

Sons of Norway District 5 - Friendly Fifth Friday News

November 10, 2023

ADULT HERITAGE WEEKEND



I would like to extend a hjertilige takk to Lodge President Darlene Arneson and to the members of Mandt Lodge in Stoughton, WI, for their willingness to host the recent District 5 Adult Heritage Weekend. It takes many hours of preparation to plan such an event, communicate with presenters, make meals, secure servers, find venues of interest, and distribute the information that surrounds such an endeavor. It is worth mentioning that some funding for the event was also provided by Fosselyngen Lodge in Milwaukee, WI, and we thank them for their generosity.

LODGE AUDITS- Does your lodge have identified months of the year to conduct an audit of your books? Ideally, three times a year works nicely. Early each year, prior to the submission of the required D17 report, summer following Syttende Mai banquets or other fundraisers, and in the fall, perhaps when your lodge resumes its fall schedule of events. All of our members are busy, and sometimes life throws curve balls our way. Having set times of the year to address this very important aspect of lodge operation ensures smooth sailing and avoids painful surprises that can become difficult to resolve. If your lodge has trustees, their review of lodge holdings could also be addressed on a similar schedule.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS= On behalf of the District 5 Board of Directors, I would like to offer our congratulations to the newly elected leaders of each lodge. Your face is what the community sees and your energy and enthusiasm for your heritage will shine through in all you do. Some lodges make transitions smooth by providing mentors for the newly elected. If you have further questions on lodge operations, please reach out to the D5 Board for further assistance.

A great place for you to learn more about your role is at your zone's leadership training seminar or at one provided via the district. There has been a request to conduct more virtual training so that our lodges across the district have direct access to identical training without traveling hundreds of miles. District Secretary Darlene Arneson and I will be looking at such an experience for our members early in 2024.

BARNEBIRKIE- This week I have had communication with staff from the American Birkebeiner Foundation. Anyone wishing to volunteer for next year's event in Hayward, WI, February 22-24, is asked to register. If you would like to serve on the day of the Barnebirkie, numerous spots are open. Go to the American Birkebeiner *volunteer page* and use the password: *barnestart2024*. We need coordinators at the Celebration Tent to set up signage and put out our cookie donations for the little

ones. We will be working next to another Birkebeiner partner, Swiss Miss, who distributes hot chocolate to complement our cookies.

FRILUFTSLIV- With winter just around the corner, this may be the time to plan an outdoor activity for your lodge. Norwegians pride themselves on being active in all seasons of the year. A phrase often heard spoken is ikke dårlig vær, bare dårlig klær-not bad weather-just bad clothes! Snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, winter camping, ice skating, tobogganing, sledding, or winter fishing might appeal to your members.

On the contrary, should your members wish to stay indoors, a winter movie with chili or soup is appealing. Activities such as these strengthen the bonds in your lodge and should not be overlooked. All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy!

DISTRICT 5 SPORTS CHALLENGE

RACING TO THE FUTURE



How many members of your lodge are participating in the district's sports challenge? Does your lodge have a sports director to lead this activity? If so, they can set up routes for activities. If not, ask your local lodge president to help coordinate this activity. Complete details of this opportunity are provided in the Friendly Fifth Friday News, dated October 20, 2023 (sonsofnorway5.com). I am off to a slow start, but my tracker shows 42 miles. Look out, Dovre Lodge, I'm coming for you, albeit rather slowly!

DISTRICT 5 FACEBOOK PAGE- Please post your lodge activities to our page. Others may get ideas from your activities, fundraisers, and events. JuletreFest pictures are very welcome. If your lodge keeps a list of visitors to your lodge, invite them to your Christmas celebration! It may be the nudge someone needs to join your lodge!

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT- Does your lodge hold an annual membership event? In recent weeks, I have spoken to lodges that are having difficulty filling their leadership positions. Bringing new life to your lodge is critical for its survival. Some lodges prepare breakfasts for prospective members. Others meet at a nearby restaurant for lunch. Your local leaders might speak about how the lodge enriches the community and has become a proud community partner.

Details about the upcoming lodge calendar could be shared. Are you looking for someone with specific talents or skills? Share the need with those present. It is possible someone in attendance is the person you seek!

Thank you for all you do to promote the heritage and culture of Norway.

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser

District 5 President

cwschlesser200bc@gmail.com

608-219-4464 (Please leave a voice message.)

From Idun Lodge in Madison, WI

Idun Lodge Juletrefest

Saturday, December 2, 2023 12:00 Noon meal

Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall

1904 Winnebago Street

Madison, WI 53704

Idun Lodge is hosting a Juletrefest celebration on Saturday December 2nd; meal at 12:00 Noon.

All members, families, and friends, along with members from neighboring lodges are invited. Idun lodge members are preparing the Norwegian-themed meal.

There will be no charge for the event, but we must have reservations by **Wednesday, November 22** in order to do the necessary planning.

Call or email your name and the number of people (including # of children) in your group to

Mary Zoroufy:

Phone: 608-277-8190

Email: maryzor@charter.net

10:00 am Set up

11:30 am Guest arrival time, Atwood Avenue entrance to Trinity Lutheran Church

(Winnebago St. elevator entrance open 11:30am – 1:30pm)

For the elevator, use the Winnebago St. entrance. If this door happens to be locked, call Jo Sommers at 608-238-7731 for entry. You can always leave the building by elevator.

12:00 NOON Meal begins, followed by activities

Menu: Lapskaus (beef stew with potatoes and vegetables), cucumber salad, lefse with trimmings

Dessert—variety of Norwegian cookies, desserts and sot suppe (sweet soup)

Beverages—punch, coffee, tea

Program of Events

- A) Arts and Cultural Displays--Rosemaling, Hardanger embroidery or other needlework, knitted Norwegian style sweaters, etc.
- B) Silent Auction of Norwegian sweaters--- Bring cash or a checkbook. Proceeds from this auction will go toward a book scholarship.
- C) Jule stories and customs
- D) Gifts for all kids attending
- E) Singing Norwegian Christmas songs
- F) Games



D63 Officer Updates for 2024

📱 **Online:** Your Lodge Officer Roster and lodge meeting information must be updated online at www.sonsofnorway.com. More detailed instructions are on the reverse of this sheet.

Both Sons of Norway Headquarters and your district secretary are able to get your information from the website.

😊 **No Changes for 2024?** Please still visit the Officer Update section on our website and confirm the no changes option.

📅 **Deadline - December 31st:** Timely reporting of this information to Fraternal assures that your lodge's information will be correct in the Sons of Norway Headquarters database and in the online directory. Also, lodges meeting this deadline will score points towards the Lodge of the Year and Gold/Silver/Bronze Merit awards for 2023.

If the deadline is approaching and your lodge hasn't reported its 2024 officer roster, please submit the information you have and/or contact Fraternal. Changes made after the 12/31 deadline should still be reported, though these updates may not be reflected in the new district directories.

👁️ **NOTE:** Your 2024 officer roster and lodge location changes will not appear in the online lodge directory or be active in the Sons of Norway Headquarters system until 1/15/2024. Year- end reports and forms from Headquarters will be sent to 2023 officers.

😊 **Questions:** Contact Fraternal at Sons of Norway Headquarters by phone at 1-800-945-8851 extension 4643 or by email at fraternal@sofn.com.



Officer Updates Online

To Update Your 2024 Officer Roster:

Sign on to www.sofn.com with your username and password.

Click "Lodge Officer Updates" on the menu to the left of your name on your Profile Page.

To register your 2024 Officer Roster, click on the "Officers" button.

- **No changes?** Click the "No Changes for Upcoming Year" button at the top of the page.
- Adding a completely **new officer position** in 2024? Click "Add a new position" and then enter the title and member number of the person filling the office. Hit "Submit." Then hit "Save the Changes."
- To record a **change in officer**, delete the member number of the outgoing officer and type in the member number of the incoming officer. (The names will NOT change on the screen at this point.)
- If your lodge is **eliminating a position** in 2024, click the "Remove this position" button for that entry.
- Once you have made ALL your changes, click the "SUBMIT CHANGES" button at the bottom of the page.
- You will see a list of your changes. If they are correct, click "Save the Changes." Both Sons of Norway Headquarters and the District Secretary will receive a notification email.
- Your 2024 roster of officers has been recorded!

To Update Your Meeting Information:

Click "Lodge Officer Updates" from the menu to the left of your name on your Profile Page:

- Click the "Change Meeting Information" button.
- Make your changes and click the 'Save' button.

All lodges should affirm or change their lodge officer rosters by December 31, 2023.

Please contact Fraternal at 612-821-4643 or fraternal@sofn.com with any questions.

***Please note that changes will not be live on the website until 1/15/2024**

Deadlines and Dates! Changes in red!

- November 20- Viking photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier
- **December 16-** New member enrollment forms **MUST** be into Sons of Norway Headquarters by December 16 to be counted for year-end totals and the Recruitment Contest.

- December 20- Viking photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier
- **December 31**
 - Lodge Officer Update/D63 information is due to Membership Services at Sons of Norway Headquarters.
 - Any new members joining online must sign-up to be included in year end totals.
 - Application deadline for:

Lodge Helping Hands to Children Grant*

- Lodge Culture and Heritage Grant*
- Lodge Vitality Grant*
- Deadline to order Barneløpet supplies.

March 1

- Deadline — Domestic scholarship applications due to Sons of Norway Foundation:
 - Astrid G. Cates Scholarship**
 - Bernt Anker Scholarship
 - Dan and Betty Rude Scholarship
 - Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarship**
 - Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship**
 - Orel and Marie Winjum Memorial Scholarship
 - Elaine Nelson Scholarship
- Deadline — International travel scholarship applications due to Sons of Norway Foundation:
 - Douglas Warne – Rolf & Wenche Eng Scholarship
 - Helen Tronvold Adult Learner Scholarship*
 - Helen Tronvold Folk High School Scholarship**
 - King Olav V Norwegian-American Heritage Scholarship
 - Lund Fund Scholarship**
 - Oslo International Summer School Scholarship**

March 15

- D17 financial form is due from the lodges and districts to Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- Lodge Achievement and Family Lodge of the Year forms are due to Membership Services at Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- Community and Fraternal activities and hour totals, using AFA Year-end report form or online reporting at Fraternalsgiving.org, are due to Membership Services at Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- D64 Lodge Property Officer forms are due to Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- Deadlines for Lodge Achievement, Family Lodge of the Year and AFA Reporting.

May 15

- D18 property association financial form is due from the lodges to Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- IRS filing deadline for tax form 990. Lodge treasurer needs to notify Sons of Norway Headquarters when 990 has been submitted.

*Insurance membership with Sons of Norway required

****Membership with Sons of Norway required (social or insurance)**

- May 19- District Sports Challenge Ends

Who to contact at the home office when you need help

- You can email cbs@sofn.com for any member updates that need to be made.
- For anything fraternal- Connie O'Brien (COBrien@sofn.com) or Amy Tuchenhagen (ATuchenhagen@sofn.com). Sherry Gorse is no longer employed at Sons of Norway.
- For matter like submitting a death, a change to a members address or other info please email cbs@sofn.com
- For issues with passwords or website use ithelp@sofn.com.
- The 800 number to call in for member support is 800-945-8851
- If you need something related to sales, you can use sales@sofn.com

Viking Chest / Immigrant Trunk Schedule

Oct 2023 to Apr 2024:

Chest--zone 6
Trunk--zone 5

Apr 2024 to Oct 2024

Chest--zone 2
Trunk--zone 1

Oct 2024 to April 2025

Chest--zone 3
Trunk--zone 4

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.

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

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

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 4 am on Thursday morning. 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 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