

ELVESUND

SONS OF NORWAY LODGE #5-593

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OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 20
Syttende Mai

Parade in Park Ridge



There will be no meeting at St. Michael's Church in May. Instead we will celebrate Norway Constitution Day in Park Ridge. Several of us will march in the parade, while others will staff our table in Hodges Park, across from the City Hall steps where the activities will be held, beginning at 12:00 PM with musical entertainment, a balloon artist, and face painting for children will be featured in the park.

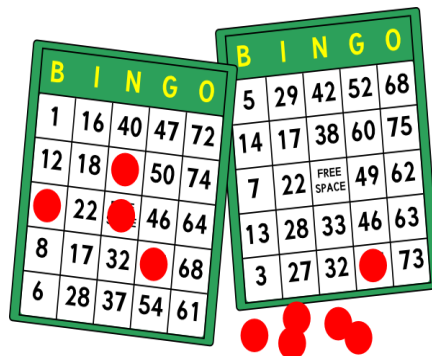
The parade (see page 4)

June 24
Bingo for Rivets

June is our annual indoor picnic—with no ants to bother us while we have a picnic feast, and play bingo for rivets for the Viking ship in Geneva.

Our main course will be fresh grilled bratwurst and condiments. Please bring picnic food: chips, potato salad, cole slaw, pickles, and the like. Maybe ice cream for dessert. Please call Phil Robinson to coordinate the food.

The bingo cards will be 25¢ per card; the winning card shares 1/2 with the rivet pot. Each rivet cost about \$10. Bring your friends and let's go riveting!



Meetings:
3:00—6:00 PM

**4th Sunday of
the Month**

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May-June, 2018

Inside This Issue

<i>Nancy's Notes</i>	2
<i>Gratulerer Med Dagen</i>	2
<i>New Regions</i>	3
<i>Dates to Remember</i>	3
<i>Syttende Mai Events</i>	4
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	5 5
<i>Norway's Constitution Memorial Day</i>	6 6
<i>Taps</i>	7
<i>Honoring Viking Spirit</i>	7
<i>Walnuts and Cheese</i>	8

NANCY'S NOTES

Rich Egeland sent me an email that I'd like to share with you.



He said: "I've attached a picture that was taken on Sunday night, 15 April 18. The left in the picture is Lt. Knut Grini of the Oslo Police Anti-terrorism unit. To the right is Craig Roberts, retired Chicago Police sergeant and president of the Scandinavian American Police and Fire Association. Knut is in town to give a lecture/presentation about anti-terrorism and is a friend of Craig's. We were at Lou Malnati's pizza in Lincolnwood, IL specifically to meet Knut and hear about his line of work, and he wanted authentic "local" food and pizza was right up there on his list. We talked of hours of duty/service, and he was surprised at all of the hours that I work. Norway has a limit to their hours and I agree wholeheartedly! Craig is threatening me with his

fist because the same picture was taken on his phone, but I did the bunny ears to him. I couldn't help myself.

"Knut is married and has two daughters. One lives in Oslo, and the other is 14 years old and is at home. Knut will be heading to Detroit, MI in the morning for another lecture and then back to Bergen, Norway, to resume his duties. He and I compared notes about presentations concentrating on what methods worked and what have not. There were quite a few subjects of conversation that we covered during the 3 hour dinner including our shared military experiences. He's traveled the United States extensively as part of his series of presentations and next year he'll be in Milwaukee, WI; this is his 7th time in the US and is in such demand that he has to turn down offers. I jokingly asked if he's learned his lesson yet which got a laugh out of him.

"All things being equal, he's quite the interesting gentleman and insisted that I stay in his home should I get a chance to visit the homeland. I'll take him up on it, too."

GRATULERER MED DAGEN

May

- 11 Stan Hungness
- 18 Phyllis Begun
- 19 Neesa Courtice
- 26 Ruth Peck
- 27 Robert Egeland
- 31 Elias Manuel Courtice

June

- 4 Paul Heyes
- 7 Mary Sordel
- 17 Margaret Bisberg
- 17 Charles Blomster
- 30 Dan Bjornson



NINETEEN COUNTIES TO BECOME REGIONS BY 2020



The Storting (Norway's parliament) recently passed the most comprehensive administrative reform since 1662. Back then, the country's administrative units transitioned from len to amt while under Danish rule. In this new reform, Norway's 19 fylker (counties) are planned to be replaced by 11 regioner (regions) by January 2020. Four existing counties (Nordland, Rogaland, Oslo, and Møre og Romsdal) will continue using the same names and borders as they had in 2017. The rest of the country will have two- and three-county groupings rolled out as regioner with new names.

This move aims to strengthen each region and improve coordination between municipalities, regions and state. The regions will assume over-

sight in a number of areas such as infrastructure, education, culture, business development and outdoor life. As far as parliamentary elections, for now the former fylker will remain the same constituencies as they were in 2017.

Meet the new regions:

- Aust-Agder and Vest Agder will become Agder
- Buskerud, Akershus and Østfold will be called Viken
- Finnmark and Troms will go forward as Troms og Finnmark
- Hordaland and Sogn og Fjordane will become Vestlandet
- Nord-Trøndelag and Sør-Trøndelag have already merged into the region of Trøndelag as of January 2018
- Oppland and Hedmark will be known as Innlandet
- Telemark og Vestfold will become Vestfold og Telemark

DATES TO REMEMBER

May:

- 1 Bring someone you love flowers on May Day.
- 8 Norway celebrates Liberation Day (known as V-E Day in the U.S.)
- 13 Mother's Day (always the second Sunday in May)
- 17 Syttende Mai, or Constitution Day in Norway. Celebrate!
- 21 Canada celebrates Victoria Day. Star Wars fans observe "Talk like Yoda Day."
- 28 Memorial Day in the U.S. Originally called Decoration Day, its name was changed in 1882.

June:

- 9 Happy Birthday, Donald Duck. Donald is the most popular Disney character (by far) in Norway and other Scandinavian countries. Donald first appeared in print on June 9, 1934, making him a spry 84-year-old this year.
- 14 Flag Day (U.S.) Displaying the nation's flag is a proud tradition in the U.S. and Norway.
- 18 International Picnic Day. An excuse to enjoy the great outdoors with friends and family. Enjoy!
- 29 Waffle Iron Day. A must-have appliance for making this yummy, heart-shaped treat. Top it with your favorites like strawberry compote or sweet-savory brunost or gjetost.

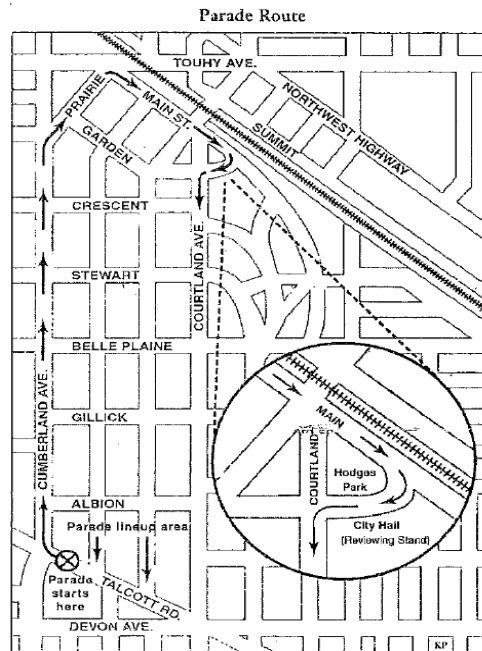
Syttende Mai

(continued from page 1
will step off at 1:00 at Talcott
and Cumberland.

Elvesund invites all who wish to march or drive a car behind our banner. Join us in the celebration. Meet us in the parking lot to line up. We will be #24 in the line-up.

We will staff a table in the park across from City Hall. Please stop by. Pre-parade entertainment this year are Norwegian Bachelor Farmers from Wisconsin. Programming after the parade will include greetings by special guests, presentation of scholarship winners, and folk dancing by Leikarringen "Heimhug."

Parking areas include at the line-up and parade-finish areas; street parking is allowed at both locations. Parking restrictions are not in effect on Sundays.



Syttende Mai Events

THURSDAY, May 17

Celebration Concert at Minnekirken, the Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church of Chicago, 2614 N. Kedzie Blvd., Chicago, 7:30 P.M. 773-252-7335. Free will offering, refreshments following the concert. Information: 773-252-7335..

FRIDAY, May 18

NACC (Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce), 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM, Metropolitan Club, Willis Tower, Chicago, IL. www.naccchicago.org.

SATURDAY, May 19

Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet. Park Ridge Country Club, Park, Ridge, IL. Social hour 6:00 P.M., dinner 7:00 P.M. Dancing to Steve Cooper Trio. \$75.00 per person.

Special Guest: Kaare Nevdal, who was just 19 when the Germans invaded his homeland of Norway in 1940. Life in his small, west coast village near Bergen soon became intolerable under the occupation. By the following spring, he decided to escape to England. Come hear

his story.

Information: C. Hoidahl, 847-358-1527. Reservation deadline: May 10. Raffle table.

SUNDAY, May 20

Norwegian Constitution Day Parade, Park Ridge. Steps off at 1:00 PM at Talcott and Cumberland, ending at Hodges Park. Pre-parade festivities begin at 12:00 PM and include activities for children, vendors, and refreshments. Entertainment. Information: Barbra 847-823-7596.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- May 9 **Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce (NACC) & Nordic Law Club of Chicago Spring Dinner**, University Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL. 5:30 PM, \$80.00 per person, David Clark 11:30 n9rx@yahoo.com.
- May 17 **Norwegian Constitution Day Concert**, Minnekirken, Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church, 2619 N. Kedzie, Chicago, IL, 7:30 P.M. Refreshments following concert. Free will offering.
- May 18 **Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce Constitution Day Luncheon**, 11:30 AM, Metropolitan Club, Chicago, IL www.nacchicago.org.
- May 19 **Visit the Viking Ship**. Exhibit will be open from 1:00-4:00 PM, Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL.
- May 19 **Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet**. Park Ridge Country Club, Park Ridge, IL. Social hour 6:00 P.M., Dinner 7:00 P.M., dancing to Steve Cooper Trio, \$75.00 per person. Guest speaker: Kaare Nevdal. Raffle. Information: C. Hoidahl 847-358-1527. www.nnleague.org.
- May 20 **Norwegian Constitution Day Parade**, Hodges Park, Park Ridge, IL. Entertainment begins at 12:00. Barbra Kronborg-Mogil 847-823-7596 www.nnleague.org.

June

- June 2 **Taste of Norway Breakfast**, 8:00-11:00 A.M., Norway Community Building, Norway, IL
Tickets: 815-343-5070, www.NorskMuseum.org.
- June 17 **Visit the Viking Ship**. 10:0 AM—5:00 PM. Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL., fees for docent-led tour of the ship, adults/teens TBA, children 12 and under free. www.vikingship.us.
- June 23 **Midsummer Celebration**, Vasa Park, South Elgin, IL 3:30 PM, \$5.00 adults (Scandinavian Park members free, children 12 and under free). Maypole raising, picnic dinner at 6:00, bonfire lighting at sunset. Main course provided by the park; please bring a family-sized dish to pass.
www.vasaparkil.com
- June 23-24 **Annual Norwegian Rosemaling Show and Sale**. Illinois Norsk Rosemalers Association. Good Templar Park Community House, Geneva, IL Sat. 10:00 AM—5:00 PM, Sun 11:00 AM-5:00 PM, www.rosemaling.org.
- June 23-24 **Viking Ship Visitors Day** 1:00 PM—4:00 PM, Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL. Adult and teen \$5.00 fee to enter the park. Additional \$3.00 fee to tour the ship. Children free.
www.vikingship.us
- June 24 **Elvesund Lodge Meeting**, St. Michael's Church, 500 E. 31st St., LaGrange Park, IL. 3:00—6:00. Bingo for rivets. 25¢ per card. Winner gets 1/2 pot; 1/2 pot goes to buy rivets for the Viking Ship in Geneva, IL.
- June 29-30 **Sons of Norway District 5 Convention**, Radisson Hotel, LaCrosse, WI. Bi-Annual meeting and various cultural classes offered to non-delegates.

FACTS ABOUT NORWEGIAN CONSTITUTION

Most of us know that the Constitution was signed on May 17, 1814, a day that Norway celebrates today with massive parades, and parties annually. But there are plenty more interesting facts surrounding this event, arguably Norway's greatest event in history.

- **Did you know...**that the Constitution that was signed and adopted is the second oldest written Constitution in the world still in existence today? At the time it was also considered to be the most forward thinking and radically democratic Constitution ever written.
- **Did you know...**that the Constitution underwent a linguistic revision in 1903? The overall language of the Constitution has basically remained unaltered, and the 1903 language is still used when proposed changes are made to the Constitution.
- **Did you know...**that the document was inspired by the United States and French constitutions? The main difference was the text that referred to Norway as a

Constitutional Monarchy.

- **Did you know...**that within the famous portrait of the Constituent Assembly at Eidsvoll, about 70 of the 112 delegates present were painted well enough to be identified?
- **Did you know...**that the representatives who put the Constitution together were under great pressure to finish the document? The Constitution was written and signed in 5 weeks. The January 14, 1814 Kiel Treaty said that Denmark would relinquish control over Norway to Sweden. During that transition of power, Norway was considered an independent kingdom. In taking full advantage of that control a Constituent Assembly was put together, a King was appointed and a Constitution was written.

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day was first observed on May 30, 1868. It was originally called "Decoration Day," created to honor Union soldiers who'd died while fighting in the Civil War. Because of this, southern states did not observe Memorial Day until after World War I, when the holiday was expanded to include soldiers from all wars.

The red poppy is a traditional symbol of Memorial Day (many veterans wear them to commemorate the day). The poppy was inspired by World War I-era John McCrae poem "In Flanders Fields."

In 1924, an artificial poppy factory was created in Pittsburgh, PA, and employed veterans who needed work.

Memorial Day observance peaked in the first part of the 20th century, when aged Civil War veterans attended parades in towns across America. Memorial Day observances were at an all-time low in the 1960's, then experienced a resurgence in the 1980's.

Memorial Day wouldn't have lasted without WWI and WWII. This rift and the deaths of the country's remaining Civil War veterans caused the waning.

On the Thursday before Memorial Day, soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery. They patrol the cemetery 24 hours a day during the

weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. This tradition, called "Flags In," has been in place since 1948.

"Memorial Day" did not become the holiday's official name until 1967, when federal law declared it. It wasn't established as an official holiday until 1968 when LBJ signed the Uniform Monday Holiday Law. It was moved from its traditional May 30 date to the last Monday in May in order to ensure a three-day weekend.

In 2004, Washington, DC held its first Memorial Day parade in over 60 years. This coincided with the dedication of the National World War II Memorial.

3PM on Memorial Day is the "National Moment of Remembrance," established by President Bill Clinton to give everyone a chance to reflect on the true purpose and sacrifices that should be honored on Memorial Day.

The 21-gun salute has more symbolic roots as the emptying of a weapon signifies "I yield to your authority, and as proof I've just rendered my weapon incapable of being used against you." The earliest known use of this tradition occurred in the 14th century when warships would fire seven cannon salutes to honor their fallen soldiers.

TAPS

We in the United States have all heard the haunting song, “Taps.” It’s the song that gives us the lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? (Perhaps urban legend) Reportedly, it all began in 1962 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Elli was with his men near Harrison’s Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Elli heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army. The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The

Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth’s uniform. The wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as “Taps” used at military funerals was born. The words are:

Day is done	Fading light
Gone the sun	Dims the night
From the lakes	And a star
From the hills	Gems the sky
From the sky	Gleaning bright
All is well	From afar
Safely rest.	Drawing nigh
God is nigh.	Falls the night.

Thanks and praise

For our days
Neath the sun
Neath the stars
Neath the sky
As we go.
This we know
God is nigh.

Remember those lost and harmed while serving their country. Also remember those who have served and returned; and for those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

HONORING THE VIKING SPIRIT AND PEACE

Vikings sailed the seas as master sailors and explorers. But you may be surprised to learn that a Viking sword unearthed from a grave in Oslo, estimated to be forged in 900 A.D., can be found on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. How did it get there?

In late 1943, then General Dwight Eisenhower became the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe during World War II. He remained in command of Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) until the end of the war.

More than 10 years later, King Olav V of Norway handed the ancient sword to the Christian Radis’s Captain for one final sea voyage. It was presented to President Eisenhower in 1957.

He served with a warrior’s spirit when needed, and helped bring liberty back to Norway and all of Europe. Today, the Viking sword is held by the U.S. Naval Academy Museum and proudly displayed at the U.S. Naval Institute.

When Norwegians recognize VE-Day or Liberation Day on May 8, they are honoring Norway’s return to freedom and peace. On Liberation Day in 2015, King Harald V said, “Peace should never be taken for granted. It is not taken for granted today, nor was it 70 years ago.”

Remember Sons of Norway is a financial benefit society. If you need financial planning or insurance information, call **Greg Regan** at 800-442-4146.

Nancy Robinson
President
835 Circle Avenue
Forest Park, IL 60130

**Meetings:
3:00—6:00 PM**

**4th Sunday of
the Month**



WALNUT AND CHEESE (VALNØTTER OG OST)



Walnut halves
Normanna cheese (Norwegian blue cheese)
Butter or light cream
Green grapes

Rub cheese through a sieve, or mash with a fork and blend with a little butter (room temperature) or cream.

Place a small amount of cheese on whole walnut halves, press a grape into the cheese on one half and top with the other half.

Place a toothpick into the grape. Arrange the appetizers on a platter with curly endive.