



## Coming Attractions

May 22nd  
Vennskap Banquet  
Millhome Supper Club  
Hwy 32 West of Kiel  
Dinner at 2 PM

June 21st  
Monthly Meeting  
First United Luth Church  
2401 Kohler Mem. Dr.  
Sheboygan  
6 PM



# the Vennskap Lodge News

Vennskap Lodge 5-622

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

May 2016

Volume 24, Issue 3

## Can I put away my shovel yet?

I know it's May, but I still look out the window every morning and expect to see snow! One day nice and the next one...Meanwhile, the neighbors are cutting their grass already! Spring better be here, May 25th marks the beginning of summer! May 25th is also a time to say "Thank You For Your Service" to those who have served in our Armed Forces. Above all, we should pause and remember all who have died in service for our freedom and our country. We should not forget those who gave the supreme sacrifice for us!



Vennskap members have just begun to get our 'show on the road' and it's time to eat! Norwegians are known for their hotdishes and other well-known delicacies, so we happily will join our friends at 'Millhome Supper Club' near Kiel for our Annual Banquet this month. Then after a picnic in Manitowoc, we will probably be in the mood for some lutefisk! Vennskap means friendship, and our group always seems to have a great time when we get together. It must be something in our heritage! See you at dinner!

Shop with Scrip!  
Contact Dawn



DawnBergsBaken@hotmail.com  
(920)-860-1106  
Scrip Cards Available or  
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## Gratulerer Med Dagen!

May

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Don Shawhan.....	7
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Evan Pfliger.....(Heritage) .....	15
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Sandra Nordquist .....	9
Chase Williams (Heritage).....	11
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Maureen Jurgens (Heritage).....	14
Linda Olson .....	17
Nolan Olson (Heritage).....	22
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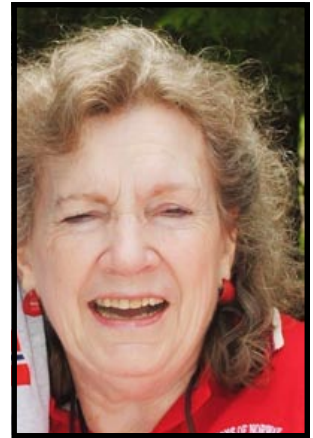


Happy Birthday!

## From The President...

Greetings Dear Vennskap Members and Friends –

What an exceptional meeting we had in April. (But of course all of our meetings are “exceptional”, wouldn’t you think?) It was a day of education – Young Mari Allen will be going to camp this summer, Julie Clabots from Green Bay will be a 4H student on a trip to Norway, and Anne Bruechert taught us a phrase in Norwegian about coffee – “Jeg liker kaffe med/uten sukker og fløte? Hvordan liker du kaffen din?” Do you remember what this means?



VennskapLaurie@yahoo.com

(Note: new e-mail)

And the highlight of the meeting was lovely Anna Bondal, an AFS student at Sheboygan North High School, dressed in her grandmother’s bunad. Anna is from Fryedal Norway, about 3 hours north of Oslo. I believe it is safe to say we all learned something from her. In appreciation, our Lodge gifted her our Lodge polo shirt in hopes she will remember her visit to Vennskap Lodge.

Did you know – 2016 is an important year for the Sons of Norway Foundation? Their mission statement is - "The Sons of Norway Foundation awards scholarships and grants to promote the heritage and culture of Norway, and provide assistance to our members, lodges and their communities." Check out their article in the latest “Viking” magazine. And didn’t you (ladies anyway) love the article about “Your Own Bunad”? Being a History Presenter, I have a number of historical costumes, including Norwegian. Of course mine is a “fesdrakt, or festive dress, which, they say, has its roots in imagination rather than history. Do you have any Norwegian costuming? Jewelry? Would love to see what you have – perhaps at a future meeting?

To tickle your interest once again – have you thought about attending the Wade House Local History Expo? We’d certainly like to have representation. Please let me know ASAP so we can make arrangements. For your entertainment, Mary Todd Lincoln will be there, plus they promise good music and food and even horse-drawn carriage rides throughout their beautiful historic grounds.

Am anxious, as I hope you are, for our May meeting – a Banquet at Millhome Super Club in Kiel, Wisconsin. We promise good food, stunning atmosphere, awards, prizes, and of course the best friendships of all. See you there !

Mange Takk – Laurie Shawhan, President



~ A visitor review from April 2016 of the Livsreise Museum in Stoughton ~  
"What an interesting use of artifacts and personal journals to bring the lives of Stoughton’s Norwegian immigrants to life. My favorites were trunks of all shapes and decoration displayed throughout. Interactive kiosks and wall-sized depictions of Norway add to this first-rate adventure. Worth a visit for all ages. "



Sons of Norway, Vennskap Lodge  
Meeting Minutes: April 19, 2016  
6:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church, Manitowoc

Officers Present: Laurie Shawhan (president)  
Mikk Mikkelson (acting treasurer), Signe Jorgenson (secretary)

Proceedings:  
Meeting called to order by Laurie Shawhan at 6:03 p.m.

Business:

President Laurie Shawhan asked if the lodge would be interested in placing a ¼ page ad in the convention program at a cost of \$25. Liana Mecha noted that we have done this in the past. Liana made a motion that the lodge should place the ad; motion carried. Liana will supply a copy of a previous year's ad.

Treasure's Report:

Mikk Mikkelson announced that the checking account and Heritage funds have been combined. Balance is \$4,656.44.

Announcements:

The lodge welcomed new member Paul Berge. Guest Beth Clabots told the lodge about her plans to attend a 4-H exchange program in Norway this summer.

The annual banquet will be held at 1:00 p.m. on May 22 at Millhome Supper Club in Kiel. Cost is \$15.95 per person. Make checks out to Vennskap Lodge and send to Mikk Mikkelson, 504 Bluff Ave, Sheboygan, WI, 53081 no later than May 15.

If anyone is interested in representing Vennskap Lodge/Sons of Norway at the Wade House event on May 21<sup>st</sup> (10:00-3:00), contact Laurie Shawhan (vennskaplaurie@yahoo.com, 920-684-8423).

Mikk Mikkelson informed the lodge that three tubs of SoN material stored at First United Lutheran need to be stored elsewhere and asked for volunteers. The lodge discussed donating the materials to historical societies and digitizing records. Some members volunteered to look into various options and report back.

The Lutefisk Dinner will be held November 13<sup>th</sup> and Gary Henderson needs someone to coordinate all of the door prizes. Louis Milsted has done it in the past and has all of the information. The task can be done completely by post or email. If interested, contact Louis.

The lodge received updates on Dolcye Johnson's health.

The lodge has provided a \$150 scholarship for a heritage member to attend a two-week heritage camp.

Attendance:

25 members and 6 guests were present. Mari Allen won the \$5 attendance drawing.

Carolyn Johnson was presented with Culture Lesson Awards for literature and stamp collecting. Anne Bruechert gave a brief language lesson. She will be teaching "a phrase a month".

Presentation

Ann Bondal, an exchange student from Norway studying at Sheboygan South High School, gave a presentation on Norwegian culture, lifestyle, education, and holidays.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m. Minutes submitted by Signe Jorgenson.





# Vennskap Lodge Meeting April 19, 2016

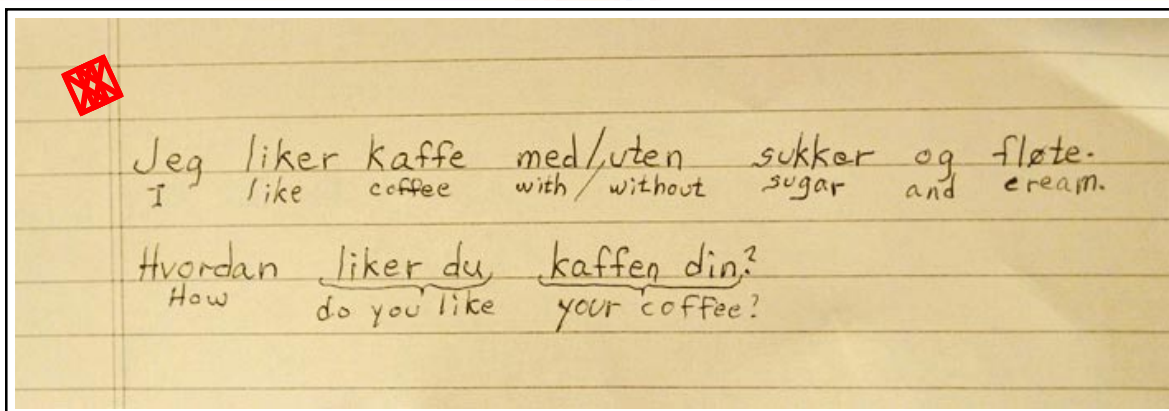
Laurie called the Vennskap meeting to order.

Mikk started the meeting with a joke.



Anne taught us to order kaffe and did you want fløte with that?

Anne Bondal, an exchange student from Fyredal, Norway, spoke to our group. She attends Sheboygan North High School. Anne enjoys hiking, playing guitar and singing. Her father is a Polaris snowmobile salesman and she says there is plenty of snow in Norway. She is wearing her grandmother's \$6,000 bunad here.



Kari was just out of school when she won a prize of a vacation in the Bahamas. She was on a two-seater airplane getting there when the pilot had a heart attack and died. Frantically, she grabbed the mike and called, "May Day! May Day! Someone help me please! Please help me!" She heard a voice on the radio saying, "This is Air Traffic Control and I hear you loud and clear. I will talk you through this and get you back on the ground. I've had a lot of experience with this. Take a deep breath, stay calm and everything will be fine. Now give me your height and position." In a timid voice Kari stated, "I'm 5'4" and I support a higher minimum wage." The radio voice said, "Repeat after me: Our Father, Who art in Heaven..."



## Millhome Supper Club

Site of Vennskap's annual Awards Dinner

Sunday - May 22nd

Social Hour at 1:00 - Dinner at 2:00



For the 'GPS People'

Address: 16524 Lax Chapel Rd, Kiel, WI 53042

(Actually, right on Hwy 32 a few miles east of Kiel)

Annual Banquet! Family style food with fun and entertainment. Dinner cost will be \$15.95 payable by checks made out to VENNSKAP LODGE and mailed to Arvold Mickelson, 504 Bluff Ave, Sheboygan, 53081. The deadline is "One week before.." ( May 15th).. An event not to be missed!.



### On the Road to Recovery!

Marvin & Shirley Moen would like to extend their warm thanks to all of the Vennskap membership !!! The many many get well & 'thinking of you' cards, with their happy pictures on the outside and cheerful wishes inside, were all gladly received, read & saved to be read again. The outpouring of affection & concern, and the prayers sent up on their behalf, will never be forgotten. Vennskap truly does mean friendship, in the very best definition of the word.

### Looking for lodge clothing?

Terry Bruechert is the man to see about purchasing lodge clothing. Lodge shirts & sweatshirts are available to order. Polos are priced at \$25. One lady's polo is available now. Short and long sleeve T-shirts are \$20 each up to XXL. Crew neck sweatshirts up to size XXL are \$25 as are hooded sweatshirts with zipper or pullover style. Terry doesn't have prices for anything larger than XXL.

A judge entered the court room and started the proceedings by saying, "Before this process starts in earnest, there is one thing I have to clear first. The plaintiff gave me \$10,000 so I would rule in his favor. The defendant gave me \$12,000 so I would rule in his favor. To make this case a fair one, I'm hereby returning \$2,000 to the defendant."



## May Has Arrived!

Now that the snow has melted leaving some unsightly leaves, branches and debris ( someone else must have left) on the lawn, it's time to tidy up! It's spring! What can we do to celebrate the new season? Consider



### 1. Participating in "Habitat for Humanity".

Few volunteer opportunities offer the same kind of hands on participation like Habitat for Humanity. Building. Remodeling homes for those in need in your community helps strengthen your community.

### 2. Clean up the parks.

After a season of cold and snow, the first thing many of us want to do is head out to a park, but many parks are likely in need of some TLC. Trash pickup is a simple way to get involved, but many parks may need help with planting, painting buildings or benches and repairing equipment.

### 3. If you missed "Earth Day".. Start a "Climate Control" program.

Are you receiving unwanted catalogs in the mail?-Canceling unwanted catalogs helps save trees, water, and energy which affect our climate.



## Memorial Day May 25th



One special day to honor those who served our country.

The first time the day was given an official name was in 1868 when Decoration Day was observed on May 30th. Michigan was the first state to make Decoration Day an official holiday in 1871.

Over time, the day became known as Memorial Day. After World War II, the day was used to honor soldiers who died in all wars, rather than just the Civil War. In 1967 the name of the holiday was officially changed to Memorial Day.

In 1968 a law was passed to change the date of the holiday to the last Monday in May. This was to help create a three day weekend. Today, this marks the start of summer for many businesses and many people go to the beach or take other vacations over this weekend.

It should mean more to us!

Big Ships are coming to Green Bay!! The famous 'Dragon Harald' Viking Ship will also be there! A recent VennskapNews blog describes the ships, their times of arrival and "The Race". This came up at our meeting. Details are in a previous blog issue if you wish to learn more.

Want to learn what's happening in Scandinavia?

"VennskapNews" is a bi-weekly report of current news about the "old country". For those interested in District five or want to read other lodges' newspapers ( as well as our own), check it out. If you have something to add, e-mail the Blog-guy, Dell Solberg.

[vennskapnews.blogspot.com](http://vennskapnews.blogspot.com) on your computer or tablet.



## RHUBARB TORTE

Crust:

2 c. graham cracker crumbs    6 tbs butter  
4 tbs sugar

Topping:

1 1/2 c. sugar	8 oz Cool Whip
5 tbs cornstarch	2 c. small marshmallows
3/4 c. water	2 pkgs. instant vanilla pudding
6 c. diced rhubarb	

Crust: Melt butter and add sugar. Mix with cracker crumbs. Pat into 9x13" pan, reserving few crumbs for top. Bake 350° for 10 min.

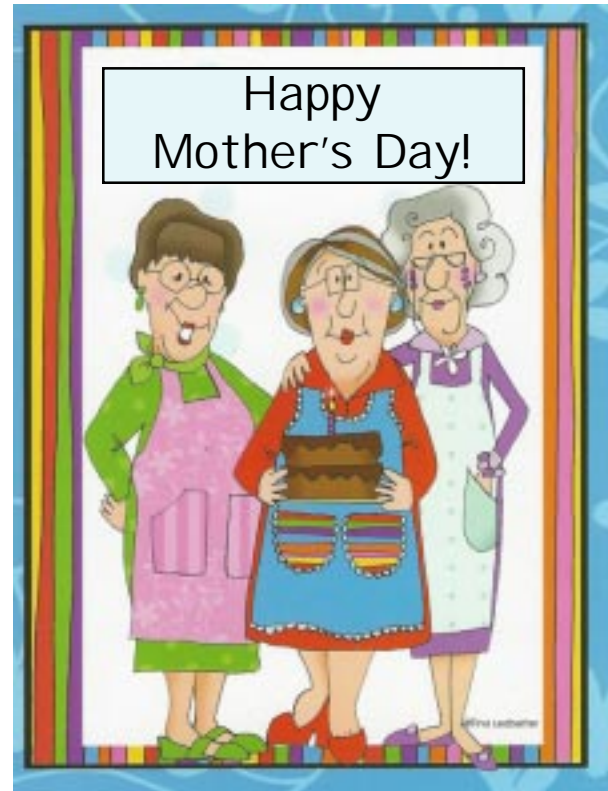


Cook sugar, cornstarch, water and rhubarb until thickened. Spread on crust. Cool. Fold marshmallows into Cool Whip and pour over rhubarb mixture. Prepare pudding according to box instructions. Spread over Cool Whip mixture. Sprinkle crumbs on top.

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## The Ladies Page

Jere Solberg



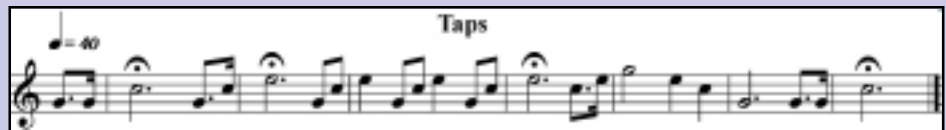
Cleaning with children in the house is like brushing your teeth while eating Oreos.

I think I want a job cleaning mirrors. It's just something I could really see myself doing.



## HONORING THE BRAVE WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR US

"Taps" is a bugle call played at dusk, during flag ceremonies, and at military funerals by the United States armed forces.



In 1862, during the Civil War, "Taps" was first played at a military funeral. It quickly became popular and formally became a mandatory part of Army funeral ceremonies in 1891. Taps is played every day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and every night at Arlington National Cemetery to call an end to the day and pay homage to those who gave the "last full measure of devotion." There were thousands of performance buglers at the turn of the century but in recent years they are getting rare. One of the 1st things to go with any military cuts are bands, which is where the buglers are. In recent years, bugles which look authentic but require only the switch of a button to activate, have been used, which allows members of funeral details who have no musical training to "play Taps"! (Ohhhhh....)

## LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR SCANDINAVIAN CULTURE

The Cultural Skills Program provides a framework for learning Norwegian culture. Each Project has 3 levels of activities at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels.



There are 14 Cultural Skills in the program. Each have 3 levels. You can do one, two or three of these levels.

Carolyn Johnson and Louis Milsted have completed projects in multiple programs.

If interested, you could talk with our Culture Director or Carolyn or Louis who could tell you how to get started.



### Sons of Norway Program 2016

( Subject to change..Stay tuned!)

Sheboygan Luth Church...June 21st 6 PM

– Ginny Mikkelson Program

Manitowoc Lincoln Park..July 10th

– Sons of Norway annual picnic. Lincoln Park Manitowoc

Manitowoc Luth Church..August 16

– Dressing for the Ball

A group of Civil War Reenactors will demonstrate getting ready to go to the Ball at the time of the Civil war.

Sheboygan ...September

– Trip to Stoughton Wisconsin

Visit the Livsreise center to learn about our Norwegian Heritage

October..

10/18/2016 – Open for suggestions

November..

11/12/2016 – Lutefisk Dinner set-up Lakeland College/University

11/13/2016 – Lutefisk Dinner

Sheboygan

11/21/2016 – Pot Luck Dinner and a Movie

