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Lodge Historian

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Language Specialist

Jan Flatoff

Cultural Skills Coord.

Karen Trzebiatowski

Trustee (2016-2018)

Carl Rasmussen

Trustee (2017-2019)

Kress Williamson

Trustee (2018-2020)

Mark Hansen, Jr.

Vennligfolk Lodge meets the second

Sunday evening, 5:00 pm

September thru May

at Saint Paul's

United Methodist Church

600 Wilshire Blvd

Stevens Point Wisconsin



Pennligblad



Friendly pages for the 'friendly people' of Vennligfolk and their friends Sons of Norway Lodge #5-627 for Central Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Whiting and Plover, Wisconsin

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 6 NOVEMBER OG DESEMBER 2018

Fra presidenten:





ne of the greatest pleasures of belonging of these elections and the to Vennligfolk Lodge is the people we people running for office. have met who have become dear friends. One November is also the time of these dear friends is charter member Ruth for **Harpstead**. Ruth, along with her husband, **Vennligfolk** officers. You Milo, have been the "heart" of Vennligfolk won't be seeing or hearing for as long as I have been a member. While campaign ads for the peo-Milo was lodge president for fourteen years, ple on the ballot for our Ruth was the "First Lady" of the lodge. Re- election, but you will see a list of their names cently, while I was going through some pic- in this issue of Vennligblad. I am so appretures of Ruth that I have on my phone, I came ciative of the wonderful people I have had across the group picture we had taken at last the pleasure of working with this last year year's Julefest. Smack dab in the middle of and the previous three years that I have been our group were Milo and Ruth . . . so sym- your president. bolic to me of their dedication to Vennligfolk Lodge and being the "heart" of our lodge. It is sad to lose Ruth, but I do feel privileged to have spent the second Sunday night of many. many months with Ruth, and to have been her friend.

Is it just me or do all of you think that our Vennligfolk Lodge programs just keep getting better and better? What a wonderful start to our new year of programs with Ron Nowland's program on Greenland in September and Robin Fossum's violin and Hardanger fiddle concert in October! We have had several guests at each of these programs, and I have received many favorable comments about these programs.

November is an election time for our local, state, and federal governments. The bombardment of campaign ads on TV, in the mail, and on the phone make us very aware

the election



These hardworking officers willingly give their time, energy, and talents to make our lodge successful. They make my job easier. So hats off to these officers! Mange takk to the members who are on the ballot for the 2019 year. I look forward to another great team of officers who will guide and work for our Vennligfolk Lodge in the New Year.

For as long as I have been a part of Vennligfolk Lodge, our lodge has participated in the annual Stevens Point Holiday Parade. This year we are making a change. After much thought and conversation, your officers have decided not to participate in the parade. We did receive visibility in the parade, but we never received any interest or any memberships from our participation even though we handed out thousands of small pamphlets (with attached candy canes) of Vennligfolk Lodge ... Continued on page 2

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Gratulerer

med

dagen

November
Joyce Polson - 9
John Clifford - 18
Cindy Larson Kluck - 26

December Charmian Fournier - 3 Donna Van Dreser - 8

Judy Pesanka - 15 Elaine Anderson - 17

Andrea Brown - 17 Lori Johnson - 18

Carl Rasmussen - 23 Carolyn Sommer - 28

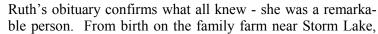


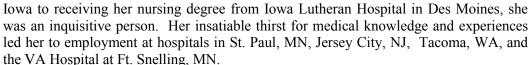


VENNLIGBLAD

Vennligfolk charter member passes

Sadly, **Vennligfolk Lodge** has lost one of its charter members, **Ruth E. Harpstead**. She passed away Friday, October 19th one month shy of her 91st birthday. Funeral services were held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stevens Point on Friday, October 26th. Ruth and her husband, Milo, were charter members of **Vennligfolk**.





Ruth met and married the love of her life, Milo Harpstead on June 15, 1963. After a honeymoon in Europe, the newlyweds settled in Stevens Point, WI. Here, they raised a son and daughter; Karl and Ida. Over the years, Ruth was involved in many activities including working at St. Michael's Hospital, along with a stint at the Central Wisconsin Veteran's Home at King, and teaching nursing at Midstate Technical College until 1992.

As stated in her obituary, all who knew her remember her pleasant smile, her cheerful attitude and her willingness to help. Ruth and Milo had a passion for travel (visited all 50 states and 16 foreign countries), helped found the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners program and were instrumental in "chartering" the S/N lodge known as **Vennligfolk.** As noted in Susan Morton's column, Ruth Harpstead was truly "First Lady" of **Vennligfolk**.

Sincere condolences go to Milo, their children, grandchildren and entire family. Our thoughts and prayers are with this family; Ruth will be sorely missed.

Continued from page 1

information and contact information. In recent years it was also more difficult to find enough members who were willing to walk next to our float and hand out the candy cane pamphlets to the children along the parade route. As one member suggested, "Maybe we have aged-out of this activity." I want to heartily thank Carl Rasmussen, Ron Hensler, and Milo Harpstead who for years have headed up the team who prepared our parade float. Perhaps we can revisit our participation in the parade in future years if more members want to be involved in this activity.

Please mark your calendars for our *Julefest* celebration on Sunday, December 9, 2018. The *Julefest* committee has already been planning for this very special Christmas event. I'll let you in on a few of the special happenings for this year's celebration: 1) A Jule Nisse will be handing out presents to everyone in attendance. For this activity, we are asking that everyone wrap up a "white elephant" gift and bring it to our party. 2) Individual or family pictures will be taken of our members and guests by a photographer during the social gathering time before our dinner. Our plan is to get copies of the pictures sent to you via email. 3) The singing group, *Aspiring Acapella*, will present a short program of Christmas songs and will also lead our group in a few familiar carols. These are just three of the special activities that evening. Of course you can count on delicious food, beautiful Scandinavian ambiance, and friendly fellowship at *Julefest*. I always consider **Vennligfolk Lodge's** *Julefest* to be one of the most special events of the Christmas season.

I cannot end this letter without expressing gratitude to our members who have signed up to be Marshalls at our lodge meetings. This is a great help for your president! When you see the list of Marshalls in this *Vennlighlad* issue, you will notice one name that appears three times. Thank you to Mark Hansen who has gone beyond the call of duty to help out in this job!

Vennlig hilsen, Susan Morton

What's Happening at Vennligfolk???

The year 2018 is coming fast to an end and **Vennligfolk Lodge** continues to hold its monthly meetings at St. Paul's United Methodist Church and participates in a variety of events. Below are brief descriptions of the up-coming programs along with the names of **Servers**, **Table Decorators**, and **Marshalls**. The leadership of **Vennligfolk** is most pleased to wish you a **Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving** along with "*En God Jul og Gudt Nytt År*."



Nov 11, 2018 (Sunday): "What ... I'm part Finn?" Member Marv Lang will discuss many of the salient features of the nation of Finland - its history, its people and its integration into the Norwegian and Swedish culture. Who are the Swede-Finns, the Finn-Swedes, the Finnskog, "Swedes on the Delaware" and the ship *Incognito*? These topics and more will be explored.



Servers: Karen Trzebiatowski, Elaine Anderson & Jen Haas Table: Jane Gjevre & Joyce Polson Marshalls: Ozz & Lois Hagen

Nov 17, 2018 (Saturday): "Stevens Point Holiday Parade" - Vennligfolk will <u>not</u> be participating this year. The parade begins at about 6:00 pm at the US Post Office on Main St and travels west.

Dec 09, 2018 (Sunday): "Julefest" Vennligfolk will again celebrate Julefest with a Scandinavian



style smørgåsbord consisting of a **KALD BORD** (pickled herring, fruit soup, cucumber salad, pickled beets, broccoli salad, fruit salads and cheese & crackers), **VARM BORD** (ham with raisin sauce, Norwegian meatballs, parsley boiled potatoes, rice pudding, scalloped corn, and baked beans), **BRØD BORD** (lefse and cardamom brød) followed by **DESSERTS & BEVERAGES**. Watch for sign-up sheets and volunteer to participate in the wonderful event! Too, the 2019 Installation of Officers will take place and we shall be entertained by the musical group "*Aspiring Acapella*" who will provide Christmas music.

Again, be reminded that this program is on Sunday, Dec 9 and begins at 4:30 pm.

Servers: Everyone (potluck for Julefest)

Table: Julefest Decorations

Marshalls: Everyone

Jan 13, 2019 (Sunday): "Vesterheim Museum Programs" Member Jerry Trzebiatowski will present a special discussion concerning the novel and unique programs offered by Vesterheim.

Servers: Ozz & Lois Hagen, Diane Beversdorf, Karen Clifford Table: Charlotte Hensler Marshalls: Mark Hansen

Feb 10, 2019 (Sunday): "1937 Honeymoon Trip Take Two" Members Carl & Lynn Rasmussen shall discuss and illustrate the 1937 honeymoon trip of Carl's parents as revisited in the spring and summer of 2018.

Servers: Ron & Charlotte Hensler and Rachel & Con Favor

Table: Bea Berg

Marshalls: Bea Berg & Con Favor

Mar 10, 2019 (Sunday): "Norske Wedding in Wisconsin" Patti Rous, a new Vennligfolk member will discuss and review the nuptials of her daughter's recent wedding.

Servers: Diane Beversdorf, Karen Clifford, Birde Granum Table: Karen Trzebiatowski Marshalls: Mark Hansen

Apr 14, 2019 (Sunday): "Medical Memoirs of the Last Century" Dr. Lowell Peterson will return to Vennligfolk and recount many interesting encounters in the practice of medicine.

Servers: Don & Lori Johnson, Nancy Schroeder, Marv & Louise Lang Table: Susan Morton Marshalls: Don Johnson

May 05, 2019 (Sunday): *"TBA"*

Servers: Donna Van Dresser Table: Susan Morton Marshalls: Mark Hansen

May 11, 2019 (Saturday): "Portage County Cultural Festival" - Again, Vennligfolk has a significant part in this decades old event at SPASH. Mark your calendar; plan to contribute and participate.

In the middle of the show, Bjarne stands up and yells at the ventriloquist, "Hey!" "You've been making too many okes about us Norwegians! Knock it off ya bum!!!" The ventriloquist replies, "Take it easy. They're only Bjarne replies, "You idiot; I'm not talking to you. I'm talking to dat little guy sitting on yer knee!'

Maud Returns to Norway



After more than a century abroad and 85 years at the bottom of the sea, Roald Amundsen's expedition ship *Maud* has finally returned to Norway.

Maud was built in 1917 for Amundsen's second exhibition to the Arctic and set sail from Vollen in Asker, Norway, the following year. The ship was intended to be a floating scientific research station to collect data across the North Pole. Unfortunately, numerous conflicts complicated the mission, and the Norwegian explorer was forced to sell the ship in 1925 to the Canadian Hudson Bay Company. Maud was then docked in Cambridge Bay, Canada, and used as a radio station and storage unit until she sank in 1931.

Several plans to retrieve *Maud* from the Canadian seafloor were started, but all fell flat. It wasn't until 2011 when real estate company Tandberg Eiendom finally found success, and was able to help *Maud* reach surface in 2016. The journey home then took an additional two years, being towed by tugboat around Greenland and through the Atlantic Ocean, and was complete in August of 2018.

Maud now sits almost exactly where she was launched more than 100 years ago in Vollen, Norway. A museum will feature the ship's remains and share her remarkable story while above and below sea level. Amundsen's two other ships, the *Gjoa* and *Fram* are currently housed at the Norwegian Maritime Museum in Oslo.

Election Time

Vennligfolk selects officers and various leaders at the regularly scheduled November meeting each year. Terms begin at the subsequent January meeting. For 2019, the following slate is proposed and will be presented to the Lodge at the November 11th meeting.

2019 Vennligfolk Nominations

President: Susan Morton

Vice -President: Lois Hagen

Secretary: Tom Johnson

Treasurer: Judy Pesanka

Financial Secretary: Arno Morton

Program Director: Charlotte Hensler

Newsletter Editor/Publicity: Mary Lang

Newsletter Distributor: Louise Lang

Librarian: Jane Gjevre

Musician: Louise Lang

Sunshine Coordinator: Rachel Favor

Historian: Lois Hagen

Language Specialist: Jan Flatoff

Cultural Skills: Karen Trezbiatowski

Trustee (2019-2021): Milo Harpstead

Continuing Trustees

Trustee (2018-2020): Mark Hansen Kress Williamson



Each of the above named individuals have agreed to serve the office to which they will be elected. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.

"I am" is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that "I do" is the longest sentence?





Photo credit: Thomas Rasmus Juell Skaug / Dagbladet

A Nordic Christmas Wonderland

Deep within the Norwegian mountains, the town of Røros, Norway, transforms into a magical Christmas market for one weekend, every year. The streets of Røros are lined with more than 60 market stalls, Christmas food and traditional activities. Drawing in hundreds of visitors, Røros offers a wonderful start to the Christmas season.

Experience Røros by taking a romantic sleigh ride, exploring the nooks and crannies of the old copper mining town or warm up with some freshly made gløgg. This picturesque, Nordic town was the inspiration behind Disney's movie, *Frozen*. Kids can meet the beloved reindeer Sven, build snowmen or try tobogganing.

Temperatures regularly dip below freezing, but the Christmas market thrives every year. This year's festivities will be taking place on December 6-9. To learn more about the Christmas market held in Røros, visit https://www.roros.no/en/the-roeros-christmas-fair/ More about enchanting Røros can be found online in the November 2016 Viking. Log in at www.sonsofnorway.com, then access the Viking archive by clicking on the Norwegian Culture drop down menu on the homepage.

Floating Gallery Preparing to Launch

Before the world's first hybrid battery powered expedition ship sets sail in 2019, Her Majesty Queen Sonja and the *Queen Sonja Print Award Foundation* will hand pick every piece of artwork to be displayed onboard.



The exciting partnership between Hurtigruten and the *Queen Sonja Print Award Foundation* was announced earlier this year by the Queen, and may also include future collaborations in design and development of joint merchandise, art talks, exhibitions and more.

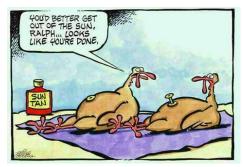
While traveling with Hurtigruten's new exhibition ship, the MS Roald Amundsen, an international public will experience nearly 600 works of art created by emerging Norwegian artists, previous winners of the Queen Sonja Print Award and even some of HM Queen Sonja's own works of art. The ship will travel to Antarctica, the Arctic and the Norwegian coast, and will have the ability to sail fully on electrical power. The MS Roald Amundsen is one of two hybrid ships being produced by Hurtigruten in the coming years as they work to strengthen their focus on sustainability.

While Hurtigruten continues to build the next generation of expedition ships and the *Queen Sonja Print Award Foundation* highlights the next generation of young artists, this powerful alliance only seems natural.

Call for Recipes

Do you have a delicious Norwegian recipe or two you'd like to share - maybe a seasonal favorite, or one that's been in your family for generations? Whether sweet or savory, we'd love to hear about it! Sons of Norway invites all members to submit their favorite Norwegian or Nordic inspired recipe to be considered for our online Recipe Box.

For a chance to be featured in the Recipe Box and possibly in EPost, simply email your recipe to <code>jkohlnhofer@sofn.com</code>. Feel free to include a high quality photo of your dish or dessert if you have one, as well as a brief description explaining its history or family connection. We'll make sure all entries receive full credit if posted.





Request from the Julefest Committee:

Do you have little clear white lights that are battery operated for use on the *Julefest* tree? If so, please consider lending them for use at *Julefest*. Label with your name and bring them to the November 11th meeting and give them to Charlotte Hensler. Tusen takk

bigger truck!"

Attractive Branding Nixed for Tobacco Products

The Norwegian government is setting its sights on becoming a tobacco-free society by 2035. As of July 2018, some new tactics are being employed to make cigarettes and snus, (a powdered tobacco product related to snuff) less attractive.

Tobacco products have long been required to feature large print warnings with realistic color photos depicting the health repercussions of tobacco use. Now the Norwegian Directorate of Health is making moves to deter children and young adults from ever taking up smoking or snus.



Generic packaging

The neutral packaging requirement went into effect on July 1, 2018, and makes Norway the fourth country to require plain packaging. Tobacco products may no longer have any design logos, and all are required to be the same color, Pantone 448 C. This drab greenish brown color was chosen for Australia's plain tobacco packaging campaign in 2016 after the hue was found to be the most visually offensive color to tobacco users.

To further dampen interest, all tobacco products must have the identical stark font and health warnings. Studies have shown that consumers perceive plain packaged products to be of lower quality and taste. The overall goal is not to make it illegal to buy or use tobacco, but to make the product as repellant as possible, especially to youth.

Norway's Passport Ranks Fourth-Highest for Visa-free Travel

Norway has the fourth most powerful passport in the world, according to a new index that ranks the level of visa-free access passports provide to their holders.

Global citizenship and residence advisory firm *Henley & Partners* produces the *Henley Passport Index* each year using data from the International Air Transport Association. The 2018 edition ranked Norway's as the fourth best in the world as it provides visa-free or visa-on-arrival access to 186 countries. As such, Norway kept the same ranking as on 2017's list, even though the number of countries accessed visa-free or by visa-on-arrival with the Norwegian passport increased from 173 last year.



Norway shared fourth place with the UK, The United States, Austria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and Portugal. Scandinavian neighbor Sweden ranked

marginally better in joint third place, while Denmark was a spot lower than Norway, placed fifth in terms of visa-free access. Singapore and Germany were second (providing access to 188 countries), while Japan was first (189).

Schengen Area countries have traditionally topped the index due to providing open access to large parts of Europe, *Henley & Partners* noted, but Asian countries are catching up thanks to strengthened international trade and diplomatic relations.

One European country that could see its position in the ranking weaken in coming years is the UK, with Brexit potentially making trips abroad more complicated. The *Henley Index* surveys 199 different passports and the access they provide in 227 different destinations.

a little in English...

Allowed to Belong to Two Countries

The government wants to let Norwegians belong to two Regjeringen vil la nordmenn høre til i to land. De vil gi countries. They want to give people the chance to have dual citizenship. Norwegians must be allowed to have passports from two countries. This is what the government wants. That is to say, people who live in a country outside Norway can have dual citizenship.

"It will be possible for Norwegians to keep their Norwegian passports. They can do that even if they become nationals of another country. The same will apply to foreign citizens who wish to become Norwegian. We are open to dual citizenship. This ensures that Norwegian law follows developments around the world. Connections to other countries are ever-increasing." So says Jan Tore Sanner in a message to the press. He is the Minister of Knowledge and Integration.

All of the other Nordic countries have opened up for double citizenship. So have most of the countries in Europe.

The rule today is that only Norwegians can have citizenship. But there are several exceptions to the rule. Many foreigners seeking to become Norwegians have received dual citizenship, while Norwegians who become citizens of another country have not had the same opportunity. The government's proposal makes it so people are treated more equally, says Sanner.

Norwegian citizens can regain their citizenship with this proposal. That is, if they lost their Norwegian citizenship when they became citizens of another country.

proposal. People convicted of terrorism may be deprived of their Norwegian citizenship. However, if they do not have dual citizenship, they can not be sent out of Norway.

litt på norsk...

Vil la deg høre til to land

folk mulighet til å ha dobbelt statsborgerskap.

Nordmenn må få lov til å ha pass fra to land. Det ønsker regjeringen. Det vil si at folk som hører til ett til land utenom Norge, kan ha dobbelt statsborgerskap.

Det vil være mulig for nordmenn å beholde det norske passet sitt. Det kan de gjøre selv om de blir statsborgere i et annet land. Det samme vil gjelde utenlandske statsborgere som ønsker å bli norske. Vi åpner for dobbelt statsborgerskap. Slik sørger vi for at norsk lov følger utviklingen i verden. Der har stadig flere tilknytning til flere land. Det sier Jan Tore Sanner i en melding til pressen. Han er kunnskaps- og integrerings-minister.

Alle de andre landene i Norden har åpnet for dobbelt statsborgerskap. Det har også de fleste land i Europa.

Regelen i dag er at nordmenn bare kan ha ett statsborgerskap. Men det er flere unntak fra regelen. Mange utlendinger som søker om å bli norske, har fått dobbelt statsborgerskap. Mens nordmenn som blir borgere av et annet land, ikke har fått samme mulighet. Regjeringens forslag gjør at folk behandles mer likt, sier Sanner.

Norske borgere kan få tilbake statsborgerskapet sitt med dette forslaget. Det er hvis de mistet sitt norske statsborgerskap da de ble borgere i et annet land.

Regjeringen sier at sikkerhet også er en hensikt med forslaget. Folk som er dømt for terror, kan bli fratatt sitt norske The government says that security is an intention of the statsborgerskap. Men har de ikke dobbelt statsborgerskap, kan de ikke sendes ut av Norge.

Cultural Skills Programs

The Cultural Skills are a unique part of the Sons of Norway organization. It gives members an opportunity to increase their Norwegian cultural knowledge in 14 different areas of interest. I am fortunate to have the privilege to promote participation in these skills. At one time I could boast the HALF of our Lodge members had completed at least one level of one skill. But now I am also proud to say that we have many new members - so I can't brag about half, but now I am asking ALL of you to think about trying one level of a skill of your choice.

Mary Lang said he may give another Genealogy class beginning in January. Let him know of your interest! Jan Flatoff will not be offering the Norwegian language class in 2018. I am willing to do a cooking, music and reading as interest requires. Jerry Trzebiatowski is taking a beginning rosemaling class in Waupaca, and another will be starting in February. We already have a stitching group going where some are working on the Knitting Unit, so come join us. Anybody out there able to teach the Dance Unit? I am joining the carving club to try chip carving. You can also do the units on your own, just download the requirements. Then have me review, sign and send them in.

Vennlig Hilsen, Karen Trzebiatowski



3015 Cherry Street Stevens Point, WI 54481 U.S.A.











Vennligblad, the official newsletter of Sons of Norway Vennligfolk Lodge (#5-627), is published at the beginning of the oddnumbered months of the year. If you have an item of interest to Vennligfolk members, please submit it to the Editor by the 15th of the even-numbered months. You may send it to Marv Lang, 3015 Cherry Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481 or by e-mail to cmlang@charter.net. «Mange Tusen Takk!» Mary Lang, Editor

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage & culture of Norway and to provide quality insurance &financial products to its members.



Bay Light
Savings Time Ends
Early Sunday morning,
November 4th, don't forget
to set your clocks BACK
one hour to accommodate
the "fall back" procedure of the "Day
Light Savings Time Act" passed by the
US Congress (1918).