



Sons of Norway Fagernes Lodge 5-616
January, February, March 2018



Upcoming Events

Note: The Blair Community Center is closed until further notice.

January 27 – 12:00, Blair Zion Lutheran Church
Installation of Officers by Ron Iverson, LaMoine Jacobs presentation, Barnelopet food signup
Potluck: Bring dish to pass

No actual Feb. Mtg.
February 3 – 10:00
Barnelopet at the Arcadia Memorial Park

February 17 – 4:30
WII Bowling at Marie and Bob Thill's, N22682 Bakken Rd. Ettrick, SON members welcome.
Potluck: Bring dish to pass

March 24 – 1:00 ,
Location: TBD
Norwegian Exchange student
Servers: Todd and Mary Jo Fetsch and Terry Thompson

Save your printer cartridges and bring them to LaVonne. We get \$2.00 credit for each cartridge at Office Depot to use toward new cartridges and paper!

Save cancelled stamps. The Tubfrim project can use them. Stamps must be trimmed to have at least a 1/4 inch border. Bring them to the meetings.

Norwegian Scientist Advances Study of Grid Cells in Human Brains



May-Britt Moser may not be a household name, however, she is a Noble Prize award-winning scientist from Oslo, Norway, who holds a psychology degree and PhD in Neurophysiology from the University of Oslo.

In 2014 Moser, along with the Edvard I. Moser and John O’Keefe, were awarded the Nobel Prize for the discovery of human grid cells, a population of neurons that enables us to understand where we are in

space. For example, the nerve cell in our brain called the hippocampus activates when we occupy a certain spot in a room. Then, other nerves activate when we move to another place in the room, forming a map of the environment in our brains.

With the identification of this grid, Moser and her scientific colleagues have set the bar for this field of study.

Moser now continues to discover new information about human grid cells and hopes to ultimately map out how complex thoughts, such as memory, arise.

To learn more about May-Britt Moser’s discoveries, visit <https://goo.gl/z9ueLp>.

“By discovering the grid cell network, we suddenly understood something fundamental about the mystery of the brain - how the brain generates a universal map of the environment.” – May-Britt Moser

More Upcoming Events and Deadlines:
 Lutefisk / Meatball Dinner, Feb. 3, Westby Our Saviours Lutheran Church, 306 S Main St., 1 pm to 4 pm. Adults -\$15.00, Ages 6-12 - \$8.00, under 6 years -Free.
 2018 Barnebirke is happening Feb. 22.
 District Five Delegate election report due, March 5. Send to District Secretary (see page 6)

a little in English...

Erna Solberg is one of the world's most powerful women

Angela Merkel tops the list of the world's most powerful women. But Erna Solberg is more powerful than Hillary Clinton.

Forbes magazine is known for creating lists. They write who earns most and has the most power. Recently a list came out of the world's most powerful women. *Forbes* mentions 100 women who they think are the most powerful.

Prime Minister Erna Solberg is 46th. She appears before Beyoncé Knowles (50th place) and politician Hillary Clinton (65th place).

"Norway's Angela Merkel," writes *Forbes*. At the top of the list is Germany's leader. 63-year-old Angela Merkel is number one for the seventh consecutive year. She retains the position despite losing power during the election this year. *Forbes* calls her the actual leader of the European Union (EU).

In second place is Theresa May. She is Prime Minister of the UK. Third place goes to Melinda Gates, the wife of Bill Gates, founder of the software company Microsoft. Melinda Gates runs a large charitable organization that helps people in poor countries. There are many different women on the list. There are politicians from several countries, there are powerful leaders from big companies, and there are entertainers.

Here are a few examples: 8th place: Christine Lagarde, head of the International Monetary Fund
11th place: Indra Nooyi, head of the company PepsiCo.
15th place: Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwan's first female leader
19th place: Ivanka Trump, businesswoman, Donald Trump's daughter
21st place: Oprah Winfrey, media queen
33rd place: Aung San Suu Kyi, leader in Myanmar
45th place: Gina Rinehart, owner of Hancock mineral company in Australia.
78th place: Kersti Kaljulaid, Estonia's first female president,
85th place: artist Taylor Swift from the United States

litt på norsk...

Erna Solberg er blant verdens mektigste kvinner

Angela Merkel topper lista over verdens mektigste kvinner. Men Erna Solberg er mektigere enn Hillary Clinton.

Magasinet *Forbes* er kjent for å lage lister. De skriver hvem som tjener mest og har mest makt. Nylig kom lista over verdens mektigste kvinner. *Forbes* nevner 100 kvinner som de mener er mektigst.

Statsminister Erna Solberg er på 46. plass. Hun kommer før artisten Beyoncé Knowles (50. plass) og politikeren Hillary Clinton (65. plass).

«Norges Angela Merkel» skriver *Forbes*. Øverst på lista er Tysklands leder. 63 år gamle Angela Merkel er nummer 1 for sjuende år på rad. Hun beholder plassen til tross for at hun mistet makt ved valget i år. *Forbes* kaller henne den egentlige lederen av Den europeiske union (EU).

På andreplass er Theresa May. Hun er statsminister i Storbritannia. Tredjeplassen går til Melinda Gates. Hun er kona til Bill Gates. Han grunnla dataselskapet Microsoft. Melinda Gates driver en stor hjelpeorganisasjon. De hjelper folk i fattige land.

Det er mange ulike kvinner på lista. Det er politikere fra ere land, det er mektige ledere for store selskaper, og det er folk som driver med underholdning.

Her er noen eksempler: 8. plass: Christine Lagarde, leder for det internasjonale pengfondet.

11. plass: Indra Nooyi, leder for selskapet PepsiCo.

15. plass: Tsai Ing-wen, Taiwans første kvinnelige leder

19. plass: Ivanka Trump, forretningskvinne, Donald Trumps datter.

21. plass: Oprah Winfrey, mediedronning.

33. plass: Aung San Suu Kyi, leder i Myanmar.

45. plass: Gina Rinehart, eier av

mineralselskapet Hancock i Australia.

78. plass: Kersti Kaljulaid, Estlands første kvinnelige president

85. plass: artisten Taylor Swift fra USA

Bygone Times Revealed in Norway's Abandoned Farms

From SON epost, Jan 12, 2018 by Jana Velo

Author and historian Øystein Morten has studied ødegårder—abandoned farms—at length. Fascinated by their vacant, fallen structures, Morten believes deserted farms have a particular allure and tell us something important about the places and the culture that Norwegians have moved away from. With photographer Pål Hermansen, Morten has published—Norske ødegårder – Historien om stedene vi forlot—("Abandoned Norwegian Farms - The History of the Places We Left"), a book featuring nine deserted farmsteads that offer a glimpse into the past through clues found in diaries, photos and artifacts. Some of the farms were left in the Middle Ages, others within the last two decades.

What constitutes an ødegård?

This term originally applied to farms that stood vacant after the Black Death ravaged Europe in the mid-14th century. Roughly 60 percent of the Norwegian population perished as a result of the Plague. These farms, even ones that were later restored, were often permanently branded as Ødegård (or Old Norse variants Aunet or Øyjorda), with the old farm name lost to time. But ødegårder aren't all a result of the Plague. Since the 1970s, Morten writes, 115,000 Norwegian farms have ceased operation. By his count there are currently 30,000 farmsteads that are totally deserted, meaning no one lives or vacations there. Sometimes the ødegårder can be tough to spot, as nature has almost completely reclaimed the land.



In other instances, the silent buildings still appear eerily intact. To find suitable farms for his book, Morten contacted historians, municipalities and museums, got tips from friends and scoured Google. Morten compares abandoned farms to crime scenes, where he has to piece together their stories, by sifting through the desolate ruins. Traces of bygone times are found in the unraveled furniture, leaning structures, overgrown gates or a coffee cup left on the counter.

Mapcarta, an online searchable map that features past and present farms of Norway, reveals 427 entries with Ødegård in the name, 290 references to Aunet and 165 to Øyjord(a). Some entries refer to a hyphenated name, such as Jelsnes-Ødegård, which reincorporates the farm's previous name, but still refers to its former deserted status.

Morten lives on an ødegård himself, and jokes that in 100 years village historians will write that "the houses on the farm were well-kept until Øystein Morten took over."

Sons of Norway Headquarters is Packing Up!

A purchase agreement has been signed and plans are underway for the redevelopment of Sons of Norway's Headquarters. The new multi-use building will be designed with a Nordic air, and the property developers will welcome us back as an anchor tenant in approximately two years. In the meantime, headquarters will relocate to temporary offices. Our mailing address and phone numbers will remain the same, but **our physical location will be a few miles west from our current Uptown Minneapolis address. If you plan to visit us (and we hope you do), as of March 5, 2018, you will find us at: 11100 Bren Road West Minnetonka, MN 55343**

PAST HAPPENINGS AT FAGERNES LODGE.



Glenn Borreson presented a program on "The Governor from Hegg" at our October SON meeting.



Rosemaling was one of the displays at Norwegian Day in Blair in early November. Fagernes members Shirley Stanford and Mary Jo Fetsch engage in conversation.



LaMoine Jacobs entertained us with Stories of Norway at our November SON meeting.



President Todd Fetsch hands sports awards to Danny Toth, and Charlene Saxe at the SON November meeting.



Local children were invited to our December Juletefest meeting. They had a visit from the Julenisse and the kids also received gifts.



Our 2017 Juletre



Girls from Blair-Taylor School learning to make Krumkake from LaVonne Wier at the Adopt-A-School Snowfest presentation.

President's Message

Kjære Vennlig,

What a great Jule Season we had! The Jule Nisse made an appearance at our Juletre Fest where goodies were consumed as well as presents given to the barne. Fun. There was dancing around the juletre. Thanks to all who helped make it happen.

We also had a great meeting where stories were told by LaMoine Jacobs and jule crafts were shared. We now look forward to a new year's worth of activities for our Lodge.

Our next meeting is Saturday January 27th. Since the Blair Community Center is being renovated, we will meet at Zion Lutheran Church in Blair.

The Barneløpet is being held at the Arcadia Veterans Memorial Park (meet at chicken pit) on Saturday February 3rd. Registration is at 9 AM. We have a ski groomer to set ski trails this year. Otherwise the festivities will be the same as last year. We are getting race paraphernalia from Sons of Norway for the event. We will need people to bring Norwegian goodies...will need to get polse and lefse to make Lompe again. We should have electricity in the chicken pit for hot chocolate, coffee and roasters to keep the hot dogs hot.

So pray for more snow so we can have good ski trails. We will plan more at our meeting on the 27th.

We should also have installation of officers on the 27th of January. Ron Iverson will do the installation.

The Program Committee met Monday, Jan. 15th to plan our yearly activities. This year we host The Osseo lodge (Tryggvason Lodge) for St Hans Dag activities at the Blair park on June 21st.. So we will need to reserve a shelter for that. We need to get a team to challenge the Osseo Lodge at Kubb also. Maybe we should conjure up a trophy for that event. "The Lefse Kubb Trophy"!

April 22nd the Norwegian Folk Dancers will be in Holmen. So be prepared to attend that program. So much energy there!

Then there is our Frokost in Mai as well as attending Grandview for Syttendi Mai. Then the Parades, of course.

So lots of activities ahead people - more than I have reviewed.

Have fun - read your Newsletter to keep up with the event times.

Hilsen Fra Todd (presidenten Fagerness Lodge)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Due to privacy concerns, only the month is listed.

JANUARY

Galen Berg, Erling Ofsdahl,
Donald Ronning, Alexander
Solberg, Renee Solberg,
Danny Toth

FEBRUARY

Charlotte Dahl, Beatrice
Fredrickson, Sierra Instenes,
Mary Ann Jacobs, Beverly
Solberg, Jacob Thompson,

MARCH

Izabella Britten, Zacharie
Dobson, Kenneth Husmoen,
Gage Instenes, Lonnie
Manske, Sonia Manske,
Charlene Saxe, Shirley
Stanford, Patricia Truax,
Dawn Volkman, Susan
Zubke

Adopt-A-School

Todd Fetsch, Shirley Stanford and LaVonne Wier participated in the Snowfest event at Blair-Taylor School on the last day of school before Christmas break, [December 22, 2017](#). Todd showed his wood carvings and showed some tricks of the trade. LaVonne had the children make and bake krumkake. Every student tried their hand at either mixing or baking. Everyone got to eat them! Shirley showed some rosemaling and a Norwegian sweater and gave the students information on them. Many were not aware that rosemaling was all the rage in Blair back in the 1980's. The students were very interested in the presentations, and indicated they would like to have us come back for other activities, like making lefse!

Over 40 books have been put in the school library for the reading program. This activity will run until [May 1, 2018](#). Children can read and report on books for prizes. Prizes are: one book = \$1.00; two books = \$2.00; three books = \$3.00; four books = \$4.00; five books = \$5.00 and a completion certificate. The students can read more than 5 books, but will only report and get prizes for up to 5 books. The prizes will be awarded at the end of the school year. LaVonne Wier and Ms. Kim Joten will monitor the book reports. Other lodge members may be called on to review the book reports. LaVonne is presenting an official kick-off slideshow for the reading program in late January, but the books are available now for the students. We still can add books to the program. If you have a book you would like to be included, please let LaVonne Wier know about it, or bring it to a lodge meeting.

District 5 Convention

We are fortunate that the District 5 convention will again be held in La Crosse, WI, from June 27, 2018 - July 1, 2018. The Wergeland Lodge is sponsoring it. Please consider being a delegate from our lodge when the subject comes up. AND, you can attend even if you are not a delegate. It is an interesting experience.

NEWS OF NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO FAGERNES LODGE! Our end-of-the-year campaign to sign up new members was a success! Nine new members joined our lodge during the last quarter. They are: Verle Austad, Cheryl Bragger, Peter Fetsch, Merlin and Beatrice Fredrickson, Terry Thorkildson, Patricia Truax, Darlene Walls, and Jan Wills. Our total new members for 2017 was ten! Mary Ann Jacobs signed up earlier in the year. Velkommen til Fagernes Lodge! We look forward to seeing you at our lodge events.

Ungdom/Youth book by Sigrid Undset.

Last fall LaVonne Wier was given the opportunity to acquire copies of this book. The offer came from Terry Thorkildson, and he sent copies to us. Some lodge members received a book at that time, and one was given to the Blair-Taylor School library. Soon there were almost no copies left, and the lodge had voted to give one to all the area school libraries. Upon request, Terry found 18 more copies and sent them to us. Besides gathering the second group of books, he paid the postage to send them to us as a gift to the lodge and the reading program. After distribution to the school libraries, there may be some copies left for any lodge member who would like one. LaVonne will bring them to the lodge meeting in March. We express our grateful thanks to Terry Thorkildson for all his efforts and whatever expense he incurred. BY THE WAY, Terry is now a member of our lodge! Mange, mange tusen takk, Terry, and welcome to Fagernes Lodge!

In Memory of Lavern A. Henderson



LaVern A. Henderson

Our lodge lost yet another valuable member this past year. LaVerne Arthur Henderson died Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017. He was 89.

He married Ruby (Kvaalseth) June 15, 1950. Ruby is another valuable member of our lodge.

In 1960, he took over the family farm in rural Ettrick and ran it successfully until retiring in 1999. He became a licensed private pilot and had his own plane and landing strip on the farm.

He has been a member of our Fagernes Lodge 5-616 since 2002 and has served in many offices and positions.

LaVern's quiet manner and steady faithfulness were hallmarks of his personality. He was a good man, father, grandfather, and neighbor. We miss him a lot.

Barneløpet time for Kids

What: What's a Barneløpet? Well, it is a ski race for the kids. Our lodge did this last year in Blair Memorial Park and the kids had a great time even though we had very little snow. This year, though, it will be held in Arcadia. Ski trails will be made in the Park. The City of Arcadia has a new XC ski groomer. There will be ski trails to race on. Let's all hope for snow.

Specifics:

Where: Arcadia Veterans Memorial Park, located at 551 Memorial Park Drive in Arcadia. There will be signs.

When: February 3, 2018. Registration at 9 a.m. – \$2.00 fee all ages

Who: age categories include 3 to 15 yrs, three age groups depending on who attends.

How: All racers get numbered bibs and all winners get medals. (Just like the Olympics) Some ski equipment will be available, but please bring what you have.

Why: For fun, fun, fun, of course, and camaraderie, and for lodge exposure.

Eats: Pølser i lefse provided (Norwegian Hot dog in a slice of lefse), more. Questions? Phone: 608-323-3261

**Sponsored by Sons of Norway
Fagernes Lodge 5-616**



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Focus on a Fagernes Lodge Member Shirley Stanford

My Life in a nutshell. I was born, and grew up in Price Co. WI. The town was called Kennan although we never lived in a town, but on a farm. My parents were teachers and my dad was my teacher for the first four years. I attended a one-room country school. I attended high school in Hawkins, Wis. My one big activity of my childhood was 4-H. That was a wonderful program for those of us who lived in the country. I attended Superior State Teachers College for two years and then I started my teaching career. I taught second grade for four years in Hawkins. My husband, Don, also taught in Hawkins. He invited me to go along to a basketball game with him. And that was the beginning of a wonderful relationship. We skipped out of a Teachers' Convention in the fall and eloped. We were married in "The Little Brown Church" in Iowa.

Within two years we decided to move to another area of the state. Don got a teaching job in Blair and I was a new mother so stayed home. We raised three daughters. I kept going to school to get my Master's Degree and also taught school. Don and I did a lot of traveling on our vacations. We also enjoyed camping. We enjoyed getting together with our families. I had two wonderful parents who lived into their 80s. Don had 13 brothers and sisters; so lots of visiting and camping together.

Don and I had had only 39 years together when he died from cancer. I have my three daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

After Don died, I moved to Winona, Minn. and started a whole new life. Ballroom dancing was my new activity. Lots of lessons. And I did lots of traveling. Now I am back in Blair after ten years in Winona. I am in the last phase of my life with my reading and making quilts, and being with those beautiful great-grandchildren.