



Inside this issue:

Monthly program / Kalender	1
Birthdays / Secretary's Report	2
Lodge Items, Looking Back	3
Dis og Dat	4
District 5 Items	5
Norway House Update	6
Litt på Norsk	7
Present officers, Norskedalen info	8

Wergeland Kalender

- ◆ Jan 7—NO
WERGELAND LODGE
MEETING
- ◆ Jan 12—Board Meeting
TBD
- ◆ Jan 18—Deadline for
Budstikken articles
- ◆ Jan 21—Budstikken
mailed to members
- ◆ Feb 4—No Wergeland
Lodge Meeting

The Coronavirus (and actions being taken to limit its spread) continues to alter our plans. Please watch your email for any changes to upcoming events. If you do not have email, please call Ramona/Adrian at 608-788-7507 to check if an event will happen. Stay well, everyone!

Fra Presidenten



Dear Wergeland Lodge members, Happy New Year to you!

As the years go by, each one brings events that forever stay in our memory. I remember parents and grandparents talking about the flu of 1918, the polio epidemic of 1952, the floods of 51 and 65, and the blizzard of 1959. And here we are, the virus of 2020.

Thanks for the gifted scientists creating the vaccine for this virus. We hope and pray for its success this coming year.

Sons of Norway lodges in District 5 are getting along the same as we are. Business is taken care of by Zoom meetings, communication by phone, computer and sometimes face to face. I thank you for your response to my request for voting on officers, reading the by-laws, purchasing calendars, and playing cards--all in all, helping us keep the lodge going. Special thanks to Shirley Schoenfeld for keeping the financial records straight, Carla Burkhardt for being editor of the Budstikken, Kathi Beane helping as membership secretary, Karen Broadhead for serving on the district 5 board, and Adrian Johnson keeping up on the duties of secretary. Thanks to all!

I look forward to this year as your President. It will be so good to see everyone again. Our first meeting together (when it happens) will need to be a special occasion indeed! All the best to you — Ramona

Scholarship Reminder

January 15, 2021 is the deadline for scholarship applications for educational opportunities that involve international travel: Douglas Warne – Rolf & Wenche Eng Scholarship, Helen Tronvold Adult Learner Scholarship, Helen Tronvold Folk High School Scholarship, Lund Fund Scholarship, and Oslo International Summer School Scholarship.

Information about applying to a Sons of Norway Foundation scholarship is at sofn.com/foundation/scholarships.



No January Lodge Meeting

Meetings and Programs have been cancelled for January and February.



Januar Birthdays

- 7 Carlie Burkhardt
- 9 Peter J Linnert
- 12 Laura J Ira
- 13 Brian J Kirby
- 16 Gary J Corbisier
- 18 Marissa A Langaard
- 20 Char I Vangen
- 21 Roger O Olsen
- 21 Dorothy I Paulikas
- 21 Dennis E Sprain
- 22 Jarvis L Brudos
- 22 George Ranis
- 26 Liesl M Allen
- 26 Nathan Voelker
- 28 Mike W Finn
- 28 Sarah Hubbard
- 29 Steven M Pedersen
- 30 Gene I Gaarder
- 31 Bernice C Herder

Program for February

Cancelled

Sekretær Notater...

No regular scheduled meetings were held in December by the lodge or the Wergeland Board. The officers keep in touch with each other by email or phone if business needs to be taken care of. We decided to cancel our January general meeting as the American Legion hall is still closed and they are not aware of when they will reopen. Besides, Covid 19 is still with us in a big way.

Thanks, everyone who sent in your ballot for our 2021 slate of officers. All ballots received approved of the slate. **We still need one of you to agree to be Vice President, however.**

Also, no one has expressed any negative feelings toward our bylaw changes so they will be considered official on January 1, 2021.

Thanks to all of you who purchased calendars and playing cards. We sold all our calendars and for the first time in recent years, we ordered more. So you can still get one or more of both calendars and playing cards. Call Adrian to save them for you.

Also, please send me your volunteer hours for 2020 as soon as you have them compiled.

Adrian Johnson, lodge secretary.

Treasurer's Report:

November 30, 2020 checking balance	\$4,574.86
November 30, 2020 scholarship balance	\$1,506.50
November 30, 2020 savings balance	\$18,951.12
November 30, 2020 Wergeland has	\$25,032.48

From District 5 Sports & Recreation Director Audrey Severson:

"The word so far from the Birkie Foundation about the **Barnebirkie** in Hayward, WI is: it is still planned but with a lot of changes. The location of the Barnebirkie will not be on the downtown streets but at a location north of the town. There will not be a cookie tent for the children as in the past so we will not be collecting cookies from the lodges. The children's race will probably be spread over two days at varying times. They want to keep the number of volunteers needed to a minimum.

I am in communication with the Birkie committee on how District 5 can support the Barnebirkie during this COVID time. The utmost concern is keeping everyone safe."

For race information, see www.birkie.com/ski/events/barnebirkie/, where this cute photo is from.



Condolences til...

...Ramon Erickson, whose wife, **Connie Erickson**, died on December 3rd after having a bad fall earlier that she never recovered from. They both started SON in 2003, and were members until 2018. Our sympathy to Ramon and family.



Tusen takk...

...to the Salvation Army Bell Ringers on December 19! **Kathi Beane, Dick Marking, Shirley Schoenfeld, and Carlie and Carla Burkhardt** rang at the Festival Foods in Onalaska. Donations were matched by Mayo Health Systems.



Nordic New Continues Weekly

Every Tuesday night Tune in at 6:20 PM (Central); 7:20 PM (Eastern) every Tuesday. By computer: <https://gotomeet.me/SofN-D5> By phone: 646-749-3112 (access code: 509-077-557) By iPhone, iPad, or Android tablet/phone: download the GoToMeeting app from the Apple or Google Play Store. Launch the app and enter the meeting code: SofN-D5

And, Speaking of Nordic News...

District 5 Darlene Arneson, in a recent Friendly Fifth Friday News article, recalled the topic of the Dec 1 Nordic News, our own **Glenn Borreson**! As she says below, "Tusen Takk, Glenn!!"

"Glenn Borreson's Nordic News presentation "Viking Age Animals - Their Descendants Today" discusses horses, cows, goats and sheep, most of which are living in isolated Iceland. Horses were important to Vikings as work tools and for fighting. Cows, goats, sheep and pigs were food and clothing sources. Glenn is a hobbyist Norwegian-American historian who shares his knowledge with Sons of Norway lodges throughout District 5. **He is the first**

"four-peat" presenter on Nordic News. Glenn is a member of Wergeland lodge (La Crosse WI) Tusen takk, Glenn!!! Watch Glenn's presentation at: <https://www.screencast.com/t/GSnOGhVx>"



Looking Back

Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2016

The President informed the membership the Lodge now has a Facebook page. He encouraged the membership to go to the page and click "Like" it. The President stated the Wergeland Lodge Christmas tree at Rotary Lights was a big success. He thanked those who helped put it up and decorate it.

Welcome to our new members – Royce Curtis and Mark Dregne.

Congratulations to Andrew Piske, grandson of member Annie Piske, who was named LaCrosse Tribune football player of the year for 2015.

Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2010

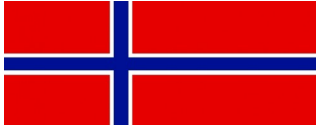
Unge Venner Luke Forde, Abby Jean Schoenfeld, Zachary Nowland Johnson, Heather Marie Larson, Julie Dahl, Rebek-

kah Less, Lydia Allen and Hannah Rock were all presented with \$200 Wegeland scholarships for college.

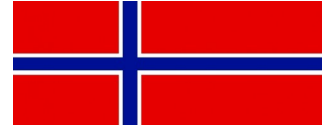
January 16th marks the 116th anniversary of the founding of Sons of Norway, which began as a simple, practical way for members to support each other through times of hardship. At the time, it's unlikely that none of the founders would have guessed their fledgling group would go on to become the largest and longest-standing organization dedicated to promoting and preserving Norwegian culture.

Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2005

Co-cultural Director Ken Melby introduced Dorothy Paulikas and Alice Gums, who presented "Children's Literature and Alf Proysen." He created a popular character in Norwegian children's literature, teskjejerringa, the teaspoon lady.



Dis og Dat



From **Dave Glomstad**:
"Made some lefse over Thanksgiving. One of our best batches ever."



From **Sandra Kawatski**: **Why Do People Kiss Under the Mistletoe?**

The following Norse legend grew to explain the long winter nights in the north and the death of sunlight.

In an old Norse Legend, Frigga, the goddess of love, had a son named Balder, who was the god of light and innocence. To protect him, Frigga demanded that all creatures, even inanimate objects, take an oath not to harm him, but she forgot to include mistletoe.

Loki, god of evil and destruction, learned of this and made an arrow from a sprig of mistletoe. He then tricked Hoth, Balder's blind brother, into shooting the mistletoe arrow and guided it to kill Balder. The death of Balder meant the death of sunlight, explaining the long winter nights in the north

Frigga's tears fell onto the mistletoe and turned into white berries. She decreed that it should never cause harm again but should promote love and peace instead. From then on anyone standing under mistletoe would get a kiss. Even mortal enemies, meeting under mistletoe by accident, had to put their weapons aside and exchange a kiss of peace and declare a truce for the day

Source: *Folklore, Fun Facts and Traditions from The Old Farmer's Almanac*

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld's family makes rolling pins in Newfolden, MN. Read their story, featured in the Lake County journal: www.lakecountryjournal.com/lokstad-products/.



Shirley explained her connection: "John Lokstad, who started making and selling rolling pins in 1950 was my Dad's youngest brother. My Dad was Hans Lokstad. David Lokstad is my brother, and

he's a SON member of ours, and he and Judy and some of their other children made the rolling pins before Mike and Sara Lokstad Baumann took over the business last year and moved it to their place near Brainerd, MN."



Sons of Norway Dues

January is Sons of Norway membership renewal time. As a reminder, a single membership is \$60 and a family membership is \$95 per year. "Family" is defined by home address, so you may put family members together in one family membership by using a single home address.

Continue to recruit new members as well as former members to our Lodge! Invite friends and family to our lodge meetings and events and let them know about the benefits of membership, such as the travel information and the cultural knowledge gained by our programming. Benefits at the Society level may be found at www.sofn.com/member_benefits.

Sons of Norway Mission Statement

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.

Take a Genealogy Research Class!!

The Sons of Norway District 5 Cultural Committee is pleased to offer an opportunity for you to develop your genealogy research skills while connecting with others who share your interest.

If you are just beginning your family history research, or have little or no experience with Norwegian genealogical records, this class is for you. Topics covered in the class include common genealogical records for Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogy, Norwegian naming customs, locating your ancestor's birthplace in Norway, Norwegian spelling variation, an introduction to DNA testing, and earning the genealogy cultural skills pin.

This two-day virtual class will be held on two Saturdays (January 9 & January 16, 2021) beginning at 10:00 AM (Central Standard Time) and will continue until 2 PM. *There will be a break of 30 minutes for lunch.* There will also be time to visit informally during lunch.

The special fee for Sons of Norway members for this class is \$125 for the two-day class. The cost includes 30 days of access to the proprietary databases on the NAGC website and a copy of the updated "Research Guide for Norwegian Genealogy: For Beginning and Experienced Genealogists" (a \$25 value). Non-member friends may participate by either joining Sons of Norway or paying an additional \$25.

The instructor for this virtual genealogy class is Dana Kelly, who serves as Executive Director of the Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library in Madison, Wisconsin.

To register for the class, give the class as a gift, or request further information, contact Diane Maurer at dmaurer@naganl.org or call 608-255-2224. From www.sonsofnorway5.com/events/details/627-Sons-of-Norway-Virtual-Genealogy-Class-2021

Take a History Course!!

The D5 Norwegian-American virtual history course, "**Norwegian-American Settlement in IL, MI and WI**" will start with sessions offered on Saturday, January 23 (9:00-10:30 AM CT/10:00-11:30 ET) and Monday, January 25 (6:30-8:00 PM CT/7:30-9:00 PM ET). The course will be 16 weeks long.

Faculty include: Bill Injerd, historian of The Sloop Society; Kirk Mies, VP of The Sloop Society; Dave Johnson, president of the Norske Museum in Norway, Illinois; Dana Kelly, executive director of the Norwegian-American Genealogy Center; and Mike Palecek, editor/author of The First Norwegian Settlements in America. To get the most out of this course, we recommend that participants purchase the following books (\$99 w/tax and shipping) and begin reading them ASAP: - The First Norwegian Settlements in America; Palecek, Mike (ed.) - History of the Norwegian Settlements; Holand, H.R. - Sons of the Old Country; Ager, Waldemar-Kaskaland DVD (Koshkonong Prairie Historical Society) Our faculty believe that these books are very accessible reading which gives the beginning historian a very good overall background about Norwegian-American history from early settlement through 1880. It is a great Christmas gift for yourself or someone you want to share Norwegian-American history with. Learn more about this course by watching: www.screencast.com/t/xvmXYm26PS.

NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN SETTLEMENT IN IL-MI-WI ENROLLMENT FORM

(\$25) I want to enroll in the Saturday (16 week) course, beginning on Jan. 23

(\$25) I want to enroll in the Monday (16 week) course, beginning on Jan. 25

I understand that the virtual classes are recorded and give my consent to my image and voice being recorded as part of participating in the class.

(\$25) I want to take the class as "independent study"; email me info on how to do this

(+\$25) I am not a D5 Sons of Norway member and will pay the additional \$25 non-member fee

(\$99) I want to order the book/DVD collection (tax and shipping included; if ordered before Dec. 10, you will get them before Christmas)

Name: _____ Lodge: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Email (required): _____ Phone: _____

Comments: _____

Mail this form plus a check to: Nordic Legacy Foundation 5747 Sandy Ln. Racine WI 53406 Questions: contact mikep@sonsofnorwayracine.com

Beautiful Artwork

Carol Stekel shares Sharon Christensen's website if you are looking for cards and gifts. Sharon had a booth at our District 5 convention. Her artwork often features barns, flowers, animals, and Scandinavian designs. Sharon also keeps a blog (at that website) where she shares information and memories.

Image below from her website at <https://www.sharonchristensenart.com/>



Fellesraad Update on the Archive and Bibliotek at Norway House

Earlier this fall, the following article was shared by Elaine Hasleton, Bygdelagenes Fellesraad President, giving an update on the John Haugo Archive and Bibliotek being developed in the Norway House in Minneapolis. (Fellesraad is the national council for the 29 Norwegian-American Bygdelag, organizations of descendants of Norwegian immigrants.)

"We are making solid progress toward finalizing the design of the **John Haugo Bibliotek and Archive at Norway House!** We have worked and reworked the floor plan and design several times for this new area, and we think the final design is going to work well for individuals and groups, both young and old, who visit there.

There are two sections of this facility:

One) The climate-controlled **Archive** will be in the north end and will have movable shelving and computer workstations. At the Information desk, there will be a scanner and printer available. All Bygdelag will have priority to place their genealogical collections, including Bygdebøker. The advantage is to preserve these and make them available year-round. Of course, Lag materials can be checked out for their Stevne.

Two) The **Bibliotek Discovery** area will be a modern interactive area with numerous "stations." It will be a discovery experience. These are some of them:

Emigration & Immigration; Famous Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans; Norwegian-American and Norwegian-Canadian Settlements; A "Record My Story" area for recording and preserving our family histories.

The southeast corner will be an Activity area where a person can learn such things as Where Do I Come From; All About Me; How Do I Look in My Ancestors' Shoes.

A DNA area will be included, with explanatory DNA info. Our tentative plan is to provide a method to purchase DNA kits at the Bibliotek.

A multi-purpose room will be available for groups and families. We will have an Alcove to place monitors with pertinent information in the tunnel leading from the current Albert H. Quie Education Building to the Archive and Bibliotek in the Events Building.

You may ask yourself: "How can I assist with this huge undertaking?" We need you! You are the ones who know your geographical localities. First, share your Bygdelag charter members and famous Norwegians information. Several Bygdelag have already done so. A big "thank you" to them.

But there are many more Lags whose "famous" information would be valuable to incorporate. If you have information on Norwegian settlements in the U.S. or Canada, that is critically needed. The more we populate these databases, the better the whole discovery experience will be in the Bibliotek.

If you want to volunteer, please contact me at hasleton@familysearch.org or eehasleton@gmail.com or by cell phone 801-718-0379."

The photo below is from the Lehi Discovery Center, which the Bibliotek at Norway House would like to emulate.

See also www.norwayhouse.org/genealogy?rq=bibliotek.



A little in English...

Thorvald Meyer – Oslo philanthropist – The Opposite of Scrooge

Grünerløkka's Father. Look at him. The hat. The mutton chops. Does he not look like Ebenezer Scrooge? This is Thorvald Meyer, who despite the similarity, is the miser's polar opposite. Although this guy was practically born in the lap of luxury, there is something that separates him from Dickens' and Barks' stinking-rich churls. Philanthropy. Thorvald was the patron of several well-known artists (Bjørnson, Kielland, Munch, Hamsun AND Vigeland), co-financed the National Theater and gave monetary gifts to impoverished actors every Christmas.

When he went out the door, he'd fill his pockets with coins. Then, back at home he was empty-handed; everything was distributed to the needy. Thorvald started the first public bath in Oslo as a gift to the city, gave money toward several of the statues we see today, initiated school breakfasts, gave away land for the Pauluskirken [Paulus Church] and Birkelunden [The Birch Grove—a large urban park] which must always remain a park according to Meyer's clause. And outfitted the [Fridtjof Nansen] Fram expedition!

Meyer was a financial institution with seemingly quite social liberal tendencies. He was also a businessman of rank, as when he bought Grünerløkka cheaply and parceled it out with 40 times the profit. As a thank you for the investment, he got the rare honor of having a street named after him while he was alive!

Thrift is Strength. That was his motto. And action was his credo. He died at the age of 90 and just beforehand, he said: "It is no matter that an old man passes away, when I die there will be a party."

Actually, I take it back. He's just like Scrooge. After he met The Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come.

Litt på Norsk...

Thorvald Meyer – Oslo filantrop – Motsatt av Scrooge

Grünerløkka's Far. Se på ham. Hatten. Kinnskjegget. Ser han ikke ut som Ebenezer Scrooge? Dette er Thorvald Meyer, som likheten til tross, er gjerrigknekens rake motsetning. Skjønt denne karen nærmest ble født i en pengebinge, så er det noe som skiller ham fra Dickens' og Barks' søkkrike skruer. Filantropien. Thorvald var mesén for flere kjente kunstnere (Bjørnson, Kielland, Munch, Hamsun OG Vigeland), delfinansierte Nationaltheateret og gav pengegaver til de fattige skuespillerne hver jul.

Når han gikk ut døra, fylte han lommene med mynter. Vel hjemme igjen var han tomhendt, alt var fordelt til de trengende. Thorvald startet det første offentlige badet i Oslo som en gave til byen, gav penger til flere av statuene vi ser idag, initierte skolefrokost, gav bort jord til Pauluskirken og Birkelunden som alltid må forbli en park i følge Meyers klausul. Og utrustet Fram-ekspedisjonen!



Source Oslo Museum: image no. OB.F03331A (Byhistorisk samling), via oslobilder.no.

Meyer var en finansieringsinstitusjon med tilsynelatende ganske sosialliberale tendenser. Han var også en forretningsmann av rang, som da han kjøpte Grünerløkka billig og utparsellerte den med 40 gangers fortjeneste. Som takk for investeringen fikk han den sjeldne æren av å få en gate oppkalt etter seg mens han levde!

Nøisomhet er Styrke. Det var hans motto. Og handling var hans credo. Han døde 90 år gammel og like før sa han: Det er ingen Sag at et gammelt Menneske gaar bort, naar jeg dør skal det være Fest.

Egentlig tar jeg det tilbake. Han er akkurat som Scrooge. Etter at han møtte The Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come.

Visit the online store for SOFN logo gear

Go online to sofn.com/logoshop for a selection of Sons of Norway themed items to help you show off your Nordic pride, including T-shirts, socks, bags and other great selections!



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JANUARY 2021



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Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center
Hours From Oct - Apr:
Monday-Saturday from 9am--4pm
Sunday from 11pm--4pm



Admission rates for all programs with the exception of Heritage classes is \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, \$15.00 for families, and free for members of "Friends of Norskedalen."

All visitors, including Norskedalen organization members, should check in at the Throne Visitors' Center for your admissions, wristband, maps and information.

Norskedalen Members may use the Norskedalen grounds 365 days a year from sunrise to sunset. Member parking pass must be clearly displayed in front windshield while using Norskedalen grounds.

Non-members may only use Norskedalen grounds during regular business hours and must check-in with office staff to pay admissions and receive a wristband.

Norskedalen phone: 608-452-3424

Web site: www.norskedalen.org

E-mail Address: info@norskedalen.org