



NORTH STAR MUSEUM

OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

Museum News

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Call to History 2016

Last year, the Museum conducted its first annual "Call to History" fundraiser breakfast. Thanks to you, it was a HUGE success. Building on last year's feat, we are planning for "history to repeat itself" with our **Call to History 2016**. Read on to learn more and to find out what is new for 2016.

Mark your calendars Call to History 2016 Wednesday, April 27

Our second **Call to History 2016** looks to be just as exciting as the first. Key speakers and presenters are being lined up and we welcome back our friends, Jon Pederson as emcee, Nancy Randall Dana as closing speaker, and Will Sulzbach as bugler. The program will have a familiar feel and flow, with



The young and the less young all enjoyed the 2015 Call to History.

guest speakers, lively presentations, an inspirational video, a complimentary meal, and an opportunity to make a gift to North Star Museum.

New this year - we are offering TWO sessions: a breakfast session at 7:30 a.m. and a lunch session at noon. Guests can choose whichever time suits their schedule. We promise the presentation is exactly one hour, we will get you in and out, and we guarantee you will be walking on air when you leave! Normally this very special annual event is by invitation only, but we had so many folks wanting to attend last year, we quickly ran out of room. If this event interests you – and we know it does – contact Shirley De la Torre at sdelatorre@nssm.org to reserve a seat. We have Table Hosts who will welcome you to their table and you will have a WONDERFUL time. Even if you have been a Museum supporter for a while, you will be delighted by the vision we share



Who can forget Nancy Randall Dana's presentation, and hat, at last year's Call to History. If you are wondering what hat she will wear this year, you'd better sign up to attend.

with you, and the speakers will inspire you. We are excited to welcome new faces as well as our devoted members. Be sure to bring a guest so we can broaden our universe of Museum supporters.

Funds raised from **Call to History 2016** will support the Museum's day-to-day operations and allow us to continue the innovative programs and events we offer all year long. JOIN US! Be a part of making history at the **Call to History 2016**.

The Chair's Chair

At the Board of Director's 2016 annual retreat, Board Chair Ron Phillippo established a new tradition. During his tenure as Indianhead Council CEO, Ron always emphasized the importance of recognition. So, it is only fitting that Ron announced the first annual Chair's Award for Committee Excellence at the January retreat. The award recognizes the excellent work of a North Star Museum committee each year.

The first-ever recipient of the Chair's Award was none other than the Exhibits Committee, ably led by Dr. George Smith, who is also a member of the

Museum Board. During 2015, the Exhibits Committee played a central role in helping the Museum "step up" its program to even greater heights. In September, we celebrated the grand opening of Phase I of the "Adventures in CampCraft" exhibit. This interactive Scout skills exhibit has already captured the imagination of hundreds of boys and girls. The year 2015 was also the centennial of the Order of the Arrow. In true North Star Museum style, we opened an ambitious exhibit celebrating 100 years of the OA in our area.

These exhibits and the other



Ron Phillippo and Kurt Leichtle present Dr. George Smith (right) with the Chair's Award for Committee Excellence.

work of the Exhibits Committee made it an excellent choice for the inaugural Chair's Award. The award itself is quite unique. It is actually a small, hand-crafted chair. Congratulations to George and the entire Exhibits Committee!

Science of Style at North Star Museum

The Museum often plays host to Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups for their special events and programs. On Saturday, January 30, the Girl Scouts River Valleys – led by Program Partner Specialist Brenda Danner – held a unique workshop at our Museum. The Science of Style

workshop included education and activities in sewing, aromatherapy, and gemology. During their stay, the girls also took time to enjoy a tour of the Museum. They especially enjoyed the Girl Scout exhibit.

Thanks Brenda, and the whole GSRV team, for choosing North

Star Museum as your "destination museum." If you are looking for a destination for your special event or program, look no farther than North Star Museum. Just contact Shirley De la Torre at sdelatorre@nssm.org to reserve a time.



Girl Scouts are totally focused on their projects at The Science of Style Workshop hosted by the Museum on January 30, 2016.

A History-Making Collaboration

Baden-Powell once said, “The spirit is there in every boy; it has to be discovered and brought to light.” In the spirit of discovery and bringing things to light, Northern Star Council and North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting recently announced a wonderful new partnership: A first-of-its-kind Archival Research Center (ARC) at the new NSC Leadership Center at Fort Snelling!

In 2015, North Star Museum entered into a written Preservation Services Agreement (PSA) with Northern Star Council. Under the PSA, the Museum will receive donations of certain historic and archival materials from the Council. In addition, the two organizations will care for and manage the Council’s important historical archive. While the most important archival materials remain in the hands of the Council, the Museum owns a considerable amount of printed material, publications, and photographs, all illuminating the Council’s history. It is the Museum’s mission to preserve this region’s Scouting heritage. While the mission of Boy Scouting – and Northern Star Council – is to look forward, the Museum is uniquely positioned to look back at our collective past and make that past a relevant and valuable resource for today. It’s what we do. It’s our expertise. Imagine our delight at being a part of this important collaboration.



The action plan for the Council/Museum partnership includes building a special space in the new Leadership Center at Fort Snelling to house both the Council’s and the Museum’s archival material. The plan also involves arranging, describing, and cataloging the archive so it may be accessible to the public. This new “Archival Research Center”- while housed at the Council’s Leadership Center - will be managed by the Museum to benefit the Scouting public.

The Council/Museum collaboration recently received significant public support. In order to gather the archives and make them ready for opening, the Council (with the assistance of North Star Museum’s Executive Director Claudia Nicholson) applied for, and received, an Arts and Cultural Heritage Legacy Grant from the State of Minnesota to hire a professional archivist. The archivist will be hired soon so these valuable archives are ready for a 2017 opening.

New Members Since December 2015

- Rob Houts
- David F. Leitzman
- Karla Leitzman
- Many Point Alumni Association
- Jonathan Pettitt
- Mark J. Salmen
- Stuart Smith

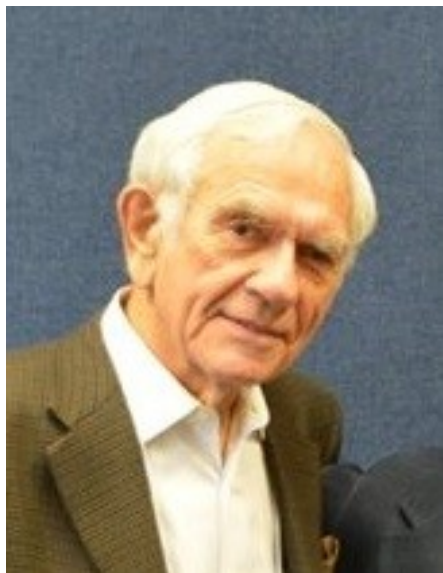
Gift In Memory of Don Sayner

- Todd Knipping
- David Sayner



Meet Your New and Returning Board of Directors Members

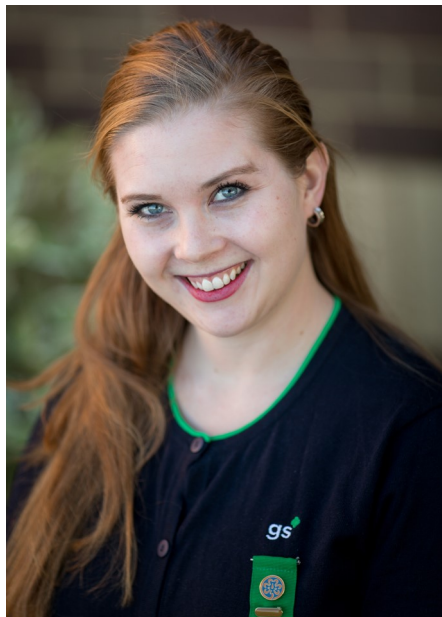
Effective January 1, 2016, North Star Museum members returned several current Board members to office, elected three new Board members, and brought a former Chair back to the Board. Let's start by welcoming our new Board members.



Wes Laseski

Wesley J. Laseski - Wes, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, is married with four children, and lives in Edina. He was treasurer of International Multifoods before starting a seasonal products company, Spearhead Industries, which he sold in 1992. Wes started another company, Value Merchandise, and sold it before retiring in 2012. He has been actively involved in non-profit organizations throughout his career including serving as president of Junior Achievement and the Downtown YMCA in Minneapolis. Wes was elected to Northern Star Council's Board of Direc-

tors in 2009, and has served since. Wes replaces Northern Star Council's Kent York. Kent provided invaluable marketing and communications assistance during his term. Kent, thank you for your service to the Museum.



Karla Leitzman

Karla Leitzman - Karla Leitzman works as a Philanthropy Associate in Individual and Planned Giving at Girl Scouts River Valleys. Karla grew up in the Land O'Lakes Council (now part of Minnesota and Wisconsin Lakes and Pines) and was an active girl member for thirteen years. She continued to be involved as a volunteer through her time at Gustavus Adolphus College and is passionate about both Girl Scouting and Boy Scouting as these organizations empower youth to change the world and be thoughtful, pragmatic citizens. Karla is looking

forward to serving on the North Star Museum Board learning even more about the history of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. Karla replaces Stephanie Pommer, a fellow Girl Scouts River Valleys employee. Karla has big shoes to fill, as the Board extends a hearty "Thank You!" to Stephanie.



Bonna Scherer

Bonna Scherer - Bonna is a 25-year Girl Scout volunteer, during which time she has been a troop leader, trainer, day camp director, and service unit manager. Introduced to the museum in 2012 when the River Valleys Heritage Committee did a Centennial exhibit for the Washington County Historical Society, Bonna currently serves on the Museum's Membership Committee, and has been a valuable program volunteer, including a 7:30 a.m. Sunday-morning call to make pancakes for our overnight

Meet Your New and Returning Board of Directors Members

groups. Bonna can be relied upon to help at all kinds of programs and events. She has received the Thanks Badge, the highest honor given to Girl Scout volunteers.



Barb Herrmann

The Museum Board is thrilled to welcome back former Board Chair, **Barbara Corti Herrmann**. Barb never really left, as she continued her volunteer efforts on behalf of the Museum during her "absence." Barb is former Director of Instructional Technology for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU). She recently retired as the Executive Secretariat/Treasurer of the International Vocational Education and Training Association. She has been involved with Indianhead/Northern Star Council since 1977, serving on the President's Cabinet, Archives Committee, and is past chair of the Diversity Committee. She was one of the

Saint Paul Foundation's Ambassadors for the "Facing Race" Initiative. Barb has chaired the Finance Committee at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church for the past three years, was a member of the Alumni Board of Elmira College, and former president of her homeowner's association. She was a Girl Scout for 15 years.

The Museum is also fortunate to have four returning Board members. It is an understatement to say that each has been an important leader in recent years.

Ron Phillippo - Ron is a professional Scouter of 42 years, and is the Scout Executive Emeritus of the Indianhead (now Northern Star) Council. Ron held positions with the BSA in the national service center, and at councils in Milwaukee, Suburban Chicago, and south Florida before coming to St. Paul. In addition to the Museum's board, Ron is on the board of Lakeview Hospital's Foundation and Indianhead Scout Camps, Inc. Ron is the current Chair of the Museum's Board of Directors.

Lorena Palm - Lorena (pronounced "Lorna") is a retired Executive Director/CEO with 22 years of experience in two Girl Scout Councils. She has been a member of Girl Scouts for 50 years, and has a B.A. in Volunteer Management from Metro State University. The skills and experience she brings to the board include fundraising, strategic planning, governance, budget

management, property management, and personnel. She has connections with both current Girl Scout Councils in Minnesota, having grown up in Bemidji, volunteered in Northfield, worked in St. Paul, and was CEO in St. Cloud. Lorena is the current Vice Chair of the Museum's Board of Directors.

Jim Stevenson - Jim is a partner at Lethert, Skwira, Schultz & Co. in St. Paul. Jim brings his considerable skills to the Museum as its current Treasurer. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants. He is a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Woodbury and has been involved as the Finance Chair at his church in Oakdale, MN. He is a past member of the Board of Directors for Hill Murray High School and the Catholic Spirit Publishing Company, a local non-profit weekly publication. An Eagle Scout, Jim remains active in the leadership of Boy Scout Troop 817 in Oakdale.

Sandra L. Craighead - Sandy has been a member of the Girl Scouts for 64 years, and is associated with the Girl Scout Council of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys. She served as President of the Board of the former St. Croix Valley Council from 1984-1990, and is currently

Continued on page 6

Meet Your New and Returning Board of Directors Members (from page 5)

Chair of Planned Giving. A community volunteer since earning her B.S. in Nursing from the University of Minnesota, Sandy is also currently associated with Emma Norton Services, which provides help to homeless women and families.

George Smith, MD – George has worked for 40 years as a physician in both family medicine and geriatrics, and is currently retired. During this time he has discovered a love of history. He is a member of the North St.

Paul Maplewood Oakdale Rotary Club, has served on the board for the Northeast Learning Center, and the Foundation of the Academy of Family Physicians. George is an Eagle Scout from Troop 9 in St. Paul, and had Museum Founder Don Hoffmann as his Scoutmaster. He has volunteered at the Museum for the last two years as a counselor for the Medicine merit badge. George also helped lead our Exhibit Committee, which was responsible for creating major new exhibits at the Museum in 2015,

including the Order of the Arrow exhibit.

No non-profit organization can function without a strong Board. All Museum members should be confident that our Board of Directors will continue its strong and innovative stewardship of our organization.

Welcome Diana Foss!

Say “hello” to our new staff member, Diana Foss. Diana is our new administrative assistant and she brings an amazing array of talents to North Star Museum. A graduate of Valparaiso University in Indiana, Diana has 36 years of Human Resource experience, and she has worked for such companies as PACAL, HealthEast, Samaritan Hospital, and Twin City Fan.

Raised in Chicago, Diana now lives in Mahtomedi with her husband Scott (a former Boy Scout from the St. Paul’s East side). Diana also has two grown children, Martina and Parker. Parker is a Civil War enthusiast. Martina just made Diana and Scott grandparents with a beautiful baby girl named Schuyler.

A lifelong history nut, Diana (and her family) have memberships with the MN Historical Society, Washington County Historical Society, Ramsey County Historical Society, and the White Bear Lake Area Historical Society. Diana enjoys choral and classical music, the opera and ballet, and the family attends many plays and concerts throughout the year. She also loves antiques and family historical research.

This “renaissance woman” makes a fantastic addition to our Museum staff and we could not be more thrilled to welcome her. Be sure to give Diana a warm welcome next time you visit the Museum. You can reach Diana at dfoss@nssm.org



Welcome Diana Foss!

Scout Alumni and North Star Museum – Keeping Memories Alive

Once a Scout, always a Scout. No one knows this better than Scout camp alumni. Boy Scout and Girl Scout Councils in our region have a plethora of vibrant alumni and alumnae groups. In fact, many of them have visited North Star Museum to reconnect and celebrate. Three alumni organizations immediately come to mind: Tomahawk Alumni Association (“TAA”), Many Point Staff Alumni Association, and Girl Scout Troop #192 Alumnae.

The Museum has had the pleasure of welcoming the TAA three years in a row for its annual holiday party. Brian Halloran and his merry band share memories, laugh, tell stories, and reminisce about their Scouting days. It’s always a treat for us to witness the wonderful “TAA camaraderie.”

After the Girl Scouts of Troop 192 came to the Museum for a private celebration and meeting, they became lifelong Museum

fans. They plan to return soon to take advantage of our great meeting space and our exemplary Girl Scout exhibit.

Matt Mencke of Many Point Staff Alumni Association first came to us wanting to rent museum space for a newsletter project. They had a great time, working on their project, and checking out all the exhibits at the Museum. When we heard the chorus of laughter and banter echoing from the gallery, we knew we had made new friends. Before they left, they joined us as our first “Alumni Group Membership.” Now, the group may come back anytime and rent the Museum for events and meetings **at a discounted rate**. The group also receives a discount in our gift shop, invitations to “members only” events, our bi-monthly Museum News newsletter, and more.

Are you part of a Boy Scout Alumni or Girl Scout Alumnae group? Are you looking for the

perfect place to have your meetings, alumni/alumnae gatherings and celebrations? No place is better than North Star Museum. **Join us!** With an **Alumni/Alumnae Group Membership you have a place to call your own** - surrounded by your Scouting history, inspired by artifacts and exhibits featuring your camp and Scouting memories, and all at an affordable rate guaranteed to make your treasurer smile.

Visit our website at www.nssm.org and click on membership. Look for the flyer and application for **Alumni/Alumnae Membership**. North Star Museum welcomes you with open arms, ready to celebrate YOU and your fellow Scouters. North Star Museum – Celebrating 40 Years of Preserving Your Scout Memories



Pictured above are the Girl Scouts from Troop 192 enjoying their celebration at the Museum.



Members of the Many Point Alumni Association work on their project at the Museum.



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Scouting Memories of the Month

For this issue of the *Museum News*, we have a special set of Scouting Memories of the Month. Reinforcing North Star Museum's role as a regional museum, we recently hosted a visit from Girl Scout Troop 130 of Illinois. A number of the troop's members shared their "Scouting memories" with us. Here are a few of our favorites.

Kaylee Melten: My favorite part of Girl Scouts was when I earned the Bronze award. We helped our community center. *(Being of service! Nothing better!)*

Jennifer Melton: Seeing Girl Scouts come to our troop very shy and before

long they come out of their shell and blossom.

(Now that is an insightful young Girl Scout!)

Carmen Noack: I love the bridging ceremonies. Every time we bridge the girls in our troop to the next level they are so proud. They smile and march across the bridge for their new vest. I love to watch the older girls greet the young scout and welcome them to the new level.

(What a wonderful observation, seen through young but wise eyes!)

Every day at the Museum, memories are made and stories are told. As demonstrated by Troop 130, they come from all over the region.

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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