

Askeladden News



SONS of
NORWAY

ASKELADDEN
LODGE 5-610

♦
August 2025

President: Kris Spence
(269) 719-0061
askeladdenlodgespres@gmail.com

Membership Secretary:
Joan O'Bryan
(269) 383-6802
joan.obryan@wmich.edu

Secretary: Karen Hare
(269) 568-9797
astutekaren@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor:
Karn Erlandson
(269) 579-0619
karnerlandson@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Curtis Cleveland
(269) 381-4531
cacleve82@att.net

Cultural Director:
Elizabeth Kraatz
(573) 999-1113
KraatzE@gmail.com

Affiliation:
Sons of Norway International
<https://www.sofn.com>
District 5
<https://sonsofnorway5.com>

Lodge Contact Info:
Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com
(269) 350-3330
Kalamazoo, MI

Financial Benefits Counselor
Greg Ragan
(815) 623-8817
gragan51@gmail.com
www.raganfinancialgroup.com

Next event

Sunday, August 10, 2025, 2 - 5 p.m.

Lakeside Ice Cream Social

Diane and Jeff Andert will once again host us for ice cream and summer sunshine at their lakeside home in Battle Creek. Join us for sweets, yard games, boat rides and fellowship!

Where: 144 Waupakisco Beach, located on the northwest side of Goguac Lake two blocks south of the corner of Columbia Avenue and S. LaVista. Parking is at the Andert's home or on the street.

What to bring: People can bring their favorite Norwegian treat if desired, but it is not necessary as everything will be provided.

Detailed directions:

- Use Exit 98 off I-94 (Business I-94 and M66) North toward downtown Battle Creek.
- Take the first exit, Columbia Avenue, and turn left.
- At the third stop light, S. LaVista Boulevard, turn left.
- After two blocks Waupakisco Beach is on your left.
- The Andert home is the third house on Waupakisco, which is a dead-end street.

Call or text (269) 967-1311 if you have any questions.



A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Norway

www.norwayinkalamazoo.com



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Fra Presidenten

Kris Spence

How wonderful it was to see everyone at the Midsommar event in June. I am thankful for our hosts, Holly and Rick, who shared their beautiful backyard flowers for the Midsommar pole and their lovely home for the picnic. I hope to see all of you again, and many more, at our August 10 summer ice cream social.

When we were in Norway in 2012, we had ice cream every day. Maybe that's because we were traveling with our then 8-year-old or perhaps it is because Norwegians have an undeniable love for ice cream. It seemed to be everywhere that summer.

I looked up the statistics and Norway consistently ranks among the top countries in the world for per capita ice cream consumption. Norwegians eat an average of 10-12 liters per person each year. In Norway, classic vanilla or chocolate often gets a twist, incorporating locally inspired ingredients like caramelized sugar or licorice. One of my favorites were the blueberry milkshakes at Døgnvill Burger in Oslo.

I hope you will escape the summer heat and join us at our August event for a cool treat.



June Event Recap- Midsommar Celebration with Vasa

Joan O'Bryan, Membership Secretary

We had a terrific turnout for the Midsommar gathering hosted by Vasa in June. This year our celebration took place on the actual Midsommar day. More of our lodge members participated than last year -- and last year saw a big increase from the year before. This may have been our best Midsommar turnout ever, and you know the saying, "The more, the merrier!" Well, it proved true as everyone greatly enjoyed the food and festivities.

Mange takk to Holly and Rick Jensen for hosting us again in their incredibly beautiful yard. Thanks also to everyone who helped to decorate the maypole and wreaths, especially

Karn, Kris, James and Alice. The pole was the most beautiful I have seen in all the years I have attended this event.

June 2025 Askeladden Members attendance: Diane Andert, Jeff Andert, Curtis Cleveland, Karn Erlandson, Karen Hare, Alice Kraatz, Elizabeth Kraatz, James Kraatz, Holly Jensen, Joan O'Bryan, Abigail Renoos (Heritage Member), Daniel Renoos, Sandra Santas, Kris Spence, Laurie Swanson, Robert Swanson

Please contact Membership Secretary Joan O'Bryan with any attendance corrections.

October Dinner Theater Event: From Fjord to Frontier



Join us at the Portage Zhang Senior Center (203 E. Centre Ave., Portage) on Wednesday, October 8th at 5 p.m. for a dinner theater presentation *From Fjord to Frontier: The Audacious Journey of Norway's First Immigrants to America*. Step back in time and experience a story of courage, hope, and heritage exploring Cleng Peerson and the 1825 voyage of the *Restauration* sloop. We'll enjoy a delicious catered Norwegian-style meal in the lovely Senior Center facility before the performance by WMU student actors.

Volunteers will be needed before, during, and after the event- see the last page of the newsletter for details.

Due to a grant from the America 250-MI organization and support from a fund at the Portage Zhang Senior Center, in this event we're able to bring *The Uprooting* play to a bigger audience than our informal table read during Syttende Mai. It is an exciting opportunity to share our Norwegian history during the 200th anniversary of this immigration story, and also to recruit new members.

Tickets are limited and cost just \$10; reservations are required. Reserve your spot now: call the Senior Center at 269-329-4555 and be prepared to pay by credit card for each ticket. The event will be advertised to Portage Zhang Senior Center members in their newsletter published August 20, so don't wait too long! Ticket sales will close on September 30, but it's possible we will sell out before then.

Click [here](#) for the event poster.

Norway Trip Drawing Deadline

You are reminded: Under our Lodge's established Norway Trip drawing rules, if you want to be considered for the October 2025 drawing, you must submit your request in writing (email is preferable) to the Membership Secretary by the September meeting. If you would like more information about our annual trip drawing, consider becoming a member of our Lodge, or attend an event to find out more. Members can contact the Membership Secretary for a copy of the current policy.

Joan O'Bryan, Membership Secretary
joan.obryan@wmich.edu



August Kalender

8/10 Ice Cream Social, 2 p.m. (Andert's lakeside home, Battle Creek)
8/19 HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit Birthday
8/31 Last day to submit Sept. newsletter articles

August Birthdays

Gratulerer med dagen til:

John Ambrosen
Curtis Cleveland
David Code
Michelle Croce
Caleb DeWitt

Joyce Hare
Abigail Renoos
Daniel Renoos
Kate Phillips
Svein Thoen



Norske ord

Jordbæris er min favoritt (YordbarEES are min fahvoREET) = Strawberry ice cream is my favorite.

Innsjøen er vakker (INNshuren are VAHker) = The lake is beautiful.



The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and 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 our members.



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Volunteers Needed

The Oct. 8th Fjord to Frontier event will need lots of volunteers from the Lodge to make it a success.

We need assistance to:

- 1) Make décor for the tables
- 2) Provide the dessert – cookies/ Norwegian treats for 60-80 attendees
- 3) Set up the tables etc.
- 4) Clean up and take down the tables
- 5) Help with other tasks that arise- stay tuned!

Contact Elizabeth Kraatz or sign up at the upcoming Lodge meeting.

This event has potential to be our biggest community event in years and could bring in more members too. We hope you can help!

