

# Friendly Fifth Friday News

## July 3, 2020

Send all web posting info and calendar dates/events directly to our webmaster at [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com)

### **VIRTUAL WALK TO NORGE**

Sports Director Steve Frame, from Vennelag Lodge in Mt. Horeb, WI has reported that his participants have reached Norway and are on the way home. Their current location is unknown, but it is estimated to be somewhere in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean!

**VENNELAG PARTICIPANTS, ALTHOUGH NOT ALL PICTURED:** Donna Corcoran, John Eberhardt, Aldeen Fjelstad, Deb Goplin, Jane and Steve Frame, Mark Hanson, Carolyn Johnson, Nancy and Duane Kittleson, Janet Robertson, Harley and Carlyce Skjervem, Steve Sopcak, Allen Watrud, Arlene Watrud-Krueger, Cheryl Wille-Schlesser, Tom and Kathy Wulff



Nearly shooting a hole in 1  
Nancy Kittleson.



Duane Kittleson planting annuals  
at Oakwood Village University Woods.



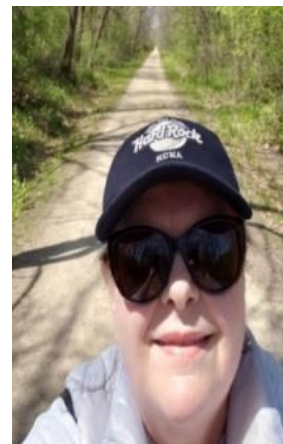
Mark Hanson and Arlene Watrud-  
Krueger leaving tread marks on the  
trails around Madison.



President Allen Watrud and  
his high school friend, Randi,  
on the -13-degree UP  
Michigan Slopes



Arlene Watrud-Krueger and  
Cheryl Wille-Schlesser  
snowshoeing near  
Hayward, WI



Aldeen Fjelstad is making  
tracks on the Military Ridge  
State Trail near Verona, WI.

Gå på ski-go skiing!



Giddy-Up, Casey! Carlyce Skiervem is horseback riding on her farm near Pine Bluff.



Gus, Apricot, and Harley Skiervem taking a rest at the Verona Dog Park.



Donna Corcoran is a serious biker. She is shown with her step-bike.

### Other D5 Lodge Stats

Matt Agen, Sports Director from Grønnavik Lodge, reports that his members have tracked 2,360 miles out of the 4,262 needed miles to complete the journey from Green Bay to Norway.

President Darlene Arneson from Mandt Lodge, Stoughton, WI is happy to share that her members are moving speedily along and have accumulated 5,886.19 miles.

Jerri Lynn Baker, Sports Director from Polar Star Lodge, Montgomery, IL shared that her Lodge reached Norway some time ago and are on their way home.

Valhall Lodge, Rockford, IL, has trekked 1101 miles.

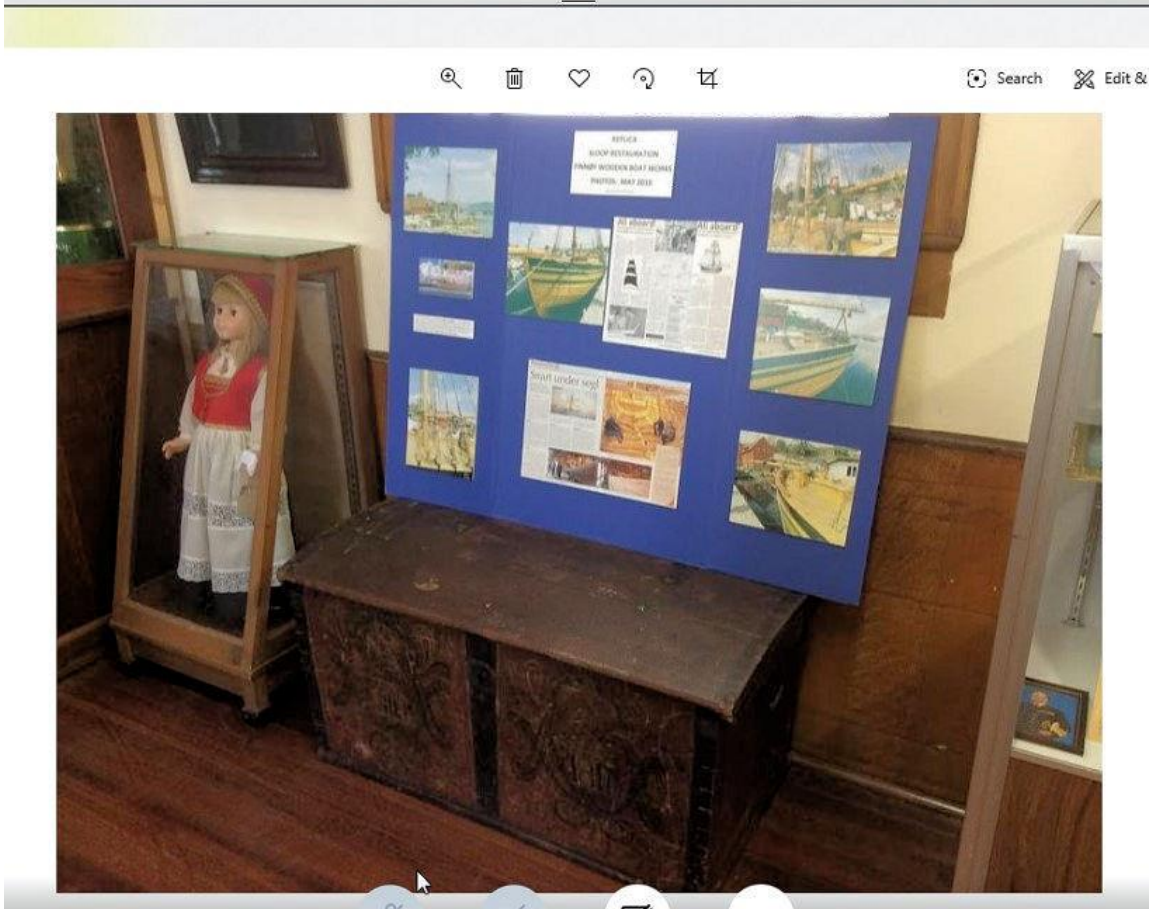
President Audrey Severson from Valkyrien Lodge, Woodville, WI, indicates that her members have logged a total of 3,869 miles.

Keep moving, District 5 members. There is plenty of remaining time until the challenge ends on December 15<sup>th</sup>! Recognition will follow your accomplishments.





## Nordic News this week...



Last week's "Nordic News" featured Dave Johnson in "[Norsk Museum](#)." Dave is a member of Cleng Peerson lodge in Norway IL. Dave is president of the Norsk Museum, which highlights the first Midwestern Norwegian-American settlement. Cleng Peerson, the "Norwegian Daniel Boone" led the Sloopers, the first large group of Norwegian immigrants, from northwestern New York state to better farmland about 45 miles southwest of Chicago. Norway, Illinois became the first settlement point for tens of thousands of Norwegians, as they came to America looking for a better way of life.

## Upcoming "Nordic News"

July 7 – Lori Dubczek – Norskedalen Norwegian-American Cultural Center

July 14 - Viking Ship Burial (Debra Kraft, Nordkap-Detroit MI)

July 21 – Erie Canal: Immigrant Gateway to the West (Darrell Wunrow – Fosselyngen-Milwaukee WI)

July 28 – Viking Ship: 1893 Columbian Exposition exhibit (Samantha Simera Bamberger – Friends of the Viking Ship)

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You can watch past episodes of Nordic News at:

[http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/speakers\\_bureau.php](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/speakers_bureau.php)

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## Updates from District Secretary Darlene Arneson

We should have held our District Lodge Meeting last week in Madison where a new board would have been elected. Due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of District and International Lodge Meetings, the terms continue to 2022. Not everyone had planned on continuing on the board and some other items needed to be addressed. A series of meetings were held the past few weeks with these results:

- Due to the resignation of Geraldine Lachman from the board in late 2018 and her alternate Judy Ghastin moving onto the board, an alternate position had been vacant. The Zone 4 2018 caucus met via ZOOM and elected Michaela Decker to be the specific alternate to Judy Ghastin on the board.
- Due to the resignation of Vice President Kathy Secora from the board due to her intention to step down at the convention and other commitments she had made, we went to the specific alternates in Zone 5 to have one come onto the board. Board refused at this time due to various reasons. We went back to the Zone 5 2018 caucus and they elected Thomas Maxson to replace Kathy Secora on the board. **A huge thank you to Kathy for her many years of service to our district as Vice President and as a zone director!**
- During the June 29 board meeting, the board elected Cheryl Wille-Schlesser to be Vice President.
- That left a vacancy in the Sports and Recreation position. There weren't any nominations for that position and we will work with the current board members to fill that vacancy as soon as possible.
- The Zone Alignment Committee has met numerous times as a committee and with the board and have four options for zone realignment to send out to district members for feedback and comments. We hope to send that out next week and will meet again in early September to determine a proposal to have the board discuss. The intent is to send a bylaw proposal to the 2018 delegates for action in October/November. The options sent out will be for discussion only and are not bylaw proposals.
- I am in the process of updating many of the documents normally updated after a District Lodge Meeting and will get those posted and sent out via the FFFN and email soon.

Lots of things happening during these challenging times!

## From District Publicity Director Karen Eberhardt

Today we are now in the second half of 2020! A lot has happened in the preceding 6 months with more new adventures ahead for everyone. We've had a few months of no in-person meetings and getting to know 'virtual' meetings. All these events seem like a science fiction episode in this year.

I would greatly appreciate pictures from you lodge 'at distance' or 'masked in-person' lodge events for the Viking Magazine that continues to be published each month.

Please send me your lodge pictures by July 10<sup>th</sup> for consideration in the Viking Magazine. Send to [eber01dj@gmail.com](mailto:eber01dj@gmail.com)

Thank you - Stay Safe

Karen Eberhardt  
District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director

\*\* Remember you can still enter the Nordic Picture Contest until July 5<sup>th</sup>. Rules and Procedures are posted on the District 5 website.



## From Vice President Cheryl Schlessor

God dag, alle sammen,

At the virtual D5 Board meeting this week, I **was** elected to serve as your Vice President for a two-year term vacated by Kathy Secora. It will take some time to connect with Kathy and get the membership materials from her, but in the meantime, I have outlined some suggestions for your lodge's officers/directors to consider.

My current plan is to see to fruition the 2020 programming I have implemented as the D5 Sports and Recreation Director. Final mileage totals for the Virtual Walk to Norway are due December 15<sup>th</sup>. At that time, I will prepare any remaining Lodge awards and mail them to local Lodge Presidents. It is the intent of the D5 Board to fill the Sports and Recreation position soon.

The D5 Vice President chairs the District-wide Membership Committee and fulfills other duties such as working closely with the Zone Directors and helping District Lodges to address the needs they may have.

Questions have already been posed as to the plan for membership losses in the wake of COVID-19. I believe that the best answers come from our local lodges, and I will be asking all Lodge Presidents to share their best practices. I will send a communique soon. Your local lodge's Executive Committee should give this some thought when you meet the next time.

Ask your Lodge how the District 5 Zone Directors can be of assistance. Be thinking of the things your lodge needs to continue its success or to improve its status. Change calls for new practices but know that we are here to help. Zone Directors have the capability of arranging virtual meetings for this purpose at no cost to your lodge. I will be the contact for that task, please ask your Zone Director to arrange it.

On my immediate agenda is working with the International Fraternal Director to gather ideas for membership retention and recruitment. Should your lodge have a Membership Committee, convening it to discuss the future struggles your lodge may face would be a prudent activity yet this summer.

Are there any on-line activities that you could implement to engage your members? Could you hold a socially distanced activity? Remember to consult your local county and state laws for gatherings and what is allowable. New restrictions are being put into effect based on the rise of new infections.

Suggestions for locals to keep member interest high:

- 1) Continue to share your lodge's newsletter, as it may be the only communicate' some members receive. Ask each of your Board officers/directors to contribute to the newsletter, providing information that will appeal to a wide variety of members. Add some humor, as it may be sincerely needed by some members. Post extra copies around your community to gather interest from potential members.
- 2) Provide Lodge updates via snail mail, e-mail, or e-blasts.
- 3) Update and post new information on your lodge's website and/or Facebook page(s).
- 4) Deliver information to the Chamber of Commerce in your area that promotes your lodge. Note: This may require a Chamber membership to participate.
- 5) Prepare business cards for the members of your lodge so they can disseminate them to others who may be interested in membership.
- 6) Contact your more veteran members via the phone or by sending a "thinking of you" card. Let them know that they matter. No doubt they are the individuals who carried the torch before you.
- 7) The delivery of a simple floral arrangement from someone's garden would no doubt be welcomed. Discover who your gardeners are!
- 8) Later in the summer, a basket of lovingly grown produce would be a great surprise.
- 9) Plan a membership *engagement* for this summer, virtually, either a cultural presentation or play a game together. Bingo games can be found on-line and members can access their cards electronically. Others who are more able can download the cards for your aged members.
- 10) Consider asking your planned speakers for August and September to organize their presentations in a virtual format, i.e. a Power Point presentation, if the pandemic quarantines continue or become more stringent.

11) Ask your cultural director to share an activity which engages your members. Ideas can be found on the program in a box found on the International website: [SofN.com](http://SofN.com). Select Member Resources from the top of the page. Then scroll to: Expand and Enhance Lodge Programming. Ideas also can be found for summer programming.

12) If someone in your lodge has taken a recent trip, prepare their travels for sharing and post them on-line.

Should you have a concern, please contact me to share it. If you are calling, please leave a voice message. I am screening calls and may not recognize your number; I will return a call.

Tusen takk,

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser

D5 Vice President

[rogcher@mhtc.net](mailto:rogcher@mhtc.net)

608-219-4464

## **2020 District 5 and International Calendar and Deadlines** **Changes in red!**

### **July 5, 2020**

- Deadline for submitting photos for the **District 5 Scandinavian Photo Contest**

### **July 7, 2020**

**Weekly Nordic News-** Tune in at 6:20 PM (Central); 7:20 PM (Eastern) each Tuesday

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### **July 10, 2020**

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the 'Viking' Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

### **July 14, 2020**

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### **July 18, 2020**

- Virtual Masse Moro from 3-5 PM

### **July 21, 2020**

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### **July 26, 2020**

- Virtual Masse Moro from 3-5 PM

### **August 10, 2020**

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the 'Viking' Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

### **September 2020**

- Lodge liability premium sent to all lodge treasurers. This package includes information regarding the coverage, a certificate of insurance for the lodge and an invoice for the lodge's share of the premium.
- September 10 – Foundation Board of Governors applications due. If you are someone who loves nonprofits, governance and your Nordic values, running for a Foundation board position may be a perfect fit!

### **September 10, 2020**

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the 'Viking' Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

### **October 2020**

- Lodge Officer Update/D63 form and instructions is mailed to lodge secretaries.
- The Sons of Norway Foundation portal is available for lodges and individuals to apply for grants and scholarships.
- Lodge Achievement, Family Lodge of the Year and AFA Year-end report forms and instructions is mailed to lodge secretaries.
- Lodge Baneløpet Coordinators are encouraged to contact Sons of Norway Headquarters to discuss plans for anticipated events.

### **October is Foundation Month**

- Help support our grant and scholarship recipients and share your Nordic values by celebrating Foundation month! Please consider a donation directly to the Foundation or plan a fundraising event through your lodge.
- October 1 Grant applications open – Our lodge grants award amounts go up to \$500-\$1,500 depending on a lodge's project.
- October 1 Scholarship applications open – Scholarship opportunities start at \$1,000 with an average scholarship of \$3,000.

### **October 10, 2020**



- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the ‘Viking’ Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

**October 15, 2020**

- Lodge liability premium is due to Sons of Norway Headquarters.

**November 10, 2020**

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the ‘Viking’ Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

**December 2020**

- D17 and D18 forms, instructions and timeline sent to lodge treasurers.

**December 10, 2020**

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the ‘Viking’ Magazine consideration in the edition three months out.

**December 15, 2020**

- District 5 Sports Challenge ends

**December 16, 2020**

- Application deadline for:
  - Community Partnership Grant applications are due to Sons of Norway Foundation.
- Date that new member applications (paper forms) must be **received** at HQ to ensure processing in time for end-of-year delegate calculation and recruitment challenge recognition. (Online applications may be submitted through December 31.)

**December 31, 2020**

- Lodge Officer Update/D63 information is due to Membership Services at Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- Last day to enter new membership applications into the database for delegate calculations and 2019 recruitment challenge recognition. (**Paper applications should be received at headquarters by December 15** to ensure adequate time for processing.)
- Application deadline for:
  - - Lodge Helping Hands to Children Grant\*
    - Lodge Culture and Heritage Grant\*
    - Lodge Vitality Grant\*
- Deadline to order Barneløpet supplies.

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**DISTRICT FIVE LODGE MEETING**

Idun Lodge will host the meeting in 2022 in Madison, Wisconsin. Hotel to be determined.

**INTERNATIONAL LODGE MEETING**

The International Lodge Meeting will be held in 2022. The location has not been announced.

**Viking Chest Rotation**

- The rotation will begin again with this rotation.

- The zone directors are responsible for keeping track of the whereabouts and letting their lodges know that the chest is in their zone for that time period.
- The chest should be brought back to the District Board Meeting to be given to the next zone.

Time period	Zone with chest
October 2019-April 2020	5
April 2020-October 2020	2
October 2020-April 2021	4
April 2021-October 2021	6
October 2021 – April 2022	1
April 2022 – October 2022	3

### Zone Meeting Schedule 2020

Zone	Date	Hosted by	Location
1	Thursday, Feb 20 at 1:15	Zone 1 Directors	Veterans Community Center, Hayward during the volunteer reception after Barnebirkie
2			
3	Sat. January 25	Mandt Lodge	Stoughton, WI
4			
5			
6			

#### Note:

- Check correspondence from the International and District and the International ([www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com)) and District ([www.sonsofnorway5.com](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com)) websites for any updates and changes.
- Additional deadlines for the District 5 and International Conventions/Lodge Meetings will be added as those dates are established. Watch for future mailings and the District 5 website.
- The District 5 Convention will be June 25-28 at the Radisson Hotel, Grand Canyon Drive, Madison hosted by Idun Lodge.
- The International Sons of Norway Convention will be August 19-23, 2020 in Ringsaker Norway

Compiled by Darlene Arneson, SN District 5 Secretary ([arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com) or 608-873-7209)

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### FFFN Basics

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!**

**Send all web posting info and calendar dates/events directly to our webmaster at [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com)** With our new arrangement, I actually send the FFFN pdf to our webmaster on Thursday morning before I go to work. So if you have anything you'd like me to consider putting in, please send it by Wednesday night. Please do not send pdf's as I have a hard time cutting and pasting them. The Word Document works best for me. Don't forget that lodge events should be submitted to [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com) as I have a hard time keeping track of all lodge activities. I'll put some in but that is more the role of the website event calendar.

If you would like to get the MS Word document, just shoot me an email and I'll add you to the list. I send it out right after I send the email to the large group.

Darlene Arneson – [arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com)