



NYHETER BREVET

A NEWSLETTER

*Published by The Sons of Norway's Valkyrien Lodge in Woodville, WI
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JANUARY—FEBRUARY, 2017

Ord fra din Valkyrien Losje Presidenten

(Words from your Lodge President)

Kjaere Venner,



A sincere thank you for allowing me to serve as your president for the past four years. It has been a true blessing for me to serve in this capacity and to work with our wonderful Valkyrien Lodge family.

Our Lodge is truly a "family" and it has been a great ride. We are very fortunate to have members who are willing to give of their time, talent and treasures to reach our goal as a successful lodge. A huge thank you to each of you for making this past four years so rewarding—not only for our Lodge but for me personally.

As I previously mentioned, it takes individuals, such as all of you, who are willing to lead, volunteer and participate to attain the goals of our Lodge and the Sons of Norway. So, as the gavel is past from me to our new president, we look forward to new ideas, new leadership and a successful and happy 2017. Mange tusen takk !!

Hilsen,

Sandra Olson

Coming Events JANUARY, 2017

Board/Directors Meeting:
Monday, January 9th at 1:00 PM

Monthly Lodge Meeting:
Monday, January 23rd
Snacks at 6:30—Program at 7:00

Installation of Officers

Servers:
Marge Weiske & Randi Hoffman

Coming Events FEBRUARY, 2017

Board /Directors Meeting:
Monday, February 6 at 1:00 PM

Monthly Lodge Meeting:
Monday, February 27th

Chili Cook-Off—get your Chili entry in to the Parish Hall by 6:30 PM .

Parkview Sing Fest
(Followed by the judging of Chili and announcement of winners)

Coming Events MARCH, 2017

Board /Directors Meeting
Monday March 6th at 1:00 PM

Monthly Lodge Meeting:
Monday, March 27th

Building Stave Churches
A Video

Servers:
Sandy Olson & Karen Eicher



VALKYRIEN LODGE 5-053

Woodville, WI.

LIST OF 2017 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

(To be Installed at January 23rd Lodge Meeting)

OFFICERS:

President	Audrey Severson
Vice President	Betty Norvold
Secretary	Sandy Olson
Treasurer	Don Olson

DIRECTORS:

Membership	Gordon & Judy Otterson
Program/Cultural Dir.	Judy Otterson
Newsletter/Publicity and Sunshine	Arlys Olson
Greeters	Pat & Einar Sandom
Historian/Librarian	Babe Jacobson
Language Instructor	Don Olson
Marshals	Judy & Jerry Johnson
Music Director	Chuck Bricton
Social Director	Karen Eicher
Syttende Mai Co-Chairs	Judy Johnson & Susan Faber
Technical Director	Jerry Johnson
Counselors	Sandra Olson, Carmen Peterson Audrey Halverson
Financial Benefits	Tom Kunkle

2017

Valkyrien Lodge Officers & Directors

President:

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Financial Benefits Counselor:

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olsondon@hughes.net or call Arlys at 715-235-8272.

LODGE LINES

A FEW WORDS FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT—AUDREY SEVERSON

We thank Sandra Olson for her four years of service as president. I take the office of president with great apprehension to follow in her footsteps but am willing to give her a break.



I always thought our lodge name was unusual and maybe you do not know what Valkryien means either. It is from Norse mythology where it talks about Valkyries who were beautiful young maidens and supernatural gods. They wore helmets and armor, while carrying shields and spears and riding on a horse. Their job was to find the bravest warriors killed in battle and take them to an afterlife hall called Valhalla. Valkyries would serve them feasts there every night.

While most of us are not young any more, we still can think of ways to serve others. A lodge should be active and involved in the community. With a healthy balance in our account, I would like to see us give back to the community by financially supporting local charities or doing service activities. If you have a suggestion in this regard, please let the board know. We can also serve better if we are physically fit—so I will encourage you to participate in our Sports Medal Program this year. This will help get motivated!

We want the lodge to be fun, interesting and educational with its fellowship. Our monthly programs are being planned and soon will be printed. Any suggestions you may have, please tell the board. Our January meeting will be installation of officers, awarding of sports medals and certificates, naming the Lutefisk Eating Contest winners and a look at a new book called *Hidden Heroes: WW II in Norway*. February snow will be great for the Barnebirke (children's ski race) in Hayward on Thursday, Feb. 23. All lodges in our state are asked to supply cookies for the children to enjoy after their race on Thursday morning. You can donate nut-free (and peanut butter-free) cookies or give a monetary donation, as well as volunteering to help on race day. For our February 27th meeting, we will have a Chili Cook-Off Contest that our District 5 has organized. (*See more information about the contest in this issue.*) Weather permitting, I hope to see you at the January and February activities.

Wishing everyone a healthy and happy 2017.

Vennlig hilsen,

Audrey Severson, President

AN UPDATE ON MASSE MORO CAMP

Following the District 5 Convention held in June of last year, there has been a flurry of activity coming from administrators who oversee District 5's youth summer heritage camp, Masse Moro. New marketing materials have been written and the website has been redesigned. If you would like to see the updates that have been made to the website, search MasseMoro.org. A camp CD is available to purchase at this website—it is also listed on the sonsofnorway5.com website. One goal of the Masse Moro team is to cast a wider net in 2017 to attract campers from all of the Sons of Norway's Districts. The District 5 Team include Cheryl Wille-Schlessler, Kaia Ellis and Sarah Barnes. *Editor's Note; This camp, which is near Eau Claire, WI, is a wonderful location for young people to come together and learn Norwegian culture,, language while making many new friends.*

LODGE LINES

Sons of Norway's District 5 First Annual Chili Cook-off



There are as many different types of chili as there are members of each Lodge in District 5. Share your best recipe in the First Annual Chili Cook-off. Our February 20th meeting will be the date for our very own contest. Bring your chili to the Zion Parish Hall at 6:30 PM before the Sing Fest at Parkview. Entry forms will be available at our January 23rd meeting. The winners will get their names (and maybe even a picture) on the District 5 website, a blue ribbon, a certificate and best of all ...“bragging rights” for the year. Yum yum join the fun!

December Meeting

Christmas Party at the Lesteruds

We had a wonderful time at the home of Erling and Mary Lesterud on December 13th.



Above - Mary (left) greets the first diners (Sylva Anderson and Betty Larson) who come through for the potluck meal. Lots of Norwegian goodies were on the menu.



Strange & Interesting Facts About Norway

From sofn.com/blog—10/11/ 2016

Norway is a beautiful country with a long and interesting history. But in addition to its interesting history and reputation for being friendly, active and spectacularly beautiful, Norway has some distinctively odd characteristics and traditions. Here are just a few intriguing, strange facts about Norway:

(1) It is illegal to die in Longyearbyen the largest city of Spitsbergen which is on the largest island on Norway's Svalbard Archipelago. It is here that death has been banned. If someone falls terminally ill on the islands, they will be sent elsewhere to die. The reason for this is that Svalbard archipelago is far north in the Arctic Circle and experiences frost all year around. As a result, bodies buried there won't decompose. That's why if someone dies here without warning, their final resting place will be elsewhere.

(2) The Norwegian King's Guard features a king penguin. Sir Nils Olav has been the Norwegian King's Guard's mascot since the 1960's. When Lieutenant Nils Egelien visited the Edinburgh Zoo in Scotland he found himself drawn to the penguins there. Shortly thereafter, he arranged for the King's Guard to adopt a king penguin. The current mascot penguin is Nils Olav III.

(3) A Norwegian invented the cheese slicer. Thor Bjorklund invented it in the 1920's after getting frustrated with attempting to make neat slices of cheese.

(4) Ikea beds ...yes, Ikea is a Swedish company, but it still has a fondness for its Scandinavian cousins. The founder, Ingvar Kamprad, is dyslexic. When he was coming up with names for his company's furniture, he found that naming them after existing words and places make them easier for him to identify and, as a result, Ikea beds, wardrobes and hall furniture are all named after places in Norway. Other products are named after places in Sweden, Finland and Denmark. Still other products are named after everything from berries to birds.

(5) The Winter Olympics—In many ways, Norway's victories at the Winter Olympics are hardly a surprise. After all, the country receives a huge amount of snowfall and has a long winter season. Norwegians also have a unique bond with nature, known as “friluftsliv.” However, the degree to which Norwegians dominate cold-weather sports is still astonishing. Norway is the unquestionable champion of the Winter Olympics, having won over 329 gold, silver and bronze medals over the history of the Olympics. Furthermore, Norway has won the most number of gold medals over the history of the Olympics with 118 gold medals. The U.S. comes in second with a total of 96 gold medals. Suffice to say, Norwegians rock the Winter Olympic events.