

Friendly Fifth Friday News May 20, 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

Highlight Member Benefits (from www.sonsofnorway.com)

Make the Most of Your Membership!

Next to *Viking* magazine, one of the most valuable benefits of membership is our discount program. As a member you will enjoy access to discounts on thousands of products and services from hundreds of local and national retailers.

Do you love to travel? We have discounts on airfares, rental cars, hotels, and travel insurance. Do you have an active lifestyle? Your Sons of Norway membership offers discounts on health clubs, sporting goods and fitness equipment. Or maybe you prefer to relax at home? Then you'll love our discounts on garden & patio items, home décor, and bed & bath products.

Members Enjoy Access to Discounts from the Following Companies:



PerkSpot

By visiting Sons of Norway's exclusive PerkSpot portal you can start saving today on products and services, like travel, clothing, food, entertainment and electronics. But that's not all! Every month new discounts are added to enhance the benefit and, once you create your account, the discounts you see will be tailored to the area in which you live!

Avis and Budget Car Rental

Members receive a 30% discount at participating locations worldwide.

Best Western Hotel

Members receive a discount of up to 10% at any of Best Western's 3,400 hotels in the United States, Canada, and select properties in Scandinavia.

Borton Overseas

Members enjoy a 5% Sons of Norway member discount when booking a qualifying inclusive tour package. [Click here](#) to learn more!

Carlson Hotels

Members qualify for 5% off the regular rate at Radisson Blu, Radisson®, Country Inns & Suites By CarlsonSM, Park Inn by Radisson, and Park Plaza® hotels.

Icelandair

Members receive a 10% discount on any published Icelandair airfare when tickets are booked through select travel agents.

Posting your events on the International Website

We often get busy planning our events and making sure they are organized and neglect to use some of the free publicity tools. Send the information via email to Duane Kittleson, District 5 Webmaster, for posting on the District website.

And utilize the International's calendar of events:

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Sons of Norway website. The browser's address bar shows the URL members.sofn.com/Events/public/search. The website header includes the Sons of Norway logo and navigation links: Convention, Donate, FBC Resources, E-Post Signup, Events, Profile, and MEMBER RESOURCES. A secondary navigation bar contains links for About Us, Financial Products, Member Benefits, Norwegian Culture, Foundation, and Blog. Below the navigation, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'MEMBER BENEFITS', features a 'HOME' button, a 'Post your event' button, and two dropdown filters: 'Filter by Title' and 'Filter by State/Province'. Below these filters is a calendar for May 2016, showing dates from 17 to 22. The right column, titled 'Calendar of Events', contains the following text: 'Keep an eye on the Sons of Norway Web site to learn about Norwegian-related happenings in North America and Europe. If you have an event you'd like to see on this page, [Click here](#) to post your event.' Below this, there are three event listings: 1) '05/16/2016 - 05/21/2016 Norwegian Heritage Week in Thief River Falls, MN Thief River Falls, MN'; 2) '05/20/2016 TUSENVANN ANNUAL BANQUET, DANCE & SILENT AUCTION Wahkon, MN'; and 3) '05/21/2016 Kaffe Stue Black River Falls, WI'. A fourth event listing is partially visible at the bottom: '05/21/2016 Norsk Carolina Lodge Syttende Mai Celebration'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 5:35 AM on 5/20/2016.

Don't neglect the summer months!

Summer is handled differently by lodges. Some continue their regular meetings, programming and activities and others "take the summer off". Don't miss these valuable months to have some great lodge activities, day trips, outdoor programs and other activities. The roads are clear, the daylight lasts longer, and more members have the ability (physically) to get to events. Take advantage of nice weather, outdoor opportunities for youth and sports activities, and family activities that may help your recruitment efforts.

Convention updates

I have some catch up to do on some of my responsibilities and hope to have the Reports Book out next week. Owen has sent me the agenda and almost all the officer reports are in. We have a convention planning meeting this Sunday in Marshfield and I'm sure there will be updates after that. So thank you for your patience.

If you are on a committee, I will work with Owen this week to get the instructions sent out. Then when the Reports Book goes out, the committee's work will really begin.

Mandt Lodge plans Nordic Fest Bus Trip

Join Sons of Norway Mandt Lodge as they travel to Nordic Fest in Decorah on Friday, July 29. They will leave Stoughton at 7:00 AM and returning at 9 PM. Nordic Fest involves entertainment canopies, food booths will tantalize your taste buds, Vesterheim Museum tours and demonstrations! There is an Arts & Crafts Show at the Decorah Middle School, Canopy 5 for entertainment that will rock you, cold refreshments, lots of dancing, and loads of laughs. Join us for a fun day of celebrating Norwegian heritage, culture and fun that we don't have to work at! See how Decorah hosts Nordic Fest and bring back ideas that might work in Stoughton and our area! Costs: \$35 for Mandt Lodge members, \$40 for Sons of Norway members (any other lodges) and \$45 for non-members. The amount includes your bus ride, Nordic Fest button, and snacks/refreshments on bus. The normal "driver" tip will be a free-will offering. Reservations for the 47 passenger bus are on a first-come, first serve basis and must be paid at the time of reserving a seat. Refunds will not be given unless you can find a substitute for your space. Snacks will be provided. We will meet in the front parking lot (High school greenhouse and Methodist Church side) of the Stoughton High School, 600 Lincoln Avenue, and will park your cars and load the bus there. For more information, contact Darlene Arneson at arnesonfamily5@gmail.com or 608-873-7209. Return this form for each person and check (made to Sons of Norway) to Darlene Arneson, 2056 Skaalen Rd, Stoughton, WI 53589. Call 608-873-7209 or email arnesonfamily5@gmail.com for more information.

District Calendar!

June 2015

- June 1- Convention related deadlines: Convention registration, volunteer forms, classes (genealogy, Hardanger, rosemaling and wire weaving)
- June 3- Convention related deadline: Folk Art Exhibit and Competition forms
- June 27- Balance due for **Masse Moro Norwegian Heritage Camp** registrations.

July 2016

- July 1- December 31- Cultural Skills Pin Contest
- July 17-30 - **Masse Moro Norwegian Heritage Camp** - Beaver Creek Reserve - Eau Claire, WI

Note:

- Check correspondence from the International and District and the International (www.sofn.com) and District (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 22-26, 2016 at the Hotel Marshfield in Marshfield, WI. The convention is being hosted by the District 5 Board and a committee of local lodge leaders- Diane Hesseltvan Dinter, Owen Christianson, Judy Ghastin and Dorothy Berg.
- The International Sons of Norway Convention will be August 22-27, 2016 in Tacoma, Washington.