

NYHETER BREVET

-A NEWSLETTER-

Published by The Sons of Norway's Valkyrien Lodge in Woodville, WI.
Recipient of the 2015 "International Lodge of the Year" Award



VOLUME 36—NUMBER 5

SEPT.—OCT., 2017

ORD FRA DIN VALKYRIEN LOSJE PRESIDENT

(Words from your Lodge President)



Hello Lodge Members,

We began the Labor Day Weekend with the sad news of the passing of Rev. Carmen Peterson, a former president and active member for many years at Valkyrien Lodge. He had been a great supporter of our Scandinavian culture. Our sincere sympathy goes out to his wife Virginia and family.

As we begin to settle into a fall schedule, we once again look forward to the many church suppers. And, for our many German friends, there is the Oktoberfest celebrations and meals. Join us at our September 25th Lodge Meeting when we take a trip through Germany with pictures from our member, Randi Hoffman and her husband Gary. We might even have some German "goodies" to taste during our social time prior to the meeting.

Perhaps some of you will be going to the Norsk Høstfest later this month in Minot, North Dakota. The word is that it is pure "scandimonium"! If you go, we would love to hear about what you saw and did there at our upcoming October meeting.

October 9th is Leif Erickson Day ... who has the claim of being the first European to reach North America nearly 500 years before Christopher Columbus. We will learn more about his adventures at our October 23rd meeting. October is also *Sons of Norway Foundation Month*. Now in its 51st year, it supports scholarships, grants and disaster funds. Members can give donations to the foundation in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special event. It has made a significant change in many communities and lodges.

Hilsen,

Audrey Severson, President

COMING EVENTS

For September

September 25

Book Club Meeting at 5:15 PM
Refreshments starting at 6:30 PM
Lodge Meeting at 7:00 PM

Program:

The Hoffman's Trip to Germany
Oktoberfest Celebration

Servers: Sue Faber
Betty Norvold

COMING EVENTS

For October

Oct.2: Board/Director Mtg. 1:00 PM

October 23

Book Club Meeting at 5:15 PM
Refreshments starting at 6:30 PM
Lodge Meeting at 7:00 PM

Program:

Honoring Leif Erickson

Servers: Judy & Gordon Otterson
Pat & LaVerne Hoitomt

COMING EVENTS

For November

Nov. 6: Board/Directors Mtg. 1:00 PM

November 27

Book Club Meeting at 5:15 PM
Monthly Lodge Meeting:
Election of Officers

Program

Annual Sing-A-Long
With Holiday Carols at
Parkview Care Center
Followed by Julefest Potluck

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Artful Gifts for the Queen

Tuesday, July 4, 2017, was a busy day of celebration. In the USA, Americans celebrated the country's Independence Day and Canadians celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Canada's new federation. In Norway, the festivities for the royal family and all of Norway centered on Her Majesty Queen Sonja's 80th birthday.

The queen was delighted with visitors and gifts throughout the day, including a statue of the queen inside the Palace Park, unveiled by her grandchildren. A gift from the Norwegian Trekking Association (DNT), the statue depicts the queen resting on a rock in her hiking clothes—a representation of her deep love for hiking and the great outdoors.

The queen then officially opened the "Queen Sonja's Art Stable." Now an arena for art, culture and history, the gift from King Harald was once a stable for the royal horses until 1940. The opening exhibition includes an installation of Queen Maud's photographs and a fine collection of Norwegian graphic prints—164 pieces in total. Like Queen Sonja, Queen Maud (King Harald's grandmother) was a dedicated photographer and art enthusiast. Many of the prints were donated by Norwegian artists as birthday gifts for the queen, and the photo installation was a gift from the Norwegian Government.

... *From the Sons of Norway Newsletter Service*

A BRAIN TEASER

Can you guess the answer - which number comes next in this sequence? **658932 65832 6532 532**

Contact me with your best solutions. Good luck!!

Arllys Olson, Editor

olsondon@hughes.net

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.

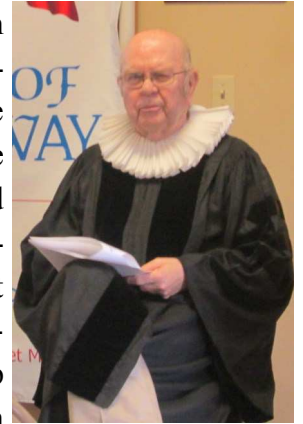
Nyheter Brevet is published six times yearly beginning with the Jan-Feb issue. Please submit any news items to Arllys Olson, Editor, by the 30th day of months December, February, April, June, August and October to be included in the following month's publication.

Remembering Carmen

By Lodge Member Don Olson

In 1983 I accepted a position on the faculty of UW-Stout and Arlys and I moved back to the Menomonie area. I had belonged to the Oslo 2 Lodge in Minneapolis for many years and after my retirement in 2007, we began looking for a Sons of Norway Lodge to join here.

This led to our attending a Sons of Norway Recruitment Dinner at the Coachman in Baldwin, WI. As we entered the dining room, we were warmly greeted by Rev. Carmen Peterson with a huge smile and hearty handshake. He sat at our table as we ate and we began a conversation. I explained to him that I wanted to join a lodge where there might be some interest in starting a Norwegian Language Class. I had attended classes at the Sons of Norway in Minneapolis and at the Ager House in Eau Claire. Carmen was quite interested in this idea and in 2008, we joined the Valkyrien Lodge at Woodville. Carmen was the Lodge President at that time and our meetings were informative mingled with lots of humor (that was easy for Carmen to do). With help from him, I was able to organize the language class I had envisioned. The first to sign up was Carmen and he was a great addition. Carmen attended classes regularly until about the last year. He was an excellent student and his presence at these classes will be sorely missed.



As time went on, we began holding Norwegian-English church services during our Syttende Mai Celebration. Carmen was the minister, of course, in these services and I played the role of sexton or “klokker” in Norwegian. Above is a photo of him in his attire. He became quite proficient in doing the service in Norwegian—even sometimes forgetting about the English translation. Carmen and I also gave the Norwegian-English church service at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Beldenville as part of their 125th anniversary celebration.

When the lodge attended plays and musical presentations in the Twin Cities, Carmen and Virginia were always in attendance. He enjoyed talking about his college years and his acting experience. A nice memory is one where we had chartered a bus to take us to Minnesota Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis just before Christmas to see the orchestra do a Scandinavian Christmas in music. On the trip back home, we sang many Christmas hymns and songs and Carmen’s beautiful voice was leading the pack. It was said that Carmen could sing most of the hymns in the Lutheran Hymnal.

Carmen’s funeral was held at Zion Lutheran Church on Thursday, September 7th. Our sympathies go out to his wife Virginia and his family.

Finally on a personal note, Carmen was the minister at my mother’s funeral. Even though it is more than sixteen years ago, I still can remember the kind words that Carmen said on that sad occasion.



LODGE LINES

SECRETARY'S REPORT

August 28, 2017

President Audrey Severson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a welcome to all. Our Masse Moro Campers led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the national anthems of Norway and the USA. Thank you to Pat Schumacher and Sandy Calvert for our delicious refreshments. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

Our members enjoyed videos of the program that was presented at Masse Moro. Our campers were: Thea (Thea) Bentley, Jackson (Johan) Wigant and Abby (Vivian) Olson shared with us their wonderful experiences at the camp. They gave heart-felt thanks to our Lodge for supporting them and all three plan to attend camp again next year.

The July Secretary and Treasurer's Reports were approved as presented.

OLD BUSINESS: Judy Johnson presented an overview of the meal our Lodge will be providing to the 2017 Solør and Romerikslag Joint Stevne at Zion at 11:30am during their visit to Woodville on September 14th. Workers are encouraged to wear their Norwegian costumes or sweaters. Our members will be making the food for the lunch. The contact for this group is Mary Baumgartner and she explained more about the Romerikslag organization. She encouraged all Sons of Norway members to join their respective Stevne..... For more information, contact: www.fellesraad.com

President Severson reminded members about the Leader's Conference on October 20-22. Please contact her if you are interested in attending.

NEW BUSINESS: None to report.

President Severson also offered thought and prayers for good health to our Financial Benefits Counselor, Tom Kunkle.

Winners of this month's door prize drawings were Pat Sandom, Sylva Anderson and Gina Olson.

Our next meeting will be on September 25th with Gary and Randi Hoffman presenting a photo presentation from their fascinating trip to Germany. The Book Club will again meet prior to the social half hour. There will not be a Board/Director's Meeting in September

Members enjoyed a fun time playing Norwegian Bingo and prizes were awarded. Thanks went out to our "Bingo Callers" Einar Sandom and Don Olson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by:

Sandra Olson, Secretary

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and provide quality insurance and financial products to its members. For information, www.sofn.com

PHOTO SHOTS ... MASSE MORO & MORE



Masse Moro Camp near Eau Claire, WI.



Thea Bentley (l) and Abby Olson



Abby, Jackson and Thea prepare to show their camp projects



The three campers tell us all about Masse Moro!



Tom Gunderson (front) studies his Norwegian Bingo cards while Don Olson and Einar Sandom call the numbers out In Norwegian !!



Jimmy Miller, our famous wood carver, at his stand at the NorskFest in Decoah, Iowa, this summer. He is studying at Luther College there.

LODGE LINES



This space, normally reserved for a message from our Financial Benefits Counselor, Tom Kunkel, will not appear in this issue.

Valkyrien Lodge sends best wishes to you, Tom, for a speedy and full recovery. Take care and we hope to see you here in our next issue.



Best wishes to the following members who will be celebrating their birthdays during the period of September 14th through November 16th

September :

Daniel Hansen	14
Barbara Zimmerman	29

October:

Mary Lesterud`	2
James McQuitty	8
Kathy Williams	11
Ila Sittlow	11
Gordon Otterson	14
Ron Thompson	15
Lloyd Newborg	18
Thomas Olson	27
Marge Weiske	27

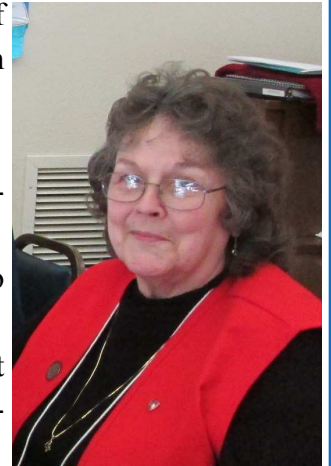
November:

Karen Esanbock	1
Judy Johnson	6
Sandra Olson	9
Chuck Bricton	16

BOOK STUDY GROUP

Judy Otterson from the Book Club notes that they will meet at 5:15 PM prior to the next Lodge Meeting on September 25th.

“Please read chapter 2 of *History of Norway*. Look over the following questions and be ready for some interesting dialogue. We hope to then get a better understanding of the trials and tribulations the Norwegian people had to endure,” concluded Judy.



1. What were the most important developments in Proto-Norse society?
2. Why did the Norwegians expand to other lands in the Viking age?
3. Which Norwegian made the greatest contribution to the unification of Norway?
4. Why weren't the Norwegians able to resist the dominance of their country by the Danes, the Hanseatic merchants and the Lutherans?
5. Were the Norwegians better off before or after 1814?
6. Why did hundreds of thousands of Norwegians leave their native land for an uncertain future in the New World?
7. What were the reasons that the Germans invaded Norway and occupied the country for over five years in World War II?
8. How has Norway become such a successful nation since 1945?

“*History of Norway*” is a book written by John Yilek. He also teaches classes about Norwegian history at Mindekirken in Minneapolis.