



Sons of Norway Fagernes Lodge 5-616

Oct. Nov. Dec. 2023 Newsletter



Upcoming Events

Fagernes Lodge meeting
location is at Blair Lutheran
Church, 126 S Peterson Ave,
Blair, WI 54616

October 28, 1:00, Family
Genealogy; Servers: Brittens
& Lora Lebakken

November 5, 3:00, sing for
the "Afternoon of Music" at
FCLC with Cynda Solberg

November 25, 1:00, Family
Genealogy, Christmas Crafts.
Servers: Charlene Saxe and
Mary Herness

December 3, 12:00 noon,
Potluck, Christmas Carol Sing
and Juletreffest.

The Stamps for the Wounded
can use our cancelled
stamps. Trim them to a 1/4
inch border. Give to LaVonne
at one of our meetings.

Bring your used printer cartridges
to meetings and give to LaVonne.
She can turn in 10 per month at
Office Depot and get a \$2.00 each
credit to defray the cost of ink and
paper for publishing our
newsletters and brochures.



Attendees at our September Lodge
meeting included, left, Shirley Stanford,
Marlys Britten, Leland Wier (both in the
background), Danny Toft and Eddie
Thompson. Below left, Rodney Moen
and Kathy.



We participated in the Blair Cheese Fest by manning a booth advertising our lodge
and offering baskets to win. Top right photo, Roger Instenes and Charlene Saxe man
that booth. Several members rode our SON Float in the Cheese Fest parade. Bottom.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Due
to privacy concerns, only the
month is listed

October Tami Bagstad, Myah
Casey, Tysen Casey

November Byron Britten,
De Andre Casey, Roger
Instenes, Nora Iverson

December Verle Austad,
Josephine Britten, Rylie
Dobson, Isla Fetsch, Mary
Herness, Lamoine Jacobs,
Kathryn Mann, Kielyn
Rowekamp, Cleo Sharlau

President's Message

Written September 23, 2023

We welcomed Fall today after our dry Summer.

We had full boats at our Whitehall, Ettrick and Blair parades. Nice temperatures helped the rides.

We also had a good group at our Fyrbal in Pigeon Falls and even won again the trophy for Kubb.

Thanks to the people who sat at our Sons of Norway booth at the Blair Cheesefest.

Many visitors checked us out. Maybe we will get more members yet!

Norwegian Camp is coming up in Stoughton. If interested, contact LaVonne Wier at 608-539-3243.

At our last meeting, we were told of the District 5 Convention in Indianapolis, IN. For more information on that, contact LaVonne or Roger Instenes at 608-525-7807.

Have a wonderful, colorful Fall.

Your President,
Roger Instenes

Terry Awhile" 02/13/19 - I wrote some columns from my Newspaper days after retirement - "Charlie's Miracle"

It was just before 7 a.m. on a Friday. After being awake for a couple of hours, I had just gone back to sleep and was dreaming. When son Travis called. It took quite an effort to pull myself out of that dream.

"Charlie's missing," Travis shouted. "I can't find him anywhere. Just as I let the dogs out this morning, the snowplow came up my driveway. It couldn't have been more than three minutes before I called them back in and Chocolate was right there, but I can't find Charlie anywhere!"

I don't remember what my response was before Travis hung up, but I settled back down, the guilt over my not getting up quickly left me as I began falling back asleep.

Another call from Travis, "Can you get up, start your car, and help me look." It wasn't really a question. "I have to go to the mill to get the guys started and then I will come back and keep looking," he said. "I tracked him around the house, checked by the basement door near the hot tub and then saw tracks leading to the road, but lost the tracks there."

I hoisted myself out of bed, started my Jeep by remote, replaced my pajama pants with jeans, didn't take time for much else, and began driving the valley road that runs through our farm's middle. Mostly, I was looking for tracks leaving the road to continue in the field on one side or in the pasture on the other side.

As I turned around in the neighbor's driveway, I saw Travis making his way back the valley road. We met, talked and continued. I turned around again in my driveway and took the trek back through the valley road yet again. There, a couple hundred feet from Travis's driveway, my eyes picked up Charlie's tracks, something we'd missed seeing before, heading down the valley road toward my house. I stopped. Travis pulled up and I showed him the tracks. He followed them to my lower driveway. A neighbor came and helped Travis further track Charlie through the other end of my driveway where they lost his trail again.

Travis said he needed to get back to work and I could just as well go to the house. Before returning, though, Travis talked to the snow plow driver asking him to keep an eye out for his Springer Spaniel Charlie.

I went to Facebook on my computer, intending to ask friends to watch for Charlie. But, grandson Jacob had beat me to it. He had already posted an impassioned plea, with pictures of Charlie, for Facebook friends to keep an eye out for him. I shared the post.

By afternoon, Jacob and I headed for our chiropractor appointments. Jacob said when we got home, he was going to do more looking for Charlie.

Later that day, we heard that neighbors had seen Charlie on their deck, early that afternoon, but didn't know whose dog he was and hadn't yet seen the Facebook post. Their dogs barking at Charlie had scared him off.

We got home from our appointments and I told Jacob to take my Jeep since it was already warm and more reliable than his vehicle. I expected he would just be looking for Charlie from the road and didn't even think about Jacob needing boots and more layers of clothing.

Jacob was gone for over an hour and I needed my Jeep back to pick up grandson (Continued on page 3)

Recipe - Bergen Rumbles

Ingredients, For the Pastry

3 1/2 Tbsp. sugar
3/4 cup flour
1/3 cup margarine

For the Cream Puffs

2/3 cup water
3 Tbsp. margarine
1/2 cup flour
2 eggs

For the Filling

2 egg yolks or 1 egg
1 1/2 Tbsp. sugar
1 3/4 Tbsp. corn starch
1 Cup cup full fatwhole milk
2-3 Tbsp. rum
Scant 1/2 cup whipping cream
12-14 cocktail cherries

Steps For the Pastry

Step 1

Combine sugar and flour and cut in the margarine.

Step 2

Knead lightly. Form into a ball, wrap in plastic. Chill 1 hour.
Preheat the oven to 210°C (425°F).

Steps For the Cream Puffs

Step 1

Bring water and margarine to a boil.

Step 2

Add the flour and stir until the mixture forms a ball.

Step 3

Remove from the heat. Cool slightly, then beat in the eggs, one at a time.

Step 4

The mixture should be thick enough to just keep its shape. Make 12-14 balls with a spoon and place far apart on a greased baking sheet.

Step 5

Roll out the pastry. Cut out round cookies with a 6-7 cm (2 1/2") cutter. Drape them over the balls and press carefully against the baking sheet.

Step 6

Bake until golden, 25-30 minutes.

Steps For the Filling

Step 1

Whisk together eggs, sugar, cornstarch, and milk in a saucepan.

Step 2

Heat to boiling, stirring constantly, but do not allow to boil. Cool, stirring occasionally.

Step 3

Stir in rum. Whip the cream and fold into the rum mixture.

Step 4

Puncture the bottom of the cream puffs. Fill a pastry tube with rum cream and pipe the mixture into the cream puffs. Top each with a cherry.



“Charlie’s Miracle” (Continued from page 2 Jescey from a basketball game at the school. I called and Jacob brought my Jeep back accompanied by a friend in his own car. Jacob excitedly reported that Charlie had been spotted at another neighbor’s. He and his friend were going to travel there in the friend’s car. By the time Jescey and I got back, it was actually beginning to get dark. We traveled back the valley where Charlie had been sighted and we came upon a whole party of helpers in the road. They said Jacob had thought Charlie was further spooked by all the people running after him. So, Jacob had asked everyone to stay put and he would go into the woods (in tennis shoes and jeans only) tracking Charlie. He and yet another neighbor went together, tracking and calling, to the top of the hill only to lose Charlie’s track again. Nighttime had fallen and we all seemed to feel but didn’t dare voice a common concern. Predictions were for the temperatures to fall well below zero that night. I was in nearly constant prayer for God to wrap his arms around Charlie and keep him safe and warm. I asked everyone else to pray also. Jacob posted another impassioned plea on Facebook requesting neighbors to put out a blanket and some treats in case the likely cold and hungry Charlie came their way and decided to stay. The next day was Saturday. Around noon I hadn’t heard from Travis or the boys, so I texted them. No sign of Charlie. Travis was bringing Jescey to ski with friends. I was busy answering questions and replying to comments on the Facebook posts about the missing Charlie. That afternoon Travis asked if I would go pick up Jescey so he and Jacob could devote some time to repairing Jacob’s vehicle and also looking for Charlie. I got home with Jescey and they were still working at the farm shop. That night, for a respite, Jacob and Jescey visited friends. (Continued on page 8)



Top left, lodge members visited **Elmaro Vineyard** in July for a summery outing. From the left, Virgieann Stecha, Mary Jo Fetsch, Todd Fetsch, Charlene Saxe, Marlys Britten, Byron Britten, Roger Instenes, Fran Instenes.

Top right, former lodge president, Todd Fetsch, and current lodge president, Roger Instenes raise cheers in the **Ettrick Fun Days** Parade.

Middle left, Our float boat was full for the **Ettrick Fun Days** Parade in August. From the back, Roger and Fran Instenes, Russell Glomstad, Charlene Saxe and Betty Glomstand, Mary Jo Fetsch, Todd Fetsch and Marlys Britten (in blue visor). Chris Hamilton, Leland Wier, Danny Toth and Verle Austad.

Middle right, Byron Britten is **our faithful boat float driver** for all our parade participations.

Bottom left, lodge members await boarding our float for the **Whitehall Beef and Dairy Days** parade in August.

Bottom

Above: SON Fagernes Lodge Activities/Events

Focus on a Member, Dawn Nichelle Volkman

Dawn was born in LaCrosse, WI, on 3/16/1971 to Irvin Peter and Terry Amanda Thompson. She has one sibling, Travis Irvin Thompson. She attended Ettrick Elementary, GET Junior High, and GET High School, graduating in 1989. She went on to attend the University of Wisconsin - Madison (1989-1990), Winona State University (1990-1993), Purdue University (1994-1996) and Southern Connecticut State University (2014 - 2020). In 1990, she married Richard Volkman. Their son, Victor, was born in 1996. The family moved to Connecticut in 1998. Another son, Will, was born in 2004. In CT, Dawn taught herself programming and became Senior VP at Survey Launch also working as an Adjunct professor of History at SCSU and as a GRE Instructor. In 2022, Dawn, Rick and Will moved back to the Midwest, she and Rick living with Rick's parents near Lanesboro, MN and Will living in Preston, MN. Dawn then began working



Dawn Nichelle Volkman



(Continued) as Survey Manager at Clinician Nexus, a company that advises hospital and medical systems on fair market value compensation packages for doctors and executives. Rick recently retired from a position as the Chair of the Philosophy Department and the Head of Religious Studies at Southern Connecticut State University. Victor is finishing up his PhD in Economics at the University of Connecticut. Will is in the process of figuring out what he wants to do, but is currently working in the deli at Preston Foods in Preston, MN.

Dawn sings (alto in chorus, baritone in barbershop) and plays French Horn, trumpet and bass. She did Tae Kwon Do with her sons for 22 years. She is a fourth degree black belt and was a point sparring KRANE champion in 2007. She likes to read and do crafts. She loves the Packers and she owns one share. She did the MudGirl with some friends this year. It is difficult for her to get to SON meetings because she lives 1 1/2 hours away, but she loves the people and the cultural activities, when she can get to meetings. She's also a member so she can do some things with her mom.

News from our Fagenes Lodge Secretary LaVonne Wier,

You can **keep saving cancelled stamps** and trimming them. We will send them to **Stamps for the Wounded**. Trim to 1/4 inch all around the stamp. Give trimmed stamps to LaVonne. (Not Tubfrim anymore.)

2024 Norway calendars are still available. Contact LaVonne at 608-539-3243.

There will be a **Leadership Workshop Destination Stoughton- SN District 5 Adult Camp October 27-29, 2023**, details will be continuously updated on the District 5 Website. A **Zone 2 training meeting** at Blair Lutheran Church, Oct. 7, 10:00-2:00. Everyone welcome. Please reserve with LaVonne immediately!

A **June 19-22, 2024 District Convention at Crowne Plaza Indianapolis, IN** will have classes, cultural display, vendors, and possible trips in the area. Hotel reservations are due May 19, 2024 and are \$129 a night and includes 2 breakfast vouchers per day per room. Our lodge can send two delegates and LaVonne doesn't count as one as she is on the district board. If you wish to send a cultural item, LaVonne has the registration forms for it.

A request from LaVonne - When your membership renewal dues arrive in the mail, please take care of that right away so you don't fall off our membership list.

How are we doing with the 2023 New member Recruitment Contest?

Having begun August 1, 2023, all lodge members were asked to recruit new members to their local lodge. The contest ends October 31, 2023. For every new member (not Heritage Member) recruited, the lodge will receive \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a family membership. This does not include adding adults to an existing Adult Family membership. The money awarded will be sent to the local lodge of the recruiting member to be used as the lodge would like.

This campaign is an opportunity for all members to get involved and support their local lodge in meeting their membership goals. As well, it helps continue to grow the Sons of Norway organization.

Please turn in all paper membership applications to Headquarters by October 31, 2023. This will ensure that they are processed by the deadline. New members who are signed up online via <http://www.sofn.com> should also be entered by October 31, 2023.

If you sign up a new member online, please email District VP, Wendy Winkelman, advising of that new membership (wendyathadeland@yahoo.com).

Contact: wendyathadeland@yahoo.com with any questions.

Wendy K Winkelman- District 5 Vice President

Masse Moro Review

This summer marked the 44th year of Masse Moro. There were 33 campers, and the camper to counselor ratio was approximately 3:1. Although camp attendance was down from 44 campers last year, the small group size made for cozy gatherings and led to interaction between all campers and with all staff, including kitchen staff. Everyone seemed to get to know everyone else.

The campers were really good kids! Several former campers came back this year as volunteers and were happy to see other campers as well as their former counselors. The "butikk" sold out of 3 kinds of imported Norwegian chocolate bars and imported Solo soft drinks. Included in the butik this year were Scandinavian items available for purchase and sold on a consignment basis, so the camp earned 25% of all sales.

Highlights of camp were racing the handmade boats the campers made from ordinary household items, rosemaling and baking classes, olympic training and competition (especially leg wrestling!), the two dances, and the baked goods created by Jakob.

The campers gave a wonderful performance singing Norwegian songs for their families on the final morning of camp.

Lots of tears were shed as campers and staff said goodbyes until next year.

SN Youth Director Lisa Rove-Williams

SON Core Values

1. Building Nordic culture and heritage for the future
2. Committing to life-long learning and service
3. Demonstrating compassion for our members in need
4. Sustaining the link to contemporary Norway
5. Fostering a community of generosity

Upcoming Events Not So Far Away

October 6 - October 8 Uff Da Fest includes Sons of Norway Casserole Contest

Annual festival in Spring Grove, Houston CO, MN. See Facebook for details. Full Schedule can be found here: <http://www.uffdafest.com/>

Sons of Norway Fish Boil Friday, October 6, 2023

Drive-Up/Curbside pick up from 5:00– 5:45 PM Only. Dine In – Begins at 6:00 PM. Make your reservations at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054CA5A72C7-mandt3>

Drive-up/Carry-Out option – We will only schedule drive-up orders that need to be picked up curbside between 5:00 – 5:45 PM. **We will block the area in front of the lodge during that time for pick up. You must sign up for this time period- all other servings will be dine-in.** You will approach the lodge from the south and you'll see the payment station and pick up stations outside. You will stay in your vehicle.

Dine-in option – We will offer inside seating beginning at 6:00 PM. **You will walk down the driveway between the lodge and Livsreise and enter our side door.** Tickets will be purchased downstairs and then you will eat upstairs. **Mandt Lodge is handicapped accessible** – enter the downstairs by coming down the driveway and right into the lower dining room to buy your tickets. You may use the lift to go up to the main hall and then to the street entrance to exit. We are planning on feeding a total 225 people so if we don't fill all the spots by 6:30 PM, walk-ins can come at that time for inside dining. **Menu: Cost** – \$18 per meal and no special orders! **Regular dinner** – North Icelandic Cod, Baby Red Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Cole Slaw, Bun, Butter, and Cherry Dessert. **Gluten Free dinner** – North Icelandic Cod, Baby Red Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Cole Slaw, Butter, and Gluten Free Blueberry Dessert. (No Bun)

Payment options:

Drive-up – Cash or Check (Made out to Mandt Lodge) Due at Pickup! **Dine-in** – Cash, Check (Made out to Mandt Lodge), or Credit Card.

****You CANNOT park in the Livsreise parking lot until after they close at 5 PM.** Thank you** for your patience as we try to accommodate both drive-up and dine-in customers! For questions on ordering, contact Todd Fossum at todd.r.fossum@gmail.com or 608-695-1336. Watch for updates by checking our Facebook page at Sons of Norway StoughtonWI

October 21 @ 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm CDT

A Taste of Scandinavia

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN, MN. Sample Nordic foods, bake sale, silent auction, bestefar's attics items for sale, invitation to potential new members **\$10**

Bingo October 21 and November 18 @ 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm CDT PAY FOR CARDS

Sons of Norway- Mandt Lodge for Bingo 2023. The lodge is located at 317 South Page Street in Stoughton. There will be food available after 5 PM and bingo begins **at 6 PM**. Any bingo questions contact Becky Lunde at 608-205-2234. Anyone **under 18 years old must have an adult family member present to play**. Bingo is open to everyone- not just lodge members! We are handicapped accessible with a lift on the south side. Street parking available and in Livreise's lot only if they are closed.



Under 6: Free Luteifisk, meatballs, rutabagas, potatoes, gravy, lefse
Sale! Serving Time: 11 - 4PM Adults: \$20.00 Kids ages 6 - 12: \$15.00
Can Eat Luteifisk and Bake Sale! All You Can Eat Luteifisk and Bake
Etrick, WI 54627. Contact: <http://www.northbeavercreek.com/> All You
North Beaver Creek Lutheran Church - W10767 County Rd C,

October 22nd, 2023
85th Annual Luteifisk Dinner

twinspringfarm@gmail.com
Etrick, WI 54627
W19077 Mason Road
Terry Thompson, Editor
Sons of Norway Fagernes Lodge 5-616

“Charlie’s Miracle” (continued from page 3) The next morning, Sunday, Jacob stopped in to see me after doing chicken chores. His face was markedly downcast. I said, “Jacob, you need to keep the faith. This is an opportunity for you to exercise your faith and cause it to grow. Don’t lose heart; stay positive.”

I asked him to please sit down. I took his hands in mine and said a prayer for Charlie to return home and for God to keep him warm, safe, healthy, unharmed, to calm him and help him overcome being spooked so he could use his instincts to find his way home.

I went to the computer and decided to share Jacob’s plea for help with Charlie on Travis’s Facebook business page, Hegg Mill LLC. There I watched it spread like wildfire, ending up with 116 shares and over 9,000 people reached. Sunday afternoon, Travis and Jacob were in the farm woods cutting firewood for Travis’s outdoor furnace. My brother Leon, who lives kitty-corner to me, called them saying he just saw Charlie run past his place traveling east up the valley road. Travis and Jacob jumped in the pickup and went to where they found Charlie lying in the middle of the road licking his paws. They voiced, “Charlie,” and he took off running away from them. They saw him run up a neighbor’s long driveway and called to him. He hesitated, turned to look at them, and resumed running away.

I made supper for the four of us and when voicing table grace also asked again for Charlie’s safe return.

Monday morning, I was dozing before 7 a.m. when I heard the familiar iphone ding notifying me of a text. I thought “do I even want to look at that?” I did, and to my amazement, Travis had texted, “Charlie’s back.”

I replied, “Really? How is he?” He replied that Charlie was just fine. He had heard something on his deck and had thought to himself, “Jacob must be up early,” but at the same time decided that he’d better check. There was Charlie! And he didn’t run! When they let him in Charlie squealed and whimpered and was overjoyed, as were they.

Travis told me I needed to visit Charlie. I said I would later after attending a funeral.

That afternoon I visited Charlie at Travis’s and he squealed with joy. I gave him and Chocolate a lot of attention. As I looked over Charlie, I was amazed that his only sign of wear was stick-tights and burrs in his fur. He was not emaciated, he was not thirsty, he didn’t have frostbite, he was not injured. He was just plain spirited, joyful, wiggly, happy, active Charlie.

I shouldn’t have been surprised at all. I know God hears and answers prayer and I had more than a mustard seed-size of faith for this one. Thank you, my God.