



# NORTH STAR MUSEUM

## OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

### Museum News

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### Firm Bound in Brotherhood – 100 Years of Cheerful Service

For 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives. Their achievements have provided inspiration to people inside and outside of the Boy Scouts for generations. These "Arrowmen" are known for maintaining camps, preserving camping traditions and spirit, promoting year-round and long-term resident camping, and providing cheerful service to others. Every-

thing about OA – service, activities, adventures, leadership, and training for youth and adults, is a model of quality programming that enriches and helps to extend Scouting to all of America's youth.

At the North Star Museum, we often say "Values kept here." Indeed, the values represented by Order of the Arrow are an integral part of what the North Star Museum is all about.

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This photo depicts the type of OA regalia you may see in the OA Centennial Exhibit.

### Learn About the 3,000 Mile Hike of 1915 on September 20

At last year's Annual Meeting, many of you had the opportunity to hear historian Bobbie Scott talk about her initial work researching the very special story of "My 3,000 Mile Hike to San Francisco." It is a tale that began in 1915 right here in St. Paul, Minnesota. Thanks to the Museum's Legacy Grant, Ms. Scott has continued her work and you now have the opportunity see Ms. Scott

reveal new details of this little-known story at the Museum on Sunday, September 20, from 2:00 to 3:30.

"My 3,000 Mile Hike to San Francisco," was written by Leon D. Blehart in 1931 and it chronicles his adventure as a young Boy Scout. In April 1915, Leon and his friend, Max Carl Bernstein, along with four other Boy Scouts and an adult leader, began

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Bobbie Scott shows off the Blehart manuscript.

## Firm Bound in Brotherhood – 100 Years of Cheerful Service (cont. from page 1)

So, it is only fitting that the Museum will open a new exhibit this fall celebrating the Order of the Arrow's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Meticulously created by OA members and members of the Museum's Exhibits Committee, the exhibit will detail the history of our region's OA lodges with rarely seen artifacts that are being displayed just for this occasion. Regalia, photographs, patches, special awards, OA sashes, and more, will be on display this fall in a special section of the North Star Museum. Watch for announcements in September for the ribbon cutting ceremony and grand opening of this unique Order of the

Arrow exhibit.

YOU can also put your mark on this special exhibit. To help fund the exhibit, we are selling a custom-made OA patch collection that celebrates the OA Centennial. Go to our website at [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org) to learn how YOU can make the exhibit even bigger and better. Only a limited number of the Museum's centennial OA patches are available, so act now!

**With a \$200.00 donation to help build the OA Centennial Exhibit, this limited edition patch set could be yours**



## Learn About the 3,000 Mile Hike of 1915 on September 20 (cont. from Page 1)

a cross country hike from St. Paul, Minnesota to San Francisco, California. What followed was an extraordinary nine-month journey of epic proportions – filled with danger, betrayal, hope, and survival. They would not return to their beloved Minnesota until January 1916.

On September 20, come hear the story of these two local Scouts from the researcher who uncovered their tale, put together some missing pieces, and picked up where Leon left off. You will also have an opportunity to meet some of the surviving relatives of Leon and Max. The event is FREE and open to

the community. Call Stephanie to reserve your spot (651-748-2880) or email her at [sweiger@nssm.org](mailto:sweiger@nssm.org).



**This rare photo shows Leon Blehart on the way to San Francisco.**

## Mid-Summer Night's Annual Meeting

This year the North Star Museum decided to clear a date from everyone's busy October calendar and move the Annual Meeting to the summer. The first meeting under summer skies took place on the evening of July 7. It was a refreshing change.

The gathering kicked off with dinner and time for socializing. After the meeting convened, we got our first chance to review the Museum's attractive and informative 2014 Annual Report. After a light supper, Executive Director Claudia Nicholson and Board Chair Ron Phillippo shared a few words of inspiration while summing up the events of 2014 and the first half of this year.

What followed was part program, part training, and part spectacle.

Membership Committee Chair and Board Member Hugh Gwin was joined by Director of Institutional Advancement Shirley De la Torre, for a review of the elements of a successful membership-building campaign. To put it mildly, they succeeded in an informative and entertaining fashion. For their conclusion, "Marshal Gwin of Membership" deputized all Museum members to bring just one new person into the Museum before the end of the year. Everyone happily took "The Oath."

When the meeting concluded, those in attendance were treated to a "sneak peek" of the new interactive history exhibit. It was installed only a week before the Annual Meeting. Although the exhibit is geared towards kids, the adults had just as much



Marshal Gwin of the Membership Committee and Shirley De la Torre dazzle the crowd with the membership presentation.

fun trying all the interactive stations. The exhibit highlights camp crafts using traditional "Scout skills" that are taken right from the pages of historic Boy Scout and Girl Scout program materials. Each station invites guests to use their senses of touch, smell, sight, and sound to interact with the natural world.

The summertime Annual Meeting was a terrific experience and everyone parted with a new sense of adventure. Thanks to all who attended. See you next year!



Erin from Museology shows off the Trail Signs station from the new Hands-on History Exhibit to Museum Members at the Annual Meeting.



Can you tell that our Museum members enjoyed the food at the Annual Meeting?

### New/Returning Members Since June 2015

- Matthew Arnett
- Darrell Charboneau
- Frank Durkin
- David Eisenbrandt
- Peter A. Johnson
- Christopher Mayr
- Jennifer Melton
- Carmen Noack
- Joan E. Olson
- Nira Rajan
- Tina Ramacier
- Fred and Peggy Riehm
- Kathleen Thompson
- Beth and Gerald Voermans

Know of anyone interested in joining? Contact: Stephanie Weiger 651-748-2880 or [sweiger@nssm.org](mailto:sweiger@nssm.org)

## Volunteering – The Importance of Meaningful Work—and You

At the North Star Museum, we know beyond a shadow of a doubt that we would not be here without all of our dedicated volunteers. There are many reasons why people volunteer: to feel needed, to share a skill, to get to know a community, to demonstrate commitment to a cause/belief, for satisfaction from accomplishment, to keep busy, to donate your professional skill, to have an impact, to make new friends, to assure progress, to feel good, to be part of a team, to be an agent of change, because of personal experience, or for fun

The reasons each of our volunteers has for helping out the Museum are as unique as each of them. But, don't just take our word—listen to some of our volunteers:



**Robbie Moore**

Will Sulzbach, merit badge counselor, says “Scouting provides the best program for developing youth to lead good lives. However, getting more youths into the programs and delivering the programs effectively are big challenges. I do my best to meet these challenges.”

And, from NSSM Board Member and Program Volunteer Robbie Moore, “I want the Museum to be a go-to place for leaders and girls. Starting the S'Mores with Juliette program has touched so many girls sharing traditional Girl Scout things that are no longer taught universally—it is a role we at the Museum can fill and I am having a great time doing it!”

Betty Joyce says: “Among the reasons I have volunteered for the Museum is that I really respect and appreciate what Boy and Girl Scouting has offered to the community, my family and myself. I was a Girl Scout through 12th grade and an adult volunteer for many of my adult years. I have seen my three children gain more skills, have fun, try new experiences, and gain confidence to be leaders in their adult life. I also love history and I am glad some people and organizations have had the foresight to save historical artifacts, archival records, and to share their stories with the community. I am very happy to share my time and talents with an organization of this caliber. Keep up the good work!”



**Bob Pettitt**

Bob Pettitt sees “Scouting as a force for good in our tenuous society. I volunteer at the Museum because I see it as an extension and a holder of the heritage of Scouting. To not lend my expertise and skills to Scouting and to the Museum would be a waste. Even if that were not the case and I knew nothing about Scouting, the people who staff and volunteer at the Museum are extremely fun to spend time with.”

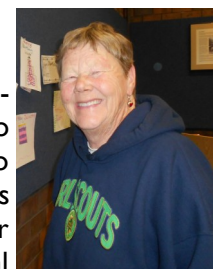
Karen Klose volunteers “because it is fun. I love the Girl Scouts and history. Volunteering at the Museum is a perfect match for me. It is time to give back and I ask: “it is not about what the Girl Scouts can do for me, rather what can I do for the Girl Scouts.’ Girl Scouting has such a rich and deep history. The Museum preserves this history and the values of Scouting for all. When I walk in the Exhibit Hall I can almost hear the old stories as I look at the uniforms and other artifacts. Being in the Museum is a special joy for me. Volunteering at the Museum is a unique opportunity to give back to Scouting.”



**Will Sulzbach**



**Betty Joyce**



**Karen Klose**

With the help of these volunteers and many more, the North Star Museum is poised for its next phase of growth. Over the past few years, we've been building programs, membership, exhibits, and outreach. We are becoming more well-known than ever before. Troops and packs are asking more from us. To keep growing we need people power. If YOU would like to volunteer for the Museum, contact Volunteer Team Leader Gary Gorman at 651-428-6097. Gary will share with you all the wonderful ways YOU can have a positive impact on this wonderful little museum we know and you love!

## The Joy of Giving

As a member of the North Star Museum, we know you think this place is special. Whether you were a Boy Scout, Girl Scout, or you are a community-minded historian, the North Star Museum holds magic. The magic of memories preserved, stories shared, traditions treasured and values upheld. As a member, you belong. You are a part of our family. So what motivates you to give more? What drives us, as human beings, to make a gift beyond membership dues?

If you ask people why they give, their answers offer clues: *I feel better about myself. Others need, and I have. I want to share. It's only right.* There are many answers that bring us to a universal truth: Giving takes you out of yourself. You expand beyond your limitations. Deepak Chopra said in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "When giving results in an experience of love, joy, peace, community, charity,

caring, and self-worth, the process of expansion has begun."

When you deepen your relationship to the North Star Museum with an annual gift, you are not just helping us preserve your Boy Scout and Girl Scout treasures. You are also helping us continue to engage children, families, troops, and packs with programs, leadership opportunities, and service options that are unique to Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. If you are a Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting alum, you are helping us to preserve your traditions and memories for generations to come. Your support has helped us grow from "a quaint little museum" to a destination museum that is becoming more and more well-known for its innovative programs and workshops. With your help, our exhibits, programs, and workshops uphold Scouting values, celebrate your personal history, and provide a beautiful space



### Help preserve traditions.

for meetings, celebrations, and gatherings of all kinds.

This fall, the staff and volunteers of the North Star Museum will be asking for your help to keep us going. Make an annual gift to the North Star Museum now or increase your previous gift.

You can also give online at your convenience. Simply go to our website at [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org) and scroll to the bottom where you can click on "Donate." Expand your heart, expand your commitment, and watch us shoot for the stars! The North Star Museum – *Values kept here.*



**Please help us keep the Museum a vibrant and interesting place for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to visit.**

## Shining a Light on Membership

Over a year ago, the Museum launched a new membership program that offered various levels of engagement along with some wonderful premiums. Finally, the last piece of the membership program is in place—we have the flashlight! This sturdy, LED camo-flashlight is your gift when you join the Museum at the Silver Level (\$50 - \$74).

The flashlight, as with all of our premiums, is a token of our appreciation for being a part of our North Star Museum family. The additional benefits of discounts, priority booking for events, the *Museum News* newsletter, and special “members only” previews and events are the other facets to this program.

## It Was a Good Day!

Starting with the weather, this summer has been wonderful and July 16 was an even more wonderful day at the Museum. It all began when Museum Member and Volunteer Mike Fratto taught Citizenship in the World merit badge to a group of eager young Scouts. Our Merit Badge workshop program has been bigger and better than ever this summer.

Next, John Schwietz led a group of kids through the first trial run of the Museum’s Civility School program. Through Civility School, youth learn the important relationship between man-

We hope you have taken advantage of these benefits as well as our programs, such as Merit Badge Workshops, Overnights at the Museum, The Pause That Refreshes, the newly stocked gift shop, and more.

As we head into fall, we begin to take stock of our “harvests.” Our relationships, the organizations we care about, and the things we have planted have come to bear fruit. We continue to be grateful for your support and your involvement in our incredible Museum, along with the stories, memories, and treasures that fill it. Please continue supporting the Museum and visit often. And, how about bringing a friend or two – people you

ners, civility, and respectful conduct and success in life. Based on the July 16 test run, we are very optimistic about the future of this program.

During all of this activity, we were excited to receive Mary Glenski, a visitor from South Dakota. Mary is a former member of both our Board and the South Dakota legislature. She dropped by to renew her membership and see what’s new.

Finally, an enthusiastic group of Girl Scouts from Illinois “stopped by” for a tour, a viewing of the Golden Eaglet, and a bit of shopping in our gift shop. In addition to some power shop-

think would be intrigued by us. Share the Museum with them. We would be delighted to see our family grow.

If you are a Silver Level Member, and would like your flashlight, please contact Shirley De la Torre at (651) 748-2880. Thank you for all you do for the North Star Museum!



**If you are a Silver-level member, this camo-flashlight could be yours.**

ping, two of them became Museum members! We wish every day could be like July 16.



**Jim and Mary Glenski visit the Museum July 16**

## Thank You, Emma!

Thanks to the generosity of Bob and Joyce Rosene, the Museum was once again fortunate to have a summer intern. Emma Felty is a recent graduate from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. With a degree in public history, art history, and a certification in fine arts administration, Emma spent the summer helping us get caught up on cataloging artifacts in our collection. Emma was a Girl Scout - of course - and says that her Scouting years gave her a love of the great outdoors. She

was with us through mid-August. In her spare time during the internship, Emma tried to explore as much of Minnesota as she could. Emma certainly appreciated her internship: "While my time at the North Star Museum was short it was memorable and incredibly fulfilling. I loved working with Claudia, Shirley, Stephanie, and Mike on a daily basis, and I was fortunate to meet and engage with board members and visitors. Thank you so much to everyone who has made this ex-

perience and overwhelmingly positive one. Although I was a Girl Scout when I was younger, my knowledge of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting has been greatly enhanced. Thank you so much for this opportunity and I hope to see you at future Museum events." Good luck, Emma, and make sure to return for a visit soon!

## The Skunk Reunion Smelled So Sweet

On Saturday, June 6, The Order of the Odor gathered for its annual reunion. This year, the setting was deep in the woods at the Good Medicine Lodge, where laughter, songs, and stories were carried on the wind through the trees. Before the wind could pick up too many scents, Jim Rupert and Russ Edlund called the meeting to "odor." Barb Herrmann tallied 1,176 years of Scouting in the room. Divided by the 33 in attendance, the average number of years in Scouting equaled 35.64. WOW! That's A LOT of experience!

After the Museum's Director of Institutional Advancement, Shirley De la Torre, gave a brief "State of the Museum," the program was turned over to keynote speaker Veid Muiznieks. Veid is a retired police chief from Newport who was very active in the Police Explorers. He was Northern Star Council's Assistant Commissioner

and he is on the National BSA Committee for Police Explorers. Veid shared some entertaining stories and inspiring moments with the group. To wrap up the program, current "Skunk of the Year" Chuck Clausen had the honor of announcing this year's twin "Skunks of the Year." The awards went to Barb Herrmann and David Novy. They both were thrilled. Make sure to congratulate them next time you see them.

After the meeting was adjourned, the group enjoyed food, fellowship, and more fun. Charlie Opp once again dazzled everyone with a delicious meal, and he had lots of help in the kitchen courtesy of Judy Clausen, Joanie Robbins, Barb Herrmann, and Terri Anderson. The afterglow was spent lingering in warm conversations and sacred song. Following another wonderful reunion we can hardly wait until next year.



**"Skunks of the Year"  
Barb Herrmann and  
David Novy.**



**Veid Muiznieks speaking at the  
Skunk reunion**

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## A “Pause That Refreshes” With Historic Significance

On Wednesday, August 12 “The Pause That Refreshes” returned after an eight-month pause of its own. The Museum welcomed the Minnesota Historical Society’s Executive Director, Steve Elliott. A respected historian with a background in Boy Scouting, Steve had the audience enthralled with his insights on why history matters, particularly for our youth. As an Eagle Scout, Steve has a great love for Scouting, and he remarked on Scouting’s place in Minnesota history. After his remarks, Steve took questions from the audience. Lively conversations went on long after

the event ended. Thank you, Steve, for reminding us of the importance of history, the need to preserve our history for future generations, and the value of history as a teaching tool.



**Steve Elliott at the  
Pause That Refreshes**

*Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, Shirley De la Torre, John Guthmann, Claudia Nicholson, and John Raymond.*

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