

ELVESUND

SONS OF NORWAY LODGE #5-593

President / Editor: Nancy Robinson, 835 Circle Avenue, Forest Park, IL, 60130, 630-240-9637

Held at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 500 E. 31st St., LaGrange Park, IL 60526

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 25

“Accidental Explorer, Sailor from Iowa”

David Thoreson's mom taught him to sail a small boat on Lake Okoboji, Iowa.

Roger Swanson was a Minnesota pig farmer with an expensive hobby—sailing! Together they became the first American explorers to sail the Northwest Passage.

Come hear the tale of their excellent adventure.



Come enter to win one of Linda's fabulous door prizes.

A MEETING NOT TO BE MISSED!

April 22

“Rosemaling”

Presented by Lynn Sove Maxson. We've all heard the word; we've seen some rosemaling. But what do we actually know about the art?



Come hear an expert and gifted rosemaler explain how the art came about — where did it come from — how do you do it?

Lynn will bring samples from different regions in Norway and may demonstrate techniques.

You can see Lynn practice her art throughout the year at the Norsk Museum and other venues.

Meetings:
3:00—6:00 PM

4th Sunday
of the month

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NORWAY'S JOAR LEIFSETH ULSOM WINS 2018 IDITAROD TRAIL SLED DOG RACE

Norwegian musher Joar Leifseth Ulsom won the 2018 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race last week when he crossed the finish line in Nome, Alaska, just after 3 a.m. local time, the Anchorage Daily News reported. It is Leifseth Ulsom's first time winning the nearly 1,000-mile race, although his time—9 days, 13 hours, and one minute—is almost half an hour shorter than his previous slowest Iditarod run in 2013. He claimed the slowest winning time since 2009.

Leifseth Ulsom had been trailing fellow musher Nic Petit on Monday, before Petit lost his lead during a snowstorm about 777 miles into the race. By the time Leifseth Ulsom reached White Mountain, the second-to-last checkpoint in the race on Tuesday, he had a nearly three-hour lead on Petit. Leifseth Ulsom is the third Iditarod winner born outside the United States, and he breaks a winning streak by the Seavey family; Dallas Seavey and his dad, Mitch Seavey, had alternated winning every Iditarod since 2011. Dallas sat out the 2018 race in protest of a scandal stemming from his dogs testing positive for the banned opioid pain reliever Tramadol after last year's

Iditarod.

The Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is an annual long-distance sled dog race run in early March from Anchorage to Nome, entirely within the state of Alaska.

The first race ran to Nome in 1973. It took about 20 days to complete, as compared to about 9 days currently.

The word Iditarod comes from the Ingalik Indian word Halditarod which was the name for the river on which the town was built. It means distant place.

The race begins in Anchorage on the first Saturday of March each year at 10:00 A.M.

The prize for winning the sport's premier race is \$50,400 and a new pickup truck. Iditarod mushers compete for love of sport, not money. The entry fee in 2017 was \$4,000 per musher. Travel costs: \$1,500. The Iditarod requires the musher to pay for flying the dogs home from the finish line in Nome, Alaska, along with themselves, at least one handler, and all the gear. Pre-race Vet Check: \$350.



The Trail connects a point 50 miles north of Seward, Alaska through Iditarod, Alaska, and then to Nome. The Trail is about 1,150 miles long.

Sled dogs need 10-12,000 calories a day. Each sled is pulled by a team of 16 dogs, and they need to keep on eating. On the trail they get frozen snacks like chunks of meat, fish, or soaked dog food. When they stop at checkpoints, they get a warm meal, vitamin supplements, and kibble mixed with water and chicken fat—cooked in a bucket camp stove that doubles as the driver's seat on the sled.

The dogs wear booties. Their fur and efficient circulatory systems keep them warm enough, but the ice, snow, and rocky terrain is hard on their foot pads so they have to be protected. Mushers usually make their dogs' booties themselves, and they are required by the rules of the race to have at least eight extra per dog on the sled.

EXPERIENCE A TRUE ARCTIC WILDERNESS

Rich wildlife, arctic nature, and a few thousand polar bears are all found on the island of Svalbard. Known for being the world's largest untouched wilderness area, many find this untamed nature enticing. With warmer temperatures arriving and ice encompassing the archipelago beginning to melt, visitors set out on an expedition for an unforgettable experience.

The snow-drowned peaks and vast ice fields of Svalbard call to explorers longing for adventure. As the sun never seems to set in the summer months, visitors can experience the Arctic landscape by participating in a wide range of attractions all day long and into the evening. Activities include dog sledding through the snow-covered landscape, sailing around the rugged fjords and witnessing polar bears roam the sea

ice, or walking around the settlements of Longyearbyen and Barentsburg. Svalbard offers visitors cultural events and festivals all year round.

Only a three-hour flight from Oslo, the island of Svalbard is growing to be a tourist attraction for thousands of visitors around the world. To learn more about experiencing Svalbard, visit <https://svalbard.nordicvisitor.com/>.

EUROPE'S FASTEST GROWING CITY MAKES THE MUST-VISIT LIST

Travel guide publisher Lonely Planet has named Oslo one of the top 10 must-visit cities for 2018. Nestled between the Oslofjord and forested hills, and known for its captivating landmarks including the Royal Palace, Oslo is Europe's fastest growing city. From new neighborhoods to fashion and art scenes, the city is buzzing with energy.

Whether you're looking to experience Oslo's cultural life or natural pleasures, this urban metropolis offers a wide range of activities. Visit one of the 50 art museums, hike through the

forests of Nordmarka or indulge in popular Nordic cuisine. Touring the city can be done in various ways: partake in a guided walking tour and learn about architecture and history, or island hop in the Oslo Fjord and see the beaches and charming cottages.

2018 will be a great year to visit Oslo as the King and Queen celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and the Opera House marks its 10th birthday. It will be a celebratory season of performances, cultural events and culinary festivals. To start planning your trip to Oslo, con-



sult a variety of maps that Sons of Norway offers, with special pricing for members. The maps have been recently updated for travel in 2018, and may be ordered at https://www.sofn.com/member.benefits/member_discounts/norway_map_service/.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

March 24 **15th Annual Dinner Dance and Fund Raiser**, Avalon Banquets, Elk Grove Village, IL, 6:30 PM cocktails, 7:30 PM dinner, dance music by Mark Nilsson, DJ, \$50.00 per person, C. Hoidahl 847-358-1527, www.vasaparkil.com

Mar 26 **SON Elvesund Lodge Meeting**, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 500 E. 31st St., LaGrange Park, IL. David Thoresen's Northwest Passage adventures. 3:00-6:00.

April

April 6 **Normennenes Singing Society 38th Annual Festival of Song-Singers Night**, Conant High School, Hoffman Estates, IL. Social hour: 6:00 PM; program 7:00 PM. www.norgesings.org.

April 21 **Viking Ship Visitors' Day**, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM, Good Templar Park, Geneva, IL, Adults \$5.00, Teens \$3.00, children 12 and under free. www.vikingship.us

April 22 **SON Elvesund Lodge Meeting**, St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 500 E. 31st St., LaGrange Park, IL. "Rosemaling" with Lynn Sove Maxson. 3:00-6:00. Phil Robinson, 630-209-9450.

April 27 **Bjornson Male Chorus Dinner and Concert**, Avalon Banquets, Elk Grove Village, IL. Cocktails 6:30 PM; Dinner 7:30. \$35.00 per person. John Lee 847-741-4210. Dinner after concert.

April 29 **Nordic Faire**, Westminster Church, 8955 Columbia Ave., Munster, IN, 12:00 AM—4:00 PM, adults \$5.00, children 12 and under free. 219-838-1131.



SON ELVESUND LODGE 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

28 Winnie Stouffer, Finding Your Relatives on Norwegian Farms

February

25 The Hurtigruten, with the Andersons

March

25 David Thoresen's explorations

April

22 Rosemaling with Lynn Sove Maxson

May

19 Banquet at Park Ridge CC — \$\$

20 Syttende Mai parade—no meeting

June

24 Bingo for Rivets (for the Viking ship)

July / August

No meetings

September

23 TBA

October

21 Honorary Counsel, Paul Anderson

November

25 TBA

December

16 Christmas party (Jultrefest)

NORWEGIANS EMBRACE EASTER CRIME NOVEL TRADITION

While many people currently celebrate Easter as we traditionally know it, for Norwegians, this time of year also brings another unique national pastime known as P askekrim, or Easter Crime.

For more than 90 years, the eagerness to crack open a spine-tingling crime novel during the holiday break has been widely embraced. Throughout Norway, you'll find book shelves stocked with murder mysteries, horror programs featured on the local television and radio stations and even crime cartoons printed on the back of milk cartons.

Although nobody knows exactly how this unusual tradition developed into the phenomenon it is today, many believe it originated in the early 1920s when two young men from Bergen wrote

the book "Bergenstoget Plyndret I Natt" ("Bergen Train Robbed Last Night").

In hopes of promoting their new novel, the pair decided to place a front-page ad in the Oslo daily newspaper, *Afterposten*, and titled it the same as the book. Readers were initially frightened after believing a train had indeed been robbed, and the simple marketing tactic generated such notoriety that the book became a huge success. Publishers then capitalized on the infamous Easter-time "crime" in the years to follow, and ultimately turned P askekrim into an annual tradition.

Find your own murder mystery just in time for the holiday break by logging into the digital edition of *Viking* magazine and checking out the following issues.

2018 INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART COMPETITION & EXHIBITION

Show off your talent and celebrate Norwegian culture by participating in the International Folk Art Competition & Exhibition, part of the 2018 International Convention in Bloomington, MN, August 16-19. Check-in for the event will begin on August 15, and the exhibits will be open for public viewing August 17 and 18.

Amateur and professional Sons of Norway members can compete or exhibit work in several Norwegian folk art categories including rosemaling, hardanger embroidery, hand knitting, photography, and several others. All participants will receive a certificate of recognition and have the option to compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons.

Members will also have the chance to compete for the Best in Show Award given to judges' overall favorite item and the People's Choice Award, selected by popular vote.

Pre-registration is the only way to guarantee an artist's spot in the International Folk Art

Competition & Exhibition — space is limited. Registration will be available in the coming weeks, and more information regarding requirements, categories, competition guidelines and more will be posted online at www.sonsofnorway.com/folkart. Check back often for details.

Guidelines overview

- All participants must be Sons of Norway members.
- All items must have been completed within the last two years.
- Members do not have to compete in the district level in order to compete in the international level.
- Artists must bring items to the Folk Art Competition & Exhibition themselves or make arrangements for an attending member of their district to bring the items for them.
- Items mailed to Sons of Norway Headquarters or International Convention location site will not be accepted.

EMBRACE YOUR HERITAGE

Wergeland Lodge has added diversity to the classes/workshops for our District 5 2018 convention. They are hoping for attendees to be able to find something that interests them and also to have a Norwegian cultural learning situation. Taking a class will also help prepare SON members who want to attain a pin for Cultural Skills from SON International. These classes, especially the Norwegian knitting, hardanger, and genealogy work-

shops are a good beginning in attaining a Cultural Skills pin. The Sami bracelet or wire weaving has become very popular and makes a nice gift for anyone, especially when it is made just for them.

Wergeland Lodge is attempting to keep down costs and yet they have skilled artisans teaching the classes. Two of these

people are Wergeland members who are donating their time so the cost basically is just for materials and room rentals.

They hope to make this a great cultural heritage opportunity as well as a social sharing of stories and skills.

The classes meet only on Thursday, June 28 and Friday, June 29.

Hardanger Class, 8:30 A.M. Thursday, Friday

Beginners will learn the basic kloster blocks, cutting and weaving threads, and doves eyes. The heart-shaped project can be made into a coaster, small pillow, or wall or window hanging.

Experienced stitchers will make a project including the above, plus blanket stitch edging, tulip motif, eyelets, and a Greek star filler.

Cost: \$10. All materials are included.

Sami Bracelet (Wire Weaving), 8:00 A.M., Thursday

4-hour class.

Materials: \$35.00 include the bracelet silver, sinew, leather, button, clear thread, cord, needles, box cutters, rulers, and glue.

Students need to bring scissors and thimbles (leather thimble works well), extra lighting (if needed).

Intermediate Knitting with 2-color Stranding for Headband, 8:30 A.M., Thursday, Friday

Knitters in this class should already know how to cast-on and cast-off. Class size is limited to 6-8 people.

The project will entail a headband where one will learn to knit in two or more colors. All materials will be included such as yarn and pattern. Participants can purchase knitting needles (otherwise bring your 16-inch circular needles size 3 or 4) — cost \$20.00.

Genealogy—2 sessions (approximately 1½ hr. each)

**9:00 A.M.—10:15:
“Norwegian Naming 101:
Understanding How Ole
Got His Name and Why It
Kept Changing”**

Get an overview of Norwegian naming conventions from Old Norse and recurring family

naming traditions to the use of a patronymic or farm name as a surname identifier to what an immigrant may have settled on for a last name.

10:30 A.M.—11:45. “Finding the Ole and Lena in Your Family Tree: Resources for Scandinavian Genealogical Research”

From Norwegian parish records to censuses to immigration records and beyond, this class will focus on where to find useful collections (online and locally) for researching your Scandinavian ancestors and tips for how best to search them. Suggestions will also be offered for those just starting out or those who have been researching their family history for years.

Cost: \$25.00 for the two sessions.

There will be a break between the two sessions.

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**Sons of Norway
Elvesund Lodge
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CUCUMBER SALAD (AGURKSALAT)

1 cucumber
2/3 cup vinegar, white
2/3 cup water
3½ Tbsp. sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
Dash of white pepper
Fresh parsley.

This sweet and sour cucumber salad is a classic side dish that is light, refreshing, and easy to make.

Slice the cucumbers thin and place in a bowl. Mix vinegar, water, sugar, salt, and white pepper in a small bowl. Pour the dressing over the cucumbers and mix well. Refrigerate for at least 30 minutes, then sprinkle with finely chopped parsley and serve.

