



Coming Attractions

Monthly Meeting  
July 18th  
6 PM  
First Lutheran Church  
521 North 8th St.  
Manitowoc

Monthly Meeting

August 15th  
6 PM  
First United Lutheran  
2401 Kohler Mem. Dr.  
Sheboygan



# the Vennskap Lodge News

Vennskap Lodge 5-622

Sheboygan Falls, Wi 53085

July 2017

Volume 25, Issue 5

## It Must Be Summer

As the thermometer bounced between 40 degrees and 80 degrees, summer began! It's been quite interesting, but weather people have announced that "Midsummer" arrived in the Sheboygan area Wednesday, June 21st. I missed it. The 'summer solstice' arrived and left. This was the day when the sun was at its peak. The longest day of the year. Temperatures in Death Valley were, as usual, above normal and the latest word for airline travelers was that due to extreme heat, their western-bound flights were canceled due to the fact that planes were unable to find enough "lift" to get into the hot air! Perhaps the up and down 'temps' here in Wisconsin are not so bad after all. Now, after the solstice, the sun follows a lower path and change, once again, will be in the air. (What else is new?!) But before summer ends, we have quite a variety of activities to enjoy.

Outdoor activities are at a peak and again we have become accustomed to all the orange barrels that have sprouted in and along the highways. Things are fairly normal. Soon county and state fairs will be displaying livestock, crafts and canned goods. Kids will be buying the latest electronics for school and summer breezes begin to cool. A couple more months to plan for the upcoming Vennskap season. See you at the meeting.



### Med Dagen!

#### July

Signe Jorgensen.....	4
Ginny Mikkelson.....	6
Sandra Bruns.....	23
Dick Bronson.....	16
Elijah Whitaker..(Heritage).....	24

#### August

Anne Bruechert.....	5
Nethanyel Whitaker (Heritage).....	5
Vi Rue.....	7
John Aker.....	9
Liana Mecha.....	21
Karen Berg.....	22
Carolyn Johnson.....	25
Anika Soto (Heritage).....	27
Michael Jurgens.....	28



Happy Birthday!

## From The President:

Laurie Shawhan

Greetings, treasured friends --

What a wonderful picnic we had! It was a perfect day, so many took their repast on the tables out-doors. Food was exceptional as always – added to that was our Chili Cookoff. Amazingly there were no duplicates, and each received votes for their deliciousness.

DON SHAWHAN's Norwegian Chili was judged the very best, and indeed it was. His reward - bragging rights all year (I've heard a few already) and his picture in the District Newsletter as winner of our Cook-Off. Congratulations, Don!



The second appeal at our annual picnic was the silent auction, and again many of us went home with treasures. Thanks to all for your very generous donations. Seems husband Don succumbed to the temptation himself and bid on a few items. Our Silent Auction was a gargantuan task. Thanks for tackling it for us, Gals!

Can't give enough thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make our Picnic and Silent Auction such a success, and to you who willingly did the cleaning afterwards. I am in awe of your dedication.

Looking forward to our up-coming meetings. Don and I and some of our friends are looking forward to singing some Victorian songs for you in July. Of course, we will be in "period" costume –AND we promise to sing at least one Norwegian song.

Keep in mind some of our future meetings where we are asking for your help:

1. August 15th we will be sharing Norwegian family stories and/or treasures. Please consider signing up – there are many wonderful stories out there, and we would love to hear them.
2. September 16th – Two Rivers Ethnic Fest – care to make some of your goodies for the benefit of the Lodge and amaze the attendees? We know our Lodge has some great cooks. Our goal **IS** a HUGE amount.
3. November 21st – Crafts Show and Sale - We know there are many talents among our Lodge members. Care to display and/or talk about them? Perhaps you have some of those items you would like to sell – either for yourself or the lodge. Please let us know.

See you in July – we'll come singing !

Laurie Shawhan, President  
Vennskap Lodge 622

From Ginny Mikkelson

**SAVE THE DATES: September 16th Ethnic Fest. September 19th Trip to Mount Horeb**

On September 16th, we hope to sell our Norwegian goodies at the Ethnic Fest in Two Rivers. We need people to bake, set up the stand, package the baked goods, sell the goodies and much more.

We need everyone to commit and help make this a success.

In Mount Horeb, we will be met by the President of the Mount Horeb Lodge, Cheryl Schlessler.

Some of the things we will see are:

Art carved trolls on Trollway or Main Street . Olson's Christmas House.

Eat at Grumpy Troll (a special menu for our lodge and handicap accessible)

Antique Tool Museum at Duluth Trading Co. Sjolinds Chocolate House

Fisher King Winery and a tasting room . Isaac's Antique Mall and Isaac's Soaps.

The Historic Hoff Mall , Artisan Woods handcrafted by local and National artisans, Rust and Lace

All this on Main Street and more.

We currently have 22 people signed up to go on the trip. We want **MORE!!**

Please come to the July meeting! We have a lot to discuss and we want **YOU** to be a part of the discussion.

# The great Vennskap Chili Cook-off

DON'S AWARD WINNING NORWEGIAN CHILI  
Vennskap Lodge #622  
June 11, 2017



AND THE WINNER IS!  
Donald Shawhan

## Ingredients

2 lb ground turkey  
8-10 16 oz cans of Great Northern white beans  
1 medium onion, chopped  
1 red bell pepper, chopped  
1 yellow bell pepper, chopped  
4 cloves garlic, chopped or 2 t canned chopped garlic, in oil  
1-1/2 t cumin  
1-1/2 t oregano  
½ t cayenne pepper  
1 small can green chilies  
1-1/2 c chopped celery  
1 large carton chicken broth  
½ c sour cream  
16 oz Monterey Jack cheese, grated



## Directions:

In large stock pot, saute all vegetables in 1 Tbsp cooking oil until somewhat tender . Place in separate dish. Brown turkey with seasonings. Add chicken broth and cooked veggies. Bring to boil. Add beans and return to boil.

Add sour cream and cheese and simmer until cheese is well melted.

All ingredients except green chilies and spices were purchased at the Aldi store.



And for dessert ~ Anita Thomas' recipe!

## CHERRY CREAM CAKE (Kirsebærkremkake)

2 cups almonds or other nuts  
2 cups confectioners' sugar  
8 egg whites

Grind almonds twice, the 2nd time with confectioners' sugar. Almonds should have consistency of flour. Whip egg whites until stiff but not dry, and blend with nuts. Divide and spread batter in two greased 9-inch springform pans. Bake at 320 for 25 - 30 min. Cool slightly in pan before removing to rack to cool completely. Makes two 9-inch layers.

## Cherry Cream:

1- 1/4 cup whipping cream  
2 egg yolks  
2 Tbs Confectioners' sugar  
3- 1/2 Tbsp chocolate sauce or syrup  
3 -1/2 Tbsp cherry juice

Beat the cream until firm and glossy. Add eggs and confectioners' sugar which have been whipped together until light and fluffy. Stir in chocolate sauce or syrup, and add cherry juice to taste. Place one cake layer on platter, baked side down, and cover with half of cream mixture. Add second layer, baked side up, and top with remaining cream. Keep refrigerated until serving time. Serves 12.



A lady of good taste!



I won?



Anne says, "Norske's always have to have a joke!"



"A bird book bought by 2 cuckoos!" (that's a quote!..Anne)



Shopping for a deal



Narrowing it down to 3?



Spicy?



## July 4th Independence Day?

We celebrate American Independence Day on the Fourth of July every year. We think of July 4, 1776, as a day that represents the Declaration of Independence and the birth of the United States of America as an independent nation. But July 4, 1776 wasn't the day that the Continental Congress decided to declare independence (they did that on July 2, 1776).

It wasn't the day we started the American Revolution .

(That had happened back in April 1775).

It wasn't the day Thomas Jefferson wrote the first draft of the Declaration of Independence (that was in June 1776).



So what did happen on July 4, 1776?

The Continental Congress approved the final wording of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. They'd been working on it for a couple of days after the draft was submitted on July 2nd and finally agreed on all of the edits and changes. Celebrations on the Fourth of July became more common as the years went on and in 1870, almost a hundred years after the Declaration was written, Congress first declared July 4 to be a national holiday. In 1817, John Adams complained in a letter that America seemed uninterested in its past. Printed copies of the Declaration began to circulate again, all with the date July 4, 1776, listed at the top. The deaths of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams on July 4, 1826, may even have helped to promote the idea of July 4 as an important date to be celebrated.

Contrary to popular belief, only two Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The majority of signers penned their signatures on August 2, 1776.

The most famous signature on the engrossed copy is that of John Hancock, who, as President of Congress, presumably signed first. Hancock's large, flamboyant signature became iconic.



Thomas Jefferson

John Adams persuaded the committee to select Thomas Jefferson to compose the original draft of the document, (which Congress would edit to produce the final version).


The first published version of the Declaration, the Dunlap Broadside, did not list the signers except for those of John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Some delegates, including Samuel Chase, were away on business when the Declaration was debated. As new delegates joined the Congress, they were also allowed to sign.

One of 100 questions for applicants of US citizenship was "What were the main reasons for the colonists to declare their independence, and from whom?"

Answer?

Declaring independence of the Thirteen Colonies from the British Empire, and forming the United States of America.

How does one become Nationalized and a citizen of the USA?  
 Visit the USCIS, pick up the twenty page N-400, and be patient!

		<b>Application for Naturalization</b> Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services		USCIS <b>Form N-400</b> OMB No. 1615-0052 Expires 03/31/2019
For USCIS Use Only	Date Stamp	Receipt	Action Block	
Remarks (Page 1 of 20)				

► **START HERE** - Type or print in black ink. Type or print "N/A" if an item is not applicable or the answer is none, unless otherwise indicated. Failure to answer all of the questions may delay U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) processing your Form N-400. **NOTE: You must complete Parts 1. - 15.**

If your biological or legal adoptive mother or father is a U.S. citizen by birth, or was naturalized before you reached your 18th birthday, you may already be a U.S. citizen. Before you consider filing this application, please visit the USCIS Website at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) for more information on this topic and to review the instructions for Form N-600, Application for Certificate of Citizenship, and Form N-600K, Application for Citizenship and Issuance of Certificate Under Section 322.

\* \* \* \* \*

A sample of 100 questions on the examination for citizenship

1. What do the stars on the flag mean?
2. How many stripes are there in the flag?
3. What color are the stripes?
4. What do the stripes on the flag mean?
5. What is "The Constitution"?
6. What do we call a change to the Constitution?



7. How many branches are there in our government?
8. Name the branches of our government.
9. Who becomes president of the United States if the president and the vice president should die?

10. Who was the main writer of the Declaration of Independence?
11. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
12. How many times may a senator be reelected?
13. How many times may a congressman be reelected?



The Answers

1. One for each state in the Union.; 2. 13 ; 3. Red and white; 4. They represent the 13 original states;
5. The supreme law of the land; 6. Amendments; 7.3; 8. Legislative, executive and judicial.
9. Speaker of the House of Representatives; 10. Thomas Jefferson; 11. July 4, 1776; .
12. There is no limit, at the present time. 13. There is no limit, at the present time.

If you miss 5 or more, you will be deported to ( Your Choice!)



# The Lady's Page

## Rabarbrakake Norwegian Rhubarb Cake

Carolyn Johnson's recipe  
adapted from Norwegian National Recipes

1/4 cup butter (I used unsalted)  
1/3 cup whole milk  
2 eggs  
1 cup sugar  
1 1/4 cup flour  
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder  
1 large stalk rhubarb  
Powdered sugar (optional)  
Whipped cream, for serving (optional)

Melt butter in a small saucepan over low heat.  
Stir in milk and set aside to cool slightly.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and grease a  
nine-inch springform pan.

Beat eggs and sugar on high for a minute or  
two—let them get light and fluffy. Reduce the  
speed to low and slowly pour in the milk and  
butter. Mix in the flour and baking powder until  
just incorporated, then pour the batter into the  
prepared pan, spreading the top into an even  
layer with a spatula.

Trim the rhubarb and cut into quarter-inch  
slices on the diagonal. Scatter slices evenly  
over the top of the cake. Bake for about 40  
minutes, until a toothpick inserted in the middle  
comes out clean.

Let cool on a rack in the pan for about five  
minutes, then remove from pan and continue  
cooling on a rack.

**Baking hint:** when rolling cookie  
dough, use powdered sugar instead  
of flour on your board. This will make  
your cookies a wee bit sweeter, but  
they will not get tough as sometimes  
happens when rolled on a floured  
board.



As the Union and Confederate  
armies camped across the  
Rappahannock River from each  
other in the winter of 1863, bands  
on both sides played the popular  
ballad "Home Sweet Home".

Music was a much-needed diver-  
sion for both sides. Whether played  
or sung, these melodies reflected  
the troops yearnings for home. A  
few favorites were, "Yankee Doodle  
Dandy", "The Star-Spangled Banner",  
"Dixie" and "When Johnny  
Comes Marching Home".

At our July meeting, we will be favored by the  
Shawhan's 'Victorian Singers', music sung in  
'period' costumes of Civil War Times!

## It's for the birds!

Directions for making safe hummingbird food:

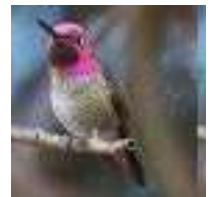
Mix 1 part sugar with 4 parts water  
and bring to a boil to kill any bacteria or  
mold present.

Cool and fill feeder.

Extra sugar water may be stored in  
a refrigerator.

Red dye should not be added.

Place in clean hummingbird feeder and change every  
3-5 days to keep it fresh.



Coming to our stage..



## The Victorian Singers

Vennskap Lodge has been invited to participate in the Ethnic Fest event in Two Rivers. For a fee of \$125, we would be provided with a 12'x12' tent in which to sell lefse and baked goods. The registration deadline is July 17 and the event is September 16.

At the picnic, Anne B. told us how  
Ole's worst day went south...

Ole was sitting at the bar staring at his drink when a large trouble-making biker steps up next to him, grabs his drink and gulps it down in one swig and menacingly says, "Thanks Norsky. Whatcha going to do about it?" Ole bursts into tears. "Come on man," the biker says, "I didn't think you'd cry. I can't stand seeing a man crying. What's your problem?" "This is the worst day of my life," Ole says. "I'm a complete failure. I was late to a meeting at work and my boss fired me. Then I went to the parking lot and found that my car had been stolen and I don't have insurance. I left my wallet in the cab I took home. I found my wife Lena's note on the table saying that she left me and then my dog bit me. So I came here to this bar to work up the courage to end it all. I buy a drink, drop a capsule in it and watch the poison dissolve. Then you show up and drink the whole thing! But...enough about me, how is your day going?"

## Up-coming Vennskap Events

July 18-Manitowoc-Victorian Singers  
August 15-Sheboygan-Our Ancestors & stories  
September 16- Ethnic Fest at Two Rivers  
September 19-Trip to Mt. Horeb  
October 15 - District Meeting  
November 21- Manitowoc- Craft show & Sale  
December- No Meeting

