



# *the Askeladden News*



January

[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)

1-18

## **Meetings:**

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

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

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Kalamazoo, MI

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# Scandinavian Wall Paintings

## 2 p.m. Sunday, January 14

### Trinity Lutheran Church

In compliance with your New Years Resolution to attend more Lodge meetings in 2018, please plan to join us Sunday afternoon at the Trinity Lutheran Evangelical Church in downtown Kalamazoo for the monthly Lodge meeting and cultural program.

Lodge member Dr. Clifford Davidson will give the cultural program on Scandinavian Wall Paintings. Scandinavian wall painting — not to be confused with fresco painting, which uses wet plaster — was common in churches from 1200 to 1700. For a preview, search “James Mills-Kromborg Collection, Copenhagen” on the internet.

We will begin the meeting at 2 p.m. with a shared meal.

Clifford's talk will begin at 3 p.m., followed by a short business session with the 2018 Officer installation ceremony. All events will take place in Fellowship Hall, lower level of the Church.

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

Clifford O. Davidson, professor emeritus of English and medieval studies, was the first recipient of Western Michigan University's Distinguished Scholar Award. When at WMU, he was involved in organizing the world-renowned annual International Congress on Medieval Studies. He is the author, editor, co-author, or co-editor of more than three dozen books, including our favorite, *Norwegians in Michigan*.

# ASKELOADDEN NEWS

## Fra Presidenten

The January 2018 issue of the *Viking* magazine has an article on the places of Norwegian interest in New York City, including the Scandinavia House and the Norwegian Seamen's Church. In this column, I will complement the *Viking* article with my own experiences in NYC this past Christmas, vacationing there for six days.

On the art museum scene, the Norwegian painter Edvard Munch was one of the big names, along with Michelangelo, David Hockney, and Rodin. There were two exhibits of Munch going on in NYC simultaneously. The big one was at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, featuring 43 paintings, completed during six decades. The other exhibit was at the Scandinavian House which featured photographs taken by Edvard Munch, many of himself.

On Christmas Eve, I attended the Julekveld (Christmas Eve) celebration at the Norwegian Seamen's Church. During the two-hour event, attended by approximately 100 people, we sang songs, completed a quiz, ate deserts, and had plenty of conversation. Interestingly, the people did not wear bunads. The next morning, I attended the Christmas Day Morning Service at the same Church. Since the liturgy and sermon were in Norwegian, after the Service, the minister explained to me (in English) what her sermon was about.

In summary, my trip to NYC this Christmas left me with many pleasant thoughts of Norway. In contrast, when returning home, I received very sad news from Norway. My cousin, the one I had met in 2002 and stayed with in 2009, wrote me that his son had taken his life, drowning himself in a lake. The son, Halvard, age 31, had a great love for the violin and America. In high school, he was an exchange student, living in Minnesota. His mother wrote that Halvard had mental illness, hearing voices in his head. When I talked with Halvard in 2002 and 2009, I did not observe any problem. The news about Halvard was sad. Such a loss!

Curtis A. Cleveland, Lodge President

## Askeladden's 2017 Christmas gathering

*Curtis A. Cleveland*

At the December Lodge meeting, Askeladden members joined the VASA members on Saturday, December 16, at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo, for a joint event.

At the joint meeting, VASA presented the annual Saint Lucia Pageant, held in the Sanctuary and Nave of Trinity Lutheran Church, attended by approximately 60 persons. Holly Jensen, member of both VASA and Sons of Norway, planned this year's pageant.

The pageant began with the procession, led by the 2017 Saint Lucia, Helen Spence, daughter of Askeladden member Kris Spence. She was followed by five attendants, or Tärnor, that included our friends Nina and Anniken Holm and Lucia Williams. After the lovely Lucia ceremony, we enjoyed a performance by the local a capella group, The SoundBuilders, who sang festive Christmas songs and carols.

Following the 30-minute pageant, members of VASA, Askeladden, and the church enjoyed a light lunch in Fellowship Hall, where we drank gløgg and enjoyed traditional Kransekakke prepared by Kris Spence. VASA member Charles Nelson appeared as Father Christmas, and passed out gifts to the delight of all the children.

Nine members attended the Lodge meeting, which had no business session. Guests included former Askeladden members, Thad Shaffer (and his guest, Jody), and Karn Erlandson (and her daughter, Helen).

## 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.

**Cultural Scholarships** are available to members in the form of a grant, not to exceed \$250. The grants may be given to attend workshops, seminars, conferences or other events promoting Norwegian Culture. There is no due date for the Cultural Scholarship program. The application guidelines for the grants are also on our website.



# ASKELOADDEN NEWS

## a little in English...

### Erna Solberg is one of the world's most powerful women

Angela Merkel tops the list of the world's most powerful women. But Erna Solberg is more powerful than Hillary Clinton.

*Forbes* magazine is known for creating lists. They write who earns most and has the most power. Recently a list came out of the world's most powerful women. *Forbes* mentions 100 women who they think are the most powerful.

Prime Minister Erna Solberg is 46th. She appears before Beyoncé Knowles (50th place) and politician Hillary Clinton (65th place).

“Norway's Angela Merkel,” writes *Forbes*. At the top of the list is Germany's leader. 63-year-old Angela Merkel is number one for the seventh consecutive year. She retains the position despite losing power during the election this year. *Forbes* calls her the actual leader of the European Union (EU).

In second place is Theresa May. She is Prime Minister of the UK. Third place goes to Melinda Gates, the wife of Bill Gates, founder of the software company Microsoft. Melinda Gates runs a large charitable organization that helps people in poor countries.

There are many different women on the list. There are politicians from several countries, there are powerful leaders from big companies, and there are entertainers.

Here are a few examples:

- 8th place: Christine Lagarde, head of the International Monetary Fund
- 11th place: Indra Nooyi, head of the company PepsiCo.
- 15th place: Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwan's first female leader
- 19th place: Ivanka Trump, businesswoman, Donald Trump's daughter
- 21st place: Oprah Winfrey, media queen
- 33rd place: Aung San Suu Kyi, leader in Myanmar
- 45th place: Gina Rinehart, owner of Hancock mineral company in Australia
- 78th place: Kersti Kaljulaid, Estonia's first female president
- 85th place: artist Taylor Swift from the United States

## litt på norsk...

### Erna Solberg er blant verdens mektigste kvinner

Angela Merkel topper lista over verdens mektigste kvinner. Men Erna Solberg er mektigere enn Hillary Clinton.

Magasinet *Forbes* er kjent for å lage lister. De skriver hvem som tjener mest og har mest makt. Nylig kom lista over verdens mektigste kvinner. *Forbes* nevner 100 kvinner som de mener er mektigst.

Statsminister Erna Solberg er på 46. plass. Hun kommer før artisten Beyoncé Knowles (50. plass) og politikeren Hillary Clinton (65. plass).

«Norges Angela Merkel» skriver *Forbes*. Øverst på lista er Tysklands leder. 63 år gamle Angela Merkel er nummer 1 for sjuende år på rad. Hun beholder plassen til tross for at hun mistet makt ved valget i år. *Forbes* kaller henne den egentlige lederen av Den europeiske union (EU).

På andreplass er Theresa May. Hun er statsminister i Storbritannia. Tredjeplassen går til Melinda Gates. Hun er kona til Bill Gates. Han grunnla dataselskapet Microsoft. Melinda Gates driver en stor hjelpe-organisasjon. De hjelper folk i fattige land.

Det er mange ulike kvinner på lista. Det er politikere fra flere land, det er mektige ledere for store selskaper, og det er folk som driver med underholdning.

Her er noen eksempler:

- 8. plass: Christine Lagarde, leder for det internasjonale pengefondet.
- 11. plass: Indra Nooyi, leder for selskapet PepsiCo.
- 15. plass: Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwans første kvinnelige leder
- 19. plass: Ivanka Trump, forretningskvinne, Donald Trumps datter
- 21. plass: Oprah Winfrey, mediedronning
- 33. plass: Aung San Suu Kyi, leder i Myanmar
- 45. plass: Gina Rinehart, eier av mineralselskapet Hancock i Australia
- 78. plass: Kersti Kaljulaid, Estlands første kvinnelige president
- 85. plass: artisten Taylor Swift fra USA

## 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*

158 Bulkley Street  
Kalamazoo, MI 49006

## JANUAR KALENDER



- Januar 1 - Nyttårsdag - New Year's Day
- Januar 6 - Helligtrekongersdag - Epiphany
- **Januar 14** - **Askeladden Lodge Meeting**  
2:00 p.m. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 504 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI



- Januar 15 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Januar 16 - Sønner av Norge - Sons of Norway founded, 1895



- Januar 21 - H.R.H. Princess Ingrid Alexandra 2004
- Januar 31 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles. Last day to submit lodge volunteer hours.

### Gratulerer med dagen!

*Fødselsdag Hilsener*

### January Birthdays

Brett Jensen	Scott Erickson
Karn Erlandson	Magnus Selden
Aric Nesbitt	

### Mark your calendars

Pastor Jake Lehman of Trinity Lutheran Church will give the Cultural Program, talking about his recent trip to Scotland and Norway at our February 11 meeting.



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.