## Rider Statue Gallops To Gothenburg...Finally!

MATT WEISS, MUSEUM DIRECTOR

For a number of years, the community of Gothenburg has awaited their opportunity to have their very own Pony Express Rider bronze statue. Work had started years ago



Artist/Sculptor Linda Egle working on the clay rendering of her Pony Express Rider creation prior to its molding & bronze casting stages. (Photo courtesy Matt Weiss)

on the project but unfortunately the original commissioned artist passed away before he was able to complete his original design, and everything came to a sudden stop.

In the fall of 2022, the Gothenburg Pony Express Association, Inc. (that's us) donated the bronze "Mochila" statue by Artist/Sculptor George Walbye to the city of Gothenburg in hopes it would encourage other statue projects in the park. It's extremely popular with guests and is located next to the Pony

Express Station.

Fast forward to January of 2024: The annual meeting of the Nebraska division of the National Pony Express Association (the group who reride the original trail every year) met with some exciting news, the Gothenburg statue project was moving forward once again. Nebraskan artist Linda Egle created and designed her own vision of a Pony Express Rider statue and brought along the 1/8th scale clay sculpture for approval. Within weeks Linda had rented a studio in Loveland, Colorado and began the time-consuming tooling process (clay) of the full-size statue. After weeks of long hours, she completed the tooling process and handed over her creation to the bronze foundry company located just blocks away from her rented studio. Coordinators are anticipating a fall of 2025 completion date for the full-size bronze and plans are to locate the statue next to the Gothenburg Pony Express Station in beautiful Ehmen Park Arboretum.

Fund raising for this project will be ongoing until the project is completed. If you would like to help with this project, your tax-deductible donation to the Non-profit 501c3 coordinating this project would be greatly appreciated. The QR code below will directly link you to the donation site.

We're anticipating receipt a 1/8th scale

version of this bronze statue sometime in late May or early June of 2024 that will be proudly displayed in our museum. Donation and informational brochures in regard to the statue project will also be available at the museum or receipt by mail if requested by emailing us at matt@ponyexpressstation. org.



Scan this code to donate toward the statue project. All donations are tax deductible and will go directly toward making this monument a reality for Gothenburg.



A bronze statue depicting a saddle and mochila sits in front of the station in Ehmen Park. It will soon be joined by a life-size XP rider. (Photo courtesy Matt Weiss)