

# Fosselyngen Runespeak

september og oktober 2025  
Volume 50 No. 5



Fosselyngen Lodge No. 5-082, Sons of Norway

PO Box 20957, Milwaukee, WI 53220

## FOSSELYNGEN LODGE – CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SEPTEMBER** 8 Monday Soc/Cult Meeting at Resurrection Lutheran Church  
12400 W. Cold Spring Rd., New Berlin, WI  
Kubb Game, Viking Stories, Chili Cook Off, Campfire & S'mores. (Page 3)
- SEPTEMBER** 16 Tuesday Lake Geneva Lunch Boat Cruise  
(By reservation only. See page 9 of Jul/Aug 2025 *Runespeak* for details.)
- OCTOBER** 9 Thursday Wreath Laying on the Statue of Leif Erikson (Page 3)
- OCTOBER** 13 Monday Soc/Cult Meeting at Resurrection Lutheran Church  
12400 W. Cold Spring Rd., New Berlin, WI  
Officer Elections, Membership awards, and S of N Foundation  
Program - History of Milwaukee's Leif Erikson Statue (Page 3)
- NOVEMBER** 21, 22, & 23 2025 Holiday Folk Fair (Page 3)  
Fri, Sat, & Sun (See Nov/Dec 2025 *Runespeak* for Full Details.)
- DECEMBER** 7 Sunday Lodge Christmas Party – Save the Date. (Page 2)  
(See Nov/Dec 2025 *Runespeak* for Full Details.)

### Contents of This Issue:

- Pg. 1: Calendar of Events; Table of Contents  
Pg. 2: President's Report; Lodge Christmas Party - Save the Date (Sun., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>); Officers  
Pg. 3: Upcoming Lodge Meetings Sep. 8<sup>th</sup> & Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>; Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> Wreath Laying; 2025 Folk Fair  
Pg. 4: Member Awards; Sympathy; VASA Park; SA Historical Society; Finnish American Society  
Pg. 5: Hans Christian Heg (Part 1 of 3); Lodge Officer Candidates for the 2025 Election  
Pg. 6: July 14, 2025 Lodge Picnic at Matty's Bar & Grille; Update Info on Possible Nov. MSO Concert  
Pg. 7: August 11<sup>th</sup> Lodge Mtg. -- Restauration 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1825-2025  
Pg. 8: Mama Rosa -- Wauwatosa's New Troll at New Firefly Grove Park  
Pg. 9: Notices; Newsletter Input Deadline October 15<sup>th</sup>  
Pg.10: Postal Page; Jokes

Like the modern alphabet, runes were the written symbols of our Norse ancestors. Understood only by the very wise, they were used to communicate with others, as well as with the ancient gods.

## **FRA PRESIDENTEN**

(september og oktober 2025)

President's Message, August 12, 2025

Dear Members,

As I write my message, many are still cleaning up from the flooding in our area. My heart goes out to all of you who were affected by this and hope your loss will be restored.

We had a special lodge meeting last night and Mark Bjorgo enlightened us on the journey of the Viking ship "Restauration Crossing 200" which left from Norway on July 4, 2025, and is scheduled to arrive in New York on October 9, 2025. Many thanks to him for his hard work putting this together and to all of the others who assisted. If you missed the meeting, feel free to pick up a flyer at the September meeting with an outline of the program.

The board of directors has voted on granting the following donations for 2025 as follows: Hunger Task Force \$2,000, Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library \$2,000, Ski for Light \$2,000, Norway Historical Society, Inc \$2,000, The Gathering of Southeast Wisconsin, Inc \$1,000, Barnebirke \$1,000, Friends of the Viking Ship \$5,000, Masse Moro Camp \$2,000, Sojourner Family Peace Center \$2,000, and District 5 SON \$2,000 for a total of \$25,000. We have also granted two college scholarships and one camp scholarship.

Please join us for the wreath laying on the statue of Leif Erikson on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30AM in Juneau Park near Prospect and State Street in Milwaukee.

We have our slate of officers for the 2026-27 term which you will see printed in this post on Page 5.

New member directories are available to pick up at the September meeting if you have not already received your copy.

I'm thankful to all who have contributed their time and talents to our organization. It's uplifting to see us sharing stories, laughter and our Norwegian traditions that bind us together. Your presence strengthens our community.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>. We will start the evening at 4PM- 6PM with Kubb, played outside in the yard, our chili dinner will begin at 6PM, followed by a campfire, Viking Stories and S'mores.

Fraternally yours,

Sue Roedel

414-526-8312

[sjroedel@gmail.com](mailto:sjroedel@gmail.com)

### **Lodge Christmas Party - Save the Date (Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>)**

This year's party will be on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, noon to 3PM, at Steeple View Apartment Complex, 12455 West Janesville Road, Muskego.

More information and reservation form will be included in the Nov/Dec issue of the Runespeak.

### **FOSSELYNGEN OFFICERS**

President	Sue Berg Roedel	414-526-8312
Vice-President	*Arlette Johnson	414-368-3324
Treasurer	Gretchen Bjork	262-502-9197
Secretary (Correspondence)	Janice Gregoire	262-784-6953
Secretary (Recording)	Karen Smeiska	414-690-4402

If you have any questions, please call one of the above officers.

**\*NOTE:** For membership information, call our Vice-President, Arlette Johnson.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

**Social/Cultural Meeting**

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

**12400 W. Cold Spring Rd., New Berlin, WI 53151**

Kubb Game. 4-6 PM. Come as soon as you can and play this popular lawn game, or just come and watch.

Chili Cookoff at 6 PM followed by campfire & S'mores and Viking Stories.

Cultural Program - **Campfire and Norwegian Folk Tales**. (Readers: Nancy Sande, Keith Maurer, Karen Smeiska, Maureen Welli, Kirstin Dallman, Peter Bonovich, and Phil Reykdal.)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025**

**PLEASE JOIN US - WREATH LAYING ON THE STATUE OF LEIF ERIKSON IN HONOR OF HIS DAY**

Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 AM - Juneau Park - near Prospect and State Streets, Milwaukee.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025**

**Social/Cultural Meeting**

**Resurrection Lutheran Church**

**12400 W. Cold Spring Rd., New Berlin, WI 53151**

Socialize at 5:30 PM.

Dinner at 6 PM.

Meeting starts at about 6:45 PM.

Officer Elections, membership awards, and S of N Foundation.

**Short** cultural program –“**History of Milwaukee’s Leif Erikson Statue**” (12 minute video) (since there is lots of annual Lodge business).

## **2025 HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR**

The 2025 Holiday Folk Fair will be held at State Fair Park on November 21, 22 and 23, 2025. This year's theme is "Celebrate the Culture of Traditional Music". As we have done the last couple years, we, along with other Nordic groups, will be participating in a joint Nordic Cultural Booth.

In a shared space with the other Nordic groups, we are asking for volunteers to staff our Lodge table. Two people are needed for each shift, and you will be able to sit while working in the booth. You will be stamping passports, answering people's questions about the items that are displayed on our table, or about the country and people of Norway. We will have information in the booth to help you answer anticipated questions.

We are counting on our members to be dependable and only sign up if you are able to work. The people working the next shift are counting on you as well to show up on time so they may leave.

The shifts are as follows:

Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup> (Education Day 9:00am-4:00pm/General Public 2:00pm-9:00pm)

Three shifts: 8:45am-1:00pm (3 people needed), 12:45pm-5:00pm, and 4:45pm-9:00pm

Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> (10:00am-9:00pm)

Three shifts: 9:45am-1:30pm, 1:15pm-5:15pm, and 5:00pm-9:00pm

Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> (10:00am-6:00pm)

Two shifts: 9:45am-2:00pm and 1:45pm-6:00pm)

If you can help, please either contact Gretchen, [thebjorks@att.net](mailto:thebjorks@att.net) or 262-502-9197, or sign up at the upcoming meeting. Thank you. Gretchen Bjork and Arlette Johnson

## **MEMBER AWARDS**

To Be Presented at the  
Monday, October 13, 2025 Meeting

At the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, the following individuals will receive pins awarded for various years of membership:

### **5 YEAR**

Judy Dimmick

### **10 YEAR**

Susan Marie Dillon  
Maureen Welli

### **15 YEAR**

Steve Anderson

### **20 YEAR**

Kirsten Benidt  
Walter Chossek  
Alex Murnane  
Amelia Murnane  
Jayne Murnane  
William Sorenson

### **25 YEAR**

Avis Haasch  
Julie Instenes  
Reidun Mayer  
Howard Miller  
Sara Miller  
Milton Sande  
Nancy Sande  
Kristin Toth

### **30 YEAR**

Carolyn LeBeck

### **40 YEAR**

Barbara Wolter

### **50 YEAR**

Marianne Sambar

### **65 YEAR**

Delbert Gravning

(If you are not able to be at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, call Arlette Johnson at 414-368-3324 to make arrangements to get your pin.)

## **Sympathy**

Fosselyngen Lodge extends its sympathy to the following:



- The family of Joyce A. Strom who passed away on June 27, 2025. She was a member since 1995.



- The family of Eleanor (Ellie) M. Thoresen who passed away on August 1, 2025. Ellie was a past President of Fosselyngen and a Sons of Norway member for 59 years.



VASA PARK

35W217 Route 31  
South Elgin, IL 60177

**The 45<sup>th</sup> Scandinavian Day Festival**  
**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

**Festival Hours are from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**  
**\$15.00 per person, Children 12 and under free!**  
For full information go to [www.scandinaviandayil.com](http://www.scandinaviandayil.com)

## **SWEDISH AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN**

**Saturday, October 18, 2025 at 1:30 pm, SAHSWI Annual Business Meeting & Program:**

Martin Luther Lutheran Church, 9235 W. Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee.

**Program: "Emma's story" presented by Karen Snowberg**

FIKA (coffee & snacks) following meeting.

<https://sahswi.org>

## **FINNISH AMERICAN SOCIETY**

We have two programs coming up that are open to all. On September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. we will have a presentation by local architect John Peine on his experience training with world renowned architect Eero Saarinen, followed by a dinner of a various mojakkas (soups) and side dishes. The program is free and the mojakka dinner is \$10. On October 26<sup>th</sup> we will have a presentation on Finnish crafts followed by our famous makkara (sausage on a stick) dinner along with picnic fixings for five dollars.

Both programs are at Grace Lutheran Church 3030 W. Oklahoma and start at 2 p.m.. It is suggested that you come a bit early in order to find your seat and pay if you wish to join in the meals.

For info, call Mary Jane Attila at 414-961-0827.

## Hans Christian Heg

(Part 1 of 3)

(By Daryl Wunrow. -- Source: Col. Heg Museum records)

Hans Heg's father, Even Heg, sold his hotel business in Drammen, Norway, and arrived in the area of Wind Lake with a party of immigrants on August 28, 1840. Heg, his wife Siri, and their four children stayed with an old friend, Soren Bache. Soon after arriving, Heg purchased the farm of John Nelson Luraas, located on the shores of Wind Lake. His log barn served as a hotel, church, and hospital. Hans Christian Heg was born on December 21, 1829. He was the eldest son of Even and Siri Heg. The Heg family farmed 320 acres, which were located between Wind and Long Lakes.

The farm established by Even Heg became a focal point for many Norwegians arriving in America. Many weary immigrants found a place at the Heg homestead to rest and gather information about their newly adopted country. Other immigrants worked on Norwegian farms in the Muskego area, earning enough money to buy land in western Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota.

To earn money, son Hans and his sister picked cranberries in the marshes nearby on the south edge of Wind Lake and sold them for a penny a quart in Burlington. Hans learned the English language and often accompanied his father Even Heg, who led immigrants to settlements at Koshkonong, Rock and Jefferson prairies.

*{Parts 2 & 3 of this Hans Christian Heg story will be published in future Runespeak issues.}*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Lodge Officer Candidates for the 2025 Election on October 13<sup>th</sup>, Social/Cultural Meeting All Lodge Officer terms are two years unless noted otherwise.

(Tentative list at time of release of this newsletter. Subject to change if someone opts not to continue or if someone wants to be added to the nomination list for an office.)

#### Fosselyngen No. 82 Officers 2026-27

Title	Name	Phone	Email
President	Susan Berg Roedel	414-526-8312	<a href="mailto:sjroedel@gmail.com">sjroedel@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Arlette Johnson	414-368-3324	<a href="mailto:aejohnson118@hotmail.com">aejohnson118@hotmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Gretchen Bjork	262-502-9197	<a href="mailto:thebjorks@att.net">thebjorks@att.net</a>
Secretary	Karen Smeiska	414-690-4402	<a href="mailto:kasmeiska@yahoo.com">kasmeiska@yahoo.com</a>
Counselor	Milt Sande	414-301-4246	<a href="mailto:bardaboo37@sbcglobal.net">bardaboo37@sbcglobal.net</a>
Cultural/Social Director 2026	Daryl Wunrow	414-460-5285	<a href="mailto:dmwunrow@gmail.com">dmwunrow@gmail.com</a>
Cultural/Social Director 2027	Mark Bjorgo	262-470-0561	<a href="mailto:markbjorgo@yahoo.com">markbjorgo@yahoo.com</a>
Sports Director	Jayne Murnane	414-380-5404	<a href="mailto:Jayne.murnane2@gmail.com">Jayne.murnane2@gmail.com</a>
Editor	John Schneble	414-771-4176	<a href="mailto:csjohn@att.net">csjohn@att.net</a>
Historian	Daryl Wunrow	414-460-5285	<a href="mailto:dmwunrow@gmail.com">dmwunrow@gmail.com</a>
Foundation	Kath Holmes	262-490-9467	<a href="mailto:Kathholmes1@yahoo.com">Kathholmes1@yahoo.com</a>
Auditor Committee	Gary Christianson	414-355-4816	<a href="mailto:glchristianson@aol.com">glchristianson@aol.com</a>
Auditor Committee	Jack Lofte	414-807-7503	<a href="mailto:jack.lofte@gmail.com">jack.lofte@gmail.com</a>



## JULY 14, 2025 LODGE PICNIC AT MATTY'S BAR & GRILLE



MARK GOULD ENTERTAINED US BEFORE DINNER WITH HIS ACCORDION PLAYING AND SINGING OF NORWEGIAN SONGS.



### Update Info on Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra Concert Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> or Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>

(By Daryl Wunrow)

At our SofN Picnic I spoke about a forthcoming Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra concert that features some Norwegian connections; namely, the Guest Conductor is a Norwegian, Rune Bergmann. One of the featured compositions is a Piano Concerto by the noted Norwegian, Edvard Grieg.

Unfortunately, I have NOT been able to pull a ticket package together, as I had hoped. The best option for Lodge members is to purchase their own tickets and park either in the garage nearby or use valet services at the entrance. Bonnie and I plan on attending. We could accommodate two other members. Perhaps others could try to car pool as well.

There are two MSO concerts, Friday, Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 a.m. and Saturday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Both are at the Bradley Symphony Center, 212 W. Wisconsin Ave. I regret this hasn't worked out the way I had hoped.

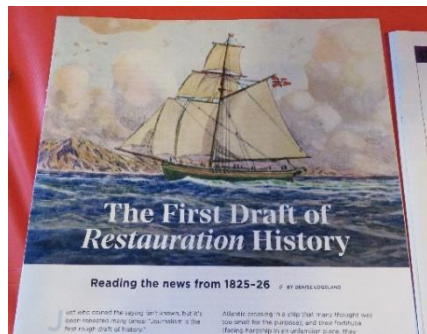
If interested, call Daryl Wunrow - 414-460-5285 call/text.



## August 11, 2025 Lodge Mtg. Program: Restauration 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1825-2025



MEMBER MARK  
BJORGO PRESENTED  
THE PROGRAM





## MAMA ROSA

### WAUWATOSA'S NEW TROLL AT NEW FIREFLY GROVE PARK

Mama Rosa is the new 24-foot-tall troll created by the Danish artist, Thomas Dambo. The troll is made mainly from recycled wood. The “flowers” that she is holding (to resemble the flowers in Firefly Grove Park) are made from recycled old lamp posts obtained from the city of Wauwatosa. Note that the troll’s name, “Mama Rosa”, rhymes with “Wauwatosa”.

Thomas Dambo has created more than 150 trolls located in 20 different countries around the world.

The park is located at the south east corner of the intersection of North 116<sup>th</sup> St. and Gilbert Ave. in Wauwatosa (north of the Wauwatosa Police Station at Walnut St. and about two blocks south of the traffic light at North Ave. and North 116<sup>th</sup> St.).

**Note:** Come by going south from North Ave. Don’t come from the south at this time because of road construction at the intersection of North 116<sup>th</sup> Street and Watertown Plank Road.

There are walk-in entrances to the park from North 116<sup>th</sup> Street and from Gilbert Avenue.

**Note:** The new Wauwatosa park is appropriately named, as the city of Wauwatosa gets its name from the Potawatomi language, meaning “firefly”.





## HOW TO CONTACT FOSSELYNGEN LODGE:

**To Phone:** Call 414-526-8312

**To Send Postal Mail:**

Fosselyngen Lodge No. 5-082  
Sons of Norway  
PO Box 20957  
Milwaukee, WI 53220

Fosselyngen Lodge Web Site:

<https://sonsofnorwaymilwaukee.org/index.html>

Fosselyngen Lodge Facebook Site:

<https://facebook.com/fosselyngenlodge>

## Have You Had a Financial Checkup Lately?

If not, contact your field staff representative, Greg Ragan, to set up an appointment to discuss your financial needs at no cost to you. This is a benefit of membership.

Greg Ragan, Sons of Norway  
Fraternal Benefits Counselor,  
Insurance & Investments

7042 Kinnikinnick Drive  
Roscoe, IL 61073

Phone: 815-623-8817 (Office)

Email: [gragan51@gmail.com](mailto:gragan51@gmail.com)

## SPORTS MEDAL PROGRAM

Just a reminder that forms and information about the Sports Medal Program are available. Contact Dennis Dale at 414-771-3470 or by mail at 1527 Alice Street, Wauwatosa, 53213.

## GUIDELINES FOR BRINGING GUESTS TO LODGE MEETINGS

Members are encouraged to invite guests to our monthly meetings to learn more about our Lodge. If a guest would also like to join us for dinner prior to the program, they may do so at no cost for one time only. Should they want to come again, they will need to pay \$10.00 for the dinner. As a member you are not charged for any regular meeting meal and also receive a discounted price for the picnic and Christmas party, so please encourage your friends to join to receive these benefits and become a member of the Fosselyngen Family.

## CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, OR EMAIL ADDRESS

If you have a change of any of these items, ***please*** notify the Sons of Norway International Headquarters Membership Department.

Either phone their office at 800-945-8851, or you can log on to the Sons of Norway website <https://www.sofn.com> and view & update your member profile.

**Please Note:** If you receive a notice or call that a member is sick, in a nursing home or has passed away, **call Nancy Sande (414-231-3586) so that the person can be remembered and other officers notified.**

Also, don't forget to **notify Arlette Johnson (414-368-3324) when a member of the Lodge passes away**, since Arlette must notify the Sons of Norway office in Minneapolis. Many people do not purchase a newspaper, and others do not indicate in the obituary that they were a member of Sons of Norway.

## Hey Snow Birds!

Those of you who move from one place to another as the seasons change are asked to contact Sons of Norway International headquarters **each time you move**. Please call 800-945-8851 to notify them so you continue receiving your *Viking* and other mailings the home office may send out.



**Notice:** All articles & information for the November/December 2025 newsletter are **due by October 15<sup>th</sup>**.

Email articles to the editor, John Schneble, [csjohn@att.net](mailto:csjohn@att.net) or mail to: 1024 North 121<sup>st</sup> Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226. The editor reserves the right to edit all articles.



**Fosselyngen Lodge No. 5-082**  
**Sons of Norway**  
**PO Box 20957**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53220**

\*\*\*\*\*

Ole had the misfortune of having his car stolen from right in front of his house. He chased the escaping car thief for three blocks until he ran out of breath. Upon reporting the theft to the police, the officer asked Ole if he could identify the thief. "No," said Ole, "but I got the license number."

Down at Sons of Norway, Ole likes to spin a few tales about his days as a sailor in the Norwegian Merchant fleet. "Yah, I remember it vell," said Ole, "Vhen a Norwegian tanker filled vid red paint collided vid a Danish tanker loaded vid blue dye. Da two ships sank and left 500 men MAROONED."

Ole and Lena took a trip through North Dakota and crossed the Canadian border. When they got to Winnipeg, they stopped at a bank to get some Canadian currency. The bank clerk looked at the money Ole pushed through the window.

CLERK: What denomination, please?

OLE: Lutheran, of course.

Monthly meetings vary. Please see page one for dates, times, and location of meetings..38  
Web site: <http://sonsofnorwaymilwaukee.org>

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

Sons of Norways mission er a fremme og ivareta norske kulturtradisjoner, og samtidig tilby de beste forsikrings-og finansprodukter til alle medlemmer.

This information is for official Sons of Norway business use only. Use of this information for solicitation or commercial purposes is a violation of the Sons of Norway privacy policy and is strictly prohibited.

Fosselyngen Runespeak is the official publication of Fosselyngen Lodge 5-082. Fosselyngen Runespeak is published 6 times a year by Fosselyngen Lodge 5-082, Sons of Norway, PO Box 20957, Milwaukee, WI 53220. Annual membership in Fosselyngen Lodge includes subscription to this newsletter.