



# *the Askeladden News*



February

[www.norwayinkalamazoo.com](http://www.norwayinkalamazoo.com)

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

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

[facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge](https://facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge)

2-18

## **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](mailto:cacleve82@att.net)

## **Membership Secretary:**

Curt Osborn

(269) 789-0937

[curt\\_osborn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:curt_osborn@sbcglobal.net)

## **Vice-President/Editor:**

Joan O'Bryan

507 Clinton Avenue

Kalamazoo, MI 49001

(269) 383-6802

[joan.obryan@wmich.edu](mailto:joan.obryan@wmich.edu)

**Secretary:** vacant

**Cultural Director:** vacant

## **Treasurer:** Earnie Best

(269) 375-0300

[earniebest.com](mailto:earniebest.com)

## **Publishers:**

Dennis & Jean Darling

5749 Stadium Drive

Kalamazoo, MI 49009

(269) 382-2340

## **Affiliation:**

Sons of Norway International

1455 West Lake St.

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Andy Johnsen

District 5 Zone 6 Director

[ajjohnsen@att.net](mailto:ajjohnsen@att.net)

## **Benefits Counselor:**

Greg Ragan

1 (800) 442-4146

[gregragan@aol.com](mailto:gregragan@aol.com)

Lodge contact info:

[Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com](mailto:Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com)

(269) 350-3330

# Scottish Spiritualism and Norway

## 2 p.m. Sunday, February 11

### Trinity Lutheran Church

Please join us on Sunday, February 11, 2 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo for our monthly Askeladden Lodge meeting.

At 2 p.m., we begin with a shared meal.

At 3 p.m., Pastor Jake Lehman, Associate Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, will present the cultural program, speaking about his 2017 trip to Scotland and Norway.

The business session will begin at 4 p.m.

Please bring a dish to share for the meal, a smorgasbord featuring both hot and cold food. Coffee and water will be provided. You are encouraged to bring your own tableware, but backup plates, cups, and utensils will be provided.

At Trinity Lutheran Church on Westnedge Ave, we meet in the lower level Fellowship Hall of the church. Parking is available at the rear of the church. Entrance is from the parking lot at the rear corner of the church. There is an elevator at the rear of the church for those in need of it.

## Highlights of this issue:

- |        |                                   |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Page 1 | • Monthly meeting announcement    |
| Page 2 | • President's Message             |
|        | • Recap of January Meeting        |
| Page 3 | • Lodge Scholarships announcement |
|        | • St. Patrick's Day Parade        |
|        | • Michigan Nordic Fire Festival   |
| Page 4 | • February Calendar               |

# ASKELOADDEN NEWS



## Fra Presidenten

When we meet on February 11<sup>th</sup>, Super Bowl LII (52) will be history and we will be in day four of the Winter Olympics from South Korea.

Like most people, I've been watching the Winter Olympics on TV for many years, the skiing, the jump skiing, the skating, speed and especially the figure skating. Looking back, there are two Olympics that stand out, 1980 and 1994.

The 1980 Olympics in Lake Placid New York was memorable because of the win of the US Men's Ice Hockey team over the Soviet Hockey Team, the "Miracle on Ice."

The 1994 Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway was memorable because of the opening ceremony and the famous confrontation between Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan. The opening ceremony featured a skier playing a violin or fiddle, skiing down a hill and entering the arena. First Lady Hillary Clinton was present at Lillehammer. I recall she made some very nice comments about Norway and the Norwegian people.

The Lillehammer Olympics became the most watched in TV history because of the Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan competition. Who can forget the drama: Tonya's shoe laces and her poor performance.

The 1994 Lillehammer Olympics was the second time that Norway has hosted the winter games. The 1952 games were held in Oslo, where Dick Buttons became a household name.

Norwegian athletics are among the best in the Winter Olympics. If you have not already, be sure to read the cover story in the current issue of the *Viking* magazine.

Curtis Cleveland, Lodge President

## January Meeting and Program Recap

*Curtis A. Cleveland*

On January 14, braving the weather, 14 members and 4 guests attended the monthly Askeladden Lodge meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo.

After the meal, our newest member Bill Strong was introduced to the group.

Clifford Davidson gave the cultural program on "Scandinavian Wall Paintings," assisted by 60 slides.

The 2018 officers were installed, with former Lodge president Joyce Hare performing the duties of the Installing Officer. *(See photo above of those officers and position holders that were in attendance: Roger Drong, Curtis Cleveland, Joan O'Bryan, Curt Osborn, Jean and Dennis Darling, Holly Jensen and Joyce Hare)*

Lodge president Curtis Cleveland presented a housewarming gift (pair of coffee mugs) from the Lodge to Dennis and Jean Darling on the occasion of their move to a new home.

Holly Jensen reported to the Lodge that in October 2017 the International Board Of Directors of the Sons of Norway in Minneapolis awarded the Golden Membership to Joyce Allworth, signifying 30 years of good standing in the Sons of Norway.

Joan O'Bryan did the set-up duties for this meeting.

## Gratulerer med dagen!

*Fødselsdag Hilsener*

## February Birthdays

Crystal Walvoord

Barbara Heffner

Brent Roble

Karen Kunze

Bjørn Thorsrud

Elizabeth Kraatz

Gail Thompson-Hadley



# ASKELOADDEN NEWS

## St. Patrick's Day Parade - join us!

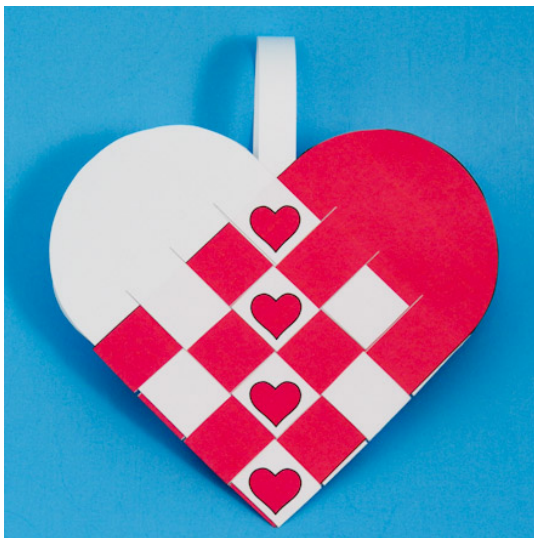
Joan Renaas O'Bryan

Once again our lodge has the opportunity to make our presence known to the greater Kalamazoo community in a fun and easy way. The 18<sup>th</sup> annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Kalamazoo takes place Saturday morning, March 17. We provide the costumes as long as you sign up in advance, so that makes it easy for you. Please help us with planning by signing up at the February meeting. Contact Joan if you can't make the meeting and you are interested in participating. Staging area and assembly time will be shared with participants once we receive it from the Irish American Club. The parade will be a little different from years past as there will be no floats due to lane closures from construction on Michigan Avenue.

## Quarterly Board Meeting Announced

President Curtis Cleveland has announced the next Board of Directors Meeting will be held March 20 at the residence of Earnie Best at 7 p.m. Interested lodge members are welcome to attend.

**Gratulerer med morsdagen,  
til alle mødrene i dag!**



**MICHIGAN NORDIC  
FIRE FESTIVAL**

**FIRE PERFORMER COMPETITION**  
Viking Camp  
Kids' Quest  
Petting Farm  
Food and Drink  
Cardboard Long Ship Race  
Costume Contests  
Horn Blowing  
Hammer Throwing  
Reenactments

**SHIP BURNING BONFIRE**  
Archery  
Belly Dancers  
Sword Fighting  
Torch Procession  
Speakers  
Bee Keepers  
Music  
Snow Sculpting  
Mead Hall

**FEBRUARY 23-25, 2018**  
CHARLOTTE, MICHIGAN USA | CHARLOTTE SLEDDING HILL

## Michigan Nordic Fire Festival

The Michigan Nordic Fire Festival in Charlotte is continuing for the third year the last weekend of February.

A variety of family-friendly activities are planned, including a ceremonial burning of a Viking long boat, which gives the festival its name. The boat burning which previously took place on Friday night will now happen on the Saturday of the festival. Visit the website to get event information, ticket information and volunteer opportunities.

Askeladden Lodge is an official sponsor of this event.

<http://www.michigannordicfirefestival.com>

## Askeladden Lodge Myrtle Beinhauer scholarships

If you have children or grandchildren starting college next year or continuing as an undergraduate student, they can be considered for a scholarship awarded by Askeladden Lodge. Our 2018 budget allows for \$1000 unrestricted scholarships to be awarded to up to three qualifying students.

Applications (and all accompanying documents such as letters of recommendation) for the 2018 Askeladden Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarships are due to Joyce Hare by March 15, 2018. The application form and all related information are available online at [www.norwayinkalamazoo.com](http://www.norwayinkalamazoo.com) Please contact Joyce Hare at (269) 327-5824 with any inquiries.

Being awarded a Lodge scholarship one year neither precludes a student from winning or guarantees that student will win it in subsequent years.

The application process is not complicated, but it does require a little planning to gather the required information, so begin the process today, including to make sure your Sons of Norway dues are up to date.

## Askeladden Lodge Library

[www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway)

Contact Roger Drong with questions or to reserve resources.



# SONS of NORWAY

## Askeladden Lodge 5-610

5749 Stadium Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

### FEBRUAR KALENDER



- Februar 6 - *Samefolkets dag* - Sámi People's Day or Sámi National Day
- Februar 11 - **Askeladden Lodge Meeting and program** followed by potluck dinner 4:00 p.m Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 504 S. Westnedge
- Februar 11 - *Morsdag* - Mother's Day in Norway
- Februar 11 - *Fastelavn* - Scandinavian Mardi Gras
- Februar 12 - HH Princess Astrid, 1932
- Februar 14 - Valentine's Day ♥
- Februar 14 - Askeonsdag - Ash Wednesday



- Februar 15 - National Flag Day of Canada



- Februar 19 - President's Day, United States



- Februar 21 - H.M. King Harald V 1937
- Februar 22 - Barnebirkie, Hayward, Wisconsin
- Februar 23-25 Michigan Nordic Fire Festival, Charlotte \$5 person/\$15 family admission fee. Full information at <http://www.michigannordicfirefestival.com>
- Februar 24 - American Birkebeiner, Telemark Lodge, Hayward, Wisconsin [www.birkie.com](http://www.birkie.com)
- Februar 28 - Last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles



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.