



Nordkapen

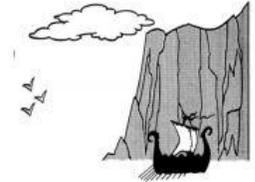
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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 of Norway Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.detroitnorwegians.com>



February/March 2019

Volume 89 Issue 2

NORDKAP CALENDAR

February 24 – Lodge meeting,
4 p.m., the Swedish Club

March 9 – Movie Night,
7 p.m. the Swedish Club
Norwegian film, *O' Horten*

Sunday, March 24 – Bowling for
Nordkap Scholarship Fund,
1 p.m., Luxury Lanes, Ferndale

April 28 – Lodge meeting,
4 p.m., the Swedish Club

May 18 – Norwegian Constitution Day,
11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Swedish Club

June 23– Midsummer,
6 p.m., the Swedish Club

Sept. 8 – Steak & Corn Roast,
1 p.m., the Swedish Club

Sept. 14 – 90th Anniversary
Dinner Cruise on M.V. Portofino,
Wyandotte

2019 Officers

President: Haley Vingsness

Treasurer: Carmen Collins

Secretary: Mary Morehead

Financial &

Membership Secretary:

Carol Jehle

**Scholarship Director & Store
Director:**

Natalie Flessland Vaal

Cultural Director:

Merete Stenersen-Eelnurme

Social Director: Connie Hart

Youth Director:

Heather Vingsness

Foundation Director:

Derrick Hendricks

Editor & Publicity Director:

Louise Giles

Counselor: Bob Giles

Contact us:

Nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com

Photos by Bob Giles, unless otherwise
indicated

Enjoy Warm Soup at February Soup Cook-Off

Nordkap's February meeting will help beat off winter's chill as we sample wonderful soups made by our members. It's Nordkap's February Soup Cook-Off, which promises to reveal the best soup-maker in our lodge!

The only requirement to enter is to bring enough soup to fill small bowls for members at the meeting to sample. If you'd like everyone to taste your soup, plan on bringing about two quarts—three, if you think people will want more! If your soup is a warm one, bring it in a hot pot or crock pot, if you have one.



(Merete Stenersen-Eelnurme photo)

Mary Morehead will be chairing the cook-off, so if you want to enter, please contact her in advance at mmor7725@gmail.com or (248) 229-9332.

Last-minute contestants are welcomed, as well.

As usual, we will be gathering at 4 p.m. at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth St. in Farmington Hills.

After the cook-off, the cultural program will be our second presentation on Norwegian genealogy, following the outstanding talk given by Haley Vingsness at our January meeting.

Speaker Carmen Collins will explain something important to finding your Norwegian roots: Norwegian naming traditions.



GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

February Birthdays:

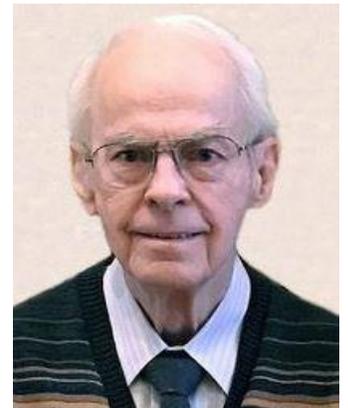
**Kristine Dowhan,
Kevin Duffy,
Bill Edwards,
Mark Eelnurme,
Dennis Flessland,
Janet Flessland,
Louise Giles,
Deborah Gummerus,
Sven Hahr,
Greydon Hyde,
Emma Jehle,
Judith Kirsch,
Michael Lindemann,
Erik Lundberg,
David Nelsen,
Arthur Peterson,
Hannah Peterson**

March Birthdays:

**Harald Ehrenfeld,
Lilje Gronstad,
Sonja Gronstad,
Linda Radwan,
Dana Runestad,
Avery jean Skidmore,
Sarah Stalmack,
Hannah Thomassen,
Jenna Thomassen**

Sunshine Report

We sadly report the passing at home of **Ernest Olaf Halvorson**, husband of Marina Kozlova, on January 30 at the age of 77. Ernie and Marina have been active members of Nordkap since 2012, with Marina often serving as a pianist at our Christmas parties. Besides Marina, Ernie is survived by his daughter and five grandchildren.



*Ernest Halvorson
(Halvorson family photo)*

Sonja “Sunny” Gronstad, 16, daughter of Geir and Lori Gronstad, underwent a couple of successful critical chest wall surgeries at the Phoenix Children's Hospital in Arizona on Feb. 4 and will be recovering there for two weeks. The surgery was to repair pectus excavatum, a congenital deformity of the front of the chest wall. Sunny has been a Nordkap member and volunteer at lodge events for a number of years.



Finn Roed

Best wishes to **Finn Roed** as he continues to recover and receive physical therapy at Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital following his heart attack and massive stroke. Finn and his wife Georgia have been very active members of our lodge since 1996 and served until recently as our librarians.

If you have news of a lodge member's special achievements or challenges, please send the information to Nordkap's editor at Nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com.



New Officers Take Posts as Sonja Henie Comes to Nordkap

A cover of white snow blanketed the grounds of the Swedish Club on January 27 (above) as Nordkap's new officers gathered to be sworn in at the monthly lodge meeting.

The day was cold, but bright, and the weather didn't deter a few stalwart Nordkap members and several guests from Sonja Henie Lodge in Lansing from coming out to enjoy the fellowship -- along with a delicious meatball-and-lutefisk dinner prepared by Dennis Flessland.

After dinner, Nordkap President Haley Vingsness (right) provided an enlightening tutorial on how to use a Norwegian genealogy website to trace your Norwegian ancestry. The ancestry discussion continues in February with a presentation by Carmen Collins (see page 1).



New Officers, left to right: President Haley Vingsness, Treasurer Carmen Collins, Secretary Mary Morehead, Financial and Membership Secretary Carol Jehle, Social Director Connie Hart, Editor and Publicity Director Louise Giles, and Counselor Bob Giles.

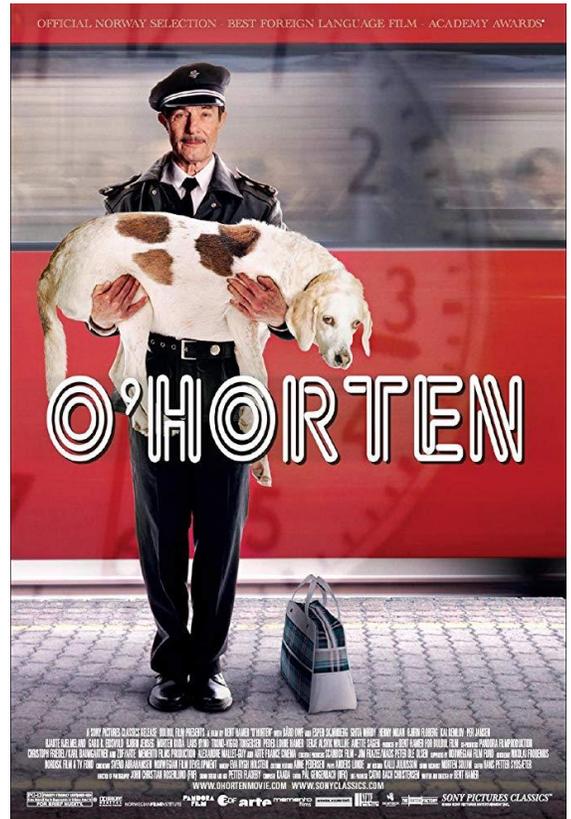
Nordkap's Next Movie Night Is March 9

The Norwegian comedy, *O' Horten*, will be featured at Nordkap's next "movie night" set for Saturday, March 9, at 7 p.m. at the Swedish Club.

The showing of the film follows Nordkap's first movie night last September where *The King's Choice* was screened. *The King's Choice* is the dramatic story of Norway's King Haakon VII and his decision not to surrender Norway to Nazi Germany.

O'Horten is a 2007 comedy, directed by Bent Hamer. The film's title character Odd Horten is a habit-bound train driver, who is about to retire. On the day of his retirement, he ends up in an unexpected situation and is forced to reconsider his life. As in other films by Hamer, the themes are loneliness and old age and the courage to take chances. The film is in Norwegian with English subtitles.

Once again, members and guests will be invited to enjoy complimentary popcorn and soft drinks as we view another excellent film.



Nordkap Helps Sons of Norway Reach 2018 Goals

Sons of Norway's Chief Executive Officer Eivind J. Heiberg announced results in reaching the organization's 2018 goals. Your Nordkap Lodge did its part to help reach two of them:

- **Sons of Norway set a goal of increasing membership 9%** and tasked each of its lodges with a specific number of members to recruit, based on the size of the lodge. Nordkap was asked to find 10 new members. We actually recruited 15! Other lodges apparently also went beyond their minimum goals. The result was that Sons of Norway last year achieved 113% of its membership goal, acquiring 3,742 new members—well above its base goal of 3,300.
- **Another goal we contributed to reaching was raising funds for the Sons of Norway Foundation.** At our October meeting, Nordkap's Foundation Director Derrick Hendricks (right) explained the work of the Foundation and asked members to donate. Derrick's piggy-bank collection raised just over \$61, which the lodge rounded up to \$75 and sent to the Foundation headquarters in Minneapolis. Our contribution was one of many that helped Sons of Norway far exceed its goal of \$200,000. In total, \$307,000 was raised, or 154% of the goal.



A Letter from President Haley Vingsness

Jambo from Kenya!

The more I travel, the more I realize that as different as each culture is, the more we are the same. People are people no matter where they come from.

As a non-native Norwegian, I appreciate the Sons of Norway because it helps me learn to see things from a different perspective. It's cool to see the similarities between Kenyan and Norwegian culture. For example, both share a deep appreciation for nature and wildlife, spending a lot of time outdoors.

There are some things that are different, things I take for granted -- light switches are up for on, down for off -- that are different in Africa.

But in the grand scheme of things, what matters isn't whether your light switches work the same way. What matters is in your heart. It's good to see this, even a world away from home.

**Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards),
Haley Vingsness**

Save April 5th for Possible Dinner Meeting with District Board

The 5th District of Sons of Norway has scheduled its spring board meeting in the Dearborn area, in order to better reach out to Michigan lodges.

To do so, the District is tentatively planning a buffet dinner on Friday, April 5, as a networking event for Sons of Norway members in this area. Members of Nordkap Lodge and Samhold Lodge would be invited, for instance, with the event serving as a zone meeting for the District's Zone 6 (which includes our lodges).

Currently the District is looking at holding the dinner at the Best Western Greenfield Inn, 3000 Enterprise Drive, in Allen Park. Those attending would be responsible for the cost of their meals-- about \$25 per person.



(Robin Fossum photo)

The event would include a performance by Robin Fossum, (left) District 5 International Director, and a top-notch Hardanger fiddle player who has performed throughout the U.S. and Norway. Other events tentatively on the program are a history presentation on Norwegians in Michigan and a talk about the District's Masse Moro youth heritage camp.

The 5th District includes Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee. Samhold Lodge is located in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

Look to future issues of this newsletter for updates!

Two Cross-Country Ski Events Receive Nordkap Support

Nordkap Lodge supported two important Norwegian-style cross-country skiing events this month.

The first is Ski for Light, a charity that originated in Norway. Sons of Norway lodges--including Nordkap--have supported it financially for years.

It was founded in 1975 to teach blind, visually-and mobility-impaired adults cross-country skiing. It's done by pairing each disabled skier with an experienced, sighted, able-bodied cross-country skier who acts as ski instructor and guide.

This year's American Ski for Light event was held earlier this month at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado, and Nordkap made a \$25 contribution to support it. Nordkap's Past President **Geir Gronstad** sent his own donation of \$50 in honor of his late father, a "ski guide" for blind skiers during the races in Norway.

The second skiing event, the Barnebirkie, is a children's race sponsored by our District 5 of the Sons of Norway. It will be held on February 21 in Hayward, Wisconsin, in conjunction with what's called the Biggest Show on Snow--the American Birkebeiner.

The American Birkebeiner is the largest cross-country ski race or ski marathon in North America. It honors and re-creates a historic Norwegian event in 1206, when two warrior soldiers, called "Birkebeiners" because of the birch-bark leggings they wore, skied infant Prince Haakon to safety from Lillehammer to Trondheim during the Norwegian civil war. Prince Haakon subsequently became King of Norway, and the Birkebeiner soldiers became a Norwegian symbol of courage, perseverance, and character in the face of adversity.

The Barnebirkie, or children's ski race, introduces youngster between the ages of 3-13 to this tradition. It typically draws close to 1,000 young participants to Hayward and has been long supported by the Sons of Norway 5th District. Each year District volunteers provide cookies by the thousands to ski families at the event and also assist with ski registration and other functions. The 5th District invites lodges throughout the District to contribute cookies or monetary support to the Barnebirke. Nordkap Lodge again this year made a contribution of \$25.



The Barnebirkie race for children ages 3-13. (American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation photo)

Researchers Find Coins, Hairpins & Pearls under Floors of Old Churches

Small treasures tell a dark story about Norway's medieval culture.

Archaeologists have found more than 20,000 coins, beads and hairpins under the floorboards of old Norwegian stave churches. A total of 10,286 of the coins are from between 1180 and 1320 A.D. In the Middle Ages, there were likely thousands of stave churches in Norway. Today, 28 stave churches remain standing. In addition, Norway probably has a few hundred other churches with roots in the Middle Ages. The coin findings in these churches reveal how widely coins were being used in Norwegian settlements 800 years ago.

One gender on either side.

In the Middle Ages people stood during church. Only the old and infirm got to sit on benches along the sides. Presumably there was also a clear division between the sexes. Women stood on the north side of the sanctuary and men on the south side.

"When we investigated where in the church rooms hairpins, beads and other objects associated with women were located under the floorboards, we found that more than 95 percent were below the north side of the sanctuary," says Svein Harald Gullbekk, an archaeology researcher at the University of Oslo.

Thus, Gullbekk confirmed the strict division of medieval churches, where women had to stand on the side that people connected with the dark and cold forces in nature. The men stood on the south side.

Netflix På Norsk

Winter months are a great time to get cozy and catch up on your favorite TV shows. For subscribers to Netflix, there are an ever increasing number of Norwegian titles available. Have a look at the descriptions of the latest batch of Norwegian-made films and TV series.

- **Maniac / Maniac** – TV series - TV-MA A nondescript man in a mental hospital has an exciting life of adventure and romance – in his head. He may be insane, or maybe he's just having fun. Mindbending, Offbeat, Absurd
- **Norsemen / Vikingane** – 2 seasons – TV-MA In 790 AD, the Vikings of Norheim have a hectic schedule that includes pillaging, plundering, enslaving others and solving problems with violence. Violent, Dark, Period Comedy
- **The Last King / Birkebeinerne** – Rated R In 1204 as civil war rages, Norway's dying king entrusts two warriors to protect his infant son against internal forces determined to kill the heir. Exciting, Adventure, Period Piece

Coming soon ... A new Netflix original series from Norway has just started production. "Ragnarok" is the story of a Norse god who comes back to life as a teenage boy. The six-part series is a mash-up of Norse mythology and a high school drama.

***Family Bowling in March:
One of Our Most Popular Events***

**Nordkap Lodge Bowling Fundraiser
Now for Nordkap Scholarship Fund!**

A GREAT FAMILY EVENT!

For your \$10 donation you get: Three games, shoe rental, and freshly baked pizza & pop dinner. Cheerleaders (non-bowlers) and children are also welcome for \$5.

SUNDAY March 24, 2019 - 1:00 PM

Luxury Lanes

600 East Nine Mile

Ferndale, MI

You don't have to be a professional bowler to have fun with us, but you need to register! To register or for more information

Contact Bob Giles (248-302-2222) or BobGiles@NewCarNews.tv



NORDKAP

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