



the ASKELADDEN news

Sons of Norway • Askeladden Lodge 5-610 • Kalamazoo, Michigan
A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Norway
facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

April 2022

4-22

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 with Askeladden, Sonja Henie, & Sognefjord Lodges

Sunday, April 10

2 p.m. (online)

Norway: Astrid's Trip Home



Astrid pointing out her grandmother's home overlooking the Oslofjord

Oslo Today and Childhood Photos

Please join us for our April program as Askeladden Lodge member, Astrid Willis, takes us on her trip back to Norway last winter to visit with her dear brother, Per Olaf, and other family and friends. Astrid will share some video clips and photos from her recent trip as well as a treasure trove of black and white photos from her childhood growing up in Oslo. We look forward to Astrid's lively and vivid descriptions of her time back in Norway and her memories of her Oslo childhood.

Askeladden members are requested to stay online after our program concludes for a brief business meeting.



Astrid holding her baby brother Per Olaf

Time: April 10, 2022 2 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join our meeting:

Topic: Askeladden April Program

[The link for the meeting will be emailed to you the evening before the event.](#)

Meeting ID: 849 3035 8160

Passcode: 890874

Dial by your location (only if using phone for audio)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

St. Patrick's Day Parade 2022

Five lodge members braved the unseasonable bitter cold on March 12, when the “feels-like” temperature was in the single digits and the snow was flying. Our distinctive Troll remains popular and we heard cheers for our unit several times along the way, making the effort worth the 6° chill. Representing our lodge in the downtown parade were Jeff Andert, Brett Jensen, Gail Thompson-Hadley, Kris Spence, Joan O’Bryan, and Opie, the Boston Terrier. Holly Jensen provided our elaborate Viking Boat and Troll costumes.



photo by Jim Bennink, courtesy of the Irish American Club of Kalamazoo

Honor Flight seeks Sons of Norway volunteers

Elizabeth Kraatz

Askeladden Lodge members will be offered two ways to provide volunteer service for the C.A.R. Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight.

June 17 - Assistance will be needed to decorate and set tables prior to the banquet, as well as to serve the family-styled catered meal. The banquet, which begins at 5 p.m., will be held at the RAI Jets aircraft hangar at the airport. Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient James McCloughan will be among the featured speakers. Watch for information on how to access the hangar (which is in controlled airspace) and when to arrive closer to June, but mark your calendars now!

June 18 - Arrive at Wings Event Center (3600 Vanrick Drive, Kalamazoo) between 6 and 8 p.m. to welcome the veterans on their return from Washington DC. Wear “patriotic palette” (the red, white, and blue of both the Norwegian and the American flags) and join other Askeladden Lodge members in a reserved spot in the hallway so that you can be one of the first to greet the veterans. You may want to bring a small camp chair for your comfort while waiting. Be ready to shake many hands and clap yourself silly!

March meeting recap: Michigan Ski for Light

Joan O’Bryan, Acting Membership Sec.

We gathered for an interesting, informative online presentation hosted by Sonja Henie as 16 Askeladden members and one guest were joined by 10 members of Sonja Henie (Lansing), Sognefjord (Muskegon), and Christian Radich (Suttons Bay) Lodges for a total of 28 people including our guest presenter, Kimberly Ellickson.

Kim Ellickson gave us a fascinating look into the history of the Michigan Ski for Light program in Roscommon Country. She shared great photos and stories of her family’s varied experiences volunteering for the program for the past 45 years and she answered all of our questions as well. Starting as a volunteer at 10 years of age, Kim, along with her brother, Ted, were recruited by her father, Jim. Jim also supplied some information for us during Kim’s presentation. Michigan’s First Lady Helen Milliken was among the first volunteers for MSFL, which predates the

international SFL. Some volunteers act as “guide-dog” sitters while the participants ski. The program is for mobility-impaired folks as well as blind and visually-impaired.

We thoroughly enjoyed this presentation highlighting the value of this all-volunteer experience in Michigan.

March 2022 Askeladden Member attendance: Diane Andert, Jeff Andert, Earnie Best, Curtis Cleveland, Betsy Fish, Joyce Hare, Karen Hare, Barbara Heffner, Holly Jensen, Gwen Meredith, Joan O’Bryan, David Sherman, Kris Spence, Gail Thompson-Hadley, Crystal Walvoord, and Astrid Willis. Guest: Brianna Wurtsmith.

Visitors (from other lodges): Vee Bjornson, Kaarin DeWitt, Gary and Pat Lee, Alberta and Steven Munkvold, Judy Olson, Merle Hanson, Maggie Schmidt, Jim Ellickson

Contact **Joan O’Bryan** with any attendance corrections. Note: Last month the attendance in the Feb. recap article was labeled as January, but it was actually the February attendance.

Volunteer and have fun

The annual Do-Dah parade in downtown Kalamazoo is making a return in June and we need to know if you, your children, or your grandchildren would like to join us. We need people to march the 1-mile route on Saturday morning, June 4. We are also looking for a parade coordinator to lead up our unit this year. We will discuss this at our April meeting – or contact Gail if you are interested in helping. Participation in the parade with our lodge counts as a qualifying event for the the annual Norway trip drawing.

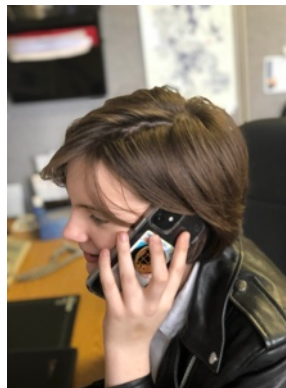
Member Spotlight The C.A.R. Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight

Curtis Cleveland, Treasurer

Askeladden Lodge will be sponsoring a Vietnam veteran’s seat on the plane for the June 18 Honor Flight. Spearheaded by Heritage member Alice Kraatz when she served as State President for the Michigan Society Children of the American Revolution, Honor Flight provides veterans with free airplane transportation to Washington DC so that the veterans may visit the Vietnam, Korean, and WWII memorials, among others. This will be Michigan’s first Honor Flight mission dedicated solely to Vietnam veterans.

The C.A.R. Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight will be given the privilege of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.

At the February meeting, the lodge voted to make a \$100 gift donation to the C.A.R. Yellow Ribbon Honor Flight. This was followed by donations made by individual lodge members totaling \$400, enabling the Lodge’s total donation of \$500 - enough to sponsor one veteran. Many thanks to the individual Askeladden members who made contributions and special thanks to Alice for her leadership in this civic program!



Alice Kraatz contacts Honor Flight Candidates to offer them a seat on the upcoming flight.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

Syttende Mai

April rolled in with a few inches of snow overnight after plenty of recent March showers but the spring blooms are emerging. My 3-year-old grandson and I check for progress of the daffodil, tulip and hyacinth spikes in the front garden every morning, and we've already spied a few brilliant crocus blooms, pussy willow catkins, and forsythia about to show its bright yellow flowers.



We haven't met in person since our wonderful picnic at the community park in Marshall last July but I would like to invite our Askeladden members, their families, and friends to celebrate Syttende Mai on Sunday, May 15th, from 2 to 5 p.m. here at Hadley Homestead. Our home is about a half-hour west of Kalamazoo 3 1/2 miles south of I-94 at Hartford exit 46.

My husband and I bought an old apple orchard at a land auction back in 2002 and we kept 25 acres of the old orchard when we turned the rest of it into corn and soybean fields on gently rolling ground. We are blessed with 3 ponds, a creek and some woods so it's a lovely place to explore.



We will begin with an outdoor picnic with deck and indoor options if we have cold or rain. We'll provide some open-faced sandwiches, and ask members to bring their own smørbrød, cold salads, fruits, veggies, cheese, fish or a delicious Norwegian sweet treat.

We will have a program with some of the traditional Syttende Mai events and then those who wish may do a guided wildflower hike out back.



I look forward to seeing you on Sunday, April 10th, for Astrid's program on her trip back to Norway, and then the 3rd Sunday in May for our Syttende Mai Celebration.

Here's to a happy Easter and glorious spring!

Gail Thompson-Hadley

Sons of Norway Hockey Team schedule

Curtis Cleveland

Friday, April 1, 2022, 8:40 PM - Wings West

Friday, April 15, 2022, 7:45 PM, Wings West

The games of the Sons of Norway Hockey Team, lasting one hour and free to the public, are played at one of the following venues: Wings West, north of exit 72, off I-94; and Wings Event Center, south of exit 80, off I-94.

Masse Moro 2022, Norwegian Heritage Camp

It's time to register for Masse Moro, our Norwegian Heritage Camp sponsored by District 5.

Camp Dates: Sunday, July 17 to Saturday, July 30, 2022.

Age Group: Open to 9 to 15 year old

- To better plan for our 2022 Masse Moro Camp, we are asking campers to complete and send their registration, along with your \$100 registration fee by April 1, 2022, if possible.
- Tuition for 2022 will be \$1,000 for the two weeks of camp; compared to \$2400 at other comparable Norwegian camps (the rental of our camp facility, the increase in food expenses and supplies have contributed to the increase in our tuition for 2022)
- Scholarships and matching grants may be available to those who register early. (\$150 matching grant available from District 5)
- Encourage all Sons of Norway members, parents, grandparents or aunt or uncle to contact their Lodge for supporting grants and receive matching funds. (\$150 grant available from Askeladden - contact our Treasurer.)
- Invite a friend and encourage others to join them at Masse Moro (do not have to be a Sons of Norway member to attend)!
- Campers will be enrolled on a first-come, first-serve basis; encourage your young people to send their application in early to secure their place at Masse Moro.

Visit the Masse Moro website: www.massemoro.org or the District 5 website at: www.sonsofnorway5.com for registration applications and supporting grant applications.

If you have questions about the camp experience, feel free to contact Joan O'Bryan, whose son and cousin's son attended Masse Moro together.

Member Spotlight

Welcome new members!

Askeladden Lodge would like to extend a warm welcome to every one of our newest members:

Augie and Abe Erickson;

Herman Lee;

Kjell, Michelle, Josephine, and Gabriella Croce;

Harold Spencer, Yasmin Aimee, Kamel, and Yael Astrid Lilly;

Jon, Willeen, Jonathan, Clarence and Shawn Platt.

If you have young Heritage Members in your family, you are encouraged to create an account using your new member number at www.sofn.com so you can download the periodical *Viking for Kids*. If you wish to receive our monthly newsletter, please send an email to the **Editor** so you can be added to our email list.



SONS of NORWAY

April
2022

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

APRIL KALENDER

- april 10 - **Askeladden Joint Program (online) - Norway: Astrid's Trip Home**
- april 15 - *Langfredag* - Good Friday
- april 17 - *Påskedag* - Easter Sunday
- april 22 - Earth Day
- mai 1 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles



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

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway
Contact Curtis Cleveland with questions or to reserve resources.

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

April Birthdays

Lyra Fugett	John Riggs
Jamie Lynn Stafne	Herman William Lee
Dennis Darling	Leif H. Selden
Helen Spence	Katherine Harvatine



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.