



NORTH STAR MUSEUM

BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING

Museum News

October 2012

***PLAN ON ATTENDING THE THIRD ANNUAL DAVIS & RANDALL FOUNDERS HALL
RECOGNITION LUNCHEON***

The annual Davis & Randall Founders Hall recognition celebration has turned into one of the Museum's most popular and well-attended events. You will not want to miss the third annual luncheon recognition. Be at the Museum on Saturday, November 10, 2012, from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to pay tribute to a group of five more Founders, Builders and Trailblazers.

A Founder is an individual who has played a substantial role in the advancement of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or the North Star Museum. A Founder is a visionary leader who has played a meaningful role in the creation, innovation or direction of these Scout institutions over a significant number of years. This year, Girl Scout volunteer and former national Girl Scouts of America President Jane Freeman will be recognized as a Founder. Joining her will be Boy Scout volunteer and former Council President Bruce Richard.

Builders are the second group of persons or organizations recognized in the Davis & Randall Hall. Builders have made a meaningful impact on one of the Scouting institutions, through their financial support or gifts of influence. A Builder is a transformative leader, persuasive and insightful in their leadership; one who helps make the Founders' vision a reality. Our 2012 Builder is Boy Scout volunteer and former Council President Mike Galvin.



Harry Bartelt

Finally, Founders Hall Trailblazers are people or groups who have provided exceptional direct volunteer leadership to Scouting at the grass roots level. These dedicated leaders combine their own ideas and creativity with those brought forth by Founders and Builders through their mentorship of youth. The 2012 Trailblazers are Boy Scout professional Harry Bartelt and Girl Scout volunteer Katherine Abbott.



Katherine Abbott

The Founders Hall class of 2012 is a deserving group of honorees. Undoubtedly, most of you know, have worked with or have heard of one or more of the 2012 honorees. RSVP for the celebration today so you can pay tribute to our honorees in person. Just contact Claudia Nicholson at Nicholson@nssm.org.

See photos of Founders and Builders on Page2.

Founders and Builders



Jane Freeman will be honored as a Founder at the November 10 Founder's Hall Recognition Luncheon.

Photo Courtesy of Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys



Bruce Richard will be honored as a Founder at the November 10 Founder's Hall Recognition Luncheon.



Mike Galvin is being recognized as a Builder at the Founder's Hall Recognition Luncheon.



Dr. George Smith

Welcome to Our New Board Members

When the ballots were finally counted and the results announced at the Annual Meeting, the Museum could officially welcomed two new Board members, Dr. George Smith and David Wettergren. They will join returning Board members Sandy Craighead, Barb Herrmann, Kent York, Lorna Palm and Ron Phillippo.



David Wettergren

Dr. Smith has worked for forty years as a physician in both family medicine and geriatrics. Since beginning his semi-retirement, George has discovered a love of history. He is a member of the North St. Paul Maplewood Oakdale Rotary Club, and has served on the boards of both 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.

David Wettergren served as a public school teacher and administrator for thirty-seven years, his last twelve as Superintendent of Schools in the Stillwater, Minnesota school district. He has been active most of his life at various levels of Scouting. Dave chaired two former Northern Star Districts, LaCroix and Isanoka. He served as Commissioner and Vice-Chair of Operations in the former Indianhead Council and currently is a Board Member of the Northern Star Council. He is a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow and has received the award of Distinguished Eagle Scout.

Please welcome our newest Board of Directors members next time you see them.

FINAL COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Barb Herrmann addressing the membership during her last Annual Meeting as Board Chair

As I finish my third year as your Board Chair and prepare to turn over the Chair position to the capable hands of Ron Phillippo, I want to thank you for your support. I can't leave without a final comment on fund raising for the Museum. Like all nonprofits, we face a constant battle to retain our current contributors and attract new ones. This economy has made it difficult for everyone. However, on the upside, we have a growing number of enthusiastic and dedicated supporters.

Some of you may be thinking, "In this economy, I cannot afford to give right now." I find myself in that same boat. Without new income, it is difficult to find additional funds to increase a sustaining membership or even make a substantial year end gift. However, there is a way you can ensure the future of the Museum without it costing you a cent right now.

That method is called Planned Giving through a bequest from your estate. A bequest to the Museum is a gift from a donor's estate. It can be a gift of cash, assets, or retirement funds, of a specific amount, or a remainder percentage of the estate. The legacy value of a bequest is immeasurable. Bequests assure donors that a beloved charity will continue beyond their lifetimes and might provide more assistance than donors are able to provide during their lifetimes.

Look at my own situation: I have a significant amount in IRAs for which I am required to take a minimum distribution yearly. Some of what is left at the end of my time on this planet has been left to the Museum in the hope that my grandchildren will always be able to remember what Scouting meant to their grandparents, parents and siblings and how it helped them develop into the people they are today.

It is a very simple process to leave all or part of your IRA to the Museum. You do not have to change your will. You simply change the beneficiary on the IRA and let Claudia know that you have done this.

By making this commitment now you can help ensure that the Museum will continue to exist beyond your time. Children and their parents will be able to view uniforms dating back to the beginnings of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and participate in programming that is aimed at making them good citizens and stewards of the future. For more information on this, contact John Schwietz at schwietzpa@comcast.net or Claudia Nicholson at Nicholson@nssm.org.



Dress for the Museum's Success

For the first time in many years, an official North Star Museum shirt featuring our logo has been placed on an attractive shirt that can be yours. For only \$16, you can purchase one of these new shirts from the Museum's gift shop. Not only will these shirts spiff up your wardrobe, all proceeds benefit Museum operations.

These shirts are available in both mint green and stone (which is a light tan color). Sizes up to XL are available. For those who want to buy extended sizes, the price might be a bit higher. It is expensive to stock clothing. Therefore, the shirts are available by order rather than off the shelf. Once twelve or more are ordered, we will request the merchandise from our supplier. Order yours today!



A SPLENDID ANNUAL MEETING

The 2012 Annual Meeting was held on October 6, 2012 in the Davis-Randall Founders Hall. The meeting began with fellowship and an opportunity to examine several tables of silent auction items. Those in attendance could also pick up the Museum's Annual Report for 2011, hot off the press. This terrific publication was the product of writer Kathryn White with graphic design provided by Terri Anderson. Be sure to pick up a copy next time you are at the Museum. It will make you proud to be a member.

Thereafter, Board Chair Barb Herrmann called the meeting to order and announced the election of new and returning members of the Board of Directors (see article in this issue). In addition, the membership approved an amendment to the organization's By-Laws, creating the option to name the Executive Director as Secretary of the Corporation. If this option is exercised, the Secretary would become a non-voting member of the Board.



An animated Claudia Nicholson reviewed the State of the Museum at the Annual Meeting

Following an upbeat State of the Museum address from Executive Director Claudia Nicholson, Barb Herrmann offered her observations as she presided over her final Annual Meeting as Board Chair. Thank you, Barb, for your service.

Next, those who have attended the Annual Meeting each year were thrown a curve ball. Yes, we broke for lunch. Following lunch, and more silent auction bidding, everyone returned to the Founders Hall for an excellent keynote program by Bonnie Wilson, retired Photography Curator for the Minnesota Historical Society. Using examples from the MHS website, and featuring photographs from our Museum's collection, Ms. Wilson offered a portal through time directly into photographs projected on the screen. Her talk soon became an interactive exchange as the audience offered insights and observations into Scouting and American

life in years past. Our members were certainly enriched by Ms. Wilson's excellent program.

The Annual meeting concluded with the announcement of silent auction winners. Due to the generosity of the bidders, \$283 was raised to support the work of the Museum. Thanks once again to Joan Robbins for set up and clean up, and to all of the other volunteers who made our successful Annual Meeting possible.

Here is Bonnie Wilson bringing photographs to life during her excellent presentation at the Annual Meeting



VOLUNTEER CORNER

By Gary Gorman

This article is the fifth in our series featuring volunteer staff at the Museum.

Becca Emmons “just dropped out of the sky” when she joined the Museum in 2007, as Claudia Nicholson describes it. Becca recounts that one of her reasons for joining the Museum was her early life experiences as a Girl Scout in both Minnesota and New York. Becca was a Girl Scout for a little over five years. Claudia recalls showing her around the Museum sometime in 2008 and describing potential projects to her as a prospective volunteer.

Among the projects that Claudia mentioned at that time was pulling together the records of the North Star Scouting Memorabilia, Inc. organization. Becca expressed interest in the project. About three years later she returned and started working on this project. It is important to note that the Museum’s forty years of records were scattered over and in several locations, in boxes and drawers and even in piles on the floor. In addition to being scattered about, the records were not in any particular order. For example, board minutes were commingled with donation documents, financial records, general correspondence, and membership information, sometimes all in one box spanning many years!

Successful volunteer recruitment and retention involves an organization finding the best fit for the volunteer and his or her skills, interests and available time. It has been our good fortune that Becca Emmons comes to the Museum with a master’s degree in Library Science and a stated desire to “create order” out of disorder. She went on to say, “I love problem solving and detail work.” We have found a perfect volunteer match in Becca! In just over two years of volunteering, Becca has gone through nearly all forty years’ worth of records. Becca indicates that some of the Museum’s earliest records start in about 1974. She has identified hundreds of records that we no longer need and has made it possible to find our organization’s important documents, such as board of director minutes, committee records and newsletters, quickly and easily!

Recently Becca worked to update a guidebook that expands our record retention policy. She also developed a guidebook and checklist of what to keep and what to discard on an annual basis. The Board recently approved these new policies. These important tools will be used by future staff, committee members and volunteers. Becca finds her work very interesting. Finding out about the Museum’s early history is part of the satisfaction she gets from her volunteer role. Becca also enjoyed her consultations with Claudia on the document retention policies and guidebook.

Becca has been one of the Museum’s regular volunteers, coming in almost every week and working for three or four hours at a time. She puts in well over a hundred volunteer hours each year—wow! When asked to describe one or more interesting events as a Museum volunteer, Becca recalled finding a 1974 letter from the Museum’s very first cash donor. In that thirty-eight-year-old letter, the donor stated that if the Museum needed more help in the future, just ask. When Claudia saw the letter she had a vague hunch it might be worthwhile to find this donor. To everyone’s surprise, she was able to make contact with him. Even more amazing, he gave us another substantial donation after all of these years.

Through her outstanding work, Becca has become the Museum’s organizational historian and record keeper. Thank you Becca!



A group of girls having a great time at one of the Museum's recent S'mores with Juliette events

Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, John Guthmann, Claudia Nicholson, John Raymond and Kathryn White.

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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First Class

**2640 E. Seventh Avenue
North St. Paul, MN 55109**
NORTH STAR MUSEUM
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