Cultural Skills Classes Embrace Your Heritage

Wergeland Lodge has added diversity to our classes/workshops for our 2018 District 5 Convention. We are hoping for attendees to be able to find something that interests them and also to have a Norwegian cultural learning situation. Taking a class will also help prepare SON members who want to attain a pin for Cultural Skills from SON International. These classes, especially Norwegian knitting, hardanger and genealogy workshops are a good beginning in attaining a Cultural Skills pin. The Sami bracelet or "wire weaving" has become very popular and makes a nice gift for anyone, especially when it's made just for them.

We are attempting to keep down costs and yet we have skilled artisans teaching the classes. Two of these instructors are Wergeland members who are donating their time so the cost basically is just for materials and room rentals.

We hope to make this a great cultural heritage opportunity as well as a social sharing of stories and skills.

The class descriptions follow with registration page.

See you in June 2018! Cultural Chairs: Carol Stekel and Frieda Nowland

Hardanger Class. 8:30 am Thursday. June 28 & Friday, June 29 Illinois Room 2nd Floor

Ruth Ann Holm will be the instructor. Ruth Ann is a member of Wergeland Lodge, a retired teacher and accomplished hardanger needleworker. She enjoys all needlework but "hardanger is my passion." She is a member of the Coulee Country Embroiderers Guild of America, and has taught classes in that group as well as to school students in the summer. Some have gone to the fairs and received awards on their class projects. Ruth Ann has won "Peoples Choice ribbons" 13 times and a Mrs Oktoberfest choice ribbon at the Oktoberfest Needlework Shows in La Crosse.

The Hardanger Class will feature two projects-Beginners, and Experienced hardanger stitchers.

Beginners will learn the basic kloster blocks, cutting and weaving threads, and doves eyes. The heart-shaped project can be made into a coaster, small pillow, or wall or window hanging. The projects can be inserted in a card for special birthdays or other occasions.

Experienced stitchers will make a project including the above, plus blanket stitch edging, tulip motif, eyelets, and a Greek star filler.

All the materials are included....hardanger fabric, needle and pearl cotton. There will be time for questions and individual help. We will be using 22 count even-weave hardanger fabric (22 threads to the inch) so bring your magnifier or glasses if needed.

If you want to come to stitch on your own project in progress, you are welcome to join the group.

Cost: \$15.00.

Class will run on **Thursday and Friday**, 8:30 to 12, Illinois Room, 2nd Floor of Radisson.

We will have breaks for coffee and treats!

Beginner Project is on top and Advanced Beginner is on the bottom.



Intermediate Knitting with 2-Color Stranding for Headband 8:30 am, Thursday and Friday, June 28 & 29 Minnesota A, 2nd Floor

Mimi Saterbak is owner of the Fitting Knit Shop in downtown La Crosse. Mimi is a retired elementary teacher. Her mother owned the shop originally and Mimi began working there part -time in the 70s and full- time in the 80s. She gives instructions to students who purchase their yarn and patterns in the shop. With many years of knitting experience, she can answer any knitting questions you may have.

Knitters in this class should already know how to cast-on and cast off. Class size is limited to 6-8 people

The project will entail a headband where one will learn to knit in two or more colors. It makes a nice gift for oneself or for a favorite child, boys or girls.

Norwegian knitting goes back many years. Stranded knitting was said to start in the 19th century, probably in Selbu, east of Trondheim. Women would often knit during the long winters and even take their knitting up to the seters while watching their goats, sheep or cattle.

Thurs, June 28th, 8:30 - 12 Minnesota A, 2nd Floor of Radisson Friday, June 29th, 8:30 - 12 Minnesota A, 2nd Floor of Radisson

Costs: \$30.00 includes yarn, pattern and 16 inch Circular Needles: size 2 or 3 \$20.00 includes yarn and pattern only

Participants may bring your own needles or indicate on the registration form if they wish to also purchase knitting needles for the class.



Sami Bracelet (Wire Weaving) 8 am, Thursday, June 28 Minnesota B, 2nd Floor

Katie Martin loves all things traditional. Growing up in Alpena, WV, she has always been interested in learning about traditional craftsmanship and the history behind it. After meeting her husband and moving to his hometown, she took a Sami inspired bracelet class at The Vesterheim Museum in Decorah IA and she was hooked. Since then, she has been taking her skills and applying them to new and different mediums. She began with custom orders and now her work is available at Vesterheim Museum in Decorah.

Katie lives in Decorah, IA with her husband Ryan, and two dogs, Havik and Freyja. This will make a wonderful gift or make one for yourself.

Time: 4 hour class

Materials: Includes the bracelet silver, sinew, leather, button, clear thread, cord, needles, box cutters, rulers and glue.

Students need to bring scissors and thimbles (leather thimble works well), extra lighting if needed.

Cost: \$35.00

Date: Thursday, June 28, 2018

Time: 8:00 till 12

Location: Minnesota B, 2nd Floor Radisson



Genealogy - 2 Sessions (approximately 1- 1/4 hr each) Friday, June 29 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon Minnesota B Room, 2nd Floor

Hannah Scholze has been doing genealogy research for over 15 years with a particular focus on immigration research. Her passion for genealogy started at a young age by helping her grandmother read Norwegian church records. She graduated from Wartburg College in 2008 where she majored in History, American History Education, and World History Education. Hannah is a member of Wergeland Lodge, President of the Holmen Area Historical Society, and works as the Museum Services Associate at the Monroe County Local History Room in Sparta WI where she has taught a number of genealogy classes on various topics. Bring your questions as there should be time after each session for questions. Hannah will have hand-outs for each registrant.

Session 1: 9:00 A.m. - 10:15 Norwegian Naming 101: "Understanding How Ole Got His Name and Why It Kept Changing"

Ever get confused about the differing names and spellings of your Norwegian ancestors and wonder how Ole Olson and Ole Black could be the same person, or why your ancestor had three sons named Albert? Come to get an overview of Norwegian naming conventions from Old Norse and recurring family naming traditions to the use of a patronymic or farm name, and finally as a surname identifier to what an immigrant may have settled on for a last name. Attend to gain a better understanding of where your ancestors' names came from and why their names may have changed over time.

Session 2: 10:30-11:45 "Finding the Ole and Lena in Your Family Tree: Resources for Scandinavian Genealogical Research"

From Norwegian parish records to censuses to immigration records and beyond, this class will focus on where to find useful collections (online and locally) for researching your Scandinavian ancestors and tips for how best to search them. Suggestions will also be offered for how to decipher those often hard to read Norwegian church records. This class will be useful for those just starting out or those who have been researching their family history for years.

Cost: \$25.00 for the two sessions. (15 min. break between the 2 sessions)