



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

October 2020

10-20

Meetings: cancelled until further notice due to State of Emergency

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

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

Trinity Lutheran Church

504 S. Westnedge Ave

Kalamazoo, MI

Officers:

President: Gail Thompson-Hadley

(269) 845-2265

ghadley@iusb.edu

Secretary/Acting Membership

Secretary/Newsletter Publisher:

Judy Hande-Skutnick

(269) 903-8386

jhandeskutnick@gmail.com

Vice-President/Editor:

Joan O'Bryan

507 Clinton Avenue

Kalamazoo, MI 49001

(269) 383-6802

joan.obryan@wmich.edu

Treasurer: Curtis Cleveland

(269) 381-4531

cacleve82@att.net

Cultural Director:

Holly Jensen

1453 Spruce Drive

Kalamazoo MI 49008

(269) 385-3693

hollyjensen@yahoo.com

Affiliation:

Sons of Norway International

1455 West Lake St.

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Andy Johnsen, President,
Sons of Norway District 5;

Director, District 5 Zone 6

aijohnsen@att.net

Benefits Counselor:

Greg Ragan

1 (800) 442-4146

gregragan@aol.com

Lodge contact info:

Askeladden.Lodge@gmail.com

(269) 350-3330

Sonja Henie, Askeladden, Sognefjord

Joint October Meeting

Sunday, October 11

2 - 2:40 p.m. (via Zoom)

The Erie Canal

And its Role in Bringing our Immigrant Ancestors to the Midwest

Daryl Wunrow, presenter

This is a chance to learn about an interesting and important feature in our ancestral history. Daryl Wunrow (Fosselyngen Lodge-Milwaukee, WI) will cover some history and then show pictures taken when he and his sons traveled to see the remnants of the Erie Canal today.

This is a Zoom meeting (information below). If you are new to Zoom or need some help with it, let us know by noon, Saturday, October 10 (SofNLansing@yahoo.com) and we will arrange a practice session for you ahead of time. We love doing those, so don't be shy!

Have you checked out our Facebook pages?

www.facebook.com/SonsOfNorwayLansingMI

www.facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

Zoom info:

Join on a computer on which you can access your email:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76749885597?pwd=bmRwaE9yb0xjbk05clhQUytiekpzd09>

Join on a device with cell service **or** on which you cannot access this email (download Zoom app if you haven't done that before):

Meeting ID: **767 4988 5597**

Passcode: **101120** (note that it is the **date**)

We would really love to see more of our out-of-town members join us for our Zoom meetings. In September, we had six out-of-towners attend as well as five local members.

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Electronic Lodge business and 2021 Lodge officers

Gail Thompson-Hadley, Lodge President

The International Sons of Norway recently passed a referendum allowing local lodges to conduct business and elections electronically or by USPS mail when they cannot meet in person given the current Covid-19 pandemic. They also stated that lodges may decide to continue with their current elected officers for another year rather than holding new elections.

The Askeladden Board of Directors will hold an on-line virtual meeting soon to consider the procedures for lodge members to select our 2021 officers. Please contact me if you have any additional business you would like us to consider at the board meeting and/or future general member on-line lodge meetings. We will notify you of all upcoming virtual board and lodge meetings.

Here is a recent post some of us received on electronic business and 2021 officers:

Dear Lodge Leaders:

The COVID-19 crisis has stymied many lodges' efforts to carry out their business, as they are not able to meet in person to vote on important matters as they usually do. In light of this problem, the delegates to the Sons of Norway Convention, the supreme governing body of Sons of Norway, voted last week to approve a new referendum. This new referendum will give local lodges the ability to hold referendums via electronic vote or postal mail. This gives lodges the ability to move forward with important business in the face of this unprecedented global health crisis.

In addition to having this option to vote electronically or by post, lodges may also opt to keep their current slate of officers in place for another year if they would like to avoid holding an election this year altogether.

You can find the text of the approved referendum here:

https://www.sofn.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/referendum_092020.pdf

If you have any questions about what this new referendum means for your lodge, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions.

*Fraternally,
David Crabb*

October is Foundation Month

Sons of Norway announced a special fundraising campaign called **Together We Are The Future**, in celebration of Sons of Norway's 125th anniversary and of October as Foundation Month. Now through the end of the year, the Foundation aims to raise \$100,000 to support its programs. Through the generosity of Sons of Norway's leadership, the first \$50,000 in donations between now and the end of the year will be matched. Donors to this campaign are listed on the Sons of Norway website.

In Memory

Arlen Winther Remembered

Askeladden Charter Member Arlen Ray Winther of Mattawan passed away September 24 at Bronson Commons at age 89. Born in 1931 in Kalamazoo, Arlen attended Oakwood school and was a graduate of Western State High School and Western Michigan University. Except for being drafted by the US Army, Arlen was a lifelong resident of Oakwood and Mattawan. Many fond memories of Arlen and his Oakwood store have recently been shared by community members on Facebook. Arlen was involved in Antwerp Township and Van Buren County government and served as Antwerp Township Supervisor for 14 years. Arlen came from a strong Askeladden family. His brother Larkin Winther, sister and brother-in-law Jacquelyne and Darl White, cousin Earnie Best and aunt Ferne Best were all Charter Members of our lodge. We are very grateful to Arlen for serving as Askeladden's Treasurer for 10 years. Our condolences go out to Earnie and the rest of Arlen's family. Our lodge has made a donation in Arlen's memory to the Sons of Norway Foundation. Memorial donations may also be made to the Alice & Raymond Winther Memorial Fund at the Van Buren District Library, 200 N. Phelps Street, Decatur, MI 49045.



Lodge Secretary Judy Hande-Skutnick spent time during the pandemic lockdown on the Norwegian art of Hardanger. She shared this beautiful piece with us at our September Zoom meeting.

Membership News

Velkommen til oss

Askeladden Lodge extends a warm welcome to new member **Karen Hare**. The daughter of Golden Member Joyce Hare, Karen is no stranger to our lodge. Karen has attended many lodge events and she has assisted the lodge with some events as well. We are so happy that Karen has joined the Askeladden gang.

Catherine Hande, sister of Lodge Secretary Judy Hande-Skutnick and lodge member Carolyn Hande, joined our lodge last month. We already got to meet her at our September Zoom meeting. Welcome to Askeladden, Catherine!

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

Apples and Dreams

Fall is upon us with the apples ripe in the orchards and frosty mornings soon to be the norm. I hope October finds you and your family healthy and able to stay connected to each other and friends in this time of continuing challenges.

A few days ago, I suddenly had the urge to read some Norwegian poetry so I did a search and discovered a lovely poem voted Norway's favorite poem in 2019. Author Olav Hauge, with recognition as one of Norway's great poets who wrote poems for more than fifty years, has a style described as spare and unpretentious which ranges from dark to joyful. He draws on his experiences as a farmer and orchardist and an isolated life in Norway's western fjord country as well as his extensive reading of world literature with a precise style likened to Chinese poetry.

I found a delightful 2008 paperback which includes poems from Olav Hauge's seven books, and happily presents his words in Norwegian on one page with the English translation on the opposite page.

Here is Hauge's poem as translated for The Norway Post by Rolleiv Solholm, Chief Editor. The poem was first published in 1966 and voted as "Norway's finest poem through the ages" in 2019 by listeners to Norwegian state broadcaster NRK.

The Dream - Det er den draumen

(It was a dream)

by Olav H. Hauge (1909 to 1994)

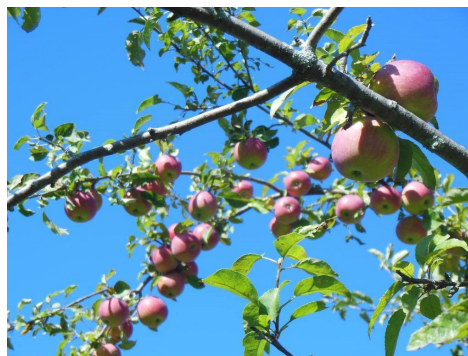
It was a dream
We all carry with us:
that something wonderful will happen,
that it must happen –
that time will open,
that the heart will open,
that doors will open,
that cliffs will be opened,
that springs will well forth,
that the dream will be opened,
– that one peaceful morning we will glide in –
onto a bay we had not been aware of.

Det er den draumen
me ber på
at noko vedunderleg skal skje,
at det må skje -
at tidi skal opna seg
at hjarta skal opna seg
at dører skal opna seg
at berget skal opna seg
at kjeldor skal springa -
at draumen skal opna seg,
at me ei morgonstund skal glida inn
på ein våg me ikkje har visst um.

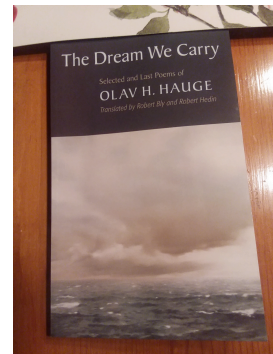


Upper Canyon Falls, Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Photo credit: Dan Hadley



Apple orchard, Hadley Homestead, October 2013



The Dream We Carry: Selected and Last Poems of Olav H. Hauge
Translated by Robert Bly and Robert Hedin, 2008



1970 photo of Presidenten Gail dreaming of adventures at the base of the Sognefjord, near Flåm, Norway

Photo credit: Gwen Meredith

I am hopeful we will have unexpected and joyous adventures open to us in the months and years ahead!

Gail Thompson-Hadley

September meeting recap - our first online meeting was a success!

Askeladden Lodge turned a page in September when we met online via Zoom. Sonja Henie hosted the 40-minute Zoom event and invited Askeladden and Sognefjord members to join them. All of the feedback received about the event was very positive. President Gail Thompson-Hadley welcomed three new members: Astrid Willis, Catherine Hande, and Gwen Meredith. Also in attendance were Curtis Cleveland, Judy Hande-Skutnick, Arden Hetletvedt, Holly Jensen, Karen Jaegerson Kunze, Joan O'Bryan, and Crystal Walvoord. We are excited about the possibilities of our distant members being able to join us now to possibly qualify for next year's trip drawing.



SONS of NORWAY

Celebrating **125** Years

Askeladden Lodge
507 Clinton Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49001

OKTOBER 2020 KALENDER

- oktober 9 - Leif Erikson Day
- **oktober 11** - **Askeladden Monthly Meeting. Joint event with Sonja Henie Lodge**
2 p.m. via Zoom
- oktober 12 - Columbus Day/Canadian Thanksgiving Day
- oktober 24 - United Nations Day – *FN-dagen*
- oktober 30 - **final day** to submit articles for *Askeladden News*
- oktober 31 - Halloween
- november 1 - Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 a.m.
- november 3 - Election Day in Kalamazoo and other localities

Gratulerer med dagen **Oktober Birthdays**

James Moe

James John Kraatz

Haakon Selden

Clifford Davidson

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.



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.