

FALL
2021

NORTH STAR MUSEUM
OF BOY SCOUTING & GIRL SCOUTING
Museum News

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“Derby Night at the Museum” Postponed to February 12

In 2022, Lincoln’s actual birthday (not your day off) is your day to WIN at the rescheduled “Derby Night at the Museum”. Due to the Delta COVID surge, we elected to postpone Derby Night to February 12, 2022. You will not want to miss our “FUNraiser.”

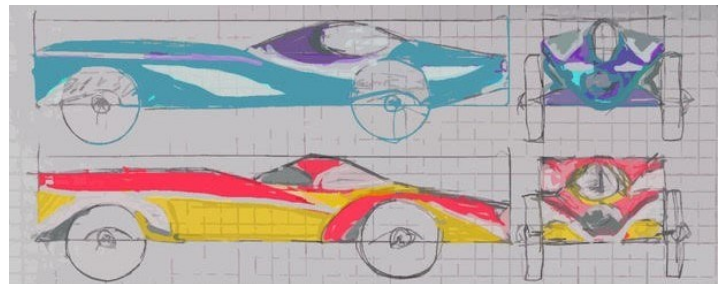
If you already registered for the November date, you are still registered. If you had not yet registered at the time of postponement, do not wait to do so now. It is cheaper if you pre-register.

On Saturday, February 12 at 6:00, relive your child-

hood and get your competitive juices flowing by entering a car to WIN the race on the Museum’s state-of-the-art Pinewood Derby track. Remember, this is an event for adults.

As before, the Museum’s website makes it easy for you to register. Just remember nssm.org. The pre-registration fee of \$30

per person includes two beverage coupons for wine, beer, or soft drinks, a glass with the Museum logo on it, and one car entry. Pre-registration is best because the cost is \$35 at the door. You can race extra cars at \$10 per car. Dinner will also be available for purchase. Come hungry, enjoy food
(Continued on Page 2)



Pictured above are two of the cars designed by renowned artist Jimmy Longoria for Derby Night. If you are the winning buyer, one of these could be yours.

Remember the Museum in Your Year-End Giving Plans

Like many other organizations, these last two years of COVID caution and shut-downs have been hard for the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. We are in our third year of 90% volunteer staffing. Our only paid staff member is our Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper, Diana Foss. Yet, the Museum was able to raise enough

money without having in-person fund raising events and without promoting rental of the building for community and youth events. The Museum will end 2021 with a balanced budget and money in the bank.

Through all of the strife, the Museum has continued to offer educational and safe programming for

youth. We offered a full array of merit badge workshops in 2021. Hundreds of kids earned merit badges this year. Girl Scouts also participated in a series of summer camp fire programs at the Museum. Finally, the new winter camping exhibit opened. We are unaware of any COVID cases associated with our programs.
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“Derby Night at the Museum” Postponed to February 12 (cont.)

and fellowship, and bid on our silent auction items before the race begins. All proceeds benefit the Museum. To register, just contact Diana Foss at the Museum (651-748-2880 or dfoss@nssm.org).

If you do not have a car, there is plenty of time to build one. Kits are available on Amazon or at your local Scout shop. Creativity counts, as there will be recognition for the “best looking” home-made car on the track.

If you do not have the time or the aptitude, you have a special

option. Museum supporter and nationally known artist Jimmy Longoria is designing and donating twelve cars that Derby Night participants can purchase and race (see below). With a Jimmy Longoria car, you can WIN and go home with a highly collectible car. The Museum shop may have some cars for sale but supplies are limited.

In addition to the race, you can support the Museum by bidding on one of our many silent auction items. Bid high to WIN. We are still looking for silent auction items and sponsors. If

you have an item to donate, please contact Diana Foss at the Museum (651-748-2880 or dfoss@nssm.org). We are also planning a raffle to give both you and the Museum another chance to WIN.

Style counts at Derby Night. Design and wear your finest hat. Perhaps you will WIN the annual Derby Hat contest. Would a Lincolnesque stove-pipe hat make a good Derby Hat? On February 12, support the Museum at our “Derby Night at the Museum “FUNraiser” and WIN! WIN! WIN!

You Could Race a Special Jimmy Longoria Car

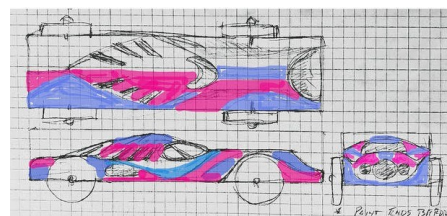
The Museum is very fortunate to have developed a relationship with Jimmy Longoria. Now, Jimmy is excited to support Derby Night with his unique artistic talent. He has designed and is building twelve Pinewood Derby race cars that racers can purchase and race at Derby Night on February 12. All proceeds benefit the Museum. The car designs accompany this sidebar. With these cars, no one has an excuse for not participating. If you do not know how to build your own car, why not purchase an iconic and highly collectible Jimmy Longoria car?

Racing a Jimmy Longoria-designed car offers a special opportunity for us all. Jimmy Longoria is a nationally recognized Chicano artist who now lives

and works in Minnesota. He was born and raised on a farm in South Texas and studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Pitzer College in Claremont, California. Among Jimmy’s many distinctions, he is the only Chicano to be awarded a Bush Foundation Fine Artist Fellowship, and the only Minnesotan to have art on permanent display in Chicago’s National Museum of Mexican Art.

Jimmy’s art hangs in the home of United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, in the Minnesota State Capitol Building, 3M, and Target. One of his recent projects was to design a T-shirt for the Minnesota Timberwolves, which will be on sale soon. Jimmy was honored by the Timberwolves at their opening

game in 2021. He is a creative thinker and helped the Museum develop their objectives for 2022 and 2023. He was a Cub Scout Den Leader, and is a strong supporter of the Girl Scouts. The cars he designed will add a new level of competition and fun to Derby Night on February 12.



Here is another car designed by Jimmy Longoria. Derby Night is your chance to purchase a collector’s edition Pinewood Derby car.

Remember the Museum in Your Year-End Giving (cont.)

When you consider your year-end charitable giving, please keep the Museum in mind. Our challenges over the past eighteen months call for some bold steps forward and your continued support. To position the Museum for the future, the Board of Directors recently adopted several new two-year objectives. Achieving these goals will result in more paid contract staff and improved programs. Most of the Museum's operational work still will be accomplished with volunteers, but expect that our changes will help the Museum serve a larger audience. Look for the Museum to offer more knowledge and skill programs for youth and the general public that emanate from the past of both Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. With new twists to reflect the pre-

sent and the future, our programs will include orienteering, fire building, campfire cooking, Leave No Trace practices, and short-wave radio. Skills like these can also be shared with the general public at the Museum. Construction and planning have continued on new exhibits and discussion opportunities to improve our interpretation of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting history.

Please help us make our next big leap by donating to the Museum this year. Reach deep into your pockets and give more than you ever have. Help us reach our goals of bringing additional paid staff back into the building to support our hard-working and loyal volunteers. Enjoy your holiday season.

In Memoriam: Jon Chester Cieslak

Long-time member and supporter of the Museum—Jon Cieslak—recently passed away. The following article is excerpted from his obituary in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

Jon Cieslak died at the age of 72 on October 11, 2021 following complications from spinal surgery. He was preceded in death by his parents Evelyn Cieslak Nahurski and Edwin S. Cieslak and a stepfather, Francis J. Nahurski. Jon is survived by his wife Ann, with whom he celebrated fifty loving years of marriage in June 2021. He is also survived by five children, four grandchildren, brother Paul Nahurski, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jon was born in Minneapolis, raised

in St. Louis Park, and he graduated from Benilde High School. He attended Prince-



ton University and, following his 1971 graduation, Jon was commissioned a U.S. Army officer and served twenty-three years. After obtaining his J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School, Jon was appointed to the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. The culmination of his military career was serving as Lieutenant Colonel and legal counsel to the Adjutant General of Minnesota. Jon was an active volunteer in the Northern Star Council and its legacy council and he was a Museum member for many years.

New Members

- Eric Perowitz
- Caden Anderson

**Know of anyone
interested in joining?**

Contact:
Diana Foss
651-748-2880 or
dfoss@nssm.org

Advance and Try Out the Escape Room

Early in 2022, boys and girls have an opportunity to earn and learn while also getting a chance to be among the first people to try out the Museum’s new Escape Room. Junior Girl Scouts can sign up for a Girl Scout Way badge on Saturday, January 29 or on Sunday, January 30. In the Girl Scout Way Badge session, the Junior Girl Scouts can find out about Girl Scout traditions while sharing activities and spirit that are a century strong. The Saturday sessions run from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Sunday session is from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

After class is completed, the girls can apply their skills trying to get

out of the escape room. To make your escape, it will be necessary to solve an ancient Egyptian mystery. Good luck!

The following weekend, WEBELOS Scouts can sign up for Looking Back, Looking Forward. One of the goals of the Looking Back, Looking Forward adventure is for kids to see “how actions of the past have influenced the present.” There is no better way for Cub Scouts to reach this objective than to attend a session offered at the Museum. Session times are 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and again from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 5 and from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 6. Once again, after class is

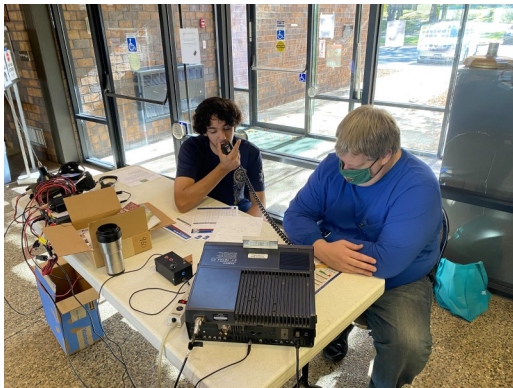
completed, the WEBELOS Scouts can try their luck attempting to make their exit from the Museum’s new Escape Room.

Registration for all six of these sessions is now open on the Museum’s web site (nssm.org), or you can call the Museum at 651-748-2880. The registration fee of \$15 per person includes admission to the Museum, the advancement program, and the escape room. Sign up individually or as a unit. Each of the six sessions has a maximum registration of twenty kids. This is your big chance to advance and escape at the Museum!

Happenings at the Museum



December 2, 2021 Daisy/Brownie Troop 58019 from Northern Lights Service Unit visited the museum for a tour and scavenger hunt. Their leaders are Elizabeth Troendle and Alexis Barrett.



COVID did not disrupt the Museum’s hosting of Jamboree on the Air on October 16. With recommended safety measures in place, the kids enjoyed communicating with Scouts across the world and examining the displays.

Thank You, Diana Foss

For the past six years, Diana Foss has served as the Museum's part-time Administrative Secretary/Bookkeeper. During that time, she has worked for several Executive Directors and she has seen many changes at the Museum in personnel, volunteers, and programs. As the "go to" person at the Museum, Diana an-

swers phones, returns messages, handles the mail, responds to letters, distributes everyone else's mail and messages, schedules, handles bookkeeping, completes bank deposits, and prepares financial reports. Not too much left after that.

Diana recently announced that

she plans on retiring early in 2022. Everyone associated with the Museum wishes Diana the best of luck in retirement. Next time you visit or call the Museum, give a big "thank you" to Diana Foss. She will be extremely difficult to replace. Thank you, Diana!

Help Wanted

Due to the upcoming retirement of Diana Foss, the Museum is looking for a new part-time Administrative Secretary. The position has been posted locally, but if you know anyone who might be interested, please have that person submit their resume and contact information to Kurt Leichtle or Lorena Palm.

The person in this position has

responsibility for maintaining the financial records of the Museum, recording donor information, handling the phone, incoming/outgoing post mail, and email communication for the Museum. Occasionally, outgoing mail will include bulk mailings of up to 400 pieces. This position is part time and averages between 20 and 25 hours per week. The Administrative Secretary reports

to the Interim Executive Director for operations tasks and the Board Chair for finance and fundraising tasks. The position calls for 20-25 hours of work time per week with a pay range of \$17 to \$20 per hour depending on skill and experience. A full posting is on the Museum's web site.

More Happenings at the Museum



COVID has not stopped the Museum from conducting its business. Our well-attended annual meeting took place on October 12 via Zoom. Pictured above is the first page of the Zoom screen. Many informative reports were given, volunteers were thanked, and our 2020 Annual Report debuted. All Museum members received the Annual Report. Thank you Terri Anderson for putting together an attractive and informative report.



Come out to the Museum to see our new traveling exhibit that doesn't move. It is called "Let's Race" and features three vintage vehicles used in Boy Scout race competitions: a push cart, a chariot, and a Klondike Derby sled.

Sign Up to Earn a Year-End Merit Badge at the Museum

The Museum typically offers merit badge workshops during the last week of each year. This year is no exception. By the time this issue of the Museum News hits the “newsstands”, you should be able to register for our year-end merit badge offerings. Just register through our website at nssm.org. The registration fee remains unchanged: \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members.

At press time, we have four merit badges scheduled. It is possible that a couple more may be added. Just watch the web site. First, we are offering American Heritage merit badge. Up to ten Scouts can take this

session from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Tuesday, December 28.

Second, we are offering a session of Family Life on Wednesday, December 29 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The registration limit is ten Scouts.

Third, Personal Management merit badge is being offered for up to ten Scouts on Thursday, December 30 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Some Scouts are already registered for a session of Personal Management in February. Scouts signed up for the February session should NOT sign up for this session. It is separate.

The final merit badge being offered is Citizenship in the World. Up to ten Scouts can take this session on Friday, December 31 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Each counselor sends an information/instruction sheet to registrants at the time of registration. Since the Scout motto is “Be Prepared,” the counselors expect the Scouts to read the sheet and prepare accordingly. Advancement is a great way to end the year. If you earn your merit badge in 2021, that is one less New Year’s resolution in 2022!



The Museum ran merit badges over Thanksgiving weekend. In the first two pictures, John Guthmann leads a session of Citizenship in the World. The other session shows Bob Elliot with his group of Scouts attending a Communication merit badge workshop. Sign up now for the Museum’s year-end merit badge workshops.

Reserve a Merit Badge Counselor

Anyone who is familiar with the Museum knows about its highly successful Merit Badge Workshop program. The Museum offers merit badge classes taught by approved Northern Star Council counselors who are Youth Protection certified. These classes are attended by kids from all over Minnesota and

Wisconsin and sometimes from as far away as California. The classes are sought after and regularly sell out.

Now your Scout unit has an opportunity to reserve a merit badge counselor for a group of boys and girls in your own unit or just a group of friends. If you

can put together the minimum of five Scouts, just call up the Museum we will schedule you with one of our counselors. The cost is the same as for our regular merit badges workshops—\$12 for Museum members and \$15 for non-members. Call now and reserve a merit badge counselor for your group.



Left to right: Cora Antes, bronze; Aubriella Hout, gold; Elizabeth Sinna, silver



Left to right: Cora Magnuson, silver; Victoria Fierst, gold; Eliza L., bronze

Girl Scouts Race at the Museum

On Sunday, November 14, 2021, over forty Girls Scouts raced their cars on the Museum’s state-of-the-art Pinewood Derby track. Sixty adults were present to cheer on their racers. The event was hosted by the Minneapolis Lakes Service Unit (#144) and attended by troops from multiple service units. Check out the accompanying photos to see the

smiles on the faces of the winning racers.

Bringing in units to race on the Museum’s track is a great activity regardless of the age, program level, or council of the youngster. Contact the Museum today to make a reservation for your unit. Just contact Diana Foss at the Museum (651-748-2880 or dfoss@nssm.org).



Left to right: Fiona Black, gold; Solveig Godfreed, silver



Left to right: Bella Leuma, bronze; Cara Schneider, silver (adult stand in - Jen Leuma Troop 17896 leader); Josey Engeholm, gold



Left to right: Kinley Thammalangsy, silver; Olivia Davy, gold; Wyatt Brinkman, winner of the Sibling Race Award holding bronze trophy for Emery Erickson (not pictured)

DATED MATERIAL



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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and Girl Scouting
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North St. Paul, MN 55109

Phone: 651-748-2880
E-mail: dfoss@nssm.org

We're on the web
www.nssm.org

Giving to the Max

November 18, 2021 was the 13th annual Give to the Max Day in Minnesota. The goal of givemn.org is to focus as much charitable giving on one day as possible to leverage public awareness and generosity. This year, a record \$34.3 million was raised resulting in support for 6,457 non-profits.

One of the non-profits that benefited from Give to the Max Day was the North Star Museum of Boy Scouting and Girl Scouting. Donors gave \$5,550 directly through the givemn.org website. To all who donated, we thank you. If you were unable to give on November 18, don't forget to include the Museum in your year-end giving plans.

Save the Date for Founders Hall

The Museum's next Founders Hall Celebration will take place in 2022. Now is a good time for you to save the date and put the Founders Hall event on your calendar. The Founders Hall Cele-

bration will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2022. The event begins mid-morning and is followed by a lunch at the Museum. See you there!

Museum News Editorial Team: Terri Anderson, Diana Foss, 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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