

# ELVESUND

## SONS OF NORWAY LODGE #5-593

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### OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 23

**Kathleen Dobias  
and  
The Hjemkomst of  
Robert Asp**

Inspired by the Cultural Skills Medal Genealogy program of Sons of Norway, Kathleen followed a path that “reconnected” her with her family in North Dakota.



While in the Moorhead area, Kathleen visited the Hjemkost Center, bringing us the story of Robert Asp, who built the Hjemkost Viking ship replica. While building the ship he was diagnosed with leukemia. His dream inspired his family and community to join him in the completion of the Hjemkost's journey home.

Join us as Kathleen shares two inspirational stories and tells us of her new life.

October 28

**Paul S. Anderson**



Come to meet Paul S. Anderson, Honorary Consul General, Hon. Royal Norwegian Consulate General.

Currently President of the Norwegian-American Chamber of Commerce, Chicago Chapter, Paul will share his ladder of accomplishments, what it's like to be a Consul General.



**Meetings:  
3:00—6:00 PM**

**4th Sunday of  
the Month**

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## HISTORY OF THE MARIUS SWEATER

The Marius sweater was designed in 1953 by Unn Søliland, and sold to Sandnes Woolen Factory in 1953 as a knitting pattern. Today, it is known as the best-selling and most-knitted pattern in Norway. It is considered a Norwegian national sweater, an icon that says something about the Norwegians' enthusiastic relationship with trips in the woods and fields, in the free Norwegian nature.



Designer Unn Søliland made history by designing new patterns and using wool with strong colors, which was unusual at that time. This made “Norwegian sweaters” great fashion, also abroad—and “Norwegian sweaters” became an internationally popular item.

Unn Søliland Dale received the King's Medal of Merit in gold for her life-long pioneering work to develop Norwegian knitting traditions and designs for hand knitting and wool, and to make Norwegian woolen textiles known internationally.

### Good Old Marius Sweaters

Unn Søliland was the first woman to become a member of the Norwegian Federation of Industries, when she organized women

who knitted throughout Norway, which was regarded as a “cottage industry.” Over the years, she organized more than 1,000 Norwegian women for her production.

She designed and produced hand-knitted goods for German Uli Richter. She designed patterns for the American company McGreggor, and later in the 90s she designed the most exclusive handknits for the French Christian Dior, Hubert de Givenchy, and Castelbajac. She is the only Norwegian designer to have had handknits on French catwalks in Paris.

The quality of the craft in Unn Søliland's organized hand-knitting production, coupled with her elegant designs, was one of the reasons this became a major export article—and why the term “Norwegian sweaters” has such a high value for most foreigners today.

Stein Eriksen was the elder brother of Marius Eriksen, and an Olympic gold medalist in slalom in the Winter Olympics in Oslo 1952. Stein was the more famous of the two brothers, but he could not be a paid model as he would risk losing his amateur status in the Olympic games. That's why his brother Marius took the job. Marius was also an excellent skier; he was a war hero and an actor in the movie “Troll I Ord” [expression meaning if you say something dangerous, it may come true through the “troll in your words”] in which he wore one of Unn Søliland's sweaters. Marius Eriksen gave his home to the sweater on the pattern for Sandnes Garn that year. That's how “the Marius sweater” got its name, and became famous because the film was a big success all over Norway. Everyone wanted to knit Marius sweaters.

**Remember** Sons of Norway is a financial benefit society and offers some excellent financial products, including life insurance, long-term care insurance, and annuities. For more information, to [www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com) and click on “Financial Products” or contact our area's Financial Benefits Counselor: call **Greg Regan** at 800-442-4146, email: [gregragan@aol.com](mailto:gregragan@aol.com).

# STAVE KIRKE MEMORIAL CHICAGO DEDICATION

Written by Jon Satrum

Norwegians from Orkdal traveled to Chicago to attend the dedication of a memorial plaque at the original 1893 site of the Stave Kirke there at the international Columbian Exposition. They were joined by individuals from the Chicago Norwegian-American community and representatives of the Illinois State Historical Society.

The Columbian Exposition was a world's fair held in Chicago in 1893 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the New World in 1492.

Many of you may have visited Little Norway in Blue Mounds, Wisconsin and seen the stave kirke there. The stave kirke was originally at the current location of the Museum of Science and Industry during the 1893 Columbian Exposition and then later moved to Little Norway. Before it closed in 2014, Little Norway was a living museum of a Norwegian village located in Blue Mounds, Wisconsin. Little Norway consisted of a fully restored farm dating to the mid-19th century. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## A LITTLE HISTORY

Commissioned by Norwegian officials for the World's Fair, it had been built as a symbol of cultural pride and patterned after the stave churches that, in the Middle Ages, dotted the rugged Norwegian landscape.

After the fair, the Norway Building was moved to Lake Geneva, where it was installed on a lakeside estate eventually owned by the Wrigleys. A wealthy Norwegian-American named Isak Dahle acquired it in 1935 and brought it to his summer retreat in Blue Mounds.

Almost as soon as Dahle had erected the ornate building on his rural property, neighbors began hopping a fence to come see it. So Dahle hired a caretaker and charged admission, 5 cents for adults and 3 cents for children.

Crown Prince Olav, who later became king of Norway, came for a tour in 1939, and his son, Crown Prince Harald, the current king, visited in 1965, according to the 1992 book "The Norway Building of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair."

When Little Norway closed in 2014, a group from Orkdal, Norway, created "Project Heimat"

to bring the church back to Norway where after reconstruction, it was dedicated in 2017. Now, they return to place a dedication plaque at the original site of the stave kirke in 1893.



Russell Lewis, V.P., and Chief Historian of the Chicago History Museum, welcomed the group to Chicago. He spoke to the group about the importance of preserving history, the importance of historical markers help, and thanked the group for their efforts in preserving part of Illinois history.

Jon Satrum brought greetings from Paul Anderson Consulate General of Norway in Chicago, Barbra Kronberg-Mogil, president of the Norwegian National League of Chicago, and Trønderlag of America.

Arne Asphjell, tour director, and one of the leaders of Project Heimatt, which brought the church back to Norway, told about the history of the church and the journey back to Norway.

Lars Sølberg was a volunteer craftsman/builder who was a major player in dismantling the building in Wisconsin and reassembling it in Norway.

## **About the Stave Kirke (wooden church)**

A stave church is a medieval wooden Christian church building. The name comes from the construction of the building with load-bearing posts of the church (continued on page 4



## STAVE KIRKE (continued from Page 3)

(stav in modern Norwegian) made of cured pine wood. Most stav churches were built between 1150 and 1350. Once there were more than 1,000 stave churches in Norway, but today there are only 28 and are a great source of pride for the

Norwegian people.

To learn more about the church and its journey, multiple news organizations have written about the return of the Norway Building to Orkdal, Norway.

## SON DISTRICT 5 CONVENTION, JUNE 28-30, 2018

By Marie Gillespie.

I've driven through LaCrosse hundreds of times travelling to visit family and friends over the years. It is fitting that the first time I stopped there was for my first Sons of Norway District 5 convention this past June. It was blistering hot outside and buzzing with friendship and activity inside. The people gathered were a lovely mix of people who knew each other and people who had never met. And one thing linked us all: our love of Norway and all things Sons of Norway. Various cultural arts of knitting, wood working, painting, sewing and more were on lovely display in one room. In another area, there were many vendors with beautiful wares such as rosemaling, carving, knitting, hardanger, and more. During the two full days of business meetings, the process was fascinating as Roberts Rules of Order guided discussion, and speaking and voting on various resolutions and bylaws was accomplished by us holding up our paddles with our delegate number. Members spoke with great passion and conviction about every topic. One evening, we had a boat ride on the Mississippi Queen paddleboat, viewing eagles and enjoying the summer night. I also very much enjoyed extra time to get to know my fellow Elvesund Lodge members, Nancy and Tom. They

were veterans and I am a newcomer, and we enjoyed our shared time.

A quick rundown of the Resolutions and By-laws that we voted on showed the most passionate discussions centered on Golden Membership and also the implications of a spouse receiving half of the stipend to attend the International Convention if both spouses are delegates.

Resolution #1: International forms will be approved at spring meeting.

#2: The Boards will develop a plan to involve Central Lodge members into local lodges.

#3/#4: Stipends/reimbursements were approved for District Board officers.

#5: Emblems and Regalia will be developed for the local and district level leadership.

Bylaw proposal #1: To reinstate the Golden Membership classification was unanimously voted to recommend to the International Board.

Bylaw proposal #2: To determine stipends for host lodge of the district convention and delegates. "Husband and wife" language was changed to "spouses."

Bylaw proposal #3: Language was clarified about District 5 paying the Masse Moro camp administrators and matching tuition funds.

Bylaw proposal #4: Revisions to zone descriptions to reflect disbanding of five lodges.

## GRATULERER MED DAGEN

### September

2 Gardis Dahle  
21 Linda Courtice  
22 John Myhre

### October

6 Ruth Courtice  
10 Judy Arnold  
25 Solveig Pederson



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September

- Sept. 9 **38th Annual Scandinavian Day Festival**, Vasa Park, 35W217 Route 31, South Elgin, IL, 10:00-6:00. Adults: \$10, children 12 and under FREE, free parking. Traditional food, crafts, games, gifts and entertainment. Celebrate the five Nordic cultures and heritage. 847-695-6720, [www.scandinaviandayil.com](http://www.scandinaviandayil.com).
- Sept. 15 **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](http://www.vikingship.us).
- Sept. 23 **Kathleen Dobias / The Hjemkomst of Robert Asp**, Elvesund Lodge Meeting, St. Michael's Church, 500 E. 31st, St., LaGrange Park, IL. 3:00-6:00. 630-209-9450.
- Sept. 22-23 **Jumping Tournament**, Norge Ski Club, 33rd Annual Summer Ski Jumping Tournament, Fox River Grove, IL, [www.norgeskiclub.com](http://www.norgeskiclub.com)

### October

- Oct. 6 **Scandinavian Park Annual Fish Boil and Harvest Festival**, Vasa Park, South Elgin, IL, 1:00-5:00PM. [www.vasaparkil.com](http://www.vasaparkil.com).
- Oct. 7 **Leif Erikson Wreath Laying Ceremony**, 10:00 AM, Humboldt Park, N. Sacramento Blvd., Chicago, IL.
- Oct. 7 **Norwegian Sloop Society of America 95th Annual Meeting**, Norway Community Center, Ottawa, IL, 1:00 PM, entertainment by Stoughton Norwegian Dancers.
- Oct. 20 **Friends of Vesterheim Luncheon & Nordic Marketplace**, Park Ridge Country Club, Park Ridge, IL. Marketplace 9:30 AM. Luncheon & Program 12:30 PM, [www.vesterheim.org](http://www.vesterheim.org).
- Oct. 20 **Viking Ship Visitors' Day** 10:00 AM—4:00 PM, Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL. Adult and teens \$5.00 fee to enter the park. Additional \$3.00 fee to tour the ship. Children free. [www.vikingship.us](http://www.vikingship.us).
- Oct. 21 **Normennenes Singing Society 148th Anniversary Concert & Dinner Dance**, 2:00 PM, Northbrook Hilton, Northbrook, IL. [www.norgesins.org](http://www.norgesins.org).



Photo: Perry Straw

Visit the Viking Ship at Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL April-November 2017.

There are two special visitor's days left this year. See Events above.

Viking is a real, full size replica of a 9th century Viking ship, and she sailed across the Atlantic in 1893, proving Leif Erikson's voyage of discovery possible.

Visit the *Viking* and you get an up-close look at this beautiful ship. Walk around the outside . . . peer into the inside. You'll be amazed.



Visit the Norsk Museum at 3656 E. 2631st Rd., Sheridan, IL. June-Sept.

Housed in the oldest Norwegian Lutheran church in America,

founded by Elling Eielsen, in 1834. The museum collection was donated by local families in honor of their ancestors.

While you're in the area, visit the historic Norway Store, founded in 1848, across the street, where you'll find many Norwegian foods and other items.

## NANCY'S NOTES

As you know, October is Foundation Month, an excellent time to give back to a part of the organization that gives so much. Giving to the Foundation means helping students pay for college, lodges engaging their communities and more.

One way we support Foundation is by passing the "pot." If each member attending the October meeting would bring a contribution of *your age times 5 cents*, this should generate a little extra contribution for this year, in addition to what our lodge will send. For those members who live outside the meeting area, you may want to send a check to my attention at 835 Circle Avenue, Forest Park, IL 60130, marked "Foundation."

Bring your Part 1 forms for genealogy to one of the next

meetings. This seems to be one of the easiest cultural skills medals to attain.

Diana Myhre is working on her Part 2 Literature medal.

It's been a busy season since Syttende Mai. Tom, Marie and I went to District 5's convention in LaCrosse, WI, reported elsewhere in the newsletter. At the end of August I joined others at the south side of the Museum of Science and Industry for the dedication plaque of the Stave church for the 1893 Columbian Exposition, and then September 9 for Scandinavian Day at Vasa Park.

This is the fifth year Elvesund will have a booth at the Scandinavian Day Festival in

Vasa Park. It's a lovely venue and has lots to offer anyone: Great food, lots of vendors selling Scandinavian goods, and much entertainment. We were mobbed by children wanting to make Viking shields and girls wanting to make necklaces.



## OCTOBER IS FOUNDATION MONTH

*"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."* — Winston Churchill

The Sons of Norway Foundation is dedicated to funding activities that preserve and promote Norwegian heritage, positively affect members, and make Sons of Norway communities a more vibrant place to live. Be it through a student's scholarship for study, a cultural exchange experience, or assisting lodges to provide quality programs and community events – the Sons of

Norway foundation is true to its mission.

Established in 1966, the focus and offerings have grown to include several categories of scholarships and four categories of grants.

We have awarded \$1,375,000 in scholarships, \$390,000 in grants and more than \$500,000 in humanitarian aid.

Making charitable gifts at any point throughout the year helps non-profits, churches or foundations that you feel passionate about continue to do good work.

Since 2004, the Sons of Norway Foundation has offered "helping hands to member" grants for current SON members who lose their homes due to natural disasters. These grants have helped with their recovery efforts from floods, tornadoes, and hurricanes.



## AUTUMN RECIPE

Delicious served hot or cold.  
Submitted by Julie McCormick,  
Norfun Lodge 1-016, Duluth, MN



### PUFFED APPLE PANCAKE

- 1/2 c. butter
- 2 apples, unpeeled and diced
- 6 eggs
- 1-1/2 cup milk
- 1 c. flour
- 3 Tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 3 Tbsp. brown sugar
- Cinnamon

Put a stick of butter (1/4 lb.) in a 12"x7" glass casserole pan. You can use any shape of a similar size. Place pan in cold oven. Turn oven on to 425° F. Don't let the butter brown! While butter is melting, core 2 peeled apples, and cut up into small pieces. Add apples to melted butter.

Next, combine all batter ingredients. Thoroughly mix with egg beaters. Apples should be sizzling and starting to cook in the melted butter. If not, wait a few more minutes. Then take out of oven and pour the batter over cooked apples. Give a quick stir to make sure apples are evenly distributed. Sprinkle 3 Tbsp. of brown sugar evenly over the batter and sprinkle top with more cinnamon. Immediately return to oven and bake for 20 minutes or until the pancake puffs up.

Serves 6-8 people. Can be enjoyed hot or cold, and topped with apple sauce or syrup.

## HAPPY NATIONAL POTATO MONTH!

Potatoes have been an important part of Norwegian cuisine and culture for more than 250 years. They continue to be a staple ingredient in many traditional dishes like dumplings, lompe lefse, hash, and hasselback potatoes, but have also played a significant role in Norway's history.

The potato first originated in Peru in the Andes where it had exclusively grown for 10,000 years before the first Europeans arrived. Those early settlers then brought the potato to Spain in 1567, and with the help from European religious leaders, potatoes eventually made their way to Norway in 1750. Priests and pastors, com-

monly referred to as "potato priests," were known for growing potato spuds on the grounds of their personage at the time. They would often move from district to district and teach people how to cultivate them on their own.



However, it wasn't until the Napoleonic wars in the early

nineteenth century when potatoes were fully integrated into the Norwegian diet. The British navy blocked the seas around Norway. This eliminated grain imports from Denmark and struck Norway with famine. In desperate need of a replacement, Norwegians turned to potatoes, and quickly found them to not only be nutritious but also simple to cook, inexpensive, filling, and easily grown in the harsh Norwegian climate and soil conditions. The humble potato has been a Norwegian favorite ever since.

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**Sons of Norway  
Elvesund Lodge  
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## SCANDINAVIAN DAY AT VASA PARK

