

#### Volume 3, Issue 1 | November 2022

## Smart appointed NSM Chairman

#### By ROBERT MASON National Scouting Museum Committee

Russell Hoke Smart is a life-long resident of Greenville, South Carolina. He is retired from a professional career that began as a consulting engineer and ended as the CFO of a real estate development company. He earned degrees from Georgia Tech and Duke University.

Russell became a Scouting volunteer in 1988 when he and his son Hoke joined Troop 266 sponsored by St. Giles Presbyterian Church. He served as the Scoutmaster of the troop from 1992 through 1997, and again from 2002 through 2008. He organized and served as CoAdvisor of Venturing Crew 99 from 1994 through 2004. He earned his Wood Badge beads in 1991 and has since served as Course Director and other staff positions for numerous Wood Badge courses. He earned his PhD in Commissioner Science in 2000 and his Venturing Powderhorn in 2001. He has been a member of the Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Council since 1999, serving as Council President from 2008 through 2010. He was a member of the Southern Region Executive Board from 2001 through 2012 and serves on several BSA National Committees including Awards and Recognitions, STEM NOVA, National Scouting Museum, and the

continued CHAIRMAN, page 2 Russell Smart

## **Record numbers visit the NSM**

#### **By HAROLD WHITE** For the National Scouting Museum

The summer camping season of 2022 began much like the summer of 2021 had ended. Face masks were required, and we were encouraging social distancing, but we weren't counting people in and out of the Museum, so maybe things were shifting to a more pre-Covid experience. Over the course of 13 weeks, June 5th – August 30th, our staff, including 27 volunteer docents, greeted nearly 17,000 visitors here at the National Scouting Museum.

Leading up to the summer of 2022, there were some new items placed on display in the galleries of the Museum. In April, two former Scouts from Kentucky donated an Orange Crate Canoe that they built in 1969 from plans they had found in a Boys' Life magazine reprint pamphlet. The canoe was the subject of an Artifact of the Week video and is currently on display along the gear wall as you enter the Scouting Heritage Gallery. We also installed a series of exhibits to celebrate international Scouting and the World Jamboree. The first of these exhibits featured medals issued to BSA participants of the 1920, 1924, 1929, and 1933 World Jamborees. It also featured the uniform shirt of Seymour Padmos, a Holland, Michigan Scout that attended both the 1937 National Jamboree in Washington DC and the 1937 World Jamboree held in Holland. Interestingly, in 1930, Padmos learned how to

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## ARTIFACT OF THE WEEK & FACEBOOK FRIDAYS AT THE NATIONAL SCOUTING MUSEUM



On the morning of April 22, 1942, a Consolidated B-24D Liberator heavy bomber, Flight 41-1133, lifted off from Kirtland Field in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with a crew of seven and one passenger on a navigational, round trip training mission to Kansas City, Missouri. While the trip to Kansas City went without incident, unfortunately, the return trip ended when the aircraft crashed into Trail Peak, here at Philmont Scout Ranch, destroying the plane and killing all seven crewmen. The passenger remained behind in Kansas City.

Scouts hiking Trail Peak will still find evidence of the crash on the side of the mountain, with remnants of the plane still holding vigil over the site. Recently an anonymous donation funded updated and improved interpretive signage at the site. These improved signs help better tell the story of Flight 41-1133 and recognize one of the plane's pilots, Second Lieutenant Roland Jefferies, an Eagle Scout, and member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, an honor camper society founded in Kansas City by H. Roe Bartle.

The first memorial at the crash site was established in 1947 by The Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Since then, members of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say have paid their respect to Jefferies and his fellow crewmates during their time at Trail Peak. The National Scouting Museum designed the new interpretive panels earlier this year, and the Philmont Conservation Department installed them at the crash site on Trail Peak this fall.

As a side note, in the main gallery of the National Scouting Museum, we have the box for a World War Two Official Air Scout Spotter Model of the Consolidated B-24D Liberator. During World War Two, this model was part of a set of spotter models created by the Strombeck-Becker Manufacturing Company of Moline, Illinois, and privately labeled for the Boy Scouts of America. High School students around the country built these models for the government and were used to train military personnel and civilian civil defense volunteers in aircraft identification.

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## **Jicarilla Apache Collection grows**

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swim while at summer camp. His instructor was a then-young Eagle Scout by the name of Gerald Ford. The second display focused on the guidebooks, patches, and pins of all the World Jamborees dating back to the first World Jamboree in 1920. The final display was built around various Scout handbooks and hat brushes from Scouting programs worldwide. Nearly a dozen foreign Scout handbooks were also placed on a small table where visitors could thumb through the pages and see how Scouting materials share so many common elements regardless of the language they are printed.

April not only saw new items added to the NSM collection, but members of the Jicarilla Apache donated several personal items to the museum collections. The main artifact in this donation is a dress worn by a family member during a traditional coming-of-age ceremony. The dress is hand-made of deer hide and very intricate beading. The family also donated a leather and beaded belt, a pair of baby moccasins, and a willow basket hand-crafted by one of the family members. These are all on display in the gallery and were featured in an artifact of the week video. During the presentation ceremony, members of the family said they thought Philmont was the right place for these items from their culture to be displayed because their ancestorial homelands are here, and they were sure we would present them in a respectful and appropriate manner.

Finally, the summer of 2022 saw the first steps of an upgrade to the displays and exhibits of the museum. Immediately we improved the uniform display, which went from five uniforms to eleven uniforms from an original 1910 BSA uniform to five uniforms of the Senior Scout, Exploring, and Venturing programs. Over the next few months, many changes will occur in the Scouting Heritage Gallery. These include improved displays on the founders of Scouting, advancement, diversity and inclusion - including an Eagle Scout medal donated by one of the first female Eagle Scouts in the country - and an expanded Cub Scout display. The improved Scouting Heritage Gallery will be ready for the summer camping season, and there will be a special unveiling held in June 2023.

### Smart to lead NSM Committee

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Summit Bechtel Reserve Committee. He is the founding President of the Summit Bechtel Reserve Staff Association (SBRSA).

Russell was a Scoutmaster at the 1997 National Jamboree, served on the Southern Region Headquarters staff for the 2001 and 2005 National Jamborees and as the Southern Region Camp Chief for the 2010 Centennial National Jamboree. He then served as National Program Chairman for the 2013 and 2017 National Jamborees.

He also served as a Scoutmaster at the 1995, 1999, and 2003 World Scout Jamboree and served as the Southern Region Chairman for the 2007 Centennial World Jamboree in England. He was a member of the BSA Contingent Staff at the 2011 World Jamboree in Sweden. He served as the Vice Chairman and Commissioner for the BSA contingent to the 2019 World Scout Jamboree at the Summit in West Virginia.

Russell became a member of the Order of the Arrow in 1990, Brotherhood in 1993, and was awarded the Vigil Honor in 2001, the Founder's Award in 2006, and the Order of the Arrow Distinguished Service Award in 2015.

Among his Scouting awards are the District Award of Merit (1994), Silver Beaver Award (1996), Venturing Leadership Award (2002), Baptist Good Shepard Award (2003), Southern Region Silver Antelope Award (2004), Baden-Powell World Fellowship (2005), Scoutmaster Award of Merit (2006), International Scouting Award (2007), Silver Buffalo Award (2012) and the Blue Ridge Council and BSA National Alumnus of the Year (2020).

His favorite Scouting experiences have been awarding Eagle Scout badges to over 100 Scouts from Troop 266 during his time as Scoutmaster and driving a commissary truck at Philmont Scout Ranch during the summer of 2008.

He has been married since 1975 to Helen, a very understanding and patient wife. They have one "genetic" son Hoke (Eagle Scout 1992), plus hundreds of adopted sons (and daughters) who have passed through Troop 266, Venture Crew 99, and numerous national and world jamboree troops.

## **NSM** approves master plan for exhibits

#### By DAVID WERHANE Director, National Scouting Museum

On October 19th, the National Scout Museum Task Force approved a comprehensive master plan to upgrade many of the exhibits at the main facility located at Philmont Scout Ranch over the next three to four years.

Since the dedication of the NSM in October 2018, there have not been any major changes to the exhibits, although various additions have been made to the original displays. The NSM exhibits include several major categories of artifacts. These include general Scouting heritage, the Order of the Arrow, Ernest Thompson Seton, New Mexico and the Southwest USA, the Waite Phillips Family, and of course, Philmont Scout Ranch materials.

Prior to the decision to relocate the NSM from Irving TX to Philmont, the National Order of the Arrow Committee had begun work to create a spectacular exhibit related to the history and traditions of the OA. Many individuals made substantial contributions to sponsor this exhibit and it is labeled as the "Ingram Foundation Order of the Arrow Gallery" honoring the title sponsor. Talented volunteers from the OA spent many hours designing, creating, and installing the exhibit and the individual displays using high quality museum fixtures to showcase many unique and priceless artifacts to help tell the Order of the Arrow story.

The long-range plan approved by the NSM Task Force has the vision of bringing the rest of the exhibits and displays up to the same high quality as those in the Order of the Arrow Gallery. To this end, the plan is to create six (6) unique galleries within the overall NSM portfolio:

- The Scouting Heritage Gallery
- The Order of the Arrow Gallery (existing)
- The Seton Collection Gallery

• The New Mexico and Southwest America Heritage Gallery

• The Philmont Scout Ranch Gallery

• The Waite Phillips Family Gallery (to be located in the current Villa Philmonte gallery)

Each of these galleries will have its own



A temporary exhibit at the National Scouting Museum focused on the World Scout Jamborees.

distinctive "look and feel" but each will have high quality fixtures and descriptive materials comparable to the current Order of the Arrow Gallery. The NSM Director and staff will join with a special team of members of the NSM Task Force to partner with appropriate professionals to design and produce the materials for each gallery to "tell the story" (or stories) that will give our visitors an enjoyable experience and send them away with a better understanding of how all these different stories interconnect in the greater story of the Boy Scouts of America and Philmont Scout Ranch.

Each of these galleries will have a designated title sponsor and varying numbers of individual display sponsors (as was done in the OA Gallery). The funding amounts required from the title sponsor and individual display sponsors will include a portion that will be used for the actual cost of the exhibit, a portion that will go into the NSM Endowment, and a portion that will go towards the ongoing operational needs of the BSA, Philmont, and the NSM.

The NSM Task Force has already identified a potential title sponsor and several individual display sponsors for the Scouting Heritage Gallery and the Philmont Scout Ranch Gallery, and the proceeds from those designated and restricted donations will cover the estimated cost of the proposed upgrades in those two areas. Title sponsors and display sponsors for the remaining galleries will be identified and secured over the next 12-18 months.

The exact timing of upgrading each gallery

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### LEADERSHIP

RUSSELL SMART, Chairman National Scouting Museum Committee

RAY CAPP, Vice-Chairman National Scouting Museum Committee

**ROBERT MASON**, *Communications Chairman* National Scouting Museum Committee

JEFFREY ST. CYR, Layout Editor Scouting Times **ROGER HOYT,** *Director* Philmont Scout Ranch

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**CRYSANT ELLIOTT**, *NSM Collection Curator* National Scouting Museum



**SCOUTING TIMES** is the official newsletter of the Boy Scouts of America's National Scouting Museum. Published twice a year, it tells the story of Scouting through artifacts, archives, and art. To learn more about the National Scouting Museum, visit www.philmontscoutranch.org/museums.

## NSM master plan to continue to tell the story of service and Scouting at Philmont Scout Ranch

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will depend on funding and the ability to schedule the required interactions among the NSM Task Force, the NSM professional staff, and the third-party designers and vendors. The implementation plan is designed such that no area of NSM will be closed during the summer season when we receive the largest numbers of visitors. Here is the current aspirational schedule for each gallery:

NSM Director Dave Werhane had this to say about the plan: "It is great to begin a new and exciting phase in our mission of telling how the stories of Scouting, Philmont, Seton, and The Phillips Family come together into such a wonderful larger story of our service to the youth of America. We look forward to sharing these stories with our Scouting family and many others."

The next issue will contain more details and an update on our progress. Stay tuned!

#### The Scouting Heritage Gallery:

- Install and outfit new fixtures and descriptive materials in March and April 2023.
- Add artifacts and adjust other existing displays in April and May 2023.
- Dedicate the upgraded Gallery during the Alumni Week at PTC June 12-18, 2023.
- Complete any remaining gallery improvements during Fall 2023.

#### **The Philmont Scout Ranch Gallery:**

- Confirm a title sponsor and identify 4-6 individual display sponsors in 2023.
- Develop plans and start procurement of materials in 2023.
- Installation of new materials in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.
- Dedicate new Gallery during PSA Reunion Week at PTC July 2024.

## The Seton Collection Gallery and the New Mexico and Southwest America Heritage Gallery:

- Make minor adjustments to both galleries in spring/fall 2023 to accommodate design changes to the Scouting Heritage Gallery and Philmont Scout Ranch Gallery designs.
- Identify title and display sponsors and develop detailed plans during 2022 and 2023.
- Implement new gallery design in the off-season periods of 2023 and 2024.

#### The Waite Phillips Family Gallery (located in the space of current Villa Philmonte gallery):

- Identify a title sponsor and display sponsors in 2023.
- Develop plans and start procurement of materials in 2023.
- Installation of new materials in Fall 2022 and Spring 2023.
- Dedicate new Gallery during summer season 2023 Note: This is the 85th anniversary of the

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original gift of land from Waite Phillips to the BSA in 1938.

# Summer Volunteer Museum Docents needed

Are you looking for a way to spend 4 – 10 days here at Philmont working at the National Scouting Museum? We are accepting applications for Volunteer Museum Docents here at the Museum from May – September 2023. In 2022 the Museum greeted 17,000 visitors and helped 2,325 Scouts complete requirement 4B of the Scouting Heritage Merit Badge.

If you love to tell stories about the history of Scouting and are looking for a way to share your passion for Scouting, then visit the Philmont Scout Ranch website and fill out a seasonal application. The website is <u>https://registerphilmont.org/</u><u>staff/app</u>. Make sure you list Volunteer Museum Docent for your job choice and indicate the days you are available to serve.

If you have questions or need additional information about this opportunity, please contact Harold White, Museum Program Specialist at 575-376-2281, ext. 51098 or send him an email at Harold.White@scouting.org.

## ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCOUTING MUSEUM

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The **NATIONAL SCOUTING MUSEUM** is located at the Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, N.M., which is home to the Boy Scouts of America's premier High Adventure<sup>™</sup> base, that challenges Scouts and Venturers with more than 214 square miles of rugged northern New Mexico wilderness.

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