

July 2007



Art Marty (right) and Gordon Meeker at the Skunk Reunion.

Skunk Reunion Well-Attended

This year's Skunk Reunion on May 29 was a well-attended affair, with 36 people filling the Training Building at the Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp with good conversation, laughter, good food and a passable rendition of "Scouting in Old Region Ten".

The program began during dinner this year, in the interests of holding down our sitting time to something reasonable, so Claudia reported on the state of the museum during the entree. In addition to information on things that have happened so far this year, she outlined the plans for the upcoming Centennial celebrations in 2010, which plans include a book, oral history project, website for youth, and a traveling exhibit. She tried to enlist the aid of the Skunks, outlining how they can help with these projects.

Art Marty, long-time ranger at the camp, was the event's featured speaker, and was dared to limit his talk to 20 minutes. He came in under time, but told

great stories about life at the Camp, and was even persuaded to tell the ghost stories that he swears are true.

John Guthmann presided over the introductions and the ritual counting-of-the-years, when every attendee tells the group the number of years they have in Scouting. Even accounting for the small number of years that Claudia has in Girl Scouts (9) some very long-tenured Scouts, the average for the room was more than 45 years, on a total of more than 1500 years in Scouting! We then remembered the Skunks who had passed on during the year.

Jim Rupert introduced the Skunk of the Year presentation with a humorous accounting of the place of skunks in the hierarchy of the down-and-out. In the end, we bowed our heads to the lowest-of-the-low—the skunk. Then, last year's Skunk of the Year Dave Klinkhammer read the citation for the 2007 Skunk of the Year, Gary Gorman, who was not able to attend the reunion due to injury.

At the end of the evening, with sheet music in hand, the group sang "Scouting in Old Region Ten", led by Gene Peterson, who actually knows the song. It was a great improvement over the last time the song was sung in 2005.

We know that there are a number of you who are eligible to join the stinky brotherhood, and we'd like to see you next year (or even before). So, if you are a member of the museum, and have 15 years or more as a registered adult with BSA, or you were a registered member of BSA for 20 years prior to becoming a member of the museum, or you were a dues-paying member of the museum prior to May 1, 1989, *then you just might be a Skunk!* Join us, won't you?



Skunk of the Year, Gary Gorman (right) seen with Jim Rupert (left), Alberto Quintela and Carolina Pflaumer
(photo by Andrew Goke)

From the Director

I'm excited. We are preparing to celebrate two Centennials in the next 5 years: the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouting in 2010 and the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting in 2012. What an opportunity this will be for all of us to bring attention to these two youth development organizations that have been so important in the lives of so many of us.

Here at the museum, we have a wonderful opportunity to lend historical perspective to the celebration and enumerate the many accomplishments of both organizations in this region. We have the chance to inform current members of the programs of their part in this long chain of individuals, and we have the chance to remind those people no longer affiliated with the programs why they once mattered to them. And we have a great chance to acquaint people who either don't know Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting, or those who look at either program with indifference or disrespect, why they have mattered, and why they continue to matter today.

I'm frightened too. We are now little more than 2 ½ years out from the Boy Scout Centennial, and there is much to do. Books don't write themselves, websites do not pop up suddenly on the web, people's recollections do not magically appear on tape, and exhibits don't design themselves. It will take many hands to make these centennial celebrations

meaningful. It will take a lot of support to finance these worthy plans. And we need to begin right now.

We're working hard to find support, both financial and volunteer, for all of our projects, and we are partnering with Northern Star Council in celebrating the Boy Scout Centennial. We're pushing ahead with planning so that we have a clear path to completion. Now we're asking you to help. Call me at the museum and tell me how you wish to be of assistance. I know we can find a place for you.

If you believe that preserving and presenting the history of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting in this region is worthy, and that the Centennials of both provide us with a matchless opportunity to get the good word out, join us today.

Claudia

Member News

The following have recently become new or returning members of the museum:

Cub Scout Pack 90
Girl Scout Troop 1363
Ruth A. Davis
Robert Mix
Joan Henry
Helen Nere
Michelle Pitheon
Boy Scout Troop 228
Troy Billings
Thomas Alt, MD
David Hansen
John & Vicky Kendall
Boy Scout Troop 49
Cub Scout Pack 49
Michael Gerster
Lynn Berens
Robert & Louise Elliott

Thank you all for your support of North Star!

North Star once again provided displays for the recent Ripley Rendezvous



McKesson Corporation employees at their day of service at the Museum in April. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.



2006 Year-End Challenge a Success!

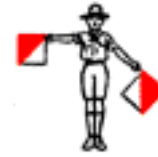
The 2006 Year-End Challenge was a rousing success in nearly every way. You will remember that 3 museum members stepped up and offered you a challenge: for every dollar in new money that you contributed (over and above anything that you may have given in 2005), they would match your contribution at \$1.25. Our goal was to collect \$5,000 in this “new” money to fully utilize the match offered up, capped at \$6250.

By December 31, 2006, we collected \$4680 in “new” money, which was matched by our challengers with \$5850, for a total of \$10,530. But wait! There’s more! Many of you also sent along what we called “old” money—equivalent to what you donated last year. We collected another \$1725 from those contributions, for a total for the Year-End Campaign of \$12,255.

Since our goal for the campaign was \$11,250 (\$5,000 in new money, plus the match), we were at 108% of goal for the year. This compares very favorably with the \$3645 our year-end campaign yielded last year. Even after leaving some of the match money on the table, we still exceeded our goal due to your generosity.

This bodes well for a 2007 Year-End Challenge. Stay tuned; you’ll be hearing more about this later in the year.

Thank you to everyone who contributed. You made a difference for us.



Can you Semaphore?

On October 6, 2007, the museum will be taking its “Museum without Walls” traveling displays to the Webelos Experience event at Stearns Scout Camp. They are expecting 5,000 Cub Scouts and their a parental units to converge for this day-long event.

In addition to bringing displays that will be engaging to 8, 9, and 10-year-old boys, we plan to offer them some instruction in flag signaling (also known as Semaphore). If you know how to do this, and would welcome the opportunity to acquaint Cub Scouts with it, please call the museum as soon as possible. We’re trying to get our arrangements lined up well in advance.

We will be providing the boys with a card that has all of the flag signals on it, but maybe you can help them decipher the process!



The Museum is a great place to hold an Eagle Scout Court of Honor!

In Memory of:

Hugh F. Gwin -
Steve and Terri Wilcox
Richard E. Carroll -
Anonymous

Museum Hours

The museum will be open Tuesday-Friday from 1-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Weekday evenings available for groups scheduled in advance. The museum will be closed Sunday and Monday. Museum holidays are: New Year's Day, President's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Contact the Executive Director

You can contact Claudia at the Museum by calling 651-748-2880 or reach her by email her at cnicholson@nssm.org.

Highway 36 Detour

The map shows a network of roads including Highway 694, Highway 35W, Highway 35E, Highway 61, Highway 36, Highway 120, and Highway 94. A section of Highway 36 is highlighted in orange and labeled 'CONSTRUCTION'. Blue arrows indicate detour routes: one route goes from Highway 36 north to Highway 694, then east to Highway 120, and south to the museum; another route goes from Highway 36 south to Highway 94, then east to Highway 120, and north to the museum. Other streets shown include White Bear Ave, McKnight Road N, Margaret St, North St. Paul, Co Rd B, 7th Ave, and South Ave. Landmarks like White Bear Lake, Stillwater, Minneapolis, and St. Paul are also marked. A north arrow and 'Map not to scale' are included.

Highway 36 near the Museum was closed on May 1 and will remain closed for 5 months. The detours involve taking either 694 or 94. The Museum can be accessed from either route by taking Century Ave. (also known as Division St. or Hwy 120). Please call if you have any questions about how to reach the Museum during the construction on 36.

Remember the North Star Museum in your will!

Editor: John Raymond.

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