



## Buttoning Up for Winter



Beartooth Tree Service up in a dead red pine next to the Winter Cabin (left)  
Freshly painted logs/window trim, washed windows and new red doors (right)



Dear Friends,

It's your guy in the sky, **Eddie the Eagle**, with a fall update from the Museum! This summer seemed to fly by faster than a peregrine diving for a sparrow (pun intended) and I'm not sure where to start. After a pleasant July and August, September and October have not disappointed— we've all enjoyed a very comfortable and colorful early-fall that eased us all into the cold temps of late-fall and almost winter. Likely by the time you're reading this, we have a layer of snow sticking on the ground.


From my view looking down, this fall included a lot of outdoor maintenance projects at the Museum. One day, a couple of folks showed up with a huge box that turned out to be shiny, new, red doors. They pulled out the old, rusted and poorly insulated brown doors at the basement office entrance (also where root beer pallets are delivered) and installed the new double-doors with windows. They really spruce up the backside (west-facing) of the Interpretive Center and allow a lot more light into the basement office area. They are also a few inches wider and seemed to make it a little easier for root beer delivery the following week.

In late-September, I noticed some scaffolding just outside those new doors and watched as a staff member painted the log siding of that same side of the building. They also filled in holes pecked by those rascally woodpeckers that hang around, **Hairy and Pilly**.

Then, just a couple weeks ago, a truck and trailer pulled up and two dead pine trees that were quite close to the Winter Cabin were taken down.

With those projects and the other usual fall chores like window washing and leaf-blowing, the place is looking pretty tidy and ready for a long slumber under a thick blanket of snow this winter.

As for me, I'll be sticking around. The lakes may be frozen but the rivers usually stay open in spots and there's always a supply of roadkill and/or wolf-killed deer to scavenge to tide me over.

Have a great winter!  
Eddie the Eagle 



## Message from the Director



Dorothy's Director, Jess Edberg.

I'll just say it. I got ahead of myself in the last newsletter when I celebrated a return to normal with our full slate of community events. I should have been a bit more cautious than optimistic but, that positive energy did help when we experienced a period of being short-staffed in August and then almost all staff getting hit with the Covid bug the same week.

Even with those two significant set-backs, which included being closed a full week in August, the Museum finished the season on par with 2021, which was our second-best season in terms of visitation and retail revenue.

I have to say that a big — if not the main — factor in this season's success was the amazing public-facing staff we had this summer and fall. Each and every one of them contributed to the success and sustainability of the organization in their unique way whether it be an inherent ability to make visitors feel welcome and valued, engaging and inspiring interpretive skills, excellent retail and customer experience knowledge, or a collaborative spirit.

Thank you **Kay Vandervort, Lillie Ortloff, Shawna Butler, Susan Rix, Morgan Sauls, and Chloe Lawson.**

Dorothy's story would not have reached as great an audience this season without your passion and dedication. 🐾

With gratitude,

Jess Edberg

Executive Director



PILLY AND HAIRY

If you've been driving down **Sheridan Street in Ely** since August, you may have noticed we have a new billboard! Thanks to the volunteer design work of **T DESIGN**, the generous sign space donated by **Motel Ely** and the in-kind service donation of a cherry-picker by **Fenske Tree Service** to hang the signage, the Museum was able to install a two-sided, 15' x 6' sign across from the **Holiday Gas Station**. Both

sides feature an historic image from our collection and logos of the Museum, **Ely-Winton Historical Society** and the **Ely Arts & Heritage Center**, three local history organizations with public locations in Ely city limits. 🐾

## 30 Years in 2023



Next season the Museum is planning a variety of events to celebrate its **30th Anniversary!** Stay tuned for event announcements, special presentations and guest appearances at the Museum throughout the year. Here are a few dates **Next Spring/Summer** to keep in mind if you're planning a visit to Ely in 2023:

- **Annual Meeting of the Members BBQ**  
Friday, May 5 – 6:30pm
- **Annual Spring Clean-up & Dorothy's Birthday Party,**  
Saturday, May 6 – 10am-1pm
- **BWX: Women's Canoe Trip**  
June 13-17
- **Dorothy Day**  
June 25 – 11am-2pm
- **Donuts at Dorothy's**  
July 30 – 11am-2pm  
(during the Blueberry/Arts Fest)

**Additionally in August,** we'll have a **Member/Visitor Appreciation Day** with a date TBD 🐾

### Event Donations Welcome

If you own or operate a business, would like to share a hand-made good, or offer services and would like to donate an item or certificate to our **Annual Fundraising Dinner**, please contact [jess@rootbeerlady.com](mailto:jess@rootbeerlady.com). 🐾

## Give to the Max for a New Exhibit on Nov 17!

Do you remember your first Dorothy's root beer? The flavor hitting your taste buds, the temperature of the liquid, the type of day it was outside? Whether it was an original, homemade bottle from Dorothy herself or the modern version of a tried and true recipe sold at the Museum and by retailers around Minnesota and beyond, we bet you remember.

**Dorothy's Isle of Pines Root Beer** is one of the draws for the thousands of visitors to the Museum annually. To enhance our visitors' knowledge of this part of Dorothy's story, and as part of our **30th Anniversary** planning, we are preparing a new **Winter Cabin** exhibit on Dorothy's root beer. **However, we need your help.**

Staff have been developing the content for this new interpretive exhibit and are now looking for help funding the printing, fabricating and display materials to install this new exhibit this spring in time for our **May Opening**.



**How can you help? Give to the Max Day is Thursday, November 17** and all donations made from **midnight-to-midnight** are entered into several **hourly drawings** and **"Golden Ticket"** prizes for additional fund awards up to \$10,000. This means for every online donation you make for the DMM, the Museum receives another ticket in the drawings.

They even have **"early giving"** beginning **November 1** so you can schedule your donation to occur on Nov 17 to maximize your financial contribution potential. Donors even have the opportunity to "win" funds to donate to their preferred non-profits. 🐾

Please consider making a financial gift toward this new exhibit on November 17 and help us celebrate 30 years of educating the public.

## Canoe Raffle

Tickets will be available for purchase up until the drawing at our **Annual Fundraising Dinner** on **Thursday, February 9** or until sold out. At the time of print, we have sold approximately 600 out of 1010 tickets — **the odds are in your favor!**

Drawing held at our **Annual Fundraising Dinner** February 9, 2023 at the **Grand Ely Lodge**.

Mailing address: **DMM Raffle**, PO Box 391, Ely MN 55731 🐾



## LOOKING AHEAD THIS WINTER

**Give to the Max Day** • Thursday, November 17 Starts at Midnight

**Ely Winter Festival** • February 2-12

**Whirlwind! Winter Wilderness Community Event** • Saturday, February 4 - 11am-2pm

**Annual Fundraising Dinner** • Thursday, February 9 - 5-7pm

**Public Museum Hours** • February 3-4 & 10-11 - 10am-4pm

**Dogsled to Dorothy's Trip to Knife Lake** • March 2-5

Please keep an eye on [www.rootbeerlady.com](http://www.rootbeerlady.com) for additional details, programs and events being added.

## Stay Connected



Follow us on **Facebook**, **Instagram** and **Twitter** to stay connected and receive regular updates on what's happening, new products, upcoming events, as well as featured collection items and themes, historic photos and interesting

stories from days gone by. 🐾

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



P.O. Box 391  
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[www.rootbeerlady.com](http://www.rootbeerlady.com)

**DOROTHY MOLTER MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Pam Brunfelt, President
- Alyssa Nelson, Vice Chair
- Sherry Abts, Secretary
- Liz Gorrilla
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- Trudy Staubitz
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2022 Curator/Manager: Lillie Ortloff

2022 Visitor Services Assts: Kay Vandervort,  
 Shawna Butler, Susan Rix, Morgan Sauls, Chloe Lawson

Dorothy illustrations by Nora Wildgen  
 Graphic Design: Mike Tincher, T DESIGN



**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.

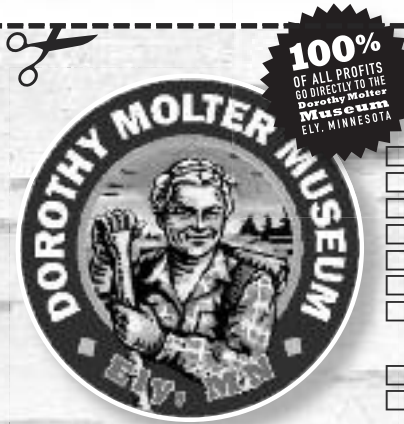
**Membership and Support**

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

Are you already a member? **Consider making a Donation** towards our education programming or general operating expenses. Just fill out the form below!

**Thank you.**

**Share Our Mission with Someone Special**



**Help us continue to Preserve the Legacy with a Gift Membership!**

**Membership Levels:**

- STUDENT: \$10**
- INDIVIDUAL: \$30**
- FAMILY: \$50**
- PADDLER: \$150**
- BUSINESS PADDLER: \$250**
- SUSTAINING PADDLER: \$500**
- SUSTAINING PATRON: \$1000**

**Lifetime Memberships:**

- LIFETIME PADDLER: \$5,000**
- LIFETIME PATRON PADDLER: \$10,000**

**CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND:** in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type:  Check  Credit      Card Type:  Visa  MasterCard      Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OR ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS 2 \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DAY/WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CREDIT CARD \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made out to the **Dorothy Molter Museum.**

Please do not send cash. Mail your application/donation to: **Dorothy Molter Museum, PO Box 391, Ely, MN 55731**

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 Ely, MN 55731**

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