



the ASKELADDEN news

Mai 2021

Sons of Norway • Askeladden Lodge 5-610 • Kalamazoo, Michigan

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

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

05-21

Meetings: *In-person cancelled until further notice due to the pandemic. Monthly meetings will be conducted virtually online.*

Sept - April: 2nd Sundays, 2 p.m.

May only: 3rd Sunday, 2 p.m.

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Joint Meeting: Askeladden, Sonja Henie, Sognefjord & Vasa

Sunday, May 16 at 2 p.m. (online)

Syttende Mai in Norway

with Astrid Willis

Please join us on Sunday, May 16 at 2 p.m. for a lively description of how Norway celebrates her biggest holiday with our Norwegian-born Cultural Director, Astrid Willis. Astrid grew up in Norway and has gone back for visits with friends and family most years. With the help of her son Vanier Lander, also an Askeladden member since 2020, Astrid will show us colorful photos and lively videos from recent Syttende Mai celebrations in Oslo. We will see Norwegian police on mounted horses followed by decorated wagons and hundreds of adults in splendid bunads dancing their way to the palace to perform for the royal family who graciously wave to all for hours and hours.



We will watch flag-waving children from over 100 elementary schools march to the music of both school and adult bands. Astrid will also tell us about her own experiences with the parades as well as family favorite treats and meals for the celebration.

We hope you will join us on Sunday, May 16. While we won't be marching in person, you could still wear your Norwegian bunads or other red and blue clothes, enjoy a hotdog with lefse and ice cream, or even a festive cream cake topped with blueberries, strawberries and Norwegian flags!

Gratulerer med Dagen!

Meeting info:

Topic: **Askeladden Syttende Mai with Astrid**

Time: May 16, 2021 2 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join on computers and other devices with audio/video capability:

This is where we normally include the meeting link. For security reasons, the link will be emailed to you the night before the event. Please come back then and check your email for the meeting link.

Meeting ID: **992 7299 5957**

Passcode: **093947**

Or dial in by phone by your location:

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

When prompted enter the Meeting ID: **992 7299 5957**

and Passcode: **093947**

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

The Myrtle Beinhauer/Askeladden Lodge Scholarship Program

Curtis Cleveland, Lodge Historian

May lodge meetings have special meaning for Askeladden Lodge members. First, the celebration of Syttende Mai is always fun. Another reason the meetings are unique is the presentation of the checks to the winners of the Myrtle Beinhauer/Askeladden Lodge Scholarships.

This all started in 2000, the year Askeladden Lodge had the co-presidency of Joyce Hare and Margery Selden. At the April 2000 lodge meeting, the members discussed a letter from Kari Erickson, daughter of charter members Scott and Elaine Erickson, who was requesting financial assistance from the lodge for her college endeavors. The lodge responded.

First, the lodge members approved a \$3,000 scholarship for Kari. Second, the lodge members established a Scholarship Committee to formulate guidelines for a scholarship program. The program became the Myrtle Beinhauer/Askeladden Lodge Scholarship Program. In addition, at the April meeting, the lodge approved a \$500 grant to lodge member Donna Buehl to attend a Rosemaling class at Vesterheim Museum, Decorah, Iowa.

In their May 2000 "From Our Presidents" newsletter column, Joyce and Margery wrote: "At our last meeting we as an organization took a bold stand and voted to fund two scholarship requests.... This kind of support to our members is what we as members of Askeladden are all about."

The first Scholarship Committee included Helen Loen (Chair), Orlin Loen, Margery Selden, Marge Hastings, and Ferne Best. Helen Loen was the chair of the Scholarship Committee for the first five years. After Helen, Joyce Hare, Margery Selden, and Inger Thoen would serve as chairpersons of the committee. The members of the Scholarship Committee have been very dedicated, several members serving year after year on the committee. The late Marge Hastings served 18 years on the committee. The late Hildy Montgomery served 9 years on the committee.

The current members of the Scholarship Committee include Joyce Hare, Chair, Margery Selden, and Elizabeth Kraatz.

Since 2000, Askeladden Lodge has awarded 72 scholarships, valued at \$50,000, to 27 high school and college students. With the exception of the initial \$3,000 to Kari Erickson, the scholarships have varied from \$500 to \$1,000. The number of recipients each year has varied from a high of ten winners in 2005 to one winner in other years.

This generous scholarship program was possible because of the estate gift of Myrtle Beinhauer to the lodge in 1996. Myrtle, who died in 1994, was the first president of Askeladden Lodge, from 1988 to 1990.

The following individuals, in alphabetical order, have received the Myrtle Beinhauer/Askeladden Lodge Scholarships (the years of the awards in parentheses):

Charles Berdahl (2007, 2008, 2009, & 2010) son of Louise and Don Berdahl

Chelsea Berdahl (2004, 2005) daughter of Louise and Don Berdahl

Kelly Capone (2013) granddaughter of Donna and Robert Kaarlie

Lesley Cassetto (2003, 2004, 2005, & 2006) granddaughter of Helen and Joe Cassetto

Lindsay Cassetto (2005, 2006, 2007, & 2008) granddaughter of Helen and Joe Cassetto

Kjartan Code (2008, 2010, & 2011) son of Karin and David Code

Larena Code (2011, 2012, 2013, & 2014) daughter of Karin and David Code

Scott Dawsey (2007, 2008, 2009, & 2010) son of Mary Sue Dawsey

Kari Erickson (2000) daughter of Scott and Elaine Erickson

Mark Finazzo (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, & 2009) grandson of Hildy Montgomery

Andrew Ingebritson (2005) grandson of Pearl Ingebritson

Brett Jensen (2010, 2011, 2012, & 2013) son of Holly Jensen

Erik Jensen (2005, 2006, 2007, & 2008) son of Holly Jensen

Ross Jensen (2002, 2003, 2004, & 2005) son of Holly Jensen

Ashli Niles (2003, 2005, 2006, & 2007) granddaughter of Sandra Shaffer

Amanda O'Bryan (2006) daughter of Joan O'Bryan

Daniel Phillips (2020 & 2021) son of Sondra Phillips

Erin Piper (2008) granddaughter of Linda Piper

Erik Selden (2003, 2004, 2005, & 2006) grandson of Margery Selden

Paul Selden (2003, 2004, 2005, & 2006) grandson of Margery Selden

Christina Sherman (2016 & 2018) daughter of Terese and David Sherman

Elizabeth Sherman (2018) daughter of Terese and David Sherman

Bridget Smith (2012 & 2013) granddaughter of Earnie Best

Esden Stafne (2021) son of Jamie Stafne

Kaeler Stafne (2020 & 2021) son of Jamie Stafne

Joseph Thorsrud (2016) son of Bjorn Thorsrud

Kristen Walvoord (2001 & 2002) daughter of Crystal Walvoord

Membership News

Thank you expressed to our lodge

We would like to Thank everyone who sent such lovely cards and messages in honor of our 50th Anniversary. It made our special day even more special. Also Thanks for my (Arden) birthday cards. They are so very appreciated.

Arden & Ruth

Recap of the April Lodge meeting

Joan Renaas O'Bryan, Vice President

Our April meeting, a professional program on Scandinavian textiles led by Jodie Gerard and Lisa Beams, was our most successful virtual program yet, with attendees from three Sons of Norway lodges and three Vasa lodges, including 18 Askeladden members. We received a lot of very positive feedback about this great program. I found it fun and informative - now I know why my Norwegian sweater always keeps me warm!

April Member attendance: Curtis Cleveland, Betsy Fish, Catherine Hande, Judy Hande-Skutnick, Joyce Hare, Karen Hare, Holly Jensen, Elizabeth Kraatz, Karen Kunze, Vaniar Lander, Joan O'Bryan, Christina Sherman, David Sherman, Terese Sherman, William Strong, Gail Thompson-Hadley, Chris Walvoord, Astrid Willis.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Askeladden Lodge 2021 Scholarships Announced

Joyce Hare, Scholarship Chairperson

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the Myrtle Beinhauer Askeladden Scholarship for 2021. Each is an outstanding student at their university. This year's recipients are Daniel Phillips, Kaeler Stafne and Esden Stafne.



Daniel Phillips attends Loyola University Chicago. He is interested in the field of Communications. He is completing his freshman year. Daniel participates in the Cross Country Team at Loyola. He mentioned that his time at Askeladden Lodge helped prepare him for rooming with another Cross Country Team member from Spain. Daniel is a Film Major.

Kaeler Stafne is completing his freshman year at Grand Valley State. He has not yet declared a major. He is interested in Occupational Therapy or Marketing. Kaeler mentioned that due to COVID-19 he was unable to participate in any school clubs or fully participate in activities at Grand Valley State. He made the Dean's List in the Fall of 2020.

Esden Stafne attends Western Michigan University and is a fourth-year student with a Multi-Media Arts Technology Major. His interests include experiences in music production, film direction and production. He also plays bass with bands, even finding ways of streaming the bands performances during the pandemic.

The committee wishes them well in their endeavors.

Celebrating Syttende Mai during a pandemic

Syttende Mai (May 17th) is usually celebrated in public with massive parades of school kids, russ (high school seniors) wearing blue and red coveralls, adults donning bunader (folk costumes) and marching bands. It's a day for expressing cultural pride, excitement for spring and for appreciating the founding of an independent Norway. There are plenty of ways to have a festive occasion, even when social distancing:

Décor One thing that you see everywhere on Grunnlovsdagen or Constitution Day are Norwegian flags and red, white and blue decorations. Incorporate these colors into your food, or if that's not possible, decorate with flag toothpicks and red, white and blue napkins.

Attire Typical dress for all ages is a bunad, or national folk costume, but don't stress if you don't have one; people without costumes tend to dress nicely and pin red, white and blue ribbons onto their lapel, or wear the Norwegian colors in another way.

Music Put on some Norwegian tunes or sing a few yourselves. The national anthem, *Ja, Vi Elsker Dette Landet* is a favorite, along with *Norge I Rødt, Hvitt og Blått*.

Hurra! A typical activity on Syttende Mai is saying "Gratulerer med dagen!" (Congratulations on this day!) or "Hurra for Syttende Mai!" (Hooray for May 17th!). Repeat this to everyone you see.

Food Syttende Mai is a banner day for kids in Norway, as they are usually allowed to consume soda, hot dogs and ice cream. Some Norwegians make a fancy brunch before heading to the local parade. For the koldtbord (smorgasbord), favorites include smoked salmon, cured meats, boiled eggs, porridge, salads and champagne. Later in the day, enjoy coffee with bløtkake, a layered cream cake with fresh fruit - often using blueberries and strawberries to make a flag on top. Heart-shaped waffles and kransekake may be decorated with Norwegian flag toothpicks. Hurra for Syttende Mai!

Tra Presidenten

Summer Possibilities to Gather Again

Greetings to all our members and friends of Askeladden Lodge. With warm temperatures and recent rains, spring blooms have arrived in Southwest Michigan. Our old apple orchard has just come into bloom, and it's time to hunt for those elusive but tasty morel mushrooms.

Now that most of us have likely had our COVID-19 vaccines, I believe we can start planning for a summer gathering. Our board will have an online meeting on Wednesday, June 2, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m., to consider plans for a July or August picnic or another outdoor event. If you have suggestions, please email me your ideas! We will also discuss summer possibilities after our May 16th program when Astrid Willis will tell us about Syttende Mai celebrations in Norway. If you would like to join the board for our June meeting, email me and I will send you the meeting link in June.



ghadley@iusb.edu

We are blessed with the many resources provided by our very active District 5. If you haven't visited its website – just google Sons of Norway District 5 Website and you'll learn about the numerous online classes and programs available.

I recently talked with our District 5 President, Andy Johnsen, as part of his conversations with lodge presidents. I asked about a print lodge directory to help our members keep in touch with each other and he said he believed most lodges did distribute a print directory to their members with contact information. Please let me know if you would value such a directory.

The District 5 website also provides a link for the terrific *Viking for Kids* online magazine. Check out the May 2021 issue for a wonderful article about Syttende Mai celebrations in Norway along other fascinating articles like the one on Puffins plus puzzles and games. [Viking-for-Kids-May-2021-Spread-final-min.pdf \(sofn.com\)](#)

Gail Thompson-Hadley

Satellite Lodge Anniversary

Our Scandinavian brothers and sisters at Vasa Satellite Lodge #661 in Kalamazoo celebrated their 60th lodge anniversary in April.

Satellite Lodge received its Charter and was installed into the District Lodge Lake Michigan No. 8 on April 22, 1961.

Several Charter Members are still active in the Lodge. Congratulations to all of the Satellite Lodge family!



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

MAI KALENDER



- mai 1 - Første Mai - Arbeidernes Dag - Labor Day in Norway
- mai 8 - Frigjøringsdagen, 1945 - V-E Day - Liberation Day
- mai 9 - Mother's Day USA and Canada
- mai 13 - Kristi Himmelfartsdag - Ascension Day
- mai 16 - **Askeladden Joint Program (online) - Syttende Mai**
- mai 17 - Syttende Mai - Grunnlovsdag - Norwegian Constitution Day
- mai 23 - Pinsedag (WhitSunday) - Pentecost
- mai 24 - Victoria Day - Canada
- mai 31 - Memorial Day
- juni 2 - Askeladden Lodge Board online meeting 7:30 p.m.
- juni 11 - last day to submit Askeladden News articles for June/July issue



Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

May Birthdays

Jean Willinger	Linda Lou Piper
Alice Kraatz	Curt Osborn
Harper Fugett	Ruth Hetletvedt
Jeffrey Andert	

NOTICE: All Askeladden **in-person** local events are cancelled until further notice.

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway

Contact Curtis Cleveland with questions or to reserve resources.



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.