



25th Anniversary Edition

Sons of Norway Fagernes Lodge 5-616
October, November, December 2016



Upcoming Events

All meetings are at the Blair Community Center unless indicated otherwise

**October 30, 2016,
1:00 p.m.**

***Anniversary Celebration at
Arcadia Country Club***

**November 19, 2016,
1:00 p.m.**

Pastor Jacobs shares story

***Servers: Virgieann Stecha
and Eileen Trim***

**December 10, 2016,
1:00 p.m.**

Potluck and Carol Singing

Celebrating 25 years as a Sons of Norway Lodge !

Throughout this edition of our newsletter, we will go back and remember the beginning, and some pictures and events in those 25 years.

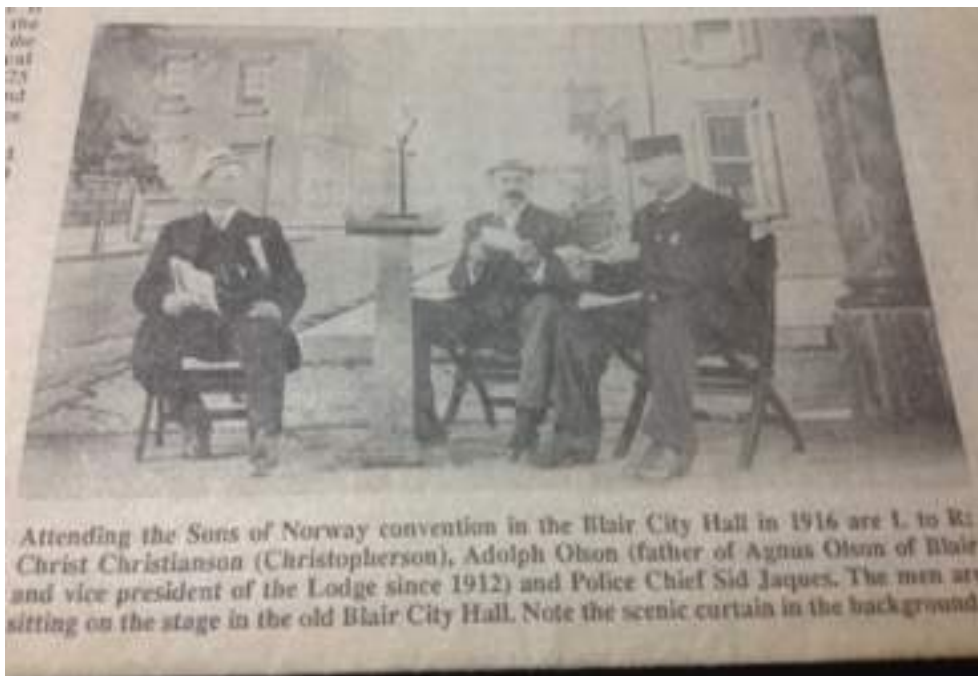
First picture is from the Blair Press, August 29, 1991. Some members may remember these faces, or were one of the people attending the meeting.



The charter for our organization was signed by the members and is on display at the Blair Community Center. ***Thanks to Shirley Stanford*** for going through some historical papers to find the information on our lodge and the prior lodge that was in Blair. She also found the book that all the members signed in October 1991.

Fagernes Lodge 5-616 25th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, October 30, 2016 at 1:00
Arcadia Country Club
Fabulous meal in the banquet room - \$14.00 per person

This is the article from the August 29, 1991 Blair Press regarding the first organizational meeting.



To the left is a picture from 1916 when a Sons of Norway convention was held in Blair at the City Hall.



Did you know our Fagernes lodge was NOT the first Sons of Norway lodge in Blair? Neither did I! Here is a picture of the members of Kongsvinger Lodge No. 39. It would be interesting to find out how long this lodge existed, and whether or not it merged with another lodge, or disbanded. It appears the Sons of Norway did not include women as members at that time. Are you a descendant of one of these men?

This is what I found out on Wikipedia about Kongsvinger, Norway. It sounds like the area in Norway from which many people who came to Blair emigrated from.

Kongsvinger is situated on both sides of the river [Glomma](#), where the south-flowing river takes a sharp northwestward turn. The [Kongsvinger Fortress](#) is the main landmark, situated on a hill west and north of the river. Kongsvinger is a regional center of the Glåmdal region, which is made up of the southern parts of [Hedmark](#) county. It is bordered to the west by the municipality of [Sør-Odal](#), to the north by [Grue](#), and to the south by [Eidskog](#). To the east it borders to [Sweden](#). Kongsvinger is about 110 kilometres (68 mi) from [Oslo](#) and 70 kilometres (43 mi) from [Oslo Airport, Gardermoen](#). (Picture is of Kongsvinger in 2009)



YESTERYEAR AND CURRENT HAPPENINGS AT FAGERNES LODGE



Officers for 2015 plus Zone Director
Ron Iverson



Doris Boe delivering a reading at our Christmas 2001
meeting.



Royalty for 2014, Eileen Trim,
Charlotte Dahl, Jescey Thompson
and Sierra Instenes



Wii bowling for the Foundation at Bob and Marie
Thill's home - 2015



Glenn Borreson delivering a very interesting
program in September 2016 on "The significance
of Ole Rolvaag for Today". Rolvaag wrote the
trilogy, "Giants in the Earth", "Peder Victorious"
and "Their Father's God". Pastor Borreson
explained how the problems and trials of the
Norwegian immigrants in those books parallel the
experiences of current immigrants to the United
States.

President's Message

Fra Presidenten,
Kjere venner,

Thank you all for a banner year for our Fagernes Lodge Sons of Norway. We have accomplished much and had a bit of fun. We are especially proud of our upgrading of our Viking parade float lead by artist Charlene Saxe. We've had great programs and social gatherings as well as a successful Frokost on Syttende Mai.

We now will be celebrating 25 years as a Sons of Norway Lodge known as Fagernes 5-616. That will be something special with national and local dignitaries attending. It would be appropriate to invite the King and Queen of Norway to help us celebrate ..yes??? Perhaps too we will sing another verse of 'Oleanna' instead!!!

We, as a Lodge, look forward to the new year and new exciting activities and programs. This is your lodge, you make it what it is and will be. So please don't hesitate to suggest activities for us to do.

Let's learn that Fødelssdagen song as well as the Lord's prayer in Norwegian. By doing so we support our Norwegian heritage by using the language from our homeland. I hope to share with you all the Norwegian game Kubb. A fun lawn game that is catching on as a summer outdoors game of bashing and bowling combined. Its fun to throw things and knock something down. Well here's your chance to do some of that. And its not strenuous!!! Remember the name is KUBB...not krub!! (sp)

I look forward to the upcoming Lutefisk season as well as the Holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. I hope we can celebrate Christmas with a Juletre Fest and have children get gifts from the Jule Nisse. Keep it simple. Kids, presents (home made if possible) and Jule food!!!! Lest make some of those heart shaped tree ornaments too. We can put candies and surprises in them!!! So there you are for now...lots to think and do.

See you all at the Lodge's 25th anniversary celebration in Arcadia...yes there are some Norwegian's here!!!!

Hilsen fra Presidentin,
Todd

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Roger and Fran Instenes have a new granddaughter, Vivian Arminda Rivero, born September 7, 2016 to their daughter Melissa and her husband, Bert. They live in Florida. Vivian has an older sister, Vanya. The new gal is also a cousin to our members Gage, Gavin and Sierra Instenes. Congratulations!

To add your news to the newsletter, make sure to submit it timely to the editor for the next edition.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Due to privacy concerns, only the month is listed.

October

Anthony Dobson,
Andrew Fuller

November

Byron Britten, Vicki Hovre,
Roger Instenes

December

Josephine Britten,
Rylie Dobson, Cody Dooley,
Isla Fetsch, Michael Fuller,
Erik Haugland, Mary Herness,
Lamoine Jacobs

We didn't always ride in area parades on our "boat float".



Our float as it appeared for many years. Galen Berg started with a flatbed from a trailer.



Riding with Galen Berg's "stabbur" at the Cheese Fest - late 1990's.



2001 - King and Queen Francis and Beverly Solberg in the Taylor parade, in a Mustang driven by Fred Fredrickson Jr.



1994 - Arnold Solberg, Clifford and Doris Boe. and royalty Vicki and Jim Hovre ride at the Cheese Fest in a wagon pulled by fjord horses.



Our float making its debut with several aesthetic improvements at the 2016 Blair Cheese Fest parade.

St. Lucia Day Celebrated across Scandinavia, St. Lucia Day marks the start of the Christmas season and a time to embrace lighter days to come. The national feast day, part of the Christian Calendar of Saints, is celebrated throughout Norway on December 13. Though the holiday was first introduced with the spread of Christianity, many of the traditions truly took root when the holiday was readopted during the 20th century in Norway. Reclaiming its derivations from the Latin word for light, St. “Lucia” is honored with parades of light during the darkest time of year.

In schools across Norway, children celebrate with holiday programs and processions. Throughout hospitals, school buildings and city centers one can find parades of children clad in white, handing out *Lussekatter* (Lucia cats), saffron- flavored buns, to those passing by. As a way to enjoy the start of the holiday season, families can celebrate this holiday of hope and light by baking the traditional Lussekatter – a recipe for the buns can be found online at <https://food52.com/recipes/8318-saffron-buns-lussekatter>. Or, in honor of the Norwegian tradition families can join together in singing the St. Lucia Song (lyrics provided below).

Sankta Lucia (Norwegian)

Svart senker natten seg i stall og stuer. Solen har gått sin vei, skyggene truer. Inn i vårt mørke hus stiger med tente lys, Sankta Lucia, Sankta Lucia!

Natten er mørk og stum. Med ett det suser
i alle tyste rom som vinger bruser.

Se på vår terskel står, hvitkledd med lys i hår, Sankta Lucia, Sankta Lucia!

Saint Lucia (English)

Black night is falling in stables and homes. The Sun has gone away, the shadows are threatening.
Into our dark house enters with lit candles, Saint Lucia, Saint Lucia!

The night is dark and silent; suddenly a rush in all quiet rooms, like the waving of wings.

See, at our threshold stands, dressed in white with lights in her hair, Saint Lucia, Saint Lucia!

For more information about Christmas traditions in Norway, visit the Sons of Norway Information Bank in the Member Resources section of the Sons of Norway website at https://www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/information_bank/.

Save the cancelled stamps from all your mail. The Tubfrim project can use them. Please cut them first if you have time. Stamps must be trimmed to have at least a 1/4 inch border. Bring them to the meetings.

Your Financial Benefits Counselor is Tom Kunkel. Contact him at tomkunkel2004@yahoo.com, or call 1-844-233-7667. He'd be happy to talk to you!

Save your printer cartridges and bring them to LaVonne. We get \$2.00 credit for each cartridge at Office Depot to use toward new cartridges and paper!



Celebrating 25 Years!

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Are You Set for the Recruitment Challenge? Is your lodge set to end the year on a high note? Now through the end of the year is Sons of Norway's busiest recruitment season, and you can make it one for the record books. The 2016 Recruitment Challenge is a yearlong contest aimed at finding the lodges with the highest growth. This isn't your typical recruitment contest, though. Your lodge's ability to keep members is just as important as recruiting new ones, because we're tracking net growth. With your help, your lodge can capture the title of Sons of Norway's top Large or Small lodge for 2016. On top of that, your hard work can help the lodge secure an extra \$250! Imagine the difference that can make at your next Syttende Mai party, picnic or other event. To get you started, here are few tips to help your lodge claim the prize:

1. Recruit for your lodge. With the holidays quickly approaching there are plenty of opportunities to share the joys of Sons of Norway membership. Whether it means bringing a friend to your lodge's Christmas party or purchasing a gift membership for a sibling, you're helping bring new faces into your lodge.
2. Help your lodge's retention rate. Reaching out to a fellow member you haven't seen at a meeting or event is a simple way to help out. Not only will this increase the connection between your fellow members and your lodge, but it'll improve your lodge retention, too. This can bring your lodge one step closer to winning!
3. Go for the bonus points. For every 24-55 year old member recruited, your lodge earns a bonus point. Keep that in mind as you look for potential new members!

For a complete listing of rules for the Recruitment Challenge log onto www.sonsofnorway.com/challenge. For questions or ideas, contact Joe Eggers, membership coordinator at membership@sofn.com.