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### Trustee (2015-2017)

Martin Lieber

### Trustee (2016-2018)

Carl Rasmussen

### Vennligfolk Lodge

meets the second

Sunday evening, 7:00 pm

September thru May  
at Saint Paul's

United Methodist Church  
600 Wilshire Blvd  
Stevens Point Wisconsin

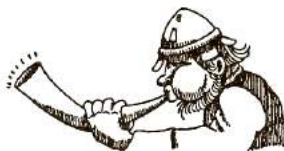
# Vennligblad

Friendly pages for the 'friendly people' of Vennligfolk and their friends  
Sons of Norway Lodge #5-627 for Central Wisconsin,  
Stevens Point, Whiting and Plover, Wisconsin

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 3

MAI OG JUNI 2016

Fra  
presidenten:



SONS OF  
NORWAY



## Happy Spring and Happy Syttende Mai!

I was reading up on this important Norwegian holiday recently, and thought I would share a bit of the information I learned.

The 17th of May has often been compared to the Fourth of July in the United States as a celebration of independence. It actually commemorates the anniversary date of the Constitution of Norway which was adopted in 1814. For over four centuries Norway had been a Danish possession, but following a military defeat of the Danes by the Swedes in 1813, Norway had been "handed over" to the Swedes. Well, you can imagine how the Norwegians felt about that! After gathering a group of 112 officials, merchants, and farmers, a new constitution was drawn up that gave Norway virtual independence. This new constitution was signed on May 17, 1814.

But that's not the end of the story. Norway was declared a "free, independent kingdom, united with Sweden" for almost another century. But the constitution had inspired the Norwegians to keep up the pressure to be a truly independent nation. Finally, Sweden saw the light after almost going to war

with Norway over this, and Sweden recognized Norway's independence in September, 1905.

Now for a bit of family humor . . . My 100% Norwegian father always told his kids that May 17th was the day when "one Norwegian lost his independence." Yes, May 17th, 1941 was the day when my parents were married! In later years, my parents enjoyed celebrating their anniversary by traveling to Norwegian communities like Stoughton and Iola. It was always a special day when they celebrated their anniversary and Syttende Mai together.

We are coming up to a very busy time for our **Vennligfolk Lodge**. Our biggest fundraiser is on May 7th at the Portage County Cultural Festival held at SPASH. This requires a lot of volunteers to be successful. Included in this newsletter is the list of baked goods and the working schedule that so many of you signed up for. Mange takk! If you didn't get a chance to sign up yet, you are not too late. Just give me a call or send me an email telling me what you would like to do.

I am excited about our upcoming Midt-sommer Picnic scheduled for June 21st at the South New Hope Church. It's such a charming Norwegian setting to have our picnic! Ron & Charlotte Hensler have

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Gratulerer

med

dagen

May

Rachel Favor - 1  
Ozz Hagen - 4  
Helene Anderson - 12  
Cress Williamson - 14

June

Louise Lang – 24



## What's Happening at Vennligfolk???

**REMEMBER:** Vennligfolk Lodge meets the second Sunday evening, 7:00 pm September through May at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church, 600 Wilshire Blvd, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

### May 7, 2016 (Saturday): "Portage County Cultural Festival"

As announced at Vennligfolk's April meeting, the Lodge is again a registered participant in the major community event. Please look at the information on page 3 and see where you fit in. Remember, this event is Vennligfolk's major fund raising event for 2016.

### May 8, 2016 (Sunday - Mors Dag):

#### "Scandinavian Roadshow"

Vennligfolk's Planning Committee envisions a *Scandinavian Roadshow* with members invited to **bring their Scandinavian wares** – crystal, antiques, gifts from ancestors, jewelry, Kösta Boda, books, pewter, silver, stitchery, crafts **and sharing the history, origin, or stories** behind the pieces. Hopefully we can coax a few to bring mothers, daughters & family to see & share also. Several members have indicated a willingness to bring their "special item" and each should plan to tell about the item in a few short minutes! Contact Susan Morton if you haven't signed up to be a presenter.

**Greeter:** Cindy Kluck

**Servers:** Cindy Kluck and Sherry & Martin Lieber

### June 21, 2016 (Tuesday):

#### "Midtsommer Fest"

Vennligfolk members and friends are welcome to *Midtsommer* at the **South New Home Church**, located at 1410 County Road "T" Amherst Junction, Wisconsin on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 5:30 p.m. We will enjoy a potluck meal, a game or two of KUBB, and possibly an outdoor bonfire (weather permitting). In any event, great Norsk fellowship will be enjoyed. A meat dish will be provided by the Lodge so please bring either a dessert or salad or rolls with a RSVP to Ron & Charlotte Hensler (715) 592-4916 no later than Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Coordination of the "potluck" is essential. **Directions to SNH Church** are as follows: **Take US Hiway #10 east out of Stevens Point. To Wisc. Hiway #161 to County Road "T" and go north on "T" for approximately one mile to the church.** Also, check out: <http://www.southnewhope.org>.

### Looking ahead ...

**September 11, 2016 (Sunday)** - Vennligfolk member **Marv Lang** is tentatively scheduled to speak on *The Sons of Norway - the organization and its history*.

**October 9, 2016 (Sunday)** - The Planning Committee is working on this date (**Leif Erikson Day**) along with other meeting dates for the fall schedule.

#### Continued from page 1

agreed to head up the planning committee for Midtsommer, but we do need more volunteers to help with the planning. Please let the Henslers know if you would like to join in the planning of this fun event.

In closing, I will share one more bit of personal information. Many of you know that Arno and I had planned on going to Norway this month. Our tour was all set up and paid for, and I had just bought new luggage for our trip when we were informed that our tour had been cancelled due to not having the minimum required number of people sign up for this particular tour. But all is well! When looking at other available tours, Arno and I found a new one for 2017 that is the one we hope to take. In fact, Arno is more excited about the 2017 tour than the one we had planned on taking. Somehow, things do work out!

*Vennlig hilsen, Susan Morton*

### Sugar Cookie Dessert Pizza

Adapted from *allrecipes.com*, yields 10-12 servings



#### Ingredients

- ½ cup butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp cream of tartar
- ¼ tsp salt
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ tsp salt
- ½ cup sugar
- 1¼ cups all purpose flour
- ½ tsp baking powder
- 1 package of cream cheese
- 8 oz whipped topping, thawed
- ¼ cup confectioners' sugar
- assortment of favorite fruits

**Tips:** Arrange your favorite red and blue berries on top of the pizza to make a festive flag design for Syttende Mai! Pressed for time? Instead of making the cookie crust from scratch, substitute prepackaged sugar cookie dough.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cream together butter and ½ cup sugar in a large bowl until smooth. Add egg and mix. In a separate bowl combine flour, cream of tartar, baking soda and salt and add to creamed mixture until well blended. Press cookie dough into an ungreased pizza pan\*. Bake for roughly 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. While the crust cools, beat cream cheese, whipped topping and ¼ cup confectioners' sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy. Spread on cooled cookie crust. Cut crust into desired serving portions. Add fresh fruit to the top of the crust, making sure excess liquid is removed from fruit beforehand. Chill until ready to serve.



\*Double crust to make a 9"x13" dessert pizza.

**Quote of the day:** I don't believe God puts us on earth to be ordinary  
- Lou Holtz

**Scripture of the day:** "Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet My unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor My covenant of peace be removed."  
- Isaiah 54:10

#### On a lighter note:

"I have six locks on my door all in a row. When I go out, I lock every other one. I figure no matter how long somebody stands there picking the locks, they are always locking three." And finally, "The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans is suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they are okay, then it's you."

### Cultural Fest

Saturday, May 7, 2016

#### Worker Schedule

Helping with lefse preparation at Lois & Ozz Hagen's home Saturday Morning:

Jane Gjevre, Bea Berg,  
Carl & Lynn & Erin Rasmussen,  
Cindy Kluck & Karlee

9:00 - 1:00 Mark Hansen, Con Favor  
10:00 - 1:00 Marv Lang, Joyce & Francis Polson  
12:00 - 3:00 Jan Flatoff, Elaine Anderson  
1:00 - 4:00 Arno Morton, Jane Gjevre  
3:00 - 5:00 (incl. take down & clean up)  
Lois Hagen, Jerry Ugland

**Lefse "rollers"**- Ozz Hagen, Carl Rasmussen,  
Erin Rasmussen, Milo Harpstead,  
Ron Hensler

#### Baked Goods

Rosettes: Karen Trzebiatowski  
Krumkaka: Jane Gjevre  
Kringla/Puff Pastry: Lynn Rasmussen  
Susan Morton  
Sandbakkels: Elaine Anderson, Jan Flatoff  
Fattigman: Birdie Grannum  
Almond cake: Joyce Polson, Diane Beversdorf  
Norsk Sugar Cookies: Rachael Favor

#### Other items:

Svenska Kaffe Bröd: Louise Lang  
Charlotte Hensler  
Premade lefse rounds: Carl Rasmussen,  
Ron Hensler,

**Cash Donation** in lieu of baked goods:  
Milo Harpstead, Jerry Ugland

Please bring baked goods to SPASH by 9:00 that morning or drop off at Morton's on Friday after 3:00 pm. [440 Cross Bow Drive - Plover; (715) 341-7248] If you are unable to fulfill your commitment, please call Susan at the above number or (715)570-9003.

This activity is the Lodge's fundraiser for the year. Your help is necessary, needed and most appreciated.

**Vennligfolk Sons of Norway** has again been assigned to MAIN HALL (GYM) area - Parking will be available in West Lot of SPASH. Remember to wear a baseball cap or scarf.





## The Book Nook ... Jan Flatoff, Librarian



Ole was given a penguin. He asked Lars what he ought to do with it. Lars told him he should take it to the zoo. The next day Lars saw Ole and the penguin walking down the street. He said "Ole, I thought you were going to take that penguin to the zoo." Ole answered, "I did, and today I'm going to take him to the ball game!"

### FEATURED BOOK

*The Kingdom of the Rings* by Duane R. Lindberg, PhD

Ringerike (Kingdom of The Rings) and Ringsaker (Field of Rings) are ancient (pre-Viking) kingdoms in Norway set along the "Pilgrim's Way" (*pilegrimsleden*) to where the healing springs flowed from the grave of martyred King St. Olaf. This story is built around three interlocking golden rings discovered in the Magi's gift to the Christ Child. They are separated in the thirteenth century while being carried by an Alexandrian Coptic Christian seeking healing from leprosy. The Rings are handed down through the centuries until they reappear in America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in the possession of two Norwegian families and a family descended from Egyptian Mamelukes. Each ring holds a secret meaning . . . and when they are rejoined the whole world will be blessed. (Taken from the back cover)

### VENNLIGFOLK LIBRARY UPDATE

Our collection has grown by leaps and bounds, especially lately! This is due to donations from several members. Recent donations have been by Gene Numsen and Karen Trzebiatowski; Karen has donated over 50 books, CDs and videos. Our collection now includes approximately 170 items:

- \* fiction books – both contemporary and historical
- \* nonfiction books – mostly about Norway/Norwegians and Norwegians in America
- \* books about learning the Norwegian language, Norwegian food, Norwegian art, and humor
- \* CDs – Edvard Grieg's music, songs with Norwegian or English lyrics, and one with stories
- \* DVDs and VHS videos – fiction and nonfiction/historical
- \* periodicals – with articles about Scandinavia

One book, *Reckless Courage*, and several CDs are not on the cart or signed out. If you have any of them, please return them to the cart (or Jan) as soon as possible.

I encourage everyone to check out the great books, videos, and CDs in our collection! May would be a great time to check out a CD to listen to over the summer.

### Norway Announces Plan to Create Bicycle Expressways

Norway has announced its plan to spend NOK 8 billion (almost \$1 billion) developing bicycle expressways in nine of its largest cities. This plan is part of a larger national transit initiative to reduce pollution in Norway and cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030.



The bicycle expressways will serve as commuter tracks linking the outer suburbs with the downtown areas where many people work. The purpose of the project is to help increase the amount of bicycle commuters and diversify transportation in the larger cities. These extensions will make commuting from the countryside possible by connecting the city biking networks with the suburbs. These expressways will allow cyclists to maintain a consistent pace and reach speeds of 30 - 40 kph (approximately 17-25 mph), making the longer commutes from the suburbs to the cities easier to manage. The tracks will also only be accessible by bicycles and electric bicycles, so commuting will be much safer and more efficient with the absence of cars.

Ten two-lane tracks in and around Norway's nine largest cities have been proposed in the National Transport Plan. The Oslo area will get two expressways, while eight other major cities will receive one, including: Bergen, Trondheim, Nord-Jæren, Nedre Glomma, Buskerudbyen, Grenland, Kristiansand and Tromsø.

(Continued on page 8)

## Celebrating Midtsommer

Is your family ready for *Midtsommer*? The June 24<sup>th</sup> holiday is a prime opportunity to bring a little Norwegian culture to the middle of summer. What started as a pagan celebration to wake up the ground after winter has now grown into a full celebration complete with its own traditions. Here are a few favorite Midtsommer customs that you can easily bring into your household!

At its heart, *Midtsommer* celebrations are about connecting with the outdoors. In the past, girls would pick wildflowers and put them under their pillows at night in hopes of future good luck. Your family can easily adapt this tradition to today by taking a hike outside to enjoy a break from the normal hustle and bustle of modern life.



In another Norwegian tradition, many homes are decorated with flowers and plants gathered from the day's hike. Decorating your

own home with plants gathered with your own family is a fun way to get the whole family involved in a popular Norwegian custom – just be careful about which plants you're gathering!

A good *Midtsommer* celebration has to include a bonfire. In pre-Christian times, bonfires were thought to awaken the Earth after its winter slumber. Today they're a great way to bring the family together and bridge the gap between Norwegian and American customs.

Just like here, many *Midtsommer* bonfires in Norway include hot dogs and s'mores, something that will likely be a big hit with your family at home. However, good food is always popular and *Midtsommer* is no exception. Don't be afraid to incorporate other Norwegian recipes into your celebration, too. The online Recipe Box on the Sons of Norway website is a great place to start.



Finally, once you have the family together around the bonfire and you've had your fill of food, share some Norwegian folktales. Tales of Viking adventures or trolls make for great bonfire tales and could spark an interest in your kids' Norwegian roots. The Members' Section of the Sons of Norway website is a great place to start your search for bonfire stories!

However your family celebrates *Midtsommer*, make it a special evening!

## Did you Know?

Think you know everything there is to know about Norway? Test your knowledge with these unique facts.

**1. Norway introduced salmon sushi to the Japanese** in the 80s. It may seem hard to believe that what is now a staple ingredient in sushi, was actually the result of a successful seafood export initiative called "Project Japan" from the Norwegian seafood delegation in the late 80s.

**2. Norway knighted a penguin.**

The result of a unique and long relationship between Hans Majestet Kongens Garde (His Majesty The King's Guard) and Scotland's Edinburgh Zoo, Sir Nils Egelién, a king penguin, was knighted by British Maj. Gen. Euan Loudon with the king's sword on behalf of H.M. King Harald V in 2008. A citation from the king read aloud at the ceremony described Nils as "in every way qualified to receive the honor and dignity of knighthood."

**3. 8.2% of people in Norway eat tacos every Friday.** Forget about "taco Tuesday," according to a study conducted by VG in 2012 400,000 Norwegians take part in the cultural phenomenon of "fredagstaco," enjoying tacos as their Friday dinner of choice.

**4. Norway experienced a butter crisis in 2011.**

A combination of low milk production and high demand led to a butter shortage and price inflation, causing a single 8.8 oz. pack of butter to cost \$50.

**5. The red sky in Edvard Munch's "The Scream"** is likely attributed to the eruption of the Krakatoa volcano in Indonesia. Using Munch's own journals to pinpoint the site that inspired the artist as well as known astronomical phenomena in the period, researchers connected the 1893 eruption to the blood-red sky described by Munch and depicted in his painting.

**6. The Norwegian government purchases 1,000 copies** of all qualifying books and 1,550 children's books published in Norway to distribute them to libraries. Arts Council Norway funds the endeavor to lend support to small publishers and writers.

**7. King Olav V of Norway often drove himself** and used public transportation. Known as the "People's King," the late King Olav V enjoyed driving his own car in public lanes without escort. In a show of support for his countrymen who were encouraged to use public transportation during the oil crisis in 1973, he famously boarded a public train by himself, carrying his own set of skis and paying for his own ticket.



## Tubfrim ...

Please remember to bring your used postage stamps to the next **Vennligfolk** meeting. Stamps are to be trimmed from the envelope leaving 1/4" free around all edges.

Sven and Ole were out deer hunting and became separated. It started getting darker and the two were wandering around in the woods. After several hours, they found each other. "Ole," Sven said, "We've talked about dis. If we get separated, fire a shot in the air so da utter fella can find you." "Ya, I know dat," mutter Ole, "but I was out of arrows."

*a little in English...*

## She Has Students All Over the World

Teacher Else Magerøy has the whole world as her workplace. At home in Volda, she teaches seventh graders in over ten different countries.

### Informative

"This job is incredibly exciting. I've learned a lot about countries I hardly knew anything about," she says. Haakon Rønn Stensæth in Samoa is one of her students, but all of the continents are represented in her class. "The challenge in this job is to give proper feedback, both positive and negative. It is also important to adapt the amount of content and tasks so that there won't be too much—or too little," she points out. Meanwhile, she must take into account that the students are located in different time zones. Therefore the students determine when they do school work. "We make weekly schedules that we put out every Friday, and so they have a deadline ten days later," explains Magerøy.

### Supplemental schooling

The teacher from Volda is one of ten part-time teachers who work for Global School. They are spread across the country. In Hamar, Egersund, Drangedal, Hornindal, Skjervøy and Sørumsund teachers sit and teach students in Bangkok, Perth, Montreal, San Francisco and over 50 other locations around the world. "We have built up gradually," explains administrative manager Helge Standal. The first year—in 1998—the school had 15 students in 6th and 9th grades. Now the school is about to exceed 300 students in 60 different countries. "Most students use this schooling in addition to visiting national or international schools where they live," says Standal.

### Challenges

What distinguishes Globalskolen from an ordinary school—besides the distance between teacher and pupil—are the interactive capabilities the internet offers. Communication between teacher and student is close and frequent. Text, audio and images are exchanged. In addition, discussion forums are made use of. "But there needs to be a good balance between distance learning and book-related tasks," says Else Magerøy. "And parents have a good overview. They can go in and read children's assignments and teachers' evaluations any time. "We obviously can't control what kind of help and input they get from parents, but it gives us a good sense of what level students are at - even if we never see them."

*litt på norsk...*

## Hun har elever fra hele verden

Lærer Else Magerøy har hele verden som arbeidsplass. Hjemme i Volda underviser hun syvendeklassinger i over ti forskjellige land.

### Lærerikt

Denne jobben er utrolig spennende. Jeg har lært veldig mye om land jeg knapt visste noe om, forteller hun. Haakon Rønn Stensæth på Samoa er en av hennes elever, men i klassen er alle kontinenter representert. - Utfordringen i denne jobben er å gi skikkelig tilbakemelding, både positiv og negativ. Det er også viktig å tilpasse stoffmengden og oppgavene slik at det ikke blir for mye - eller for lite, poengterer hun. Samtidig må hun ta hensyn til at elevene befinner seg i ulike tidssoner. Derfor bestemmer elevene selv når de skal gjøre skolearbeidet. - Vi lager ukeplaner som vi legger ut hver fredag, og så har de leveringsfrist på oppgavene ti dager senere, forklarer Magerøy.

### Supplement

Volda-læreren er en av ti deltidslærere som arbeider for Globalskolen. De er spredd over hele landet. I Hamar, Egersund, Drangedal, Hornindal, Skjervøy og Sørumsund sitter lærere og underviser elever i Bangkok, Perth, Montreal, San Francisco og over 50 andre steder rundt omkring i verden. - Vi har bygd oss gradvis opp, forklarer administrativ leder Helge Standal. Det første året - i 1998 - hadde skolen 15 elever i 6. og 9. klasse. Nå er skolen i ferd med å passere 300 elever i 60 forskjellige land. - De aller fleste elevene bruker dette skoletilbudet i tillegg til å gå på nasjonale eller internasjonale skoler der de bor, forteller Standal.

### Utfordringer

Det som skiller Globalskolen fra ordinær skole - bortsett fra avstanden mellom lærer og elever - er de interaktive mulighetene nettet gir. Kommunikasjonen mellom lærer og elev er tett og hyppig. Skrift, lyd og bilder blir utvekslet. I tillegg brukes diskusjonsforumet flittig. - Men det bør være en god balanse mellom nettbasert læring og bokrelaterte oppgaver, poengterer Else Magerøy. Og foreldrene har god oversikt. De kan gå inn å lese barnas oppgaver og lærernes evalueringer hele tiden. - Hva slags hjelp og innspill de får fra foreldrene kan vi selvsagt ikke kontrollere, men etter hvert får vi en god følelse av hvilke nivå elevene er på - selv om vi aldri ser dem.

Source: <http://www.aftenposten.no/jobbb/Hun-har-elever-fra-hele-verden-6325754.html>

♪ ♪ *The Nidelven Story* ♪ ♪

(This article was translated from Norwegian by Lee Paulson of Granite Falls, Minnesota and appeared in the April 1978 issue of Sons of Norway's *Viking* magazine.)

*Norwegian underground worker during the Nazi's occupation of Norway, Oskar Hoddø, learned that his identity had just been revealed to Nazi headquarters and that he must flee to Sweden without a moment's delay. However, he was determined to see his wife and two year old daughter Eva once more. He left immediately for Trondheim and ...*

\* \* \* \* \*

Oskar Hoddø had stood on the deck as the ferry boat from Leksvika docked at the pier in Trondheim on Sunday night. He could not see anything suspicious there in the darkness and walked quickly toward Sand Street. He kept turning his head to see if he was being followed. By Tordenskjolds Street, he went over to Museum Place and continued on over the footbridge toward Stadion. Soon he arrived at Nidaros Street, where he lived with his family in an apartment owned by the banker, Hølst.

Inger sat up and waited for Oskar. As always, it made him feel good to see how happy she became when he returned. She took him in to the baby's crib. Little Eva lay there and slept with her blond hair forming a halo against the pillow. He bent over and kissed her warmly on the cheek.

"She has asked about you the whole day," said Inger. "Now you must not leave us more often than on the weekends."

"If I don't have to go and be away for awhile," said Oskar seriously.

"Must you flee?" asked Inger, afraid. She had seen that there was something bothering Oskar when he arrived. "Not before I have taken care of Adding," he said. (Carl Adding was the double agent who had turned Oskar's name into the Nazis.)

"What do you mean 'take care of' him?" asked Inger. "It must be either him or me. One of us will not come out of this alive," responded Oskar.

"You frighten me."

"We won't talk about it any more."

"Why am I kept in the dark about what is going on?"

"You know very well it is for the best."

"What is in the bag?"

Oskar took out a sack of flour, a container of butter, a piece of goat cheese and a package of coffee.

"Heavens! Have you been to Sweden?"

"No, just a little food hunt."

"You must have been successful," said Inger. She filled the

coffee pot with water and set it on the burner.

"The iron," said Inger.

"Oh yes, I'd forgotten," said Osker. "How long have we talked about this?"

"Much too long, I think. Is it completely unusable?"

"Bring it here and I will look at it."

While Inger set the table, Oskar took the iron apart, fastened a loose connection and put the iron back together again. They sat at the coffee table and talked. It was past twelve o'clock when they went to bed.

"I have no desire to sleep," said Inger.

"You have drunk too much coffee," was Oskar's retort.

"No, not on that account. Can you sing a little for me?"

Oskar had an unusually fine voice. It was perhaps for that reason that it had been decided when he was still a young child that he would go into the ministry. But he left his theological studies in Oslo and went to Göteborg and attended the two year technological course there instead. He also played the piano and had traveled on several tours with Book-Jensen. (Book-Jensen was a popular singer in Norway at that time and Oskar had gone on singing tours with him.)

"What shall I sing, Inger?"

"Sing my song!"

In 1940, Oskar and Inger had become engaged. As some-times happens they had a little lovers' spat. One summer night during the lovers' spat, Oskar stood on the "Old City Bridge" and wrote the words to "Nid River" on the back side of an envelope. It goes like this:

*Far in the distance behind mountains blue,  
There lies a place I love dear.  
There all my thoughts and my dreams wander, too.  
Always you seem to be near.*

*Nid River beautiful, silent you are,  
Here where I walk in dreamland.  
Dreaming of her that I love most of all,  
Now it is only memories.*

*The old city bridge was the portal of love,  
Together we sailed under stars up above,  
Nid River beautiful, silent you are,  
Here where I walk in dreamland.*

Before Oskar went to sleep that summer morning, he began composing melody for his poem. (Eventually Christian Christiansen and Kjell Rian would collaborate with Oskar on

(continued on page 8)



The old City Bridge over Nidelva



Vennligfolk Lodge #5-627  
 Marv Lang, *Editor*  
 3015 Cherry Street  
 Stevens Point, WI 54481 U.S.A.



**Sunday, May 8, 2015**  
**“Scandinavian Roadshow”**  
**Precious heirlooms and antiques**

**Tuesday, June 21, 2016**  
**“Midtsommer Fest”**  
**at South New Hope Church**

(continued from page 7)

the music to which his poem was set.) He didn't know that the song he had composed would make him immortal and that his own composition of “*Nidelven*” would become known the world over.



“It was your voice I fell for,” said Inger, when he had finished singing *Nidelven* to her. “Didn't I have anything else you could fall for?” laughed Oskar.

“I didn't mean it that way. You should have been an opera singer.”

“I will have to satisfy myself to be a funeral singer.”

“Don't talk about deaths and burials,” pleaded Inger. “Let's be nice tonight.”

*(The Nidelven Story will be concluded in the next issue of Vennligblad)*

*Vennligblad*, the official newsletter of **Sons of Norway's Vennligfolk Lodge (#5-627)**, is published at the beginning of the odd-numbered months of the year. If you have an item of interest to **Vennligfolk** members, please submit it to the Editor by the 15th of the even-numbered months. You may send it to Marv Lang at 3015 Cherry Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481 or by e-mail to [cmlang@charter.net](mailto:cmlang@charter.net).



*Mange Tusen Takk*  
 Marv Lang, *Editor*

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Because of Norway's mountainous landscape, cold climate and inclement weather conditions, there obviously is some opposition to the project. Many of those opposed claim that Norway's climate and landscape could create unrealistic cycling conditions, especially during the winter months.

However, proponents believe that the expressway project is a positive step toward Norway's transition away from high-emission forms of transportation. And, if they're successful the expressways could help reduce pressure on other heavily-used transportation systems such as roadways and public transit.



Although bicycling only accounted for 5 percent of daily transportation usage in 2014, Norway is looking to increase this number to have bicycling account for 10-20 percent of all daily trips in the nine major cities where the expressways have been proposed.

**The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.**