald W. and Dona G. Leland  
Melody McKee  
Warren P. Nentwig  
Lorena A. Palm  
Eugene Peterson  
Dale and Sharon Phillippo  
Mattie Powe  
Willie C. Powe, Jr.  
Robert W. Rosene  
Barbara L. Schmidt  
John Schwietz  
Ann Sether and Timothy Herrera

Stoney Stonecipher  
Donn N. Valentine  
David L. Wettergren

### In honor of Claudia Nicholson's 10 year anniversary with North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting

Chuck and Judy Clausen  
Stacy A. Cordery  
Sandra and Donald Craighead  
Edward and Eileen Gordon  
Judy Hunter  
Jack K. Johnson  
F. Alexandra and Robert C. Klas  
Lorena A. Palm  
George Smith  
Stephanie Weiger

### In honor of Robert Rosene

F. Alexandra and Robert C. Klas



# Greetings to all Museum Members, Veteran Scouters and Skunks!

## 2015 Skunk Reunion



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

**Who:** Museum members and veteran Scouters  
registered as a Scouter for 15 years or registered in Scouting over 20 years.

**When:** Saturday, June 6, 2015

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

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

**Cost:** \$13.00 per person. **Pre-registration is mandatory.**

**Directions:** Cross the St. Croix River at Stillwater, go up the hill past the commercial area  
on highway 64, then go one mile north and turn left on the Andersen Scout Camp Road.  
The camp is 1.2 miles further.

**The deadline for registration is Wednesday, June 3, 2015**

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**My name is** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I'm coming!** Put me down for the reunion. Here is my  
\$13.00

I will be bringing guests      Number of guests \_\_\_\_\_ x \$13.00

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  
2840 Seventh Avenue East  
North St. Paul, MN 55109

# Skunk of the Year Nomination Form



## Nomination for Skunk of the Year due by May 1, 2015

### 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. The individual will have made a significant contribution to the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or the North Star Museum.

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

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### 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](http://www.nssm.org)