

Friendly Fifth Friday News November 13, 2020

Send all web posting info and calendar dates/events directly to our webmaster at inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com

From Vice President Cheryl Schlessor

Mark Agerter had called for a summation of District activities for the last quarter of 2020.



To: Mark Agerter, Sons of Norway International Vice President
From: Cheryl Wille-Schlessor, District 5 Vice President
Re: District and Lodge Operations during the last quarter of 2020

The District 5 Board of Directors held a virtual Board meeting the weekend of October 9-10, 2020. Plans were made for future programming, dependent on restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. The schedule for the 2021 Barnebirkie held in conjunction with the American Birkebeiner in Hayward, WI are on hold at this time. We will not be serving our cookies at the event due to liability, health, and social distancing concerns.
2. District 5 is actively searching for a new administrator for our summer youth camp. The selected candidate will train for one year under the current District 5 Youth Director, Sandra Olson, and they will assume full responsibility in 2022. Should COVID-19 prevent an in- person camp from taking place in 2021, a virtual option will be given to our campers.
3. The District 5 Vice President has made a public group for communicating with all District 5 Vice Presidents or the Membership chairs of each lodge. One useful item is shared per month that can be used when planning a membership event following the pandemic.
4. Plans are underway for a Districtwide Zone Training to be held in either January or February 2021.
5. The District 5 Vice President has created a Power Point presentation that can be used by anyone to learn more about the Sons of Norway. It could be used at a membership meeting or a zone training. It is posted on the District 5 webpage for easy access by all (www.sonofnorway5.com).
6. Acknowledgement of gifts from the estate of Gene Steensma, former District 5 International Director, were disclosed to benefit Masse Moro and the Barnebirkie.
7. Financially, the District sees a healthy fund balance. Additionally, sales of playing cards from the Scandinavian Photo Contest had a profitable yield for the District.

8. Cultural classes for District members will begin virtually by chosen specialists.
9. Updates on Sons of Norway are provided weekly via the Friendly Fifth Friday News document disseminated by District Secretary, Darlene Arneson.
10. Lodges completed successful Foundation Month Fundraisers, and District 5 Board members were asked to support the Foundation through personal donations.
11. COVID-19 has put restrictions on our lodges in District 5, and many have halted their operations for the remainder of 2020. Some lodges are planning a Jul event.
12. A virtual news program has been created by District Treasurer, Michael Palecek, called the *Nordic News*. Programs are videotaped and posted to the District 5 website.

Masse Moro is hiring!

Could you help us? Sons of Norway District 5 is hiring an Assistant Camp Administrator for the Masse Moro language/culture youth camp. If you know anyone who you think would be a good Assistant Administrator, please forward them this email.

The Assistant Camp Administrator will work with Sandra Olson, our current Administrator/Youth Director to “learn the ropes” of running Masse Moro. The major duties include:

- Promoting Masse Moro
- Interacting with the camp Co-Directors, who run the day-to-day program
- Running background checks on staff and volunteers, help hire staff
- Being at camp to supervise, July 18-31, 2021 (can share this with Youth Director)
- Run a “Virtual Masse Moro” if we do not have a 2021 camp, due to COVID

For the complete job description,

see: http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/masse_moro_heritage_camp.php

To learn more about Masse Moro, visit: www.massemoro.org

Resumes should be emailed by December 4, 2020 to Tom Boudreau: sjbergh4364@gmail.com

Another video on how to do Fraternal Gives!

<https://youtu.be/y-3GX08K-pQ>

In this week’s video, Sherry Gorse of Membership Services shares information on how lodge leaders can use Fraternal Gives to track lodge events and volunteer hours.

From District Sports & Recreation Director Audrey Severson

A new Sports Medal named the Sports Hero Pin or Idrettshellt became available in August for a fifth medal after the Enamel Sports Medal in any sports category. One must earn twice the points or mileage of the Enamel for this new medal. Also an Outstanding Achievement Award medal or Hederspris is available after someone has earned three enamel sport medals.

As of the beginning of November, the Barnebirkie has not yet decided how or if we can be involved with cookies. The regular Birkie will look different in how that will be organized. See their website for more information: www.birkie.com We will inform the lodges when the decision has been made about the Barnebirkie.

The Virtual Walk to Norway will be wrapping up on December 15. We ask all lodges to have reported their miles to me or Cheryl Wille-Schlessler by that date. She has started a Power Point on our D5 webpage and D5 facebook page of any pictures the lodges send showing individuals walking, running, etc. Certificates will be given to the lodges participating in the walk.

Lodge Bylaws- how to update and new language for dissolution

Dear Lodge Leaders:

In our ongoing effort to increase good governance within our organization, the International Board of Directors has revised the Local Lodge Bylaws template to add two items of importance. One will help your lodge ensure proper oversight with compliance issues and the other will establish guidelines for a local lodge in the event of lodge dissolution. These additions come from advice by counsel in order to help our lodges protect themselves from a legal standpoint and to provide guidance in the unlikely event of a lodge dissolution.

The Board asks all lodges to review their current bylaws to determine if they contain these or similar clauses. If not, the new information (as highlighted in the example attached) needs to be added. For those lodges with custom bylaw forms that do not strictly follow the template, please incorporate the highlighted text into those bylaws as well.

For reference, you can find the text of the revised bylaws template https://www.sofn.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Bylaws_template_highlighted.pdf

If you have any questions about what this means for your lodge, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions.

Fraternally, David Crabb
Fraternal Engagement Manager

Virtual Genealogy Classes Offered!

The Sons of Norway District 5 Cultural Committee is pleased to offer an opportunity for you to develop your genealogy research skills while connecting with others from throughout the district who share your interest. Virtual genealogy classes will be offered beginning this fall.

If you are just beginning your family history research, or have little or no experience with Norwegian genealogical records, this class is for you. Topics covered in the class include common genealogical records for Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogy, Norwegian naming customs, locating your ancestor's birthplace in Norway, Norwegian spelling variation, an introduction to DNA testing, and earning the genealogy cultural skills pin.

The first two-day class will be held November 30 and December 1 at 10:00 a.m. Central. The class will be repeated on January 9 and January 16 at 10:00 a.m. Central. Class duration is from 10 am to 2 pm central with 30 minutes for lunch. There can be time to visit informally during lunch.

The special fee for Sons of Norway members for this special class is \$125 for the two-day class and includes 30 days of access to on-line genealogy information through NAGC&NL and a copy of the updated "Research Guide for Norwegian Genealogy: For Beginning and Experienced Genealogists" (a \$25 value). Non-member friends may participate by either joining SofN or paying an additional \$25.

The instructor for the virtual genealogy classes is Dana Kelly, who serves as Executive Director of the Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library in Madison, Wisconsin. She has been researching her own family history for nearly 30 years which led her to a Scandinavian Studies degree from UW-Madison where she learned to speak, read and write Norwegian. She has served on the board of directors for the Koshkonong Prairie Historical Society since 2009 and is a member of several Norwegian cultural and genealogical organizations including Sons of Norway, Vesterheim, Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, Dane County Area Genealogical Society, and International Society of Online Genetic Genealogists.

To register for the class, give a class as a gift, or request further information, contact Diane Maurer at dmaurer@nagcnl.org
Norwegian American
Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library
415 W. Main St., Madison, WI 53703
[608-255-2224](tel:608-255-2224) (w)

Another update from David Crabb on changes in lodge officer elections!

David Crabb, Fraternal Engagement Manager, shares recent changes to our Charter & Constitution and Policy & Procedures manual that affect all of our lodges.

<https://youtu.be/EG23waLI9nE>

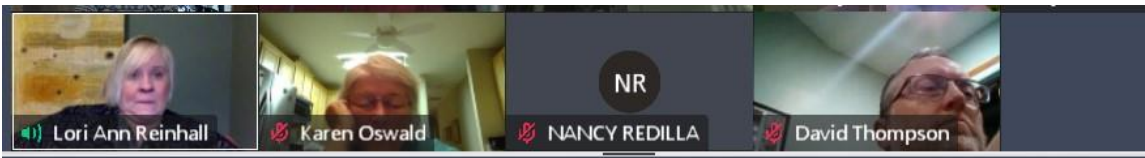
Fraternal Benefit Societies- Great video to explain what they are!

<https://youtu.be/eSof7Z3yJYQ>

Fraternal Benefit Societies, like Sons of Norway, play a vital role in the world today. We are defined by four key aspects: Our members enjoy a common bond and they are protected by the financial products we offer. What's more, we are all made up of local chapters/networks and our members serve a benevolent purpose through community service. In fact, our 9 million members are responsible for 90 million hours of volunteerism every year and more than \$500 million in community outreach. This makes us one of the largest community volunteer networks in existence.

Nordic News this week...

Last week's "Nordic News" featured **Lori Ann Reinhall** (editor in chief) gave us a good overview of the Norwegian American Newspaper. Biggest takeaway: subscribers can access over 5,000 articles on Nordic and Nordic-American topics at their website and that it's OK for D5 lodges to reprint info in lodge newsletters, if you attribute it as "an article reprinted from the Norwegian-American newspaper."



the **NORWEGIAN** american

A visual holiday feast



Watch the recording (55:38) at: <https://www.screencast.com/t/fnDPWFJka83>

The **November 3rd "Nordic News"** featured **Carmen Collins** in Norwegian Naming Conventions. Collins is a Sons of Norway member in Nordkap lodge in Detroit MI. This is a must-watch presentation for anyone wanting to study Scandinavian naming conventions. It is great background information for genealogy or Nordic-American history studies.

EARLY NAMING



↗ Vikings believed a child would achieve qualities and protection from what they were named after, e.g. animals or weapons.

↗ After Christianity took hold, saints and biblical names were used.

↗ **Patronymics** became the rule in several areas of the world, including Scandinavia.

Watch the recording (26:44) at: <https://www.screencast.com/t/rrpm14WXcr>

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Olivia Cook (Vennelag lodge – Mount Horeb WI) will be presenting "**Christmas Traditions in Norway**" on the **November 17th Nordic News**. Olivia grew up in Dane county Wisconsin and went to school in Norway for six months after her high school graduation. She came back to the U.S. to go to college, then went back to Norway for a year and married a Norwegian man. Olivia is now completing her doctoral studies in North Carolina. The focus of Olivia's presentation is to share with D5 members the differences between American and Norwegian Christmas celebrations. After hearing the preview of Olivia's talk, I'm sure that you will find this one of the best Nordic News presentations yet!

Tune in at 6:20 PM (Central); 7:20 PM (Eastern) every Tuesday.

By computer: <https://gotomeet.me/SofN-D5>

By phone: 646-749-3112 (access code: 509-077-557)

By iPhone, iPad, or Android tablet/phone: download the GoToMeeting app from the Apple or Google Play Store. Launch the app and enter the meeting code: SofN-D5

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You can watch past episodes of Nordic News at:

http://www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/speakers_bureau.php

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D5 Cultural Committee survey...

Tusen takk to the 268 D5 members who took the D5 Cultural committee's "Virtual Culture Classes" survey. The Culture committee is currently finalizing classes. Top choices: cooking/baking (113), Norwegian-American history (111), genealogy (76), rosmaling (73), hardanger embroidery (71), woodcarving (51).

One of the benefits of being a Sons of Norway member is the cultural medals program. Most classes will be offered in the new year with two genealogy classes already scheduled. Class costs will vary. Some classes have an instruction fee plus the cost of materials.

Tusen takk to D5 Cultural committee members for their organizing efforts: Judy Ghastin, Dee Bumpers, Karen Eberhardt and Sandy Olson.

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

Nordic News Weekly Program- Every Tuesday night

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November 30- December 1, 2020

- **NAGC & NL and District 5 Genealogy Class**

December 2020

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

December 8-10, 2020

- **Virtual 125th Celebration-** <https://www.sofn.com/125years/virtual-party/>

December 10, 2020

- Lodge photos are due to the District Publicity Director by the 10th 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.

January 9 and January 16, 2021

- **NAGC & NL and District 5 Genealogy Class**

April 16-17, 2021

- District 5 Board Meeting- Nashville, TN

DISTRICT FIVE LODGE MEETING

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

INTERNATIONAL LODGE MEETING

The International Lodge Meeting will be held in 2022 in Minneapolis, MN.

Viking Chest Rotation

The Viking Chest has not traveled since the health emergency began, and the new schedule cannot be announced until it is safe to hold in-person meetings. Therefore, the rotation schedule is suspended until further notice.

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 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@sonsofnorway.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