



the Askeladden News



December

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

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

www.norwayinkalamazoo.com

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

12-18

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: Curtis Cleveland

(269) 381-4531

cacleve82@att.net

Membership Secretary:

Curt Osborn

(269) 589-9425

curt_osborn@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President/Editor:

Joan O'Bryan

507 Clinton Avenue

Kalamazoo, MI 49001

(269) 383-6802

joan.obryan@wmich.edu

Secretary: vacant

Cultural Director: vacant

Treasurer: Earnie Best

(269) 375-0300

earnie@earniebest.com

Publishers:

Dennis & Jean Darling

5749 Stadium Drive # 245

Kalamazoo, MI 49009

(269) 382-2340

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

ajjohnsen@att.net

Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan

1 (800) 442-4146

gregragan@aol.com

Lodge contact info:

Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com

(269) 350-3330

St. Lucia Pageant

Trinity Lutheran Church

3 p.m. Saturday, December 15

Please join us at 3 p.m., on **Saturday**, December 15, for the traditional Scandinavian St. Lucia pageant in the sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo. This will be a joint meeting of the Vasa Satellite Lodge and Askeladden Lodge. Please invite any and all your friends to this fun and family-friendly celebration. Rumor has it that the Scandinavian Father Christmas will visit the children in the Fellowship Hall again this year!

After the pageant, everyone is invited to join our Christmas party downstairs in the Fellowship Hall of the church, with refreshments. Holly Jensen will serve family-friendly Glögg (a traditional warm spiced fruit drink, with almonds and raisins) and Chuck Nelson will serve St. Nick's recipe (that might deserve a designated driver). Askeladden Lodge will provide trays of finger food, including vegetables, fruit, cheeses, and cold-cut meats. You are welcome to bring cookies to share.

If you know of young girls, ages 4 to 14, interested in participating in the St. Lucia pageant, please contact Holly Jensen at (269) 385-3693.

The local singing ensemble, The SoundBuilders, will perform traditional Christmas songs during the pageant.

There will be no Lodge business meeting at this event. However, the Board of Directors will meet before the pageant at 2 p.m. in the church lounge, upper level. All Askeladden Lodge members are welcome to attend this or any other Board meeting.

If you have ordered a Norwegian calendar or want to purchase the book *Hidden Heroes*, remember to bring your checkbook or extra cash.

We look forward to seeing your family on Saturday, December 15 for the Christmas program.

2019 Norway Calendar Orders

Inger Thoen

The Viking Verse (the Rosemaling design) calendars are here, and I will bring them to the December gathering. They are \$8.60. Please bring cash or check for the amount of calendars you ordered. Also, I was able to order the Splendor of Norway Calendars this year after all, so if you want to purchase any of those bring \$7.50 for each Splendor calendar. Both types of calendars will be at our December event.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Recap of November Lodge Meeting

Curtis Cleveland, Cultural Committee Chair

Fourteen members and four guests attended the November 11th meeting. Joyce was in charge of the set-up for this meeting, decorating the tables with the traditional Thanksgiving theme and colors. Each table had a beautiful piece of Rosemaling on display, many of them painted by Joyce herself.

The highlight of the meeting featured a PowerPoint report by Joyce and Gordon Hare on their trip to Norway in 2017. Before taking a cruise, they took the ferry to Balestrand and Flåm. They then enjoyed the train ride to Bergen. The expedition cruise began in Norway first stopping in Vanderlaet, the western most island in Norway. The cruise titled "In the Wake of the Vikings" stopped at ports in the Shetland Islands, Orkney Islands, Faroe Islands and eventually to Heimaey, Iceland, debarking in Reykjavik. Viking settlements and culture was the emphasis of the onboard lectures and archeology sites visits.



Gordon and Joyce Hare
photo courtesy of Holly Jensen

During the program we sang our all of our normal November songs, led by Margery Selden at the piano. Before the meal, we sang the traditional Dutch Thanksgiving hymn, "We Gather Together." In honor of Veterans Day, we sang the Navy hymn, "Eternal Father, Strong to Save." In memory of Robert and Donna Kaarlie, who died on July 9th and October 5th, respectively, we sang the hymn "Beautiful Savior." As we do at all of our meetings, we sang the three national anthems: American, Canadian, and Norwegian.

We had a Food Drive, collecting 37 items/37 pounds of non-perishable food, which was given to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes. In addition, we had a Food Bank Campaign, collecting \$160 in donations, which were distributed as follows: \$80 to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes; \$65 to the Food Bank of South Central Michigan (Battle Creek area); and \$15 to the Feeding America: West Michigan (Grand Rapids area). Thanks to all who donated food and money.

During the business session, the 2019 Lodge officers were elected. The Board of Directors met for 45 minutes following the regular meeting, discussing the Program to Retain Young Members in Askeladden Lodge proposed at the October meeting.



Askeladden Lodge at the November 10 Holiday Parade
photo courtesy of Holly Jensen

2019 Officers

Board of Directors

President - Curt Osborn
Vice President - Joan O'Bryan
Secretary - Gail Hadley-Thompson
Treasurer - Earnie Best
Cultural Director - Curtis Cleveland
Acting Membership Secretary - Curt Osborn

Officers:

Social Director - Joyce Hare
Adopt a School Coordinator - Curt Osborn
Counselor - Elizabeth Kraatz
Cultural Skills Coordinator - Joyce Hare
Historian - Curtis Cleveland
Language Instructor - Ashli Niles
Librarian - Roger Drong
Musician - Ashli Niles
Newsletter Editor - Joan O'Bryan
Newsletter Publishers - Dennis and Jean Darling
Publicity Director - Karin Code
Rosemaling Coordinator - Bev Osborn
Tubfrim Coordinator - Holly Jensen
Sons of Norway Foundation Director - Dennis Darling
Sports/Recreation Director - Curt Osborn
Sunshine Coordinator - Arden Hetletvedt
Youth Director - Ashli Niles
Webmaster - vacant
Volunteer Coordinator - Curtis Cleveland

Committees:

Membership - Joan O'Bryan, Chair; Curt Osborn
Finance - Earnie Best, Chair; Joyce Hare, Ashli Niles
Scholarship - Joyce Hare, Chair; Elizabeth Kraatz, Gail Hadley-Thompson, and Bev Osborn
Cultural/Social - Curtis Cleveland, Chair, Roger Drong
Norway Trip - Joan O'Bryan, Chair, and Curt Osborn
Publicity - Karin Code, Chair, and Joan O'Bryan
Nominating - Curt Osborn, Chair
Auditing - Joyce Hare, Chair, Ashli Niles and Curtis Cleveland

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

December Birthdays

Tore Ramstad

ASKEADDEN NEWS

Netflix på Norsk

Winter months are a great time to get cozy and catch up on your favorite TV shows. For subscribers to Netflix, there are an ever-increasing number of Norwegian titles available. Have a look at the descriptions of the latest batch of Norwegian-made films and TV series.

• **Maniac / Maniac** – TV series - TV-MA

A nondescript man in a mental hospital has an exciting life of adventure and romance – in his head. He may be insane, or maybe he's just having fun.

Mindbending, Offbeat, Absurd

• **Norsemen / Vikingane** – 2 seasons – TV-MA

In 790 AD, the Vikings of Norheim have a hectic schedule that includes pillaging, plundering, enslaving others and solving problems with violence.

Violent, Dark, Period Comedy

• **The Last King / Birkebeinerne** – Rated R

In 1204 as civil war rages, Norway's dying king entrusts two warriors to protect his infant son against internal forces determined to kill the heir.

Exciting, Adventure, Period Piece

Coming soon ...

A new Netflix original series from Norway has just started production. **Ragnarok** is the story of a Norse god who comes back to life as a teenage boy. The six-part series is a mash-up of Norse mythology and a high school drama.

Editor's note:

I'm not advocating any of the above Netflix features, as what appeals to one might not to another. My son finds Norsemen extremely funny, while I can't stand to watch it – it's just not my kind of humor.

Years ago, we told you about the original Netflix programming **Lilyhammer** and I received feedback that some of you enjoyed the series. Other exciting TV series discussed at Lodge meetings include two seasons of **Occupied** and the first season of **Borderliner**. Movies include disaster film **The Wave**, filmed in Geiranger. **Magnus** is a documentary about chess champion Magnus Carlson. Also available on Netflix is the 2009 7+ hour 'SlowTV' film, **Train Ride Bergen to Oslo** – I have actually seen the entire show.

In his President's column, Curtis tells us **The King's Choice** DVD is available for purchase, but it can also be purchased for download on iTunes, and is available at a small price on other platforms as well, including streaming on Amazon Prime, YouTube and Google Play Movies. iTunes also offers the recent WWII movie **The Twelfth Man**. Some titles on iTunes can be rented or purchased and some are available only for purchase. Rentals are priced cheaper, but have to be watched within a specific amount of time.

Fra Presidenten

Norway has a vibrant movie industry, producing a variety of films each year, fulfilling the entertainment needs of the Norwegian people. In 2016, the Norwegians, with the assistance of other countries, produced the movie "The King's Choice," a WWII docudrama and the Norwegian entry for the Best Foreign Language Film category at the 89th Academy Awards.

The movie is about the first three days of the German Invasion and Occupation of Norway in April 1940. During these 72 hours, the Norwegian government - which consists of the King, the Cabinet, and the Parliament - must decide either to accept the German Occupation (including Quisling) as the legitimate government or to resist the German Occupation.

I first read about the movie "The King's Choice" in the April 2017 issue of the *Viking* magazine.

Unfortunately, "The King's Choice" has had a very limited showing in the United States. I don't think it played in the Kalamazoo area.

Fortunately, however, there is a DVD of "The King's Choice." This is how I saw the movie recently. The DVD is making it possible for the Sons of Norway lodges to see this important movie.

At our April 2019 Lodge meeting, I will show a portion of "The King's Choice" as our cultural program, coinciding with the 79th anniversary of the events portrayed in the movie. The length of the movie, 2 hours and 13 minutes, prohibits the showing of the entire film at a Lodge meeting.

If you have the opportunity, I suggest that you watch the entire movie before our April 2019 Lodge meeting.

Best wishes for the Christmas season,

Curtis Cleveland, Lodge President

December Board Meeting

A Board of Directors Meeting will be held Saturday, December 15, at Trinity Lutheran Church, at 2 p.m. in the upper level church lounge, prior to our monthly meeting. Interested Lodge members are welcome to attend.

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/SonsofNorway

Contact Roger Drong with questions or to reserve resources.



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

5749 Stadium Drive # 245
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

DECEMBER KALENDER

Mark your calendars:

~ Our Christmas event will be celebrated on **SATURDAY, December 15** ~



- desember 6 - Finland's National Day - celebrating Finland's independence from the Russian Republic in 1917
- desember 10 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded in Oslo
Live stream available beginning at 7 a.m. at the official website www.nobelprize.org
- desember 13 - Luciadagen - St. Lucia Day
- **desember 15** - **Askeladden Lodge joins VASA for St. Lucia Pageant 3 p.m.** in the main sanctuary of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 504 S. Westnedge
- desember 15 - Board Meeting 2 p.m. (prior to program) in upstairs lounge
- desember 23 - Lille julaften - Little Christmas Eve
- desember 24 - Julaften - Christmas Eve
- desember 25 - Juledag - Christmas Day
- desember 31 - Nyttårsaften - New Year's Eve
- januar 4 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles, earlier is appreciated.



God Jul!



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.