

October 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. We now are in the fall season – the autumnal equinox was on September 22, when the sun rises and sets directly on our roads that run east and west. (In downtown Chicago, the tall buildings on both sides of the streets frame the sunrise and sunset, creating what locals call “Chicago Stonehenge”). Our thoughts turn to our fall activities and the upcoming holidays.



At our September 20 lodge meeting, we enjoyed Serena Ard’s program on Swedish immigration. Northwest Indiana received waves of immigrants. In the 1880s, over 22% of Porter County residents were Swedish immigrants. Many churches held services in the Swedish language through the 1920s. Amazing.

Our October 18 lodge meeting will feature our annual Foundation auction. Please bring items for the auction and also cash or check to purchase items. At the auction we will sell painted Viking ship ornaments (\$5 apiece). We also will take lefse orders for the holidays (\$6 per package, payable with order).

Your lodge executive committee is working on programs for the 2026 year. Bring your ideas for programs to our October 18 lodge meeting, or telephone Dave Hirschey (219-728-6044) or Darlene Henderson (219-221-6641).

Christmas is coming soon. Chicago’s Museum of Science and Industry again has its Christmas-around-the-World exhibit, which includes over 50 Christmas trees decorated in national themes (including a Norwegian-decorated tree). The exhibit runs from November 8 to January 5, and the exhibit is included in the Museum’s general admission fee. For more information, see the Museum’s website (msichicago.org).

Again, I hope you can attend our lodge meeting and annual auction on October 18.

Takk for alt!!

Beste Hilsen,
David Carlson Hirschey

Our October Program

October 18 12:00PM - 4:00PM
Westchester Library - Baugher Center
100 W. Indiana Ave, Chesterton, IN 46304



Getting down to business - 9/15 Board Meeting

Board Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Darlene Henderson, Secretary

Meeting was brought to order at 1:10 PM by President David Hirschey. Board members present were, Sue Strohkirch, James Nelson, Darlene Henderson, Sidsel Lindborg, and Kathryn Rowberg.

In agreement with Oleif Olsaker, it was thought best to take down the deteriorating, existing SON wooden sign from the Norway Garden at season's end and take it to the sign maker in person, so that its content could be accurately copied. The resulting new sign would be permanently displayed in the Garden early next Spring.

Sue requested that further billing from Pat Potempa, our Norway Garden worker, be directed to her instead of Oleif. She also sent a note to Pat letting her know how much we appreciated her work in the Garden and how nice it looked for our Thor dedication ceremony. She suggested we give Pat our annual summer picnic date so she will be able to have the garden ready for the picnic.

Hosts for the September meeting are James and Irene Nelson.

Dennis Lindborg is willing to be our auctioneer in October.

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51 Viking ship ornaments remain to be sold. The board members unanimously decided to offer them at the auction for \$5 each. Any remaining will be held for sale at the mid-summer celebration in 2026.

David also reviewed and reminded Board Members of dates for the SON required reports to be turned in by years end.

Sue gave a brief treasurers report.

David attended a zoom meeting for lodge presidents. Noted was that Crown Prince Haakon will be at Vesterheim October 6th-8th celebrating the 200th year of organized immigration.

Board members have begun work contacting members, creating a slate of officers for 2026.

Darlene noted that there are 2 members slated to receive 20-year membership awards next year. We have the pins needed.

Sue reported that she received a letter noting our Vesterheim Life membership had expired. She questioned the letter and with our life member certificate in hand, called Vesterheim and was told that life memberships now expire after 20 years.

To maintain membership, it would cost us \$250 a year. The board decided not to pursue this but would instead send a gift check of \$25. Members will be given the opportunity to match that amount in their name. Member and lodge checks will be mailed to Vesterheim together.

Members will be asked to submit their ideas for lodge programs in 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING: October 13, 2025 at 1:00PM. Attend in person at the Baugher Center OR contact David to be included in a conference call, (312) 925-5371.

Getting down to business - 9/20 Lodge Meeting

Lodge Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Darlene Henderson, Secretary

A short meeting was called to order by President David Hirschey. 15 members were present.

David thanked members for the awesome display of Scandinavian deserts.

There were no guests. David reminded members to begin gathering items for our annual foundation auction in October. Sue Strohkirch added that that Viking ship ornaments will also be sold for \$5 each.

Darlene Henderson reviewed the proposed 2026 slate of officers and encouraged members to consider sharing their time and talents by accepting the challenge of an office. Several Board members volunteered to remain in their current office next year.

Sue will be ordering a case of lefsa to be available for purchase at \$6 a package. Each package contains 10 pieces. Let her know how many you will need.

Sara Johnson made members aware of a series available on Channel 11, WTTW, about "The Atlantic Crossing."

There were no new or old business matters to discuss at this time.

Meeting was adjourned, after which members enjoyed a very interesting program entitled "The Dune-land Swedish Immigrants" presented by Serena Ard of the Westchester Library.

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2026 Proposed Slate of Officers - Scandiana 5-600

President	David Hirschey
Vice President	Mark Zimmerman
Secretary	Darlene Henderson
Counselor	Darlene Henderson
Treasurer	Sue Strohkirch
Financial Sec.	Sidsel Lindborg
Social Director	Sue Strohkirch
Asst. Soc. Dir.	Kathleen Hays
Cultural Dir.	Kathryn Rowberg
Greeter	Dennis Lindborg
Sunshine	Sue Strohkirch (Birthday Cards) Darlene Henderson (Get well and sympathy cards)
Trustees	1st year - Sue Strohkirch 2nd year - Ann Thorvik 3rd year - Kathleen Hays
Historian	Darlene Henderson
Musician	Sidsel Lindborg
Editor	Ann Thorvik
Foundation	Hugh Hopkins
Publicity	James Nelson
Cultural Skills	Darlene Henderson
Stamps	Darlene Henderson
Garden	David Hirschey

Reminder: Going Paperless

Beginning September 1, membership cards will no longer be mailed for annual renewals. Members can print their card by logging into the website and looking under Profile OR save a digital copy to your phone to show proof of membership. 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 computer.

First, pull eggs and allow them to get to room temperature.

Chop the chocolate and melt it in a bowl over a water bath with simmering water, not boiling. Turn off the heat and let the chocolate melt slowly.

Beat room-temperature egg yolks and 100 grams of sugar until white and fluffy for about 8–10 minutes until it forms a thick foam.

Beat room-temperature egg whites stiff in another bowl with 20 grams of sugar to create a chewy meringue.

First fold 1/3 of the egg yolk mixture into the chocolate and distribute well with a whisk. Then add the rest of the egg yolk mixture and fold together with a spatula.

Then fold the stiffly beaten egg whites into the mousse and make sure everything is distributed well. Flavor with rum, whiskey or cognac if desired.

Carefully spoon or pour directly into the bowls.

Refrigerate the chocolate mousse for at least three hours or overnight until the mousse has set.

Garnish: Make the chocolate straws

Chop the chocolate and melt it in a bowl over a bain-marie with simmering, not boiling, water. Turn off the heat and let the chocolate melt slowly.

Spread the melted chocolate in a very thin layer with a metal spatula on the back of a baking sheet or a cold marble slab. Let the chocolate set, approximately 25 minutes, without it becoming hard.

Scrape or pull the spatula in a 45-degree angle towards you, so that small tubes or shavings automatically roll up. Place them on baking paper on a plate and store them in the refrigerator until ready to use.

Serving: Cut the blueberries in half and spread over the chocolate mousse. Garnish with lightly whipped cream, cocoa nibs and chocolate shavings.

Photo Credit: DR via nrk.no



World's Best Chocolate Mousse

Source:

<https://www.nrk.no/mat/verdens-beste-sjokolade-mousse-1.15749659>

Do you need a reason? No, it is always the season for mousse!

Ingredients for mousse:

- 130 g dark chocolate, 65% cocoa
- 100 g egg yolks (about 5 eggs), room temperature
- 120 g sugar (100+20 grams)
- 160 g egg whites (about 4 eggs), room temperature
- optional: 2 Tbsp. rum, whiskey

Ingredients for chocolate straws:

- 100 g dark chocolate

Ingredients for garnish options:

- 120 g blueberries
- 2,5 dl whipping cream
- 4 Tbsp. cocoa nibs

Find the English Match

HØST	CHILLY
BLAD	OWL
EIKENØTT	LEAF
GENSER	PUMPKIN
GRESSKAR	COZINESS
KJØLIG	HARVEST
KOS	SWEATER
TÅKE	FOG
UGLE	ACORN

Annual Lodge Auction

The auction is coming!

The auction is coming!

Our annual lodge auction will take place during our OCTOBER meeting.

Dennis Lindbord will be our auctioneer.



Please start thinking about what you could contribute (and bring to the October meeting) to help raise funds for both the Sons of Norway Foundation AND our lodge.

Question: Does the contribution need to be Scandinavian-themed?

Answer: No, any item you think would be of interest to our lodge members and guests is welcome!

Question: How many items will be auctioned?

Answer: As many as our auctioneer can offer or until his voice gives out.

The holidays are drawing near and this is a great way to find some unique gifts!

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About the Sons of Norway Foundation

The Sons of Norway Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, strives to celebrate Nordic culture and heritage through scholarships and grants to members and communities. Since 1966 it has been supporting members through scholarships and cultural exchange opportunities, providing disaster relief to members in need, and funding community programs that celebrate Norwegian heritage and culture.

Scholarships

The Sons of Norway Foundation awards approximately 25 scholarships to promising students each year. These programs promote cultural exchange and support higher education to help students follow their dreams.

Grants

The Sons of Norway Foundation offers six categories of grants that provide funding for Norwegian themed programming.

In 2024, the Sons of Norway Foundation distributed over \$273,000 in awards.

\$148,000 In Scholarships for students to study in the United States, Canada, and Norway

\$110,000 In Grants for Norwegian culture and heritage programs

\$15,000 In Camperships for kids across the United States to attend Norwegian cultural camps

October's Translation Practice

Provided by the Sons of Norway Newsletter Service, excerpted from snl.no

På norsk

Leiv Eiriksson

Leiv Eiriksson var en norrøn oppdager, kjent for oppdagelsen av Vinland omkring år 1000. Leiv og hans følge kan dermed ha vært de første europeerne til å «oppdage» Amerika.

Leiv var sønn av den norskfødte Eirik Raude og hans islandske hustru Tjodhild. Han vokste opp på Grønland.

Ifølge Eirik Raudes saga seilte Leiv Eiriksson til Norge i 999. Her ble han døpt og fikk i oppdrag å innføre kristendommen på Grønland. Faren skal ha nektet å ta den nye troen, mens moren ble døpt og bygget den første grønlandske kirken.

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Vi vet ikke sikkert når Leiv døde. Han er nevnt i live siste gang i 1019, og var antakelig død før 1025, for ifølge Fostbrødrenes saga var sønnen Torkell da blitt høvding i Eiriks-fjord og bodde på Brattalid.

Vinlandsferden

Ifølge Eirik Raudes saga kom Leiv ut av kurs på vei hjem til Grønland fra Norge i 999, og oppdaget et land med selvsådde hveteåkrer og vintrær (Vinland). I Grønlendingenes saga sies det derimot at Leivs oppdagelse av Vinland var et resultatet av en planmessig ekspedisjon.

En norrøn bosetning ble i 1960-årene funnet på L'Anse aux Meadows, på nordspissen av Newfoundland i Canada. Dette har blitt tolket som sagaenes Vinland. Om Vinland viser til et land der det vokser vindruer, er det sistnevnte alternativet mest sannsynlig.

Minnet om Leivs ferd til Vinland

Minnet om Leiv Eiriksson og betydningen av hans oppdagelse ble for alvor løftet fram på slutten av 1800-tallet. Ved verdensutstillingen i Chicago i 1893, som var viet til 400-års-markeringen av Kristoffer Columbus' første reise til Amerika, ble Christian Krohgs maleri av Leiv Eiriksson sendt fra Norge, og skipet Viking, en kopi av Gokstadskipet, ble ført at Magnus Andersen over Atlanteren til Chicago og ble gjenstand for stor oppmerksomhet.

I 1964 proklamerte USAs president Lyndon B. Johnson 9. oktober som offisiell minnedag over hele landet til erindring om Leiv Eirikssons oppdagelse. Datoen for Leivs ankomst til Vinland er ikke presisert i sagaene, men det sies at det var om høsten. 9. oktober ble valgt, siden det norske emigrantskipet Restaurationen ankom New York denne datoen i 1825.

October's Translation Practice

Provided by the Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

På engelsk

Leif Erikson

Leif Erikson [Leiv Eiriksson] was a Norse explorer, known for the discovery of Vinland around the year 1000. Leif and his companions may thus have been the first Europeans to “discover” America.

Leif was the son of the Norwegian-born Eirik Raude [Erik the Red] and his Icelandic wife Tjodhild. He grew up in Greenland.

According to Erik the Red's saga, Leif Erikson sailed to Norway in 999. Here he was baptized and commissioned to introduce Christianity to Greenland. His father is said to have refused to accept the new faith, while his mother was baptized and built the first Greenlandic church.

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We do not know for sure when Leif died. He is last mentioned alive in 1019, and was probably dead before 1025, because according to the Fostbrødrene's saga, his son Torkell had by then become chieftain in Eiriksfiord and lived on Brattalid.

The Vinland Expedition

According to Erik the Red's saga, Leif went off course on his way home to Greenland from Norway in 999 and discovered a land with self-sown wheat fields and vines (Vinland). In Grønlendingenes saga, however, it is said that Leif's discovery of Vinland was the result of a planned expedition.

A Norse settlement was found in the 1960s at L'Anse aux Meadows, on the northern tip of Newfoundland in Canada. This has been interpreted as the Vinland of the sagas. If Vinland refers to a land where wine grapes grow, the latter option is most likely.

The memory of Leif's voyage to Vinland

The memory of Leif Erikson and the significance of his discovery were seriously raised at the end of the 19th century. At the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893, which was dedicated to the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to America, Christian Krohg's painting of Leif Erikson was sent from Norway, and the ship Viking, a copy of the Gokstad ship, was taken by Magnus Andersen across the Atlantic to Chicago and became the subject of great attention.

In 1964, US President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed October 9 as an official national day of remembrance in memory of Leif Erikson's discovery. The date of Leif's arrival in Vinland is not specified in the sagas, but it is said to have been in the autumn. October 9 was chosen because the Norwegian emigrant ship Restaurationen arrived in New York on this date in 1825.

From NTB Communications

Oslo Airport most punctual airport in the world

In May, Oslo Airport topped the list in the category of large international airports, making it the world's most punctual airport.



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Oslo, 12 June 2025 – Oslo Airport has been recognised as the most punctual airport in the world for the month of May, according to the latest global on-time performance report from aviation analytics company Cirium.

In the category of large international airports, Oslo Airport achieved the highest ranking worldwide, with 91.22 percent of all departures operating on schedule. This distinction marks a significant achievement in operational excellence and reliability.

Oslo Airport also secured a position among the top ten most punctual major airports globally for the entirety of the previous year, further underscoring its consistent performance. In the same report, Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) was ranked the world's most punctual airline, while Norwegian Airlines achieved fourth place among European carriers.

"This recognition is a result of strong collaboration between Avinor, the airlines, and the ground handling companies. Together, we share a commitment to delivering efficient and seamless ground operations at Oslo Airport. Being ranked so highly on the global stage is a testament to the dedication and professionalism of everyone involved," said Thorgeir Landevaag, Airport Director at Oslo Airport.

Oslo Airport handles about 25 million passengers annually and plays a central role in Norway's air travel network.



Gratulerer med dagen

October Birthdays

5	Sara Johnson
8	George Scott
9	Jack Anderson
11	DavidCarlson Hirschey
16	Hugh Hopkins
22	Marilyn Arvidson

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October Board Meeting

The October Board meetings will be held
at 1:00 PM on October 13th in the
Westchester Public Library's Baugher Center,
100 W. Indiana Ave., Chesterton, IN 46304

October Lodge Meeting

Hosts: Oleif & Marianne Olsaker

Please bring:

Last name A-J: Side dish

Last name K-N: Dessert

Last name O-Z: Main dish

Program: Foundation Auction

(cash and checks accepted)

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



Saving the best for last: Best in the World

Chocolate lovers can celebrate a new winner declared during the International Chocolate Awards in the dark chocolate category. The top prize went to Vigdis Rosenkilde, a Norwegian chocolate maker for her 70% cacao Quellouno bar. She splits her time between Norway and Peru, where she sources the heirloom variety of cacao from a family farm. The combination of high altitude and other factors give the beans a unique flavor that varies a bit each harvest. The award-winning chocolate only has two ingredients – cacao and sugar; but the process of making each batch is complex.

The bar was judged as part of the International Institute of Chocolate Tasting competition, in which more than 50 judges select winners in various categories. By the end of the competition, four final winners were declared, including the dark chocolate Quellouno bar. The artisan credits letting the cacao speak for itself with its unique and complex flavor profile that included berries, pecans, cream, port wine, and hints of other fruits.