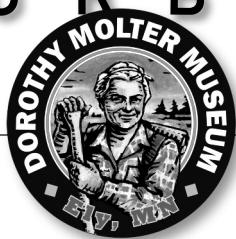




# K W I T C H U R B E L I A K I N™

NEWSLETTER OF THE DOROTHY MOLTER MUSEUM

SUMMER SEASON 2018



## A New Exhibit!

**CREATING THE BOUNDARY WATERS:**

25 OBJECTS, 25 STORIES

Known far and wide for its remote location, pure waters and wildlife-rich forest, the Boundary Waters of Minnesota is not often remembered for its lengthy and tumultuous management history.

One of Minnesota's greatest assets, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, or BWCAW, represents one of the last, truly wild and pristine areas in the state and some may argue, the country.

Using objects from the Dorothy Molter Museum collection, this exhibit aims to provide context to the timeline of how the Boundary Waters became what it is today.

We invite you to watch the evolution of changing values and public demands, the very definition of wilderness, and how a determined woman managed to overcome great adversity.

This exhibit was researched and developed by the Dorothy Molter Museum, and made possible by a grant from the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board and a matching donation.

DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION

DOROTHY MOLTER MUSEUM



Left: The Introductory Panel for the new exhibit.  
Right: New deck at the entrance to the Cady Cabin

What comes to mind when you think of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness? A map? A special lake? Perhaps a moose?

What about a cross-cut saw? A typewriter? A parking meter?

In a new exhibit detailing the decades-long, often controversial process of how the BWCAW came to be, the Museum is highlighting some not-so-often-seen collection items that aren't often associated with the Boundary Waters.

**Creating the Boundary Waters: 25 Objects, 25 Stories** opens with a formal ribbon-cutting on **Sunday, June 24** during the Museum's annual Dorothy Day, which will also include a **25th Anniversary Celebration**.

Housed in the Cady Cabin, preparations for this new exhibit included installing a new entry deck with a ramp for easier access, a screen door to keep the critters and bugs out (as best as possible) and two, glass display cases to hold several objects, some of which are extremely fragile.

The scope of the exhibit's timeline extends as far back as 14,000 Before Present (BP), although most of it occurs from 1860 to the present with each of the other 11 panels covering between 10-20 years of history. Each panel includes a synopsis of the time period covered as well as a visual timeline highlighting significant dates in the BWCAW history.

Each panel has one to two corresponding objects that represent a period of time illustrated within the timeline. Separate object cards not only provide collection information for each item but also share a "story" intended to tie the BWCAW history to Dorothy Molter.

Although Dorothy is represented prominently on the object cards, interpretive stories from the perspectives of Knife Lake, Isle of Pines and Bill Berglund, original owner/developer of the Isle of Pines Resort are also included.

This exhibit has been several years in the making and Museum staff are incredibly excited to have this part of Dorothy's history featured as a new attraction for visitors this season. It will be an excellent teaching tool for those not as familiar with the origins of the BWCAW as well as utilize collection items that have not been out of storage for several years. 🚗

*Creating the Boundary Waters: 25 Objects, 25 Stories was made possible by a grant from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board and an anonymous matching donation.*



## Director's Message



Dorothy's Director, Jess Edberg.

Dear Friends of Dorothy Molter,  
Hello from the Northwoods of Minnesota! Another summer season is here and as I sit in the Museum gift shop working my shift as cashier, I can't help but wonder how many people's lives I will touch this summer with Dorothy's story.

It is easy to count the people through the door and definitely those who participate in my guided tours but, I'm thinking about those individuals that I'll have an opportunity to really connect with during their visit. Sometimes it happens through a chat about someone's hometown or a question answered about where to take a walk in the woods with their young grandchildren (Kawishiwi Falls, hands down!). However, I find the best connections occur after a guided tour when I have a chance to answer questions one-on-one with guests.

That time spent with one or two visitors sometimes grows into an annual reunion when they visit the following season and sometimes into a correspondence via email or Facebook throughout the year. In some cases, the connection seems non-existent until a new membership form arrives in the mail later that fall or, the next year when a visitor tells us they were referred by their friend who was here last year.

I'm looking forward to making these connections this season. Dorothy's story is easily inspiring and has a way of grabbing hold of visitors' hearts but it's the connections between people that helps tie that hold to the Museum. We need those connections to help keep Dorothy's story alive and shared between people. The support that is nurtured through those connections is what continues to allow us to do our work at the Dorothy Molter Museum.

Perhaps I'll see you this season.

With Sincerity, Jess



LIVING OFF THE LAND

## Ways to Donate the Dorothy Molter Museum!



For a small, non-profit museum there are never too many ways to contribute! Online donation options are located at [rootbeerlady.com](http://rootbeerlady.com), on our [facebook](#) page, and by using [Amazon Smile](#). Do you prefer to make a tangible donation? Check out our "wish list" on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) for ideas or donate bird seed to the community

bird feeding area. Like to get your hands dirty? Spring cleaning is coming up in May, and there always seems to be things to fix or tidy up around the museum... ☺

Call or email for more information!  
**218-365-4451 or [jess@rootbeerlady.com](mailto:jess@rootbeerlady.com)**

## 2018 Season Staff

We are lucky to have **Kay Vandervort**, **Megan Robbins**, **McKenzie Schreffler** and **Jeanette Cox** on staff this season to help us share Dorothy's story to our visitors this season! ☺

## The Root Beer Business



No portaging needed for this root beer!

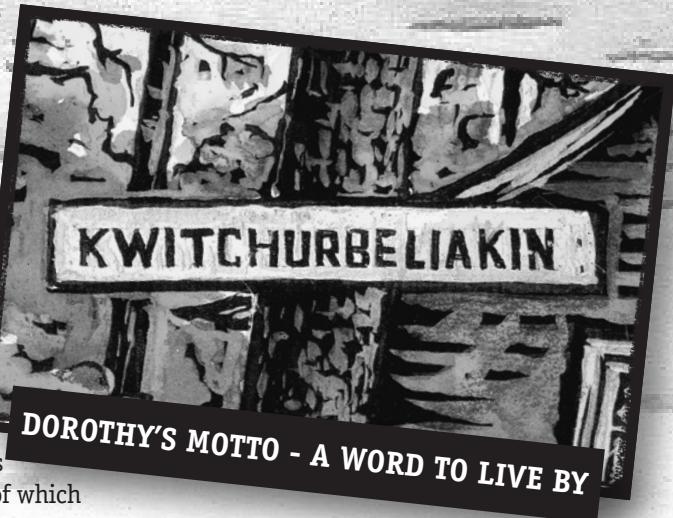
The history of **Dorothy's Isle of Pines Root Beer** is well known as far as purchasing the original beverage up at the Isle of Pines and we still have visitors who remember purchasing her home made brew. In fact, during a morning tour one may reminisce that it was the best root beer they had ever had, while an afternoon tour group may recall it being flat, tasting of yeast and perhaps a pine needle or two floating in the bottle.

Fortunately, our root beer is now brewed commercially and every bottle is consistently delicious. For the past 12 years we have worked exclusively with Gray Brewing Co. of Janesville, WI to produce and distribute over **7,000 cases** a summer. In comparison, Dorothy sold about 500 cases each summer but, of course she made it all by hand. The Museum is very proud of the growth in root beer sales and the revenue it helps generate to support the Museum's mission. In fact, the root beer is now available throughout Minnesota via five distributors and can be found at over 60 retail locations in the Twin Cities Metro Area alone with the most recent being Surly Brewing! ☺



## Fitting in the Mission

As you may know, many of our Museum gift shop products have some variation of its trademarked **KWITCHURBELIAKIN**. The term's meaning isn't unique to Dorothy Molter but the presentation is exclusive to her, making it instantly identifiable. However, there are so many other facets of Dorothy's life that are also represented in the product available at the Museum's gift shop (both "brick and mortar" and online). As a non-profit organization, all of our product must connect with our mission, which is to preserve and interpret Northwoods wilderness heritage through learning opportunities inspired by Dorothy Molter. With that as our guide, we have expanded our merchandise options to include items related to living off the land and "off the grid," canoeing in the Boundary Waters, exploring in the wilderness, camp cooking, and even product that touches on Dorothy's nursing background and her beloved furry friends. Additionally, we offer several products made by local artisans both in Ely and Minnesota in general – a few of which the Museum is the only place to buy them! 🌱



## Canoe Raffle 2018

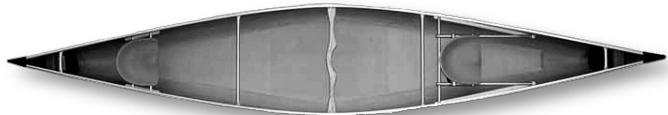
Once again we are offering a gorgeous **Wenonah Spirit II** canoe valued at **\$2,999** for our 2018 fundraising raffle. At **17' and 44lbs**, this **Ultra-light Kevlar®** boat with padded portage yokes and sliding seats is one of the most luxurious and comfortable boats to take on any Boundary Waters trip where portaging is involved. By purchasing a five dollar raffle ticket (or more, there is no limit), you have a one in 1,010 chance of winning! If you aren't able to make it to Ely this season, an order form on the back page is provided for your convenience. 🌱



## Board Member Recruitment

Have you ever thought about getting more involved with the Dorothy Molter Museum? The Museum's Board of Directors is interested in hearing from those who may like to learn more about becoming a volunteer Board Member. 🌱

If you would like more information or have a Board Member contact you to discuss the position, please call Jess at 218.365.4451 or email [info@rootbeerlady.com](mailto:info@rootbeerlady.com)



## Looking Ahead:

### Dorothy Day: Celebrating 25 Years & Exhibit Opening

Sunday, June 24th, 11 am – 2 pm (1pm ribbon cutting), FREE

**Camp KWITCHURBELIAKIN** • Tuesdays, June 19-August 14, 2-3:30pm

(Please note, the Ely Summer Times posting for camp is incorrect)

**Brew-it-Yourself Classes** • Thursdays, June 28th, July 19th and August 16th, 6 - 8 pm

**Museum Closed for Independence Day** • Wednesday, July 4th

**Donuts at Dorothy's** • Sunday, July 22nd, 11 am – 2 pm, FREE

**Annual Blueberry Arts Festival** • Friday, July 27th –Sunday, July 29th

**Night at the Museum** • Tuesday, August 14th, 7 pm –7 pm, FREE

Visit our website for up to date information as these dates approach: [www.rootbeerlady.com](http://www.rootbeerlady.com)

### Dorothy Molter Museum Hours • Open Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend

10:00 to 5:00 – 7 Days a Week • Open select days throughout the rest of the year.

**Admission:** \$6.50 for Adult; \$6.00 for Seniors 62+ and AAA members; \$4.50 for Children (6 to 17)

**Group Rates:** Call in advance for groups of 8 or more

**FREE ADMISSION:** for Museum Members, Military Personnel, Children under 5



K W I T C H U R B E L I A K I N™

[www.rootbeirlady.com](http://www.rootbeirlady.com)

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Hwy 169 (Sheridan St.) on the east side of Ely  
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Executive Director: Jess Edberg

Finance Manager: Lisa Robbins

Wholesale Manager: Laurie Bambas

Consultant &amp; Senior Tour Guide: Sarah Guy-Levar

Dorothy illustrations by Nora Wildgen

Graphic Design: Mike Tincher, T DESIGN

SEND THIS NEWSLETTER TO:



## MAKING THE ROUNDS

## Our Mission

The Dorothy Molter Museum preserves and interprets Northwoods wilderness heritage through learning opportunities inspired by Dorothy Molter, the last non-indigenous resident of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

## Thank you!

The Dorothy Molter Museum wishes to thank the **City of Ely**, **Vermilion Community College**, and **The Superior National Forest** for their ongoing support.

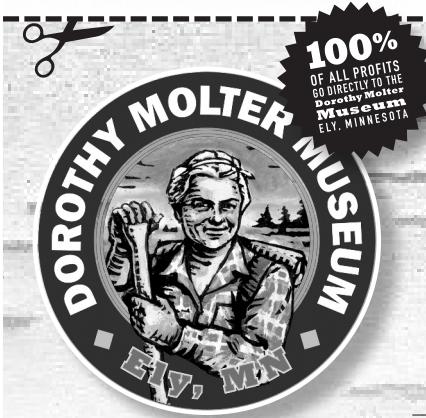
## Membership and Support

**Dorothy Molter Museum Members** receive our quarterly newsletter, free admission to the museum, and discounts in both our museum gift shop and our online store.

**Become a Member** or if you are a member **Consider Making a Donation** towards our education programming or general operating expenses.

Go to [www.rootbeirlady.com](http://www.rootbeirlady.com) – click on "Get Involved"

Thank you.



100%  
OF ALL PROFITS  
GO DIRECTLY TO THE  
Dorothy Molter  
Museum  
ELY, MINNESOTA

Annual Fundraising Raffle for the Dorothy Molter Museum  
**CANOE RAFFLE TICKET ORDER FORM**  
17', 44lb, We-no-na Spirit II, Ultra-light Kevlar® Canoe • Valued at \$2,999



Must be 18+ to purchase tickets • Need not be present to win  
Drawing at close of business on Saturday, October 27, 2018

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (REQUIRED) \_\_\_\_\_

# OF TICKETS AT \$5/EACH \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

If possible, please include a self-adhesive address label for each ticket purchased.

Mail this form and check or money order payable to "DMM" to:

**Dorothy Molter Museum, PO Box 391, Ely, MN 55731**

P.O. Box 391  
Ely, MN 55731

218-365-4451

[www.rootbeirlady.com](http://www.rootbeirlady.com)  
[info@rootbeirlady.com](mailto:info@rootbeirlady.com)