



the Askeladden News



August

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

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

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

No. 08-16

Meetings:

Monthly, most 2nd Sundays, 4 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
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Kalamazoo, MI

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Ice Cream Social

2 p.m. Sunday, August 14

Jensen Residence

Holly Jensen has generously offered to host our Ice Creme Social at her beautiful home at 1453 Spruce Drive in Kalamazoo (off of Oakland Drive, two miles north of I-94) on August 14, beginning at 2 p.m. Please invite a friend and join us for this casual get-together, a joint event with the Kalamazoo VASA Swedish Lodge, which will be held rain or shine.

You will get a chance to experience a menagerie of Holly's beautiful birds in their outdoor aviary and wander through Holly's gardens. Don't bring anything to this event. Everything will be provided for a wonderful ice cream bar.

If you want to join in the badminton, corn hole toss, or washer toss games, wear appropriate shoes.



If you're coming from Portage, turn right onto Spruce from Oakland Drive. If you're coming from Kalamazoo (Howard Street), turn left on Spruce Drive from Oakland. Holly's white Cape Cod home is on the right side of the road and has a circular drive. Whether you park in the drive or on the street, use your parking brake due to the steep slopes.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Remembering Hildy Montgomery

An Askeladden member since 1992, we remember Hildy as such a sweet and extremely talented individual. What a treat if you were lucky enough to receive a hand-made card from Hildy with her original artwork. Hildy was a joyful, positive person who was universally liked and respected among members of our lodge. Our hearts go out to her family, some of whom we are happy to have met at our Lodge events. The following is reprinted from the August 7, 2016, *Battle Creek Enquirer*.

Hildegard Cynthia Montgomery passed away peacefully on July 31, 2016, after a short illness. Born in Iron Mountain, Michigan on November 23, 1930 she was the daughter of Clarence and Hilda Iverson. Hildy was generous with her bright spirit and her warm heart touched many lives. Unconditional love for her family was the foundation of her life and her strong faith inspired every facet of her life. Hildy was known for her steadfast and deep loyalty to her family, her church, and her many friends. As a testimony to her loyal friendships, she received more than 55 cards in the mail on her last birthday.



Hildy was the Valedictorian at Kingsford High School in Iron Mountain, Michigan and graduated summa cum laude from Michigan State University in 1951 with a degree in art education. She met the love of her life, Richard Montgomery at MSU, and they were married on December 22, 1951. They began their new lives in Battle Creek, Michigan. Hildy pursued a 30-year career with the Lakeview School District as an elementary classroom teacher as well as an art teacher. Her love of art continued after retirement. Hildy was an accomplished artist with several galleries representing her work throughout Michigan. She was proud to participate in numerous juried shows and exhibits. After retiring, she and Richard were summer residents in Pentwater, Michigan. Hildy was a member of the Art on the Town Gallery in Pentwater for 19 years. "Grandma Hildy" enjoyed exposing her grandchildren to cultural activities. They did finger paintings on the kitchen floor, attended Broadway shows, and toured art museums from Chicago to Norway.

Hildy is survived by her daughters, Lynn Montgomery of Kalamazoo Michigan, Lisa (Rhodes) Baker of Columbus Ohio, three grandchildren, Melissa Baker Linville (Ryan) of Columbus Ohio, Mark Finazzo of Grand Haven Michigan, and Rhodes Baker Jr. of Bethlehem Pennsylvania.

A Funeral Service will be held 11:00 a.m. Monday, August 15, 2016 at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 114 E. Minges Road, Battle Creek Michigan, 49015 with Rev. Brad Hubbard officiating. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service and a luncheon will be served immediately following the service at the church. A private graveside interment will be held at a later date at Memorial Park Cemetery in Battle Creek, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the PENTWATER TOWNSHIP LIBRARY, 402 East Park Street, Pentwater MI, 49449, or "OUR WORLD FOR CHILDREN SCHOOL", St. Mark Lutheran Church, 114 East Minges Road, Battle Creek MI 49015. Arrangements by Richard A. Henry Funeral Home. See more at: www.henryfuneralhome.org

Unearthed Tomb Indicates Viking Gender Equality

A unique archeological discovery in southwest Denmark reveals stunning new insights about the social status and travels of Viking men and women. Initially unearthed in 2012 as part of an excavation for a highway, the site in Hårup is now known to be a Viking burial ground — complete with a wooden structure identified as a Viking *dødehus*, or death house.

The graves within the *dødehus* belong to a man and woman of high social status and date to 950 A.D. A third grave, which appears to have been added to the main structure later on, belonged to a man. Laid to rest within a wagon—a known practice for Viking women of noble birth—the female Viking was buried with a pair of keys. As physical symbols of her status and power within the household, researchers believe the keys signify her importance within the family. In addition, archeologists were pleased to discover that one of the keys in her possession matches the lock to a rare small shrine in the *dødehus*.

While other excavations in Denmark have yielded indications (grave gifts, lavish clothing) of the elite status that some Viking women may have held, this particular site boasts an important and unique distinction: The couple was buried in the tomb together. "It's very special that the man and woman's graves are marked by the same tomb or palisade. It's unusual that we're able to establish that the man and woman were equals with such certainty," said excavation leader Kirsten Nølleman Nielsen in an interview with Science Nordic. In fact, Nielsen and her team believe the remains are likely those of a pair of rulers, and that the third grave may have belonged to their successor.

In addition to the potential implications on Viking social status, researchers were also excited to discover that some of the items contained in the tomb point to international influences. The grave at Hårup containing Baltic ceramics and silver coins from what is now Afghanistan reinforce the far-reaching connections made by Viking men and women of the time.

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

August Birthdays

Jean Darling
Joyce M. Allworth
Joyce M. Hare
Laura Beckwith
Curtis A. Cleveland
David Code
Svein Thoen
Kate Phillips

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

As we pass the midpoint of summer, I hope all of you are enjoying this wonderful season.

In June, I attended the District 5 Convention in Marshfield, Wisconsin. At this convention, Andy Johnsen was elected the new President of District 5. Andy attended our February 2015 Lodge meeting, escorting the Viking Chest.

At the September Lodge meeting, I will give a detailed report about the convention.

Because of the scheduling of the District 5 Convention, I missed the VASA Midsommarfest on June 25th.

Another event I missed because of scheduling that same week was the Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Trinity Lutheran Church. Norway was the theme of the VBS. Our Lodge helped the VBS, providing flags and access to our library. Svein Thoen was a hit with the kids, talking to them about growing up in Norway.

On July 17th, I made the trip to the Crandall Farm near Marshall to see and ride the Norwegian Fjord Horses. Chris Sitkins and her friend Roxanne Seeber, wife of Pastor Tim Seeber from Zion Lutheran, were guests at this event. It was good seeing Chris.



I hope to see everyone at the Ice Crème Social on August 14th at the Holly Jensen residence. This joint VASA-Sons of Norway event starts at 2 p.m.

The monthly lodge meetings resume on Sunday, September 11th, 4 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church. At the September meeting, we elect the Nominating Committee. Please consider serving on this committee.

Finally, thanks to the Askeladden Lodge members who worked to secure the visit of the **Draken Harald Hårfagre** (a commissioned Viking longship) in South Haven. I know Joan O'Bryan and Sandy Shaffer were involved. Joan has a great book on this Viking longship.

Curtis A. Cleveland, Lodge President

Scottish Festival & Highland Games offers FREE, fun entertainment in Kalamazoo!

The 24th annual Kalamazoo Scottish Festival takes place Saturday, August 27, at Flesher Field in Oshtemo, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This well-organized festival, rich in Scottish culture, has a little of something for everyone - from food to physical activities to a wide variety of entertainment suited for children as well as adults.

The Highland Games part of the event includes both men's and women's games. Events for 2016 include:

Stone Throw	Light Weight for Distance
Sheaf Toss	Heavy Weight for Distance
Light Hammer Toss	Heavy Hammer Toss
Weight for Height	Caber Toss

In addition, the Ladies' Haggis Toss and Men's Keg Toss is open to anyone who wants to try it. If physical sports are not for you personally, you can still enjoy watching the competitions. The festival also offers an expanded entertainment lineup this year:

The **Kalamazoo Pipe Band** will perform several times throughout the day. Don't miss the iconic sound of the pipes!

Kalamazoo Royal Scottish Country Dancers will perform several times throughout the day. This is the traditional social dancing shared across all classes and areas of Scotland.

McEwen Border Collies will be on hand to demonstrate amazing skills with their beautiful Border Collies.

Scottish performer Hugh Irwin, "**The Kilted Magician**" is scheduled to bring his show to the festival line-up this year.

The **Kalamazoo Curling Club** will be on hand with demonstrations of their sport. Representatives from the Gaelic Athletic Association and the Kalamazoo Rugby Football Club will also be at the Festival.

The **Harpers Circle** will be on hand, making beautiful music throughout the day. They play the traditional Scottish Clarsach. This is a small harp with no levers or pedals. They will be creating the traditional Scottish harper's circle where traditional Scottish tunes are played and shared.

Blarney Castle, an exciting new progressive Celtic band based in Kalamazoo (all WMU music students) will perform.

The **Weaver's Guild** of Kalamazoo will again have an all-day presence this year. Some of Scotland's most treasured exports have their origin in wee cottages, where proud and highly skilled artisans spin and weave to produce such goods as Harris Tweeds, Shetland woolens, and intricate tartans. In addition to the talented folks of the Weaver's Guild demonstrating all day, they will have some products on display at the tent.

MacFarlanes' Company, a "living history troupe," uses an entertaining method to present worthwhile historical information about Scotland.

Children's Games and Activities: The wee bairns are invited to the Children's Field for special games and activities all day long! Experience smaller versions of the caber toss and the haggis toss, hit the castle with a catapult, decorate a targe, have your face painted, make a fairy crown, and more!

Clan Society Tents are an opportunity to mix and mingle, greet and hang out with those who share a common ancestry, or to explore your ancestry.

Scottish Food and Goods: Food vending will be provided by the KSFA Meat Pie Wagon, otherwise known as The Wagon. Featuring traditional Scottish fare, they will offer meat pies and bridies, scones, beverages, hotdogs, and more. The festival offers FREE admission, so this is an important source of funds to keep it going from year to year. Remember to go to the festival hungry!

For more information, to see the schedule of events, or to register for competitions or clan tents, visit: <http://www.kalamazooscottishfest.org>

**ASKELADDEN LODGE 5•610
SONS OF NORWAY
158 Bulkley Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006**




www.sonsofnorway.com

AUGUST KALENDER

You are reminded: Under our lodge's established Norway trip drawing rules, if you want to be considered for the October 2016 drawing, you must submit your request in writing (or e-mail) to the Membership Secretary by the September meeting. Amongst other membership requirements, you must have attended at least three regular Lodge meetings or other qualifying events in the previous year to be included in the drawing. Vice President Joan O'Bryan is currently serving as Acting Membership Secretary and her complete contact information is found on page 1.

If you would like more information, consider becoming a member of our lodge, or attend an event to find out.

- **august 14 - Askeladden Lodge/VASA Satellite Lodge
Ice Creme Social
2 pm, Jensen residence, 1453 Spruce Drive, Kalamazoo**
- august 15 - Hildy Montgomery funeral -11 a.m. St. Mark Lutheran Church in Battle Creek
-  august 19 - HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit birthday (1973)
- august 27 - Twenty-fourth Annual Kalamazoo Scottish Festival & Highland Games - Free Admission
Flesher Field in Oshtemo Township, 3664 South 9th Street 9am–5pm
<http://www.kalamazooscottishfest.org>
- august 27 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles - please note the early deadline this month



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.