



Dear Members and Friends of Myrmarken -

We were sorry not have Julaine with us last month for the planned program, but wasn't it fun and interesting to hear the stories and see some of the family treasures last month?

Thanks to each one who shared something.

The District 5 convention of 2022 is now in the books, and we have a new president in Cheryl Wille-Schlesser. She has worked hard in promoting the Sons of Norway as the Vice-President, and I know she will be a very good leader in these next years.

This year we are meeting in July and taking the month of August off from gathering. Anne-Grethe Cook has invited us to her home on July 9th at 1:00pm. It is a potluck affair in her beautiful backyard abundant with the color of summer flowers. Her address is:

1219 E. 14th Street, Marshfield

We wish a July "Happy Birthday" to three of our members : Bernie Binning, Meda Heywood, and Thora Tollefson. Enjoy your special days!



Put July 9th, 1:00pm, on your calendar to meet for the picnic, and bring a friend!

Sherrie, editor



SONS of NORWAY



FUN FACT

July in Norway is the warmest month when the temperature reaches its peak and swimming is possible in shallow water.

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

Congratulations to the Lodge Achievement and Family Lodge of the Year Winners

- 2018 Small Lodge – Ostestaden
- 2018 Large Lodge- Vennelag
- 2018 Family Lodge of the Year- Nordkap
- 2019 Small Lodge- Elvedal
- 2019 Large Lodge- Nordkap
- 2019 Family Lodge of the Year- Gronnvik
- 2020 Small Lodge – Myrmarken**
- 2020 Large Lodge- Mandt
- 2020 Family Lodge of the Year- Nordkap
- 2021 Small Lodge- Valkryrien
- 2021 Large Lodge- Mandt
- 2021 Family Lodge of the Year- Fagernes



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NEWS OF THE DISTRICT 5 CONVENTION

The following is the address to the 2022 District 5 Delegates, June 18, 2022

MIN VENNER-MY FRIENDS,

We sit poised on a precipice. Our choices are to lean over the rock face's edge and spiral downward or to look up and soar with the eagles. In my opinion, the Fifth District needs to SOAR upward!

The outgoing District 5 Board has done everything in its power to keep the district moving forward despite the many challenges. They served for an extended number of years.

BUT-WE PERSEVERED!

- ☑ District officers organized Zone training in virtual formats.
- ☑ Other districts from across the Order called for information so they could offer this experience to their members.
- ☑ Virtual meetings became the norm, and local lodge leaders received updates.
- ☑ The Masse Moro staff presented activities to our campers in unprecedented ways. ☑ Scholarships were awarded to our youth.
- ☑ Cultural classes were offered to our members via Zoom. The Viking chests continued their rounds.
- ☑ District officers wrote new grants to offset the costs for cultural, sports, and membership pins.
- ☑ The district's playing card photo contest engaged members and raised several thousand dollars.
- ☑ Local lodge Foundation fundraising continued.
- ☑ The Nordic News Show began using much talent from our members.
- ☑ A walking challenge had over 100 participants from all six zones.
- ☑ The Barnebirkie continued with changes, and cookies returned in 2022!
- ☑ The publicity director sent photos to the Viking magazine. ☑ The webmaster posted district events and celebrations on the D5 website.
- ☑ Our Zone Directors continued their visits to local lodges, installed officers, and made presentations.
- ☑ The district's business was addressed, challenges were faced, and solutions were found.
- ☑ Since the governance structure of the Sons of Norway (SofN) has changed, our International Director is writing new language items for SofN.
- ☑ She was integral in creating the Together We Are the Future campaign, helping raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the SofN Foundation.
- ☑ Many members of the district board attended special lodge anniversaries.

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LOCAL LODGES CARRIED THE BANNER OF FRATERNITY

- ☑ Members maintained connections with others via phone calls, postcards, email, and videoconferencing.
- ☑ Small items of appreciation were delivered to older or shut-in members.
- ☑ Lodge meetings and activities came back to the delight of many, beginning in 2021.
- ☑ New members joined our ranks.
- ☑ Syttende Mai revelry occurred despite the pandemic.
- ☑ Floats were brought out of storage to the delight of parade attendees.
- ☑ Retention ideas have kept the flame of Sons of Norway alive!

Our imaginations only limit us. So join me in making the 2022-2024 biennium one for the record books. **Tusen takk!**

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser
District 5 President

Meet your 2022-2024 Board!

District President- Cheryl Wille-Schlesser - Vennelag Lodge- Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin

A member of the Sons of Norway since 1999, Wille-Schlesser has served her local lodge, Vennelag 5-513, in many officer positions. She is currently the lodge counselor and the newsletter editor. She is a retired middle school science teacher and works part-time positions at the University of Wisconsin and for Bergey Jewelry in Mt. Horeb, WI her hometown.

District Vice President and Zone 6 Director- Wendy Kay Winkelman Shawnee Skogen Lodge- Cobden, Illinois Lodge Editor, Secretary, and now President of Shawnee Skogen 5-689 in southern Illinois - District 5's newest lodge! At the District Level, I have been District Public Relations Officer, District Secretary and now District Vice President.

District Secretary- Darlene Arneson Mandt Lodge- Stoughton, Wisconsin

I have served as the Sons of Norway Mandt Lodge 5-314 President since 2002. I have served as the District Secretary since 2008.

District Treasurer- Nathan Nutter Shawnee Skogen Lodge- Troy, Illinois

Nathan Nutter is an experienced data and software engineer currently working for the St. Louis Cardinals. Bringing in-depth personal experience with financial record keeping, budgeting, and forecasting as well as a strong work ethic he is honored to serve as treasurer for Sons of Norway District 5 and the Nordic Legacy Foundation. He attends Shawnee Skogen, lodge 5-689, out of Carbondale, IL but lives in Troy, IL in the Greater St. Louis area.

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Publicity Director and Zone 2 Director- LaVonne Wier Fagernes Lodge- Galesville, Wisconsin

I belong to Fagernes Lodge 5-616 in Blair WI, and hold the offices of Secretary, Publicity and Adopt-a-School coordinator.

Cultural Director and Zone 4 Director- Judy Ghastin Norse Valley Lodge- Appleton, Wisconsin

Judy has been an active Sons of Norway member since the late 1970s serving Norse Valley Lodge as Cultural Director, Social Director, and President. She was elected to the office of Cultural Director in the spring of 2019 and has served in that capacity for four years due to the extension of terms of office during the pandemic.

Sports & Recreation Director and Zone 1 Director- Robert Fossum Døvre Lodge- Chetek, Wisconsin

Robert Merle Fossum He attended St. Olaf College and then earned a PhD in mathematics from the University of Michigan.

Youth Director- Elle Taylor Grønnavik Lodge- Green Bay, Wisconsin

My name is Elle Taylor, and I am honored to be the new Youth & Zone 4 Director! My love for Scandinavian culture grew into a love for travel and learning about all cultures around the world, eventually causing me to leave the world of Human Resources and become a travel agent.

Zone 2 Director- Tom Boudreau Elvedal Lodge- Nekoosa, Wisconsin

He has been a Sons of Norway member since 1989. He and Susan have served on the board in a variety of roles since 1996! They are snowbirds and enjoy traveling to Orange Beach, Alabama in January, and February!

Zone 3 Director- Scott Wegner Mandt Lodge- Stoughton, WI

Have been an active member of Sons of Norway Mandt Lodge for about 14 years

Zone 5 Director- Lisa Solak Skjold Lodge- Crystal Lake, Illinois

I serve as President of Skjold Lodge. I am an archivist and currently is employed as part of the Archives team with the National Archives and Records Administration.

Zone 5 Director- Connie Benson Kross—Cleng Peerson Lodge- Sandwich, Illinois

I am a member of Cleng Peerson Lodge in Norway, Illinois and attend many meetings of my sisters' Polar Star Lodge, too.

Zone 6 Director Bill Bultinck Shawnee Skogen Lodge- Cobden, Illinois

I have been a SON member for 16 years. I was elected District 5 Zone 6 Director in 2022.

International Director – Robin Fossum Døvre Lodge- Chetek, Wisconsin

Robin Fossum, Døvre Lodge 5-353, Chetek Wisconsin, is the District 5 International Director. She is also serving as a Governor of the Sons of Norway Foundation, and for the past 10 years as president of Døvre Lodge.