

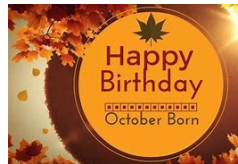


Dear Members and Friends of Myrmarken - What beautiful weather we have had these first days of October! A beautiful time for us to gather in celebration of

Myrmarken's formation in 1988—our 34th anniversary. We will be celebrating with a luncheon at the Eagles Club on Saturday, October 15th at 11:30 am. I hope to see all of you there. A trivia question for the lodge: Who was our first president of Myrmarken Lodge?

Have you made your reservations for our Lutefisk Supper on the 18th of October? We should have them by Friday, October 14th. It isn't too late to invite your friends and relatives. It has been 3 years since our last one in 2019, so I know of some people who are very much looking forward to the return of our supper.

Birthday greetings go out to these people for the month of October: Hannah Berg, Lois Fadness, and Polly Nikolai. Gratulerer med dagen!



See you on Saturday at the Eagles, time: 11:30am.

Hilsen, Sherrie, Editor



FUN FACT

Here are some of the wackier holidays that are celebrated in the US! October 4th is National Noodle Day, October 16th is National Fossil Day, Sweetest Day is on the 17th, and Boss's Day is celebrated on October 19th.

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.



Nordic Gift House

Velkommen to Nordic Gift House... Your Premier Source for the best Scandinavian Gifts. As Sons of Norway members ourselves, we love sharing products that remind us of our culture and heritage. At www.nordicgifthouse.com Sons of Norway members will find treasures from Norway and beyond including including Jewelry, Knitwear, Socks, Home Decor, Kitchen and Heritage Items.

In support of the Sons of Norway goals of promoting Norwegian heritage, we are excited to share that all Sons of Norway members will receive 10% off all orders of any size by entering Discount Code SON10.

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## INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SUMMARY



### 2022 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SONS OF NORWAY

The 2022 International Convention took place virtually August 31 and September 1. The 168 Delegates heard an update from International President Ron Stubbings and CEO Chris Pinkerton provided a summary about the business of the Foundation, Fraternal and Insurance areas of Sons of Norway.

Though the event was virtual, some of the traditions remained, like the Memorial Service, where we honor those International Board leaders who passed away within the past two years. We enjoyed cookie and coffee breaks, this time with the music of International Board member Robin Fossum on her Hardanger fiddle. Another video presented the American, Canadian and Norwegian national anthems.

One of the goals of the International Convention is to seat the new International Board members. The delegates were successful in seating our new Board. The new International Board members and International Directors are:

#### **Executive Committee:**

International President - **Ron Stubbings**  
International Vice President - **Mark Agerter**  
International Treasurer - **Mary B. Andersen**  
International Secretary - **Robin Fossum**  
5th Member\* - **Dean Stiller**

#### **International Directors:**

District One Director - **Dennis Rusinko**  
District Two Director - **Chris Hicks**  
District Three Director - **Kathy Dollymore**  
District Four Director - **Claudia Berg**  
District Five Director - **Duane Kittleson**  
District Six Director - **Luella Grangaard**  
District Seven Director - **Erik Brochmann**  
District Eight Director - **Per Mikalsen**

\*Dean Stiller was nominated and appointed by the Board at the September 2022 Board meeting. Dean was also appointed to the Executive Committee as 5th Member.



## Some Interesting History about Leif Erickson

**Americans have an odd way of pronouncing his name.** In Iceland and Scandinavia, the name Leif is usually pronounced “Layf” and rhymes with the English word safe (or like “life,” depending on the region). Yet, in America, people often say “Leef” instead.

**Before Leif reached the Mainland, he probably stopped at Baffin Island.** Baffin, Canada’s biggest island, is 932 miles long and home to lemmings, caribou, and polar bears (and people). It might also be one of the three North American areas that the Icelandic Sagas reference.

When Leif’s men begin their westward journey in *The Saga of the Greenlanders*, they soon discover an icy countryside filled with large, flat rocks. “Now I will give the land a name, and call it Helluland,” Leif said in the text. Translated from Old Norse, the moniker means “stone-slab land.” Based on the descriptions in the sagas of the Greenlanders and Erik the Red, most historians think Helluland was really Baffin Island. Some Norse artifacts have been found there.

**The “Columbus vs. Erickson” Culture War started in the late 19th century.** Christopher Columbus didn’t become a household name until Washington Irving published a wildly inaccurate biography of the explorer in 1828. Misleading as the book was, the idea celebrating Columbus really appealed to Italian immigrants. In 1892, President Benjamin Harrison publicly encouraged his fellow Americans to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus’s arrival in the New World. At the urging of Italian residents, Colorado adopted Columbus Day as an official state holiday in 1907. Presidents began issuing Columbus Day proclamations in the 1930s, although it wouldn’t become a true federal holiday until 1968. **Not all Americans approved of that version of history.** Forty-six years after Irving published his biography of Columbus, Wisconsinite Rasmus Bjorn Anderson published a book called *America Not Discovered By Columbus*, which pointed out that Leif Erikson was traversing North America 500 years before the *Niña*, *Pinta*, and *Santa Maria* crossed the Atlantic. Anderson decided that Erik the Red’s famous son needed his own holiday to offset Columbus’s. And settled on October 9 as the perfect date for it. On that day in 1825, a group of Norwegian immigrants landed in New York City, and event that is generally credited as starting organized Scandinavian migration to the United States. At Anderson’s urging, Wisconsin became the first state to recognize Leif Erikson Day in 1929.

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/532073/facts-about-Leif-Erickson>

## Other News from District Five

Foundation Update Grant and scholarship applications open October 1 on the Sons of Norway Foundation website! Applications for grants are accepted through the end of the year for any projects that are planned for 2023.

Scholarships are open through March 1 and available to members, children of members AND grandchildren of members. These are some fantastic opportunities. For a full breakdown of all the different grants and scholarships the Foundation offers, visit [www.sofn.com/foundation](http://www.sofn.com/foundation).

## Sons of Norway Book Club The Sons of Norway Book Club has been a big hit!

Our thanks to those who volunteer to make it happen. If you'd like more information or if you would like to join the Book Club, email your name, lodge name and contact information to [SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com](mailto:SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com).

### **Author Presentation Mondays**

October 10, 2022

***Brooklyn Girl: Growing up Norwegian in New York City***

Jan Carol Simonsen



## Did you Know.....

By the end of a lutefisk dinner at Christ Lutheran Church in DeForest, WI, guests will have consumed:

2,200 pounds of lutefisk  
500 pounds of meatballs  
500 pounds of rhubarb  
200 pies (all donated by members)  
106 pounds of butter

Odious odor and aesthetics aside, this traditional meal brings people together, celebrates Scandinavian American culture and allows for a special bond among the loyal lovers of lutefisk.

November 22, 2018 <https://wisconsinlife.org/food-traditions/lutefisk>