

APRIL  
2025



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## That Smell Can Only Mean One Thing: Time for the Skunk Reunion

The snow has melted and the frost is about out of the ground. There is no mistaking that a certain fragrance is in the air. And that attar isn't necessarily good. Yes, the loyal members of the Order of the Odor have emerged from their winter slumber and are preparing for their annual reunion on the hallowed shores of the great St. Croix—to take place on May 31.

Yes, calling all Skunks to gather on Saturday, May 31 at Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp. Our “stinkathon” will be held in the Swanson Lodge on the Upper Level. Follow the scent and arrive at 10:00 AM for coffee, tall tales, and fellowship. The program will begin at 11:00 AM followed by lunch at noon.

Not sure you are a Skunk? A Skunk is someone who is a member of the Museum and who has been registered in Scouts, BSA or Girl Scouts USA for three years or more. That is likely a majority of those reading this article! Don't be shy – c'mon out to the Skunk Reunion!

This year, our featured speaker is none other than John Andrews, Northern Star Scouting's CEO. John recently announced he is retiring later this year. He will reflect on his twenty-five years as Scout Executive, his Scouting career, and the challenges and changes that took place during those years.

As is our tradition, the program will conclude with the announcement of this year's Skunk of the Year. If you wish to nominate someone for Skunk of the Year, simply turn in the nomination form that is in this edition of the Museum News. Please return your nomination form no later than May 16.

The cost for the program and lunch is \$20.00. The deadline to register is May 23. The registration form is also in this edition of the Museum News. Let's all get together and stink things up on May 31 at the Skunk Reunion. See you there!

## “Call to History” Event Brings Girl Scouting and Boy Scouting Traditions to Life

On Saturday, March 29, the Museum hosted its highly-anticipated Call to History event, bringing together Scouting enthusiasts to celebrate the rich legacy of Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts through the years. The luncheon was a vibrant tribute to Scouting history, fea-

turing a captivating showcase of uniforms, traditions, and stories that have shaped generations of young leaders.

Sandy Craighead took center stage as the event's Master of Ceremonies, Continued on Page 2



## “Call to History” Event Brings Girl Scouting and Boy Scouting Traditions to Life (Continued)

guiding attendees through an engaging and informative program. With enthusiasm and a deep appreciation for Scouting heritage, Sandy set the tone for an afternoon filled with nostalgia, learning, and camaraderie.

A highlight of the event was the Uniform Showcase, presented by Bonna Scherer and Emily White. Attendees had the unique opportunity to see authentic Scouting uniforms from different eras, each representing a chapter in the evolution of Scouting. The showcase not only illustrated changes in style but also reflected the growth and development of Scouting programs over the decades. This issue of the *Museum News* features a photo gallery from the event. So, even if you missed the Call to History, you can see how Scouting programs grew and developed over the decades through the uniforms worn by youth.

Beyond the historical displays, the Call to History event was a chance for guests to connect with fellow Scouting supporters, share personal experiences, and reflect on the lasting impact of Scouting on individuals and communities. The luncheon underscored the Museum’s mission of preserving and promoting Scouting history, ensuring that the values of leadership, service, and adventure continue

to inspire future generations.

A special thank you goes to Event Chairs Bonna Scherer and Emily White, along with the entire event committee, whose dedication and hard work made this event a tremendous success. Their efforts in planning, organizing, and showcasing Scouting history created a memorable experience for all who attended.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who volunteered to model the uniforms of the past, bringing history to life for our guests. Thank you to Charles Huntley, Colten Hustings, Caitlin Kingore, Kurt Leichtle, Carissa Meyer, Charles Ramos, Kristie Wanstrom, Derek Ward, Isla Wilding, Paige Wilding, Piper Wilding, Sophie Wilding, and Noelle Wilding for their enthusiasm and participation in making this event truly special.

During the event, Board Chair Joe Glenski issued a challenge to all participants to help support the Museum’s mission by making a meaningful gift or donation. His call to action emphasized the importance of preserving Scouting history for future generations and ensuring that the Museum continues to serve as a valuable resource for Scouts, leaders, and the com-

munity. Those interested in contributing can visit the Museum’s website to make a donation and play a role in keeping Scouting history alive.

The Museum extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who participated in this wonderful celebration. As we look ahead, we remain committed to honoring the Scouting journey — past, present, and future. For more information about upcoming events and ways to support the Museum, visit our website or stop by for a visit!



**Models duplicate an historic image at the Call to History.**



**Sophia Wilding models a Girl Scout Intermediate uniform.**

## “Call to History” Photo Gallery



**Kristi Wanstrom portraying Juliette Gordon Low.**



**Isla Wilding models a vintage Brownie uniform at the Call to History.**



**Charles Huntley in a vintage Boy Scout adult uniform.**



**Two young men modeling vintage Boy Scout uniforms.**



**Vintage Girl Scout and Brownie uniforms.**



**Noelle, Paige and Piper in vintage Junior Cadette uniforms.**



**Sandy Craighead at the podium for the Call to History.**



**Group shot of the uniform models in their vintage uniforms.**

# Skunk of the Year Nomination Form



**Nomination for Skunk of the Year due by May 16, 2025**

**Section One:**

**Award Criteria:** This award is presented to a person who has been affiliated with Scouting, USA, Girl Scouts of the USA, or the North Star Museum for at least three years, and is a current member of the museum.

<p><b>CANDIDATE/</b>  <b>Name of individual being nominated:</b> _____  <b>Current museum member? Yes / No</b>    <b>Registered member of Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts? Yes / No</b>  <b>Address:</b> _____  <b>City/State/Zip:</b> _____  <b>Phone number:</b> _____    <b>Email:</b> _____</p>
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<p><b>Nominator's name:</b> _____  <b>Address:</b> _____  <b>City/State/Zip:</b> _____  <b>Phone number:</b> _____    <b>Email:</b> _____  <b>Best time to reach you:</b> _____</p>
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**Section Two:**

Please provide a statement of support for the individual being nominated. The statement should address the award criteria and this individual should receive this award. Include tenure with the museum, special or extraordinary things done during the year, other Boy Scout/Girl Scout activities he/she may be involved with, and the amount of time spent on museum activities. Use an extra sheet of paper if necessary.

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**Section Three: (optional)**

Attach a letter of recommendation supporting your nomination from a person other than yourself. This person may be a museum member, Boy Scout or Girl Scout, adult volunteer in Boy Scouting or Girl Scouting, or someone else who knows of the individual's contributions.

**Nominator's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail nominations to:**

Selections Committee  
North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting  
2640 E. Seventh Avenue  
North St. Paul, MN 55109  
This form can also be downloaded from: [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org)

**Greetings to all Museum Members**

**Veteran Scouters and Skunks**

**2025 Skunk Reunion**



It's time to get together, swap stories, and report on the progress of the Museum.

**Who:** People who are Museum members and have been registered in Boy Scouts of America or Girl Scouts of the USA for three or more years.

**When:** Saturday, May 31, 2025

**Where:** Fred C. Andersen Scout Camp, former St. Croix River Camp. This year we will be back in the Swanson Lodge located on the upper level of the camp.

**Time:** 10:00 am Fellowship, beverages provided  
 11:00 am Program  
 12:00 Noon Lunch

**Cost:** \$20.00 per person. Preregistration is mandatory!

**Registration:** You can register online by going to [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org), calling the North Star Museum between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm Tuesday-Thursday (652-748-2880) or mailing a check into the North Star Museum at 2640 Seventh Avenue East, North St. Paul, MN 55109.

**Directions:** Take Minnesota 36 across the new St. Croix River crossing and proceed on highways 35/64 to the Andersen Scout Camp Road (follow the signage). The camp is 1.2 miles further. Once in camp follow the signs.

**The deadline for registration is May 23, 2024**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I'm coming!** Put me down for the reunion. Here is my \$20.00.

I will be bringing guests      Number of guests \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 (Names: \_\_\_\_\_)

I need a ride.

I can pick-up supplies and/or help by driving. Please call me at \_\_\_\_\_

## Volunteers Needed to “Cruze” Again This Summer!

Many locals and out-of-town visitors flock to North St. Paul every Friday during the summer to admire vintage cars and trucks, greet friends, savor delicious food, and enjoy great live music—and we want them to experience the Museum, too! Hundreds of folks stepped inside the Museum for the first-time last summer during the North St. Paul Cruzers car shows. This summer, we’re excited to welcome them again—and we need your help!

The Museum will be open on the evenings of June 6, July 11, and August 1, 2025. Volunteers are needed from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on those nights. No training is required—just be welcoming, have fun, and show off all that the Museum has to offer! A table will be set up in front of the Museum to greet car show patrons and distribute information. Admission is free,

and guided or self-guided tours will be available. We will need 4 -5 volunteers each night to ensure the success of these events.

If you have questions, please visit the Museum website at [www.nssm.org](http://www.nssm.org) and look for the Summer Friday Cruzer Events Job Description. To volunteer, contact Kristie Wanstrom at 651-271-2338 or at [kristiedanti@yahoo.com](mailto:kristiedanti@yahoo.com).

The car shows run until 10:00 p.m., so you’ll have time to do some of your own “cruzing” after your shift. Car shows are held on Friday nights from June 6 through September 19 (except June 20) this year.

Additionally, the Museum will host a **Free Family Fall Fun Night** on the evening of the last car show, which is Friday, September 19. Activities,



**Pictured above is the Museum’s display for one of the 2024 Cruzer nights in Nort St. Paul.**

games, snacks, and more will be on the agenda. We will need excellent volunteer support to provide a fun and engaging experience for attendees. More information, including specific times and details, will be in the next Museum News and on our website. If you have questions or would like to reserve a spot to volunteer, please contact Emily White at 651-485-0287.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday nights this summer! Keep on cruising!



**People visit the Museum from all over the country. In March, the McKee family from Topeka, Kansas visited during spring break. The two youngsters are from Pack and Troop 175 of the Jayhawk Area Council.**

## Join Us for Our Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Event!

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, May 18**, and join us for an afternoon of celebration and appreciation at the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting's Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Event! This year, we are hosting an informal Sunday afternoon gathering. Feel free to drop by the Museum anytime between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to connect with fellow members and supporters. Explore the Museum's great exhibits and enjoy some ice cream—our treat!

At 4:00 p.m., we will come together for a short program featuring a review of 2024 and a special moment to recognize

our amazing volunteers. We will also proudly announce and honor our Volunteer of the Year, celebrating their dedication and contributions to the Museum.

The Museum's Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Event is free and open to all who support our mission of preserving Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting history. Whether you are a longtime volunteer, a Museum member, or just curious about what we do, we'd love to see you there!

Stop by, enjoy some ice cream, and celebrate with us on May 18!



## Super Merit Badge Weeks -Version 2025 – Are Coming

Summer is closer than you think. That means the 2025 version of Super Merit Badge Weeks is on the horizon. Super Merit Badge Weeks is the Museum's most popular educational program. During the summer, units do not meet and camp only uses up a week or two of the summer for most kids. What to do? Advancement, that's what! The Museum has the answer. Once again, the Museum is planning an exciting summer of merit badge offerings. Read on for the details.

To get in on the opportunity, the first step is awareness of our program dates this summer. Put this summer's Super

Merit Badge Week dates in your calendar so you are ready to pounce and sign up when the class specific schedule is announced. June merit badges will be scheduled during the week of June 17-21. July merit badges will be scheduled during the week of July 15-19. The final summer week of Super Merit Badge Weeks will be the week of August 12-16. The class schedule for each month will be posted on the Museum's website and emailed to units that request a special email announcement about thirty days before the scheduled week. Thus, the June schedule will be released in mid-May. As always, you can find the schedule, regis-

ter, and pay online at [nssm.org](http://nssm.org). Prices remain unchanged--\$15 per person or \$12 for Museum members. Be prepared for the 2025 version of Super Merit Badge Weeks!



DATED MATERIAL



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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

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



**The Museum's first Sunday Sampler event was the Sow and Grow on March 9. Pictured to the left are Colin and Parker Troxel as they sowed and (hopefully) grew.**

*Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, John Guthmann, 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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