



**SONS OF  
NORWAY**

Coming Attractions

August 16

Monthly Meeting

6 PM

First Lutheran Church

521 North 8th St

Manitowoc

September

Bus trip to Stoughton

Details pending



# the Vennskap Lodge News

Vennskap Lodge 5-622

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

August 2016

Volume 24, Issue 6

## Is It Over??

She did it again! We ask for warmer weather and she waits way too long before she remembers and turns on the hot burner! July has been a record month with temperatures hitting the 100 mark. Perhaps, in the near future, outdoor thermometers will have higher numbers on the dial. These may be "The Good-Old Days". August is finally here and mothers are looking forward to Back to School!



"Hot, Hot!"

As for the rest of us, August is the start of the fall season of brightly colored leaves, less grass to cut and time to get in the last vacation-time. The farmers have been hauling in the field crops that have been enjoying the hot summer. Autumn is such a short season. The next season, not so much!

Vennskap members enjoyed an excellent summer picnic and stories about the District Convention are being shared which, more than likely, result in some interesting developments.

Discussion of plans for the upcoming Lutefisk Dinner that will be "on the menu" for another public gathering that will soon be here. Weather temperature may have decreased a bit, but Vennskap Activity will be heating up!  
See you at the meeting!

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DawnBergsBaken@hotmail.com

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## Gratulerer Med Dagen!

August

Anne Bruechert.....	5
Nethanyel Whitaker (Heritage).....	5
Vi Rue.....	7
Liana Mecha.....	21
Carolyn Johnson.....	25
Anika Soto (Heritage).....	27
Michael Jurgens.....	28

September

Louis Milsted .....	10
Nan Webster .....	19
Severn Olsen.....	23
Laurie Shawhan.....	23
Zachariah Whitaker. (Heritage).....	24



Happy Birthday!

Greetings Dear Vennskap Members and Friends –

Well, this is the time of year we were wondering why we were wishing for summer ! How about those temperatures and heat indexes !!! Hope all of you are finding a way to stay cool.



We had such a good turnout and wonderful time at our Annual Picnic. Was Lincoln Park a good choice? We felt the accommodations were exceptional. Members dined inside and outside on the porch. I heard many good reports from members who attended. If we do decide to have our picnic at Lincoln Park next year, we'll have to wait until January 2nd 2017 to make a reservation. That's how Manitowoc County works. Will try for a Saturday instead of Sunday next year.

Thanks to all of you who donated items for our silent auction – from jewelry to a Norsk sweatshirt and everything in between. Many happy winners ! 'Twas fun trying to outbid one another on our favorites.

And the food ! Nothing better than “Pot Luck” when everyone brings their favorite dishes. No excuse to leave hungry. You Norwegians always outdo yourselves. And the company couldn't be better.

You'll find a short report on our Biennial District Conference at Marshfield elsewhere. Don, Carolyn and I had an unforgettable experience and learned so much about the Sons of Norway. Mange takk for the opportunity.

Have you tried any of the “Cultural Skills Awards” ? I know some of you have. My first experience with this Sons of Norway Program has been quite rewarding. A number of us meet with Carolyn Johnson at the Kiel Library and Historical Society to study and earn awards in the “Genealogy” section. Carolyn is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable leader and makes the sessions worthwhile. From beginners to seasoned genealogists, we have all learned something and have been enjoying each other's family stories and pictures. Come join us !

Hope you are looking forward to our August meeting, “Dressed for the Ball” as much as I am. Our friends are quite well versed on the subject, and I promise you that you will not be disappointed. Beauty as well as a bit of humor. There might even be a bit of a surprise.

How appropriate is our motto - "Cherishing our Past, Embracing our Future"

Mange Takk dear friends – for allowing me to walk with you along this path. I continue to learn with your help –

Laurie Shawhan, President



District Convention pictures

At left are items our lodge donated.  
At right Don is holding “proposal paddle”.



# Picnic In The Park

What could be nicer than spending a July day with your friends in the park?

While competition in the Kubb Field was not this year's 'fan favorite' pastime, the food and Venskasp fellowship kept everyone active at Manitowoc Lincoln Park. Several visitors came to experience Venskasp friendliness and a large crowd enjoyed the day.



Laurie & Don Shawhan  
our hosts for the day



The meeting comes to order.



The food was plentiful!



Shoppers are excited  
with their purchases at  
the White Elephant  
Sale and Mikk is  
thanked for  
continuing as acting  
treasurer for our  
group.



## “All- Aboard!”



Livsreise (lifs-rye-sa) translates to “Life’s Journey.”

Vennskap Lodge members will be boarding a chartered bus on our journey to Stoughton on September 20th . Travel expense depends on you!

Details will be discussed at the next meeting. Perhaps the lodge might subsidize our trip?

We would meet at 9 AM in the Wal-Mart parking lot at the Plymouth Wal-Mart just off Highway 57.

Your opinions and thoughts are requested and your travel wishes will be considered. An excellent opportunity! Stoughton has the reputation for “ All-things Norwegian!”

### Map Your Journey ( Hands-on planning!)

YOU

Experience the journey. Choose your vocation, pack your trunk, and buy a ticket to America by selecting your items on the interactive table. Encounter the landscape and history of Norway as you prepare to journey across the Atlantic to your new life in America.



Admission is free  
68 seat auditorium (handicapped accessible)

Videos – Norwegian culture,  
Folk Art, Music, Genealogical Center

# The Friendly Fifth



President Laurie Shawhan, Don Shawhan and Carolyn Johnson reflect on their experiences at The Sons Of Norway District Convention of 2016.

**Don commented,** "Although I did have a real enjoyable time, my foremost goal was to represent our Lodge in any and every way I could. All three of your delegates attended the main meetings, and at one point we divided up into 3 specific meetings. My assignment for that was on "Camp Masse Moro" and the Scholarships available to young people through SoN. I was given a great visual presentation about the Camp and monies available for scholarships. The two were not connected. The presentation is available on line. Note – the Scholarships are monies available to young people, college and high school students, and anyone who wants to learn more about their Norwegian heritage. The scholarship money was not specifically earmarked for Masse Moro. The main part of this message was that Masse Morro operates in the red. It was talked about a number of times, but the financial problem is still there. The resolutions and election of officers went very well as they had committees that reviewed these things and made recommendations. There were only enough nominees to fill the positions. I read their resumes and felt they were more than qualified. The age-old problem is still with us – dwindling membership, and therefore dwindling funds. Another problem that SoN has is that each State and the Federal Government are reviewing what a Fraternal Organization should be, and the agents have to go to school to keep up on these changes – which is also costly. I felt like I was a real Norwegian during this event. Any questions you might have on the Convention, I will be more than happy to talk to you individually about."

From Carolyn ----"The four days at the District 5 convention was an educational immersion into things Norwegian! The serious meetings helped me to understand the workings of the Sons of Norway. Electing new members of the district board and also electing three woman to attend the Tacoma meetings was a responsible privilege. The meeting directed by Joy Bashara, was informative. Our newsletter is on-line for all members of District 5. Also, it is available to our lodge members via e-mail with colored photos and snail-mail with black and white photos. Another part of the event was the displays of rosemaling and hardanger. The ethnic foods at coffee time and also at the dinner when the Christiansons presented their program about their Viking Long House were a taste to enjoy! The traveling trunk, wood carving displays were also of great interest. The bunad parade and the singing were royal treats!

Tusen takk for allowing me this memorable happening! All for Norway!"



And from Laurie - "On the practical side - the theme of this year's District Convention was "Building Bridges" . Building bridges across time and space, between Lodges, between Local and International Boards, and between people. The purpose and accomplishments of SoN fit into 3 S's - Stability - 121 years of existence; Strength - operates with \$360 million in assets; Society - 59,000 members in 400 lodges and into 3 F's – Fraternal - Cultural programs and Special events; Financial - sound financially; Foundation - Scholarships. SoN has a new website with additional sites still under construction. Check it out.

Did you ever wonder what happened to the pictures that were submitted and didn't appear in the "Viking" Magazine – well, we will now be able to find them on our website.

Lastly, one of the many resolutions we discussed was for a clever memorial to George and Janice Sievers, long-time Local, District and International SoN leaders. This is being built at Mt. Horeb as a "home for trolls". It is said that – "After trolls have finished the kitchen work, or tending to animals, or helping Julenisse, or delivering documents to the Lodge Meeting, they must have a place of rest." District 5 may support and promote same. Certainly the Conference was not all work and no play."





## Elegance in a Hoop Skirt?



Dressing for the Ball will be the theme for our August meeting. A group of Civil War Reenactors will demonstrate getting ready to go to a ball during Civil War times. As you can see from the picture at left, it is a little more involved than how most of us dress for a party. These ladies may have been delighted with the invention of air conditioning when they were invited to summer balls back then.

Virginia Temme on the left of the photo will be dressed by her maid, Rogene Moore, on the right on the photo. Laurie Shawhan is seen in the center. The photo was taken at a 'Daughters of Union Veterans' and 'GAR' yearly event in Elkhorn.

Laurie & Don Shawhan are Civil War Reenactors and belong to the organization.

## Pictures taken at the District Convention



Carolyn Johnson receiving District Award for most cultural awards from Jay Bashara



Past president Owen Christianson and his wife Elspeth



'Building Bridges' was the theme of this year's conference.

"As we journey into the future, it is fitting to capture the imagine of a troll strolling across a bridge carrying an electronic device. These represent a blending of our Nordic Culture with the technological age."

## TACO CASSEROLE

8 - 10 servings

2 lbs ground beef or turkey	Chopped onion
16 oz. tomato sauce	15 oz. kidney beans, drained
1 pkg. taco seasonings	1 c. shredded Cheddar cheese
2 c. crushed tortilla chips	

### Toppings:

2 c. shredded lettuce	2 tomatoes, chopped
2 green onions, chopped	1/2 c. sliced ripe olives
1/2 c. sour cream	



Brown meat with onions and drain. Stir in tomato sauce, kidney beans, and taco seasonings.

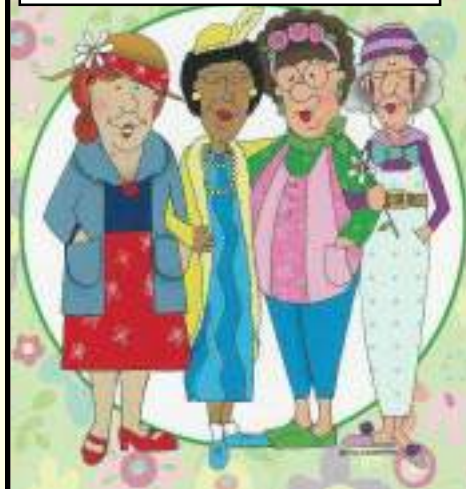
Place half of meat mixture in greased 9"x13" baking dish. Top with cheese. Place the 2nd half of meat mixture on the cheese. Sprinkle tortilla chips over all. Bake in 375° oven for 25-30 minutes.

Top with lettuce, tomatoes, green onions, olives and sour cream, as you wish.



Recently, Dorothy Jurgens and her daughter, Barb, stopped to visit Doris Fredricksen. Doris, the consummate hostess, gave them a walking tour of her complex community and entertained them with a game of 'Sequence' while they enjoyed a chat fest. What fun!

Here's what's cooking



The  
Lady's Page

## Whodunit?

A Wisconsin author, Kathleen Ernst, often writes mystery novels staged in State Parks. 'Heritage of Darkness' takes place at Decorah, Iowa, in the Westerheim Museum. It is interesting to read Kathleen's descriptions of Norwegian items and customs. Do you know what a "budsttike" is? According to Kathleen's book, it is a wooden tube, perhaps 4"x 8" long, which may have carving or decorations on it. It would have a steel spike on one end and in olden times, a message could be inserted in it and the spike end would be thrust into the door of the receiver! Budstikken is also the name of some Norwegian newspapers and is the name of a Sons of Norway lodge's newsletter from a lodge in LaCrosse. The book is at your local library if you are interested in reading it.

Lena was competing in the Breast Stroke division at the Olympics. She was disappointed when a French woman came in first, and an English woman second. As Lena reached the shore completely exhausted, she remarked, "I don't vant to complain, but I tink dose utter two girls used der arms."



An usher found Ole sprawled across 3 seats in the theater and couldn't get him to move. Ole groaned but didn't budge. The usher called the manager and he had no luck moving Ole. Finally the cops were called. "All right buddy, what's your name?" the cop demanded. "Ole". "From where, Ole?" "The balcony," Ole whimpered.



## Check your schedule

Manitowoc Luth Church....August 16th

- Dressing for the Ball

A group of Civil War Reenactors will demonstrate getting ready to go to the Ball during Civil War times.

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September..

Sheboygan ..Trip to Stoughton Wisconsin

Visit the Livsreise center to learn about our Norwegian Heritage

October..

18th-Manitowoc Fjord Horses- Inez Jurgens

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November..

12th - Lutefisk Dinner set-up Lakeland College/University

13th - Lutefisk Dinner

In Sheboygan??

21st - Sheboygan..Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie



## TALL SHIP FESTIVAL

August 5-7, 2016

Leicht Memorial Park  
Green Bay

The Draken Harald Hårfagre is a Viking longship built in the municipality of Haugesund, Norway. It is the longest Viking ship built in modern times. The Draken Harald Hårfagre brings the seafaring qualities of a warship from the old Norse sagas to life. It is a ship that combines ocean-crossing sailing capabilities with a warship's use of oars.

