

July / August 2017



NORDLYSET NEWS



President's Letter (Mike Palecek)

Friends,

Sons of Norway dues are increasing in 2018. Currently, our lodge receives \$4.75 of the \$43.75 for a regular dues paying member, and \$3.25 for a \$37.25 spouse membership. With the new dues structure, a single member pays \$60 annually and a family membership (all members living at the same address) pays \$95. The lodge would get \$14 from your \$60 dues, or \$22 from a family membership.

Dues of \$60 single/\$95 family breaks down to \$5/\$8 per month, and you can set up automatic payments with a checking account or credit card. Some of that money also pays for the monthly Viking magazine you receive.

Your new dues price will go into effect whenever your dues come up for renewal in 2018. If you are a "Golden Member" (30 years SON membership and age 65+) you will have a lower dues price.

Our lodge board has been discussing the dues increase for several months, what ramifications there are, and what we can control about it:

- 1.) As a lodge, we can decide to refund the difference to lodge members, or put the increase to good use to continue to have high quality lodge programs.
- 2.) We have encouraged our district board (representing all the lodges in WI-IL-MI-OH-TN) to use their share of the money wisely to support local lodge programming. The district has just held a leadership conference to share ideas to help us improve our lodge even more, as an example of using their money to support us.

In thinking back at 2017, Nordlyset lodge had a wonderful year, full of high quality lodge programs every month. There were significant costs to some activities, to bring the Norwegian youth band to Racine to perform in the July 4 parade, giving every lodge family a history book of Nordlyset lodge, sponsoring two youth to the Masse Moro Norwegian heritage summer camp, and one of our lodge members to the SON District 5 leadership conference. We advertised our presence in the community by putting on a prospective member luncheon and participating in the July 4 and Holiday parades. We put on a wonderful Christmas party at Tre-Foil Oaks. Just this list cost about \$3000, earned from bake sales, our dues share, and money contributed at lodge meetings. At our October board meeting, our working cash balance was about \$1,500, which is about half of what we normally have at this time of year; since then, \$700 was earned via a bake sale (thanks to all who helped).

We will vote on #1 (use for programs or refund) at the January 17 lodge meeting, and we will do what the majority decides. If you can't attend the January 17 lodge meeting, you can vote by sending me a letter expressing your vote to: Mike Palecek, 5747 Sandy Lane, Racine WI 53406. We hope you decide that continuing to be a member of Sons of Norway and to use dues funds to continue to have a high quality program is important to you.

Tusen takk (many thanks),

Mike

NATIONAL OFFICE



**SONS OF
NORWAY**

Nordlyset 5-183

Nordlyset 5-183
Sons of Norway Meetings
Racine Moose Lodge
Douglas Ave. & 4 1/2 Mile Rd.)
THIRD WEDNESDAY
of most months.
Meal and social time:
5:45 PM
Meeting: 6:30 PM

Natinal Office
www.sofn.com
1-800-945-8851

MEMBERSHIP
fraternal@son.com



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Board Meeting: Nov. 4
Holiday Parade: Nov. 11
November Meeting: Nov. 16
December 15: Christmas
Party

Inside this issue:

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President's Letter

CHRISTMAS PARTY INFO

Foundation Auction

Leadership Conference

Cooking Class offered

Connie & Michaela visit Norway

Following numerous fund raisers over the past couple of years, two of our youth along with two adult members used the funds to visit Norway to meet family, sail on lakes and fjords, travel through mountains with curvy roads, and more. Connie Aiello, Samantha Aiello, and Michaela Decker presented a program at our September lodge meeting to share their adventures. For those who have also visited Norway, you could feel the excitement they had when sharing their stories. Favorite moments included a visit to Helgoya Klatrepark, sailing on the fjords, time with relatives, and going down the Tollsteigen.



CHRISTMAS PARTY at Trefoil Oaks Saturday, DECEMBER 16, 2017 5:15 - 7:00 PM

There is no regular lodge meeting in December. Instead we will celebrate with a festive Christmas Party on Saturday, December 16 at Trefoil Oaks Girl Scout Camp & Lodge. The time is tentatively set for 5:15 – 7:00 PM. We hope all can join us for the fun. This is the same place we have had the party for the past two years, and everyone loves it. Those helping with set-up and clean up, please be there at 4:00 PM. **Watch for more information confirming the exact starting and set up times.

We will meet in the gorgeous lodge in front of a crackling fire for a bountiful potluck, a raffle and singing as we circle the Christmas tree. We will hopefully watch a Santa Lucia procession and have fun with our own “photo booth,” so bring your camera or cell phone to take pictures. The highlight of the party is when Santa himself appears for children of all ages to sit on his lap, with gift bags for the youngest. Don’t forget your camera / phone.

Baked ham and soft drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass that will generously serve ten people. If you are bringing friends and/or other family (and we hope you do!) please upsize your recipe to make sure we have plenty. If you have items to donate for the raffle, please bring them as well. This is a very special event, and we hope everyone will join in the fun!

There is no need to RSVP. For other information please contact Diane Palecek at 262-886-5547, nubits2@hotmail.com.

NOVEMBER....A TIME TO BE THANKFUL FOR OUR ANCESTORS!

Our November 15th meeting will give many of our members and opportunity to share a bit of family history with our lodge, and it's hoped that many will come prepared. Chuck Johnson has had the idea that it would be interesting to see where our ancestors came from, and he will devise a way to use his map skills to show us, but he needs your help. What can you do? Here's your "homework."

1. Select either your fraternal or maternal side that's connected you to Scandinavia or other European country.
2. Figure out who first emigrated and came to America.
3. Do you know the story of why he/she/they left?
4. Where had they lived? Can you find the county? Parish? (If you don't know, ask other lodge members for help.)
5. Did their last name change? From what to what?
6. What occupation did he/she/they have, and did it continue in the USA?
7. Do you have a photograph of the person/people? How are you similar?
8. Did you know this person or were stories passed down to you? Do you have one to share?

At our November lodge meeting, you'll be given a short amount of time (no more than 2 minutes) to tell us something about this person. Bring a photo if you have one! Tell a brief story! Be thankful for these ancestors.....they are why YOU are here!

CAROL GIANFORTE: AUTHOR & STORYTELLER



Carol was born and raised in Racine and visited family and friends regularly through the years, while living elsewhere in Wisconsin. But in 2004, she and her husband returned to purchase a condo here, in addition to their residence in Arizona. Carol claims that the move back engendered an avalanche of memories of growing up in Racine which lead to contributing nostalgic stories of her childhood to the Racine Journal Times and to writing a book, published in 2015: *My Heart Leads Me Home-A Daughter's Memoir*. (The popular book is available at Barnes & Noble, Heritage Museum, Amazon, and from Carol.)

Her membership in Preservation Racine led her to meet Jim Mercier, another Racinian, who is a noted collector and historian of the city. Together they have teamed up to present programs of Racine history in an informal, nostalgic format. Over 2,000 people have attended their programs at the Golden Rondelle in the past two years. The latest was entitled: "How Sweet It IS! Remembering RACINE's Neighborhood Groceries and Bakeries."

Carol is proud to be a member of Sons of Norway (Nordlyset Lodge), especially as a tribute to her mother Ann and grandmother Pernilla. She thanks the members for their knowledge and their friendship.



HOLIDAY PARADE.....RIDE ON OUR VIKING FLOAT!

Join us to celebrate the Sons of Norway by riding on our Viking ship float during the Racine Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 11. "All aboard" our ship with the big Norwegian flag by 5 PM in the start area by the J.I. Case corporate headquarters, on the east side of the river, just south of State Street. Our Viking ship sets sail at 5:30. You can park north of State Street at Erie and walk in, or enter Liberty Street off of Marquette Street and park behind the float loading area. Under the command of "Morgan the Red," show your Scandinavian spirit to the hometown crowd. Make sure to dress warm and in layers... as it is said in Norway, there's no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing. Afterwards, anyone who is interested can meet us for dinner (about 7 PM) at Third Coast Pizza, 207 Gaslight Circle, next to Hilton Hotel Harborwalk. If you need to find our float, call Mike at 262-497-2761. New members, we'd love to have you join in the fun!



AUCTION !

Our festive October meeting was great fun as we celebrated Lief Ericksen with a delicious dinner, catered by Red Onion, and an auction that raised funds for our SON Foundation. Many thanks to those who brought in items to sell and to those who spent their money!

Cheryl Miller presented a power point of our fun-filled summer activities: our 100th anniversary, 4th of July parade and picnic, another picnic at the Baldukas home, and the trip to Old World Wisconsin.





SUNSHINE!!!!

Judy Nielsen is in charge of our sunshine committee. Help is appreciated when you let her know of lodge members who are ill or have passed away. We like to celebrate happy events too, so share the good news (A new grandchild? A graduation?

Marriage?) with her too. You'll find her phone number and email on page 6.



Sons of Norway Websites

—Nordlyset Lodge:

<http://www.sonsofnorwayracine.com>

—Sons of Norway District 5:

[http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/
content/](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/content/)

—Sons of Norway International:

<http://www.sofn.com/home/index.jsp>

Texas Hold 'Em

Contact Mike Palecek if you are interested in participating in Texas Hold 'Em or the book club.

sonracine@gmail.com



LODGE SURVEY

BOOK CLUB

The following members expressed an interest in a book club. Who will take charge organizing this? Who would like to be added to this list?

***Barb Presser, Diane & Mike Palecek, Judy Nielsen, Happy & Randy Youngs, Mary Ann Furrie

CULTURAL PIN :Cooking!

Contact Connie Aiello if you are interested in participating. It's a wonderful way to learn to make Scandinavian recipies AND enjoy eating what you've made! See the last page for more information. Class begins Nov. 8.
623 252 8861



SEWING SKILLS NEEDED

Each Christmas holiday party we look forward to our St. Lucia procession and our young people wearing white gowns. Well, the kids have grown up and we need better fitting attire. Connie Aiello has the pattern and material for this project, and now we need seamstresses to put these together. Please contact her SOON so we can have them ready for our 2017 party.

Connie Aiello: 623-252 8861

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YOUTH DIRECTOR	MICHAELA DECKER	498 2085	michaeladecker@wi.rr.com



	NOVEMBER
1	David Jenkins
4	Diane Tetrault
11	David Jenkins Sandra Ericksen
13	Samantha Aiello Marvin Lindberg
15	Sally Brown
16	Barbara Reed Earnest
17	Peggy Christiansen
21	Norman Monson
25	Eric Lenhart
26	Raymond Snodgrass
27	Arin Pederson
	DECEMBER
1	Shelly Hirth
4	Barbara Haakenson Randy Youngs Naomi Hahner
6	Kolby Kirkeby Joan Leger
14	Logan Farrington
23	Roger Baran
25	Bill Schalk
26	Carol Gianforte
27	Johana Pederson
29	Grace Manchester

HELP !!!!!

We all seem to enjoy our pre-meeting lodge meals, and it requires participation from many. If you did not sign up to help on the survey given out in Sept., please help us by adding your name to the list now. More hands really do make lite work! Contact Diane Palecek if you'll participate.



DUES REMINDER

We always look forward to seeing that your dues are paid so we can enjoy you for another year at our lodge. I hope this will help you plan ahead! Thank you if you have already taken care of this, and if you haven't, remember you can go to www.sofn.com to pay.

NOVEMBER Nicholas Baldukas, Sonia Gatzke, Randy Youngs

DECEMBER Kolby Kirkeby,, Barbara Presser, Gudbrand Skiaker

FAMILY HISTORY

Beginning January 2018, Cheryl Miller will work with those interested in learning more about how and where to find information to help build their family tree. If you are interested, it will be helpful for you to attend our November SON meeting as it could be the key to understanding your roots.

Think about YOUR goals and what you need to be successful. Perhaps you have done some research and now feel "stuck." Consider who else in your family may help you locate information and photos. What area resources have you used? What new materials would you like to learn how to use?

Hopefully we can do a few "field trips" to learn how to research. ****Make sure you have a library card as it will give you more local options. Let's see if a few cultural pins can be earned for genealogy!**

If you did NOT check off interest in this on our September survey, notify Cheryl (see p. 6) no later than December 16.

<http://www.nagenl.org/>

Do YOU need a newsletter mailed to your home?

Our lodge address is: sonracine@gmail.com.

If you want a mailed newsletter, the annual fee is \$10. Please pay our treasurer, Sonia Gatzke. Send your check made out to

“Nordlyset Lodge” to her at

3821 Southwood Drive #107

Racine, WI 53406



BOARD MEETINGS

Palecek Home at 3:30

Nov.4

Dec. 2

Jan. 6

Sons of Norway Mission Statement

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



Our Field Representative for Sons of Norway insurance and financial products is **Greg Ragan FIC**. He may be reached at **800-442-4146**.



COMING EVENTS....MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

NOVEMBER 11 (Saturday) HOLIDAY PARADE IN DOWNTOWN RACINE!	Ride on our VIKING FLOAT! Be there by 5 PM; set sail at 5:30. Check out more information on page 5.	Cheryl Green/Eric Lenhart, Barb Presser, Barb Earnest, Bill Schalk, Judy Nielsen, Victor Mitmoen, Mike Palecek, Michaela Decker ANYONE ELSE?
NOVEMBER 15 LODGE MEETING	MOOSE LODGE DINNER 5:45 (\$4) MEETING 6:30 (Family history: see p. 3) Elections!	<u>SOCIAL COMMITTEE</u> Jeri Smith, Mary Ann Furrie, Naomi & Kristin Hahner, Heidi Komistra
DECEMBER 16 (SATURDAY) CHRISTMAS PARTY	<u>TREFOIL OAKS:</u> 3901 First Street (County Road KR), Kenosha SET UP: about 4 pm OTHER ARRIVALS: 5:15 (Times may change, so please check your email.)	<u>HELP IN THE KITCHEN:</u> Judy Nielsen, Larry Nielsen, *Michaela Decker, Eric and Cheryl <u>OTHER SET-UP:</u> Bill Toutant, Mike & Diane Palecek, Victor Mitmoen, Rondi Jenkins, Cheryl Green, Eric Lenhart, Happy & Randy Youngs, Michaela Decker, David Miller, Cheryl Miller
JANUARY 17	PLAN AHEAD....CHILI COOK-OFF	

DISTRICT 5 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE AT CAMP WONDERLAND



Eric and three Cheryl's



Nordlyset Lodge played an important role in District 5's Leadership Conference at Camp Wonderland in Kenosha County. MANY thanks to our volunteers who drove the golf carts (Victor Mitmoen and Eric Lenhart) to help those with special needs get from one place to another and the clean-up crew which included Cheryl Green. Connie, thanks for making Friday registration a bit easier! Mike Palacek, our president, spent many volunteer hours organizing and preparing materials for this event. Of course this also means that Diane Palecek was putting in plenty of her time as well. Michaela, Diane, Ann-Mari, Mike, and Nicholas were inspiring speakers to all the attendees as they shared changes we had made in our lodge to make it more successful. Cheryl Miller attended as a guest and will contribute new ideas to our board.

Ole and Lena missed their plane!



Beautiful music was performed by Robin Fossum on her violins. Notice the dragon head on the Hardanger fiddle.



Andy plays his accordion while Darlene Arneson and John Grinder dance to a polka.

Our break out meetings gave us opportunities to share concerns that affect many lodges, especially aging membership, getting more members to take on leadership roles, and keeping members interested in a lodge once they have joined. What concerns might you have about Nordlyset and what suggestions do YOU have to make us better?

Of course there was time for fun each evening, and we especially enjoyed an Ole & Lena play and music and even a bit of dancing thanks to talented members from other District 5 lodges. Hopefully the photos will create a smile!

There will be opportunities in 2018 for others to attend District 5 programs. Will you be one who will say "YES"?



NORWEGIAN FLAG ORDER FORM



ORDER FORM - NORWEGIAN FLAG (3x5 foot, 210 denier Oxford nylon with 4 rows of edge stitching on fly edge, designed for frequent outdoor use)

___ \$ 30 - one Norwegian flag (**includes shipping**)

___ \$100 - four Norwegian flags (includes shipping to one location)

___ \$250 - 12 Norwegian flags (include shipping to one location)

___ \$500 - 26 Norwegian flags (includes shipping to one location)

Please make your check out to "SON D5 Nordic Legacy Foundation"

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ **Lodge:** _____

Send your order to Mike Palecek, SON D5 treasurer, 5747 Sandy Lane, Racine WI 53406

c: 262-497-2761 e:mikep@sonsofnorwayracine.com

******Proceeds will be used to support Masse Moro & other District 5 Nordic heritage programs.**



Interested in learning traditional Norwegian cooking? Always wanted to learn how to bake a variety of Norwegian cookies? Breads? Cakes? Candy? Desserts?

Join Connie Aiello for light dinner as she kicks-off this unit. She will be hosting dinner for up to 6 people on Wednesday, Nov 8 at 5:30 – 7:30 pm OR Sunday, Nov 19 at 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Cost is \$5. If you are interested, please call her at 623-252-8861 or 262-884-9994 to reserve your spot.

Part 1: Traditional Norwegian Cooking Class

Throughout the dinner you will learn to prepare a variety of traditional Norwegian favorites: open-faced sandwiches, medisterpølse, agukesalat, hjerte vafler. At the end of the evening you will have completed Traditional Norwegian Cooking Level 1. It's as easy as that!!

At our January meeting you will presented with a Cultural Skills pin, skills bar, and level 1 bar.

Part 2: Bake Goods and Desserts

Connie will teach you how to bake a variety of Norwegian specialties. Cookies such as: krumkake, rosettes, goro, sandbakkels, and fattingmann. Breads such as: Julekage, Viking bread, St Lucia buns, and Røros lemse. Desserts/Candy such as: Kafferfromasj, riskrem, and karameller. A fancy cake as well. You will get to go home with some baked goods!

Connie is available for baking on the following dates / times, so make an appointment with her.

Mon, Nov 20 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Wed, Nov 22 9:00 – 6:00 pm
Fri, Nov 24 10:00 – 4:00 pm

Sat. Nov 25 9:00-4:00 PM
Sun. Nov. 26 noon-5:00 PM
Wed. Nov 29 5:00-9:00 PM

Ingredient cost will be determined on baked goods selected. NOTE: if you wish to complete the Level 2 skill, one item in each of the 4 categories (fancy cake, bread, cookies, desserts/candy) must be completed.

Part 3: Meat and Fish

This level will meet one Sunday a month. First up is Lapskaus (pork stew) on Sun, Nov 12 at 4:00 pm.

****Cost will be \$5 per person.**

If you are interested please contact Connie at 623-252-8861 or 262-884-9994. NOTE: Levels 1-3 DO NOT have to be completed in order.

*****More information will be available to those who sign up.**

Nordlyset News
 Nordlyset 5-183
 Cheryl Miller
 920 Prairie Dr #17
 Mt. Pleasant, WI