

ELVESUND

SONS OF NORWAY LODGE #5-593

PRESIDENT/EDITOR: Nancy Robinson, 835 Circle Avenue, Forest Park, IL 60130, , 708-366-1538

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 15
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 by Kyle Elsbernd and Dave Kirkeby. Magic by Bibik, a balloon artist, and face painting for children will be featured in the park.

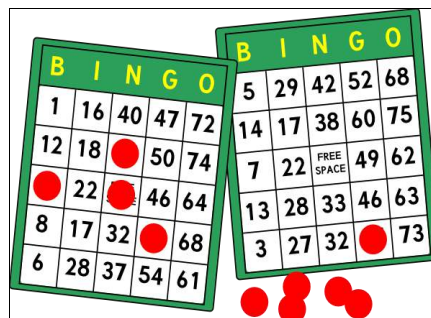
The parade (see page 4)

June 26
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 food: 630-209-9450.

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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Inside This Issue

During WWII & After 2
Gratulerer Med Dagen 2

Norway's VE Day 3
Syttende Mai in 3
Norway 4

Syttende Mai Events 4

Calendar of Events 5
Blomkalsuppe 5

Draken Harald Harfa- 6
gre
Memorial Day 6

Taps 7
Mother's Day 7

Norwegian National 8
Anthem

SYTTENDE MAI DURING AND AFTER THE WAR

For more than 150 years, Syttende Mai has been celebrated as a salute to tolerance and national unity. The day is truly a declaration of love to Norway's most important values of peace, freedom, and equality. But how was the day celebrated during the German occupation?

The German authorities were quite clear over what this democracy-oriented national holiday meant for Norwegian loyalists, and put in place measures to fight and punish any rabble-rousers.

On the first Syttende Mai after the German invasion, all celebration or display of the flag was banned by the Germans. The flag was used as a visual protest against the occupation, so the Germans kept issuing new orders to solve the problem. Singing the national song was forbidden, and any flags had to be hidden away.

In 1941, Syttende Mai was declared to be a normal workday in Norway, but it was nonetheless decided to allow flags to be flown from poles . . . but not at half mast, as many Norwegians decided to do as an expression of the country's tragic situation under German rule. Afterwards, the Germans instituted dozens of new restrictions on the flag. In effect, it became forbidden to carry or wear the flag or its colors. In larger cities, this meant that Syttende Mai was most commonly commemorated indoors.

And so the situation persisted through the war. Next to the king's monogram, the flag was among the most important symbols of a free Norway, and the Germans fought an endless war against the obstinacy of the Norwegians. As the Germans enacted more and more restrictions, people started using more subtle symbols like paper clips and nisse hats.

It comes as no surprise then that the Syttende Mai celebration of 1945—just a few days after the German surrender—became an explosion of joy in the national colors in those feverish spring days. [Translated and adapted from http://www.nrk.no/magasin/17_mai/1.2317821.]

After five years under German occupation during World War II, Norway's long-awaited day of liberation came on May 8, 1945. At this time, Germany still had nearly 350,000 well-equipped and trained soldiers throughout Norway. But as the German army surrendered at several points on the European front, Norway at last received its liberation as well. Though Norway still feared that the German soldiers would not concede peacefully, hardly any incidents were reported during the liberation. Joy and gratitude swept through Norway and for several days the people celebrated. Never before had Syttende Mai been celebrated with such vigor as in 1945.

GRATULERER MED DAGEN

May

19 Janeesa Courtice
24 Marie Gillespie
26 Ruth Peck
27 Robert Egeland
31 Elijah Manuel Courtice

June

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



NORWAY'S VE DAY—1945

On May 8, 1945, Norwegians everywhere could finally celebrate their freedom after spending five long years under unyielding Nazi rule. When the day of liberation came, “Hurray! Hurray!” was all that could be heard, and the streets of every Norwegian city were flooded with flags. This momentous day was celebrated with singing, parades, and the warm embrace of fellow countrymen. Towns throughout Norway were awash in red, blue, and white.

Broadcasts from BBC were heard through the streets as people began emerging with flags and smiles restored to full strength. Infamous Nazi supporter Vidkun Quisling was tried and quickly found guilty of high treason, which brought an end to his reign as Minister-President of Norway. On June 7, 1945, the Royal family returned to Norway. King Haakon, Crown Prince Olav, Crown Princess Märtha and their children received a momentous homecoming in Oslo to solidify the country's liberation.

Unfortunately, the end of the occupation did not mean the conclusion of all hardships experienced by Norwegians. Because of the loss of their trading partners and the German confiscation of food staples during the war, Norwegians everywhere were on the brink of famine. This would have a profound and long-lasting effect on the Norwegian psyche. It

instilled a habit of frugality and fear of economic shortage. This, in turn, affected the way citizens voted in local and national elections, giving rise to the Norwegian government's Labour Party.

The Labour Party's motto became, “working for the people,” and Norway recognized the importance of industrialization and the exportation of lumber and fish. But they needed help in beginning this long road back to recovery. American's world influence and economic strength was the answer. Aid was sent to Norway under The Marshall Plan devised and powered by U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall, President Harry Truman, and the American people. Norwegian-Americans quickly collected goods to send to their relatives across the sea.

The U.S. and Norway's cooperation and friendship strengthened during this time of rebuilding. Norway became a stronger economic force in the world. Things had gone back to normal, and the Norwegian people began anew. Norway continued to progress.

In the end, Germany's occupation became a scar on Norway's history but strengthened their national pride and secured their relationship with America, a relationship that remains strong today.

SYTTENDE MAI IN NORWAY

For Norwegians, May 17, Syttende Mai, is one of the biggest days of the year. To get a feel for how most Norwegians like to celebrate their national day, let's follow an imaginary family, Arne and Ingvild Hansen and their children, 18-year-old Maria and 8-year-old Daniel.

The Hansens start their day with a big breakfast of herring, smoked salmon and other open-faced sandwich toppings. Then it's time to head to the big parade. Daniel joins with his schoolmates to march in the *barnetog*, or children's parade. For Maria, who will soon be finished with secondary school, Syttende Mai marks the end of weeks of a uniquely Norwegian celebration known as *russetiden*. With her fellow *russ*, or graduates, she, too, marches in the parade.

Arne and Ingvild meanwhile stand with the rest of their town dressed in their very finest, a *bunad* for Ingvild and a suit and tie for Arne, waving their Norwegian flags and singing the national anthem “Ja, vi elsker.”

After the parade, Maria joins with her *russ* friends for a while as mom and dad take Daniel to join in the children's games organized by schools and the town. Daniel is treated to the favorite of Norwegian children, *pølse*, *brus*, and *is*, or hot dogs, soda pop and ice cream.

To end their big day, the Hansens come back together at home for a Syttende Mai meal of *rømmegrøt*, *grillenmat*, and *kransekake*, or cream porridge, grilled food and almond ring cake, as well as a little *eggedosis*, eggnog minus the milk.

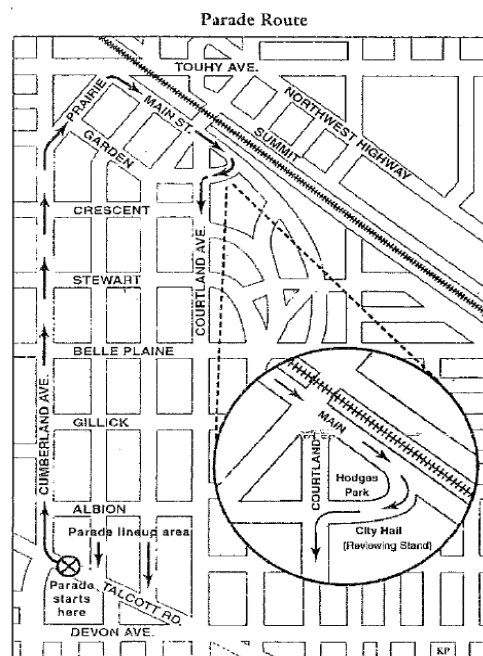
Syttende Mai

(continued from page 1)
will step off at 1:00 at Talcott and Cumberland. Parade Grand Marshall will be the Norsk Museum.

Elvesund will have two cars and a number of marchers in our line-up. Join us in the celebration. This year we're #30 in the line-up.

We will staff a table in the park across from City Hall. Please stop by. Magic by Bibik, a balloon artist, and face-painting for children will be featured in the park. 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

FRIDAY, May 13

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

Company. \$75.00 per person.

Information: C. Hoidahl, 847-358-1527. Reservation deadline: May 10. Bucket raffle.

Entertainment by Kyle Elsbernd and Dave Kirkeby. Grand Marshall is Norsk Museum. Information: Barbra 847-823-7596.

SATURDAY, May 14

Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet. Park Ridge Country Club, Park Ridge, IL. Social hour 6:00 P.M., dinner 7:00 P.M. Dancing to Frank K. Duo and

SUNDAY, May 15

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.

FRIDAY, May 15

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..

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- May 13 **Norwegian American Chamber of Commerce (NACC) Constitution Day Luncheon**, 11:30 AM, Metropolitan Club, Chicago, IL, www.naccchicago.org.
- May 14 **Norwegian Constitution Day Banquet**. Park Ridge Country Club, Park Ridge, IL. Social hour 6:00 P.M., Dinner 7:00 P.M., dancing to Frank K. Duo and Company, \$75.00 per person. Bucket raffle. Information: C. Hoidahl 847-358-1527.
- May 15 **Norwegian Constitution Day Parade**, Hodges Park, Park Ridge, IL. Information: Barbra Kronborg-Mogil 847-823-7596. www.nnleague.org.
- 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 21 **Viking Ship Visitors' Day**. Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL. 1:00 PM—4:00 PM Adults \$5.00; teens \$3.00, children 12 and under free. www.vikingship.us

June

- June 4 **A Taste of Norway Breakfast**, Norway Community Building, Norway, IL, 7:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. Advanced tickets Adults \$8.00, children 8 and under \$5.00, tickets at the door: Adults \$9.00, children 8 and under \$6.00. Dave Johnson 815-343-5070.
- June 9-11 **Norwegian Singers Association of America 61st Biennial Sangerfest**, Sioux Falls, SD, www.nsaaonline.org.
- June 18 **Midsummer Celebration**, Vasa Park, South Elgin, IL 3:30 PM, members free, \$5.00 adults, children 12 and under free. www.vasaparkil.com
- June 19 **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. Fee to enter the park on June 19, adults/teens \$5.00, children 12 and under free.
- June 22-26 **Sons of Norway District 5 Biennial Lodge Meeting & Convention**, Marshfield, WI.
- June 25-26 **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 25-26 **Viking Ship Visitors' Day** 10:00 AM—5:00 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 26 **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 rivets for the Viking Ship in Geneva, IL.

BLOMKÅLSUPPE (Cauliflower Soup)

- 1 medium head cauliflower
- 3 Tbsp. flour
- 1/2 onion or 3-4 green onions, chopped
- 3 cans cream of chicken soup
- 2-3 ribs celery, chopped
- 3 soup cans milk and half & half, mixed
- 5-6 slices bacon, cup up
- 1 Tbsp. chicken bouillon
- Nutmeg

Brown bacon in fry pan; remove to paper towel when crisp. Fry onion and celery in bacon fat, cooking until celery is crisp-tender and onion transparent. Add flour and bouillon to 3 Tbsp. bacon fat and stir until smooth. Add soup and milk/cream mixture; stir until smooth and slightly thickened. Cook cauliflower in salted water just until done. Do not overcook. Break up flowerets and mix along with vegetable stock to soup mixture. Simmer, but don't boil. Serve with bacon bits and sprinkle with nutmeg.

This is best made one day ahead. Do not let it boil when reheating.

DRAKEN HARALD HÅRFAGRE SAILS FROM NORWAY

On April 26, 2016, *Draken Harald Hårfagre*, the world's largest Viking ship built in modern times, left her home port in Haugesund, Norway, and sailed off for a challenging voyage across the north Atlantic Ocean, bound for North America.

The Vikings were accomplished navigators, artisans, and traders, but their greatest triumph was the ship they built. This expedition is about exploring the world, just like the Vikings did. The goal is to explore and relive the first transatlantic crossing, the Viking discovery of the New World, more than 1000 years ago. Leif Eriksson discovered America over 500 years before Christopher Columbus.

The ship will be at Navy Pier for viewing from July 27-31. Are you planning to see her? Stop by the Friends of the Viking Ship booth while you are there.



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
Gone the sun
From the lakes
From the hills
From the sky.
All is well
Safely rest.
God is nigh.

Fading light
Dims the sight
And a star
Gems the sky
Gleaming bright
From afar
Drawing 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.

MOTHER’S DAY

Sunday the 17th	Søndag den 17	Mother’s Day	morsdag
mother	mor	celebrate	feire
mother and daughter	mor og datter	breakfast in bed	frokost på sengen
chocolate	sjokolade	greeting card	gratulesjonskort
love	elske	son	sønn

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**



NORWEGIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

A little in English

Norwegian National Anthem

Yes, we love with fond devotion
This our land that looms
Rugged, storm-scarred o'er the ocean,
With her thousand homes.
Love her, in our love recalling
Those who gave us birth.
And old tales which night, in falling,
Brings as dreams to earth.

Norseman, whatso'er thy station,
Thank thy God, Whose power
Willed and wrought the land's salvation in her
darkest hour.
All our mothers sought with weeping
And our sires in fight,
God has fashioned, in His keeping,
Till we gained our right.

Litt på norsk

Nasjonalsangen

Ja, vi elsker dette landet
Som det stiger frem,
Furet, værbitt over vannet
Med de tusen hjem,
Elsker, elsker det og tenker
På vår far og mor
Og den saganatt som senker
Drømme på vår jord.

Norske mann i hus og hytte,
Takk din store Gud!
Landet ville han beskytte,
Skjønt det mørkt så ut.
Alt hva fedrene har kjempet,
Mødrene har grett,
Har den Herre stille limpet,
Så vi vant vå rett.