

LUREN



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

July/August 2025 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 President

Hilsen fra Presidenten,

We had a great meeting on the 8th. We watched a Netflix movie, Number 24. If you haven't seen the movie it is well worth watching. It's the story of Gunnar Sønsteby who was a member of the Norwegian resistance. It was so interesting to see it from his perspective. Jerry took a picture of a statue of him while in Oslo.

Our next get together will be on June 28th at McCormick's Creek State Park.

Berit has reserved the Deer Run shelter and there is access to several trails for hiking, pool for swimming so plenty to do. Plan on bringing your own lunch and bottles of water to stay hydrated. Wear appropriate clothes and shoes for getting a little exercise! Suggested time to arrive is 10 to 10:30.

We will not be meeting in July but stay tuned as Jerry and Stan may be doing another chip carving class.

As usual there is so much to do during the summer. I have my tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and zucchini out so hope they don't drown with all this rain.

I will be getting a new roof in the next few weeks due to a big tree limb falling on my roof. The assessments have been done now I'm just waiting on the work to begin. There have been so many people with storm damage this spring.

We should have some interesting programs coming up this fall. We will be having a program about our Africa trip, Jerry's trip to Norway and Berit's trip to Oregon this year. Please let us know if there are other programs you might be interested in.

We also have the International Festival in November to look forward to.

I hope everyone is staying dry!

Hope to see you all on the 28th!

Nancy

Circle City Lodge 5-614 Membership in 2025

Expanding our membership will enable our lodge to engage our members with more activities. In 2025, the annual dues for Sons of Norway members are \$84 for an individual and \$144 for a family. Membership is open to all who have an interest in learning more about Norwegian heritage.

In the Circle City Lodge, we have a 2025 membership incentive reward program available to all members. We will present the incentives during our first lodge meeting in 2026. See the following incentives for bringing New Members to join the Circle City Lodge in 2025:

- \$10 Gift Card for each new member who joins our lodge. Bringing a new family membership counts as two new members. Adding family member to a current individual member counts as one new member.
- \$25 Gift Card to whoever brings in the most members.

New members can enroll online at www.sofn.com with a credit card. Just click on the **Join/Renew** button at the top right of the landing page and follow the directions. Get questions answered at (612) 821-4643 by the membership department. Remember that Minneapolis, MN is in the Central time zone.

Let's have some fun with this to see if you will become the top annual recruiter. You will be able to have bragging rights for a year and enjoy the company of the new members you bring to our lodge.



Calendar of Events

July-August 2025

No Regular monthly meeting in July

July 3. 4:30 p.m. Intermediate Norsk class via Zoom
 7:30 p.m. Beginning Norsk class via Zoom

July 17 4:30 p.m. Intermediate Norsk class via Zoom
 7:30 p.m. Beginning Norsk class via Zoom

August 8. 10:00 a.m. Chip carving class at King of Glory Lutheran Church
 10:00 a.m. Norsk class at King of Glory Lutheran Church
 12:00 noon. Regular monthly meeting and pitch in Meal at King of Glory Lutheran Church

The program at our last SON lodge meeting was watching the movie Number 24 in Norwegian with English subtitles. It was about the most famous Norwegian resistance fighter - Gunnar Sønsteby - who resisted the Nazis during World War II and whose code name as “Number 24”. The movie opened with Gunnar skiing with his good friend and then resting around a fire, talking about the recent Nazi invasion resulting in book banning and their loss of freedom. The movie then turns to Gunnar giving a lecture in his advanced years to a large group of young Norwegians (maybe high school or college-aged) about his experience to thwart the Nazis. As he would lecture the movie presented flashbacks of Gunnar’s acts of resistance.

The first episode was Gunnar and his comrades in an armed encounter with the Nazis and being badly beaten. After that encounter, Gunnar promised himself that that would never happen again, and that he would always be prepared ahead of time. That is why he evaded getting caught. One example is that he noticed the Nazis snatched people between 4 am and 6 am, so in addition to sleeping in a different apartment each night, he would get up at 3 am and go up into the woods to get extra sleep.

Later in the movie, it was learned that Gunnar’s good friend with whom he was skiing at the beginning of the movie was having financial problems and was cooperating with the Nazis. So Gunnar approved the task of having his friend shot.

Gunnar became a resistance fighter because he so cherished the independence and freedom of Norway - his own country - as well as his own personal freedom. This movie shows to what lengths people will go to defend their homeland and their own personal freedom.

This is a great, yet sobering movie. I watched it a second time on Netflix in English with my daughter Karen, and it still captivated me. Karen agreed that it was a great movie.

Don Nelson



More voices, better solutions

Last year, leaders in Norway were shocked to learn that less than half of citizens trusted government. The falloff in trust was 16 percentage points in only two years. To help patch up public faith in democracy, 40,000 people were picked at random from all walks of life, and then 66 were chosen to deliberate together over four months on a "citizens' assembly," or what was called the Future Panel.

This group of everyday folks was given a broad assignment: What values should guide the use of Norway's immense wealth from oil for "the good of the world, ourselves, and future generations?" They were asked to give advice on how to spend the country's \$1.8 trillion in oil riches, the world's largest sovereign wealth fund. A balanced group of experts gave them advice.

On May 12, the citizens panel delivered its consensus: A specific percentage of the oil fund should be spent on sustainable investments in renewable energy and in developing countries, even if profits are low.

One participant, a 17-year-old student, told Reuters, "The idea was that we were different people from different parts of the

country. My experience is that we had all the same fundamental values."

This type of well-informed and civil decision-making – across party lines and across age groups – is becoming common in many countries. In a survey of 30 countries released last year, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) found an average of 44% of citizens had low or no trust in national government.

THE MONITOR'S VIEW

Citizen assemblies can help break barriers between experts and the public. They set examples for listening, treating others as equals, and learning about difficult issues. The OECD survey found that 69% of people who believe they have a high say in government also have high trust in government, in contrast to only 22% among those who feel they do not have a say.

"Public debate ... in every country is dominated by people that are eager to discuss and to share their opinions," said Kristin Halvorsen, a former finance minister who helped set up the Norwegian panel. "The citizens' assembly gives us an opportunity to hear voices that don't seek that kind of attention. That is important for democracy." ■

Chip carving class David, Anthony, Andrew, Kyle & Stan.



On June 14 we held our first chip carving workshop since David Wantz's several years ago. We met at Rockler Woodworking (Castleton area of Indianapolis) which was convenient for beginners to buy carving knives there. Anthony, Andrew and Kyle Divine were the eager learners and Stan Pederson, David Wantz and I were the instructors. We divided the instruction into three parts: I gave an introduction to this form of carving, and then Stan talked about how to hold the knife when carving, and David showed the best technique for sharpening knives. Practice boards were provided with squares already penciled in so the students could get started quickly. They all did very well and it is hoped that they will discover the great fulfillment that his hobby can bring. We will likely have other practice sessions at future meetings to continue skill building. Enjoy the less-than-perfect photo.

Jerry Rud

“GET OUT OF THE HOUSE!”
FIRST PICNIC IN THE PARK JUNE 28

FRILUFTSLIVETS AAR - (the year of out-of-doors activities) -was announced January 11. at our Lodge meeting! The first picnic / activity 2025 was planned for **June 28 at McCormick’s Creek State Park**, where “wheel chairs, walkers and canes will be honored!”. Unfortunately, a heat wave struck the week prior, and it appeared many of our members did not dare the outside far from the AC.

However – Saturday June 28. morning smiled at us with sunshine and 78-83 degrees! Those of us who braved the outside had a RAELLY GOOD TIME, starting around 10am! We were six from our lodge enjoying the day – even one with a crutch! The “Deer Run Shelter” was reserved for us – next to a green grass field partly in the shade of big trees.

A BINGO-sheet with questions and activities made us all get up from our chairs – listen to nature sounds, touch a number of things from nature, finding different leaves, check on our bird-and-insect-knowledge, listen to the silence, and try to pick up our childhood’s activity of blowing whistle sounds with a blade of grass between our thumbs (see picture). Below you can find the code for finding the TREASURE OF THE DAY – a well-hidden shoebox with goodies spotted by Nancy! We played KUBB and had a nice talk over a packed lunch with ice cold water!

Trail number 9 – including a visit to Peden’s Old Farm - was 1.5 mile – even the crutch made it! It was wonderfully refreshing to dip our feet in the cold water from McCormick’s falls, before we turned our noses towards home around 5pm – some of us taking a dip in the pool first, and some treating themselves with an ice cream on the way home.

JOIN US NEXT TIME!!!! LAST SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER!
(place not yet determined).

Berit

Where is the treasure???? Here is the clue – let me know if you can solve it ...

ARTICLE + (BETRAYAL – PREPOSITION + URE) + (3. PERSON SINGULAR EXSISTING) + (COW SKIN – E + ANIMAL HOME) + PREPOSITION + ARTICLE + (DIRECTION OF GREENLAND) + “SIDE OF + ARTICLE + (SHIVER – MBL).

Where would you find the treasure?



This is a large (3 ft X 4 ft.) Karen Jenson painting which is hanging in the stairwell of the Vesterheim Museum (Decorah, Iowa). She is from Milan, Minnesota.



Circle City Lodge Officers

President:	Nancy Andersen.	317-626-5237
Vice President:	Mary Jane Henrikson	812-662-3728
Secretary:	Jerome Rud	765-720-5232
Treasurer:	Alice Voris	317-691-1370
Cultural Director:	Berit Skarre.	812-617-5678
Membership Director:	Ben Olsen III.	317-459-5913
Sports Director:	Susan Alden.	317-460-8891
Foundation Director:	Karen Courtney.	317-696-2852
Lodge Councilor:	Stan Pederson.	317-339-5249
Historian:	Glenna Divine	765-749-2567
Newsletter Editor:	Glenna Divine.	765-749-2567
Directory:		

Read past issues of LUREN at:

www.sonsofnorway5.com

Check out our facebook group!

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

Check out SOFN Website!

<https://www.sofn.com>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKXhY-3CTVE)

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This was painted by
Sally Hurst