

# LUREN



## SONS OF NORWAY- CIRCLE CITY LODGE #5-614 CARMEL, IN

July/August 2023 Issue

### Mission statement:

*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 provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.*

### Greetings from the Vice-President

Greetings to all

Let me start by saying Thank You to our Lodge for allowing me to fill in for Nancy while she is dealing with her health issues. It has been a joy to do this and we will look forward to her return! I've certainly had great mentors before me to learn the mechanics of our Lodge. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

We have had a couple of great months. In May we celebrated Syttende Mai on May 13th with a Norwegian themed "pitch-in". What a display of food! Jim Nelson did a great job presenting Norwegian folk music for us. We also had two visitors, our zone director Wendy Kay Winkelman and her husband Bill Bultinck from Shawnee-Skogen Lodge in southern Illinois. They made a four hour trip to see us and brought news about District 5. We were informed of District 5 Convention that will be held here in Indianapolis on June 19th-23rd 2024 at the Crown Plaza Hotel at the Indianapolis airport. More details to follow as they develop. Two of our members marched in the Indianapolis 500 parade. Chelsea Courtney and Jerry Rud carried the Norwegian flag for us. Maybe next year more can participate.

June was eventful as well. On June 2nd and 3rd a group of us made a trip to Norway, Illinois. We stayed at a motel in Ottawa where fifteen of us gathered for dinner at a nearby restaurant. The staff opened their banquet room so we could all eat together. Saturday morning we gathered at the community center for a Norwegian breakfast served by members of the local lodge. Fried kumla, scrambled eggs with chives, ham, bread pudding, fruit cups, bread and of course coffee. YUMM! After breakfast we went across the street to the Norwegian Museum located in the first Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. A larger church was built some time later. The museum houses artifacts from Norway as well as from settlers in and of the area. Within walking distance is the "Norway Store" which caters to the locals for groceries but does carry lefse, cod, cheeses and other delicacies. Nearby are memorials to Cleng Peerson as well as some burial plots of immigrants. Eighteen of us enjoyed this trip and was an amazing time.

June 10th we had a pitch-in lunch at King of Glory and listened to Berit's presentation of her trip to Norway on the Hurtigruten. She is creating a list of people who would be interested in going this year or perhaps next year. get with her if you are interested.

We will not meet in July (as usual) but will have a "summer pitch-in" at the shelter behind the church in August and play Kubb. (the church is remodeling the kitchen July/Aug)

Hope you had a great 4th of July and we will see you in August.

Hilsen,

Stan Pederson V.P.

# **‘Sensational’ Runestone Discovered in Norway May Be the World’s Oldest**

During the fall of 2021, archaeologists excavating a grave in eastern Norway unearthed a block of red-tinged sandstone etched with spidery runes, an ancient system of writing used by Germanic peoples of northern Europe. This in itself was not unusual; thousands of stones with runic inscriptions, dating to the Viking period, have been found in Scandinavia alone. But the carvings on this particular stone were inscribed up to 2,000 years ago, making it “the oldest datable runestone in the world,” according to the University of Oslo’s Museum of Cultural History, which announced the find in a statement this week.

The artifact was discovered in a cremation pit near the lake of Tyrifjorden, in a region known for “monumental” archaeological finds like



the famed Gjermundbu Viking helmet, says the museum. Radiocarbon dating of burnt bones and charcoal from the site allowed archaeologists to date the grave—and the runestone—to between 1 and 250 C.E. Older runes have been found on other artifacts, according to Jan M. Olsen of the Associated Press, but never on stone.

“This may be one of the first attempts to use runes in Norway and Scandinavia on stone,” Kristel Zilmer, a scholar of written culture and iconography at the University of Oslo, tells the publication, adding that the discovery represents “the most sensational thing that I, as an academic, have had.”

While archaeologists worked to date the contents of the grave, Zilmer was tasked with analyzing the mysterious scribbles on the stone’s surface. Runic writing can be an enigmatic field of study: Scholars agree that runes were influenced by an older writing system, but just which one, and when, remain the subject of academic debate. One theory posits that the runic alphabet—also known as “futhark,” after its first six sounds—was derived from the alphabet of the Etruscans in northern Italy. Another is that runes were born from the Latin alphabet, following commercial and cultural exchange between Germanic peoples and the Romans.

There are at least three varieties of runic script, which evolved over time and in different geographic regions. Additionally, explains the museum, “[t]he ways of writing older inscriptions varied considerably, and the language changed a lot between the time when [the newly discovered] runes were carved and the Viking Age and the Middle Ages.”

Zilmer, in other words, faced a considerable challenge in attempting to decipher the stone’s message. One section of the artifact is carved with the first three characters of the runic alphabet. Eight runes on the front of the stone spell “idiberug” when converted into Roman letters. This could refer to a woman named Idibera—with the inscription meaning “For Idibera”—or to the kin name Idiberung, says Zilmer in the museum’s statement. The stone is also etched with lines in a grid pattern and “small zigzag figures.”

“Not all inscriptions have a linguistic meaning,” says Zilmer. “It’s possible that someone has imitated, explored or played with the writing. Maybe someone was learning how to carve runes.”

Though the meaning of the stone’s text remains elusive, the new find promises to shed light on lingering questions about the early history of runic writing, including when the first runestones were made. Only 30 of the runestones previously found in Norway are believed to date to before 550 C.E. Before this latest discovery, none dated to earlier than 300 C.E.

“This means that the runestone tradition is older, maybe even by a few hundred years, than we have previously assumed,” Steinar Solheim, archaeologist and excavation manager at the museum, tells CNN’s Amarachi Orié. “But this also makes us wonder what else we may not have known about regarding the use of runic writing in the early Iron Age Scandinavian society.”



# Calendar of Events

## No Meeting In July:

*July 26-30 –*

### **Nordic Fest:**

*Group outing to Nordic Fest (Decorah, Iowa)*

*August 12 –*

### **Picnic Shelter King of Glory Lutheran Church:**

*Picnic at the shelter (King of Glory Lutheran Church). We are meeting there since the church kitchen is being renovated*

#### **Norsk Classes:**

*Norsk Class at 10 am*

*September 9 –*

### **TBD:**

*Program to be decided*

#### **Norsk Classes:**

*Norsk Class at 10 am*

*October 14 –*

### **Photo Presentation:**

*Photo presentation of Lofoten Islands by Susan Fleck*

#### **Norsk Classes:**

*Norsk Class at 10 am*

*November 11 –*

### **Stave Churches Presentation:**

*Stave churches in Norway presented by Karen Courtney Pitch-in meal*

#### **Norsk Classes:**

*Norsk Class at 10 am*

# King Olaf Stayed at my Great Aunt's house

My great Aunt, Elsie Melby was on my dad's side of the family. Their family migrated here from Norway in the late 1800's. It was the Seglems, Melby and Toregusons that came from farm and fishing villages. They are all related. They traveled together to settle in Duluth, Minnesota. Early on, the family helped each other out and were very close. When I was growing up, I remember King Olaf coming to Minnesota a lot and he and his ontrrouge stayed with my Great Aunt Elsie. I always knew he was in town, my parents told me. We were not invited when he was here, (although, my parents might have visited him once) this was a real vacation for him. No press, streets were concord end off, he truly had the place to himself. My Aunt Elsie was the Vice Counselett to Norway in our area. She went back and forth to Norway a lot. We also had a cousin, Perre Thonom, who owned a big store there. I couldn't fathom at the time, but he was one of richest men in Norway. The King knew him too.

She was a real lady and everyone who knew her would say the same. She never married and was devoted to her position. Her brother owned the marina in Grand Maris, MN. All of the adults belonged to the Sons of Norway in Duluth. Her house was the nicest house I'd ever seen, with a private yard lines with trees and greenery and gardens. So often, I would ask where she got an item of interest to me. She would say she got it the last time she was Norway or the King gave it to her. I remember asking her if the King wore a crown and had robes on. She laughed, not at me, but in a loving way. He wore a suit. Norway was a magical land to me somewhere out there. She had beautiful glass things that sparkled in the sun. Her furnishings were so nice I had to be on my best behavior when there. We drank out of china cups and a yummy dessert and always had napkins. She was very nice to me and showed me everything I wanted to see. As a kid, you think nothings going to change and then everything does. My memories of Aunt

Elsie are magical.

Carol Maupins

# Grilled Salmon “Lomper” Tacos with Strawberry Salsa

## For the strawberry salsa:

1 pound (450 g) fresh strawberries, hulled and chopped

½ large cucumber, diced

½ small red onion, diced

¼ cup fresh dill, chopped

1 tablespoon honey

Juice of ½ lemon

Sea salt

## For the salmon:

4 Kvarøy Arctic Salmon filetsMild-flavored oil, such as vegetable oil

Salt and pepper

## For the tacos:

8 Norwegian lomper or small tortillas

Mild-flavored oil, such as vegetable oil

Sour cream

## Directions:

In a medium bowl, add the strawberries, cucumber, red onion, and dill. In a small bowl, whisk together the honey and lemon juice then pour the over the strawberry mixture and gently fold to combine. Season with sea salt. Set aside until ready to use. Prepare your grill and heat to medium-high or 400°F (200°C).

Coat the salmon filets with oil and season with salt and pepper. Place the filets on the grill, skin-side down, and cook with the lid closed for 6 minutes or until the flesh is turning opaque and the skin easily lifts off the grates without sticking. Turn the filets over and cook for 2 to 3 minutes or until the filets are cooked through and the flesh easily flakes off. Transfer to a serving plate. Using a fork, flake off large pieces of the salmon. Brush some oil on both sides of the lomper. Heat them on the grill for about 30 seconds per side or until golden brown. Transfer to a plate. To assemble, divide the salmon among the lomper. Top each with some strawberry salsa and sour cream.

## History:

Summer grilling is all about seasonal ingredients and bringing everyone together outdoors to enjoy a tasty meal. It's also about simplicity and ease, while not forgoing flavor. These grilled salmon tacos are just that.

Tacos are a familiar favorite, and one that has become adapted into the food culture here in Norway with ‘Taco Friday’ being a well-established routine for many. This recipe puts a Nordic spin on tacos by using very Norwegian ingredients, such as lomper (soft potato flatbreads made of potato), summer strawberries, cucumber, dill and sour cream.



<https://northwildkitchen.com/grilled-salmon-lomper-tacos/>

# Circle City Lodge Officers

President:	Nancy Andersen
Vice President:	Stan Pederson
Secretary:	Jerome Rud
Treasurer:	Burt Bittner and Alice Voris
Cultural Director:	Berit Skarre
Membership Director:	Jerome Rud
Sports Director:	Susan Alden
Foundation Director:	Alice Voris
Lodge Counselor:	Dagrun Bennett
Historian:	Glenna Divine
Newsletter Editor:	Lillian Page
Directory:	Neil Schuch

## **Change of member address:**

Michael Jacobs

550 Sunset Maple Way - Apt. 815

Westfield, IN 46074-5060

Phone: (602) 300 - 6564

Check out our facebook group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/473869819402515>



This Photo by Nils Elingsgard is licensed under CC-BY-NC-ND