



Nordkapen

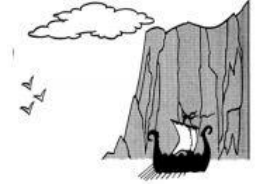
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

The North Cape 71° 10' 21" North Latitude – The Top of Europe

A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway

Organized August 10, 1929 – The first Sons of Norway Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>



October 2020

Volume 90 Issue 6

Nordkap 2020 Officers

President: Erik Duus

Vice President: Cathy Johnson

Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:
Carmen Collins

Secretary: Mary Morehead

Membership Secretary

& Sports Director: Carol Jehle

Cultural Director: Karen Herche

Social Director: Connie Hart

Youth Director:

Heather Vingsness

Foundation Director:

Derrick Hendricks

Store Director: Natalie Vaal

Editor & Publicity Director:

Louise Giles

Counselor: Bob Giles

Contact us:

Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com

**Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated**

**Stay Connected on Facebook at
Norwegians in Michigan**

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/
104416144749/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/104416144749/)



**GRATULERER MED DAGEN!
October Birthdays:**

Gerald Bayer, Simon Bryhn,
Bob Giles, Kaitlyn Hattenberg,
Eric Hetland, Katherine Hildre,
Kristen Injerd, Carol Jehle,
Cathy Johnson, Hans Jorgensen,
Roy Marvel, Erik Scharf,
Diane Stanard

Miss Your Nordkap Friends? Here Are Four Ways to Stay in Touch

There are important opportunities coming up that will allow you to stay in touch and enjoy the company of fellow Nordkap members, even though our normal gatherings have been cancelled due to the pandemic.

See a virtual presentation about the Norwegian “Sloopers” by Nordkap member Bill Injerd on Nordic News on Tuesday, October 13. See details below.

Join Vice President Cathy Johnson for a hike at Kensington Metropark on Saturday, October 17. See pg. 2.

Enjoy a Virtual Happy Hour via Zoom video conferencing on Sunday, October 25, with Youth Director Heather Vingsness. See pg. 3.

Stock up on those special Norwegian foods at the Drive-up Import Store, with deliveries by Nordkap Store Director Natalie Vaal on Saturday, December 5. See page 4.

Meanwhile, Bill Injerd will join Kirk Mies, a member of the District’s Central Lodge, to talk about the Sloopers, the Norwegian-American equivalent of the Pilgrims, who sailed by a sloop (sailing ship) and landed in New York harbor on October 9, 1825. They were the first large group to emigrate from Norway.

Injerd is publisher of the book *The Sloopers: Their Ancestry and Posterity*, and Mies is treasurer of the Sloopers Society of America, which consists of descendants of the Sloopers.

Tune in at 7:20 p.m. (Eastern) on Tuesday, October 13. By computer: <https://gotomeet.me/SofN-D5> . By phone: 646-749-3112 (access code: 509-077-557).

SUNSHINE UPDATES

Dennis Flessland, the honorary Consul of Norway to Michigan, suffered an acute heart attack October 4th while visiting the emergency room at Beaumont Hospital Royal Oak for chest pains. After an emergency operation to insert a stent in a blocked artery, Dennis returned home where he is recuperating and feeling much better. He reports that his doctor expects he will have a full recovery.



Anne Kristine Kilen is celebrating the birth on September 29 of her second grandchild, Arlo James Feeley. Arlo (seen here in a family photo) joins his big brother Liam.

Peggy Gjerpen was recently hospitalized after experiencing some falls. She is recuperating at home now and receiving therapy. Your prayers would be welcome. Peggy misses seeing everyone at our gatherings.

Good news from Carmen Collins: Her husband **Joe Himmel** is progressing well, recovering after four months of health issues that required another brief hospitalization in mid-September. She reports Joe is the “perfect patient” at home—getting around with a cane and cooking meals, which makes her happy, since “I DON’T like to cook!” Carmen asks that we keep them in our prayers as “Joe still has some trying times ahead, but with good medical care and his family and friends’ support, he will hopefully start the New Year running!”

Join Our Kensington Metropark Nature Hike

--Text and photo by Cathy Johnson

Come join Nordkap Lodge on Saturday, Oct 17th, at 9:45 a.m. to do some hiking at Kensington Metropark, which is a 4,481-acre wonderland in our midst.

We will meet at the Nature Center parking lot located inside the park. There are various trails that can be accessed from this parking lot – up to seven miles of them. Most are very well-groomed, wandering thru various sections including forests, wetlands, and lakes. If you like bird watching, this is a great place to spot them (like the Pileated Woodpecker shown here in Cathy’s photo). And maybe some of the leaves will be changing to the fall colors!

If you would like, bring your own lunch and a chair, and after hiking we can enjoy being outside for an informal picnic.



Note that Kensington Metropark has a fee to enter. If you have a 2020 Metropark pass, it is included in your membership. If not, a single day pass is \$10 per vehicle. There are signs inside the park directing you to the Nature Center Parking Lot or ask at the entrance booths for directions. Park hours are 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Due to Covid-19, social distancing is being followed and encouraged at all Metroparks. The Kensington Nature Center building is closed, however most bathrooms throughout the park are open. Bring your own water, as all drinking fountains are turned off.

This event will take place rain/snow/sunshine – we are Norwegians after all! If you have questions, please contact Cathy Johnson at cjmichigan@comcast.net or 248-961-0326. I’ll be organizing this event and am looking forward to seeing everyone on Saturday, Oct 17th – 9:45 a.m. at the Nature Center parking lot in Kensington Metropark.

Join Your Nordkap Friends at Virtual Happy Hour October 25

Sunday, October 25, at 4 p.m. will be a great time to share a little happiness with your Nordkap friends as Youth Director Heather Vingsness hosts our first Norwegian Virtual Happy Hour on Zoom video conferencing.

We anticipate a round-robin discussion with everyone taking turns speaking on the subject at hand. Heather will lead the talk, but we think these might make good topics:

- **What beverage are you drinking at the Happy Hour?** Maybe you'll be consuming Linie Aquavit, perhaps a Nordic-type beer, or the perennial favorite, COFFEE! Any beverage works, of course, because it's a personal choice.
- **What snacks are you eating with your beverage?** Could be something like gjetost (brown goat cheese) on Norwegian crispbread, herring, hot dogs (polse) on lefse, Norwegian meatballs, kransekake, or whatever. Anything would work, and it doesn't have to be a Norwegian food.
- **Show the face mask you've used during the pandemic.** Does your face mask have a Norwegian theme, like a rosemaling mask, a mask with Norwegian flags, even an Edvard Munch "Scream" mask? Other non-Norwegian masks would also be of interest, of course.
- **What have you been doing to cope or help the community during the pandemic?**



Regardless of the discussion, just seeing our friends and eating and drinking together should make us smile!

TO JOIN BY COMPUTER, go to: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79548669035>

The password is nordkap, all lower case.

ON A SMARTPHONE: Download the Zoom app from the App Store (if you have an Apple phone) or the Google Play Store (if you have an Android phone). Tap "Join a Meeting". You don't have to sign in. Enter the meeting ID 79548669035 and enter the password nordkap, all lower case.

Want to Share That Great Photo with Other Norwegians?

Fifth District Publicity Director Karen Eberhardt reminds us that those great photos you've taken of yourself and others doing physically distanced and virtual Nordkap lodge events make good materials for sharing!

Maybe you're counting your steps in the Virtual Walk to Norway or you're working on a Cultural Skills Award or Sports Medal. Be sure to document that kind of activity with a photo showing at least one person in the shot. All photos need to be full size jpeg format.

If you have such photos, please e-mail them to me, your Nordkap Publicity Director Louise Giles, at Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com for possible use in this newsletter or in the *Viking* magazine.

Drive-up Import Store to Accept Orders through November 21

Here's your chance to acquire those special Norwegian goods we all love, especially during the holidays!

Thanks to **Natalie Flessland Vaal** and her father **Dennis Flessland**, Nordkap will be selling Norwegian cheeses, candies, lefse, risengrot mix, lingonberry preserves, Glogg, flatbread, fresh baked goods, and decks of playing cards featuring the winners of the Scandinavian Photo Contest—which would make great stocking stuffers.

Orders must be placed in advance, using the form included with this newsletter, and will only be accepted until November 21. Alternatively, you can order electronically using the link <https://forms.gle/SAv8J1cu95S8tNBL8>

All goods will be pre-packaged for your pick-up at the Swedish Club, 22389 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills, on Saturday, December 5, from 2-4 p.m. When arriving for your order, please observe corona virus safeguards and wear your facemask.

Payment will be due by check or exact cash only at time of pick-up or delivery. Delivery within 25 miles of Huntington Woods will be available (on a different date than December 5) for a fee of \$5, to be donated to the Nordkap Scholarship Fund.

Play an Online Card Game to Learn about Famous Norwegians

Sons of Norway is excited to share a new game, Cultural Solitaire. This is a good tool for learning about famous Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans. Each card features a different person or persons along with a bit about their contributions to the world.

As you mouse over each famous person's face, you will see a link appear in the lower left corner of the screen. These links invite you to find out more about the background and significance of each person.

How to play: Click on Cultural Solitaire <https://www.sofn.com/cultural-solitaire/> to open the game. If you're new to internet solitaire or need to brush up, check the rules at https://solitaired.com/#how_to_play



IN NEED OF SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS TREATS?

Drive-up Imports Store

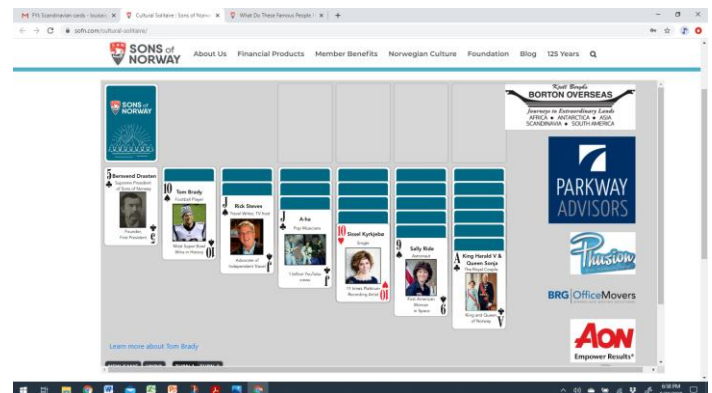
2-4 PM, Saturday, December 5, 2020
The Swedish Club
22398 Ruth street, Farmington Hills, Mi 48336

Quantities may be limited due to availability.

Payment accepted at time of pick-up by check or exact cash only.

Delivery available within 25 miles for a \$5 donation to the scholarship fund.

Please return order form with requests by Saturday, November 21



Most Nordkap Officers to Continue Their Roles Through 2021

Earlier this year COVID-19 restrictions made it necessary for Sons of Norway International and its districts to cancel their 2020 conventions. The elections of officers scheduled for those gatherings were put on hold, and all international and district officers were asked to retain their positions until the conventions can re-convene in 2022.

Sons of Norway later notified local lodges that they also had permission to keep their current slates of officers in place for another year if they wanted to avoid holding elections in 2020.

The Nordkap Board of officers met online on September 24 and noted that pandemic restrictions would make it very difficult to conduct voting at an in-person gathering or by electronic means or postal mail. They voted to ask the current slate of officers to stay on through the end of 2021.

Most Nordkap officers agreed to continue at their posts, except for Vice President Cathy Johnson and Youth Director Heather Vingsness who were unable to commit for another year.

Nordkap President Erik Duus indicated he wanted to keep the doors of opportunity open to other members of the lodge. He said anyone with an interest in a future leadership position would be offered an internship in which they could be mentored by the current officer during 2021 in preparation for the next election.

If you have such an interest, please contact Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com or call (248) 919-8355 and leave a message.

2020 Christmas Party and Other Regular Gatherings Cancelled

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

As was stated on the front-page calendar of our last newsletter, “Due to an abundance of caution during the COVID-19 pandemic, the live lodge gatherings formerly scheduled for October 25 and November 22 have been canceled. The Christmas party originally planned for December 13 has also been cancelled. Nordkap also will not be participating in a Scandinavian Market at the Finnish Center in November.”

We look forward to resuming regular monthly gatherings next year once pandemic precautions allow.

Please note: We have reserved NEXT YEAR’S date of December 12, 2021, at the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth, for our next Christmas party. Fox Hills is applying our previous deposit for the cancelled party in 2020 to the 2021 date. We look forward to celebrating Christmas and our Norwegian holiday traditions with you there!



Wait until next year when festive Christmas celebrations like this one in 2019 will resume.

A Letter from President Erik Duus: “**Fall**” is in the air and I must confess to you, I LOVE it! To me, and many a Norwegian, the summer of 2020 was hotter than we wanted (even though it was only the 7th hottest summer on record). I love the changing color of the trees with leaves falling and floating to the ground right before my eyes.

Autumn is also a beautiful time of year for taking outdoor pictures. In fact, 25 years ago on October 14th, some beautiful photographs were taken outside before *and* after I married my beautiful bride, Kristin Kaye Martin. Yes, it’s our 25th wedding anniversary...and just one more reason why the Duus’ love autumn! **SIDEBAR:** I also love Indian summer days so I can tell whomever I’m around that the weather that day feels “like a scorching hot Norwegian summer day.” (Really, I say that all the time, ask anyone!)

We also know it’s fall when the days get darker earlier. Other dead giveaways that it’s autumn is that Costco already has their Christmas stuff out, some of our kooky-er neighbors have overdone it again with Halloween decorations, AND we see something *even scarier*...political lawn signs!

Speaking of politics...depending on where Louise (our incredible newsletter editor and-then-some) places my column, you have heard – or will hear momentarily if you keep reading – that our Lodge will automatically extend Officer/Board positions through 2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis (under guidance and direction from Sons of Norway HQ). That said, every one of us serving on your Nordkap Lodge Board is open to any interest YOU may have in serving (we serve at the pleasure of our members). To find out more about using your gifts and Norsk passion at whatever level and with whatever requirements – which could start simply by serving on a committee or project, or even “shadow” or “intern” for a specific Board role – please let us know (our email, website and mailing address is in every issue of *Nordkapen*).

“The easiest way to serve is to participate.” – Erik Duus (I just came up with that quote, what do you think?) Of course we look forward to gathering in-person *veldig mye* (“very much”) – like we always have, and maybe even took for granted – within this very issue of *Nordkapen* are a couple opportunities to get together this month: in-person at **Nordkap Hike at Kensington Metropark** in the fresh autumn air AND/OR online at our **Happy Hour on Zoom** (which is that company we should have all invested in!).

Hope to see you *snart* (“soon” ...I love that word)!

Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards), Erik Duus

PS—Funny story...so last week I met a Sons of Norway member just a few blocks from my house named Eric, who’s from Texas (“yes,” Texas); we had a great conversation outside standing on the sidewalk. Somehow we learned that each of us will be voting very differently this November 3rd. After I told him about our Lodge – and he expressed interest in joining us – I suggested while fist-pumping farewell that we erase that political difference from our memory; we both chuckled in agreement. Not to sound like a politically correct college campus, but Sons of Norway/Nordkap Lodge is a “safe space” where we leave our political (and religious) differences at the door. Rather, we relish and celebrate our similar love of all things Norwegian! I am anxious to see Eric again and introduce him (and his wife) to all of you.

We Need to Keep Growing--and with Your Help We Can

While Nordkap has suspended in-person gatherings during the pandemic, we know we must keep growing and attracting new members.

The Sons of Norway International has challenged us to not only retain our membership numbers but also to expand them as a safeguard for the future of the international organization and our lodge.

Nordkap can meet the challenge, but we will need your help.

For example, is there someone in your family who would appreciate a membership? Consider giving that person a membership.

A membership would make a great birthday or Christmas gift!

Beyond family, you probably have friends and acquaintances who would enjoy the benefits that our organization offers--if they only knew about them. No need to be shy about this; you will be doing them a favor by telling them about Sons of Norway.



Consider these approaches:

- Tell our story. It is okay to brag a little bit; we have much to offer.
- Provide the background information of Sons of Norway's founding 125 years ago and our lodge's beginnings 91 years ago. We are a fraternal organization and proud of it. We have stood the test of time, and we will be there to help our families through their life moments.
- Give people specific reasons to join the Sons of Norway.
 - Tout our Nordkap Scholarship Fund and the Sons of Norway Foundation scholarship program for youth and adult learners.
 - Share information about the Helping Hands to Members grants.
 - Refer to *Viking* magazine and its award-winning content.
 - Speak about the wonderful things we offer at our lodge gatherings—Norwegian foods, presentations about Norwegian culture and traditions, celebrations of Norwegian holidays, the fellowship of other Norwegian-Americans.
 - Direct them to the Sons of Norway website, sofn.com, where a plethora of material is available, from language classes to cooking, and the Sons of Norway Blog has current news from Norway.
 - Discuss Nordkap's own website, DetroitNorwegians.com, where up-to-date information about our lodge and special presentations can always be found.
- Carry the ability to register new members with you. That may take the form of a hard copy flyer, your cell phone, or a tablet. Explain that on-line applications are easily processed on the Sons of Norway website at sofn.com/join_or_renew/.
- Keep a folder for reference in your car, with materials on cultural skills, scholarships, and member benefits. Include a printed issue of this newsletter and a *Viking* magazine in your folder.

Tusen takk for all your help in sustaining our lodge!

Scholarship Recipients Send Their Thanks

Dear Nordkap Scholarship Committee:

I want to thank you, again, for your most generous support of me and my studies here at the University of Michigan!

As you may know, I am in my senior year pursuing my Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Performance/Acting (of course COVID-19 has really affected our department greatly because we have had to cancel all performances!).

Thank you ALL again for both the scholarship(s) and all your encouragement. I will keep you updated and look forward to getting together again one day.

Go Blue!

Tusen takk,

Lolly Duus

#

Dear Nordkap Scholarship Committee:

Thank you so much for awarding me a most generous scholarship! I will use it wisely towards my education expenses here at Central Michigan University, where I have hopes to one day become a reading specialist in the elementary schools. I thank you so much for allowing me to be one of your recipients of this scholarship. I am very grateful for this blessing. I am very grateful to the lodge, for again investing in me and my college education. It's a true blessing!

Mange velsignelser til dere alle! (Many blessings to you all!)

Charlotte Duus



Lolly Duus--family photo



Charlotte Duus--family photo

Apply Now for a Sons of Norway Foundation Scholarship

Do you know a student heading off to college soon who could use tuition assistance? Do you have a child or grandchild who wants to study abroad in Norway?

The Sons of Norway Foundation offers 14 different scholarship opportunities for a variety of students, including international study, adult learners, and vocational programs. For many, these awards are a life-changing opportunity to explore educational passions in the U.S., Canada, or Norway.

Many opportunities are available to members or their children or grandchildren, and awards range from \$1,000 to a full year's tuition.

The deadlines for applications are January 15 for international opportunities and March 1 for domestic opportunities. To find more information and to apply, visit sofn.com/foundation/scholarships.

Gene Steensma Honored at Graveside Memorial Service

It would have been his 80th birthday, so it was fitting when about 40 family members and friends gathered graveside at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens on September 20th to honor longtime Samhold Lodge President Gene Steensma.

Gene passed away March 25th, when COVID-19 restrictions made a proper send-off virtually impossible.

The memorial ceremony was organized by Bill Injerd, the last president of Samhold before it merged with Nordkap in January. Bill presided at the 30-minute outdoor gathering on a beautiful, sunny day with everyone in attendance wearing masks and social distancing. Tom Sayers, Gene's pastor at Faith Community Christian Church in Rochester Hills also spoke.



Bill Injerd & Pastor Tom Sayers (Bill Injerd Photos)

Bill's wife Kathy passed out single red roses and the cloth origami star ornaments she had made to each participant.

Gene had served as secretary of the all-men Norwegian Club of Detroit for many years. As their final salute, five Norwegian Club members toasted him graveside with shots of Linie Aquavit and a chorus of their drinking song, *Helan Går*.



Norwegian Club of Detroit members: lt. to rt., Merle Foss, Dennis Flessland, Russ Simms, Dave Pederson, Bob Giles (Louise Giles photo)



Roses and star ornaments (Bill Injerd photo)

Our Donations Support Swedish Club and the S. of N. Foundation



To help make up for rental income lost by the Swedes during the pandemic, Nordkap has donated \$200 to their Swedish Club, where we would normally hold our October and November gatherings.

The Swedish Club has seen rental fees from us and other organizations virtually dry up in the last eight months, and Nordkap wants to make sure their beautiful clubhouse in Farmington Hills (shown here) will be there for us when we can finally resume in-person events.

Nordkap also sent a \$75 donation to the Sons of Norway Foundation in Minneapolis. The month of October is normally celebrated by Sons of Norway as Foundation Month, and lodges and their members are asked to support the Foundation with monetary gifts. At our lodge, we've passed around a piggy bank at our October gatherings and asked members for contributions. Lacking that opportunity this year, your Nordkap Board approved the donation from our treasury.

Nordkap lodge has been the recipient of several grants from the Foundation in recent years, and we encourage your personal donation at <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/>.

NORDKAP

LODGE 5-378

c/o Louise Giles

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Royal Oak, MI

48068