



Lodge Updates

* Unless otherwise indicated, all Vennelag Board meetings will be held virtually at 6:30 PM, using a Zoom platform.

* Lodge meetings will be held virtually on Zoom going forward into 2021.

* The Vennelag Board has decided to suspend its December lefse sale due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The SofN liability insurance will not cover any damages filed during the pandemic.

UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS

NOVEMBER 11, 2020

Virtual BOARD Meeting, 6:30 PM

NOVEMBER 19, 2020-Virtual LODGE Meeting, 6:30 PM, A link to the meeting will follow.

* "Take the Trollway," How to make lemonade out of lemons!

* Update on the Vennelag's trip to Norway

* In memoriam: Marlyn Grinde

DECEMBER 2, 2020

Virtual BOARD Meeting 6:30 PM

DECEMBER 6, 2020-Virtual LODGE Meeting, 2 PM, Jul Traditions with Olivia Cook
A link to the meeting will follow.



Ord Fra Presidenten



For many, including myself, the fall season is the best time of year. It means different things for different people. For me, it is the colors on the trees, football, fishing for the big ones, the upcoming holiday seasons, Christmas music, and knowing that the ski season is on its way. And this year, an added plus is knowing that soon we will be able to see 2020 in our rear-view mirror.

I have spoken with many of you who miss the social interactions offered by the Lodge.

This pandemic has stymied so many of our initiatives, fundraisers, and general activities, but we are obviously not unique in that regard. The work that has been done by so many of you for countless years is a testimony to your pride in your Norsk heritage and your ability to get things done on behalf of the Lodge. The awarding of the *International Lodge of the Year* and Mount Horeb *Not-for-Profit Organization of the Year* awards are bright spots in a year sadly lacking for good news. We should all look forward to celebrating our accomplishments at the 50th anniversary dinner on July 25, 2021.

Choose a few things during this time of year that you enjoy and embrace them. Dance like nobody's watching. The good times are just around the corner!

**Hold deg varm. Holde seg frisk og lykkelig.
(Stay warm. Stay healthy and happy.)**

Allen

LIVSREISE WILL BE HOSTING LAURANN GILBERTSON, CHIEF CURATOR AT VESTERHEIM NORWEGIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM IN DECORAH, IA.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH
@ 1 PM

HER PRESENTATION:
"RELIGION AND NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN QUILTS"



LIVSREISE, Stoughton, WI

NORWAY STATS

- ✚ Current population: 5,374,807, up 2M since 1950
- ✚ In 2019, there were 765,000 people living in Norway who were born elsewhere. In addition, there were 179,000 who were born to immigrant parents. The country with the largest immigrant group is Poland.
- ✚ Newborn males have a life expectancy of 81 years, while females will average 84.5 years.
- ✚ The total labor workforce is 2.8 million, about one half of Norway's total population. Approximately 47% of the workforce is female.
- ✚ Norway's annual wage is NOK 556,000, a 121% increase since 1970.
- ✚ 3.3 million vehicles are registered in Norway. Norway is the world's hotspot for electric vehicles.
- ✚ There has been a 40% rise in the use of electric bikes since 2017.

Source: Statistics Norway

Building the Lodge of the Future

Could we develop a program for area youth like that designed by Vinland Lodge # 6-159 in Temecula, California? Their program plans to connect lodge specialists with area youth in a program geared to young people ages 3 to 18. Some components of the program could include literature, history and geography, the Vikings, ancestry and heritage, the Sons of Norway (SofN) cultural skills program, the SofN sport medal program, and the SofN Virtual Pilgrimage. Other activities or events could certainly be added like a hobby horse race or a Baneløpet held in the winter months.

The goal is to teach young people about Norway and the customs and values of Norwegian immigrants and their families, as well as highlighting the Norway of today. By using the "Viking for Kids" online feature from SofN and *The Norwegian American* newspaper, the lodge aims to keep young people informed about all things Norwegian, including language instruction.

Moe, D. (2020 September 4). Building the Lodge of the Future. *The Norwegian American*, p.4.

UFF-DA... from Tiffany Schwoerer

Ole has figured out how to get rid of garbage when the can gets too full. He says, "I'll just gift wrap it and put it in the back of our car with the doors unlocked. Usually, someone steals it."

When Lena turned 40 Ole jokingly said "I think I'll trade you in for two twenties." Scoffed Lena, "You're not wired for 220!"

Each Sunday, new jokes are posted at www.ingebretsens.com

Update: It is tragic to report that The Ole and Lena joke books are no longer in print! Red Stangland has passed, and his family has not picked up the rights for publication. Your best source now may be garage sales! Lykke til!

[Dis and Dat with Mary Stamm](#)

I grew up on a small farm west of Argyle, WI. I met my husband Florian in Madison at a Parents Without Partners bingo party. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was aboard the USS Indianapolis when it was torpedoed after they had delivered part of the bomb that ended the war. The crew spent 5 days in the water with no one looking for them. Three hundred sixteen people survived out of the 1200 men on board. It was truly a miracle. We buried him on the 70th anniversary of the sinking.

We have always lived in Mt Horeb, and we had 8 children between us. I had 2 daughters and he had 5 sons and 1 daughter. We lost 1 son to pancreatic cancer in 2010. We have 7 grandchildren-all from Florian's children. In addition, there are 8 great grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

I worked at different jobs throughout my life, but the longest job I held was working for Dane County.

With the pandemic affecting all aspects of our lives, it is hard to enjoy the past times I favor. I used to enjoy dancing, bowling, golfing, and getting together with friends. Jean Grindle introduced me to Sons of Norway.

Mary Stamm

Vi er glad for at du er medlem av Sonner av Norge, Mary!
(We are glad you are a member of the Sons of Norway, Mary!)



Velkommen til-

Connie Gullickson,
wife of new member
Rick Gullickson and
sister in law of Mary
Gullickson-Krantz

From Madison

Velkommen også til-

Erik Bakken

Hayden Bakken

Karsten Bakken

Kipalee Bakken

From Mineral Point

Velkommen tilbake!

(Welcome Back)

Gayle Anderson

From Fennimore

5 Must-Have Nordic Cookbooks-Sons of Norway Blog (www.sofn.com/blog)



The New Nordic cooking philosophy is all about no-fuss recipes with seasonal, fresh ingredients. Here are some of our favorite Nordic cookbooks.

[“The Nordic Cookbook”](#)

Acclaimed chef and photographer [Magnus Nilsson](#) is on a mission to revive, celebrate and explore authentic Nordic cooking and open the world’s eyes to how the geography of the North plays such a vital role in its culinary traditions. “The Nordic Cookbook” includes 700 recipes Nilsson collected while traveling extensively through the Nordic countries. “A book like this is as much a documentation of food culture for you to learn from and get inspired by, as it is an instruction on how to make specific dishes,” Nilsson says. Check out [Viking’s April 2016 issue](#) for more on Nilsson and his book.

[“Fire and Ice”](#)

“I love the special light of the North and the way it changes with the seasons,” says author [Darra Goldstein](#). “Summer brings a bounty of berries, which ripen into early fall.” This book showcases sweet and savory dishes from Scandinavia while weaving in the history, lore, and culinary traditions of the region. Do you love berry desserts? [Viking’s July 2016 issue](#) includes three recipes from the book— blueberry rooster, raspberry grottoes, and strawberry meringue cake.

[“ScandiKitchen Summer”](#)

Make the most of your summertime dining opportunities with this must-have book from Danish restaurateur and author [Brontë Aurell](#). “ScandiKitchen Summer” includes more than 65 Scandinavian-style recipes that capture the joy of summer eating. In [Viking’s June 2019 issue](#), Aurell shares recipes for open sandwiches, beetroot salad, mushroom tart (paj) and a strawberry layer cake.

[“Tina Nordström’s Weekend Cooking”](#)

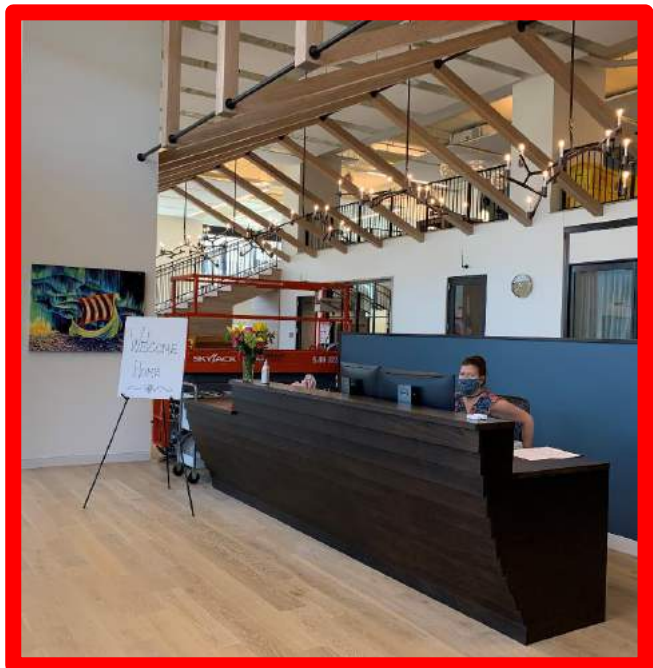
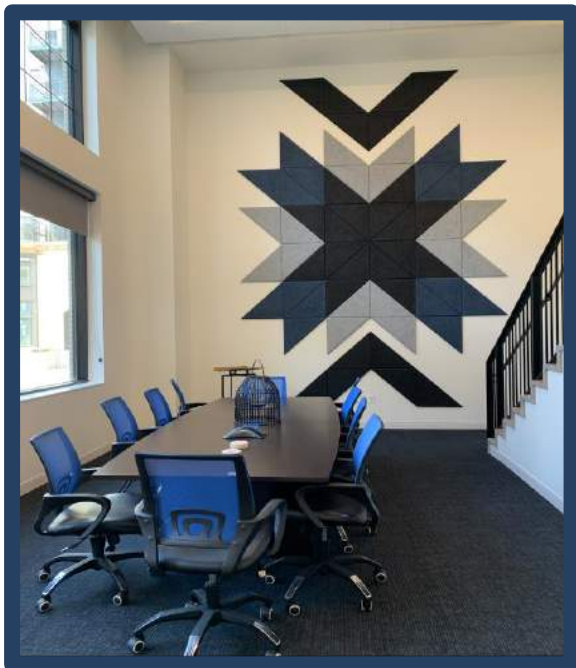
You may know [Tina Nordström’s](#) name from the hit television show “New Scandinavian Cooking.” This book features 75 recipes that are fast, simple, and comforting. Check out the [March 2019 issue of Viking](#) to learn how this small-town girl became one of Scandinavia’s star chefs, and find her recipes for lemon-roasted chicken and vanilla ice cream bars. Bonus! Here’s [one more recipe](#) she shared with *Viking*.

[“Nordic Light”](#)

This book embraces the clean, fresh flavors of modern Scandinavian cooking. [Simon Bajada’s](#) recipes focus on seasonal produce and vegetables. “I was motivated to share my approach toward eating a lighter diet,” Bajada says. “I’ve been inspired by diets such as paleo, gluten- and dairy-free. Nordic ingredients and techniques merge well with these ways of eating.” Looking to liven up your breakfast routine? The [April 2018 issue of Viking](#) features four recipes from Bajada—millet porridge, fig and fennel pull-apart bread, homemade “Nutella” and seedy crispbread.



Our New SofN New Home in Minneapolis



The 8-pointed star is a common design used in many Norwegian goods, including Dale sweaters and Selbu mittens that are widely popular in Norway and the U.S.

***To get your sweater, locally, visit Janice at Open House Imports or call her: 608-437-5468!**

Livsreise in Stoughton has chosen to use this design in their space, as well.



Vennelag's Juletre Fest-Tiffany Schwoerer

- Dress festively.
- Olivia Cook will present a program on Norsk Jul traditions.
- A virtual link for the program will be provided closer to the date.



- ❖ Decorate your tree with white lights.
- ❖ Attend a Christmas concert before Christmas Eve.
- ❖ Shop at a local market or local stores versus purchasing gifts at big box stores or from online vendors.
- ❖ Prepare foods from the sea or the farm: shellfish, lutefisk, cod, lamb, pork ribbe, turkey, or ham. Compliment the meal with potatoes and other vegetables. Serve lefse.
- ❖ Select your finest beer. If you are in Norway, Juløl-Christmas beer is served.
- ❖ Julen's Beste Kaker-make some of the best cookies of Christmas.To name a few: sandbakkell, Berlinerkranser, fattigmann, rosetter, strull, krumkaker, goro, pepperkaker, and sirupsnipper are all popular.
- ❖ Gingerbread houses or heart-shaped ginger cookies are made.
- ❖ Risengrynsgrøt is made and an almond is placed inside the porridge. The finder wins a marzipan pig!
- ❖ Attend a traditional Christmas service, perhaps online this year.
- ❖ Gather your family or friends together on Christmas Eve for dinner and later open gifts.
- ❖ The days between December 25-30 are spent with family and friends. Many people go out to dinner or enjoy a brunch with family or friends. Source: www.VisitOslo.com

GOD JUL!

VENNELAG COMMUNICATIONS

Should you speak with other Lodge members, please ask whether they are receiving the meeting minutes, e-blasts, and newsletters. In some cases, we have found that not everything is getting to its intended destination. Remind your friends to check their Spam folders. If you learn that someone has not receiving Vennelag communications, please contact a board member. Our names and contact information are included in each newsletter.

Tusen takk, Allen

From District 5 International Director, Robin Fossum, Dovre Lodge



On Wednesday, September 2nd, the International Board via 'Meetings' for a financial review and a to receive general updates.

- Elaine Nelson, International Treasurer, Kringen Lodge, Fargo, ND directs the Finance Committee which works with the International Office and Erica Oberg, Chief Financial Officer (CFO). There have been a few ups and downs during the second quarter. Due to the change of financial advisors, Allen Bailey & Associates is working to get a more accurate result in forecasting and are working on a new model.
- It was also stressed that we need more members with insurance. SofN is still heavy on expenses, more cuts can be expected, even with the 'off' year we are currently experiencing. Annuities and life certificates are doing well. Last week 150 people joined SofN.
- Kevin Cassidy is the new General Counsel & Compliance Officer who will handle in-house and many District/Lodge issues. He received his BA in Finance from St. Thomas; Master's in International Business from BI Norwegian Business School; Doctor of Law, Hamline School of Law. Kevin's previous position was with Thrivent, and he is fluent in Norwegian!
- Dave Ness will continue as the general outside legal counsel.
- Dan Seyfried joined SofN two months ago and is the Chief Information Officer (CIO). He holds a BA in Mathematics from U of MN-Morris; Master of Science in Software Engineering-Computer Software Engineering, U of MN – Twin Cities. He was previously with Thrivent for 17 years. He is working on increased efficiency and new IT strategies.
- There is new potential branding of SofN financial products, i.e.: North Star Life Insurance or Northern Lights.
- The Corporate Matters Committee recommended several resolutions regarding lodge voting and meeting via electronic venues.
- The next full board meeting will be held via *Meetings* the week of November 16.
- Ski-For Light in February has been cancelled, and they will offer a virtual program.

On another note, I have been working with the Foundation on our new October Foundation Month campaign- 'Together we are the Future.' Our goal is to raise \$50k from all our SofN leadership, then find a match of another \$50k from members, corporate, etc. Foundation Director Anne Olson is doing an outstanding job working with Jon Tehven, Leslee Hovum, and me.

More than 100 years ago mass migration from Norway brought thousands of immigrants to America, and today nearly 11 million people claim Norwegian ancestry. That is approximately 3.3% of the U.S. population. Norwegian Americans are currently the 10th-largest European ancestry group in the United States.

It is quite remarkable considering the combined population of three Scandinavian countries- Denmark, Norway, and Sweden have a combined population of just over 21 million inhabitants.



To read more, subscribe to

Life in Norway Magazine

www.lifeinnorway.net

Get your hands on a new digital magazine for Kindle, tablets, and smartphones full of stories about all things Norway.



Your Fraternal Representative



Ragan Financial Group
Representing Sons of Norway

7042 Kinnikinnick Dr. | Roscoe, IL 61073

1-800-442-4146

gragan@raganfinancialgroup.com

www.raganfinancialgroup.com

Our insurance professional (IP) is Greg Ragan from Roscoe, IL. Contact Greg to learn more about the newly added financial product line.

Currently, there are 1,334 agents selling SofN products. Many people work for agencies selling multiple company brands.

Photo provided.

Since Chris Pinkerton has taken the helm as the Chief Operating Officer (CEO) at the Sons of Norway in Minneapolis, the strength of our organization has grown.

Pinkerton has developed affordable insurance and annuity products that boosted sales by 195%. The number of independent agents offering Sons of Norway products rose from 50 to more than 1,334! The organization holds \$365 million in assets in 38 states. A new market search is being conducted.

At the Sons of Norway's core is its fraternal insurance, the basis for its formation on January 16, 1895. The cultural side of the organization continues to flourish with many member events scheduled that celebrate Norwegian heritage.

One goal of the International Board is to have more members invest in SofN products!



Photo provided.

Sons of Norway membership is 50,443.

The Viking Ship Museum-Oslo, Norway, submitted by Arthur Ness

This museum contains three ships. Two are in good condition but the third is in rough shape. As you walk through the gate into the Viking Ship Museum on the Island of Bygdøy, you are confronted by the prow of the Oseberg Ship looming overhead. The first thought that came to my mind was, "That's a really big boat!" I do not remember what I was expecting, but in my wildest dreams, I did not imagine anything quite that large! When one realizes that it was built using hand-forged rivets and hand-hewn lumber in the late 8th Century, it becomes the Dark Ages technology-and-resources-commitment equivalent to a Saturn V rocket in the mid-twentieth Century.

So—What do we really know about it? Dendrochronology is the science of tree rings and using those rings to find the date and even the place where the trees grew. We know from the well-preserved timbers that this ship was built on the west coast of Norway, probably near Haugesund, in the late 700's. We also know from the rings of the burial chamber that the chamber was roughly constructed at the time of the burial, and it was in 834 A.D.

For years, it was thought that it was a coastal barge only used for ceremonial occasions because the shape of its hull made it unstable in the open sea. With modern research and analysis methods, we now suspect the original hypothesis is incorrect, it is believed that the shape of the hull is due to burial compression and faulty reconstruction, not design. A modern reconstruction taking these issues into account shows it does well in open water.

The big question is: Who was buried there? There was no "King of Norway" in those days, but there were *plenty* of kings in Norway. According to the Sagas written about 400-500 years later, the king of this part of Norway was a man called both Gudrød the Hunting King, and Gudrød the Magnificent. He lived right on the fuzzy line where mythology becomes history. He was supposedly descended from the Swedish Yngling Dynasty that goes back to the 5th Century and whose mounds lie outside Old Uppsala, but that cannot be confirmed. Recent scholarship suggests the Vestfold Dynasty's origins may have in the west of Norway at Avaldsnes near modern Haugesund, and the origin of this ship tends to support that.

In any case, Gudrød's first wife, Alvhild, died about the time this ship was buried. She was the daughter of the king of the Bohuslan area that is now Swedish, and she would have been quite young. Remains of an aged woman and a younger woman, possibly in her early fifties, were found, but nothing conclusive has yet been determined. She left a son called Olaf (not the Olaf who later became St. Olaf.)

Gudrød was lonely, and decided he needed to remarry so he went west to Vest-Agder and asked the king there for his daughter's hand in marriage; her name was Asa.

She was not a bit interested and turned him down flat. In typical Viking fashion, he cranked the courtship up a notch! Returning under the dark of night, he burned her house down, killed her father and brother, threw her over his shoulder, and carried her back to Vestfold. Within a year they had a son, and he was named, Halfdan, later being known as Halfdan, the Black, father of Harald the Fair-Haired, who united Norway.

Asa, however, was not a let-by-gones-be-by-gones sort of girl. When her son was about a year old, she acted. She waited for Gudrød to get drunk (not a long wait by all accounts) and had her page boy spear him to death. Apparently, nobody was too upset because, other than killing the page boy, she was permitted to take her son and return to Vest-Agder where he grew to adulthood.

For many years, it was tempting to think that the Oseberg ship was the burial place of Asa, grandmother of King Harald the Fair-Haired. Recent scholarship does not support that idea. The younger of the two women is too old to be Alvhild, and the time of the burial is too early to fit the chronology for Asa. So far, attempts at retrieving DNA samples have not been productive.

On the other hand, this period in history provides a bare outline, and leaves a lot of room for speculation and embellishment. For example, I took what was available and wrote a novel (electronically available on Kindle and Nook only) called *A Vikings Story*, under the name *John Andrews*, the first names of my two grandfathers. *Hint*: If you want to write a book on such a topic, use a pseudonym. The people who really like Vikings, Trolls, and Hobbits care about the specific details. (They also tend to live in their mothers' basements and will want to call the author to discuss and even dispute certain points. Being nocturnal, a perfect time for discussions seems to be around 2 AM. No one wants to deal with these people at 2 AM!)

The ship's burial mound was plundered in antiquity and robbed of precious metals, but the wooden and textile artifacts that remained and show us an artistically rich and sophisticated culture. They are all on display in the museum, and the most intriguing part of it is that some of them, like the wagon and the sleds, appear to have been around for some time and show use. That means that for those of us who are able to trace our ancestry back to some of the early kings, these artifacts from the 9th Century may actually have been owned and used by persons who were members or associates of our own families. Even if we do not know exactly which ones, they were doubtless all there together. The Oseberg Ship and the other Viking Ship, the Gokstad ship, are indeed worth seeing for the glimpse they offer into how different and truly capable that long-lost world was.

For all Norwegians, these are tangible records of our heritage. For some of us, they are also "family artifacts."

If you are interested in ordering decks of Scandinavian playing cards, do so now. Over 990 decks have been sold! (www.sonsofnorway.com) Find the order form under the **BENEFITS TAB** on the top blue ribbon. Send the order form and your check for payment to District 5 Treasurer, Mike Palecek, 5747 Sandy Lane, Racine, WI 53406. A new order was recently placed for 1,000 additional decks which are slated to arrive by Thanksgiving.



I have 6 remaining decks of playing cards. Let me know if you would like to receive one-\$10.00 per deck per member.

rogcher@mhtc.net

Cheryl

Source: The Sons of Norway News Service

The Origins of Norway's Most Iconic Sweater

It is no wonder Norwegians are known for their sweaters, considering Norway's long, dark winters, culture of Friluftsliv-outdoor living, and reputation for quality craftsmanship. Though Nordic sweaters come in many styles and colors, one stands out from the crowd as the most iconic and enduring of all: the Marius sweater.

The classic red, white, and navy-blue patterns of the Marius sweater echo the colors of the Norwegian flag, but its ties to Norway run even deeper. The design was adapted from a traditional Norwegian pattern and began its rise to international fame in 1953, when lifelong knitter Unn Sjøiland Dale created Lillun Sports A/S.

Previously, Dale had been employed as a model and often worked on knitting projects for her friends while waiting on set for photo shoots. As her reputation grew, she received more orders, and before long she left modeling behind to go into business selling knitwear. She also began selling her tradition-inspired patterns to Sandnes Uldvarfabrik, and many of those patterns—most notably Marius—went on to become timeless classics in Norway and around the world.



Photo: lifeinnorway.net

[Available at Open House](#)

100 % Merino wool unisex sweaters by Norlender, made in Norway
Spatulas, napkins, towels, and potholders also bear the Marius design and are currently in stock.

Open House Imports: 608-437-5468 or 800-236-8811

Your purchases can be shipped. Ask to speak with Janice about this option.

INTERNATIONAL LODGE OF THE YEAR, LARGE LODGE, 2018

RECENTLY, PRESIDENT WATRUD WAS NOTIFIED BY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, RON STUBBINGS, THAT OUR LODGE HAD BEEN SELECTED AS AN *INTERNATIONAL LODGE OF THE YEAR*.

INSTITUTED ON NOVEMBER 19, 1971, THIS HONOR IS THE FIRST FOR VENNELAG LODGE.

I CANNOT EXPRESS HOW HAPPY AND PROUD I FEEL FOR OUR MEMBERS. OUR HARD WORK AND PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED.

FOLLOWING THE PASSING OF FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE SIEVERS, OUR MEMBERS PULLED TOGETHER TO SUCCESSFULLY PROPEL VENNELAG LODGE INTO THE NEXT DECADE.

WHILE THE WORK WAS OFTEN CONSTANT, PRESENTED MANY CHALLENGES, AND AT TIMES WAS EVEN REPETITIVE, OUR MEMBERS PERSEVERED.

THE LODGE'S SUCCESS AND THIS HONOR ARE YOURS TO CELEBRATE!

CHERYL WILLE-SCHLESSER
PAST PRESIDENT

2014 - 2019



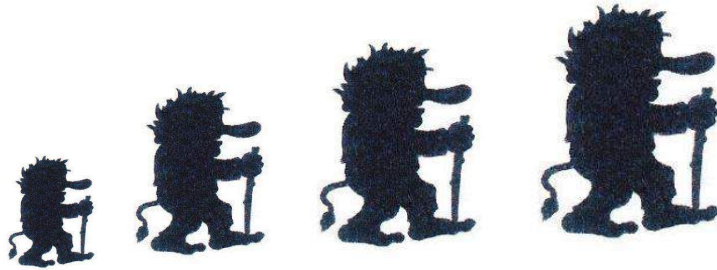
Each biennium, the Sons of Norway International honors lodges whose aim is to share Norwegian heritage and culture with others. These lodges are recognized for their community involvement and their ability to fulfill the Mission of the Sons of Norway.

I was completely surprised to learn that Vennelag Lodge was selected for this honor. Our ability to work successfully toward a common goal is evidenced by the number of guests who enjoy attending the Kaffe Stue and the Høst Frokost each year. Many people comment how the foods we provide are reminiscent of their childhoods. There is no price that can be placed on family memories. Never underestimate the importance of what you do at our events. Congratulations, Vennelag members, on a job well done.

Below, please find a partial list of our supported projects, activities, and events. Vennelag has become and will remain a proud community partner in the years to come.

- Food donations to area pantries
- Giving Tree holiday gifts for youth and seniors
- Gift basket for the Optimist Auction supporting children
- Masse Moro Youth Heritage Camp matching grants
- Annual \$1,000 high school scholarship
- Hundreds of cookies for the Barnebirkie, workers for events
- Hobby horse races for children at the Scandihoovian Fest
- Kaffe Stue and Høst Frokost food events
- Norwegian Baking Workshop for community members
- Travel opportunities, domestic and foreign
- Maintenance of the Military Ridge State Recreational Trail
- Donations for electrical upgrades at the Community Center
- Support provided for the dragon heads replacement project
- Contribution to the Mt. Horeb Veteran's Memorial Park
- Sustaining support given to the Mt. Horeb Area Historium
- Various improvements at the Mt. Horeb Senior Center
- Flag purchases for Grundahl Park
- Lefse sale provided to the public in December
- Support for Troll Mountain honoring George Sievers'
- Sponsor-Vesterheim cultural classes locally and in Decorah, IA
- Santa Breakfast and Craft Day

Do you have a change of address?



Duane Kittleson
6225 Mineral Point Rd., Apt. D90
Madison, WI. 53705

Phone: 608-229-6738
email: dkittverona@gmail.com

Please inform Duane Kittleson of any change in mailing address or email. You may make a request to discontinue the printed copy and to receive an email copy. Our newsletters are always available in color on the District 5 website: www.sonsofnorway5.com.

*Find us on the web: www.sonsofnorwaymthoreb.org

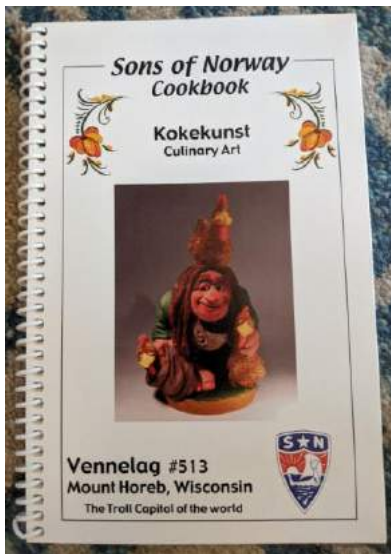
*If you know someone who is interested in membership in Vennelag Lodge, please direct them to this site. It will give them a better idea of our organization. You can forward the newsletter, too! Thank you for helping Vennelag Lodge to grow and continue an appreciate for Nordic heritage.

Norwegian Computer Terms

- Log On:** Making da wood stove hotter
Log Off: Don't add no more wood
Monitor: Keepin' an eye on da wood
Download: Getting da wood off da truck
Megahertz: Ven yer not careful getting da firewood
Floppy Disk: Vat yew get from trying tew carry tew much wood
Ram: Dat ting dat splits da wood
Hard Drive: Getting home in da winter time in the snowstorm
Prompt: Vat da mail ain't in da winter time
Windows: Vat yew shut when it's cold outside
Screen: Vat yew shut vens it's black fly season
Byte: Vat dem dang black flies do
Chip: Munchies fer da TV
Microchip: Vats in da bottom of da munchies bag
Modem: Vat yew did tew da hay fields
Keyboard: Where yew hang da keys
Software: Dem dang plastic forks and knives
Mouse: Vat eats da grain in da barn
Mainframe: Holds up da barn roof
Port: Fancy wine
Random Access Memory: Ven yew can't remember vat yew paid fer da rifle, ven yer wife asks



Source: Bergquist Imports, c. 2020 (Thanks, Dave Grindle, for your submission!)



The Vennelag Kokekunst-Culinary Arts Cookbook has been selling well. It is perfect for your holiday gift giving!

Selling for a mere \$12.00, this pocket-friendly choice will share Norwegian food traditions with others. Contact Mary Gullickson-Krantz to purchase your copies today (laffalot@mhtc.net)!

In a pinch? No worries! Mary has placed numerous copies at Open House Imports and at the Mt. Horeb Chamber office for quick pick-up!

*** Also available are Sons of Norway memberships: \$60.00 for a single membership and \$95 for the family option. You may register your family members on-line at: www.sofn.com**

Chewy Ginger Cookies

¾ c. Crisco	2 tsp. b. soda
1 c. sugar	1 tsp. cinnamon
¼ c. molasses	½ tsp. ground cloves
1 lg. egg	1 tsp. ground ginger
2 c. flour	½ tsp. salt

Melt shortening over low heat and cool. Add sugar, molasses, and egg. Beat well. Sift together all dry ingredients and add to wet mixture.

Place in the refrigerator until well-chilled.

Once chilled, form into 1-inch balls and roll in granulated sugar. Press down gently with a fork.

Bake at 350° for 8-10 minutes.

EXCAVATION OF THE GJELLESTAD SHIP IS UNDERWAY

For the first time in over 100 years, a Viking ship will be recovered in Norway. Excavation will take 5 months to bring the Gjeljestad ship to light. It was found on the Jellestad farm, outside of Halden. It has been determined that the original length of the ship is between 23-24 meters.

The government has allocated 15.3 million NOK to the project. It is important to excavate the ship soon, as decreasing groundwater levels are allowing oxygen to penetrate the ground, causing more deterioration of the ship. There is evidence of fungi growing on the ship's boards.

The Gjeljestad Ship has been dated and the earliest it could have been built is in the year 773 A.D. but is most likely from the early Viking Age.

© NTB Scanpix / [#Norway Today](https://twitter.com/NorwayToday)



Photo from Munchkey Apples

175 Drammen Valley Road, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572
Photo credit: Aldeen Fjelstad



Photo from Sutter's Ridge Orchard

2074 Sutter Drive, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572
Photo credit: Jean Grindle

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE, POSTED BY: [EDWARD SVIHUS](#) 15. SEPTEMBER 2020

Tom Cruise recently finished the recording of "Mission: Impossible" in Norway. He extended thanks to the Norwegian authorities who made it as easy as possible for the recording, considering the demanding corona conditions. The crew rented two Hurtigruten ships for their lodging.

Minister of Culture, Abid Raja (V) greeted the American film star during a planned meeting on the film set of the new "Mission: Impossible" film, the seventh in the series.

When Raja asked if he liked Norway, Cruise answered: "Do we like Norway? No, we love Norway!"

Cruise confirmed that the company is scheduled to return for the next film in the series and thanked the Norwegian people for their hospitality. "The people are absolutely amazing. It was a privilege to be here."

Source: NTB Scanpix / [#Norway Today](#)

2021...Lodge Plans

January 17, 2021 2:00 PM Virtual talent show.

February 21, 2021 2:00 PM Norske language presentation

March 21, 2021-2 PM Join Lodge members for an outdoor event! A picnic, a bonfire, and snowshoeing have all been discussed. The chosen activity will be following Dane County Health Department mandates.

Snakker du Norsk?

Just in time for the next trip to Norway...Lisbeth Wacker is offering a virtual Norwegian class for those members who have some basic Norwegian skills. Lisbeth is a native of Trondheim, Norway, and you may remember her family as the presenters for our Juletre Fest last year.

Class Details: WRLDLANG 60802671 – 0401

Meets Virtually: Wednesdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Dates: 10/28/2020 - 12/16/2020

<https://my.madisoncollege.edu/>

Description: "Norwegian 2" is a continuation of Norwegian 1 and will focus on continuing conversational skills in Norwegian. If you have a background in basic Norwegian language skills, this course is for you!

Lisbeth also provides personal Norsk language classes virtually. Contact: 608-843-1113



Dear Members of the Vennelag #5-513 Sons of Norway Lodge,

“Together we are the Future!” October is Sons of Norway Foundation month. We celebrate the value the Foundation brings to our members and communities. In late September, the Lodge leadership sent a communication to you asking for your support of the Foundation. The 2020 Vennelag goal is \$650.

I want to thank you for your support to this important cause, even during this COVID-19 period, and that we will continue to accept donations after the October campaign is finalized. If you have not donated already, you can send your tax-deductible personal check for the *Sons of Norway Foundation* in care of our treasurer, Anna Olson, 2200 Olson Rd., Dodgeville, WI 53533-9292.

In 2019, the Sons of Norway Foundation gave over \$140,000 in grants, scholarships, camperships, and humanitarian aid to its members. In 2020, the Vennelag Lodge was a recipient of funds from the Foundation. Received was \$5,000 in the form of a cultural grant and a college scholarship to one of our members.

As we celebrate the Sons of Norway’s 125th anniversary in 2020, we should be excited about the future of the Foundation and its mission to share and preserve the Nordic heritage and culture, while positively affecting our members’ lives and communities.

Thank you for your support of the Sons of Norway Foundation. **“Together we are the Future!”**

Harley Skjervem
Vennelag Foundation Director

CELEBRATE VENNELAG'S 50th ANNIVERSARY!



July 25, 2021

**4 to 7 PM
Martinson Hall
108 South 2nd St.
Mt. Horeb, WI**



WELCOME, all Vennelag members, District 5 Board Representatives, and Guests of the Lodge, as we celebrate the founding of the Lodge 50 years ago. Enjoy good fellowship, a delicious meal, and a toast to our Lodge's success.

BUNADS, party attire, or your Sunday best is the suggested.

***MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS IMPORTANT DATE IN THE HISTORY OF OUR LODGE.**

Arlene Watrud-Krueger and Harley Skjervem, event co-chairs

Do You Dread the Arrival of a Winter Lockdown? Think like a Norwegian! Studies show that people who live above the Arctic Circle have a different mindset that helps them to combat the "polar night." The residents of Tromsø, 200 miles above the Arctic Circle, do not show the kind of wintertime depression one might expect. People who see stressful events such as short daylight hours as "challenges," with an opportunity to learn and adapt, tend to cope much better than those who put a negative spin on the winter season. These differences in mindset not only influence people's mood, but also their physiological responses such as changes in blood pressure and heart rate. People can quickly recover, and the impact is long-lasting. Attitude is everything!

Pessimistic Viewpoint

Winter is boring.
Winter is a limiting time of year.
There are many things to dislike about winter.

Optimistic Viewpoint

There are many things to enjoy about winter.
I love the coziness of winter.
Winter brings many wonderful seasonal changes.

***We will have the opportunity to practice *koselig* this coming winter! It is a time to snuggle under a blanket, read some great books, and enjoy a warm drink in the glow of the candlelight.**

Source: David Robson, a science writer and author of *The Intelligence Trap: Revolutionise Your Thinking and Make Wiser Decisions* (Hodder & Stoughton). Thank you, Harley, for your submission.



Questions: mikep@sonsofnorwayracine.com

Books-\$20.00 each
The First Norwegian Settlements in America or Hidden Heroes

Norwegian Flag-\$30.00

Sweatshirts-\$25.00
navy blue or black

Norge Hat-\$15.00
navy blue

Apron-\$18.00
black

All proceeds benefit Nordic heritage and cultural activities of the Nordic Legacy Foundation, including the Masse Moro Norwegian heritage youth camp.

Name: _____ Lodge: _____
Address: _____
City/St/Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Email: _____ Nordic items purchased: _____
Norge flag hat x \$15 = _____ Kiss the cook apron x \$18 = _____ Explore your Nordic heritage sweatshirt x \$25 = _____ (size: _____) Norwegian flag - 3x5 outdoor x \$30 = _____
Flag pin, country: _____ x \$5 = _____ (Combinations of U.S. flag and the other Nordic nations are options)

Prices do not include shipping (\$8 shipping for any single product needing shipping.) (Email for shipping on multiple items) TOTAL AMOUNT _____ Tusen takk for your help in supporting Nordic heritage projects for the D5 Nordic Legacy Foundation. If you have any questions, or need additional items, please contact Mike Palecek, 262-886-5547 or mikep@sonsofnorwayracine.com Send your order to Mike Palecek, SON D5 Treasurer, 5747 Sandy Lane, Racine WI 53406.

From Cultural Director Tiffany Schwoerer

What better way to get rid of the fall and winter blahs than doing something indoors that is enjoyable and earns you points toward a Culture Pin! The Literature and Cooking Cultural Skill pins are perfect pastimes. Both can be found on the International Sons of Norway website: (www.sofn.com), in addition to 14 more Cultural Pins. Sign-in to your account and search for Cultural Skills to see what is offered.

The Literature Cultural Skill has 3 levels that can be completed in any order. Level 1 is reading a Norwegian Authored work requiring reading only 3 books from different genres and with only one book review plus completing one elective activity. The list of authors that you can select from are also found in our South-Central Library System and can be selected and sent for pick-up at your local library. Level 2 is for reading - Fiction, Poetry, and Drama works and Level 3 is Non-Fiction books of different sub-genres like histories, both levels requiring 5 books read, short book report plus an elective activity completed for each level.

The Traditional Norwegian Cooking Unit also has three parts that can be completed in any order. Level 1 is a variety of five traditional Norwegian dishes. Level 2 you prepare five baked Norwegian goods and desserts. Level 3 you prepare five Norwegian meat and/fish dishes. For each level, you must report on the recipes, take photos, and complete an elective activity. You can do one, two, or all three parts. This work does not need to occur in order. One can find recipes on the Sons of Norway website, in the Vennelag Cookbook, using your pantry cookbook collection, or borrow recipes from a friend! To get a copy of the Vennelag cookbook, contact Mary Gullickson-Kranz at 608-576-5054.

All completed Cultural Skill forms should be sent to our Culture Director Tiffany Schwoerer. Call 608.527.2821 for options. Please call with any questions about the Cultural Skills Medals or to borrow a cookbook.



Berlinerkranser
Berlin Wreath Cookies



Literature Unit



Fatigmans Bakkels
Poor Man's Cookies

Halloween Vocabulary på Norsk Takk for det-Jean Bower!

Candy-Godteri

Spiderweb-Spindellev

Ghost-Spøkelse

Werewolf Varulv

Witch-Heks

Scary-Skummelt

Spider-Edderkopp

Bat-Flaggermus

Pumpkin-Gresskar



Find *Sons of Norway* on the web: www.sofn.com

Sons of Norway District 5: www.sonsofnorway5.com

Vennelag Lodge website: www.sonsofmthoreb.org

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