



Scandiana

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Mission Statement: The mission of Sons of Norway is to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.



Fra Presidenten

Greetings. These are the first days of spring; the days are getting longer and also warmer. I cross-country skied last weekend, just before the snow melted. The Birkebeiner ski races in Wisconsin have also suffered from sparse snowfall in the past, although this year there was enough snow to ski the traditional 31 mile course between two towns.

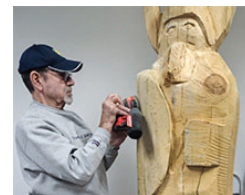


Our Scandiana lodge supported the children's Birkie race for many years, providing cookies for the racers. Also, lodge member Andy Johnson participated in (and volunteered for) many Birkebeiner races over the past decades. We skiers would like more snow!

Our February 15 lodge meeting at the Baugher Center featured Swedish food and a program on Swedish immigration to NW Indiana by author Ken Schoon. Thanks to lodge member Kathy Rowberg for obtaining the program. The remodeled Baugher Center has new audio/visual equipment, and Jim Nelson reported that the Center soon will have an electronic keyboard (which replaces the old piano that was heavy and often out-of-tune). Darlene Henderson showed photographs of the replacement Viking statue for our Norway Garden at the Friendship Botanical Gardens. The work on the statue is progressing nicely.

At our February 10 executive committee meeting, we discussed many ideas for exploring our Scandinavian culture – cultural skills in Scandinavian baking & a water color class, possible monthly Swedish luncheons at the Red Cup Cafe in Chesterton, field trips to Crown Point's Nordikreations store and Harbert's Swedish bakery.

(Fra Presidenten continues on page 2)



Viking Progress

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Kids' Fastelavn song of old

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Our March Lodge Meeting

March 15

12:00PM - 4:30PM

Baugher Center at Westchester Public Library,
 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN

March Program

Crafts and Hobbies -
 What tickles your fancy?

Sneak Peek at March's Program

March's program is centered upon you and your hobbies, crafts, and interests.

Tell your fellow lodge members what interests you, what you like to "tinker with" when the chores are done, or what collection makes you smile.

Be like our lodge president, David, who will be bringing some favorite items from his hat collection!

Regardless of what you choose to share, and there is no wrong answer here, consider offering:

- * When did you first become interested and/or when did you start collecting?
- * Does anyone in your family share this interest?
- * What is your favorite accomplishment or memory when thinking about this hobby?
- * What are you desperately seeking OR what are you working up the courage to try next?
- * What mistakes did you make early-on in this pursuit?
- * What is your suggestion for how (or where) to start if someone is interested in this?

This is a great opportunity to laugh AND learn!

[Fra Presidenten](#) (continued from page 1)

*Our March 15 lodge meeting at the Baugher Center features our crafts and hobbies program. **Please bring samples of your craft or hobby to share with our group.** It is an opportunity to show your hobby to others, and also possibly to find a new activity that might interest you! You don't need to be a craftsman to participate – I am bringing samples from my hat collection (and I do not make hats; I just collect them).*

Again, I hope you can attend our lodge meeting on March 15!

Takk for Alt!!

Beste Hilsen, David Carlson Hirschey, president



Norwegian ceramics honored in Brussels

A January art and design event Ceramic Brussels in Belgium recently showcased the work of Norwegian ceramic artists. The multi-day event is the first international modern art fair to focus on ceramics, and included over 60 galleries, museums and ceramic artists.

Oslo nonprofit Norwegian Crafts was on-site to promote contemporary Norwegian ceramic works and innovation brought to the world by Norwegian artists. In tandem with Ceramic Brussels, they curated five Norwegian galleries to highlight: RAM Galleri, QB Gallery, KIOSKEN, Format, and SKOG Art Space.

This year's expo was the first to focus on a single country, offering a look at the Norwegian ceramic scene in a cultural dialog with artists from other countries. Rounding out the exhibition were collections out of art and design galleries from Belgium, Denmark and the US. Norwegian Crafts' presence at Ceramic Brussels portrays a vibrant spectrum of modern and traditional ceramics through "works of prominent and emerging Norwegian artists," as mentioned by the organizers.

Norwegian Ceramics - Inside the Exhibit

The story on page 2 was from our Sons of Norway Home Office. Using the link they provided, and information from the exhibition, we have pulled together photos and exhibitor descriptions from the Norwegian studios recognized in Brussels. Enjoy!

Sort

2022-2023. Eyvind Solli Andreassen



Turquoise Stack

2014, Torbjørn Kvasbø



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Established in 1991, Format, a gallery for material-based art in Oslo, displays an evocative tableau of the country's ceramic mastery, embodying a confluence of innovation and tradition. The gallery displays colossal hand-moulded forms comprising stacked cylindrical tubes by Nordic ceramicist Torbjørn Kvasbø.

Meanwhile, Norwegian artist Eyvind Solli Andreassen explores precarious (dis)balance and sculptural tension in his pointed ceramic containers through coiling techniques.

Norwegian ceramic artist Mingshu Li's cannular sculpture reinterprets the historical motif stråmønster (strawflowers pattern), merging personal narratives with a centuries-old design heritage to reflect the richness of cultural exchange.

SKOG is a modern art space in Galgeberg, Oslo, which focuses on "showcasing material-based art and supporting newly established artists, contributing meaningfully to Oslo's dynamic art scene." SKOG displays local ceramicist Irene Nordli's imploding, figurative forms exploring body, memory, and cultural heritage while challenging and reimagining classical ideals.

The Strawflowers' Journey

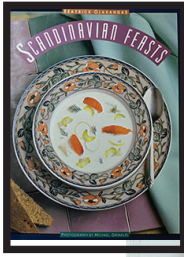
2024, Mingshu Li



Vessel for the Unknown

Irene Nordli





Shrove Tuesday approaches



Each month, we'll raid our cookbook collection for a Scandinavian treat. This month's selection comes from pages 196 and 197 in Beatrice Ojakangas' *Scandinavian Feasts*. I've used recipes from other sources, but this one appears safe so we can experiment together. Hope you enjoy!

Whether you call them fastelavnsboller (Danish), laskiaispullat (Finnish), semlor (Swedish), or fastelavnsboller (Norwegian), they're a "lighter" alternative to the glorious deep-fried pączki from our Polish ancestors.

In a large bowl, dissolve yeast in water. Let stand for 5 minutes.

Beat in the egg, milk, butter, sugar, salt, and cardamom.

Sift in 2 cups flour. Beat until smooth. Add enough of the remaining flour to make a stiff dough.

Turn the dough out onto a lightly-floured board, cover, and let rest for 15 minutes. Clean the bowl and brush it lightly with vegetable oil.

Knead the dough for 10 minutes, or until smooth and satiny. Place in the oiled bowl and turn over to coat. Cover with a cloth and let rise in a warm place until doubled (about 1 hour).

Lightly grease or cover large baking sheet with parchment paper. Turn dough out onto lightly oiled board. Divide dough into 4 portions, then divide each of those 4 portions into 4 portions. Shape each of the 16 pieces into a round bun, about 1-inch high, and place on baking sheet. Let rise until doubled (about 45 minutes). Preheat oven to 400 F.

Brush with beaten egg, bake for 10 - 12 minutes, until golden. Cool on rack.

Make a horizontal slit about 1/3 of the way down from the top of the bun, forming a "hinge" to keep top and bottom connected. Open the bun and place a piece of almond paste and a spoon of whipped cream inside. Dust with powdered sugar.

To serve, place in dessert bowl that is 1/4 full with hot milk. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon.

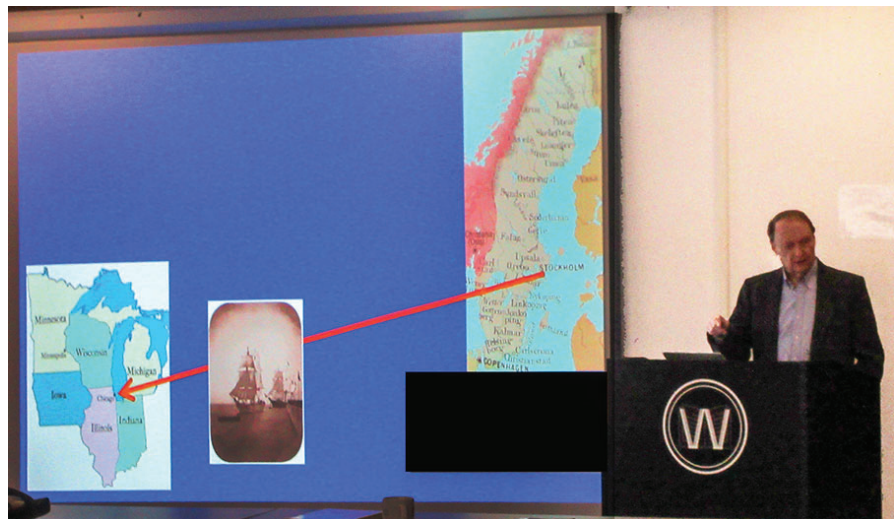
Unfilled buns can be frozen, just thaw before serving.

Ingredients for 16 buns

- 1 package active dry yeast
- 1/4 cup warm water, 110 degrees
- 1 egg
- 2/3 cup milk, scalded and cooled
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground cardamom
- 2-3/4 to 3 cups flour
- 1 beaten egg, for glaze
- 8 oz almond paste, cut into 16 pieces
- 1/2 cup heavy (whipping) cream, whipped
- 2 Tbsp powdered sugar
- Additional powdered sugar, for dusting the buns
- Hot milk, sugar, and cinnamon
- Vegetable oil, for board and bowl
- Editor's note: strawberry or raspberry jam never hurts!
- **Preheat oven to 400 degrees F**

From our January meeting

Swedish Immigration to NW
Indiana presentation by Kenneth
Schoon, author of
Swedish Settlements on the South
Shore of Lake Michigan



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Marilyn Arvidson with Author Kenneth Schoon. Marilyn's father was a Swedish immigrant and she had met with Mr. Schoon and his wife when he was gathering information for his book. She is also included in the Chellberg Farm Christmas program section which she had co-coordinated for 30 years.

Swedish coffee pot with the Swedish saying, "Kaffetären den bästa är av alla jordiska drycker" and translates to "coffee is the best of all earthly drinks" (a sentiment held true for most Scandinavians)

We asked Marilyn Arvidson whether she was a fan and practitioner of the "egg in the coffee grounds" approach:

"Yes, I am an egg in the coffee fan although for myself I don't take the time. The first time I saw this was when we visited my godfather who I believe was from Sweden. His wife had passed away but I can still picture him with the coffee pot on the stove and he cracked an egg and mixed with dry grounds and threw it in. He jokingly said he put his socks in too. I was quite young and probably not drinking coffee yet. Then visiting one of Mom's older Swedish best friends and mine, too, she also had the pot of coffee cooking on the stove. She, too, had cracked an egg, mixed it with dry grounds and dumped it in and then tossed in the shell, too. When she poured the coffee into our cups she used a strainer as the grounds had been dumped into the water with no filter and cooked. That coffee was so clear and delicious!"

She continued, "In asking some of my relatives in Sweden about putting an egg in the coffee, they were not familiar with it. So it may have been something done in just certain areas."

So, how about you? Egg or no egg? (if egg prices were not an issue, of course!)



Getting down to business

Board and Lodge Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Darlene Henderson, Secretary

February 2025 Board Meeting Minutes:

February 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 1:10PM by President, David Hirschey.

Present were board members Sue Strohkirch, Sidsel Lindborg, Mark Zimmerman, Darlene Henderson, Jim Nelson and Kathryn Rowberg.

Treasurer, Sue Strohkirch, reported that our accounts are in the black and the transition of accounts to the Chesterton bank was successful and without problems.

Dave reported that the Installation of Officers went well, and the January White Elephant program was popular. Suggestions were made to repeat it again next year.

Along with our Swedish night program, Jim Nelson volunteered to play a couple Swedish songs. Kathryn Rowberg stated she will cover the speaker's fee. The subject of Cultural Skills was brought up. Mark Zimmerman volunteered to teach a Watercolor painting class for anyone interested. Darlene asked if he would be able to teach the MC Senior Carvers how to paint their carvings. A private discussion will follow re her request. Mark also told of his experience researching his family genealogy and suggested we work on the SON Genealogy skill unit. Darlene said she could make copies of the skill program for anyone interested. It was also suggested we contact a genealogy specialist to help and guide us. Libraries are also helpful with information and sources.

A zoom or a cooking demo program at the Baugher center kitchen was suggested by Sue. SON also provides a cooking skill program.

Dave asked if there would be interest in making one day field trips to various activities, One suggestion was to visit the Scandinavian store in the Crown Point Court House basement.

The RED CUP restaurant in Chesterton is willing to host a weekly or monthly Scandinavian day using recipes we provide to them. Jim asked that we each bring a Scandinavian recipe to our next board meeting He will give them to the Connie Ariello and let us know what can be done.

Darlene gave a brief update on the Viking project for our Norway garden. Pictures of the Viking were shared.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25PM.

February 2025 Lodge Meeting Minutes:

Members enjoyed a Swedish potluck luncheon after which President David Hirschey called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. 21 members were present.

Members sang the US Norwegian and Swedish Anthems. James Nelson led the singing of the Swedish Anthem. He also entertained us with his accordion rendition of other Swedish music.

A silent roll call of board members was taken by Secretary Darlene Henderson.

David thanked Treasurer Sue Strohkirch, for her hand-made Valentine table decorations. A check was issued for the cost of oil for the preservation of the Viking.

Newest members, Ruth Maxwell and Lee Nedreau were introduced and welcomed as well as Lee's guest, his daughter, Lynn.

Darlene gave members an update on the construction of our Norway garden Viking and shared pictures of the progress.

Mark Zimmerman invited anyone interested, to a meeting at Sunset Hill Park, to discuss upcoming programs at various area parks this year that the public can attend and enjoy.

James Nelson was notified that the library is purchasing an electric piano for use in the Baugher Center. This will replace an older piano that was in need of work.

Sue shared the latest schedule of classes available either by zoom or in person at the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah Iowa.

Ken Schoon presented an interesting program about the Swedish settlements of the Lakeshore.

The meeting ended at 4:45PM

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Board Meeting dates for the balance of 2025

All Board meetings will be held at 1:00 PM in the Westchester Public Library's Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN 46304

March 10
April 21
May 12
June 16
July TBD

August 11
September 15
October 13
November 10
December 8

Access District 5 Newsletters online!

Our fellow lodges are sharing their newsletters on the District 5 site

Learn more about our neighboring lodges

The Sons of Norway District 5 website is a great way to learn about the other lodges in our area. In addition to the contact information, there is a page for each lodge with its history, links to facebook pages, and a repository for all newsletters shared by them. You can read these online, directly from the District 5 website, you can print them, or you can download them to read offline.

Here's where to find them:

First, go to the District 5 website

<https://sonsofnorway5.com/>

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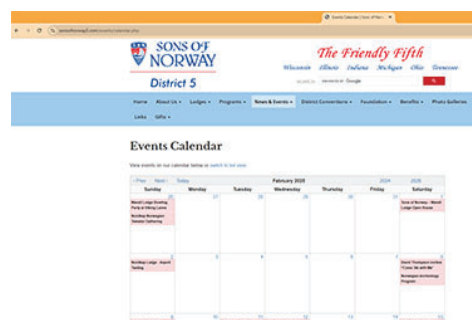
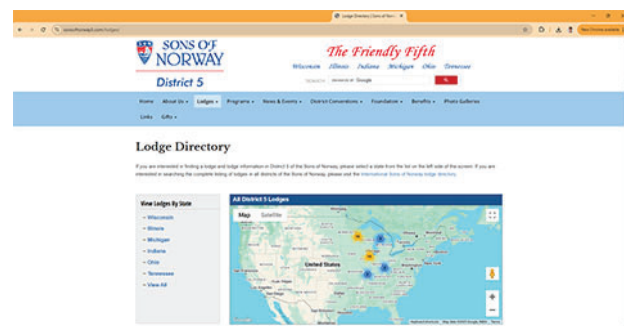
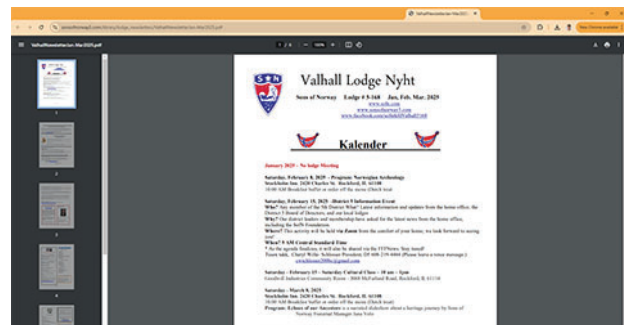
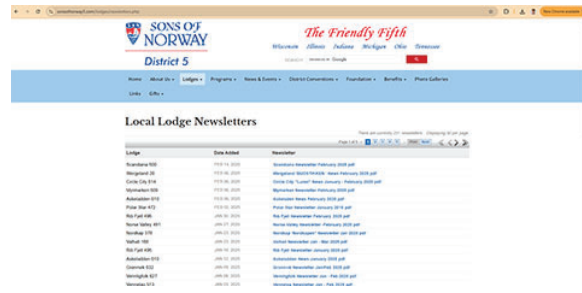
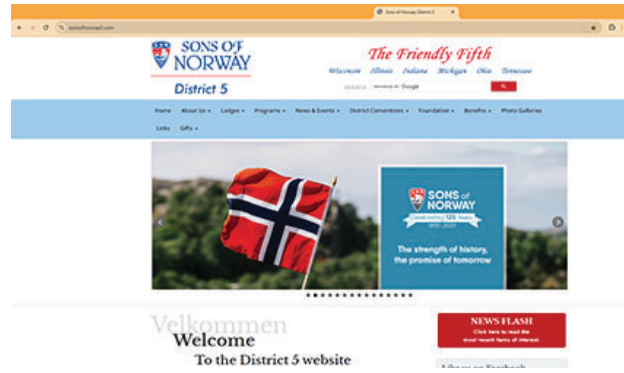
To see a list of all shared newsletters, not just those from one particular lodge, look at the light blue bar running across the page. Find **"Lodges"** and click on it. Then click on **"Local Lodge Newsletters"** and you will see the most current newsletters at the top of the list. The online list of offerings goes back to December of 2022.

If you want to see only the newsletters from a specific lodge, click on **"Lodges"** in the blue bar, then on **"Lodge Directory"**. You will see a map, and below it a state-by-state listing of all lodges in District 5. Find the lodge about which you want to learn more and click on **"More Info"** (usually in blue next to the lodge name). You will see the entire listing for that lodge, including their contact information, lodge history, lodge logo, and newsletters they have shared. While some information may be outdated, there is a lot to learn.

Scandiana began submitting newsletters last month and will continue backfilling and updating our information each month.

Also take a look at the **"News and Events"** section in the blue bar. Under it, you will find upcoming events and an events calendar for all lodges in the District.

If, in your exploration, you find something interesting, please send it our way so we can reference it in our next newsletter or share it at the next meeting.



Tante Hulda's Kitchen

Tante Hulda answers your questions about norsk food

Ask Tante Hulda

God dag! Dis time, Tante Hulda vill answer kvestions about lefse! Så, here vi gå!

Question: Tante Hulda, what is the shelf life of lefse?

T. H.: – Vell, dat depends on who made it, an' vat dey put in da batter. Ay haff tried makin' lefse vit rye flower an' birch sawdust, tree parts rye to vun part birch. Ay made dat batch last sommer, an' ay am still usin' it opp. So it lasts for a while, denn!

Question: Why does my lefse get cracks in it?

T. H.: – Vell, you prob'ly aren't ussing enough glue in da batter. Dat's vhat makes dem stay nice an' round. Take von tables-spoon of Hjelder's Glue in da batter, an' stir it in real good! Oddervise, you vill get cracks in da lefse. You can buy Hjelder's Glue at da Skogmo & Sorensen Hardware Stores, in da vun-gallons can or da five-gallons can. Or maybe order a case of it from da Lefgard, Lofkvist & Larson Lefse Factory in Larson, Minnesota.

Question: Is it safe to put my lefse in the refrigerator?

T. H.: – Ja, dat's a real good kvestion! If you keep your refreezerator plogged in all da time, It's sure bound to help keep da lefse from turnin' green an' gettin' moldy. Ay know dis, because Ole unplogged da refreezerator in my kitchen vun vinter, an' ay didn't no about it until April. When he got out of da hospital an' his jaw vass all mended, he told me dat he vanted to save on da 'lectric bill. Denn ay made him eat ten of da green lefses, an' he wound opp back in da hospital.

Question: Can I use old lefse rounds for hot pads?

T. H.: – Ja, you maybe could do dat, bot be careful! Don't try to plog dem into your iron or store dem in da oven. An' you better not use dem to take a hot tuna kasserolle out of da oven. Da tuna might smell like hard lefse after you is done vit da oven and da kasserolle.

Next time, Tante Hulda will answer your questions about pickled herring, or possibly lutefisk.

Ay hope dat some of dose kvestions vill be smarterer dann de vons ay got about lefse!

Child's play

Looking at fastelavn

If you combine a piñata and Halloween...

Typically celebrated on the Sunday or Monday before Ash Wednesday (the start of Lent), the main Danish tradition included placing a black cat in a barrel and beating the barrel with fastelavnris (a stick, club, or bunch of twigs) until it broke apart, releasing the cat. This was done to ward off evil.

Other traditions came and went, but today the cat has been replaced with candy, and the person who breaks open the barrel is the "Queen of the Cats" (kattedronning) and the person breaking the bottom of the barrel is the "King of the Cats" (kattekonge). Once upon a time, this "King" title came with a year of tax exemption! The children equally divide the candy in this tradition.

This practice evolved into something that more closely resembles Trick or Treat.

There are many more traditions and practices to be explored, but we will leave that for another day.



Trick or Treat!

The song heard during these times featured the lyrics:

Shrovetide is my name,
buns I want.
If I get no buns,
I will make trouble.
Buns up, buns down
buns in my tummy.
If I get no buns,
I will make trouble.

Safety First:

The bun recipe can be found on page 4.

March's Translation Practice

Provided by the Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

På norsk

Husker du potetferien?

Høstferien ble tidligere kalt potetferie. Den ble innført som et tiltak for at skolebarn og -ungdom skulle hjelpe til med innhøstingen av poteter.

I 1940 var det matmangel og poteten ble redningen mot hungersnøden for mange. Over hele Oslo ble bylandskapet endret. Parker og hager ble gjort om til potetåkrer. Denne filmen fra Gladvet film viser byungdom utkommandert til å bidra i innhøstingen.

Har du plukket poteter i høstferien?

I år er igjen blitt populært å dyrke egne poteter, men vet du hvordan de best tas vare på i vinter? Denne filmen fra 1940 kommer med mange tips om oppbevaring av poteter og hva du kan bruke de til. Her får du oppskrift på frokostbrød og potetkaker samt praktiske tips som hvordan du kan lage din egen dampkoker. Visste du at man også kan lage pålegg til brødsnivene ved hjelp av poteter?

Poteten kan dyrkes overalt i Norge. Den trives langt mot nord under snøkledd fjell, i barskt kystklima og i brede innlandsbydger. Når poteten tas opp om høsten, blir den sortert først ute på jordet. De minste og de skadede potetene går til dyrefôr.

Reference Stories and Videos:

https://www.nrk.no/video/potetferie-i-1983_126140

<https://www.nb.no/historier-fra-samlingen/er-det-noen-som-husker-potetferien/>

<https://www.nb.no/historier-fra-samlingen/god-potetferie/>

På engelsk

Do you remember Potato Break?

Fall break used to be called Potato Break. It was introduced as a measure for school children and youth to help out with the potato harvest.

In 1940 there was a food shortage and the potato became the savior from hunger for many. All over Oslo the city landscape was changed. Parks and gardens were converted into potato fields. This film from Gladvet shows urban youth assigned to take part in the harvest.

Have you picked potatoes in fall break?

This year it has again become popular to grow your own potatoes, but do you know how they are best taken care of in the winter? This film from 1940 provides many tips on storing potatoes and how to use them. Here you have the recipe for breakfast bread and potato cakes along with practical tips on how to make your own steam cooker. Did you know that you can also make sandwich toppings with the help of potatoes?

Potatoes can be grown all over Norway. They thrive in the far north under snow-capped mountains, in the rough coastal climate and in broad inland villages. When potatoes are plucked/ picked in the fall, they are first sorted on the ground/in the field. The smallest and most damaged are made into livestock feed.

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Take a Flyer!

Mark Zimmerman has created a great flyer to advertise our lodge and already has it on display at Nordikreations in Crown Point's Old Courthouse. We've attached a copy of this flyer to the end of the newsletter and encourage you to share it with friends, neighbors, friends of neighbors,...

Viking Watch

The Scandiana and Michigan City Senior Center woodcarvers continue their work on a new viking statue for the Norway Gardens within Michigan City's Friendship Botanic Garden. The new viking is being fashioned from a Northern White Pine log that began as 7 feet tall, 24 inches in diameter, and weighing about 400 pounds!



Judy Davis and Lee Nedreau

Michelangelo is quoted as having said, "The sculpture is already complete within the marble block, before I start my work. It is already there, I just have to chisel away the superfluous material."

That's what our carvers are doing, but with pine.

When asked about carving his David, Michelangelo said, "It's simple. I just remove everything that is NOT David."

Our carvers' new mantra: "Remove everything that isn't Thor."

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Our viking is getting a lot of attention!

The Beacher, a weekly newspaper in Michigan City, is working on a feature article about our viking and all the skilled hands it takes to create him. Keep an eye out for the **March 6** issue of The Beacher, either online, <https://www.thebeacher.com>, or pick up a copy the next time you are in town.



Rick Lutterbach, Darlene Henderson, and Lisa Johnson

2025 Norwegian Immigration 200 years – Part One

by Jim Nelson

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the first organized emigrant group from Norway on US shores. The 52 people who sailed from Stavanger to the US are referred to as “the Sloopers”, because the craft they sailed on, called “Restauration”, was a sloop, a fore-and-aft rigged vessel with a single mast amidships. She was originally a Hardanger yacht built in 1801 and christened “Hardanger”. She was rebuilt as a sloop, hence the new name, meaning “restoration” or “a restored ship”. On the 1825 voyage, the vessel had 45 passengers, 19 of them children, and a crew of seven. The passengers were a mix of Quakers, Rappites and Haugean Lutherans, pietist dissenters from the Norwegian state Lutheran Church. These families were not poor, landless farmers; they were enterprising people who managed to earn enough money to buy the ship, hire a crew, and bring enough food and supplies to last for 90 days. Ironically, the “Restauration” left Stavanger on July 4 and reached New York on October 9, despite sailing off course and landing in Madeira, a Portuguese island off the coast of north Africa!



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The first Norwegian settlement in the US was the Kendall Twp. settlement in Orleans County, NY on Lake Ontario. We'll continue with what happened to the Sloopers after they landed. Why did they leave? Why did others follow? Why is there almost no emigration from Norway to the US now?

The first Norwegian emigrants left seeking religious freedom. They were Quakers and Haugeans, Lutheran pietists, very small numbers from Norway's population. Active dissent from national churches in Europe was illegal at that time. Leaders of dissenter groups were often fined and imprisoned. When the Sloopers left for America, it was only seven years since Quakerism had first come to Norway, and Hans Nielsen Hauge, leader of the Haugean pietists, had died only seven months earlier. Dissenter churches gained legal recognition in 1845, but their numbers remained small. Today there are ca. 10,000 Baptists, 9,500 Methodists and 150 Quakers in Norway. Norway's population is 5.5 million.

No one followed the Sloopers' example for more than eleven years. Later emigrants were motivated by economic hardships and other restrictions caused by the rigid class system in place throughout the 19th century and into the early 1900s.

Next time: Where the Sloopers finally settled. Why did other Norwegians emigrate?

Looking ahead to April's Newsletter

April's newsletter will include the next installment of Jim Nelson's look at Norwegian immigration's bicentennial, the “Made in Norway” initiative, Easter, preparations for Sprint, Stavanger's 900th birthday, the story of a fabulous metal detecting find, translation practice, recipes, and more. If you have photos, ideas, jokes, stories, or fun facts, please send them to athorvik@gmail.com!



Electric Vehicles, Then and Now

In our **April 2015 newsletter**, right, we looked at the growing trend of electric vehicles (EVs), back when Norway had the lead with 1% EVs on the road. At the time, the US was at 0.6% and Canada was at 0.25%.

In 2024, EVs accounted for 88.9% of new auto sales in Norway and so far in 2025, they are at 96%.

On Norwegian roads, EVs make up 28% of the cars, but the number is closer to 40% in Oslo. In the US, it is 8.1% and in the UK, 20%.

In 2014, there were 5,000 charging stations in Norway. As of June 2024, they have more than 27,500. The US has made concerted efforts to more than double public charging ports since 2021, with the total now nearing 200,000.

Learn more about Norway's EV Policy at <https://elbil.no/english/norwegian-ev-policy/>

How Electric Cars Went Mainstream in Norway

As of 2014, Norway reached #1 in per capita ownership of *elbil*, or electric cars. One in every 100 cars on the road is run solely with electricity. This might not seem significant, but when you consider plug-in auto sales (which include both electric and hybrid vehicles), Norway's 6.10% is simply staggering compared to the United States' (0.60%) and Canada's (0.25%).

However, this trend didn't happen overnight, but was the product of a long-term combination of marketing, celebrity endorsements and government incentives. The earliest adopters and promoters of the electric car were none other than the members of Norwegian 80s band a-ha, who imported the first electrical car to Norway in 1989 through a partnership with the Bellona Foundation, an Oslo environmental organization.

Then, the Norwegian Parliament created an incentive package to encourage

its citizens to reduce emissions and buy Norwegian brands of electric cars. The Norwegian Electric Vehicle Association, an Oslo nonprofit, also lobbied to make the cars more attractive to buyers, making it possible for

electric cars to travel toll-free on all roads and ferries, have access to use of bus lanes, and free public parking. By far the largest benefit is that there are no taxes on electric car sales, something that on regular cars may double or triple the price.

In the early days, having an electric car meant enduring cold rides during the winter and only having room for one passenger in the lightweight plastic-bodied vehicles. Finding a place to charge one's car also presented a major challenge. Electric cars have advanced

significantly over the past 25 years, as has the available infrastructure. As of 2014, there were more than 5,000 charging stations in Norway, which can be located through an online database NOBIL.

The key component that propelled the electric car market, though, wasn't the monetary or environmental benefits, but getting the word out to the average person and developing an infrastructure. It took several decades, but most Norwegians now know what an electric car is, can name some of the models on the market, and know where to find a charging station. Another incentive to make the leap to electric was the high price of gas (a whopping \$9 a gallon). So much so, that sales of electric cars have rapidly eclipsed the addition of charging stations, making it difficult for all commuters to plug in while at work, or fit in the bus lane.

This has resulted in the Norwegian Parliament decided to set a limit for the sales-tax-free status of electric cars: 50,000 zero-emission cars sold, or the year 2017, whichever ever came first. At the current rate of adoption, this goal may be reached in the summer of 2015. The Norwegian Electric Vehicle Association is aiming higher: 100,000 electric cars on the roads by 2020. They find that this number is the minimum needed to build enough charging stations nationwide.



Scandiana 5-600

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April 2015



Norwegian EV Association

Presents Norwegian EV History

2021

The Norwegian EV Association passes **100,000** members

2022

500,000 EVs in the Norwegian car fleet
Public procurement: Cars need to be EVs

2025

We have reached the national goal: All new cars sold are zero emission!

2020

The Norwegian EV Association celebrates its 25th anniversary

2018

EVs are charged maximum 50% of the price of fossil fueled cars on ferries and toll roads

2016

100,000 EVs in the Norwegian car fleet

2017

The Norwegian Parliament decided on a national goal that all new cars sold by 2025 should be zero emission

«A right to charge» for people living in apartment buildings was decided

2015

50,000 EVs in the Norwegian car fleet

Exemption from 25% VAT on leasing

2009

No charges on ferries for EVs

2005

Access to bus lanes

2001

Exemption from 25% VAT on purchase

1997

- 2017
No charges on toll roads for EVs

1999 - 2017

Free municipal parking

2000

Reduced company car tax

1996 - 2021

No annual road tax



1994

The Norwegian EV Think is shown during the Olympic Winter Games

1990

No purchase/import tax

The “Country of 1,001 Tunnels” is at it again!

Norway already has the 24.51km Lærdal Tunnel, the longest road tunnel in the world. In addition to the other road tunnels and smaller boat tunnels, it is fewer than 5 years away from fulfilling a long-awaited plan: the Stad Ship Tunnel. This 1.7 km ship tunnel will accommodate LARGE ships, cutting across the Stad peninsula and saving a projected 56km and 30% - 40% of the fuel needed for ships to navigate around the peninsula, often plagued with rough waters and poor visibility.

It is said that even the Vikings were cautious when it came to braving this section of the coast and would even drag their ships across the land to avoid making the trip. The path they took is said to be similar to the planned path of this new tunnel.

In 1874, the newspaper Nordre Bergenhus Amtstidende, even published an article suggesting a railroad tunnel be created to transition boats from the sea and onto railroad cars to avoid the perilous sea journey around the peninsula.

The current plan will use underground drilling, “drill and blast” explosions, and reinforced concrete to create a single lane through the rock, 37 meters high, 26.5 meters wide, and 12 meters deep, capable of accommodating cruise and cargo ships (up to 16,000 tons), as well as small watercraft. The \$325 million plan includes stop lights at each end of the tunnel to support the one-way ship traffic, a road bridge for an observation area, and likely a visitor center.

If you want to get a good video overview, we recommend watching:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hG1VJ8fiV_s
and/or

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71lsWhoRPyc>



STAD SKIPSTUNNEL ON THE MAP

- The main link for ship traffic
- The new main link in the realization of the ship tunnel
- Sailing by large seas



Gratulerer med dagen

March Birthdays

20th Michael Leland

21st Daniel Paulsen

22nd Marianne Olsaker

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Rockford, IL 61108-7973

Have you met our NEW MEMBERS yet?

Be sure to say hello to **Ruth Maxwell** and **Lee Nedreau** at the next meeting!

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What you need to know for the March 15th meeting

March 15

12:00PM - 4:30PM

Westchester Public Library,
Baughner Center,
100 W. Indiana Ave.
Chesterton, IN 46304

Hosts: Dennis & Sidsel Lindborg

Please bring:

Last names A-J: Main dish

Last names K-N: Side dish

Last names O-Z: Dessert

Program: Members bring and share information about their crafts and hobbies. (See page 2 for ideas to help you prepare.)

You may have received this postcard in the mail last week. If you have any questions, please call Greg:

Greg Ragan
Sons of Norway Agent
Insurance / Investment Broker
815-623-8817 (Office)
815-988-5975 (Mobile)
gragan51@gmail.com (email)

THOR'S "TOP 10" REASONS To Own A Sons Of Norway Tax Deferred IRA or NON-IRA Nordic Annuity Certificate



- 1 100% **Guaranteed** Safety of Principal
- 2 Interest Accumulates Tax Deferred
- 3 **No** Sales Charges, Annual Fees or Up Front Loads
- 4 **Interest** Payout Options - 30 days From Issue
- 5 **Penalty Free** Withdrawals of 10% Per Year That Carries Over If Unused to 20%, 30%, 40%, etc.
- 6 **Guaranteed** Minimum Lifetime Annual Interest Rate of 3.00%
- 7 **Safety** and Security with 130 years of Experience
- 8 Proceeds Paid to Heirs **without** going through Probate
- 9 Lump Sum **Payout** at Death
- 10 Highly **Competitive** Renewal Interest Rates

Current 12 Month Interest Rates

\$10,000 - \$24,999	= 5.25%*
\$25,000 - \$49,999	= 5.25%*
\$50,000 - \$99,999	= 5.25%*
\$100,000 +	= 5.25%*

*These rates include a 1.00% bonus as of 3-1-25

For more information call:

Greg Ragan

815-988-5975

Email: gragan51@gmail.com

Visit my website at:

www.raganfinancialgroup.com

SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION

The Sons of Norway Foundation was established

“...to preserve the best of the Norwegian heritage and culture for all the people...”

Within the Foundation several endowment funds, including the H.R.M. King Olav V and H.R.H. Crown Princess Sonja fund, support cultural exchange and scholarship activities for Sons of Norway members. The Foundation was also instrumental in founding several humanitarian programs which continue to be supported by Sons of Norway Lodges, including:

- Ski for Light, a ski touring and racing program for the visually impaired, the disabled and their guides.
- Vinland National Center, a rehabilitation center for the disabled that focuses on the potential, not the disability

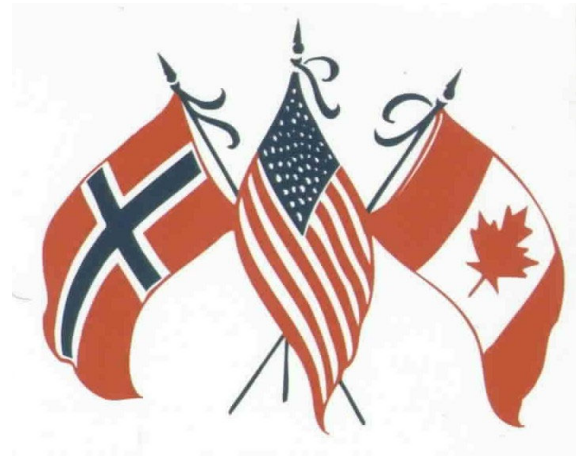
The Foundation supports numerous cases dealing with health, the elderly and the needy. In addition, scholarships for study programs in Norway and for financial help to students in North America are available.

These and many other programs are funded by the Sons of Norway Foundation. Contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

SONS OF NORWAY HAS A LOT TO OFFER YOU

In a fraternal society of this kind, membership is not without its benefits. See what Sons of Norway has to offer you:

- An outstanding portfolio of Sons of Norway Insurance Products
- Cultural enrichment in Norwegian heritage
- Sports Medals Program designed to promote physical activities and camaraderie amongst Sons of Norway members
- Cultural Skills Program – learn by doing and having fun along the way while preserving Norwegian heritage and culture
- Bi-monthly member magazine, VIKING, filled with interesting features about Norwegian heritage
- Fellowship in the largest Norwegian fraternal benefit society outside of Norway
- Member discount on Heritage books, CD's and DVD's
- Participate in Sons of Norway sponsored activities
- Special Travel packages
- Attendance privileges and voting rights at all Lodge meetings



Sons of Norway International -- A Proud Heritage

Sons of Norway is a fraternal benefit and cultural society dedicated to preserving Norwegian Heritage in North America and strengthening the ties between North America and Norway.

Sons of Norway has close to 60,000 members across Canada, the United States and Norway who belong to nearly 400 locally governed lodges.

Through the local lodge activities, members can celebrate their Norwegian heritage in their own community and enrich that community by sharing their heritage with others.

From torsk dinners to folk dancing, from language classes to Viking ship regattas, lodge activities make the Norwegian heritage come alive.



Norway Garden in
Friendship Botanical Gardens
Michigan City, IN

Scandiana Lodge # 5-600

Indiana's first Sons of Norway lodge was organized in 1985 by a dedicated group from northern Indiana, many of whom had been members and officers of a SoN lodge in southern Michigan.

The new Lodge, now with about 40 members, is part of the 5th geographic district of Sons of Norway International. It serves northwest Indiana, and it chose the name Scandiana, welcoming anyone of Scandinavian descent.

Lodge functions include participation in the Dunes Harvest Fest, Midsummer Fest, Ski for Light, Barnebirkie, Cultural Skills program and the Sister Lodge program.

Our ethnic activities offer many choices:

- Language classes
- Rosemaling
- Hardanger and other needlework
- Genealogy
- Bunad-making
- Woodcarving
- Weaving
- Cooking
- Skiing
- Stamps for charity
- Hosts Norwegian Tourists
- Visit other Lodges
- Celebration of Norwegian Holidays
 - Syttende Mai
 - St. Hans
 - Norwegian Christmas

brochure Scandiana – 2-21-2025

Lodge meetings

A typical lodge meeting starts with a pot-luck meal, followed by a short business meeting and the main program.

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

The meetings are normally held on the third Saturday of each month, starting at 1:00 PM, with the exception of the summer months when activities and places may vary.

Regular meeting place and always handicap accessible:
Baugher Center of Westchester Public Library
100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN

For more information, visit the Facebook page Sons of Norway Scandiana Lodge, and contact:

David Carlson Hirschey, 219-728-6044,
david.hirschey@outlook.com

Mark Zimmerman, 219-395-4129,
markzimmerman007@gmail.com

Darlene Henderson, 411 Autumn Trail, Michigan City, IN 46360, 219-221-6641,
carvindar@comcast.net

I am interested in finding out more about the Scandiana Lodge

----- name -----

----- address -----

-----e-mail / phone -----



Connect with your Scandinavian Heritage

Sons of Norway Scandiana Lodge celebrates the Scandinavian culture with activities and events throughout the year. Membership is open to anyone with Scandinavian roots or a strong interest in its culture.

Monthly meetings are held in Chesterton, Indiana, and feature guest speakers, traditional food, music, crafts, and celebrations. Members receive an e-newsletter, Viking Magazine subscription, and access to financial planning resources.

Join us at our next meeting to experience the rich traditions of Scandinavian culture and connect with like-minded individuals!

Visit our Sons of Norway Scandiana Facebook Page to learn more about our upcoming events or email us at: markzimmerman007@gmail.com.

