



Kjære venner;

January has left us with some cold and a small amount of snow. A nice snowy blanket would be welcome to the skiers, (particularly for the Sons of Norway annual Barnebirke on February 20th), snowman makers, and snowmobilers. Perhaps this will be our Valentine's gift.

Roses and romantic thoughts to you for Valentine's Day!

Myrmarken Lodge has been getting smaller each year due to deaths and members moving away. This has put the remaining members in a place of deciding how to continue (or not).

Please read the important letter from our President Framness on Page 2. Your input is very important.

We look forward to seeing you this Saturday, February 8th, at Scotty's Pizza, 9 am.

Hilsen fra Sherrie, editor



SONS of NORWAY



FUN FACT

Norwegians began skiing as early as 4,000 years ago.



The cheese slicer was invented in Norway in 1925 by Thor Bjørklund

"Barnebirke is only a month away!"

We need volunteers to make cookies to be picked up by me and the others that are going to the event and volunteers to be at the event at the registration tent and giving out cookies at the cookie tent. To sign up to volunteer at the tent follow this link to the web-



site - <https://birke.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=92865> .



Heading up to Hayward to help? Volunteers should make their reservations now.

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

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Dear Members of Myrmarken Lodge:

Our Lodge faces the inevitable choice of closing. In this process, we have choices available to us as individuals or as a group.

As individuals, we can continue our personal Sons of Norway membership with another lodge of our personal choice.

As a group, we have the possibility of merging with another Sons of Norway lodge. The area lodges are:

Vennligfolk – Stevens Point. They meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church, 600 Wilshire Rd., Stevens Point. January, February, and March meeting time is 1 pm; the other months are 5 pm. Distance from Scotty’s Pizza to their meeting place is 38 miles.

Ribfjell – Wausau. Their meeting times appear to be the 4th Saturday morning of the month, 10 am, at the Marathon County Public Library, downtown Wausau. Distance from Scotty’s Pizza to their meeting place is 44 miles.

Norskeland – Iola. Their meeting time is 6:30 pm on the 2nd Monday of the month at Silver Lakes Lanes, N6311 State Hwy 49, Scandinavia. Distance from Scotty’s is 62 miles.

Løven – Eau Claire. This lodge meets at 6 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Spirit Lutheran Church on Main St. in Eau Claire. Distance from Scotty’s is 81 miles.

Central Lodge membership is a membership without local lodge affiliation. Inquiry has been made if this is an option for us.

Please vote for one of the following choices:

Merge with another lodge _____

Stevens Point _____

Wausau _____

Iola _____

Eau Claire _____

Disband Myrmarken Lodge _____

Each member individually decides where they want to move their membership.

Our lodge values the opinion of its members in making these decisions. **Please attend our next meeting at Scotty’s Pizza on February 8th, or respond to this communication by voice (715-387-6674), or e-mail douglas.framness@gmail.com.**

Thank you.

Doug Framness, President

Kicking off the Bicentennial of Norwegian Migration

On July 4, 1825, a group of 52 Norwegians set sail on the ship Restauration to make the first organized migration from Norway to North America. Since that first voyage, about 900,000 others have followed, leaving their homes in search of opportunities and a better life. While many returned to Norway, most stayed and built a new home in the New World. Today nearly five million people in North America claim Norwegian ancestry.

This year, Sons of Norway and Crossings commemorate 200 years of organized Norwegian migration to North America. It's a year to celebrate the strong ties between Norway, the United States, and Canada. It's an opportunity to remember what it means to take great risks and trade one home for another. And it's a chance to better understand the movement of peoples that continues worldwide today.

On July 4, 2025, a replica of the sloop Restauration will set sail for New York, retracing the route 200 years after the first organized group of Norwegians departed. We are reminded of struggles for replica ship, the Randaberg Yngre Mannskor recorded the Thomas Kingo hymn Sorgen og Gleden (Sorrow and Joy) that may have been sung on board, with the mixed emotions that the migrants must have felt:

*Sorrow and joy go hand in hand together
Fortune, misfortune as neighbors do dwell
Luck and adversity call to each other
Sunshine and clouds are companions as well
Earth's brightest gold is but fine mold
Heaven alone is where bliss can unfold*

Crossings – 200th Anniversary of Norwegian Migration



2025 marks the 200th Anniversary of the first organized emigration of Norwegians to the United States. The single mast sloop, Restauration, left Stavanger on July 4, 1825, with 52 people on board. Often referred to as the "Sloopers," they arrived in New York City harbor on October 9, 1825. The coordinated undertaking for the 200th anniversary has been identified as Crossings, Norway & North America, 1825 – 2025. The Crossings Bicentennial in North America is managed by a group of dedicated professionals representing numerous organizations that include the Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA), Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, Norway House, The Norwegian American newspaper, with representation from Sons of Norway and the Sons of Norway Foundation.

It should be noted that 2025 is being referred to as a commemoration, not a celebration: immigration brought opportunities to new arrivals, but also negatively affected existing nations.