

Friendly Fifth Friday News January 1, 2016

In an attempt to help our lodge leaders become more familiar with resources, changes, deadlines and other information, I will compile a weekly "Friendly Fifth Friday News" email to our leadership. Some of the information you might already have, but hopefully it will be a good reminder for all of us (me included) of all the great resources that Sons of Norway has to offer. **Please feel free to cut and paste any of this information for your lodge's use!**

Darlene Arneson, District 5 Secretary

2016 is a Lodge Meeting and Convention year!

Lodge meeting- the business portion of the convention. The delegates to the convention's business meeting make up the lodge. The District 5 lodge members (delegates) actually serve for the two-year biennium until the next set of delegates are elected and seated.

Convention- the activities that surround the lodge meeting. This includes the workshops, tours, classes, and social events.

Start planning ahead now as in the next few weeks, we will get the year-end membership numbers from the International Office.

Then the process is:

1. District Secretary Darlene Arneson gets year-end membership numbers.
2. Darlene computes the number of delegates and alternates a lodge will have.
3. Darlene will send a notice (email and hard copy) to each lodge President and Secretary indicating the number of delegates and alternates their lodge can elect.
4. The Central Lodge meeting will take place via conference call on March 21.
5. Lodges have until March 5 (at the latest) to elect and report their delegates and alternates. This is sent to District Secretary Darlene Arneson.
6. Darlene will give the list of delegates and alternates to the convention registration committee who will send out registration materials. She will also give a copy to the District President who will appoint the convention committees.
7. In order to be eligible to be a delegate to the International Lodge Meeting, a member must be a delegate to the District Convention.
8. In order to serve on the District Board, a member must be a delegate to the District Lodge Meeting.
9. Current District 5 Board Members and International Board members are automatically delegates to the District 5 Lodge Meeting and their home lodge DOES NOT have to elect them again.

International Convention:

https://www.sofn.com/international_convention/

Sons of Norway International Convention: August 24-28, 2016

Welcome to the official website of the 2016 Sons of Norway International Convention! It may feel like August is a long way off, but now is a great time to start thinking about it and making your plans. Sons of Norway invites you to take a look around and learn about all the great things that will be happening as part of this tremendous event.

You can learn about all the upcoming convention events, including the Innovative Leadership Conference, International Lodge Meeting, and International Folk Art Competition & Exhibition. Also, you can begin to explore all the great things that the Hotel Murano and the host city of Tacoma have to offer.

In the coming weeks and months we will be adding new information to this section of the site, so be sure to keep an eye out on the Sons of Norway blog for announcements!

What are the dates and location of the 2014 International Convention?

The 2016 International Convention will be held from August 24 to 28.

Where is the event being held? What are the rates?

This year's International Convention is being held in Tacoma, Washington. In order to accommodate all delegates, the convention planning committee has negotiated a variety of accommodations and room rates. To learn more, please visit the Hotel page.

When will registration open? What are the registration rates?

Registration will open soon! Once announced, registration fees will be available on the registration page.

What is the convention schedule?

The schedule for the 2016 International Convention is still being set. Make sure to check the agenda page for updates as the schedule is finalized.

What does my registration fee include?

Delegate registration fees include access to business meetings, special events and evening receptions. For a full list of items included with your registration fee, please visit the registration page.

What is the attire?

Attire will depend on the day and the event, but it's a good idea to plan on business casual attire for daytime events, like the general sessions, and formal attire for the closing ceremonies on August 27th.

May I bring my spouse/children to the Convention?

Yes! Sons of Norway welcomes the families of all convention delegates! In fact, many delegates often plan their time at the International Convention as a vacation-of-sorts for the rest of their family. With so much to do and see in and around Tacoma it's a great place for family fun.

What forms of payment do you accept for registration?

Forms of payment will be determined by the convention registrar. To find out which are accepted, please visit the registration page.

Who can attend the International Convention?

The 2016 International Convention is open to Sons of Norway members. Only elected delegates may vote on resolutions and bylaw changes, but other members can register as a guest and observe the proceedings.

I desperately want to attend the 2016 International Convention, but unfortunately my budget does not allow it. Is there some way I can stay informed of the convention happenings from home?

Sons of Norway wants to make the convention experience as inclusive as possible and make it easy for all members to be part of the convention experience. To that end, members who cannot attend are

invited to follow along with all the convention happenings via Sons of Norway's blog, Twitter feed and YouTube channel!

I am a member of the press – do you have press registration?

Sons of Norway welcomes professional editorial staff (including photographers and camera crews) of print, online, and broadcast media to attend the 2016 International Convention on a complimentary basis.

Members of the media interested and eligible to obtain press registrations should contact **Erik Evans** at eevans@sofn.com to register.

My question is not here! Who should I contact?

If you haven't found an answer to your question on this page please email **Erik Evans** at eevans@sofn.com for assistance.

August 24- Sons of Norway is proud to announce that the Innovative Leadership Conference is returning in 2016 as part of the International Convention in Tacoma, WA!

This event is open to **ALL** members, regardless of whether they are an International Lodge Meeting delegate or not. The Innovative Leadership Conference has been designed to benefit ALL members at ALL levels of our organization.

If you're still not sure whether this conference is right for you, consider these questions for a moment:

- Do you want to learn new tools and techniques for that can be used to improve your lodge, increase recruitment and retention or resolve conflict amongst your members?
- Have you ever considered running for a lodge or district officer position?
- Do you want to strengthen your leadership skills, develop new abilities to set you apart from your colleagues and grow as a professional?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you should definitely consider registering for Sons of Norway's Innovative Leadership Conference, being held on August 24, 2016 in Tacoma, Washington.

This year's Innovative Leadership Conference will be led by **Kit Welchlin**, an experienced and talented speaker. He will take attendees through four different educational modules on topics ranging from enhancing leadership skills to strategic planning for lodges. Each module will provide attendees with new tools and techniques that can be easily implemented within their lodge.

If you'd like to learn more about the Innovative Leadership Conference, please call (800) 945-8851.

If you are unable to join us in Tacoma for the 2016 International Convention, you can follow along from home by visiting our various social media channels where Headquarters Staff will posting photos and updates daily!



Each day during the convention, we will be posting images and highlights from the convention on the [Sons of Norway blog](#). Be sure to check in daily for the latest news from Tacoma as well as behind-the-scenes posts for a better insight into Sons of Norway's biggest event.



Throughout the convention Sons of Norway will be posting photos and updates about the 2014 International Convention festivities. You can follow us easily via [@Sonsofnorway](#) or [#SofN2016](#).



Join the conversation about this year's International Convention by posting and reading others' posts on the [Sons of Norway Facebook Group](#).