



**Inside this issue:**

- When “Normal” Returns (Continued) 2
- The Call to History Road Show Is Coming in May 2
- Museum Merit Badge Workshops Go National 3
- Girl Scouts Reach for the Stars at the Museum 3
- Memorials and Tributes 3
- Editor’s Note 4
- In Memoriam: Don Craighead 4
- In Memoriam: Scott Degel 5
- In Memoriam: Joan Henry 5
- In Memoriam: Joan Henry (cont.) 6
- Photos From the Star Party 6
- Did You Know? 7

**The Museum is Open**

Welcome to 2021. It has been nearly a year since COVID-19 changed all of our lives, whether we got infected or not. Even as vaccines are slowly making their way into our arms, most in-person gatherings are either not possible or greatly limited.

Under the latest emergency Executive Order from Governor Walz, the Museum may operate in-person programming with-in limitations. To make sure we stay in compliance, most in-person visitation at the Museum needs to be by appointment. To make an appointment, call Diana Foss

(651-748-2880) at the Museum or send her an email ([dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org)).

In addition, starting February 20, 2021, the Museum will be open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for walk-in visitors.

Whether you come to the Museum during open hours on Saturday or visit us by appointment, we have a COVID-19 preparedness plan in place. It follows the same criteria you are used to seeing at other locations you may have visited in person. There is a 25-person limit on the number of people allowed in the building.

Of course, all visitors should have a mask with them. We have hand sanitizer and wipes on site.

There is plenty to see. Our displays remain set up and our new Winter Camping exhibit is now complete. It is definitely worth seeing. All units have new members who are probably itching to see something “live” and those new members would certainly benefit from seeing the Museum for the first time. So, whether you have been to the Museum before or not, make an appointment today!

**When “Normal” Returns, the Museum will be Ready with Programs**

While the Museum is currently open by appointment only, plans are also being made for 2021 programming. We want to be prepared for “normal” operations when COVID-19 has subsided enough to open things up. “Be prepared” is a pretty good motto - don’t you think? Check out our plans.

Whether in person or by Zoom, we plan to offer Merit Badge Workshops throughout the year. By the time you read this article, the first four workshops - run over President’s Day weekend - will be complete. The dates for our annual Super Merit Badge Week summer program are also set. June merit badges will be

scheduled during the week of June 14-19. July merit badges will be scheduled during the week of July 12-17. The last summer week of Super Merit Badge Week will be scheduled during the week of August 9-14. In addition, look for the announcement for Merit Badge Workshops over (Continued on Page 2)

## When “Normal” Returns, the Museum will be Ready with Programs (Cont.)

the MEA school break of October 21-23. Finally, we have holiday merit badges. Thanksgiving weekend merit badges will be offered on Friday, November 26 and Saturday, November 27. Christmas break merit badges will be offered during the last week of the year on December 27, 28, 29, and 30. Watch the website because merit badges might be offered at other times during the year as well. If a Scout unit has enough kids to fill a workshop, please let us know because we can schedule a special date just for you with one of our counselors. Just contact Diana Foss at the Museum.

The Museum traditionally runs a number of outdoor programs during the year. One such program is S'mores with Juliette. With our outdoor fire ring, other outdoor programs are being planned. We are presently look-

ing at June 10, July 8, and August 12 as dates for running outdoor programming. Stay tuned for details.

In addition to merit badges, there are other advancement opportunities for youth at the Museum. We offer both a Webelos at the Museum and a Looking Back Looking Forward for Webelos program that can be scheduled at any time by Cub Scout packs. Once again, to schedule a program, just contact Diana Foss at the Museum (651-748-2880) or send her an email [dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org).

For over ten years, the Museum has turned into a radio station during the international Jamboree on the Air event. We expect that 2021 will be no different. What is different this year is that Jamboree on the Air is NOT the same week as the MEA school

break in Minnesota. The 2021 Jamboree on the Air is set for October 16, 2021.

Did you know that the Museum created an Escape Room? This brand new and exciting program was almost ready for testing with real people when COVID-19 hit. It is presently our plan to test the Escape Room in July. If all goes well, you will be able to schedule your group to experience the Museum's Escape Room starting in late summer or early fall. There will be a per-person charge for this program.

The Museum typically runs programming to coincide with the City of North Saint Paul's annual Holiday Hop. It is usually the first or second Saturday in December (the 4th or the 11th this year). When plans and dates firm up, check our website or the *Museum News* for details.

## The Call to History Road Show Is Coming in May

The Museum's primary fundraising event in 2021—the Call to History—is scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. It will be a remote event. Base admission is \$15. You will not want to miss the special program being planned.

The 2021 Call to History program is based on a big idea. The Museum collection contains many treasures that have been seen by only a few folks and stories that have rarely been told. So, the Museum's Development

Committee plans to feature four of these stories and items in what we are calling the “Call to History Road Show.” What better way to learn about and appreciate the Museum you have supported over the years, while having a great time, all to the benefit of the Museum.

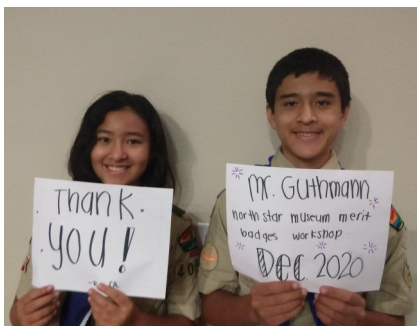
The Call to History Road show will be a “slick” video production that you can attend remotely. Thus, you do not have to worry about cancellation or re-scheduling due to COVID-19.

The Call to History Road Show is a GO!

More details will be available soon. In the meantime, you may have a talent we could use for the show. We could use a few volunteers to be our extras for the video production. If you are able to help, please send a message to [volunteer@nssm.org](mailto:volunteer@nssm.org). See you on May 6 at the Call to History Road Show!

## Museum Merit Badge Workshops Go National

On December 28, 2020, the Museum experienced a “first.” Having opened up registration for December merit badges through the Northern Star Council website, we had two unexpected sign-ups for Citizenship in the World. A brother and sister from California registered, attended, and earned the merit badge.



Sister and brother Ria and Kai Mirchandani show their gratitude after earning Citizenship in the World through the Museum's Merit Badge Workshop program.

Only through Zoom could the Museum have offered a merit badge to kids in Minnesota and in California at the same time. Ria Mirchandani is a member of Troop 4057 in Palo Alto, California. Her brother Kai Mirchandani is a member of Troop 57. Both troops are part of the Pacific Skyline Council. When they attended the Zoom session of Citizenship in the World on December 28, you would not have known where they “zoomed” in from.

They participated in the same way as the Minnesota kids. Check out the post-merit badge photograph accompanying this article.

COVID or no COVID, the availability of Zoom may create future opportunities for Museum programming to be enjoyed by kids anywhere in the world. We are limited only by our imagination.

## Girl Scouts Reach for the Stars at the Museum

As reported in the December 2020 *Museum News*, the Museum is now offering the opportunity to reach for the stars with a Star Party. Well, it did not take long for a unit to take us up on the offer. On January 12, 2021, the SaNeCo Service Unit Girl Scouts hosted a Star Party for their troop via Zoom.

Everyone had a great time at the Star Party. Just check out the pictures accompanying this article. Natalie Broschar, an amateur astronomer and Museum board member, hosted the event. Girls and families learned about stars, planets, novas, constellations and other celestial objects. Every Girl Scout received

her own Star Wheel and was shown how to use it. With a Star Wheel, each of the girls can go outside on their own to see the sky.

A North Star Museum Star Party program can be done for any group for \$15 per device via Zoom. Hopefully after COVID, Star Parties can be done in person at the Museum. However, in the meantime, why wait? Do a Zoom Star Party. To schedule a Star Party for adults, Scouts, or Girl Scouts, just contact Diana Foss ([dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org)) and give her your contact information so we can get back to you and get your Star Party scheduled.

(See Photos on Page 6)

### Tribute in Memory of Scott Degel

- Mike Aeling

### Tribute in Memory of Don Craighead

- Debra Wilkinson

### Tribute in Memory of Dan Knuth

- Richard Wendland

### Tribute in Honor of Clint Voorhees

- Sandy Sanders

### Tribute in Honor of Tish Bolger

- Richard Wendland

### Tribute in Honor of The Skunks

- Bradley Johnson

### Tribute to Natalie Broschar as Thank You for Hosting Star Party

- Scott & Diana Foss

Know of anyone interested in joining?

Contact:

Diana Foss  
651-748-2880 or  
[dfoss@nssm.org](mailto:dfoss@nssm.org)

## Editor's Note

One loss is always difficult but it is even more difficult to lose three good friends and members of our Museum family. We seem to have been losing a lot of our good friends lately. In this

issue of the *Museum News*, we memorialize Don Craighead, Scott Degel, and Joan Henry. Thank goodness, we have their memories. As we forge ahead helping each other, let us build

on their legacies and remember their achievements and humanity.

## In Memoriam: Don Craighead

Don Craighead passed away on December 18, 2020 while at home and surrounded by his family. Don was married to the Museum's Vice Chair of the Board Sandy Craighead and he was a solid supporter of the Museum in his own right. Excerpts from the obituary published by his family are shared in the following paragraphs.

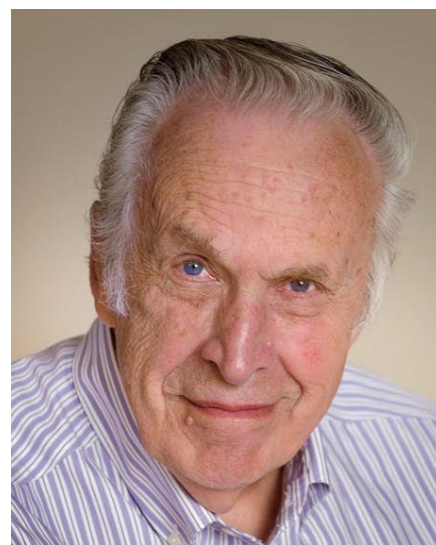
Don was born on April 11, 1934 and he grew up in St. Paul, graduating with distinction from Monroe High School in 1952. He completed his degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Minnesota in 1957. Don then went to work at Baldwin Supply. In 1961 Don and his father launched Craighead & Associates – selling power transmission products and photoelectric switches. In 1964, they founded Power/mation, an automation hardware business. Don won the St. Paul Chamber Small Businessman of the Year in 1984, the same year he was selected as a WCCO Good Neighbor. Under Don's leadership Power/mation opened branches across the Midwest before he decided to sell the business to four of his salesmen in 1990. They gave him a blaze orange sports coat as a

gag gift but Don loved it and wore it often!

After selling the business, Don started the giveback phase of his life. He discovered his true passions in life were networking and mentoring – he loved helping young people. He was known for handing out FUN METERS and Golden Attitude pins, his license plate read ATTITUDE. In addition to the Museum, Don supported Rotary Club, University of St. Thomas, University of Minnesota, Optimists, Hennepin Tech, Manufacturers Alliance, Junior Achievement, STEM, St. Paul Prayer Breakfast, National Youth Leadership Council, and The Works Museum. He received numerous awards and recognitions, including a Lifetime Achievement Award from Robotics Alley and the Hill Legacy Award from Century College. Don and Sandy were the recipients of the Sal & Francesca LoBaido Volunteer Service Award.

Don loved his family. He married Sandy in 1966 and they raised four children. Don was a man of faith and was very active at White Bear Lake United Methodist Church. Playing crib-

bage, Sudoku puzzles and walking the boxer dogs he owned were among his favorite pastimes. Preceded in death by son, Jim. Don is survived by wife, Sandy; sister, Sharon (Lee) Slinger; his children, Janine (Tom) Olmscheid, Dan (Cindy), and Wendy (Mark) Sherman; grandchildren, Peter, AJ, Ben, Sarah, Matthew and Madeline.



Don Craighead

## In Memoriam: Scott Degel

Long-time Museum member and supporter Scott Degel died at the age of 65 on November 30, 2020. What follows are excerpts from the obituary published by his family.

Scott fought a valiant fight against Pancreatic cancer for the past 17 months. He is survived by his wife, Mary; children Allen (Andrea Geehan), Gregory, Bridget (Reid) Troxel; grandchildren Chloe, Gavin, Parker, Colin, Abigail, and in April '21 baby Degel; brother Bill (Jessica); sisters Michelle (Bill) Taylor, Cindy Langseth; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles. He was preceded in death by his father Frank (Evelyn); mother Harriet (Jack); siblings Bruce, James, and Diana. He passed peacefully from his earthly life to join the stars in the heavens.

Scott had many passions in life. He loved the Minnesota Twins (season ticket holder), Minneso-

ta Wild, Vikings, Gophers. He would watch baseball, hockey, football any time he could. Scott was a life-long Scout. He served as a Scouting volunteer for over 40 years. He served as Scoutmaster for Troop 197 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church where both his sons achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He was instrumental in approving Eagle Scout service projects for many years on the eastside of St. Paul and suburbs. Scott was very proud of his daughter serving as Central Region Venturing President. He hosted the district Roundtables for years. He was a cooking merit badge counselor and taught many youth the fun of Dutch oven cooking. Scott served cheerfully with the Order of Arrow and was a Vigil Honor member. Scott was known as "Cookie Monster" at Camp Akela Cub Scout Camp where he worked in the 1990's. Scott was an Antelope in Wood Badge training and served on the Winter 2012 course staff. Scott was



Scott Dengel

awarded the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver Award by Northern Star Council. Scott was also an avid NAS-CAR fan and spent many hours each weekend from February to November watching cars and trucks go round and round. Scott also loved the outdoors. He spent his career in the food industry and loved to talk about cooking. We will miss Scott.

## In Memoriam: Joan Henry



Joan Henry

The Museum lost yet another loyal supporter on February 3, 2021 when Joan Henry passed away. Joan was part of the River Valleys Girl Scout Heritage Group that was inducted into the Museum's Founders Hall on April 28, 2018. She played a significant role in the Girl Scout exhibits that are on display at the Museum. In fact, as Museum Board Member Gary Gorman recalls, Joni was one of the original group of six Girl

Scout leaders who took the National Girl Scout Heritage Preservation Training course. We are republishing excerpts from her obituary.

Joni was born March 26, 1935 in Chicago. After graduating early from Carl Schurz High School, she went on to Illinois College-Jacksonville, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. There, she met  
(Continued on Page 6)

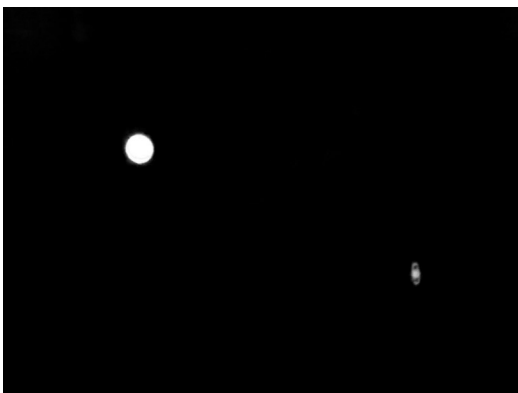
**In Memoriam: Joan Henry (continued)**

her future husband, Donald Henry. Joni was a lifelong Girl Scout. She served on the board of directors at Northeast Residence until re-graduate school. After daughter Cynthia was born, they moved to Minnesota, where their family grew to include Linda and David. Joni was an English teacher and writer. She taught English at North St. Paul High School in the early 1960s. Later she taught "displaced homemakers" resume-writing and job-seeking skills at 916 Vo Tech and English as a second language at Century College. Joni was preceded in death by her husband Don, in 1992, and granddaughter Madeline in 1993. She is survived by her children, Cynthia (Larry Downing), Linda (Keith Hanson) and David (Sara Lawson); her grandchildren, Sam, Grace, Anna, Ava and Gio; niece Jennifer Lawless Beagle; cousin Fran Drake; and many family members, friends, and helpers.

**Photos From the Star Party**



Sisters Eva and Elouise were two of many who attended the Museum's Star Party in January. Eva is in blue and Elouise is wearing tie dye.



Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn on Dec. 21, 2020 as seen from the telescope at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, AZ

DATED MATERIAL



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FEBRUARY 2021

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## Did You Know?



Did You Know? If you are over 70½ and have funds in an IRA, you can donate up to \$100,000 from your IRA each year. The benefits of donating to the Museum through your IRA are significant. You can reduce the amount of your taxable Required Minimum Distribution. Unless you donate those funds, you will need to pay income tax on them. Plus, you will provide the Museum with operating funds. If you have questions just contact Barb Herrmann at [barbcorti@gmail.com](mailto:barbcorti@gmail.com).

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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