

September 2025



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. I hope that all of you had a good summer, enjoying the warm days with long hours of sunshine. Our Scandiana lodge made the most of summer – representing our lodge at the Midsummer celebration at Chellberg farm in June, and the well-attended tour of the Westchester Township Historical Society in July. The highlight of summer, however, was the dedication in August of the new Viking statue (named Thor) in our Norway garden at Friendship Botanic Gardens.



Our thanks to everyone who made the event possible, especially Darlene Henderson and her woodcarvers group who sculpted Thor, and Oleif Olsaker, who organized the picnic with the Botanic Gardens and also drove the golf cart to get us to our pavilion. Also, see page 4 of this newsletter for the poem that member Jim Nelson wrote to honor the dedication of the Viking statue.

For our September 20 lodge meeting, we return to the Baugher Center in Chesterton. Our program will be on Swedish immigrants in northwest Indiana, presented by Serena Ard. Serena is the museum curator who gave us a tour of the Westchester Township Historical Society in June. We enjoyed her presentation then and look forward to hearing her again on September 20.

Our lodge will hold its annual auction in October. It is the main fundraiser for our lodge and for the Sons of Norway Foundation. Start thinking about which items you would like to donate to the auction!

Again, I hope you can attend our lodge meeting on September 20.

Takk for alt!!

Beste Hilsen,  
David Carlson Hirschey



## Our September Program

**September 20**

**12:00PM - 4:00PM**

Westchester Library - Baugher Center  
100 W. Indiana Ave, Chesterton, IN 46304



# Getting down to business - 8/11 Board Meeting

Board Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Darlene Henderson, Secretary

President, David Hirschey called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm. Present were board members Sue Strohkirch, Darlene Henderson, Oleif Olsaker, James Nelson, and Mark Zimmerman.

David thanked James Nelson for arranging the tour of the Mansion in July which several members attended.

Discussed were the August picnic arrangements and Thor's dedication ceremony. David said he will email members reminding them that we will eat at noon and to bring a dish to share and a favorite beverage. The lodge will provide fried chicken and have water available. We will proceed to the Norway garden around 1:15PM. If needed, bring a lawn chair as there is only one bench in the garden.

Dave will act as the ceremony emcee. Darlene was asked to tell how and why the Woodcarving Seniors decided to create and carve the Viking for the Garden. David will then award Certificates of appreciation to those involved in carving and locating Thor to his place of honor in the Garden. Mark procured special folders for the certificates. A wedding is scheduled after the ceremony, and we need to leave the area by 2:30.

Oleif will use the garden golf cart to transport people from and to the parking lot as needed. Mark Zimmerman will be responsible for taking photos and David will send photos and write a short article to the local Beacher.

The board decided to try taking advantage of grants now being offered by the SON. The required and necessary information will be gathered by board members and submitted to SON. Deadline is in December.

Ideas for exciting future programs were briefly discussed.

Oleif received a notice from Vesterheim for \$250 to maintain our membership. David and Sue will contact Vesterheim regarding this bill as we hold a certificate and letters showing that Scandiana is a LifeMember. Sue will call Vesterheim and clear up the matter. Before the meeting ended, Darlene asked the board to sing a Happy Birthday to Sue.

David adjourned the meeting at 2:03PM.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: September 15, 2025 at 1:00PM. Attend in person at the Baugher Center OR contact David to be included in a conference call, (312) 925-5371.**

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**The auction is coming!**  
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**Our annual lodge auction will take place during our OCTOBER meeting. Please start thinking about what you could contribute to help raise funds for both the Sons of Norway Foundation AND our lodge.**



## Swedish Queen's Jam (Drottningssylt)

Recipe from the True North Kitchen:

In a medium saucepan, combine the berries, sugar, lemon juice and salt.

In honor of this month's Swedish program, enjoy this tasty treat!

Place the pan over medium heat and bring to a gentle simmer.

You can use fresh or frozen berries with this recipe.

Reduce the heat to medium low and cook, stirring often, until the berries break down and the jam thickens slightly, about 10-15 minutes.

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**It will continue to thicken as it cools.**

Remove from heat and stir in vanilla extract.

Let cool and transfer to a clean glass jar. Cover and refrigerate.

Use within 2 to 3 weeks.

Can also freeze small portions for longer storage.

### Ingredients:

- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup raspberries
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- Pinch of salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

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## That's a lot of (cinnamon) buns!

Apparently, the average Swede eats cakes and pastry equivalent to 316 cinnamon buns per year! This cinnamon-spiced doughy delight is essentially a long string of pastry dough wrapped into a ball and stuck together with sticky-sweet cinnamon buttery syrup. In Sweden, 'fika' is an essential part of everyday life. In fact, it's so sacred that two coffee breaks per day are an unwritten rule in many Swedish workplaces. And, while newcomers to Sweden are often sceptical about fika at first, many end up admitting that some of the best ideas are hatched on fika breaks.

Nothing says fika more than a cup of coffee and a cinnamon bun. The cinnamon roll or bun (or 'kanelbulle' in Swedish) was first created after the First World War, but, as the ingredients (flour, sugar, egg, butter, cinnamon and cardamom) were expensive and hard to find, it did not become popular until the 1950s. These days, it's the ultimate symbol of Swedish home cooking and, as any Swede will tell you, the smell of newly baked cinnamon buns is the best in the world.

The cinnamon bun is so popular that, in 1999, a collective of Swedish baking ingredient producers known as Sweden's Home Baking Council announced that October 4th would henceforth be Cinnamon Bun Day ('Kanelbullens dag').



# Scandiana lodge Viking statue dedication poem from Jim Nelson

Jim was inspired by the Fornyrðislag (a specific Old Norse poetic meter) when he wrote the 1985 dedication for the launching ceremony of a viking boat replica in Canada. He's updated his original work for the dedication of Thor, our Norway Garden Viking: (note: words in parentheses are for reference, not part of the poem's meter)

Willing work-force	toils tirelessly,
fashions fighter,	silent sentry.
Labors end,	image stands,
mighty warrior	mute minder.
Battle-wager (warrior)	brandishes battle-staff (spear),
Stalwart spear-man	holds helmet-bane (sword),
guarding ground	midst myriad foliage,
brave as bear	fierce as falcon.
Willing warrior	stands stolid,
boldly bearing	battle-cloud (shield).
Clutches mighty	helmet-harmer (sword),
frightens foes	from Friendship flora.
Workers honored,	hosts cheering
Join now	in festive feast!

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This sounds different than a Shakespeare Sonnet... and here's why.  
Fornyrðislag (a specific Old Norse poetic meter) features:

- 1) Alliteration: Pairing words that begin with the same sound:

"Better burden bears no one on joyful journey than words of wisdom."  
(Adapted from the Hávamál, the Old Norse book of proverbs.)

- 2) Emphasis on first syllables of words in each line: rhyming consonant or vowel sounds, or both:

"Howling hound is hushed in distance";  
"constant craving";  
"He's the speeding spark of light".

- 3) Rich use of kennings (metaphors for key words):

sea-strider = ship;  
battle-cloud = shield;  
warrior-bearer = horse;  
helmet-harmer = sword

- 3) Minimal wordage, employing only the most meaningful words from phrases:

Willing warrior stands stolid,	Clutches Helmet-harmer,
boldly bearing battle-cloud.	Frightens foes from Friendship flora.

The inspiration for our 2025 dedication poem came from Jim's earlier work:  
Stabelavløpning (launching) for «Ormen stutte», Camrose, Alberta – 22. mars 1985

Western winds	blow briskly,
bear sea-strider shielded	from storm,
fleet as falcon	home to harbour;
graceful lines	glisten brightly.
Hark, all hear	on day of delight:
let eager host	bid tired traveller
share his store	in water-walker's honour;
warmest welcome	is now offered!

- Dedication of Gokstad «færing» Viking boat replica by boat-builder Olaus Straumsnes, Telemark.  
Poem composed for launching ceremony on Mirror Lake, Camrose, Alberta.

# September's Translation Practice

*Provided by the Sons of Norway Newsletter Service*



## På norsk

**Hele Kongefamilien Skal til Stavanger**  
**Publisert: 25.6.2025**

Fra før har det vært kjent at Deres Majesteter Kong Harald og Dronning Sonja kommer til Stavanger første fredagen i juli. I dag ble det klart at de også får selskap av H.K.H. Kronprins Haakon, H.K.H. Kronprinsesse Mette-Marit, H.K.H. Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra og Prins Sverre Magnus.

Dermed blir det storslått feiring av Dronning Sonjas 88-årsdag, og markering av både 900-årsjubileet og utvandrerjubileet 4. juli.

Det er første gang i historien at både kongeparet, kronprinsparet, en prinsesse og en prins er i Stavanger samtidig.

– Det er en stor ære – og en historisk begivenhet for byen vår – at tre generasjoner kongelige kommer til Stavanger. Det er ekstra hyggelig at det skjer på Hennes Majestet Dronningens bursdag! Jeg håper så mange som mulig tar turen til sentrum fredag 4. juli, både for å ønske de kongelige velkommen og for å vinke farvel til Restauration, sier ordfører Tormod Losnedal.

I år markerer vi nemlig ikke bare byens, domkirkens og bispedømmets 900 år – det er også 200 år siden den første organiserte utvandringen fra Norge til Amerika. 4. juli kl. 13.15 skal en replika av emigrantskuta Restauration seile ut fra Vågen og starte sin ferd over Atlanteren for å gjenskape seilasen fra 1825. I forkant blir det festmarkeringer både i domkirken og på torget – med storfint besøk!

Tre generasjoner kongelige kommer for å delta i 900-årsjubileet og utvandrermarkeringen denne dagen, og hele regionen er invitert til torget og Vågen før Restauration legger ut på sin ferd til New York!

## På engelsk

The entire Royal Family is going to Stavanger  
(Published: June 25, 2025)

It has already been announced that Their Majesties King Harald and Queen Sonja will come to Stavanger on the first Friday in July. Today it was announced that they will also be joined by HRH Crown Prince Haakon, HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit, HRH Princess Ingrid Alexandra and Prince Sverre Magnus.

This will be a grand celebration of Queen Sonja's 88th birthday, and a commemoration of both the 900th anniversary and the emigration anniversary on July 4th.

This is the first time in history that the King and Queen, the Crown Prince and Queen, a princess and a prince are in Stavanger at the same time.

"It is a great honor – and a historic event for our city – that three generations of royalty will come to Stavanger. It is especially nice that it happens on Her Majesty the Queen's birthday! I hope as many people as possible will make the trip to the city center on Friday, July 4th, both to welcome the royals and to wave goodbye to Restauration," says Mayor Tormod Losnedal.

"This year, we are not only marking the 900th anniversary of the city, the cathedral and the diocese – it is also 200 years since the first organized emigration from Norway to America. July 4th at 1:15 p.m., a replica of the emigrant ship Restauration will set sail from Vågen and begin its journey across the Atlantic to recreate the voyage from 1825. In advance, there will be celebrations both in the cathedral and on the square – with great attendance!"

"Three generations of royalty will come to participate in the 900th anniversary and the emigrant commemoration on this day, and the entire region is invited to the square and Vågen before Restauration sets off on its journey to New York!"



# Summer fun at our August gathering

Photos from our Lodge picnic and dedication of Thor in the Norway Garden



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## A day of fellowship at Friendship Botanic Garden

What a lovely way  
to spend a Saturday!



# Swedish Language Word Search

HOBBYER  
BAKNING  
LÖPNING  
SIMNING  
LYFTA  
SÖMNAD  
GOLF  
MUSIK  
BION  
FAS

SKIDÅKNING  
FOTOGRAFI  
INTRESSA  
SKRIDSKOÅKNING  
LEKA  
MATLAGNING  
SAMLING  
RESA  
KÖRA  
BOLL

STICKNING  
FISKE  
SNICKERI  
RIDNING NJUTA  
DANS  
TENNIS  
MÅLA  
TRIVS  
CYKLA  
RODD

CAMPING  
HANDLA  
BRODERI  
BÅTLIV  
BOXNING  
DART  
LÄSA  
FIKA  
TRÄNA

SCHACK  
K R E A T I V A  
VANDRING  
SPORT  
SPELA  
FRITID  
SEGLA  
TUR  
PLÖJ

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S	Ö	M	N	A	D	A	B	R	O	D	D	A	L	Å	M
P	L	Ö	J	G	B	S	E	X	K	C	A	H	C	S	A
E	T	R	Ä	N	A	S	A	M	L	I	N	G	A	K	T
L	Ä	S	A	I	A	E	A	L	G	E	S	K	M	R	L
A	T	U	J	N	B	R	O	D	E	R	I	T	P	I	A
L	E	K	A	M	X	T	B	O	L	L	N	V	I	D	G
Y	N	I	T	I	S	N	C	B	I	O	N	A	N	S	N
F	N	R	R	S	K	I	D	Å	K	N	I	N	G	K	I
T	I	E	O	T	Ö	C	A	T	R	X	F	D	N	O	N
A	S	K	P	I	R	D	R	L	E	D	A	R	I	Å	G
N	B	C	S	C	A	I	T	I	A	I	R	I	N	K	C
G	N	I	N	K	A	B	V	V	T	T	G	N	D	N	Y
O	G	N	I	N	X	O	B	S	I	I	O	G	I	I	K
L	E	S	K	I	S	U	M	A	V	R	T	U	R	N	L
F	L	Ö	P	N	I	N	G	F	A	F	O	B	C	G	A
A	K	I	F	G	H	A	N	D	L	A	F	I	S	K	E

## Things you see on the internet...



Swedes have an inexplicably deep and pathological fear of badgers.

It all stems from a rather gruesome folk belief that badgers will bite on to your arm or leg and not let go until they hear the bone crack. This being Sweden though, the enterprising country that invented the car safety belt and flat pack furniture, they have come up with a clever way to deter the little furry black and white psychopaths. When badgerphobic Swedes go out walking in the forest, they stuff their socks with Ryvita-style crispbread so that, if any marauding badgers should bite, they will



## Gratulerer med dagen

### September Birthdays

3	Gloria Zimmerman
4	Sandi Sandeno
6	Andrew Johnson
8	Mark Zimmerman
17	Kathleen Hays
27	Dennis Lindborg

### Lodge Contacts:

David Carlson Hirschey, President

By phone: (312) 925-5371

By email: [david.hirschey@outlook.com](mailto:david.hirschey@outlook.com)

Darlene Henderson, Secretary

By phone: (219) 221-6641

By email: [carvindar@comcast.net](mailto:carvindar@comcast.net)

Ann Thorvik, Editor

By email: [athorvik@gmail.com](mailto:athorvik@gmail.com)

By text: (815) 505-3288

By USPS: Ann Thorvik, 23251 Hamlin St., West Hills, CA 91307

### SON Financial Services Contact:

Greg Ragan

**Sons of Norway Agent**

Insurance / Investment Broker

By phone: (815) 623-8817 (Office)

or (815) 988-5975 (Mobile)

By email: [gragan51@gmail.com](mailto:gragan51@gmail.com)

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### September Board Meeting

The September Board meetings will be held at 1:00 PM on September 15th in the Westchester Public Library's Baugher Center, 100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN 46304

### September Meeting

Hosts: Jim and Irene Nelson

**A-J last names: please bring a Main Dish**

**K-N last names: please bring a Side Dish**

**O-Z last names: please bring a Dessert**

**Baugher Center doors open 12:00PM - 4:00PM**

**Lunch served at 1:00PM**

### Going Paperless

Beginning September 1, membership cards will no longer be mailed for annual renewals. Members can print off their card from the website under their profile or save a digital copy to your phone to show proof of membership. For members that belong to a lodge with property, card mailings will stop December 1.

This change is being made due to the ongoing rising costs of postage and our desire to continue to be good stewards of our resources. Please encourage members to create a profile so that they can access the card and print from their computers.