



the ASKELOADDEN news

Sons of Norway • Askeladden Lodge 5-610 • Kalamazoo, Michigan

A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Norway

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

February 2020

02-20

Meetings:

Sept - April: 2nd Sundays, 2 p.m.

May only: 3rd Sunday, 2 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

504 S. Westnedge Ave

Kalamazoo, MI

Officers:

President: Gail Thompson-Hadley

(269) 845-2265

ghadley@iusb.edu

Secretary/Acting Membership

Secretary: Judy Hande-Skutnick

(269) 903-8386

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Vice-President/Editor:

Joan O'Bryan

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Treasurer:

Curtis Cleveland

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cacleve82@att.net

Cultural Director:

Holly Jensen

1453 Spruce Drive

Kalamazoo MI 49008

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hollyjensen@yahoo.com

Affiliation:

Sons of Norway International

1455 West Lake St.

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Andy Johnsen, President,

Sons of Norway District 5;

Director, District 5 Zone 6

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Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan

1 (800) 442-4146

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Lodge contact info:

Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com

(269) 350-3330

Sunday, February 9

2 p.m.

Scandinavian Travelogue

Presented by Teri Koretsky Trinity Lutheran Church

The Askeladden Lodge February program and meeting will begin at 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall in the lower level of Trinity Lutheran Church, 504 South Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, with a potluck buffet in Fellowship Hall in the basement. **Please bring a dish, hot or cold, to share** with other members and guests. Coffee and water will be available. Table service will be provided. Please enter from the South entrance. Ring the buzzer at the left of the doors if you wish to use the elevator.

Following our meal and fellowship with members and guests, you are invited to enjoy a travelogue slide show of Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway where Teri Koretsky visited last year. Teri's program is expected to begin about 3 p.m. Teri won the drawing in 2018 for the Norway trip.

After the program, at 4 p.m., Askeladden members are encouraged to attend a lodge business meeting. The main items on the agenda are the Installation of the 2020 officers, election of the Auditing Committee, election of the 2020 Convention Delegates and Alternates, and a summary of our planned Spring programs and events. The corrected 2020 officers and position holders are listed in this newsletter.

The public is invited to both the meal and the cultural program.

Start the new year correctly by attending the first lodge meeting of the year and if possible, bring a friend. Share our Facebook event with them so they have all the details.

The new Board of Directors will meet to discuss program plans for 2020 and a couple of other items following the business meeting.



The second Sunday in February is Mother's Day in Norway. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there.

Photo from bakersbrigade.com

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Askeladden Lodge 2020 scholarships

Joyce Hare, Scholarship Chairperson

If you have children or grandchildren starting college next year or continuing as an undergraduate student, they can be considered for a scholarship from Askeladden Lodge. The 2020 budget allows for up to three \$1,000 scholarships.

Applications and required documents for the 2020 Askeladden Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarships are due to Joyce Hare by March 15, 2020. The online application form and guidelines are available to download by clicking [here](#) and hard copies will be at the February and March meetings.

Please contact Joyce Hare at (269) 327-5824 with any inquiries.

Fra Sportsdirektøren

Curt Osborn, Sports & Recreation Director

In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of Sons of Norway, District 5 has issued a sports/physical challenge to all lodges. It also supports our youth heritage camp, Masse Moro. Lodge members are encouraged to keep track of the miles walked, ran, swam, cycled, skied, or accumulated through other activities using a pedometer, Fit Bit or similar device. All ages can participate, including Heritage members. Heritage (youth) members may wear pedometers during their practices, games, and tournaments to collect additional miles for our lodge.

The Challenge began November 1, 2019, and goes through June 15, 2020. The challenge's objective is to track an individual's miles from various sporting activities and obtain the Lodge's aggregate total. The goal is to match the virtual distance from Askeladden Lodge to Minneapolis, MN (where Sons of Norway was founded, 604 miles) and then to Ringsaker, Norway where this year's International Lodge Meeting and Convention will be held (3,984 miles) for a combined Lodge effort of 4,588 miles.

As Sportsdirektøren, I will track Askeladden Lodge's progress and submit our member's efforts to District 5's Sports & Recreation Director. Please mail or email me with the following: Participant's Name, Activity Type, and Miles attained. You can also vie for your sports medal as well. Participants may choose to find sponsors who will donate an amount per mile for their efforts, or we may opt to give a donation on behalf of our athletes. Monies will be deposited into the District 5 Nordic Legacy Foundation, with the intent of providing funding to Masse Moro. A suggested minimum contribution of \$50.00 per lodge is encouraged.

Lodge sports directors are encouraged to receive a monthly report from their participants that can be shared with their lodge members at a meeting or by newsletter, telling how many miles have been recorded.

Lodges who complete the challenge will be recognized in the following ways:

- Lodge names and locations will be posted on the District 5 webpage.
- Lodges will receive a certificate suitable for framing in recognition of member efforts.
- Pictures of some active participants will be shared at the District 5 Convention in Madison, WI.

Follow the link for a more thorough explanation:

www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/sports_and_recreation.php

Fra Presidenten

February greetings from your new president...

I am hoping that February 2020 will bring sufficient snow to SW Michigan for me to get out back on my snowshoes and cross-country skis so I can demonstrate my active outdoor winter Norwegian heritage! And if not in Michigan this winter, I know I can enjoy the winter wonderland in northern Wisconsin with my son and family. My 6-year-old grandson and 4-year-old twin grandkids have been frolicking for months on their own little snowshoes, skis and sleds.

I encourage you to join us for our February 9th gathering for good fellowship over a shared potluck meal, Teri's photo tour through the Scandinavian countries, and then a short business meeting. After we have installed our 2020 officers, we will encourage you to join one of our committees. I've been a member of Askeladden Lodge for the past five years, and have discovered the best way to make new friends and be proud of some helpful service is to have an active role in one of our Sons of Norway local lodge committees. We also have several officer positions open and will vote on delegates for the June 24-28, 2020, District 5 convention in Madison.

My family connections to Sons of Norway go way back to about 1912 when my Norway-born Grandpa Theodore was a member of the Peer Gynt lodge, in Los Angeles, established in 1911. My dad, Conrad, was a charter member of Sonja Henie lodge in Lansing for more than 40 years where I also had a family membership.

As we plan our programs for 2020, please ask yourself what it is about the Norwegian character and experience that you most admire – and we will talk about how we can learn more and do more to increase that Norwegian culture in our lives.

Gail Thompson-Hadley



Michigan Nordic Fire Festival February 28 - March 1

The annual Michigan Nordic Fire Festival in Charlotte happens the last weekend of February.

The Festival has expanded with many new events since it first began five years ago. As many as four family-friendly activities to choose from will happen simultaneously all day Saturday and Sunday. The ceremonial burning of a Viking long boat, which gives the festival its name, is planned for Friday evening. Visit the website to get event information, ticket information and volunteer opportunities.

Askeladden Lodge is one of many official sponsors of this event. The Festival organizers are looking for volunteers. Visit their Facebook page or their website to get current event details.

<http://www.michigannordicfirefestival.com>

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Proposed Bylaw changes for our lodge

Gail Thompson-Hadley, President

The Askeladden Board of Directors recently became aware that at the last International Convention, the Sons of Norway voted to change the default makeup of the Local Lodge Board of Directors to include only four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Unless we specify differently in our local lodge bylaws, these four position holders make up our entire board.

Previously our Board consisted of the six positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and Cultural Director or Social Director.

On January 25, the current Board of Directors met to discuss and draft bylaw amendments that would remedy the situation and officially restore the positions we previously had in our Board Makeup.

The proposed amendment reads as follows:

In accordance with Article 4.11.2 of the Sons of Norway Constitution, the elected officers of the lodge shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Cultural Director and Membership Secretary.

In addition, the Board discussed and approved an additional bylaw change regarding our election process. Instead of holding elections annually, we will go to the model of elections every other year, thus position holders will hold office for two years, providing some continuity to our lodge leadership.

The proposed election amendment reads as follows:

In accordance with Article 4.11.6 of the Sons of Norway Constitution, the officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years.

These proposed changes will be distributed and read aloud at the business portion of our February meeting. We will vote on them at a subsequent meeting. Passage requires two thirds vote from all members present at the meeting where the vote is held. Even then, the new bylaws will not take effect until they are approved by the main office and Counsel of Sons of Norway. So in the meantime, we are operating with a four-person Board of Directors. The corrected version of the 2020 Askeladden Officers is presented here.

February Board Meeting

A Board of Directors meeting will be held Sunday, February 9, at Trinity Lutheran Church, immediately following our monthly Lodge meeting to discuss program plans for 2020 and a couple of other items. Interested Lodge members are welcome to attend.

St. Patrick's Day Parade

The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade is Saturday morning, March 14. We provide the costumes as long as you sign up in advance, making it easy for you to participate. You can sign up at the February meeting or contact Joan O'Bryan.

2020 Askeladden Officers

Board of Directors

President - Gail Thompson-Hadley

Vice President - Joan O'Bryan

Secretary - Judy Hande-Skutnick

Treasurer - Curtis Cleveland

Officers

Membership Secretary, Acting - Judy Hande-Skutnick

Cultural Director - Holly Jensen

Social Director - Esther Ann Brown

Sports and Recreation Director - Curt Osborn

Youth Director - Karen Morey

Librarian - Curtis Cleveland

Newsletter Editor - Joan O'Bryan

Newsletter Publisher - vacant

Historian - Curtis Cleveland

Sons of Norway Foundation Director - Curt Osborn

Sunshine Coordinator - Arden Hetletvedt

Publicity Director - vacant

Tubfrim Coordinator - Holly Jensen

Counselor - Elizabeth Kratz

Musician - vacant

Language Instructor - Inger Thoen

Adopt a School Coordinator - vacant

Volunteer Coordinator - vacant

Webmaster - vacant

Committees

Membership - Joan O'Bryan, Chair

Finance - Curtis Cleveland, Chair

Scholarship - Joyce Hare, Chair

Cultural - Holly Jensen, Chair

Social - Esther Ann Brown, Chair

Norway Trip -

Publicity -

Auditing Committee - Joyce Hare, Chair

Nominating - TBD

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway

Contact Curtis Cleveland with questions or to reserve resources.



SONS of NORWAY

Celebrating **125** Years

Askeladden Lodge
507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

FEBRUAR 2020 KALENDER



- Februar 6 - *Samefolkets dag* - Sámi People's Day or Sámi National Day
- Februar 9 - *Morsdag* - Mother's Day in Norway
- Februar 9 - **Askeladden Lodge Meeting, potluck program 2 p.m.**
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Februar 9 - **Board Meeting** immediately following lodge business meeting
- Februar 12 - HH Princess Astrid, 1932
- Februar 14 - Valentine's Day ♥
- Februar 15 - National Flag Day of Canada
- Februar 17 - President's Day, United States
- Februar 20 - Barnebirkie, Hayward, Wisconsin
- Februar 21 - H.M. King Harald V 1937
- Februar 21-22 - American Birkebeiner, Hayward, WI www.birkie.com
- Februar 21 - Last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles
- Feb 28-Mars 1 Michigan Nordic Fire Festival, Charlotte. \$\$\$ Full information at <http://www.michigannordicfirefestival.com>



Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

February Birthdays

Richard Adams

Gail Thompson-Hadley

Barbara Heffner

Elizabeth Kraatz

Karen Kunze

Brent Roble

Crystal Walvoord



The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.