



Nordkapen

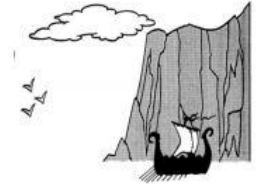
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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>



September 2016

Volume 86 Issue 6

2016 NORDKAP EVENTS

September 11 – Steak and Corn Roast benefit at the Swedish Club, 1 pm

October 23 – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

November 12 – Scandinavian bazaar, 10 am to 4 pm at the Finnish Center

November 20 – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

December 11 – Christmas party, 2 pm at Western Golf and Country Club

NORDKAP HOSTS STEAK & CORN ROAST SEPTEMBER 11

As payback to our Swedish friends for allowing us to use their excellent facility, Nordkap will host its annual steak and corn roast as part of the Swedish Club's monthly brunch program.

This year's special meal is Sunday, September 11, and will feature grilled New York strip steak, fresh-roasted corn on the cob, salads, garlic bread, dessert, and coffee. This great feast costs only \$15, with a special children's price (12 and under) of \$7.50.

Diners start gathering at the Swedish Club (22398 Ruth Street, Farmington Hills) beginning at 12:30 p.m., with food service offered between 1 and 2:30 p.m. This hot ticket sells out every year, so if you're coming just to eat, plan to arrive in time to purchase your tickets and be seated by 1:00 p.m. We



Dennis Flessland at the grill

cannot guarantee meals for latecomers.

But if you want to don a red Nordkap apron and join your fellow members preparing and serving this fabulous feast, come at 9:30 a.m. You'll be part of a friendly team working together, sharing a good time, and getting better acquainted with members of the Swedish Club.

If you can volunteer for even a few hours, please give an advance shout out to Grillmaster Bob Giles at 248-302-2222.



Norwegian Honorary Consul to Michigan Dennis Flessland and other Nordkap members parade with the Swedish Club in July. (All photos in this issue by Bob Giles, except where noted.)



Norm Kirsch readies corn

Note: This event replaces Nordkap's regular September meeting



SUNSHINE UPDATES

Our sincere condolences to Karin Arneson on the passing of her husband, Winfield Arneson, and to Gudrun Aune on the passing of her sister, Louise Lund.

We look forward to improved health for those who recently had surgery – Cathy Johnson and Carol Jehle (knee replacements), Judy Kirsch (glaucoma), Norm Kirsch (carpal tunnel) – and to Bob Giles, scheduled for hip replacement.

We extend best wishes to those facing health challenges – Tove and Pres Bruning and Marge Sorensen.

2015 Officers

President:

Louise Giles

Vice President: Elsa Jorgensen

Secretary: Open

Financial &

Membership Secretary:

Carol Jehle

Treasurer:

Marge Sorensen

Editor:

Bob Giles

Foundation Director:

Natalie Flessland Vaal

Counselor:

Geir Gronstad

Contact us:

nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com

TALES OF THE VIKING SHIP, A FÅRIKÅL DINNER, AND VISIT BY 5th DISTRICT PRESIDENT AT OCTOBER MTG.

Nordkap's October 23rd meeting at the Swedish Club will have such an abundance of attractions that you won't want to miss it!

Here's what's in store:

- A wonderful meal of Fårikål (the traditional Norwegian fall meal of lamb in cabbage stew) prepared by Dennis Flessland, the Norwegian Honorary Consul to Michigan. (Suggested donation for the meal is at least \$5.)
- A special visit by Andy Johnsen, newly elected to the office of President of the 5th District of the Sons of Norway. The 5th District consists of 53 lodges in the Central United States. The district is divided into six zones. Nordkap Lodge is one of the 13 lodges in Zone 6 of the 5th District and is one of the seven lodges that Andy personally oversees.
- An illustrated presentation about the stop of the Viking Ship Draken Harald Hårfagre at the Detroit Yacht Club on August 20-21 and the key role that Nordkap members Dennis Flessland and Geir Gronstad had in arranging the visit.



Andy Johnsen



Viking ship on the Detroit River

We hope you will mark your calendar and join your fellow members at this meeting on Sunday, October 23th, at the Swedish Club at 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills.

The timeline for the meeting is:

4 p.m: Social Time; 4:30 p.m: Fårikål Dinner; 5:30 p.m: Featured speaker, 5th District President Andy Johnsen, followed by a presentation about the Viking Ship Draken Harald Hårfagre's stop in Detroit.



GRATULERER MED DAGEN

August

Derrick Aardal, Louis Amundsen, Karin Arneson, Emil Berentsen, Tove Bruning, Alexa Francis, Peggy Gjerpen, Geir Gronstad, Margit Hansen, Øystein Gjertsen Hekneby, Lynn Herche, Richard Hole, Marina Kozlova, Georgia Roed, Kristen Schotts, Margaret Sorensen, Halee Spalmack, Lori Renee Tavgian

September

Eileen Hanson, Anne Kristine Kilen, Karen Schmidt, Eli Anita Steyskal, Haley Vingsness, Heather Vingsness

October

Gerald Bayer, Simon Hubert Bryhn, Bob Giles, Kaitlyn Hatteberg, Katherine Hildre, Carol Jehle, Cathy Johnson, Hans Jorgensen, John Mueller, Daniel Rutkowski, Diane Stanard, Oddny Viik

Change of Address

(Published at her request:)

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3 STUDENTS WIN \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS FROM NORDKAP FUND!

Three deserving college students have each been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Nordkap Scholarship Fund. The awards were recommended by Scholarship Chair Natalie Vaal and approved by the Nordkap Board at its August meeting. The winners are Erik Sorensen, Ian Sorensen, and Lee Stinson.



Your Nordkap Board in session

Erik and Ian are the grandsons of member Marge Sorensen and sons of Ruth and Doug Sorensen. Erik is in his third year at Kettering University. Ian is entering his freshman year at Michigan State University.

Lee, the son of member Linda Stinson and nephew of member Dennis Flessland and his wife Jan, has transferred from Oakland Community College to Western Michigan University. Lee is beginning his third year of college studies.

The Nordkap Scholarship Fund has been granting scholarships to members or children or grandchildren of members for decades. This is the second consecutive year that the fund was able to approve thousand-dollar awards for three recipients. For a lodge with just 110 members, we believe this is quite an achievement!

However, the awards have significantly drawn down the fund, so our task for the coming year will be to rebuild it. Money for Nordkap scholarships is generated mainly through the silent auction at our Christmas party. Importantly, it can also be supported by donations from members and memorials for loved ones, which can be respectfully noted in this newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The fall season is about to begin at Nordkap Lodge, and I'm looking forward again to seeing our members at a lodge meeting.

The date is Sunday, October 23, and it promises to be a stellar session with authentic Norwegian food, a thrilling presentation about the perils of a tall Viking ship from Norway that two of our members helped bring to Detroit, and the fortuitous visit of the newly elected President of Sons of Norway District 5, Andy Johnsen. Read all about it on page 2.

Before we get to October, you'll want to check out the Steak and Corn Roast that Nordkap is hosting at the Swedish Club on Sunday, September 11. It's an incredible bargain at just \$15 for adults and fun as well. Come to eat starting at 1 p.m., but come early and help put on this fabulous feast to benefit the Swedish Club (details on page 1).



Midsummer photo by Sheryl Dalton

Summer is passing too quickly, but not without offering a little adventure for those Nordkap members who helped us celebrate **Sankthansaften** (St. John's Eve, or Midsummer) at Farmington's Heritage Park; who were part of our parade unit with the Swedes and their giant Viking Helmet float in the Farmington Founders Festival Parade in mid-July; and who came out with us to Comerica Park to see our Detroit Tigers defeat the Houston Astros, 11 to 0, in a beautiful sun-filled August day.

On a personal note, Bob and I were pleased to be part of the 5th District Convention in June. I was honored to serve with Dennis Flessland and Geir Gronstad as a delegate. Bob's service as an alternate was not required, but he was there and took some great photos and video.

On our drive to Wisconsin, Bob and I stopped to attend services at Chicago's Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, or Den Norsk Lutherske Minnekirke. It's a lovely old church with a tall steeple in northwest Chicago, not too far from Wrigley Field. During the service, our knowledge of the Norwegian language was put to the test, since portions were delivered in Norwegian. Lucky for us, a text provided English translation.

We enjoyed talking to Minnekirke Minister David Schoenknecht, who -- you might guess -- is not of Norwegian ancestry. Nonetheless, he gave an excellent sermon recounting the hazards our Norwegian ancestors endured as they traveled to America and pushed ever westward into unexplored, often dangerous Indian Territory.

I had heard about the Minnekirke before, but it was Nordkap member Peter Blom's kindly sending me his copy of the church's newsletter that reminded me about it and led to our finally planning a visit. Thank you, Peter! It's an experience I'd recommend to all our members.

Med vennlig hilsen (With best regards),
Louise Giles



*Chicago Minnekirke
(photo from church
website)*

NORDKAP WINS HONORS AT DISTRICT CONVENTION



District 5 delegates in convention at Marshfield, Wisconsin.

Nordkap Lodge proudly took home top honors as "Family Lodge of the Year" for 2014 at the 53rd convention of the Sons of Norway's 5th District in June. Accepting the wooden plaque award was Geir Gronstad, Nordkap Lodge president 2012-14. This was the second time Geir received this prestigious award. He also received the "Family Lodge of the Year" award for 2013 at the 2014 District convention.

Nordkap also won Merit Awards of "Special Recognition" from the International Board of Directors of Sons of Norway, congratulating us on years of "Fraternal Excellence" in 2014 (a gold award) and 2015 (silver). Geir and Louise Giles, Nordkap president 2015-16, accepted those honors.

Further, Nordkapen newsletter editor Bob Giles was awarded a Certificate of Recognition from District 5 for the Website newsletter posting of Nordkapen.

The District convention with 122 delegates participating was held June 22-26 in the town of Marshfield, in central Wisconsin. It was hosted by Marshfield's own Myrkarken Lodge of the Sons of Norway and the District 5 Board.



Geir Gronstad holds "Family Lodge of the Year" award with Dennis Flessland (left) and Bob and Louise Giles (right).

Representing Nordkap were our three elected delegates, Dennis Flessland, Geir Gronstad, and Louise Giles. Alternate Bob Giles also attended as a non-delegate. Our delegation participated in all general sessions and contributed to several of the workshops, including those on social media, publicity and newsletters, lodge forms, and ideas for lodge programs. Geir was also tapped by District President Owen Christianson to serve on the District Committee on Fraternal Affairs, which presented its ideas in a general session for new lodge programs and initiatives for the District Board to consider.

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Other highlights of the convention business included:

- **Election of a new slate of District officers**, headed by new President Andrew Johnsen. “Andy” was most recently recreation director for the District and headed the District-wide bowling tournament, in which this year two Nordkap bowlers, Mike Jehle and Ian Sorensen, won top honors in their categories.
- **Election of delegates for the Sons of Norway International Convention** in Tacoma, Washington, August 24-27. Nordkap is one of 13 lodges in the District’s Zone 6, which elected two delegates to the International Convention. They were Eugene Steensma, president of Samhold Lodge in Pontiac, Michigan, and Esther Charlton, president of Edvard Grieg Lodge in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Zone 6 elects Gene Steensma (far right) and Esther Charlton (not shown) to international convention.

- **Approval of a location for the next District 5 Convention in 2018.** The convention will be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin, hosted by Wergeland Lodge.
- **A presentation about the new design for the District’s Web site.** Please have a look at <http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/>

Some of the “fun” events were:

- A “Viking Feast,” featuring foods that might have been eaten by Vikings
- President Owen Christianson’s presentation on how he designed and built a Viking Longhouse on his property
- Coffee breaks featuring an incredible assortment of home-made Norwegian cookies
- Demonstrations on cultural arts, such as rosemaling and hardanger embroidery
- A vendor fair with many Norwegian-themed items to purchase
- Tournaments of the traditional Viking game of Kubb
- Dennis Flessland’s attending the session on Ole and Lena jokes (maybe he’ll share one at our next meeting)
- Geir Gronstad’s leading the assembled delegates in singing the Norwegian birthday song when nobody else seemed to know the words -- or was too shy to sing out
- And an outstanding parade of bunad-clad participants at the final banquet. See Bob Giles’ video at <https://youtu.be/HyMYSZxVVlk>

VIKING SHIP STOPS IN DETROIT

The Norwegian Viking ship reproduction, the Draken Harald Hårfagre, paid a visit to the Detroit Yacht Club August 20-21 on Belle Isle on its way out of the Great Lakes. The visit was not originally planned, but came about largely through the persistent efforts of Nordkap members Dennis Flessland and Geir Gronstad, working with the hosting DYC. More than three thousand visitors toured the ship during its two-day stop, and the \$10 admission fee undoubtedly helped the ship continue its expensive journey.

The Draken is world's largest Viking replica ship built in modern times. It sailed in April from Haugesund, Norway, across the North Atlantic, in an effort to replicate Viking Leif Erikson's journey to the New World more than a thousand years ago. It successfully made its way to the Great Lakes, but the plan to journey to Duluth, Minnesota, as part of the 2016 Tall Ships Challenge had to be cut short when the ship ran out of funds for local pilot fees. Through the help of Sons of Norway's charitable Foundation, more than \$120,000 was raised in three weeks' time. This enabled the vessel to sail on as far as Green Bay, Wisconsin, where it made the difficult decision to end its Great Lakes journey and begin the return trip home. The Draken will visit New York in the middle of September and over-winter in Mystic Seaport, Connecticut, before sailing to Norway.



Captions, clockwise, from upper left:

- 1)DYC commodore (left) exchanges club pennant for a Norwegian flag from ship's Captain Björn Ahlander.*
- 2)Members of Nordkap Lodge with Captain Ahlander (center).*
- 3)The Draken's gangplank awaits Detroit visitors.*
- 4) Moored next to powerboats, the Draken adds an historical note to Detroit Yacht Club dock.*

IMPORTANT UPDATE ABOUT ART GALLERY OPENING

Nordkap members may want to attend the public opening of at the TH Muller Art Galleri at 2987 Franklin in Detroit on Saturday, September 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. An opening reception at the gallery at 5:30 p.m. the evening before is a private event, requiring an invitation to attend. Inquiries may be made by calling 248-731-4528.



Located on the northwest corner of Franklin & McDougal Street, the TH Muller Galleri resides in an industrial space that housed the Dongan Electric Manufacturing Company in 1911. It was once a factory manufacturing electrical transformers.

The gallery is hosting 16 hanging works of Swedish artist Thomas Muller, who began his artistic career as a decorative painter and wall painter. He studied art in Oslo, spent three years designing in Norway, and then spent a decade in Stockholm. After Stockholm, he moved to Gothenburg and set up a studio in the old Porter brewery. After five years in Gothenburg he moved to Halmstad, Sweden, and built a gallery and studio there.

According to the gallery's Web site, <http://www.thmullergalleri.com>, "Thomas tries to realize atmospheric images in his own humorous and enigmatic ways.... Alongside his artistic career, he is frequently called upon to design restaurants, nightclubs, and offices looking for a personal and industrial style."

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Bob Giles

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