



Nordkapen

Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

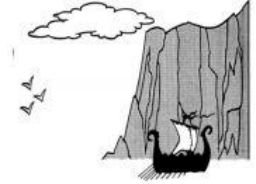
The North Cape 71° 10' 21" North Latitude – The Top of Europe

A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway

Organized August 10, 1929 – The first Sons Norway

Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>



NORDKAP CALENDAR

Sunday, April 28, 4 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Saturday, May 18, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Syttende Mai Celebration
The Swedish Club

September 8, 1 p.m.
Steak & Corn Roast
The Swedish Club

Sunday, October 27, 4 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Saturday, Nov. 9, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Scandinavian Market
The Finnish Center

Sunday, Nov. 24, 2 – 5 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Nordkap 2024 Officers

President: Haley Vingsness

Vice President: Heather Vingsness

Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:
Carmen Collins

Secretary: Mary Morehead

Membership Secretary

& Sunshine Director: Carol Jehle

Social Director & Greeter:
Eli Viik Steyskal

Cultural Director:

Karen Herche

Sports Director: Mike Jarasz

Co-Youth Directors:

Yana Thompson & David Thompson

Foundation Director:

Derrick Hendricks

Co-Store Directors:

Natalie Vaal & Dennis Flessland

Editor & Publicity Director:

Louise Giles

Counselor: Bob Giles

Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com

Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated

April/May 2024

Volume 94 Issue 3

Tasty Gathering Set for Members on April 28

Good things are on the menu for the Members Gathering on April 28th. The theme is Norsk Importbutikk-Smaking (Norwegian Import Store Tasting).

Yes, there will be tastings of foods normally sold at our Nordkap Import Store. Some of them (such as fish balls, or *Fiskeboller*) may not be so familiar to our members.

Samples of home-made potato lefse created in Mary Morehead's cooking class will also be offered.



Typical Import Store Items

Why do this demonstration? We hope the tastings will introduce members to Norwegian foods they may not have known about or been reluctant to buy.

The Import Store will be open at the gathering, so people can easily purchase foods they've sampled. Packages of lefse from Mary's cooking class will be sold with proceeds from those items going to our scholarship fund. Five lefse will cost \$5.

And there's a meal, too. Our gathering will begin with a build-your-own, open-faced sandwich meal. You'll choose from toppings provided. A display of samples will demonstrate which items typically go well together.

Please consider joining your friends for this yummy Nordkap event. We will gather at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 28, at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills. A donation of \$10 is requested. Hope to see you there.

GRATULERER MED DAGEN!



April Birthdays:

Elizabeth Aprahamian, Catie Hart, Laura Howe, Duane Kirking, Annette Lundberg, Constance Pike, Emma Skidmore, Riley Skidmore, Margarita Thompson, Mary Tornquist, Wade Tornquist

May Birthdays:

Anton Anderssen, Arne Borgnes, Sarah Duffy, Charlotte Duus, Myrtle Ebert, Thomas French, Margaret Haines-Hahr, Joseph Hart, Marilyn Kirking, Norman Kirsch, Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg, Zachary Marko, Jan Persson, Nancy Redilla, Gail Ritchie, Laura Roed, Lynn Rose, Susan Schotts, P. J. Smith, Jennifer Wingsness, Donald Wang

Sunshine Updates



Former Sports **Director Cathy Johnson** is recovering well from her surgery on March 1st for a bone spur/calcification caused from old surgeries years ago to repair a rupture in her Achilles tendon. Following her March 1 surgery, Cathy wore a surgical boot 24/7 for several weeks but recently progressed to regular boots and finally to tennis shoes.

* * *

Member **Bryant Clary** is enjoying improved eyesight following successfully cataract surgery on both eyes in February.

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Longtime members **Norm and Judy Kirsch** are also dealing with health issues. Norm recently completed a round of radiology, and Judy's continuing her routine of daily eyedrops to cope with failing vision. They wish "Happy May Day" to all our Nordkap members they miss seeing.

Constitution Day Celebration Set for May 18

Nordkap Lodge will hold its 2024 celebration of the 210th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution on Saturday, May 18. Our event commemorates the signing of Norway's Constitution in Eidsvoll, Norway, on the 17th of May 1814. Syttende Mai is arguably the biggest holiday celebration in Norway.

The celebration begins at 11 a.m. at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills, with Norwegian food imports and gift items for sale. The parade around the clubhouse starts at 11:30 a.m.

We'll fly the Norwegian flag, sing the Norwegian national anthem, turn out in "bunads"—Norway's national dress—and hear greetings from Norway's honorary consul to Michigan, Dennis Flessland.



Last year's Syttende Mai parade

We'll enjoy Scandinavian music, picnic foods, and Norwegian heart waffles. Then we'll have the games! Among them will be the return of Nordkap's traditional "Cod Toss"—which tossed its final fish last year.

This year's revived Cod Toss will take a different turn. Fish-tossing will be done by blindfolded contestants, and the fish will be a whole fish—not the fish heads of years gone by.

A complimentary dessert and coffee buffet will follow the games.

Admission is \$5 payable at the door. Children 5 years of age and younger are free. This includes pølse (hot dogs), chips, soft drinks, Norwegian heart waffles with jam and sour cream, and desserts.

Please consider bringing a favorite Norwegian dessert to share at the dessert buffet. Events will conclude by 3 p.m.



Kransekake



The 2024 Nordkap Bowlers

Bowling Outing Produces Fun...and Funds for Nordkap Scholarships

Nordkap’s March 24 event at Country Lanes Bowling in Farmington Hills brought out 23 adult bowlers, 4 child bowlers, and 9 “Viking Cheerleaders” all looking for fun. Fun was apparently there to be found, with many happy shouts, high fives, and hugs shared that day.

A special benefit was the opportunity for families who don’t have much chance to see each other to enjoy a game, pizza, and soft drinks together.

The outing was a fundraiser for the Nordkap Scholarship Fund and resulted in \$605 for the fund.

Also there were prizes. The top adult bowlers each won a chrysanthemum plant. Eric Zawicki led the men with a total score of 307 for two games. Stacey Torgerson was tops among women with a two-game total of 272. Child bowlers received chocolate Easter Bunnies.



Left to right: Brynn McKenna, Kate Zawicki, Liam McKenna and James Zawicki



Marina Kozlova & grandson.



Brandy Dickerhoff



Stacy Torgerson & Eric Zawicki

We Dished Up Pizza, Elected Delegates, & Swore in New Members

Our plates were full at the Members Gathering in February as we threw a pizza party extraordinaire and took care of important lodge business.

As President Haley Vingsness explained to the gathering, pizza is so popular in Norway it's often called Norway's National Dish. We took that fact and ran with it, as members each got a piece of pizza dough and chose from toppings provided by Mike Jarasz to create their own special versions of "Norwegian pizza."

Each pizza was identified with its creator's name and transformed in the Swedish Club's ovens into a hot and delicious meal. No two pizzas were alike, but most contained ingredients associated with Norway, such as shrimp, salmon, and brown cheese.

After our meal, we got down to business, including:

- **Electing delegates** for the 5th District Convention in Indianapolis in June. Four delegates were chosen: Dennis Flessland, Mary Morehead, Eli Steyskal, and Haley Vingsness. Alternates were Jan Flessland, Mike Jarasz, and Carol Jehle.
- **Initiation of new members.** President Vingsness administered the membership oath to Bette and Bryant Clary and Mike Jarasz.



Left to right: Bryant & Bette Clary, Haley Vingsness, and Mike Jarasz



Photos from top left: Bob Giles tries his hand at tossing pizza dough; Gerald Bayer & Laura Brennan flatten dough; Bette Clary & Jan Flessland select toppings; pizzas with names ready for the oven; and final product—freshly baked pizza!

No Sankthansaften Celebration Scheduled for Nordkap in 2024

Due to extenuating circumstances, Nordkap will not be holding our regular celebration of Midsummer Eve (Sankthansaften) in 2024. Normally on June 23—the day the celebration is held in Norway—we host an evening event with a bonfire and roasted hot dogs at the Swedish Club.

However, in June this year a number of Nordkap's key leaders will be traveling out of town or attending the 5th District Sons of Norway convention and will not be able to host our normal Midsummer festivities.

Instead, we encourage you to hold your own Midsummer celebration with friends or family at your convenience. Please take pictures and be sure to share them with our editor at louiseagiles@gmail.com so we can publish them in the next newsletter. We look forward to regular Midsummer festivities in future years!

Wanted: Experienced Norwegian Language Teacher for Norsk Klasse

Nordkap Lodge is seeking an experienced Norwegian language teacher to help us restart the successful classes we held in person at the Swedish Club for more than eight years.

We suspended the language classes during the COVID pandemic and so far have not found the appropriate time, location, or teacher to resume them.

The first step is securing an experienced teacher to help complete this task.

If you are that person—or know someone who is—please contact Nordkap President Haley Vingsness who's leading this initiative. You can reach out to Haley at 906-231-9246 or haleyvingsness@gmail.com.



Norwegian class student

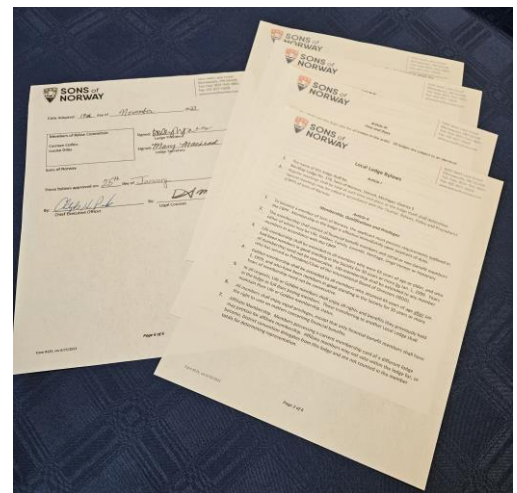
Final Revision of Nordkap Bylaws Gets Official Approval

It's a pleasure to report that Nordkap's twice-revised bylaws have been officially approved by the International Sons of Norway in Minneapolis.

Our first revision had to be reworked when Sons of Norway changed the template they'd previously approved for local lodges to use.

The official approval came from Minneapolis on January 25, 2024, and the revised bylaws are now posted on our website at <http://www.detroitnorwegians.com/reference.html>. They're also found on the District website at https://sonsofnorway5.com/about/bylaws_and_policies.php.

Thanks to our Bylaw Committee of Carmen Collins and Louise Giles for completing this project.



Completed, approved bylaws

News Briefs of Note for Nordkap Members

The Detroit Symphony's New Principal Guest Conductor is Norwegian



Tabita Berglund (photo from DSO)

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra has appointed Norwegian conductor Tabita Berglund as the orchestra's new Principal Guest Conductor, beginning in the 2024–2025 season with an initial 4-year contract. Berglund will have an extended artistic collaboration with the orchestra over multiple weeks each season.

Berglund currently serves as Principal Guest Conductor of the Kristiansand Symphony Orchestra in Norway and is recognized as one of today's most talented young conductors.

Norwegian Trio Performs at the DIA

A Norwegian group, the Tord Gustavsen Trio, from Sandefjord, Norway, performed at the Detroit Institute of Arts on March 22nd. Tord Gustavsen is a Norwegian jazz pianist and composer who tours extensively worldwide and works at various times as a bandleader for a trio, ensemble, and quartet, all bearing his name.

The DIA performance was attended by some Nordkap music lovers, including Erik and Kristin Duus with Erik's mother, Harriet Duus; Coco and Bob Bruner; and Georgia Roed with her daughter, Heidi. A cousin of Georgia was in charge of sound at the performance.



DIA concert (Erik Duus photo)

A Barnebirkie with No Snow

Each year Nordkap sends a monetary donation to the 5th District Sons of Norway for the children's ski race in Hayward, Wisconsin. But the 2024 Barnebirkie took on a different feel this year with no measurable snow on the ground. How does one ski without snow? They improvise!

The 433 children were challenged with a running race which ended in downtown Hayward, just a few steps away from the Sons of Norway cookie tent. There, 5th District volunteers distributed a total of 601.5 dozen cookies, donated by 13 Sons of Norway lodges. The lodge contributing the most cookies was Mandt Lodge in Stoughton, Wisconsin, with 110.5 dozen cookies! Nordkap was among the 11 lodges contributing money to help with the effort.



Cookie Tent (Darlene Arneson photo)

No Snow for Nordkap's Ski Outing, either

Nordkap's own cross-country ski outing originally scheduled for February 24 was cancelled due to lack of snow. We hope to continue this tradition in future years, weather permitting. Thanks again to David Thompson for putting together plans for the event.

News Briefs, continued

Roger Hewlett to Lecture on Ships in the Keweenaw

Many Nordkap members will recall Roger Hewlett as the talented accordion player who frequently plays at our Syttende Mai celebrations at the Swedish Club. Roger's regular job is working as a mariner and engineer on ships in the Great Lakes.

Roger, the mariner, will be giving a video and pictorial presentation, *Ships in the Keweenaw*, on Sunday, May 5, at 2 p.m. at the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills. The program is a benefit for the Finnish Center's roofing fund, with donations appreciated. Coffee and pulla, a Finnish-style cardamon bread, will be served.



Roger Hewlett

Nordic Folk Dance Practices Continue at Finnish Center



The Nordic Heritage Dance Group has scheduled another practice session for children and adults on Sunday, May 19, from 2 – 5 p.m. at the Finnish Center, 35200 W. Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills. The first hour is family-style practice where children and adults learn folk dancing together. The remaining time is more challenging dances for adults. Direct any questions to Glendene Thornbloom at gathorn4@gmail.com.

Save Your Used Stamps for Stamps for the Wounded

After Tubfrim, the Norwegian charity, ceased operation, Nordkap stopped asking our members to save used postage stamps. Previously Tubfrim would sell our donated stamps to raise money for charities in Norway.

But everything old is new again and--as a community service project--we are now looking for your used stamps to send to Stamps for the Wounded. Stamps for the Wounded is a service organization dedicated to providing comfort to U.S. veterans through stamp collecting. Stamp collecting is not physically challenging and is very stimulating. SFTW has been helping veterans since 1942.

So please save your used stamps and bring them to a Nordkap gathering for collection by Membership Secretary Carol Jehle. Trim the stamps from their envelopes, leaving a quarter-inch paper margin around each stamp.

Hitchhiker Surprises Treasurer Carmen Collins

Nordkap Treasurer **Carmen Collins** found this beautiful male Polyphemus moth inside her house on February 26. She spotted it on a door wall, freshly hatched, wings still unfolding. Carmen thinks it hitch-hiked on a plant she brought indoors for the winter. When it became warm in the house, the moth apparently thought it was spring and left its cocoon.

Once weather warmed up outside, Carmen released the moth, which has no mouthparts and doesn't eat. Thus it could fulfill his natural mission -- to find a female, to mate, and sadly to die in about 4 days.



***Polyphemus moth
(Carmen Collins photo)***

A Letter from President Haley Vingsness:

Spring is the perfect time to get absorbed in a new book. For many in Norway, receiving a crime novel in their Easter basket is as customary as painting eggs is here.

Behind the who-dun-it mystery lies a unique perspective on day-to-day life. You read about the police system; how criminals are portrayed and treated; how people from different walks of life get along. Some, such as the acclaimed Harry Hole series by Jo Nesbø, even immerse you into a certain city so you can see how it evolves over time.

Two popular authors you can find in your local library:

Karin Fossum:

Don't Look Back (Se deg ikke tilbake)
He Who Fears the Wolf (Den som frykter ulven)
The Indian Bride (Elskede Poona)

Anne Holt:

1222 (1222)
What is Mine (Det som er mitt)
Blind Goddess (Blind gudinne)

Our lodge has our very own book club! You can also read more about the International Sons of Norway book club in your *Viking* magazine. Seasoned sleuths, there's no better time to pick up a new book!

Happy reading, Haley Vingsness

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c/o Louise Giles

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