



the Askeladden News



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

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

No. 5-17

May

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Syttende Mai Celebration Tribute to Vietnam Veterans 2 p.m. Sunday, May 21 Trinity Lutheran Church

Please join us for the annual Syttende Mai Celebration and Barnetog on Sunday, May 21, at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo, starting at 2 p.m. (NOTE: This meeting and all future meetings will begin at 2 p.m.)

The Kraatz family, James and Alice, both Heritage members, will present the program "Tribute to the Vietnam Veterans." Last year, James suggested and helped organize the public ceremony held on May 28, 2016, at the Air Zoo in Portage, called "A Tribute to Vietnam Veterans and Their Families." The mayors of Kalamazoo and Portage and Matt Giraud of *American Idol* fame participated in the special ceremony.

This meeting is a central part of our Lodge's Community Service Program. We are holding a Food Drive and collecting donations for the food banks that serve Southwest Michigan. Please bring a grocery bag of nonperishable food (cans, boxes, packages, and bottles) to the meeting. The donated food will be delivered to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes. In addition, please bring a monetary donation (check or envelope containing cash) for one of the three food banks that serve Southwest Michigan. They are:

- Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes
- Food Bank of South Central Michigan (Battle Creek/Kalamazoo area)
- Feeding America West Michigan Food Bank (Grand Rapids area)

Bring a dish, preferably a side dish or dessert, to pass for the meal. The Lodge will provide meats (cold cuts), cheese, and breads and tableware. The meal is scheduled for 2:45 p.m. The Vietnam program is planned to begin at 3:30 p.m. All activities will be in Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the Church.

At Trinity Lutheran Church, 504 S. Westnedge Ave, we meet in the lower level Fellowship Hall of the church. The entrance we use is at the rear corner of the church. There is an elevator at the rear of the church for those in need of it.

Meetings:

Monthly, most 2nd Sundays
Trinity Lutheran Church
504 S. Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI

Officers:

President: Curtis Cleveland
(269) 381-4531
cacleve82@att.net

Membership Secretary:

Holly Jensen
contact (269) 385-3693
hollyjensen@yahoo.com

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
158 Bulkley Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
(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

Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan
1 (800) 442-4146
gregragan@aol.com

Lodge contact info:

Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com
(269) 350-3330

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

Askeladden Lodge, for many years, has struggled developing a community service program. For much of our 30-year history, the Lodge did not have a community service program.

What is a community service program? As defined by the International Sons of Norway, a community service program is "activities done on behalf of Sons of Norway that assist the needy or improve your community."

I can recall several years ago when Louise Adams, then the Lodge's Treasurer, pleaded with Lodge members to adopt a budget that included a \$100 donation to Ministry with Community and a \$100 donation to the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. Louise believed strongly that the Lodge should have a community service program. The Lodge ultimately acquiesced, but it was like pulling teeth.

However small, this was the beginning of the community service program. In 2014, Louise, in a report to the Lodge, proposed that Lodge members once a month help serve meals at the Ministry with Community. This suggestion proved to be too ambitious for the Lodge.

Since then, we have added two activities to our community service program.

First: At the May and November meetings, we have Food Drives. We ask members to bring a grocery bag of nonperishable food, which is donated to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes.

Members donated 60 items/46 pounds of food in May 2015 and 80 items/73 pounds of food in May 2016. The donated food was given to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes on behalf of the Sons of Norway.

Second: At the May and December meetings, we collect money donations from members for the three food banks that serve Southwest Michigan. The three food banks are listed in the article on page one of this newsletter.

Members donated \$247 in May 2015 and \$147 in May 2016 to the three food banks on behalf of the Sons of Norway.

On May 21, we have an opportunity to participate in the Lodge's community service program. Bring a grocery bag of nonperishable food which will be given to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes on behalf of the Sons of Norway.

In addition, write a check to your choice of one of the three food banks (or place cash in an envelope with the name of the food bank written on it). These donations will be collected and mailed to the three food banks on behalf of the Sons of Norway.

Happy Syttende Mai and Memorial Day. Please join us on May 21.

Curtis A. Cleveland, Lodge President

TUBFRIM

Holly Jensen, Tubfrim Coordinator

Update from Mary Bennett- February 2017

Tusen takk to all District 5 lodges that donated stamps to Tubfrim in 2016. Thanks to your efforts, District 5 sent 250 pounds of stamps to Norway. Your help will improve the quality of life for handicapped children and youth.

If your lodge is not involved with the Tubfrim program, I encourage you to participate. Clip stamps from envelopes or postcards leaving a margin of at least 1/4 inch. Tubfrim also accepts stamp collections, old envelopes, covers and postcards. If envelopes and postcards are more than 50 years old do not cut off the stamp, send the whole item. Stamps may be given to your zone director, brought to conventions or mailed to me at 6414 Irving Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590. For every one pound of stamps, the lodge can mail in an entry card for chance to win \$1,000 towards a ticket for a trip to Norway. Cards are available from the home office. If you have any questions, contact me at 608-837-8335 or mjbenn4@gmail.com.

History and information from www.tubfrim.no website

Postmaster Ditlef Frantzen in Nesbyen established TUBFRIM in 1928. The aim was to collect and sell used stamps and use the proceeds to aid the eradication of tuberculosis among Norwegian children. The first profit was made in 1929 and amounted to NOK 1.500,-. Profits varied in the following years from NOK 8.000,- in 1940 to NOK 25.000,- in 1947. TUBFRIM has made good progress since from then and profits in 1970 were NOK 150.000,- growing to NOK 650.000,- in 2016.

TUBFRIM has from the start in 1928 donated over 21 million NOK to charity.

TUBFRIM is owned by the Norwegian Health Association (Nasjonalforeningen for folkehelsen). Today the profits are used to help children and youth with disabilities, and children and youth with handicaps in Norway, and to finance the efforts to eradicate tuberculosis.

We sincerely thank those of you who loyally send us stamps and telephone cards, and we heartily welcome new collectors.

How to help us.

Please, never throw away canceled stamps and phonecards. Stamps and phonecards from any country in the world can be used.

Just cut or tear the stamps off the envelopes, leaving a slight margin (approx. 1/2 inch) to keep the perforation intact. Damaged stamps (damaged perforation, edges etc.) are worthless and are to be thrown away. (Damaged phonecards are also to be thrown away.)

We are also happy to receive stamp collections, old envelopes, covers and postcards. If envelopes, postcards etc. are more than 50 years old, then please do not cut off the stamp, but send us the whole envelope/postcard! All type of stamps and phonecards are received with thanks. We give them a "new" value.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

THE Norwegian birthday song: Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!

Karen Jaegersen Kunze

In the early days of our lodge our first president, Myrtle Beinhauer, was determined that we learn a Norwegian birthday song. However, as Inger explained at the time, Norwegians sing *Happy birthday to You!* And the true Norwegian birthday song is the one sung by Norwegian schoolchildren: *Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!* translated by Inger as 'Hurray for your Birthday!' So we decided to learn *Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!* It is a Norwegian folk song with lyrics by Margrethe Munthe (1860 – 1931). In recent years, though, we haven't been singing it. So in honor of charter member Dennis Darling's April milestone birthday, Margery played, and we sang, THE Norwegian birthday song. Only a few present remembered it, so here are the lyrics in Norwegian, the way we sing it, and also in English, translated for us by Inger many years ago. (English translations of this song are not 'singable'.) Want to revive this song in our lodge? Let our lodge officers know!

Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!

Ja, deg vil vi gratulere!

Alle i ring omkring deg vi står,

og se, nå vil vi marsjere,

bukke, nikke, neie, snu oss omkring,
danse så for deg med hopp og sprett
og spring,

ønske deg av hjertet alle gode ting

og si meg så, hva vil du mere?

Gratulere!

Hurray for your birthday

We congratulate you

We all stand around you in a circle

And now we will march

Bow, nod, curtsy, turn around

Dance for you with a hop, and skip, and jump

From the heart we wish you all good things

So tell me now, what more could you want?

Congratulations!

Editors Note: A recent non-scientific inquiry suggests both songs are equally sung around all regions of Norway.

Askeladden Lodge is invited to join Vasa at their Midsummer celebration June 24 at noon at Cadwallader Park in Hickory Corners. Celebrate with a Potluck buffet lunch, and singing and dancing around the Midsommarstang (Maypole).

Recap of April 2017 Lodge Meeting

Curtis A. Cleveland, Cultural Committee Chair

At the April Lodge meeting, members and guests enjoyed the Swedish movie *A Man Called Ove*. This comedy-drama was based on the New York Times bestseller of the same name by Fredrik Backman. It was nominated for



Jean and Dennis Darling, Karen Jaegersen Kunze and Margery Stomne Selden celebrating Dennis' special birthday.

a 2017 Academy Award for Foreign Language Film.

The movie was a last-minute substitute for the scheduled speaker, Inger Thoen, who was unavailable. Inger will give her program on the German Invasion and Occupation of Norway at a future meeting.

During the business session, Joyce Hare reported that no applications were received by the Scholarship Committee this year. Therefore, there will be no Askeladden-Beinhauer Scholarships this year, which is disappointing.

Joyce and Teri were in charge of the set-up for this meeting. Members enjoyed the meal.

Eighteen members and four guests attended the meeting. Thanks to all who attended and participated. Thanks also to Holly Jensen and the VASA Swedish Lodge for securing the movie for us on short notice.

The Last Kingdom

The Last Kingdom Season 2 is now on Netflix. As Alfred the Great defends his kingdom from Norse invaders, Uhtred -- born a Saxon but raised by Vikings -- seeks to claim his ancestral birthright. While the bloody struggle between Saxons and Vikings engulfs the land, Uhtred sets out to avenge his slain family. ***The Last Kingdom***, an original series by Netflix, stars: Alexander Dreymon, Emily Cox, and David Dawson. Netflix offers one month free introductory memberships. Regular memberships start at \$7.99 per month.

Watch a trailer for Season 2 (eight episodes) here:






<https://www.netflix.com/title/80074249>

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



www.sonsofnorway.com

MAI KALENDER

-  • mai 1 - Første Mai - Arbeidernes Dag - Labor Day in Norway
-  • mai 8 - Frigjøringsdagen, 1945 - V-E Day - Liberation Day
- mai 14 - Mother's Day USA and Canada
-  • mai 17 - Syttende Mai - Grunnlovsdag - Norwegian Constitution Day
- mai 17 - Masse Moro - early registration deadline
- **mai 21** - **Askeladden Syttende Mai Celebration & Barnetog**
and potluck dinner
2 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 504 S Westnedge Ave
-  • mai 22 - Victoria Day - Canada
- mai 25 - Kristi Himmelfartsdag - Ascension Day
-  • mai 29 - Memorial Day
- juni 10 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles for June/July issue

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

May Birthdays

Harper Fugett	Linda Lou Piper
Daniel Phillips	Larena Code
Pat Askelson	Ruth Hetletvedt
Alice Kraatz	Curt Osborn
Kris Spence	Jean Willinger

Note: Important May meeting information

Beginning with our **May** 2017 meeting, note that our meeting start time changes to **2 pm**. We hope to make our meetings more accessible to all members, including families with children.



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.