



# The Wren

V.25 ISSUE 2 MARCH/APRIL 2016

## STAY CONNECTED TO SON

 Sons of Norway - Circle City Lodge

### SON Newsletters

will be available on a bimonthly basis. For the electronic newsletter, please send your email and contact info to: [jlrud@cinergymetro.net](mailto:jlrud@cinergymetro.net) JERRY RUD

If you would like to receive a printed version of the newsletter, please send your contact info to: [burtonbittner@att.net](mailto:burtonbittner@att.net) BURT BITTNER

### SKÅL! WE'RE CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

Please reserve a spot for our gala by April 15. See details on page 8.

## THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Lodge member **Susan Fleck** says Lofoten in winter is otherworldly.



## WAITING FOR A GLIMPSE OF THE AURORA BOREALIS\*.

Imagine, standing on a beach along the Norwegian Sea. Above the Arctic Circle. In winter. Your camera is trained to the north and you are searching the sky for a break in the clouds. The waves are rolling in and the wind picks up. The surf rolls over your boots. It is well past midnight. But still you wait.

(Read more from Susan Fleck's Norwegian adventure on page 4.)

\*The Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) and Aurora Australis (Southern Lights) are the result of electrons colliding with the upper reaches of Earth's atmosphere. (Protons cause faint and diffuse aurora, usually not easily visible to the human eye.)



# from the President

Dear Members and Friends of Circle City Lodge,

I hope you enjoying the mild winter we are having. We had a few inches of snow but at the time of writing this much of the snow has melted and 40-50 degree weather is predicted to follow soon.

Our sammenkomst (coming together) on Feb. 12 was very enjoyable. We had three members commit to bringing soup, but a couple of others brought some as well and it was really good. Those along with delicious desserts made for a meal with a lot of variety, and, once again, the fellowship time was enjoyed by all. Thanks to all who contributed food and helped cleanup afterwards.

Our played-DVD program was on the making of [Mt. Rushmore](#), a Netflix documentary which frankly portrayed the life of Danish-American sculptor Gutzon Borglum and a Norwegian-American, Senator Peter Norbeck, who secured the funding from Congress to complete the project. It contained excellent historical footage of the men blasting and jack hammering rock and visits by political dignitaries including Presidents Calvin Coolidge and Franklin D. Roosevelt. Several members told me they really enjoyed the film and had no idea that Scandinavians were responsible for the vision and completion of this national monument. You can watch in on Netflix.

At the last sammenkomst members also discussed our meeting day (of the week) and decided to try an occasional Saturday afternoon sammenkomst instead of the traditional Friday evening. This is due to many members not being comfortable driving at night. Sunday afternoon did not seem to be a popular choice. So don't be surprised if you see a Saturday sammenkomst scheduled in the future.

Our March meeting (Friday, March 11, 6:30 pm) will be a presentation by [Cecilie Nergård](#) titled "Believe It or Not-Norwegian Superstitions". The meal will be the ever-popular [fårikål](#) (which is lamb and cabbage and peppercorns). The cost for this will be \$7 per person. Please see the reservation form included in this newsletter on page 3.

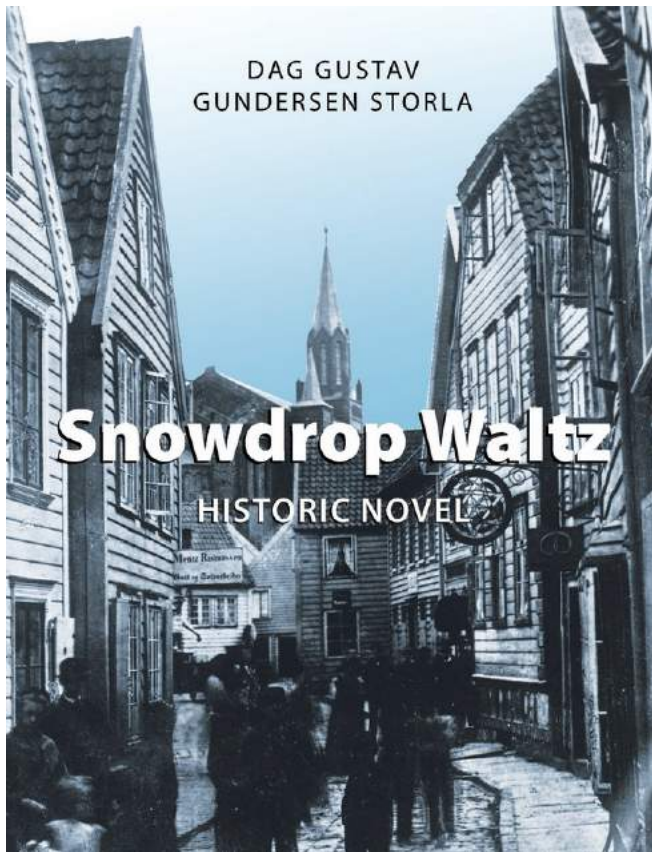
In April (Saturday, April 9, 1 pm), [Mary Whipple](#), a former member, will talk about her Norwegian-inspired hobby of knitting, but using alpaca fiber instead of sheep's wool. Yes, she does raise the alpaca. It should be really interesting! Our meal for April will be a pitch-in.

Since this year is the [25th Anniversary](#) of chartering our lodge, we have planned a gala celebration at the Ritz Charles in Carmel on Sunday, May 8 at 1:30 pm. This should be a very memorable event at one of Indy's nicest facilities. It has been told to me that the food here is delicious, and attendees will have a choice of salmon or grilled steak as their entrees. See page 8 for another reservation form for it. We hope all members can attend and we also hope to invite many former members. [Save the date now!](#)

Happy Easter everyone! Hilsen,

*Jerry Rud*

# Member snaps



## A Stavanger Story

Angela Schuch has a Norwegian relative who recently published a book in the States. *Snowdrop Waltz* is about the local history of his hometown, Stavanger, as well as the Norwegian pioneers of the West. (It's a planned trilogy.) Available at Amazon.com.

## Fårikål RSVP

Friday, March 11, 6:30 pm. \$7 per person.  
Please contact Burt with your reservation.

317-842-4042 or burtonbittner@att.net

# OF PEOPLE  X \$7 EACH = TOTAL \$

Please,  
join us!

WE'D  
LOVE TO  
SEE YOU.

- *Sammenkomst* is typically the **SECOND FRIDAY** of the month.
- *Member lunch* is the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of the month.
- *Board Meetings* are the **FOURTH SATURDAY** of the month at 9:30 a.m.

### SAMMENKOMST

*Fri., March 11, 6:30 pm*

**MEAL** Fårikål -

lamb, cabbage and peppercorns.

(\$7/person) **RSVP**

**PROGRAM** Cecilie Nergård - "Believe It or Not-Norwegian Superstitions"

*Sat., April 9, 1 pm*

**MEAL** Pitch-in

**PROGRAM** Mary Whipple discusses knitting with yarn made from hand-raised Alpaca.

### MEMBER LUNCHES

*March 16th Noon*

**CASTLETON GRILL**

6010 E 82nd Street

*April 20th 1 p.m.*

**THE ORIENTAL INN**

1421 North Arlington

### BOARD MEETING

Le Peep Restaurant  
2258 W. 86th Street  
Indianapolis  
317-334-9690

# 03

## MARCH

28	29	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

# 04

## APRIL

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



SUSAN FLECK

# Above the Arctic Circle

Imagine, standing on a beach along the Norwegian Sea. Above the Arctic Circle. In winter. Your camera is trained to the north and you are searching the sky for a break in the clouds. The waves are rolling in and the wind picks up. The surf rolls over your boots. It is well past midnight. But still you wait.

And then you see it. It's tiny at first. But there it is! A break in the clouds revealing an almost-full moon. Slowly the moon lights the rocks along the beach and the distant mountains. It is beautiful and you are grateful for the opportunity to experience something so few have. And you are especially grateful after several days of rain.

But still you wait for more. It is almost too much to hope. But you stand there waiting for a glimpse of the Aurora Borealis.

That is exactly what I did in mid-February along with seven other people from around the globe. Seven of us traveled to the Lofoten Islands to participate in a winter photo workshop with the ultimate hope of photographing the Northern Lights. We were accompanied by three leaders from an outfit called Lofoten Tours. [www.LofotenTours.com](http://www.LofotenTours.com)

We arrived in Hamnøy in Lofoten in a snowstorm on February 14. Already the islands had more snow than they had had in at least a decade. Everywhere was white. It snowed five inches from the time we left the airport in Evenes until we arrived in Hamnøy down toward the tip of Lofoten. Normally a four-hour trip, the snowfall slowed us to nearly seven hours.

We checked into our cabins and soon the snow stopped. A little after 11 p.m. there was a knock on the door. The sky to the northeast was revealing the Aurora. We hurried out with our cameras and a lucky few of us were able to set up and photograph the mountain across the bay before the lights faded a scant 10 minutes later.

And that was the last time we saw the Aurora for the next five days. On the next-to-the-last night we headed to the beach along the Norwegian Sea because there was the slight possibility of a break in the clouds.

Indeed we were fortunate as that slight possibility evolved into an almost hour-long show before the clouds rolled back in.

For two of the six days of the workshop it rained. A lot. We were confined to our cabins as the rain came down in torrents and the wind howled. Most other days we saw snow, sleet, freezing rain, and sunshine, all within a few hour's time. It was magical. The sun would come out only to have sweeping dark clouds roar in. It was a photographer's dream. Dark skies would open up into bright, colorful skies, only to be darkened again quickly. The dramatic weather made for dramatic photographs.

During those days we went to sandy beaches to watch surfers. Really! We watched fishermen hang out cod heads to dry on large wooden racks. It was early in the cod season. Every restaurant served cod. Groceries were stocked with cod. The heads were hung to dry and would be ground into a protein-rich powder and sent to Nigeria. After the demand slowed in restaurants and groceries the fishermen would soon hang out entire cod bodies for drying.

I have been fortunate to travel throughout Norway for work and leisure many times and in many different seasons. Always it is magical. But Lofoten in winter was otherworldly.



## THIS IS THE WORLD'S BEST VIEW

*Susan Fleck stayed in one of these Hamnøy red cabins earlier this year. If you'd enjoy a similar adventure, visit: [LofotenTours.com](http://LofotenTours.com)*

# THIS IS THE WORLD'S BEST CAKE

ACCORDING TO NORWAY (AND SWEET PAUL)

*This cake was awarded the title of Norway's National Cake a few years back. It's called **verdens beste** in Norwegian. This recipe serves 8.*

### YOU WILL NEED

- 10½ tablespoons (1 stick plus 2½ tablespoons) butter, softened
- 1 2/3 cups granulated sugar, separated
- 1 1/3 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 5 large eggs, separated
- 1/3 cup whole milk
- 1/4 cup sliced almonds
- 1 cup heavy cream
- ½ vanilla bean

- 1 Preheat the oven to 350°F, with a rack in the middle position. Line an 8-x-12-inch baking pan with parchment paper.
- 2 Beat the butter and 2/3 cup of the sugar in a large bowl with an electric mixer until light and creamy, about 3 minutes.
- 3 Add the flour and baking powder and mix well on low speed.
- 4 Mix in the egg yolks and milk.
- 5 Scrape the batter into the baking pan.
- 6 In a large clean bowl, beat the egg whites and the remaining 1 cup sugar to soft peaks. Spread on top of the cake layer. Sprinkle with the almond slices.
- 7 Bake for 30 minutes, or until the meringue is golden brown and puffed. Cool on a wire rack in the pan. Transfer to a cutting board.
- 8 When the cake is cool, put the cream in a medium bowl and scrape in the vanilla seeds. Discard the vanilla pod. Beat to soft peaks with an electric mixer, about 3 minutes.
- 9 Cut the cake in half crosswise with a serrated knife. Place one half of the cake on a serving tray and cover with the cream. Place the other half, meringue side up, on top.
- 10 Let the cake sit for 1 hour in the fridge before serving.



# Norway

IN THE NEWS



## SCOTT KELLY'S FIRST SUNSET ON EARTH AFTER A YEAR IN SPACE WAS IN NORWAY.

Follow astronaut Scott Kelly's adventures at the International Space Station at [www.instagram.com/stationcdrkelly](https://www.instagram.com/stationcdrkelly)



stationcdrkelly

FOLLOWING

from  
District V



## MASSE MORO

*Let go of American culture for two weeks  
and learn about the culture of Norway.*

### **MASSE MORO 2016 DATES**

*Sunday, July 17 2:00 PM through*

*Saturday, July 30, 9:30 AM*

Applications must be received on or before May 17th in order for your camper to qualify for matching funds through District Five.

In order to qualify for District One scholarship support, please turn in your Camper Application to your lodge as early as possible. Please be respectful of the lodge and give them, and yourself, adequate time to complete the paperwork. It's never too soon to do this - the earlier the better!

The scholarship deadlines may be different in other districts, so please communicate with them early for your best chances at financial aid.

After May 17th, we will continue to accept applications until July 1st, however, financial resources may be limited or unavailable at that time. Early registration is your best bet! No need to wait until May - register today!

***Tuition for one camper to attend Masse Moro for the two-week session costs \$700.00\****. Please see the "Admissions Information" tab above for all application materials including the Camper Application, Matching Funds Form, and Health Forms.

\*May be subject to change. <http://massemoro.org/>

### **PRIVACY STATEMENT**

A Lodge Directory is being planned to be issued by the end of March and will contain the member's name, address, telephone number, spouse, and e-mail. If you do not want your information given to other members, please contact Neil Schuch by March 15, and ask that he exclude your information from the directory.

## OFFICERS OF THE CIRCLE CITY LODGE

*President*

**JEROME RUD**

765-653-3636

[jlrud@cinergymetro.net](mailto:jlrud@cinergymetro.net)

*Vice President*

**NANCY ANDERSEN**

317-626-5237

[nanders9349@aol.com](mailto:nanders9349@aol.com)

*Secretary*

**KATHLEEN KRUEGER**

317-490-9140

[happydoe@ymail.com](mailto:happydoe@ymail.com)

*Treasurer*

**BURT BITTNER**

317-842-4042

[burtonbittner@att.net](mailto:burtonbittner@att.net)

*Newsletter Editors*

**TIM LISKO**

304-444-6454

[timporary@gmail.com](mailto:timporary@gmail.com)

**LINDSAY HADLEY**

317-341-2897

[lindsayhadley23@mac.com](mailto:lindsayhadley23@mac.com)

**CULTURAL DIRECTOR:** Chelsea Courtney  
219-218-9615 [cyellow@yahoo.com](mailto:cyellow@yahoo.com)

**FOUNDATION DIRECTOR:** Robert Sorensen  
[sorensenwl@comcast.net](mailto:sorensenwl@comcast.net)

**SPORTS/REC DIRECTOR:** Susan Alden  
317-769-0236 [GWPSMA@aol.com](mailto:GWPSMA@aol.com)

**NATIONALITIES COUNCIL OF INDIANA:** Dagrun Bennett  
317-736-5025 [dbennett@franklincollege.edu](mailto:dbennett@franklincollege.edu)

# Celebrate!

## TOASTING 25 YEARS OF THE CIRCLE CITY LODGE

- WHAT** 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala
- WHEN** May 8, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.
- WHEN** The Ritz Charles in Carmel  
12156 N. Meridian Street
- COST** \$30 per plate
- RSVP** By April 15  
Burt Bittner  
7117 Lantern Rd  
Indianapolis, IN 46256-2113  
317-842-4042  
burtonbittner@att.net

Please mail reservations to Burt Bittner  
with checks made out to **Circle City  
Lodge - Sons of Norway.**

# SKÅL!

*Translation: cheers, drink up!  
Ask Bob Bennett to tell you the origin of the word.*

- YES! I'D LOVE TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATION.**  
 **SORRY, I'LL JOIN YOU IN SPIRIT.**

Name(s):

.....  
.....

Choice of Entree:

- Grilled Salmon with Teriyaki Glaze,  
Gingered Lemongrass Rice, and Toasted  
Sesame Green Beans*
- Herb and Garlic Grilled Flat Iron Steak  
with Dijon Cream, with Roasted Parmesan  
Potatoes and Broccoli*

Total: \$30 per plate

\$



509 OAK LEAF DR., GREENCASTLE, IN 46135