



Budstikken



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

January 2018

Volume 53, Issue 1

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**Next meeting: Thursday, January 4, 2018, 7:00 PM at
Harry J. Olson Center, 1607 North Street, La Crosse**



Program for January

Dream Trip to Norway Over the years, Lee and Gayle Grippen have hosted 27 Youth For Understanding (YFU) exchange students in their Caledonia home for a year each. Twelve of them, all Norwegian, surprised Lee on his 70th birthday with a free all-expense paid trip to Norway to celebrate Syttende Mai and meet his Norwegian families. The students and their families hosted Lee with several parties and outings to create the trip of a lifetime for Lee. Lee and Gayle volunteered with YFU since 1974 and have placed over 500 students in the Tri Sate area homes. It has given the family so many wonderful experiences through the years and they keep in contact with many of them thanks to the technology of the day. Lee will share the trip with Wergeland on Thursday Jan. 4. Also, the following 2018 Wergeland Officers will be installed:

President	Dave Glomstad
Vice President	Ramona Johnson
Counselor	Adrian Johnson
Secretary	Kathi Beane
Assist. Secretary	Ann Kathan
Membership Secretary	Shirley Schoenfeld
Treasurer	Mark Dregne
Assistant Treasurer	Marilyn Rudser
Co-Social Directors -Special events	Ramona Johnson, Betsy Stannard, Florence Overgard & Doris Henderson
Co-Social Directors	Linda Sherwood, Sue Corbisier
Co-Foundation Directors	Ilene Pavelko and Beverly Nelson
Youth Directors	Hayli McQuire & Montaya
Sports Director	Carla Burkhardt
Cultural Director	Mark Quade; Frieda Nowland as resource
Co Musicians	Karan Mathison and Ramona Johnson
Historian	Karen Broadhead
Greeters & Raffle Sales	Orlando and Carole Wadel
Assistant Greeters	Ron and Frieda Nowland
Marshals	Richard Marking (Lead), Arlen Henderson, Fred Johnson, Gary Corbisier, Gary Knudtson, and Dan Hammes
Auditors	Dee Johnson (1st Yr), Marilyn Rudser (2nd Yr), Marlene McCabe (3rd Yr, chair)
Trustees	Dennis Sprain (1st Yr), Dan Hammes (2nd Yr), Agnetha Ames (3rd Yr, chair)
Budstikken Editor	Carla Burkhardt
Publicity Director	Carol Stekel

Wergeland Kalender

- ♦ Jan 4, at Harry J. Olson Center, 1607 North St, La Crosse
- ♦ Jan 9, 5:30 pm, Board meeting at Perkins on Hwy 16 near the mall
- ♦ Jan 15, Deadline for Budstikken articles
- ♦ Jan 22, 11:00 am, Convention Steering Committee meets at the Radisson
- ♦ Jan 24, Budstikken mailed to members
- ♦ Feb 1, 7:00 General meeting



If you signed up to bring sandwiches, cake, or pickles for the January meeting, please do so. Members are asked to donate \$3 per person at the lunch table for lodge expenses.



January Birthdays

- 1 Kierra Rudser
- 3 Elverda Guberud
- 6 Dave Skogen
- 7 Carlie Burkhardt
- 9 Peter Linnert
- 12 Laura Ira
- 13 Brian Kirby
- 16 Gary Corbisier
- 17 Rita Sanger
- 19 Vickie Docken
- 20 Char Vangen
- 21 Roger Olsen
- 21 Dorothy Paulikas
- 21 Roland Solberg
- 21 Dennis Sprain
- 22 Jarvis "Doc" Brudos
- 22 Randolph Eddy
- 23 Janice Johnson
- 26 Liesl Allen
- 28 Mike Finn
- 28 Sarah Hubbard
- 30 Gene Gaarder
- 31 Bernice Herder

More photos from the Banquet (thank you Stekels for taking pictures):



(right) Carla Burkhardt, Char Vangen and Linda Sherwood, who is wearing her mother's Oslo bunad.

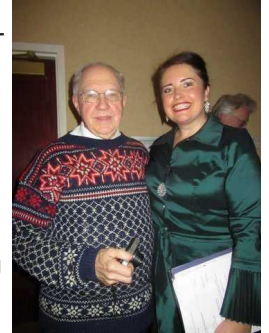


Program for February

Did Viking warriors actually play chess? Come to the February program and hear Ron Nowland tell about elaborate chess sets that were found in 1833 buried underground off the coast of Scotland. Pictures and commentary about the history of chess will show that these chessmen were undoubtedly made in Norway. If you have a chess set, bring it along and we can compare it to the Viking chessmen.

From the December Wergeland Banquet on December 7

Rachel Grippen-Storlie (pictured with proud father **Lee Grippen**) demonstrated her excellent musical ability, performing a variety of classical, holiday and traditional Norwegian songs. Rachel recently performed at Carnegie Hall in New York.



Congratulations to the newest Golden Members!

Seven Wergeland members (7) have become Golden Members and are the last ones that get the deduction from SON International (hence giving the award now rather than the at the May Syttende Mai Dinner): **Charlene Harnish, Ingrid Fowler, Leif Marking, Vilda Olsen, Vivian Sacia, James Halvorson, and Leann Theisen.**



Leif Marking (left, with Kathi Beane and Dick Marking), **James Halvorson, Charlene Harnish, and Leann Theisen** (below, left, seated with Carolyn Sorenson, Beverly Ranis, Karen Saegrove, and Karen Broadhead) were present at the dinner to receive their free dinner, flower, certificates and pins. The others will receive the

certificates and pins when they attend a meeting or if someone would take it to them. Our lodge honors the 30-year members every May, but they no longer will get a dues reduction. The next four to be honored are **Sandy Mattie, Don Peterson, Shirley Schoenfeld, and Carol Marking.** In May, we will also give the newest 25-year members their pins and flowers.



Til minner om...

...**Florence L. Moe-Olson** (95) died Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017. (Name corrected from the December Budstikken) She joined Sons of Norway in Feb. 1978 and had been an active member of Our Redeemer Church for many years, and had been a social worker for La Crosse County. Our sympathy to her family.

Wergeland's District 5 Convention Steering Committee has been meeting monthly for over a year now, and plans are well on their way. Each member has been lining up the many facets of the convention. The food committee has planned the meal choices for breakfasts, lunches, dinners at the Radisson. The cultural committee has planned many choices for learning how to do Norwegian sewing, and other fun things with talented teachers. Please see Carol Stekel or Frieda to sign up for the classes.

We continue to raise funds to run the convention, with Gary Knudtson in charge. Be sure to see him at the meetings and **purchase tickets** to have chance to win some great prizes at the convention. Ann Kathan and Ramona Johnson are busy with being the chairs of the convention, to have the final word on all other committees. Adrian Johnson, Convention Treasurer, has been depositing funds, and paying the bills for the convention.



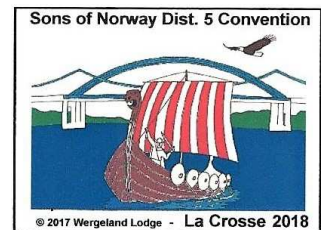
Bridging Our Heritage



Sons of Norway District 5 Convention La Crosse 2018

Adrian and Ramona have selected the **T-Shirts** we will be selling. Wergeland members are encouraged to **purchase** their T-Shirts early, so we can use them as publicity. To the left is the picture that will be placed on the front. They can be ordered in all sizes – S, M, L, XL for \$12 and 1XL, 2XL, and 3XL for \$15. We can be wearing ours right away, and you might want to wear it while helping at the convention. For those working for the convention, you can fill out a registration form with your T-Shirt order, because your registration will be free. You may attend the speaker sessions and go to the vendors. You can also purchase meals and tours on the form. For those of you not working, you can register for \$25 and get a registration bag, and go to the speakers and vendors, plus may purchase meals – breakfast buffet, lunches, dinners.

On the registration form, you may order **Convention Pins** (see image to the right) for \$5 and the T-Shirts. Check with Adrian, Gary Knudtson, or Shirley Schoenfeld to get your order form. By working at the convention, you will also have a special name tag to wear. Forms will be available at the January meeting. All registrations will be turned in to Shirley Schoenfeld to record, and then processed through our convention Treasury.



We thank Dave Glomstad for making the design for these, and we are using the theme **“Bridging Our Heritage”** and the logo inspires our La Crosse Mississippi bridge, and the Viking Ship.

Thanks to all of our members who have and are willing to work at the convention. If you haven't signed up to work, please see Ramona, Carol, Gary, or Shirley. We won't be able to select our Delegates until February or March, and those who represent our lodge in that way have some of the costs paid by our SON Treasury. If you are asked, please know that the board believes you would be a good representative. Also, at the next meetings, please support the convention with by signing up as a “Well Wisher” for \$2.00 each. Your name will go in the convention program.

Velkommen til Wergeland...

...**Carl Johnson** has a retail business and commercial property management. He is the owner of Coalition Drum Shop (next to Dave's Guitar Shop). He is married to Lisa, and they have three children; Anna – 23, Emma – 20, and Joshua – 17. He wants to travel to Norway someday soon, and he has an interest in family history. His parents are Adrian and Ramona Johnson. He likes drumming, photography, and family.

...**Lisa Johnson**, who is married to Carl (above). She works for Logistics Health, Inc. as a Registered Nurse in Clinical Operations. She is an RN and BSN. Lisa is about 80% Norwegian – Grew up in the very Norwegian community of Peterson MN. In 1985, she was a Princess for the annual “Gammel Dag Days” in Peterson. She likes to run, bike, travel, decorate, flower garden, and be with her family. *Get to know them at coffee time after the meetings.*

Lodge Officer Duties

Have you just been elected to a new officer position within your lodge? The following brief summary of duties for the top six local lodge officers may prove helpful:

President: The president is the highest-ranking officer and has general supervision over the lodge. He or she serves as the 'team leader' who appoints committees, presides over meetings, encourages the activities of fellow lodge officers and helps to plan lodge programming.

Vice President: The vice president serves as the driving force behind membership recruitment and retention strategies, usually serving as chair of the membership committee. He or she should also be prepared to replace the president if the need arises.

Secretary: The secretary's primary function is to keep accurate and impartial records of all meetings of the lodge and of the board of directors. He or she also serves as the primary communicator between the lodge and its members.

Membership Secretary: These officers collect new membership applications, process requests to transfer membership and inform Sons of Norway Headquarters of membership cancellations and deaths. The membership secretary is the primary communicator between the lodge and Sons of Norway Headquarters. The membership secretary focuses on the administration of membership as described in the first paragraph.

Treasurer: The responsibilities of the lodge treasurer include handling all incoming and outgoing funds, keeping accurate accounting records and preparing fiscal reports. He or she should also be present when the financial books are audited. The Assistant Treasurer assists the Treasurer with the receipts, and takes the place of the Treasurer in his/her absence.

Social Director: The social director plans and supervises the social activities of the lodge. He or she works closely with any other officers who have a programming focus, such as the Cultural Director, Sports and Recreation Director, and Youth Director.

Our lodge has detailed Wergeland Officer Duty sheets for all officers. Contact Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld, Membership Secretary, SASLAX@aol.com.

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.

Sons of Norway Foundation

The Sons of Norway Foundation awards 25 scholarships to promising students each year. The programs promote cultural exchange and support higher education to help students follow their dreams. Although application deadlines vary from Jan. 15 to April 1, 2018, it is not too early to think about applying. More information on the following 2018 Foundation funds can be found at www.sofn.com/foundation.

The following scholarships have an application deadline of January 15, 2018:

The King Olav V Norwegian-American Heritage Scholarship

The Oslo International Summer School Scholarship

The Helen Tronvold Norwegian Folk High School Scholarship

The Helen Tronvold Adult Learner Scholarship

The Lund Fund Scholarship

The Douglas Warne – Rolf & Wenche Eng Scholarship

These scholarships have later deadlines:

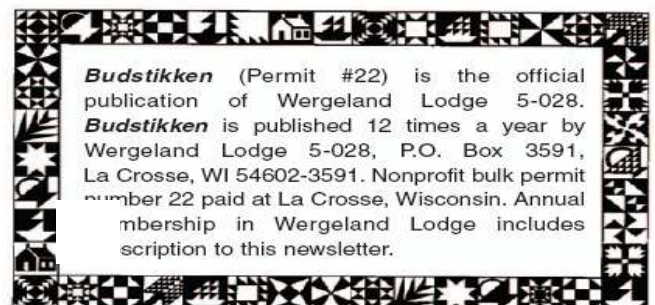
The Astrid G. Cates and Myrtle Beinhauer Fund application deadline is March 1, 2018.

The Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship Fund application deadline is April 1, 2018.

The Orel and Marie Winjum Memorial Scholarship application deadline is March 1, 2018.

The Sons of Norway Foundation is dedicated to funding activities that preserve and promote Norwegian heritage, positively affect members, and make Sons of Norway communities more vibrant places to live. For more information about Sons of Norway Foundation scholarships, contact scholarships@sofn.com call (800) 945-8851, or check out the web site at www.sofn.com/foundation. Each scholarship may have specific criteria that applicants must meet.

Soon we will have the new applications available for our local Wergeland Scholarships.



Karen's Korner

God Dag from your librarian! I retired, traveled, and was out of commission for a while. Hopefully I am back to resume the librarian position.

Each winter I feature the Christmas customs of a foreign country. Since the Winter Olympics will begin in February, 2018, I am reporting to you about the country of Greece, where the Olympics originated. Since the Christmas celebration in Greece flows into Epiphany, this article seemed appropriate for the January Budstikken.

On Christmas Eve, children visit neighbor's houses to sing Kalandas (carols) and are rewarded with coins, sweets, nuts, and dried figs. The kids might play little drums, triangles, and carry little boats. Carrying a small boat is an old custom in the Greek Islands. Later, most will attend the traditional Christmas Eve service in the Greek Orthodox Church. In this maritime country there is usually a boat placed in the town square and decorated. Decorated fir trees are also becoming a popular addition.

The Kallikantzarol (bad spirits) that come from Middle Earth, try to enter the houses through the chimney during the 12 days of Christmas. They are mischievous spirits, putting out the fires, spoiling the milk, etc. Fires are usually lit in the fireplaces during the 12 days to keep the spirits away. The mother of the household places a cross wrapped in basil in a bowl of water. Each day she dips the basil-wrapped cross in Holy Water, and sprinkles each room to keep the house safe from spirits.

Christmas Day meal includes either lamb or pork; spinach & cheese pie; salads vegetables; Baklava. Another special dessert is Melomakarona, honey cakes rolled in chopped walnuts. Each table is usually decorated with Christopsoma (Christ's Bread or Christmas Bread), made with cinnamon, oranges, and cloves, with the shape of a cross on top. Breakfast can begin with Kalaufi, shredded phyllo dough with nuts & cinnamon. Or, Theeples, fried pastry.

On January 1, St. Basil's Day, the Vasilopita (St. Basil's Cake) is cut. The 1st piece for Christ, 2nd piece for the Virgin Mary, 3rd piece for the house, the remaining cake sliced for the those around the table in order of age. The one finding a gold coin in their slice has a year of good luck. In coastal towns, there is a piece sliced to honor the boat. In farm communities, a piece is sliced to honor the fields and pastures. On this day, the children receive presents by Aghios Vassilis (St. Basil the Great).

January 6 is another celebration day -- Epiphany, the Baptism of Jesus. It is also the Blessing of the Waters. Young men jump into lakes and waters that are blessed by a priest who tosses in a cross. The first to retrieve the

cross is supposed to have a year of good luck. The celebration includes blessings of boats & ships; music, dancing, and food.

I have found that there are many similarities among the various countries. The celebration is usually centered around a church service. There are gatherings of family and friends, special foods, decorations, gifts, music, festivals of significant days, all with the special flavorings of the location. I hope that this season is special to you, filled with the customs and traditions that are dear to you.

KALACHRISTOUGENNA! (Happy Christmas)

Karen Scarseth, Librarian

(Information was obtained through various internet sites).

Sons of Norway selling headquarters

After 55 years at 1455 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, the Sons of Norway International headquarters building and its surrounding property have been sold to Ryan Companies and Weidner Apartment Homes.



Considered to be a premier location in the Uptown neighborhood, the property has been home to Sons of Norway since 1962. The Sons of Norway plans to continue business operations on the current site when

redevelopment is complete, including its financial services and international cultural associations and opportunities.

According to Tony Barranco, Ryan's vice president of real estate development, "Working with Sons of Norway has been fascinating as we have grown to understand the organization not only as a business but as a cultural icon. As much as we'd like to save the headquarters building, it is old and riddled with hazardous materials."

Although design ideas are merely preliminary, Barranco envisions a mixed-use building, including commercial and residential space, assuming the zoning laws allow for it. He also sees Sons of Norway as the anchor, a long-term tenant on the first floor with a destination café or restaurant and plenty of green space. He feels it will offer Sons of Norway a very visible presence in Uptown, which recognizes its contribution to the area.

Within six to eight months, Sons of Norway will move to a temporary home, which is yet to be determined. Along with it will move the Minneapolis Honorary Consulate General of Norway, which is currently housed at the Sons of Norway headquarters. Both Sons of Norway and Ryan Companies expect Sons of Norway to be back on Lake Street by early 2020, just in time to celebrate the organization's 125th anniversary.

The above is adapted from an article by Leslee Lane Hoyum that originally appeared in the Aug. 25, 2017, issue of The Norwegian American, www.norwegianamerican.com.

Looking Back

Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2013

The January meeting was held at the American Legion Hall, and the program featured Ron and Frieda Nowland and Al and Julia Forde sharing stories of artifacts that are part of their family's history.

Wergeland member Rana Limbo was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, one of the most prestigious honors in the field of nursing.

Seventeen Unger Venner members received \$200 scholarships toward their college expenses at the January meeting.

Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2008

John and Ruth Monson showed slides of Norway at the January meeting. They have assembled a large collection of pictures from their times when they visited, lived and worked in Norway.

Officers for 2008 were installed at the January meeting. Bing Skogen served another term as president of Wergeland Lodge.

Wergeland members Jensine Wing and Ann Gronbeck-Peterson were included among the regional artists at the Holiday Art Show at the Pump House.

Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2003

The January program featured Ben and Linda Lind from Houston, MN, who shared their knowledge of Scandinavian kicksleds. They brought several sleds for demonstration purposes.

Wergeland Lodge has 42 golden members whose combined years of membership total 1,494!



Gratulerer til...

...Stephanie and Stan Howe who had a new baby boy November 26. His name is **Winston** Orlando Howe, and he has two brothers - **Wyatt** and **Waylon**, and one sister - **Willow**, who are Heritage members of our lodge. His Grandma **Kerry Stokke**, Great Grandmother **Shirley Schoenfeld**, Aunt **Kristy Stokke**, Stephanie's cousins **Karen DeSchepper** and **Heather Larson** are also members



Members **Heather Larson**, **Shirley Schoenfeld**, **Karen DeSchepper**, **Peggy Schoenfeld**, **Kristy Stokke Reich**, **Silvy Stokke Reich**, **Stephanie Howe**, **Winston Stokke Howe**, **Marissa Langaard**, and **Kelsey Langaard** all got together on Dec. 16th for a baby shower for Heather at Shirley's house. Heather is Tony's daughter, who came down from the Cities for the day. Heather is due to have a girl in February. It was a good time for the cousins and relatives, who are all SON members.

Rotary Lights program

On December 13th, many of our SON members sang carols in the Rotary Lights tent. The weather was mild, and that went well. Following the carols, the SON Dancers performed, and Buddy Rundhaugen from Nordskedalen played the accordion. We had a large number in the audience that sang carols with us.



A little in English...

Ylvis creates a new TV series

Ylvis tells strange stories from Norway. Accompanied by music. It will be something new and unusual. Brothers Bård and Vegard Ylvisåker are making a whole new type of television program. «Stories from Norway» will appear on the channel TV Norge next year.

The program is about weird Norwegian stories. Ylvis jokes about how we exaggerate little things. Then they create dramatic musicals out of these events. One example is when artist Justin Bieber came to visit.

«The idea with this series is to describe various stories around Norway. Some of these stories are very famous. For example, the Bieber visit and the theft of the painting 'The Scream',» says Bård Ylvisåker.

Other odd stories are less well-known. This applies, for example, to the diving platform in Hamar in Hedmark. The platform became much more expensive than planned.

«The budget broke 2,000 percent,» says Bård Ylvisåker. He adds: «We have always enjoyed finding humor in real-life things. So we also interview people who have experienced whatever we are investigating. Then we look at what they say, and what kind of fun things come up,» he explains.

TV Norway announced this new series on its 2018 line-up. The channel will also show new episodes of older shows in 2018. Both the series *Neste sommer* (Next Summer) and *Helt perfekt* (Absolutely Perfect) will have new episodes. The entertainment programs *Mandagsklubben* (Monday Club) and *Brille* (Lens) continue as well.

Additionally, returning to reality TV are *71 grader nord – Norges tøffeste kjendis* (71 Degrees North – Norway's Toughest Celebrity), *4-stjerners middag* (4-Star Dinner), *Gift ved første blick* (Married at First Sight), *Sinnasnekker'n* (The Mad Carpenter), and *Jegertvillingene* (The Hunting Twins).

Danskebåten (The Danish Boat) and *Vintereventyret* (The Winter Adventure) are two new reality series. They are about life on the boat *Stena Saga* and about tourism in northern Norway.

Litt på Norsk...

Ylvis lager ny TV-serie

Ylvis forteller rare historier fra Norge. Med musikk til. Det blir noe helt nytt og rart.

Brødrene Bård og Vegard Ylvisåker lager en helt ny type TV-program. «Stories from Norway» vises på kanalen TV Norge neste år.

Programmet handler om rare, norske historier. Ylvis spøker med hvordan vi overdriver små ting. Så skaper de dramatiske musikal av hendelsene. Et eksempel er da artisten Justin Bieber kom på besøk.

Tanken med denne serien er å beskrive ulike historier rundt om i Norge. Noen av disse fortellingene er veldig kjente. For eksempel Bieber-besøket og tyveriet av maleriet «Skrik», forteller Bård Ylvisåker.

Andre rare historier er mindre kjente. Det gjelder for eksempel stupetårnet i Hamar i Hedmark. Tårnet ble mye dyrere enn planlagt.

– Budsjettet sprakk med 2,000 prosent, sier Bård Ylvisåker. Han legger til: – Vi har alltid likt å lage humor som kommer fra virkelige ting. Derfor har vi også intervjuer med folk som opplevde det vi undersøker. Så ser vi på det de sier og hva slags gøy ting som oppstår, forklarer han.

TV Norge fortalte om den nye serien på sin lansering av TV i 2018. Kanalen viser også nye episoder av gamle serier i 2018. Både humorserien «Neste sommer» og «Helt perfekt» får nye episoder. Underholdnings-programmene «Mandagsklubben» og «Brille» fortsetter også.

I tillegg blir det gjensyn med reality-TV som «71 grader nord – Norges tøffeste kjendis», «4-stjerners middag», «Gift ved første blick», «Sinnasnekker'n», og «Jegertvillingene».

«Danskebåten» og «Vintereventyret» er to nye reality-serier. De handler om livet på båten *Stena Saga* og om turismen i Nord-Norge.

Tusen Takk...

Ushering for La Crosse Community Theatre

Wergeland Lodge provided 12 Ushers for two shows at the Weber Center on Dec. 9th and 10th. Thank you to all that participated in this community event.

Ringning Bells to Support Salvation Army

Thank you to all of you that rang bells for the Salvation Army at Onalaska Festival Foods store.



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

JANUARY 2018



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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La Crosse, WI 54601

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Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center
Hours From Jan 1 - Apr 30:
Monday-Friday from 8am--4pm
Saturdays 10am--3pm
Sunday from 11am--3pm



Guided homestead tours, when a guide is available, will be at 10 am, 1 pm and 3 pm Monday through Saturday, and 1 and 3 pm on Sundays. Self guided audio tours will be available in any event.

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."

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