



# NORTH STAR MUSEUM

## OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

### Museum News

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**Save-The-Date!**

North Star Museum's Annual Meeting this year is Tuesday, July 7 at 5:30 pm. Look for more details on our website: [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org)

**Historian Steve Elliott to Speak at the August Pause That Refreshes**

After a short respite, "The Pause That Refreshes" will be back with a powerhouse speaker on Wednesday, August 12 - Steve Elliott, Director of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Mr. Elliot has a long career in preserving and celebrating history. Prior to his arrival in Minnesota, he was the head of the New York State Historical Association (2005-2011). Before that, Mr. Elliot was the executive director of the First Free-

dom Center in Richmond, VA. In addition, he served the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation for 28 years in various capacities including vice president of education, administration and planning.

At the August 12 Pause, Mr. Elliot will share his insights on the importance of history, shining a light on the treasure that is our museum. Please join us, Wednesday, August 12, 2015, here at the North Star Museum, from noon - 1:30 p.m. The



Steve Elliott

cost is \$15 per person (\$10 for museum members) and includes a light lunch. RSVP to Stephanie at [sweiger@nssm.org](mailto:sweiger@nssm.org). See you at The Pause That Refreshes!

**Share Some S'mores with Juliette on August 7**

The evening of Friday, August 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., will be your next opportunity to join in song and sisterhood while enjoying "S'mores with Juliette." The Museum's "S'mores with Juliette" programs celebrate the spirit of Girl Scout Founder Juliette Gordon Low. Our August edition features a lively, old-fashioned, Girl Scout sing-a-long around the fire

with lead Girl Scout songstress, Stephanie Burton. S'mores and lemonade will add a touch of sweetness and summer fun to this entertaining evening under the setting sun.

Pre-registration for "S'mores with Juliette" is required. The cost is \$6 per person, which covers food and materials. Simply RSVP to Stephanie at

[sweiger@nssm.org](mailto:sweiger@nssm.org). Come as a troop or as a family for an evening of comradery and delight. The North Star Museum - Values kept here!



## A Painless Way to Support the Museum!

Did you know that you can provide financial support for the Museum just going about your day-to-day life? The Museum is registered with a number of websites that allow you to conduct your online business and support the Museum at the same time—painlessly.

If, for example, you use GoodSearch as your search engine (it is a Yahoo-based platform), just select the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting as the charity you support. When you do this, the Museum will receive about 1¢ for every search on GoodSearch. It is the default search engine for the Museum's computers, and staff members have it on their personal computers as well. Their

partner site, GoodShop, is a portal to online shopping that also kicks back to the Museum a percentage of what you spend. Simply enter your shopping website through the GoodShop portal.

Speaking of shopping, we are also registered on ShopforMuseums.com. The site will ask you to register, but you do not have to—the purpose of registration is only so you can track your giving to museums. Like GoodShop, simply enter your all of your shopping websites through the ShopforMuseums.com portal. Each vendor represented on the site pledges to contribute either a percentage or flat fee for every purchase made through Shopfor-

Museums.com.

Finally, Amazon.com has now jumped on the charitable giving bandwagon through its "Amazon Smile" program. You can find out about it at its homepage. The Amazon site works the same way as GoodSearch and ShopforMuseums, except that the contribution is only made for products purchased on Amazon.com.

There you have it—a new and great way to support the Museum. Each of these web-based tools take about a minute to set up, and then you can support the Museum while you do something you'd probably do anyway with dollars you plan to spend anyway.



**On April 24, the Museum participated in the Boy Scout Adult Training program, the University of Scouting. Pictured staffing the Museum's Boy Scout Midway booth are, from left to right: Bonna Scherer, Kurt Leichtle, Claudia Nicholson, and Bob Pettit.**



## Awesome April Overnight!



The Girl Scouts of Junior Troop 25250 enjoyed an action-packed overnight at the Museum.

The latest Overnight at the Museum took place on April 18-19. All of our overnights are unique, but this one was quite special because our campers came to us all the way from Zumbrota, Minnesota. It was a grand adventure for the Girl Scout Juniors of Troop 25240!

Leader Sarah Nelson and her girls were thrilled with the Museum and Volunteer Nell Nere had a wonderful program designed for the Troop. The Juniors focused on creating songs for an occasion. They also created a mural with their favorite scenes from the

movie "The Golden Eagle." Of course, they also shared sisterhood and Girl Scout traditions. Then, it was time to turn in for the night. The girls curled up to sleep next to their favorite exhibits in the gallery.

The next morning the girls awoke to a pancake breakfast courtesy of Volunteer Bonna

Scherer. After completing their camp journals and the Friendship Circle, Troop 25240 bid farewell to Bruce the Moose and headed home to Zumbrota with lots of great memories of the North Star Museum. Come see us again, ladies.



### New/Returning Members Since April 2015

- Tammy Barnaby
- John T. Capecchi
- Richard & Jean Clark
- Jerome A. Doherty
- The Cooke Family
- The Williams Family
- Patricia Frankenfield
- Allen E. Hoppe
- Kelli Koty
- John W. Maddox
- Biz O'Mara
- Roberta Thompsen

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

## Get Ready for Super Merit Badge Weeks

This year marks the five-year anniversary of the Museum's Super Merit Badge Week program. Once again, the North Star Museum has the perfect antidote for Boy Scouts in fear of getting bitten by the dog days of summer. You should plan your schedule around a week of merit badges during the weeks of June 22, July 13, and August 10.

Merit badges have been a central part of Scouting since 1907, when the program began in England. In the United States, only fourteen merit badges were initially available. The list grew to fifty-seven after a year. Merit badges continue to be retired and new ones intro-

duced. Animation and Signs, Signals, and Codes are the two newest merit badges, each being released this year. Currently, 136 different merit badges may be earned. According to the Boy Scouts, Cooking was the most awarded and bugling was the least awarded merit badge in 2014.

This year, sixteen work shops and thirteen separate merit badges are already booked with excellent counselors and we plan to add more to the list. Many of them are required for Eagle and some are being offered by us for the first time. The workshops will be announced when registration opens about a month before

each of the weeks. However, here is a preview of the badges you can expect to be available: Citizenship in the Community; Citizenship in the Nation; Citizenship in the World; Collections; Textiles; Personal Fitness; Hiking; Family Life; Medicine; Communications; Personal Management; and Genealogy.

Get the word out about Super Merit Badge Weeks at the Museum. Encourage all you know to sign up early as space is limited. The base cost for each session remains \$13 per youth, or \$10 for Museum members. Some merit badges may carry a slightly higher cost due to material or lunch expenses so ask when you contact the Museum

## Help Us Fill-in the Gaps

Sometimes we get so busy preserving the history of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting that we let our own institutional history fall through the cracks. Museum Volunteer Becca Emmons spent several years uncovering and organizing the Museum's administrative record. Aside from telling us how far we have come, the institutional history contained in our administrative record helps us understand where we have been, and why we have some of the things (traditions as well as objects) that we have.

The Museum's records are very

well organized now, but some items are missing or incomplete. We know that a number of you have served on the board or on committees in the past. If you still have Museum records, we are interested in the following:

- Newsletters: July-December 2004, October 2010, February 2011 and June 2011.
- Board, committee, annual meeting agendas and minutes for all years, including meeting handouts or attachments, especially before 2006.
- Annual report: especially 2009 and anything before 2006.

- Financial statements and tax records, especially before 2006

If you can part with any of these items, or if you have other Museum board, committee, publicity, or program materials, please send to us or bring them to the Museum.



## A Call to History a Big Success!

On the morning of Wednesday, April 29, 2015, the sound of Will Sulzbach's trumpet kicked off the Museum's first annual "A Call to History" breakfast. This exciting event promises to be the annual cornerstone of the Museum's fund-raising efforts.

The brisk and inspiring program began with Emcee Jon Pederson calling the group to order. Then, Museum Member Charles Huntley, dressed as Lord Baden-Powell, led the group in an invocation that was written by Baden-Powell himself. Keynote speakers included Boy Scout Founder Lord Baden-Powell (a.k.a. Silver Buffalo recipient, Dr. Hal Yocum, who came all the way from Oklahoma to join us), and Executive Director Claudia Nicholson.

With the mood set, the program was appropriately turned over to our youth: Girl Scouts Heather Pommier and Lyn Christopherson, Cub Scout William Westmoreland and Boy Scout Xander Baden Williams. The youngsters shared their experiences at the North Star Museum and why they felt the Museum is special. Following an inspiring video, Nancy Randall Dana brought the event to a close by sharing memories of her family's multi-generational connection to Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting and asking everyone to make a donation to the North Star Museum. When all was said and done, 113 people attended the event and over \$40,000 was raised to support the Museum's collections, programs, and operating costs!

basked in *their* personal connection to the Museum and felt the full meaning of our motto, *Values Kept Here*. With "A Call to History", the bar has been set high and a fine new tradition has begun.



**A strong case for the Museum was made by four very special young people. From right to left, they were: William Westmoreland, Lyn Christopherson, Xander Baden Williams, and Heather Pommier.**



**Our two Baden-Powells, Charles Huntley on the left and Dr. Hal Yocum on the right.**



**Dr. Hal Yocum, as Baden-Powell, admires a young man's merit badge sash.**



**Gordy Meeker and Russ Edlund answer the Call.**



**Dueling Baden Powells.**



**A large crowd responded to A Call to History on April 29.**

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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  
E-mail: [cnicholson@nssm.org](mailto:cnicholson@nssm.org)

**We're on the web**  
[www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org)

## Girl Scout Memory of the Month

Girl Scout Tatyana Hall of Troop #55325 recently shared a favorite Girl Scout memory with us. Her troop went on an East Coast field trip. The story may end up in a future edition of the Museum News.

When you visit the Museum, be sure to leave one or more of your Scouting memories with us. Who knows, your troop visited Philadelphia, New York, Washington DC, Chicago, and many parts in between. Highlights included Cheyney University, the University of Toledo, the Statute of Liberty, and the White House. Tatyana said it was an amazing trip and the girls and leaders bonded in a wonderful way. What a great adventure! These Girl Scouts blazed quite a trail.



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*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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