



**SONS of
NORWAY**

Budstikken

Wergeland Lodge #5/028 P.O. Box 3591, La Crosse, WI 54602-3591



Facebook: [Sons of Norway La Crosse Wergeland Lodge](#)

November 2023

Volume 58, Issue 10

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Fra Presidenten



PLEASE READ THIS BUDSTIKKEN!

November--Here we are! The air is cool and crisp, the frost is on the rooftops, and it is time to find our wool sweaters! I look forward to these holiday traditions, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Our American Thanksgiving is always celebrated on the fourth Thursday of the November. Canada celebrated Thanksgiving on October 9. They gather the same as Americans and enjoy a turkey dinner while celebrating the harvest. The whole idea of this is to thank God for another year of many blessings. Does it make you wonder how our Norwegian relatives celebrated when they first arrived in this country? Traditions were new and many of them didn't have much to be thankful for.

With a thankful heart, I feel blessed to be a part of Wergeland Lodge. It is a special bond that we enjoy because of our heritage and traditions. Let's look ahead to these special days left in 2023.

—Ramona J.

Wergeland Kalender

- ◆ Nov 2—6:00 Wergeland Lodge Meeting, Radisson Center, located on the corner of 2nd & Jay St
- ◆ Nov 14—5:30 Board Meeting at Perkins in Onalaska—ALL are welcome!
- ◆ Nov 20 —Deadline for Budstikken articles
- ◆ Nov 29—Bus Trip to Decorah
- ◆ Nov 30—December Heritage Dinner Reservation Deadline—see p. 5
- ◆ Nov 30—Budstikken mailed to members
- ◆ December 7— Holiday Banquet at Cedar Creek

ATTENTION!

<> See p. 5 regarding your opportunity to serve as an officer. We hope most will continue in their roles, but there are also a number of EMPTY positions. If you are willing to serve in one of these spots, the nominating committee is listed there.

<> Bus Trip Info—See p. 5 for a reminder on the Decorah Bus Trip arrangements.

<> RSVP to DECEMBER HERITAGE DINNER (see p. 5) by November 30!!

<> We will be ringing bells in December—See p. 2



PROGRAM FOR NOVEMBER

Sharen Storhoff will give a presentation on artist Herbjørn Gausta

Lunch providers for the November 2 meeting:

Sandwiches (2½ dozen): Kathy Anderson, Annie Piske, Judean Everson, Carolyn Sorenson, Ilene Pavelko, Dorothy Paulikas
Cakes or bars (18 pcs): Dee Johnson, Elsie Olson, Karen Saegrove, Karen Broadhead, Ann Sprain (gluten-free)
Pickles: Tom Monson, Bev Ranis (sweet)
Vegetable or Fruit Tray: Karan Mathison, Carol Pestel, Julia Forde
Members as asked to donate \$3-5 per person at the lunch table for lodge expenses.



November Birthdays

- 4 Birgitta Kathan Finn
- 4 Freya Kathan Finn
- 4 David Widener
- 5 Kathryn K Anderson
- 6 James C Halvorson
- 7 Edward C Johnson
- 8 Nancy R Loper
- 9 Julia L Forde
- 9 Torin L Loper
- 10 Paul S Amundson
- 10 Paulette S Widener
- 11 Michael John Everson
- 11 Laura A Gonia
- 13 Ilene Harriet Pavelko
- 13 Shirley A Lokstad Schoenfeld
- 14 Michael A Anderson
- 14 Greg P Hart
- 15 Theresa L Heiser
- 17 Erik R Coaty
- 17 Patricia L Green
- 18 Harley L Evenson
- 20 Wyatt Becker
- 21 Cecilia M Berg
- 23 Mark J Dregne
- 23 Joan P Everson
- 26 Mary E Amunson
- 26 Winston Howe
- 27 Lois J Tolvstad
- 28 Susan M Carlson
- 30 Sally Louise Olson

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

We are signed up for the following times and location for Salvation Army Bell Ringing. Please contact Carla Burkhardt, Carla.burkhardt8696@gmail.com if you want to claim a spot.

Tuesday, November 28, Festival Foods Onalaska

2:00-4:00, 4:00-6:00, 6:00-8:00

Monday, December 4, Walgreens on Mormon Coulee

12:00-2:00, 2:00-4:00, 4:00-6:00



Program for December

Heritage Dinner at Cedar Creek

Sekretær Notater...

October 5 Wergeland Lodge Meeting, held at Dahl Ford Museum

Ramona calls meeting to order at 6:30.

Visitors were introduced.

October is usually Foundation month, but not part of this month's program.

October bus trip to Minneapolis on the 18th: Be at Sam's at 8:00, load at 8:15, bus will leave at 8:30. It will be a very nice bus, complete with bathroom.

Carla - Athletic director - no awards this month.

Ron Nowland - Spoke on article in "Viking" "Leif Erickson Day" Oct. 9, take time to read that article.

Dave Glomstad - May peace and harmony reign in our lodge.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35

Members present - 72

Dahl Ford owners spoke about history of the Ford Dealership. Jansen spoke on the 1st and 2nd generation, Tyler spoke on the 3rd & 4th generation. Andrew spoke on the 5th generation. They included their Norwegian heritage in Norway. Very interesting and amazing evening. Most of the cars in the museum are from the area.

—Secretary, Kathy Anderson

Treasurer's Report:

Sept 30, 2023 checking balance	\$2896.85
(which includes \$159.91 for Dancers)	
Sept 30, 2023 scholarship balance	\$1101.00
Sept 30, 2023 savings balance	\$12,785.45
Sept 30, 2023 Wergeland has	\$16,783.30



Adrian will have the 2024 calendars (above) for sale at the November meeting. They are \$14 each and are filled with beautiful images!

Gratulerer...

...again to **Kent Sween**, who celebrated his 90th birthday at English Lutheran Church on September 2nd. It was attended by family members, SON members, as well as Church and other friends. Attendees enjoyed a wonderful luncheon with sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres, and decorated cake.



Tusen Takk...

...til **Ramona and Adrian** for arranging such a great trip to Minneapolis. Pictures from the trip will be in the next Budstikken.

The museum has been a popular destination, and as Andrew mentioned, "Everyone has a story about a vehicle!" Lilly Jacobson asked a good



question about whether these cars are driven, and the answer was yes, they try to drive each one at least once a year. Adrian



Johnson, who works at the museum, has borrowed cars from some of our parade appearances.



Program for October: Herbjorn Gausta Sealing the Bargain: A local perspective on his life and Art from the Mountains of Telemark, Norway to Greenfield Prairie, MN.

Sharen Haugerud Storhoff will share the story of the famous Norwegian painter, Herbjorn Gausta. Over the years, she and her family have sought out every church

they could find with a Gausta altar painting. Quite often this coincided with Norwegian meatball dinners. Sharen's home church is Greenfield Lutheran in Harmony, MN where Herbjorn Gausta is buried. Sharen always had a passion for history and the importance of keeping it alive, along with a lifelong pursuit of photography.

From the October Program:

We enjoyed a great evening at the Dahl Auto Museum in La Crosse on October 5th! We had time

before the meeting to view the



beautiful cars on display. Following our meal and short business meeting, Andrew, Tyler, and Jansen (l-r below) outlined the history and progression of the Dahl Automotive legacy. The three brothers are the 5th generation of Dahl auto merchants. Their

Norwegian connections are to the Drangedal (Vestfold og Telemark) and Voss regions.

The local legacy began when Andrew H. Dahl added an option to purchase a Ford vehicle to the General Store in Westby in 1911.

100 years later (2011), the museum was created, which at this time features 47 collector vehicles.





Dis og Dat



Fred Acheampong of Kumasi, Ghana in West Africa was a guest of **Lee Grippen** at the October Sons of Norway meeting at Dahl Museum. Fred is working on a Masters in Business Administration at Viterbo University. He will be here 3 years in his study. He is part of the La Crosse Friends of International Students which Lee Grippen has been involved for about 20 years.



Katarina Gatica, **Kathi Beane's** granddaughter, will be married November 5. Kathi's sister is traveling for the wedding from Virginia. Kathi is returning to Virginia to spend time with her sister and brother-in-law and plans to enjoy the two-week vacation in the mountains.

Diana Hobson of DnA Vintners will be pouring wine at the Norskedalen October event, Toasts and Ghosts, October 28th.

Karen Broadhead and Bev Ranis enjoyed a week's adventure on a holiday bus trip around Lake Michigan. They enjoyed visiting Lambeau Field, Mackinac Island, and Grand Hotel. They ended up at Chicago Navy Pier. It was a great week!

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Looking Back

Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2018

Florence Overgard introduced the program about the Helga Gundersen Arboretum at Norskedalen. Olivia Nottestad was originally scheduled to present the talk and slide show, but she is participating in a 3-month boot camp for the National Guard Reserves so Lori Dubczak, Norskedalen Executive Director described the features of the arboretum and recent changes.

In September, Vivian Sacia and sister Marion Koch went on a Viking Rhine River Getaway Cruise. They embarked in Basel, Switzerland and traveled to Amsterdam with shore excursions in France, Germany, and the Netherlands. They highly recommend Viking Cruises!

Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2013

Jean Davis presented Wayne Burkhardt with two sports awards. He received the Silver and Bronze awards for skiing.

Christine Hall, Executive Director at Norskedalen, will present the program for our November meeting. She will tell about the mission of Norskedalen and of the revitalization changes for Skumsrud Farm, now called the Norskedalen Heritage Site and Skumsrud Farm.

Agnes Heinzel celebrated her 90th birthday with family and many friends at Our Redeemer Church on Sunday, October 20th.

Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2008

Wergeland Lodge will have representatives at Ethnic Night sponsored by the Onalaska Middle School PTO on Thursday, November 6 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. The night showcases the various ethnic cultures that are found in this area. Carolyn Skogen, Hjordis Helgestad, Anne Farning and Frieda Nowland will be demonstrating Norwegian crafts as well as showing craft items and providing samples of traditional food.

Congratulations to Bud Hendrickson who was featured in an article by Larry Olson in the October 6 La Crosse Tribune. Bud was acknowledged for his work in maintaining the nature trail named in his honor in 2005, and for his promotion of appreciation of nature. Bud is described as "a river rat since boyhood, a naturalist for most of his life and just an all-around nice guy."

Roar Moe, who was featured in the July issue of Sons of Norway Viking magazine, will share his story about his nature-life school on the far west coast of Sognefjorden at our November meeting.

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.

2024 Officers Needed!!!

This is a partial listing of next years officers and committees. **As a member of Wergeland Lodge, read over this list and see if you want to continue on with what you did last year.** If you want to be involved on a different committee, let us know. If you don't want to be involved, let the nominating committee know. As you can see by the list, we have several openings. Volunteer and help us have a successful 2024. This is the nominating committee: Ramona Johnson, 608-7887507, Karen Broadhead, 608-788-2485 and Heather Jacobson, 360-259-9935.

Officers

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Counselor: Dave Glomstad

Secretary: Kathy Anderson

Assistant Secretary: Shirley Schoenfeld

Volunteer Coordinator: Adrian Johnson

Treasurer: _____

Assistant Treasure: Kathi Beane

Social Director: Linda Sherwood

Social Committee, Special meals: Dee Johnson

Social Committee. Special Meals: Diana Hobson

Social Committee Jan.-April: Darlene Erickson

Social Committee Jan.-April: Pam Knudtson

Social Committee Aug.-Nov.: Ann Sprain

Social Committee Aug.-Nov.: Lynn Curtis

Co-Foundation Director: Ilene Pavelko

Co-Foundation Director: Karen Saegrove

Sports Director: Carla Burkhardt

Cultural/Program: Lynn Curtis

Cultural/Program: Dave Glomstad

Cultural/Program: Mark Quade

Co-Musician: Karan Mathison

Co-Musician: Ramona Johnson

Historian: Meg Canepa

Greeter and Raffle Sales: Kathi Beane

Greeter: Ron Nowland

Greeter: _____

Raffle Chairperson: Adrian Johnson

Youth Director: Theodora Ranis

Marshall: _____

Marshall: Gary Knudtson

Marshall: Mark Dregne

Marshall: Arlen Henderson

Auditor: 1st Year Adrian Hagen

Auditor: 2nd Year: Jean Davis

The **DECEMBER HERITAGE DINNER** is December 7th at Cedar Creek.



The tickets will be on sale for \$25.00 at our November meeting. Dinner will be served at 6 PM. Reservations need to be in by November 30. Call 608--784-9788, Linda Sherwood, if unable to attend November meeting.

November 29th Bus Trip to Decorah

1. Leave Sam's Club at 10:00 am.

2. Total cost is \$60.00, includes lunch at Mabe's restaurant in Decorah.

3. Admission to Vesterheim is on you. If you are a member, bring your card. \$10.00 for non members.

4. Concert at Luther is free. Bus will leave downtown Decorah at 3:00 for Luther College. Concert is at 4:15.

5. Return home at about 7:00 pm.

If you have not paid yet, send check to Ramona Johnson, 4650 Juniper St. La Crosse, WI 54601. We can add more people to this trip.

Trustee: 1st year

Trustee: 2nd year

Budstikken Editor: Carla Burkhardt

Picture Editor: _____

Webmaster: _____

Librarian: Pam Knudtson

Stamps Chairperson: Marilyn Rudser

Goodwill Fliptops: Vivian Sacia

Wergeland Dancer Director: Sandra Kawaski

Annual Duties

Community Theater Usher Chair

Salvation Army Bell Ringing Chair: Carla Burkhardt

Scholarship Committee: Carla Burkhardt

Scholarship Committee: _____

Installing Officer 2024: David Glomstad

Installing Officer 2024: Karen Broadhead

Installing Officer 2024: Pam Knudtson

Nominating Committee 2024 _____

Nominating Committee 2024 _____

Nominating Committee 2024 _____

Nominating Committee 2024 _____

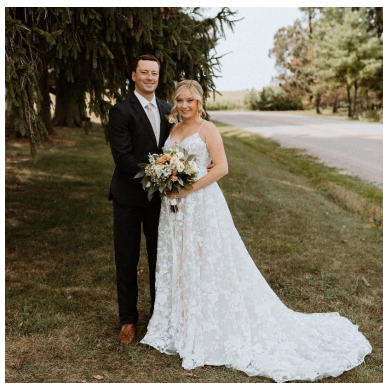
Dis og Dat con't from p. 4

Kent and Mary Sween became great-grandparents to a little girl in August.

Arlan and Doris Henderson hosted a group of Norwegians in September. They have hosted groups for about 20 years. After coffee, Arlan took them on a hay ride and gave a demonstration of sawing a log on his sawmill. Sons of Norway guests were **Al and Julia Forde, Royce and Lynn Curtis, and Lee Grip-pen.**

Bride **Emma Johnson Webster**

(granddaughter of **Ramona and Adrian Johnson**) was married in La Crosse in September. Emma was a recipient of a Wergeland Scholarship and is now a Speech Therapist in La Crosse. Colin is a fireman with the La Crosse Fire Department.



Sylvia and Gregg Attleson were able to attend the dedication of the new Commons at Vesterheim in Decorah. It is a beautiful new resource for Vesterheim, designed by Snøhetta of Norway. They did also meet up with **Nancy and John Solberg and Karen Saegrove**, who also attended.

From the news release about the building: "With 7,600 square feet spread across three levels and almost an acre of surrounding landscaped patio, the new **Vesterheim Commons building** physically links the past and the future...and enriches the Vesterheim visitor experience for those coming to Decorah...Find more about the Commons building at strongrootsboldfuture.org.



Norwegian Dinner Bake Sale

Saturday – November 4

Meatballs \$16.00

Meatballs/Lutefisk \$20.00

Potatoes, Rutabagas, Lefse, Cranberries,
Norwegian Baking, Milk and Coffee
Served Restaurant style.

Serving from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

No advance sale of tickets

Carry-outs Available

Our Saviors Lutheran Church
359 North Leonard St. – West
Salem, Wi

Blair Lutheran Church
invites you to their...

FALL FESTIVAL
with
MEATBALL DINNER!

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023

Serving 11 am - 5 pm

126 S Peterson Avenue, Blair, WI

Dinner Cost: \$15:00

Children 6-10 \$8.00, Children 5 and under free

Menu: Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Corn, Cranberries,
Dinner Rolls, Lefse, Pickles, Coffee, Milk and Dessert.

The day will include tractor rides, bake sale, basket raffle and activities for both adults and children.

The grant and scholarship applications are now open on the website!

We offer over a dozen scholarship opportunities for study in the US, Norway and beyond. Each fund caters to different interests and comes with different requirements so take some time to review. Please note: application deadlines are changing this year, so please check each early 2024 deadline carefully.

We also offer three different grants: Community Partnership Grant, Lodge Heritage & Culture Grant, and the Lodge Vitality Grant. Take advantage of these opportunities to host a lodge event or program in your community. Deadline remains December 31, 2023 for Spring 2024 awards.

The humanitarian grants continue to run year-round: Helping Hands to Children Grant, Helping Hands to Members – Disaster Relief Grants, and the Helping Hands to Members – Medical Relief Grants.

Information on grants and scholarships are available on our website at <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/>

Norwegian Sweaters

It is well known that Norwegian sweaters have unmistakable characteristics and have stood the test of time. So how did they come to be?

It is believed that Norwegian sweaters have been knitted since the fifteenth century. They were knitted using local wool and plant-based dyes. The original hand-knit sweater known as the lusekofte is named after the “lice” stitch used in the sweater. Some of the other first patterns used in the sweaters were the Selburose motif and the Fana pattern. Over time, patterns, colors, and styles have evolved with new knitting techniques, tools, and dyes.

Today, Dale of Norway is one of the most well-known Norwegian sweater manufacturers. They have made the sweaters for the Norwegian Ski Team in the Olympics since 1956. The Marius-sweater is the other most common Norwegian sweater. In fact, it is the most hand-knitted pattern in Norway, making it a Norwegian icon. Not only are the sweaters loved within Norway, they have spread to other countries and have been adored by many others,” she says to newspaper VG.



Photo credit: norwegian sweaters.com

The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald by Gordon Lightfoot

The legend lives on from the Chippewa on down
Of the big lake they called Gitche Gumee
The lake, it is said, never gives up her dead
When the skies of November turn gloomy
With a load of iron ore twenty-six thousand tons more
Than the Edmund Fitzgerald weighed empty
That good ship and true was a bone to be chewed
When the gales of November came early

The ship was the pride of the American side
Coming back from some mill in Wisconsin
As the big freighters go, it was bigger than most
With a crew and good captain well seasoned
Concluding some terms with a couple of steel firms
When they left fully loaded for Cleveland
And later that night when the ship's bell rang,
Could it be the north wind they'd been feelin'?

The wind in the wires made a tattle-tale sound
And a wave broke over the railing
And every man knew, as the captain did too
T'was the witch of November come stealin'
The dawn came late and the breakfast had to wait
When the gales of November came slashin'
When afternoon came it was freezin' rain
In the face of a hurricane west wind

When suppertime came, the old cook came on deck sayin'
"Fellas, it's too rough to feed ya"
At seven PM, a main hatchway caved in, he said
"Fellas, it's been good to know ya"
The captain wired in he had water comin' in
And the good ship and crew was in peril
And later that night when his lights went outta sight
Came the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald

Does any one know where the love of God goes
When the waves turn the minutes to hours?
The searchers all say they'd have made Whitefish Bay
If they'd put fifteen more miles behind her
They might have split up or they might have capsized
They may have broke deep and took water
And all that remains is the faces and the names
Of the wives and the sons and the daughters

Lake Huron rolls, Superior sings
In the rooms of her ice-water mansion
Old Michigan steams like a young man's dreams
The islands and bays are for sportsmen
And farther below Lake Ontario
Takes in what Lake Erie can send her
And the iron boats go as the mariners all know
With the gales of November remembered

In a musty old hall in Detroit they prayed
In the maritime sailors' cathedral
The church bell chimed 'til it rang twenty-nine times
For each man on the Edmund Fitzgerald
The legend lives on from the Chippewa on down
Of the big lake they called Gitche Gumee
Superior, they said, never gives up her dead
When the gales of November come early



November 10, 1975: May you and the crew always rest in peace Big Fitz.

Sons of Norway
Wergeland Lodge #5/028
P.O. Box 3591
La Crosse, WI 54602-3591

NOVEMBER 2023



OFFICERS TO CONTACT BETWEEN MEETINGS

President- Ramona Johnson 608-788-7507
e-mail: r16464650@gmail.com

Vice President-

Membership Secretary - Kathi Beane 608-783-3037
e-mail: beane.kath@eagle.uwlax.edu
Send notices of address changes to the Membership Secretary

Secretary - Kathy Anderson 608-269-6193
e-mail: mkandersonfarm@yahoo.com
Send notices of deaths to the Assistant Secretary, Carol Pestel. Phone #608-386-4274.

Editor - Carla Burkhardt 608-317-3262
e-mail: carla.burkhardt8696@gmail.com

Treasurer-- Adrian Johnson 608-386-3460
e-mail: r16464650@gmail.com

Sons of Norway Fraternal Benefit Counselor -
Helge Enok Vestnes 715-878-9646
W1741 Easterson Rd. Eleva, WI 54738
e-mail: hevestnes@gmail.com

Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center

Hours From Nov - Apr:

Monday-Saturday from 9am--4pm
Sunday from 11am--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