



the Askeladden News



May

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

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

5-18

www.norwayinkalamazoo.com

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

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) 789-0937

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

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

Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan

1 (800) 442-4146

gregragan@aol.com

Lodge contact info:

Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com

(269) 350-3330

Syttende Mai

Four Hands - One Piano

a concert performed by

Margery Stomne Selden

& Mary Jane Sullivan

2 p.m. Sunday, May 20

Trinity Lutheran Church

Please join us on Sunday, May 20 (yes, the third Sunday) at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo, for our Syttende Mai Celebration.

As a repeat of the concert we enjoyed two years ago, Margery Selden and Mary Jane Sullivan will perform a "Four Hands - One Piano" concert, performing music of Norwegian composer Edward Grieg.

The meeting will start at 2 p.m. with the meal. Please bring a dish, hot or cold, to share. The piano concert will begin at 3 p.m.

After the concert, Joyce Hare of the Scholarship Committee will present awards to the winners of this years Mrytle Beinhauer Askeladden Lodge Scholarships.

We also have some serious business to complete at this meeting. We have a Food Drive to support the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes (KL&F). Please bring a grocery bag of nonperishable food which will be given to the KL&F. In addition, we will collect monetary donations to be given to Food Banks that support Southwest Michigan. Please bring a check (or envelope with cash) made out to one of the following food banks: Food Bank of South Central Michigan in Battle Creek; or Feeding America West Michigan in Comstock Park. Checks may be made out to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes as well.

Please join us Sunday, May 20, 2 p.m., for an afternoon of celebration and community service.

First-ever Heritage Festival at Celery Flats

Askeladden Lodge will have a table with items of Norwegian heritage on display at the Portage Heritage Festival at Celery Flats in Portage on Saturday, May 12 from 2 - 5 p.m.

If you have any genuine Norwegian items, such as rosemaling, wood carving, Hardanger or Norwegian clothing that you are willing to loan us for the display, please contact Joan O'Bryan as soon as possible.

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

In this column, I'm looking back 10, 20, and 30 years, recalling how we celebrated Syttende Mai in the past.

In 2008, Dennis Darling was the Lodge President and we met at the Portage Senior Center for our monthly meetings. For the Cultural program, Margery Selden gave a lecture on Knut Hamsun, the Norwegian writer and winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1920. The Scholarship Committee awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to the following individuals: Charles Berdahl, Lindsay Cassetto, Kjartan Code, Scott Dawsey, Mark Finazzo, Eric Jensen, and Erin Piper. The 2008 Syttende Mai Celebration included a toast to the King and the singing of "God Bless the King."

In 1998, Terry Gilbertson was the Lodge President and the monthly meetings were held at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage. For the Cultural Program, members watched a video of King Olaf V, which was described as 'long' in the Askeladden Newsletter. In addition, members sang Norwegian songs, let by Margery Selden at the piano.

In 1988, May 13th to be exact, 66 members of the group Friends of Norway met at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage for the first Syttende Mai Celebration. The Friends of Norway, which was led by Myrtle Beinhauer, would become the Sons of Norway - Askeladden Lodge four months later on September 24, 1988. For the Cultural Program, Inger Thoen, Myrtle Beinhauer, Anne Rapp, and a Norwegian Exchange Student at Loy Norrix talked about Syttende Mai in Norway. Karen Kunze wrote an article titled "Kalamazoo's First Syttende Mai Celebration," which was published in the Friends of Norway Newsletter, describing in much detail the events of May 13, 1988.

Happy Syttende Mai Day!

Curtis Cleveland, Lodge President

Fra Membership Secretary

Dear Lodge Sisters and Brothers,

It is important for our lodge to keep in touch with our members. Because we live in a dynamic and mobile society, it is easy to lose track of one another. People move. People change contact information such as telephone numbers and email addresses. If your contact information (or that of your insured grandchildren not living with you) has recently changed please take a moment and send me an update at: aasbjorn@sbcglobal.net or contact the membership staff at Sons of Norway at fraternal@sofn.com.

Tussen takk,

Curt Osborn

Askeladden Membership Secretary

Summer Events

Curtis A. Cleveland

The schedule of summer events for Askeladden Lodge is set. Three events are scheduled, starting with the VASA Midsommarfest and Picnic on Saturday, June 23, at Cadwallader Park, Hickory Corners. Activities start at noon. The smorgasbord picnic starts at 1 p.m.

On Sunday, July 15, we make an excursion to the Crandall Farm near Marshall to spend an afternoon with the Norwegian Fjord Horses. Anne Crandall, along with her husband George and mother Bernadine Karns, will present the "Show and Ride" program from 2 to 4 p.m.

We close the season with the Ice Creme Social at Holly Jensen's home in Kalamazoo on Sunday, August 12, from 2 - 4 p.m.

Mark your calendars now and detailed information will be presented in the summer newsletters and announced on the Lodge Facebook page for your convenience.

Masse Moro Heritage Camp July 15-28: District 5 Matching Grants

Masse Moro is a two-week Norwegian Heritage children's camp run by Sons of Norway District 5 near Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Complete information about the camp can be found here: <http://massemoro.org>

As a lodge in District 5, Askeladden members are so fortunate that both the lodges and the District provide a matching grant of \$150 to campers, reducing the cost of the camp by \$300!

Here is how it works: After completing the camper application forms, Askeladden members apply to the Lodge for a grant of \$150 for their children or grandchildren attending Masse Moro by filling out the top half of a simple one-page form found here: <http://sonsofnorway5.com/library/original/docman/2018SonsofNorwayDistrict5-LodgeSupportForm1.pdf>

As long as you are a member in good standing (meaning dues are up to date), Lodge approval is automatic. Once the Lodge approves the grant, the Lodge completes the remaining fields on the form and it is sent with the \$150 check from the Lodge to District 5, where the grant is automatically matched for \$150 at the District level. Thus the first \$300 of the \$800 camp fee is covered, making the camp experience much more affordable for our families. Submit your matching grant application form directly to Lodge Treasurer Earnie Best as soon as possible. All Masse Moro financial aid forms are due May 17.

Other scholarships are also available for Masse Moro. Visit the District 5 web page for complete information on these scholarships as well as all application forms: http://sonsofnorway5.com/programs/masse_moro_heritage_camp.php

ASKELOADDEN NEWS



*Syttende Mai Children's Parade in Trondheim
with Nidaros Cathedral visible in the background.*

photo credit: Joan O'Bryan

Hurray! It's the 17th of May!

As the nation's most celebrated holiday, Syttende Mai honors the anniversary of the signing of the country's constitution in 1814. Over time the day and what it represents to the people of Norway has evolved greatly. Historically, May 17 stood as a day of politics involving speeches and rallies; today it is filled with national pride, festivities and tradition.

Each year, thousands of people in Norway — and around the world — take part in waving Norwegian flags, marching in children's parades and professing their love of Norway. Many of today's festivities are centered on music, food, children and graduating high school students. The largest parade takes place in Oslo and consists of more than 75 schools and marching bands, and is even attended by the Royal Family.

For more facts about Syttende Mai and details on how the day is celebrated, visit the Sons of Norway blog at

https://www.sofn.com/blog/2017/05/16/148/syttende_mai_10_fun_facts

Visit our Norwegian display at the Portage Heritage Festival at Celery Flats May 12

More information can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1818597704837161/>

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway

Contact Roger Drong with questions or to reserve resources.

2018 Scholarships Announced

Joyce Hare, Scholarship Committee Chairperson

Askeladden Lodge is please to announce the Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarship recipients for 2018. The awards of \$1,000 each will be awarded to Elizabeth Sherman and Christina Sherman. The awards will be presented at the May meeting of the Lodge at Trinity Lutheran Church, immediately following the Syttende Mai piano concert. We congratulate the winners.

Quarterly Board meeting announced

President Curtis Cleveland has announced the Board of Directors Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 12, at the residence of Earnie Best at 7 p.m. Interested lodge members are welcome to attend.

April meeting and program recap

Curtis A. Cleveland

Two young musicians captivated the 70 people who attended the "Vidar and Randy Concert of Nordic Music" in the sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo, on April 8.

This 60-minute concert was sponsored jointly by Askeladden Lodge and the VASA Lodge.

The two musicians were Vidar Skrede and Randy Gosa. Vidar, born in Norway, educated in Stockholm, migrated to the USA two years ago and currently lives in the Milwaukee area. Randy was raised and educated in Wisconsin and lives in the Milwaukee area.

Vidar played the tune of each song on a fiddle while Randy provided the base accompaniment on a guitar. Between the songs, Vidar introduced each number, giving the title of the song and telling the audience something about the music.

Lodge member Karin Code, who attended the concert, has performed with Vidar Skrede.

After the concert, members enjoyed a reception and lunch in Fellowship Hall with the two musicians. Many people purchased the CDs that Vidar was selling.

Several persons of both Askeladden Lodge and VASA Lodge helped in the preparation of this event, especially Holly Jensen, Joan O'Bryan, Teri Koretsky, and Joyce Hare.

At this meeting, there were 15 members and 8 guests of Askeladden Lodge in attendance. There was no business session of Askeladden Lodge at this meeting.



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

5749 Stadium Drive # 245
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

MAI KALENDER

-  • mai 1 - Første Mai - Arbeidernes Dag - Labor Day in Norway
-  • mai 8 - Frigjøringsdagen, 1945 - V-E Day - Liberation Day
- mai 10 - Kristi Himmelfartsdag - Ascension Day
- mai 12 - **Heritage Festival at Celery Flats** 2 pm - 5 pm
- mai 13 - Mother's Day USA and Canada
-  • mai 17 - Syttende Mai - Grunnlovsdag - Norwegian Constitution Day
- mai 17 - Masse Moro - early registration deadline & grants deadline
- mai 20 - Pinsedag (WhitSunday) - Pentecost
- **mai 20** - **Askeladden Syttende Mai Celebration & Barnetog**
and potluck dinner
2 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 504 S Westnedge Ave
-  • mai 21 - Victoria Day - Canada
- mai 25 - Kristi Himmelfartsdag - Ascension Day
-  • mai 28 - Memorial Day
- juni 1 - 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



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.