

OLE BULL NEWS

Volume 28 Issue 2 March, April & May 2014

Website: WWW.SONSOFNORWAY5.COM

President's Message:

District Five...

God surely blessed us with a healthy amount of moisture (i.e., snow) for our forthcoming spring flowers and crops. Along the way, many of us experienced a dose, or two, of some “Viking chill”—called by many others as “Arctic vortex,” and the like. Thankfully, God also gave us sheep (wool) as one way to keep toasty warm for the season.

Speaking of “giving.” Much of what we do and are, in conjunction with Sons of Norway, can be described by “giving.” First of all, we are all volunteers. By providing the variety of programs at lodge meetings, we are giving enjoyment and education to members.

We donate (a.k.a. give) to the Foundation, which, in turn, takes this money and converts it to scholarships, grants for those suffering from disasters, and so on.

Our financial side—the driving force for our founding—gives financial benefits to those who wisely choose Sons of Norway financial products. These benefits are in the form of money which gives stability to families in time of loss and need. The financial branch is also a major support source for the fraternal element.

The fraternal branch provides (gives) a wealth of resources for the programs we use at our lodges. They are also ready, willing, and able to answer (give information) for myriad questions about anything and everything “Norwegian.”

We collect stamps for Tubfrim. This program gives assistance to children with disabilities.

Currently, we are collecting Boxtops for Education. Giving these to our schools enables them to spend money on items for our children.

Just recently, we had volunteers (gave time and effort) at the Wisconsin Regional Ski for Light. Helping skiers with limited sight gives pleasure to these folks.

By the time this writing hits our district Website, a great number of district members and lodges will have donated (given) time and effort to thousands who participated in and observed the Barnebirkie and other “Birkie Week” events.

We know it is more blessed to give than to receive. Of course, to give, there must a receiver. At times, any of us might be in the role of “receiver”—a blessing to whoever then gets to “give.” Is there any profit in being a giver? Absolutely!!! Whether or not the receiver knows who is the

President’s letter continued:

giver, the giver will be blessed with a good feeling, not only about self but about the present given the receiver.

This good feeling you enjoy applies whether you volunteer or donate your time, effort, money or expertise. If you have doubt, just ask any volunteer from our district involvement at Barnebirkie or Wisconsin Regional Ski for Light. I challenge you to find any camper—to include those who volunteer as staff—who didn’t love time at Masse Moro (for which you are a giver merely because you are District Five member).

Hopefully, in your recent lodge meeting, you elected delegates who want to give. Yes. Your lodge might provide some financial assistance to the delegates you send to our upcoming District Five Lodge Meeting and Convention, your delegates will be giving service to the lodge and district by attending. Too, they may be elected to the district board, or bring back more information about the Sons of Norway Financial, Fraternal and Foundation branches. Hopefully, they will also return to the lodge more enthused about the order and participating in our many activities.

Besides all this joy and good feeling from volunteering and donating, is there any “work” involved? Again, absolutely. There is the seemingly endless stream of “paperwork” and reports—all needed to comply with state and federal regulations and to assure the smooth operation of the lodges and our district. All members have the duty to recruit to maintain our growth. Everyone needs to attend lodge meetings and its own activities. Leadership needs to oversee meetings, programs and other activities to make sure they are effective, accepted, and, above all, enjoyable. ...and, as “the Big Boys” will tell you, anything you enjoy doing is not work.

I enjoy the Sons of Norway. I enjoy District Five. I enjoy my zone. I enjoy my lodge. I am proud to be part of them all, as do I hope are you.

God endowed all with our individual talents. Surely, you can accomplish many and great things by yourself. For an organization to work effectively, in much the same as your body, “all parts” need to work together. You, as a member, are a vital part of your lodge, our district, and our order.

To my knowledge, there is no member category known as “lump of coal.” Jump in. Give the rest of us the benefit of your talents. Think of inactivity as cheating the rest of us from what you can do. We need you and are counting on your participation. Busy? Great!! We know “if you want something done, ask a busy person to do it.”

Hopefully, everyone will have the opportunity to join in our District Five convention—and sit in

on some sessions of the district lodge meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you in Delavan this June!

Fraternally,
Don Hermanson
District Five President

Ole Bull News

Page 3

Youth Director- Mary Bennett

Scholarships

District 5 offers the following scholarship: (1) Oslo Summer School Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. (2) Norwegian Folk High School Scholarships at \$500 each and (2) Book Scholarships and \$300 each. Applications are due by March 15.

Masse Moro Youth Heritage Camp

It has been a long cold winter and it is time to think about summer activities. Consider sending the 9 - 15 year old in your life to Masse Moro for two weeks. Camp begins July 20 and ends with a final program on Saturday morning August 2. Campers experience two weeks of Norwegian Heritage and Culture that includes Viking games, Norwegian language lessons, crafts, nature hikes and so much more. The fee for two weeks of camp is \$650. Matching funds of \$150 are available from local lodges and District 5. Monies from the Draxton Fund are shared by all campers whose applications are received by May 17. Camp applications and matching fund forms are available at sonsofnorway5.com.

Masse Moro Reunion

Events are being planned for past Masse Moro campers and staff. The reunion will take place during the 5th District Convention to be held at Lake Lawn Lodge in Delavan, WI June 25 - 29. Forward contact information for past campers to me at mjbenn4@gmail.com. Reunion information will be forwarded.

Fifth District Sports Director's Message

On Thursday, February 20, 2014, the Fifth District provided 23 volunteers; 1,111 dozen cookies; and cash donations in order to support this years Barnebirkie. There were 812 children between the ages of 3 to 13 who participated. I would like to say, "Mange Tusen Takk" to all the volunteers and lodges throughout the Fifth District that contributed their time and efforts to make the 2014 Barnebirkie a successful event. This year's Barnebirkie presented problems with severe winter weather that caused 13 of our volunteers to cancel out a day before the event. Despite the weather and the reduced number of volunteers, everything went well. Without your support Sons of Norway would not have a presence at the largest children's skiing event in North America. Parents bring their children from all over the United States and the world so that they can participate in the Barnebirkie. Our volunteers worked at registration, the cookie tent, preparing and presenting a volunteer luncheon, and operating a Sons of Norway information table at the Ski Expo. If any of you have taken pictures of the 2014 Barnebirkie, please submit them to our Publicity Director Gary Melby for possible publication in the Viking magazine. If you have any suggestions to make the 2014 an even better event, please contact me.

The 2014 Fifth District Bowling Tournament is now in full swing. What better time to get out of the house and spend some quality time in a healthful activity with your family and fellow lodge members. The forms necessary to participate in the Bowling Tournament are on the Fifth District website. It is still not too late to organize a bowling outing. I would like to remind those of you who are participating in the 2013 Fifth District Bowling Tournament to send their forms and scores in to me by May 10. Proceeds from the Bowling Tournament helps to support the Fifth District Scholarship Fund.

Fraternally,
Andy Johnsen

Fifth District Sports and Recreation Director
ajohnsen@att.net

Ole Bull News

Page 5

Cultural Director's Message:

Kjaere Venner,

Take a look at the announcement about the Folk Arts Competition at our Convention in June, and please enter the competition.

This year we have three new features:

First we no longer have amateur versus professional classes; instead we will use beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Your class will be determined by how well you did in previous competition based on a point system for each 1st blue, 2nd red and 3rd white ribbon you receive for your entry. Because this is the first time we are trying this system, everyone will be a beginner. (The judges may advance someone one class if their entry is really outstanding.)

Second, district 5 is beginning a medal system based upon the total number of entries and how well each entry does in a competition. Points are cumulative from competition to competition. It will be possible to win a medal in one competition, but hard to win a gold medal in only one. More details will follow.

And last, at this years competition we will accept genealogy entries. Judging will be based both on research and on display. Again more details will follow.

We are making these changes to entice more people to enter the competition, and hopefully people will continue to enter competitions convention after convention. I am excited about this new format, and hope to see many entries at the competition.

Hilsen, Owen Christianson

Ole Bull News

Page 6

Sons of Norway District 5
2014 Folk Art Exhibit and Competition

The Sons of Norway District 5 is pleased to invite all members to participate in the 2014 Folk Art Exhibit and Competition to be held at its District Convention in Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan Wisconsin on June 25-28, 2014.

On-site registration will take place on Thursday June 26, from 8:00 to 10:00 am.

Entries must fall into one of the following categories:

- Rosemaling
- Norwegian weaving
- Hardanger embroidery
- Norwegian themed needlework (e.g. klosersom, diamantsom and other traditional needle work)
- Hand knitting with Norwegian design
- Crocheting and tatting
- Figure carving with Norwegian theme using hand tools only
- Relief carving with Norwegian theme using hand tools only
- Chip carving using hand tools
- Bentwood using hand tools
- Wood turning: bowl

- Wood turning: spindle
- Genealogy
- Other with Norwegian theme (e.g. photography, paintings, stained glass, kolrosing, etc)

There are five classes for each category:

- Advanced, Intermediate, and Beginner. There will no longer be adult professional or adult amateur classes. These classes will be determined by previous performance in the Folk Arts Competition, therefore for this time only all entries start at Beginner, unless the Judges promote an entry one level to the Intermediate class.
- Youth Ages 16-20
- Children – Heritage members and children/grandchildren of current Sons of Norway members, 15 years old and under are eligible for exhibition only. They will all receive a Certificate of Participation.

The registration form and waiver of responsibility should be sent to me by June 16, 2014

Ole Bull News

Page 7

CULTURAL ARTS REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Telephone Day: () Evening: ()

E-mail:

Membership # Dist # Lodge Name and #

1. Category (Rosemaling, knitting, etc.):
2. Class (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Youth):
3. Description of item (Bowl, red 7" dia.):
4. Value of item: \$ For Sale Not for Sale
5. Enter items : Exhibition Competition
1. Category (Rosemaling, knitting, etc.):
2. Class (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Youth):
3. Description of item (Bowl, red 7" dia.):
4. Value of item: \$ For Sale Not for Sale
5. Enter items : Exhibition Competition

Waiver of Responsibility

I, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that Sons of Norway and its representative personnel shall not be

held liable for damage or loss of item(s) I am entering in the Sons of Norway District Five Convention Folk Art Exhibition/Competition. I do hereby waive any claims against Sons of Norway, and its representative personnel, for any damage, breakage, marring, scratching or other losses which may occur to the item(s) I enter in the Sons of Norway District Five Folk Art Exhibition/Competition.

Date: _____

Signature of Artist: _____

Ole Bull News

Page 8

Publicity Director- Gary Melby

_Attention all lodges. The cupboard is bare. I need your pictures!! I just received a list from the Viking Magazine and many lodges have not sent pictures for over two years. Help Me Out Here!!! I have nothing in reserve. My email information and home address is located in the Fifth District section of the Viking Magazine. If you can send pictures directly from your camera disc or it can be developed pictures also. Just mail or email them to me. Thanks.