

Myravisen



October 2023
Myrmarken Lodge 5-609
Marshfield, WI 54449



SONS of NORWAY

Kjære venner;

This is our anniversary month - 35 years for us!! We are meeting this Saturday, October 14th, at the Eagles' Club on Oak Ave. at Noon for our celebration luncheon. We will also have a program presented by Thora and Shannon Tollefson. They will tell us of how they found the home of Shannon's ancestors in Norway.

October is a busy month for us. A slate of officers should be made for election at our November meeting. All offices are open for 2024-2025. We hope you will consider serving the lodge in this way.

October is also Foundation Month. Last month our special guest speaker, Leslee Lane Hoyum spoke of all the wonderful purposes that the Foundation fulfills. We were delighted that she could be with us last month. Thank you to Anne Grethe Cook for making her visit possible.

Looking forward to seeing you this Saturday!

Sherrie, Editor



Fun Fact

October is not really a month where a lot of stuff happens in Norway, but there are a few festivals and events to be aware of. One is The **Insomnia Festival**. The Insomnia Festival is in Tromsø, and features electronic music.

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



Our lodge has lost another good member with the passing of Kit Chase. She passed away at her home in Ashland September 22nd. Her cheerful personality and wit will be missed. She will be missed.



GRATULERER MED AGEN !

Lois Fadness 10-7 Polly Nikolai 10-29

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October is Foundation Month



Mission statement

At the Sons of Norway Foundation, our mission is to share and preserve Nordic heritage, to positively affect our members' lives and to make Sons of Norway communities better places to live.

Since 1966, we have pursued this mission by supporting our members through scholarships and cultural exchange opportunities, providing disaster relief to members in need, and funding community programs that celebrate Norwegian heritage and culture.

A Norwegian Gap Year

Norwegian folk high schools in Norway are unlike anything we have in North America.

Danish writer and pastor Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig came up with the concept of the folk high school. His idea was based on the fact that students needed “lifelong learning” skills in order to succeed. He liked the English Boarding School concept and mixed that with popular education and enlightenment rather than the formal education curriculum. Folk high schools stand out because they offer a wide variety of subjects, no final exams, freedom, self-motivation and a focus on self-development. Norway’s first folk high school was formed in 1864 and now there are 85 folk high schools around the country. About a third of these schools have a religious focus but all vary according to subjects and location. To learn more about Norwegian folkehøgskoler, visit the official Norwegian Folkehøgskole website:

[https://
www.folkehogskole.no/en/frontpage](https://www.folkehogskole.no/en/frontpage)

Did you know that the Sons of Norway Foundation offers financial support for members attending folk high schools? Visit the Foundation’s scholarship page to find out more: [https://
www.sofn.com/foundation/
scholarships/](https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/)

Leif Erickson Day - October 9th



The 1874 book *America Not Discovered by Columbus* by Norwegian-American Rasmus B. Anderson helped popularize the idea that Vikings were the first Europeans in the New World, an idea that was verified in 1960. In his speech during the Norse-American Centennial at the Minnesota State Fair in 1925, President Calvin Coolidge gave recognition to Leif Erikson as the discoverer of America. In 1929, Wisconsin became the first U.S. state to officially adopt Leif Erikson Day as a state holiday, thanks in large part to efforts by Rasmus Anderson. In 1931, Minnesota did also. As a result of efforts by the Leif Erikson Memorial Association of Saskatchewan, the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan proclaimed—through an order-in-council in 1936—that Leif Erikson Day would be observed on October 9. By 1956, Leif Erikson Day had been made an official observance in seven states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Illinois, Colorado, Washington, and California) and one Canadian province (Saskatchewan).

The federal government of the United States first recognized Leif Erikson Day in 1935, as a result of House Joint Resolution 26, which had been introduced during the 74th Congress (1935–1936) by Congressman Harry Sauthoff of Wisconsin. Originally the resolution was written so as to request the US president annually proclaim October 9 as Leif Erikson Day, but it was amended in committee to be for 1935 only. After passing Congress, the legislation was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on June 19, 1935. As requested in the joint resolution, Roosevelt then issued presidential proclamation 2135 on September 11, 1935, designating October 9 of that year as Leif Erikson Day.

In the following decades, a number of unsuccessful attempts were made to pass legislation requesting Leif Erikson Day be proclaimed annually by the president. During the 88th Congress (1963–1964), various senators and congressmen introduced 12 different resolutions to that effect. One of these pieces of legislation, House Joint Resolution 393 (proposed by Congressman John Blatnik of Minnesota), was passed by Congress and then signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 2, 1964, becoming Public Law 88–566. Also on that day, as requested by the joint resolution, President Johnson signed presidential proclamation 3610 proclaiming October 9 of that year as Leif Erikson Day. In accordance with the 1964 joint resolution, each president in the years since has issued an annual proclamation, often using the opportunity to also praise the contributions of Americans of Nordic descent generally and the spirit of discovery.

Bills have been introduced in the Parliament of Canada to observe Leif Erikson Day throughout the country, but they have failed to pass. *Wikipedia*

*Some people first became familiar with Leif Erikson Day due to the cartoon show *Spongebob Squarepants*, in which it's mentioned as the title character's favorite holiday.*

