Words from Anne Miller
Board Chair

I referred to the year 2014 as “A Very Good Year.” And I’ve been referring to the year 2015 as a “Brilliant Year.” So I thought I’d better check my definitions of “Brilliant” to see if this adjective actually applies.

1. Very bright: flashing with light
2. Very impressive or successful
3. Extremely intelligent
4. And to the British, very good, wonderful or excellent.

In June, the second annual Benefactor’s Circle Dinner welcomed 70 plus guests at the beautiful home of Dr. Tim and Julie Louis. It was a wonderful evening on the shores of Lake Owen. The Benefactor’s Circle Dinner has outgrown two venues, and I can promise you flashing lights in 2016, I think.

The Summer Event, the Power of the Purse and the Golf Event would fall into the impressive category as they continued to provide great entertainment for the Cable community and significant income for the Museum.

And to fill in the very impressive or successful category, the Museum’s Accreditation team has almost completed a 35-year-goal for the Museum. As we speak, final preparations are being made for our accreditation peer review in March.

I think excellent is the appropriate adjective to describe our gift from the Mary Griggs Burke Foundation, and although grateful isn’t one of the definitions of “brilliant,” that’s what we are!

Very bright describes our terrific Staff, our Board, and our many Volunteers. And I think extremely intelligent should be reserved for Theo.

Here’s to a “Brilliant Year!”

Best regards, Anne

Griggs Burke Foundation Legacy Gift

In November the Cable Natural History Museum was notified that it would receive an endowment gift of $3 million from the Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation. This gift marks the largest donation in the Museum’s 48-year history. Since its founding by Mary Griggs Burke and Jackson Burke in 1967, CNHM has been privileged to enjoy the generous and unwavering support of the Foundation.

Interest from the endowment will be used to support general operations, as well as new programming and outreach. The Museum received a separate gift of $500,000 for the future maintenance and care of the log building which is home to the Forest Lodge Library.

Lake’s Alive! Exhibit

Our 2015 exhibit: Lakes Alive! captivated the imaginations of visitors young and old as they “dove in” to the bottom of our lake. Record numbers of visitors experienced this exhibit in July and August. An aquarium full of native fish in the center of the room mesmerized. Our blue screen studio and underwater video gave kids the ability to “swim” underwater without getting wet. A full-wall mural, painted by super-volunteer Donna Post, gave us a peek into the depths and truly made our northern lakes come alive!
Cable Natural History Museum

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Raptor Programs
- Rent Snowshoes
- Bog Discovery!
- BWCAW
- Mushroom Foray

The Art of Nature

Exploration & Natural Play

www.cablemuseum.org
SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

MuseumMobile

Joseph Jenkins Lecture Series

Forest Lab Intermediate Program

Adult Naturalist Program

Junior Naturalist Program

Live Collections

In 2015, the Museum was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board to help fund our “Raptor Discovery: Bridging Literacy Gaps in Schools and Libraries” program. This program provides hands-on activities for students, curriculum materials for teachers, a set of books for the school libraries, and an in-school/library presentation with the Museum raptors. This grant also helped fund expenses for Naturalist/Curator Elsa Hansen and Living Collections Assistant Jayme Morey to attend a four-day workshop at The Raptor Center in the Twin Cities, learning about the care and management of captive raptors. If you see either staff member, ask them about their experience holding Maxime the Bald Eagle!

Digital Collections

With hard work from staff and volunteers, 2,270 items from the Museum’s collection are available for viewing in a searchable online database. This project is part of a Museums for America Grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Each specimen from the collection has a photo and a digital record, stored in a digital database called PastPerfect. By visiting our website at: cablemuseum.org/virtual-exhibit, you can peruse through our iconic specimens such as the mountain lion or passenger pigeon, along with rarely displayed specimens like watercolor paintings by the Museum’s first director, Lois Nestel, or yarn dyed with natural plant dyes. Let us know what fun specimen you discover!

www.cablemuseum.org
SIGNATURE EVENTS

CNHM Golf Classic
Benafactor’s Circle
Summer Benefit
Bobby Socks & Blue Suede Shoes
Power of the Purse
Garden Tour

Green Darner Media Takes Flight!

The Museum is embarking on a new adventure this year. We’ve created our own publishing company (Green Darner Media) and have begun work on Natural Connections: Exploring Northwoods Nature through Science and Your Senses. This full-length book is a compilation of articles from Emily Stone’s weekly newspaper column, “Natural Connections.” The book is partially underwritten by generous Museum Members, and the proceeds will benefit youth programming at the Museum. In an effort to make this a community project, Emily solicited illustrations for each chapter from our talented community. The result is a collaborative project that we can all look forward to seeing completed. The publication date is estimated to be sometime in Spring 2016. Additional underwriters of this exciting project are still needed.

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

“Museums have the power to share more than facts. They share stories. They provide experiences. They create opportunities for people to think about things differently. Here at the Cable Natural History Museum I look forward to engaging visitors and finding ways to make the Northwoods natural history come alive.” Emily Stone, Naturalist Education Director.

Year after year, the members and donors make the Cable Natural History Museum a viable and unique resource in our region. We continue to connect all people who visit to Northwoods nature. We are grateful for your support.

In 2015, the Cable Natural History Museum was successful in keeping operational expenses within the budget and in generating essential revenues through memberships, donations, programs and fundraisers. The White Pine Society was developed as a way of leaving a lasting legacy for future generations of natural history enthusiasts.

At the core of Museum endeavors are our programs and our exhibits. These elements bring visitors back again and again. Our strong visitor base, grows into an always active and stable membership base.

Thanks to generous donor member support of our Moment of Awe Campaign and Year-end debt retirement donations the balance on our building is now $245,295.00. Thank You!
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Bill and Beda McKinney
THANK YOU MEMBERS & DONORS!

*Denotes Members      #Denotes Debt Retirement    ^Denotes Benefactor’s Circle

Dick and LJ Menzel
Jim and Anne Miller
Don and Carolyn Monson
Gary and Priscilla Nei
David and Robin Neilson
Deb and Brad Nelson
Roger and Beverly Nelson
James Netz
Lori Niemann
Northern De-Lites Bakery
Norvado
Outdoor Ventures Hayward, Inc
Ralph Owen, Ill & Carolyn Owen
Patrick & Susan Quinn
D’Ann Ranheim
Bob & Corinne Rasmussen
Red Wing Shoe Company
Rookery Pub Fine Dining
Tom & Judy Rowley
Simply Succulents
The Cabin Stop
Titus Salon
Ron & Lynn Trok
Whispering Pines Gift & Gallery
Peter & Kate Wright
Ned & Kathy Zuelsdorff

Gifts Given in Memory of Names in Bold

Ed Cleary
Joanne Cleary
Lauretta Jean Bachman
Thomas Gallagher & Ruth Bachman
Michael Batten
Josephine Louis
Tim Cameron
Joann Malek
Jerry Olson & Bradley Olson
Sandy Olson
Albert Petlock
Geraldine Petlock
Irene Regorrah
Jeff & Brenda Smits
Vernon Dieters
John & Cheryl Umbeck
Hope Bulger
Joan Williamson
Mary Witt
John Witt

Gifts Given in Honor of Names in Bold

Jim & Anne Miller
John B. and Anita Jamieson
Bill & Beda McKinney
Clayton and Betsey McKinney
Joan Barret
Christine Walker

Business Members

Advance Printing
American Birkebeiner
Amundson Septic Service
Anderson Hager & Moe
Andry Rasmussen & Sons
Apostle Islands Realty, Inc
Apple Awards
Art Beat of Hayward
Cable Chiropractic Clinic
Cable Lumber & Home
CF Web Services, LLC
Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival
Coope’s Pizza
Dragonfly Studio
Edward Jones
Elkins & Sons Elite Concrete of Wisconsin
Hayward Community Credit Union
Heartland Graphics
Johnson Bank
Johnson’s Resort
King Realty
Lee’s Trees
Mark Rasmussen Excavating
McKinney Realty, LLC
Mogasheen Resort
Northern Native Plantscapes
Norvado
Redbery Books
Rondeaux Shopping Center
Rookery Pub Fine Dining
Scott Byrd Construction
Simply Succulents
The State Bank of Drummond
Treeland Resorts
Whispering Pines Gift & Gallery
Williamson Chiropractic
Winter Greenhouse
Xcel Energy

Grantors

Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation
Mary Livingston Griggs & Mary Griggs Burke Foundation
Natural Resources Foundation of WI
St Croix Valley Foundation
Xcel Energy Foundation
FROM TOM JOHNSON, TREASURER

The museum had another strong year in 2015. Revenues increased in 2015 over 2014 primarily related to year over year increases in contribution, membership and fundraising income. Operating expenses also increased in 2015 principally related to increased staffing for the Museum Mobile as well as creating the virtual exhibit and increased museum programming.

The museum ended fiscal year 2015 with a cash basis income of approximately $54,000.

Maintaining a healthy working capital balance and reducing long-term indebtedness continue to be major financial objectives of the museum. The “Moment of Awe” campaign has been instrumental in reducing the mortgage loan balance to approximately $270,000 as of December 31, 2015. The museum board is hopeful the entire mortgage balance can be paid off by 2017 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the museum by Mrs. Mary Griggs Burke.

The museum board and staff are extremely grateful to our contributors, members and volunteers whose commitment to the Cable Natural History Museum makes it possible to continue to connect people to Northwoods nature through educational experiences that inspire wonder, discovery and responsibility.

Two Year Revenue Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 REVENUE</th>
<th>2014 REVENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$181,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>$78,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraisers</td>
<td>$110,790</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibits/Programs</td>
<td>$36,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum Shop</td>
<td>$17,325</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Income</td>
<td>$14,388</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$438,952</strong></td>
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</table>

2015 EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 EXPENSES</th>
<th>2014 EXPENSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>$285,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits/Programs</td>
<td>$20,668</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest &amp; Fees</td>
<td>$17,226</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$22,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Expenses</td>
<td>$38,676</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$384,559</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### BOARD, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very Important Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne Miller, Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill McKinney, Vice Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Johnson, Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey McKinney, Secretary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elizabeth Aase, Patty Anderson, Marsha Besch, Joe Brady, Ron Caple, Jack Carlson, Mimi Crandall, John Hand, Larry Hanson, Ed Johnston, Tom Matthiae, Pris Nei, Carolyn Owen, Deb Pyne

### Museum Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deb Nelson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jayme Morey &amp; Diane Kraemer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Stone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections Assistants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Thurn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Teacher/Naturalist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsa Hansen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Weber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalist/Curator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MuseumMobile Educator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leslie Strapon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beda McKinney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bookkeeper/Office Manager/Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Kudlas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kellie Solberg &amp; Mollie Kreb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections Monitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Naturalist Interns</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Museum Staff**

**Deb Nelson**
*Museum Director*

**Emily Stone**
*Naturalist/Education Director*

**Elsa Hansen**
*Naturalist/Curator*

**Leslie Strapon**
*Bookkeeper/Office Manager/Events*

**John Kudlas**
*Collections Monitor*

www.cablemuseum.org