



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

February 2021

02-21

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

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

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

Officers:

President: Gail Thompson-Hadley
(269) 845-2265

ghadley@iusb.edu

**Secretary/Newsletter Publisher/
Acting Membership Secretary:**

Judy Hande-Skutnick

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Vice-President/Editor:

Joan O'Bryan

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Cultural Director:

Astrid Willis

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Sons of Norway International

1455 West Lake St.

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Sons of Norway District 5;

Director, District 5 Zone 6

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Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan

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Lodge contact info:

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**Joint Meeting with Sonja Henie Lodge,
Askeladden Lodge, & Sognefjord Lodge**

Sunday, February 14

2 p.m. (via Zoom)

Stoughton Norwegian Dancers

Our program starts with a brief business meeting to approve the November minutes and then we will install Askeladden 2021 officers and have some social time. The live program **Norse Afternoon of Fun** from Stoughton, Wisconsin, begins at 2:30 p.m. The Norwegian Dancers entertain, culturally enlighten and instruct audiences with respect to traditional Scandinavian folk dance and authentic Norwegian bunads. The group is made up of Stoughton High School Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors and every Spring goes on tour, bringing their authentic dance, humor and fun to audiences across the United States. The program from Wisconsin lasts all afternoon, but you can leave anytime you need to.



Zoom info:

Time: February 14, 2 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join on computers and other devices with audio/video capability using downloaded Zoom app:

<https://zoom.us/j/96318701819?pwd=aUlaV2pQek4wRXo2VHdoY3ViMkNhcz09>

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Meeting ID: **963 1870 1819**

Passcode: **479045**

Or One tap mobile:

+16468769923,,96318701819#,,,*,479045# US (New York)

+13126266799,,96318701819#,,,*,479045# US (Chicago)

Unsure about your skills with Zoom? Contact Judy Olson

elansolson@gmail.com (no later than 6 p.m. Saturday, February 13) and

she will schedule a one-on-one practice session with you ahead of time.

ASKELODDEN NEWS

Askeladden Lodge 2021 scholarships

Joyce Hare, Scholarship Chairperson

If you have children or grandchildren starting college next year or continuing as an undergraduate student, they can be considered for a scholarship awarded by Askeladden Lodge. The 2021 budget allows for up to three \$1,000 scholarships.

Applications and required documents for the 2021 Askeladden Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarships are due to Joyce Hare by March 15, 2021. The online application form with guidelines can be downloaded in one editable document here: <http://bit.ly/3rAZ6uT>

Please contact Joyce Hare at (269) 327-5824 with any inquiries.

Being awarded a Lodge scholarship one year neither precludes a student from winning or guarantees that student will win it in subsequent years.

The application process is not complicated, but it does require a little planning to gather the required information, such as letters of recommendation and transcripts, so begin the process today, including to make sure your Sons of Norway dues are up to date.

Membership News

Velkommen til oss

Askeladden Lodge welcomes two new members and welcomes back previous member Brian Timmer, of Rockford.

Marilyn Stewart-Loe of Battle Creek, and Vanier Lander of Marshall (son of member Astrid Willis) joined our lodge in December. We are so excited to have you join us. Those of us who attended the January Zoom meeting got to “meet” Marilyn, and we look forward to the day we can meet her and our other new members from 2020 and 2021 in person.

Recap of the January Lodge meeting

Joan Renaas O'Bryan, Vice President

The January Zoom meeting proved to be very popular, with members of three Michigan lodges attending, including 12 people from Askeladden Lodge. The topic was “Participating in Ski for Light” and the program was extremely enjoyable. It was both informative and spellbinding, and I even laughed out loud several times. Deb Wiese, a member of Sonja Henie Lodge, was the presenter. Actively involved with the Ski for Light program for 40 years, she did a fantastic job of entertaining us while a wonderful slide show of photos played on our screens.

Our event hostess, Judy Olson from Sonja Henie Lodge recorded the presentation for us. So if you missed it or want to share with others, it can be watched here:

https://youtu.be/t08oQK_Tais

2020 Askeladden scholarships and donations

Curtis Cleveland, Treasurer

Askeladden Lodge awarded over \$4,000 in scholarships and donations to community organizations in 2020.

In May 2020, the lodge awarded two \$1,000 scholarships under the Myrtle Beinhauer - Askeladden Lodge Scholarship program. Daniel Phillips of Mattawan High School and Kaeler Stafne of Marcellus High School were the two winners of the scholarships.

Donations to community organizations in 2020 include the following:

| Amount | Recipient |
|--------|---|
| \$125 | Kalamazoo Gospel Ministries, as part of serving the needy; |
| \$125 | Ministry with Community, as part of serving the needy; |
| \$100 | International Ski for Light (Minneapolis); |
| \$100 | Michigan Nordic Fire Festival (Charlotte) sponsorship; |
| \$250 | Greater Kalamazoo Skating Association, sponsorship; |
| \$150 | Sons of Norway Hockey Team of the Kalamazoo Adult Hockey League, sponsorship; |
| \$100 | Arizona Brain Food, gift in memory of Charter Member Laurie (Bergie) Bergerson; |
| \$100 | Colon Historical Association, gift in memory of Charter Member/Golden Member Iona H. Robbins; |
| \$400 | S/N District 5 Nordic Legacy Foundation, in support of Masse Moro Heritage Camp, Barnebirkie, & Virtual Walk to Norway; |
| \$300 | Sons of Norway Foundation (\$100 of which was a gift in memory of Charter Member Arlen Winther); |
| \$100 | Swedish Vasa Lodge, joint cultural programs; |
| \$100 | Sons of Norway Lodge in Lansing for hosting the monthly Zoom meetings; |
| \$175 | various performing arts organizations in the Kalamazoo area. |

Membership News

Gratulerer med dagen

Warmest wishes are sent to Charter Member Crystal Walvoord on her milestone birthday. Chris turned 80 this month! We have really enjoyed seeing Chris (and her husband, Mark) again at our Zoom meetings. She moved to Holland in 2004, so it has been a long time since we have seen her, even though she remained a faithful member of our lodge ever since. Chris played piano for a time for Askeladden until she moved to Holland. Happy birthday, Chris - we wish you well!

District 5 offers virtual cultural programs

Judy Hande-Skutnick, Membership Secretary

District 5 Cultural Committee has several virtual cultural programs that may interest you. Check their website sonsofnorway5.com for current and upcoming classes in Cooking, History, Rosemaling, Hardanger, and more. These classes can lead to earning cultural pins by completing the requirements identified on the sofn.com website.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Tra Presidenten **The Year of Zoom**

Judy Olson of our sister Sonja Henie Lodge suggested we Zoom-in to watch the outstanding Stoughton High School Dancers perform live this coming Sunday, February 14th, for our monthly program and our Askeladden Board agreed that would be a fun program for us to share. We hope to have you join us at 2 p.m. for the official installation of our 2021 officers with time for a social visit before we join the dancers when they start at 2:30 p.m.

We have a number of vacant positions in our lodge so if you would like to get more involved in lodge activities, especially as we start to plan for when we can meet again in person, please contact me about your possible interest to serve. I have found that working with others in our lodge is how I have made new friends, enjoyed fun times, and had good conversations.

Judy Hande-Skutnick, Curtis Cleveland, and I joined about 85 lodge officers from Sons of Norway District 5 on January 23rd for a three-hour training session where we learned about the latest in programs and policies in this time of the pandemic when most lodges are not meeting in person. Lodge members shared alternate ways to help members experience our Norwegian heritage and to help members stay connected with each other. We are blessed with the Tuesday evening Nordic News programs which you can view live or from the SofN District 5 website under programs.

www.sonsofnorway5.com/programs/nordic_news_radio.php

Many lodges have instituted cultural programs via Zoom. If you have a computer with Internet, you can download Zoom for free. If you are one of our lodge members who hasn't yet tried Zoom, ask a friend or family member to help you get started or contact me.

Our program via Zoom last month was an outstanding account by visually-impaired Deb Weise describing her inspiring, and at times, harrowing, adventures with International Ski for Light last year while we watched photos of her time in the mountains near Casper, Wyoming. I registered for the free virtual Ski for Light 2021 which was held over 4 days this past weekend. The mornings began with yoga via Zoom with the moves on-screen but also described in words. One of the evening speakers told how his first experiences cross-country skiing as a blind man were not only physically exhilarating but also made a profound difference in his attitude toward life. He figured if he could conquer skiing, he could do anything. Sons of Norway Askeladden Lodge has long been a proud sponsor of Ski for Light. Read about the history of Ski for Light here: <http://sfl.org/about/history>

Happy Valentine's Day, and Happy Norwegian Mother's Day!

Gail Thompson-Hadley



The second Sunday in February is Mother's Day in Norway. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there. Photo from bakersbrigade.com

2021 Askeladden Officers

Board of Directors

President - Gail Thompson-Hadley

Vice President - Joan O'Bryan

Secretary - Judy Hande-Skutnick

Treasurer - Curtis Cleveland

Officers

Membership Secretary, Acting - Judy Hande-Skutnick

Cultural Director - Astrid Willis

Social Director - Esther Ann Brown

Sports and Recreation Director - Curt Osborn

Youth Director - vacant

Librarian - Curtis Cleveland

Newsletter Editor - Joan O'Bryan

Newsletter Publisher - Judy Hande-Skutnick

Historian - Curtis Cleveland

Sons of Norway Foundation Director - Curt Osborn

Sunshine Coordinator - Arden Hetletvedt

Publicity Director - vacant

Tubfrim Coordinator - Holly Jensen

Counselor - Elizabeth Kraatz

Musician - vacant

Language Instructors - vacant

Adopt a School Coordinator - vacant

Volunteer Coordinator - vacant

Webmaster - vacant

Committees

Membership - Joan O'Bryan, Chair

Finance - Curtis Cleveland, Chair

Scholarship - Joyce Hare, Chair

Cultural - Astrid Willis, Chair

Social - Esther Ann Brown, Chair

Norway Trip - vacant

Publicity - vacant

Auditing Committee - Joyce Hare, Chair

Nominating - TBD

Askeladden Lodge Library

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



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

FEBRUAR KALENDER



- Februar 6 - *Samefolkets dag* - Sámi People's Day or Sámi National Day
- Februar 12 - HH Princess Astrid, 1932
- Februar 14 - **Askeladden Lodge Meeting 2 p.m. via Zoom**
- Februar 14 - *Morsdag* - Mother's Day in Norway
- Februar 14 - Valentine's Day ♥
- Februar 14 - *Fastelavn* - Norwegian Mardi Gras



- Februar 15 - National Flag Day of Canada



- Februar 15 - President's Day, United States
- Februar 17 - *Askeonsdag* - Ash Wednesday



- Februar 21 - H.M. King Harald V 1937
- Februar 24-28 - American Birkebeiner, Hayward, WI www.birkie.com
- Februar 25-26 - **Barnebirkie**, Hayward, WI - no spectators allowed. Virtual participation also available
- Februar 28 - Last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

February Birthdays

Crystal Walvoord

Gail Thompson-Hadley

Barbara Heffner

Elizabeth Kraatz

Karen Kunze

Brent Roble

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



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.