



# the ASKELADDEN news

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

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

Nov 2024

11-24

[www.norwayinkalamazoo.com](http://www.norwayinkalamazoo.com)

[facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge](https://facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge)

#### Meetings:

Sept - April: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays, 2 p.m.

May only: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 2 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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## Sunday, November 10 (Farsdag i Norge)

# Lefse Party

### 504 S Westnedge Ave - Trinity Lutheran Church

We hope you're planning to join us Sunday – Father's Day in Norway – for the first return of our lodge's very popular Lefse Party since COVID! The program will center around the preparation (rolling out and cooking) of lefse. All members who have lefse griddles, rolling pins, turning sticks, aprons and other lefse-making utensils are asked to bring them if it's convenient for you.

Lefse dough will be provided but, if you leave the party inspired to make lefse on your own, the Sons of Norway has a lefse recipe in their online Recipe Box:

[https://www.sofn.com/norwegian\\_culture/featured\\_recipes/lefse/](https://www.sofn.com/norwegian_culture/featured_recipes/lefse/)

Children are very welcome at the Lefse Party, but must be supervised carefully as the griddles are heated to 500°F. Everyone must wash their hands in the special sink in the kitchen provided for this purpose before handling food or food preparation equipment. Food service gloves will be available if desired.

Avoid wearing jackets, sweatshirts, or bulky sweaters when preparing the lefse. Aprons are recommended!

To keep things less hectic, our meal will be simple – please bring cold dishes, such as salads, to share. Coffee and water will be provided, and of course, lefse served with butter, sugar, cinnamon, and jam, so please don't bring desserts.

Everyone is asked to assist in the clean-up.

We hope you will also **bring nonperishable food items** for our November Food Drive for Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes.

### Holiday Parade - we need you on November 23!

*Kris Spence, Holiday Parade Coordinator*

The Maple Hill Holiday Parade is a tradition that has been celebrated for 62 years in Kalamazoo. We are excited for this opportunity to showcase our Lodge's spirit. We welcome any and all volunteers that wish to march with us.

- The Holiday Parade is Saturday, November 23, with everyone gathered by 10 a.m.
- We need volunteers to walk in costume in a unified theme (we provide the costumes)
- The parade route is through downtown Kalamazoo.
- Sign up at the November lodge meeting, or reach out as soon as you can to Kris Spence at [kspence7134@yahoo.com](mailto:kspence7134@yahoo.com) to commit to participating. We will follow up with more details.

# ASKELOADDEN NEWS

## October recap: Fellowship, Food & Music

Joan Renaas O'Bryan, Membership Secretary

Although we originally planned to join Vasa for their annual Fish Boil, there was a last-minute conflict with the church facilities, so the Fish Boil was not held this year. We still gathered for a shared meal and held our October business meeting in the Choir Room. Afterward, we attended a very special concert in the Sanctuary. October 6, 2024, Askeladden Member attendance: Diane Andert, Jeff Andert, Curtis Cleveland, Kam Erlandson, Karen Hare, Teri Koretsky, Joan O'Bryan, Kris Spence, Gail Thompson-Hadley  
Contact Joan O'Bryan with any attendance corrections.

## Language class November 13

Special invitation from Joanna Stelloh Phelps:

You are invited to the Norwegian Language class at our home, 58 Sycamore Avenue in Battle Creek on Wednesday, November 13, class at 10:30-11:30 a.m, followed by a luncheon. This is an open invitation to class members as well as any other Lodge members who would like to attend. Please RSVP attendance by Sunday, November 10, or contact me if you have any questions at (269) 986-5173. Please, there is no need to bring anything - food and beverages will be provided.

More information will be provided in the newsletter and directions will be provided to those who R.S.V.P attending.

## Sign up now for Lucia Pageant

A Sankta Lucia celebration on Saturday, December 14, at 2 p.m. in the Trinity Lutheran Church's Fellowship Hall, is planned by Askeladden Lodge and the Vasa Satellite Lodge. If you have a willing child, grandchild or neighbor who would like to participate, we have the costume and (electric) candles! Please text or call Holly (269) 598-5523 by December 7.

## Gift to the Sons of Norway Foundation

Curtis Cleveland, Foundation Director

At the October lodge meeting, Askeladden members donated \$85 for the Sons of Norway Foundation. This amount was added to the \$100 gift from the Lodge for a total gift of \$185 to the Foundation. Thanks to all who made contributions.

## Food Drive at Askeladden Lodge

Curtis Cleveland

November is Food Drive Month at Askeladden Lodge. We have two projects taking place at the November lodge meeting.

First, the Food Drive: We ask members to bring a grocery bag full of nonperishable food to the meeting, which will be given to the Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes.

Second, the Food Bank Campaign: We will collect monetary donations from members which will be given to the following food banks that serve the counties where our members live:

**South Michigan Food Bank**, located in Battle Creek, serving Calhoun, Kalamazoo, and 6 other counties;

**Feeding America: West Michigan**, located in Grand Rapids, serving Van Buren, Cass, Allegan, Kent, and 36 other counties;

**Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes.**

Please write a check, made out to the agency you want to receive your donation. Alternatively, you may place cash in an envelope with the name of the agency written on the envelope.

Donations to these three agencies are tax deductible under the IRS 501(c)(3) code.

## Norwegian language class November location

Please note the special location and invitation from Lodge member Joanna Stelloh Phelps. This invitation is extended to existing Language Class members who are not in our lodge (those that are on the Language class email list) and Lodge members only. Remember to let Joanna know if you plan to attend so she can plan for food. This special session will not be broadcast, so please plan to attend in person for this session.

## Lunch outing to Longship Brewing Company

Jeffrey Andert

A group of eight Askeladden members and guests enjoyed a beautiful Saturday afternoon road trip in October to the Longship Brewing Company in Lawton. A menu of Scandinavian-named craft beers and ciders as well as delicious food were sampled. Founder/Brewmaster Joe Magers provided background information about the building he restored and its history as a brewery (including an early version of Bell's!) Since opening in January, they have presented several beers which Joe links to his own Scandinavian heritage.

Live music is featured multiple times per week. Magers is also planning a Scandinavian festival in January in Lawton. Please visit their website at [longshipbrewingcompany.com](http://longshipbrewingcompany.com) and plan to patronize this unique business promoting Scandinavian heritage.



## October in Svalbard with Alice Kraatz

### Photos from Svalbard

left to right clockwise:

- 1) Fishing for torsk (cod) off the coast
- 2) "Tire pulling" is popular fitness training to prepare for pulling sleds on winter treks (Alice says everyone does this. If they go to the store or anywhere, they pull tires. And there are tires left outside of every store/library/church/you name it)
- 3) Reindeer grazing in the valley



Photos courtesy of Alice Kraatz





# ASKELOADDEN NEWS

## *Fra Presidenten*

### Proverbs, lefse, and future celebrations

Our Sons of Norway District 5 publishes an email newsletter every week, the FFFN – Friendly Fifth Friday News.

**Friendly Fifth Friday | Sons of Norway District 5** The October 25<sup>th</sup> newsletter provided a list with links to many of the resources available on the national Sons of Norway website. I explored the Information Bank's 4-page article under Literature, #208, on Norwegian proverbs to share with you this month in our Askeladden newsletter. [InfoBank\\_208.pdf](#)

The introduction to Norwegian proverbs on the Sons of Norway website provides the following cultural description: Traditional proverbs can provide a unique insight into attitudes, standards and the cultural state of mind of the people who relate them and pass them on as part of their oral tradition. Norwegian proverbs are a great example of this because they encode native values of perseverance, thrift and social responsibility, often presented with an ironic or darkly comic twist.

Here are a few of my favorite proverbs in Norwegian with the English translation. Read them aloud and practice your Norwegian!

*Bak skyen er himmelen alltid blå.* Behind the clouds the sky is always blue.

*Den som ikke i hete vil svette, får i kulde sulte.* He who will not sweat in the heat, gets to starve in the cold.

*En liten fisk i båten er bedre enn en stor i fjorden.* A small fish in the boat is better than a big one in the fjord.

*Enhver er sin egen lykkes smed.* Everyone is the maker of his own luck.

*Hver fugl synger med sitt nebb.* Every bird sings with its own voice.

*Selg ikke skinnen før bjørnen er skutt.* Don't sell the skin before the bear's been shot.

*Ærlighet varer lengst.* Honesty lasts the longest.

*Den som intet våger, intet vinner.* He who nothing dares, nothing gains.

A few days ago, I dared to hike a 4-mile loop with my sister and Askeladden lodge member, Gwen Meredith, near Cedarville in Michigan's eastern Upper Peninsula. We completed the Narnia Trail hike and had a terrific friluftsliv fresh air morning! We even discovered a giant rock formation which looked like a Norwegian troll's face.

Please join us for our lefse party on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. After we have made and eaten our lefse, we will hold an important lodge business meeting to draw the winner of the Norway trip, elect officers for 2025, and approve our 2025 budget. We will hear about the Sons of Norway Foundation scholarships. We will also learn of preliminary plans to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ship Restauration's voyage from Norway to America.

Gail Thompson-Hadley

### Sons of Norway Hockey Team in 14<sup>th</sup> season

*Curtis Cleveland*

The Sons of Norway Hockey Team has begun its 14<sup>th</sup> season in the Kalamazoo Adult Hockey League.

This year Fred Oehmke will lead the hockey team as the new captain/manager of the team. Fred, born in Denver, Colorado, lives in Rockford, Michigan where he works as an engineer for the Stellantis Automotive Group (they make the Chrysler cars). Fred completed both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Western Michigan University.

Other members of the Sons of Norway Hockey Team include: Hunter Atkins, Spencer Blanchard, Jacob Cobb, Andrew Costabile, Schuyler Devries, Garrett Grant, Rex Haner, John Mears, Andrew Onago, Steven Pyne, Thomas Schripsema, and Max Winkleman.

The games of the Kalamazoo Adult Hockey League are played at two venues: Wings West and Wings Event Center. On Friday, November 8, the Sons of Norway Hockey Team is scheduled to play at 9:55 p.m., at Wings West (Blue Rink). All games of the Kalamazoo Adult Hockey League are free of charge and open to the public.

Although they didn't win, last year the team did make it to the finals.

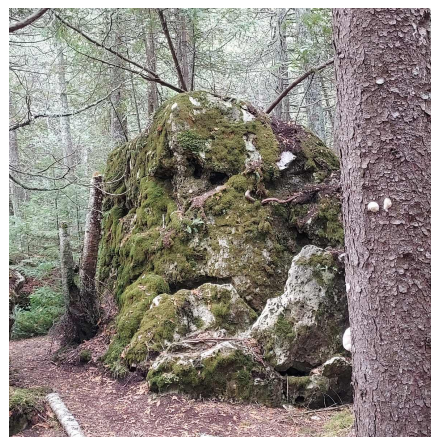
The Sons of Norway Hockey Team was formed in 2011. One of the organizers was Brandon Feringa, a member of Askeladden Lodge at the time. Brandon requested help from lodge president Orlin Loen. The lodge responded with a \$600 grant to purchase uniforms. Sons of Norway granted permission for the hockey team to use their name and logo. In the years that followed, the lodge has granted each year to the team between \$100 to \$150 for uniform maintenance. In 2021, the lodge gave an additional \$500 grant to purchase the new white uniforms.

During the past 14 years, the team has been led by five captains/team leaders, including Tom Schripsema, 2011-13; Terry Pingel, 2013-17; Patrick Skinner, 2017-23; Jensen Schniedehan, 2023-24; and Fred Oehmke, 2024.

Best wishes to Captain Fred Oehmke and the members of the Sons of Norway Hockey Team this season!

### 2025 Norwegian calendar sign up

If you didn't sign up in October, you can still sign up to purchase 2025 calendars at our November meeting for either Splendor of Norway or Viking Verse (Rosemaling) versions. If you can't make the meeting, contact Joan O'Bryan by November 13. Calendars will be around \$10 and available for pickup at our December 14 event. If you can't make our December Lucia event, then delivery is also available (for local folks only.) Pay for the calendars by cash or check when they are picked up or delivered to you in December.



*Gail and Gwen on the Narnia Trail last month*





# SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

507 Clinton Ave  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

## NOVEMBER KALENDER

- november 1 - Allehelgensdag - All Saints Day
- november 3 - Daylight Saving Time ends
- november 5 - Election Day
- november 10 - Farsdag i Norge - Father's Day in Norway
- **november 10 - Askeladden Lodge Meeting Lefse Party - 2 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, 504 S Westnedge**
-  • november 11 - Veterans Day - Remembrance Day (Canada)
- **november 13 - Norwegian Language Class (R.S.V.P. required)**
- **november 23 - Holiday Parade - Askeladden assembles at 10 a.m.**
- november 23-24 - GKSA Synchronized Skating Kickoff Classic
-  • november 28 - Thanksgiving Day
- december 1 - last day to submit articles for *Askeladden News*

**Gratulerer med dagen!**  
*Fødselsdag Hilsener*  
**November Birthdays**

Inger Thoen
Judy Hande-Skutnick
John Thingstad
Christine Hadley
Yasmin Aimee Lilly
Vaniar Lander
Willeen Platt
Jon Platt
Kamel Spencer Lilly

**Askeladden Lodge Library**  
[www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway](http://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.