



# Budstikken



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

October 2017

Volume 52, Issue 10

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## fra Redaktøren ...



It is officially the season of Autumn and, right on schedule, the leaves are starting to turn colors (and/or fall off of the trees). Many people LOVE Fall, and yes, it can be a very beautiful season with quite lovely days. But Fall is my least favorite season! Why? Because it only gets worse!!! The *thought* of winter is often worse than winter itself.

I have to admit that good things do happen at this time of year. The Lutefisk and/or Meatball suppers abound. And the fall festivals celebrating apples, cranberries, and beer fill the weekends. This month, we give a very special congratulations to Wergeland member Brian Rude for being named the 2017 Oktoberfest Festmaster!

Our October meeting takes us back to the immigration of our forefathers. We will hear of Cleng Peerson's assistance to newcomers to America. So many of us have heard the stories of our own families, and hopefully those are written down for future generations. I have also read "The Diary of Elisabeth Koren, 1853-1855" which gives a very detailed accounting of crossing the Atlantic and making their way to northeast Iowa. I recommend it if you have not read it yet.

Enjoy the nice weather.... because we all know what's coming!

Carla Burkhardt  
Newsletter Editor



## Wergeland Kalender

- ♦ Oct 5, General meeting at Harry J. Olson Center, 1607 North St, La Crosse
- ♦ Oct 10, 8:30 am, Board meeting at Perkins on Hwy 16 near the mall
- ♦ Oct 16, 11:00 am, Convention Steering Committee meets at the Radisson
- ♦ Oct 16, Deadline for Budstikken articles
- ♦ Oct 25, Budstikken mailed to members.
- ♦ Nov 2, 7:00 General meeting at Harry J. Olson center

**Next meeting: Thursday, October 5, 2017, 7:00 PM at  
Harry J. Olson Center, 1607 North Street, La Crosse**



## Program for October

Lilv Marit Haakenstad, genealogist and historian from Hamar, Norway, is visiting the area and will give a program about Cleng Peerson. Cleng Peerson brought the first boatload of Norwegians to America (New York) and later brought people to the Midwest as well as Texas. Prior to the above program, Corrie Maki Knudson, the new Sons of Norway Foundation Director, will bring us up to date on Foundation things.

### Lunch providers for October 5 meeting

**Sandwiches** (2½ dozen): Julia Forde, Bev Mahlum, Annette Sherry, Ann Sprain, Kathi Bean, Mark Dregne

**Cakes** (18 pcs): Ramona Johnson, Frieda Nowland, Bev Ranis, Doris Henderson, Carla Burkhardt, Darlene Erickson, Karan Mathison, Audrey Olsen, Dee Johnson

**Members are asked to donate \$3 per person at the lunch table for lodge expenses.**



## October Birthdays

- 1 Karan Mathison
- 4 Ruth Ann Holm
- 4 Donald Melby
- 10 Corey Forrester
- 12 Richard Anderson
- 13 Beverly Arity
- 14 Jean Giese
- 14 Madonna Hansen
- 16 Nancy Beguin
- 16 Royce Curtis
- 17 Alexander Johnson
- 17 Jackson Yenor
- 19 Carolyn Sorenson
- 20 Edward Davig
- 20 Dean Dickinson
- 21 Sandy Mattie
- 21 Peggy Schoenfeld
- 22 Agnetha Ames
- 23 Johanna Ender
- 29 Cary Ivalis
- 30 Robin Cosby
- 31 Darlene Erickson
- 31 Judean Everson

## Program for November

Our program for November has changed. We can't compete with Rachel Storlie being asked to sing at Carnegie Hall! Instead we will have a program about kubbestols, information from a Master Carver and from a beginner who recently took a class on kubbestol carving at Vesterheim (the photo to the right is a hint at who speaker may be...).



## Sekretær Notater...

### Minutes of the September 7, 2017 meeting

The meeting was held at our Savior's Lutheran Church at 6th and Division in La Crosse, Wi.

The evening began with President Glomstad welcoming all and the singing of the three national anthems. Mary Sween then introduced our program for the evening. Bonnie and Michael Jorgensen shared their second presentation about the Norwegian-American composer Theodora Cormontan. Through music and lecture, we were given an insight to the composer and singer of earlier times.

During the brief intermission, a free well offering was collected. President Glomstad shared announcements.

At the conclusion of the program at 8:15 p.m. all were invited to share in an ice cream social. There were 68 in attendance for the evening program.

Recorded by

Kathi Beane  
Assistant Secretary



Bonnie and Michael Jurgensen, pictured to the left and middle, presented the piano and vocal compositions of Theodora Cormontan (1840-1922), above right, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in La Crosse on September 7.

## Til minner om...

...**Janice Storlie** (78) died Sept. 11, 2017. She has been a member of Wergeland for over 9 years, and had moved to Houston MN from Onalaska when she became ill. Our sincere sympathy to her family. If you would like to send a card: send it to Erik Storlie at 3210 West Owasso Blvd, Shoreview, MN 55126.

## Condolences til...

..the family of **Lois Fruechtie**, a member for 9 years ending in April 2013. She died 8/23/17 and her funeral was held at Our Redeemer on 8/30/17. Her husband Merv is also deceased.

## Velkommen til Wergeland...

**Dave and Barb Skogen** of Onalaska, WI.  
**Blake M. Skogen** of River Falls, WI - he is in college now. Unge Venner member and **Carolyn Skogen's** grandson.

## Looking Ahead...

At the board meeting, we decided to participate in **Rotary Lights**, and have a Tree there again. More information on that will come later. We will ask for early in December.

**Ushering** at the Weber Center on Dec. 9 and 10. Please call Ramona if you will volunteer to do that.

The **Heritage dinner** will be held Dec. 7 at the Radisson Hotel. We have arranged for a Norwegian meat ball meal. Start to make your plans now for a early Christmas dinner. Social hour will be at 5:00, dinner will be served at 6:00. Price per ticket is \$22.00. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Oct. meeting.

## Gratulerer til...

(or should we say "Glückwünsche an") Wergeland member **Brian Rude for** being named the 2017 Oktoberfest Festmaster! Taken from the biography oktoberfestusa.com: "Brian and Karen Rude will reign as Festmaster and Frau of the 57th Oktoberfest celebration starting Thursday, September 28, 2017. The couple were announced at the Festmaster Ball on Saturday, August 26 at the La Crosse Center. They reside in Coon Valley. Brian Rude is Vice President of External and Member Relations of Dairyland Power, based in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Dairyland is a generation and transmission cooperative serving 600,000 consumers in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. Karen is a pediatric nurse practitioner at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse."

# CONVENTION

# CORNER

Our convention will be held on June 27th thru the 30th, 2018. The steering committee is back to work after August's hiatus.

The Ways and Means Committee is selling raffle tickets. Some of the prizes to be raffled are: Hardanger doily - white with blue and white motifs, men and women's Norwegian sweaters, women's Norwegian jacket, framed Norwegian pictures, rosemaled plate, child's Norwegian picnic table, acanthus carved and rosemaled trunk, cash prizes \$300, \$200, \$100, plus other quality prizes. See Gary Knudtson if you want to buy tickets, view the prizes, have something to donate or would help sell tickets.

The committee is also working on convention booklet advertising and sponsor form advertising. Lodge members may add their names to the convention booklet's well-wishers category, for \$2.00 per line.

The other committees and co-chairs are working in unison, creating a convention our lodge will be proud of. Volunteers are always appreciated.





## Dis og Dat



**Dick Marking** and **Kathi Beane** traveled to Texas for a visit with family and the wedding of his granddaughter. SON members **Mike** and **Kathy Anderson** traveled with them. They were in the Austin area so had no concerns about the remnants of hurricane Harvey other than the shortage of gas. The Andersons spent a day visiting with a friend of Kathy's who she hadn't seen for many years.

**Roger** and **Audrey Olsen** are excited to announce the arrival of their first grandchild, a boy named Leif Roger Olsen. They are not pleased that he's so far away in Jenks, Oklahoma, but the modern technology brings frequent pictures of Leif doing his thing.

**Ron** and **Frieda Nowland** recently presented their "Greenland: Coolest Place on Earth" program to the Son of Norway Lodge at Owatonna, MN.

**Sonja (Kirkeeng) Banegas** and daughter, **Tia Hrudka**, along with step daughter, **Connie Banegas-Burns** from Charleston, SC, visited Norway August 6 - 16. They visited family/friends in Lillehammer, Hundorp, Boverbru and Oslo. The Peer Gynt Festival in the Gudbrandsdalen Valley was being celebrated at this time. Their little friend, **Noran Rovrud** (age 10) was a part of the drama. They were guests at the Peer Gynt Garden Party. They traveled by train from Lillehammer-Oslo-Bergen and enjoyed the city. Wideroe Airlines took them to Tromso to board the Hurtigruten MS **Richard With**. The voyage was planned so Sonja could celebrate her 77th Birthday on Top of The World in North Cape/Nordkapp! (Dreams do come true.) Another flight on Norwegian Air Shuttle from Kirkenes to Oslo with an overnight at the Radisson Blu before coming home.

**Joe** and **Carol Stekel** attended the Wisconsin Nordfjordlag on September 2nd at Sugar Creek Bible Camp in Crawford County. Carol had a great-grandfather who emigrated from the Gloppen area on the Gloppen fjord. A Norwegian in that area traced Carol's genealogy back to the 1400's from the Vereide Kirke in that area (Oluf Hardbog). Carol also did a needlework display consisting mostly of her hardanger and Norwegian knitting.

A new film is being produced in Eau Claire, called "The Lumber Baron" - it is set in 1910, written and produced by Karen Hurd. They plan to wrap up production in early 2018, and afterwards, sell it through a distributor. Several in our SON that will be interested to see this when it becomes available - perhaps it would make a good program.

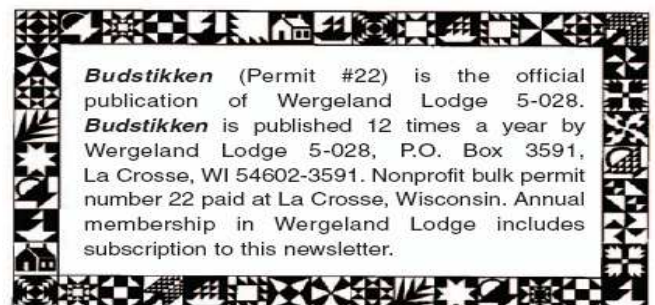


**Judean Everson** was pictured with the La Crosse Tribune's article about Garland Days in West Salem (Sept 15-17). The caption read, "Judean Everson of Bangor got into the spirit of the day by dressing in period clothing for the Meeting of the T's and A's during the 2016 Garland Days celebration. Everson is shown here on a restored 1912 Model T Speedster."

There was a fellow who had a parrot and every evening the parrot sat on his shoulder and they would walk to the corner bar. The fellow taught the parrot to say, "Gimme a beer! Gimme a beer!" Well one Sunday, he didn't shut the cage door tight. He was in church when he saw the parrot fly in and sit on his shoulder and started shouting, "Gimme a beer! Gimme a beer!" The fellow told him to be quiet since this was church and not the bar. The parrot looked around and said....."same crowd!!"

## 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.



## New Sons of Norway Dues Structure

Sons of Norway's 2018 simplified dues structure goes into effect on January 1. **Have Dues Questions?** Check out the following resources for more information.

**Website** – [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com) The website is now updated with a detailed dues structure chart and dues information. More frequently asked questions and answers have also been added. The history of how the dues changes came about remains on the site, and online information will continue to be supplemented on an as-needed basis.

**Publications** – Watch for informative articles in our communication channels. The August issue of Viking contained the updated dues information, and our other member newsletters will provide more information as implementation gets closer.

**Email** – To make it even easier for members to get their questions answered, they may submit them 24/7 to a dedicated email address, [2018dues@sofn.com](mailto:2018dues@sofn.com).

### New Conveniences for Members Come with Dues Structure Changes

Here are a few items that are part of the changes coming with the simplified dues structure, beginning Jan. 1, 2018. **Automatic monthly withdrawal available** – Effective with their 2018 dues renewal, members in U.S. lodges will have the option to pay their dues by automatic monthly withdrawal from their U.S. bank account. Annual payment of dues by check or credit card will continue to be available.

**Local currency applies** – No more confusion about adjusting dues based on the exchange rate for Canadian and Norwegian memberships. Beginning January 1, International dues for Canadian and Norwegian memberships are based on the local currency (Canadian dollars or Norwegian kroner), and hence will no longer be subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

**Dues more easily explained to potential members** – The new dues structure is simplified to maintain consistency throughout the U.S., making it easier for lodges to sign up new members and to discuss the dues with others outside of their lodges and districts.

Have questions on the above? Send an email to Sons of Norway [2018dues@sofn.com](mailto:2018dues@sofn.com), and staff will provide timely answers.

## Norskedalen events



**"Norwegian Baking"** with Anne Farning Oct. 7th: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm \$12. Recipes are wonderful, but there's a knack to Norwegian Baking, and that knack is shared when one generation teaches the next. Come yourself and learn from Anne, bring your kids or

grand-kids with you if you'd like, spend a day getting your hands dirty and then take home the goodies! Best of all, you'll be ready to make your own treats for the holidays!

**Company B returns:** Civil War Reenactment October 14-15  
General Public Days: Adults \$7, Children \$4, Families \$18. Each year, the second weekend of October sees Norskedalen transform into a different area in the war torn South. This year, the reenactment will portray a skirmish that led to the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky in October of 1862. Rather than depict a major battle, the fighting that takes place at Norskedalen highlights the realities of the smaller engagements that occurred during the war. The intersection of the battlefield and the home front is one example of this, and allows for a more comprehensive understanding of the war from the perspective of the soldiers who fought and the civilians who remained at home, becoming unwitting spectators to the war.

**Pumpkin Carving** October 21 & 22 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. It takes 500 pumpkins to light the trails for Ghoulies in the Coulees, and it takes a small army of volunteers to carve 500 pumpkins! Join us for an hour or for the day as we carve our way through a mountain of pumpkins, using spoons and ladles, mixer beaters and even power tools. You won't want to miss this experience!



**Family Friendly Trick-or-Treat** October 26 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm: \$5. The Jack 'o Lanterns will be lit, but the Spooks won't be out! Bring your family to enjoy an evening of trick or treating in the Historic Bekkum Homestead! Advanced reservations are necessary.

**Ghoulies in the Coulees** October 27 & 28 5:00 pm - 10:30 pm: \$10. The Spooks will be out in full force Friday and Saturday evenings, daring you to make it through the trails lit by jack 'o lanterns! For those who survive the hike, there are haunted buildings in the homestead with story tellers and haunts galore! Advanced reservations are necessary for this weekend.



The **Leiv Eriksson International Festival** will be held in Minneapolis for two weeks with a variety of concerts and experiences. The festival celebrates Nordic roots (including Swedish, Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, and Norwegian) with the goal of “building a cultural bridge between the modern Nordic countries and the United States.” See complete schedule at [leifmn.org](http://leifmn.org).



## Looking Back

### Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2012

Ann Grinde, Cultural Coordinator at the Sons of Norway Headquarters in Minneapolis, provided a video for our Foundation month program. She studied in Norway during the 2006-2007 school year after receiving the Helen Tronvold Norwegian Folk High School Scholarship.

The Norwegian Garden in the International Friendship Gardens at Riverside Park was dedicated on October 2. A delegation from our sister city, Førde, including their mayor, was present for the dedication, and also attended our lodge meeting on October 4.

Shirley Schoenfeld attended the SON International Convention in Fargo, ND.

### Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2007

Darrel Dunn, from the Financial Services department at SON Headquarters, spoke at the October meeting. He presented information as to how SON financial services products are used to help Foundation programs. Information was also given regarding scholarships available through the foundation. Helge Vestness, our Fraternal Benefits Counselor, also was present to answer any questions.

Erik, Bjorn, and Christina Blomquist, children of Wergeland member Eva Dahl, all won awards at the International Pony of Americas Show, held in Lake St. Louis MO in late July.

Norwegian calendars and our lodge cookbooks are being offered for sale.

### Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2002

For the October program, Ron Nowland showed slides from a recent trip to L'Anse Aux Meadow, Newfoundland, where he and Frieda visited the site where Leif Erickson and fellow Norsemen set up camp.

He also shared information about the discovery and excavation of this United Nations Heritage Site.

Elaine Nelson, Bing Skogen, Evelyn Pertzsch, Jim Moe, and Audrey Olsen were appointed to the nominating committee for 2003, and encourage members to say 'yes' when they call about assuming an office for that year.

David Lokstad, Shirley Schoenfeld's brother, was featured on a Minneapolis KSTP Channel 5 interview about the 50-year old family business of manufacturing rolling pins. Sugar Maple logs from Pennsylvania are used to make a variety of rolling pins.



#### Marsteinen Lodge-Sons of Norway

August 15, 2014 · 🌐

The top 10 states with the most Norwegian Americans:

1. Minnesota: 850,742 (17.3% of MN population)
2. Wisconsin: 454,831
3. California: 436,128
4. Washington: 367,508
5. North Dakota: 193,158 (30.1% of ND population)
6. Illinois: 178,923
7. Iowa: 166,667
8. Oregon: 147,262
9. Texas: 118,968 (.6% of TX population)
10. South Dakota: 115,292 (15.3% of SD population)

Adapted from [www.norway.org](http://www.norway.org) and [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

## A little in English...

**Bats Harming Church:** Bat urine may destroy Norway's oldest stave church

Urnes Stavkirke is considered the oldest, preserved stave church in Norway. Now it's facing a rather unique problem: Urine from bats may be destroying the church, writes newspaper Bergens Tidende. The church is from the 1100s. It is the only one in the country that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The bats have sought shelter in the church for raising young. This is quite normal. But Urnes Stave Church is made of wood. The wood is neither painted nor protected in another way. The urine from the bats contains salt. It can break down and destroy the old woodwork.

"It happens slowly. But at worst, the staves that hold the different parts of the church together may lose their grip," explains Kjersti Marie Ellewsen to the newspaper. She is a senior adviser and works at the Directorate for Cultural Heritage.

In other buildings it is common to replace damaged materials. The stave church does not wish to do this. They believe the original parts of the church are an important part of the cultural heritage.

Removing the bats is also not a solution. The reason is that the bat is protected. They should not be disturbed.

"We must either find a way to protect the wood. Or we have to set up breeding crates for the bats. Perhaps they would rather live there," says Ellewsen.



Urnes stavkirke regnes som den eldste bevarte stavkirken i Norge. Nå står de overfor et noe spesielt problem: Urin fra flaggermus kan ødelegge kirken, skriver avisa Bergens Tidende. Kirka er fra 1100-tallet. Den er den eneste i landet som står på Unescos verdensarvliste.

Flaggermusene har søkt ly i kirken for å yngle. Det er helt normalt. Men

Urnes stavkirke er laget av tre. Treet er verken malt eller beskyttet på annen måte. Urinen fra flaggermusene inneholder salt. Den kan bryte ned og ødelegge det gamle treverket.

Det går sakte. Men i verste fall kan stavene som holder de forskjellige delene av kirken sammen, miste festet. Det forklarer Kjersti Marie Ellewsen til avisa. Hun er seniorrådgiver og jobber hos Riksantikvaren.

I andre bygg er det vanlig å skifte ut skadd materiale. Det ønsker ikke stavkirken å gjøre. De mener de originale delene av kirka er en viktig del av kulturminnet.

Å fjerne flaggermusene er heller ikke en løsning. Årsaken er at flaggermusen er fredet. De skal ikke forstyrres.

– Enten må vi finne en måte å verne treverket på. Eller så må vi sette opp ynglekasser for flaggermusene. Kanskje vil de heller bo der, sier Ellewsen.

## Famous Viking Warrior Was a Woman, DNA Reveals

As recounted in The National Geographic, archaeologists in Sweden have analyzed the DNA of the ancient remains of a famous warrior. Excavation of Viking burial grounds in Birka, Sweden, led researchers to assume the warrior was male. However, further analysis of DNA evidence has determined with high confidence that the body was a female. The body was buried with weapons, sacrificial horses, and other items that would suggest a leadership role. Read the full article at <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/09/viking-warrior-woman-archaeology-spd/>.



Sons of Norway  
Wergeland Lodge  
#5/028

P.O. Box 3591  
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OCTOBER 2017



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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*Notices of deaths or address changes must go to the Membership Secretary*

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#### Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center  
Hours From May 1 - October 31:  
Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm  
Saturday from 10am-5pm  
Sunday from noon-5pm.



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](http://www.norskedalen.org)

E-mail Address: [info@norskedalen.org](mailto:info@norskedalen.org)