



Nordkapen

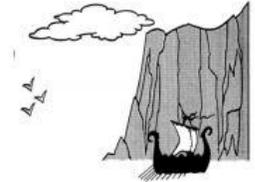
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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>



NORDKAP CALENDAR

Saturday, April 23 – 7 p.m.
Nordkap Movie Night
The Swedish Club

Sunday, April 24 & May 15
7 p.m., Nordkap Book Club on Zoom

Saturday, May 7 – 9 a.m.
Nature Hike, Kensington Metropark

Saturday, May 14 – 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Norwegian Constitution Day
The Swedish Club

Thursday, June 23 – 5-9 p.m.
Midsummer Celebration
The Swedish Club

Sunday, Dec. 11 – 12:30-4 p.m.
Christmas Party, Plymouth

Nordkap 2020 Officers

President: Erik Duus

Vice President: Haley Vingsness

Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:
Carmen Collins

Secretary: Mary Morehead

Membership Secretary

& Sunshine Director: Carol Jehle

Social Director & Greeter:

Eli Viik Steyskal

Co-Cultural Directors:

Karen Herche & Magda Pecsénye

Sports Director: Cathy Johnson

Co-Youth Directors:

Yana Thompson & David Thompson

Foundation Director:

Derrick Hendricks

Co-Store Directors:

Natalie Vaal & Dennis Flessland

Editor & Publicity Director:

Louise Giles

Counselor: Bob Giles

Contact us:

248-919-8355

Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated

April-May 2022

Volume 92 Issue 3

Next Nordkap Movie Night: April 23

You're invited to a special movie screening on Saturday, April 23, when Nordkap will present the Norwegian film *Elling* at the Swedish Club.

Based on the best-selling Norwegian novel by Ingvar Ambjørnsen, *Elling* is a slyly funny odd-couple comedy about two misfits trying to find their place in the world. This will be a fun night out and a chance to socialize with fellow lodge members and guests.

The gathering for the film will begin at 7 p.m. and, of course, for Movie Night will include popcorn and soft drinks.

The film is presented in the Norwegian language with English subtitles. It was Norway's nomination in the Best Foreign Language Film category in the 2002 Academy Awards.

Previous Nordkap Movie Nights have included showings of *The King's Choice* in September 2018 and *O'Horten* in March 2019.

We hope you can join us for this fun event at the Swedish Club at 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

We will also talk briefly about the revised bylaws for our lodge, which will eventually require approval by Nordkap members. The revised bylaws are being sent to all members with this newsletter.



Sunshine Updates

Nordkap President **Erik Duus** had surgery April 1 to repair a rotator cuff and part of his left bicep. He is off pain meds now but is icing constantly. His arm will be in a sling for six weeks, then he starts months of physical therapy. According to wife Kristin, "Erik is on the mend, but slowly. He has been very grateful that he has had manageable pain. He can take it. He's a Viking!!"



Erik Duus (his photo)

New job alert for Nordkap Vice President **Haley Vingsness!** Haley wrote: "After 8+ years in Microsoft User Experience Consulting, I challenged myself to try something new. I'm now a Product Manager for Microsoft Azure. In the Azure Portal, I own the user interface for managing virtual machines and computer services—essentially, I get to decide what new features get built, & what they look like."



GRATULERER MED DAGEN

April Birthdays:

Catie Hart, Laura Howe, Sarah Jahnke, Duane Kirking, Konrad Kohl, Annette Lundberg, Constance Pike, Emma Skidmore, Riley Skidmore, Mary Tornquist, Wade Tornquist

May Birthdays:

Arne Borgnes, Sarah Duffy, Charlotte Duus, Myrtle Ebert, Emily Eelnurme, Thomas French, Margaret Haines-Hahr, Joseph Hart, Norman Kirsch, Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg, Zachary Marko, Ralph Pedersen, Jan Persson, Nancy Redilla, Gail Ritchie, Laura Roed, Lynn Rose, Susan Schotts, Carrie Sills, P. J. Smith, Donald Wang, Wendy Wiseman

In Memoriam

Sadly, we experienced the death of another dear friend, Nordkap Life Member **Peggy Bertine Gjerpen**, who passed away on March 23 at the age of 97.

Peggy was born on August 31, 1924, in Highland Park, Michigan, where her Norwegian father was working at Ford Motor Company. The family subsequently returned to Norway and lived in Oslo.

As a young girl, Peggy caught the eye of her future husband,

Kaare Gjerpen, when they were both passengers on a ship headed from Norway to New York. They married in 1948.

Kaare had served in the Norwegian Merchant Marine during World War II. His service there was honored posthumously at Nordkap Lodge's membership gathering in October 2016 where Peggy received letters and special medals from the governments of the United States and Norway in recognition of the important role of Kaare and the Merchant Marine in supporting the war effort and defeating the Nazis. The presentation was made by the honorary Norwegian Consul from Norway to Michigan, Dennis Flessland.

Peggy and Kaare had four children, Eileen (Michael) Shea, Ann Gosney, Paul (Sherry), and the late Eric (Melody), plus five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Kaare died in 1978.

After her children were grown, Peggy worked for 25 years as a phone operator at Comerica Bank in downtown Detroit.

She was a member of Nordkap Lodge for nearly 55 years and was a proud supporter and volunteer at numerous lodge gatherings and events, along with her good friend, the late Christine Jurgensen. Always beautifully dressed, Peggy had a gentle manner, a kind word, and beautiful smile for everyone.

Burial was private.

To honor her memory, Nordkap has donated \$75 to the Nordkap Scholarship Fund in her name.



Peggy Gjerpen (Louise Giles photo)

Festive Norwegian Constitution Day Celebration Set for May 14



Olivia Vaal in her bunad

The Swedish Club in Farmington Hills will again be the setting for Nordkap's festive celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day. This year marks the 208th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution, signed in Eidsvoll, Norway, on the 17th of May 1814.

Nordkap traditionally celebrates the occasion on a weekend, so our festivities this year will be on Saturday, May 14, on the Swedish Club grounds at 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills, Michigan.

The event will begin at 11 a.m. when the Swedish Club opens with Norwegian food imports and gift items for sale. You'll want to be there by 11:30 a.m. when the festive parade steps out with Scandinavian musicians and flag bearers leading the way (see photos below). We will be right behind, shouting "Hurra for Norway," waving Norwegian flags, and banging noisemakers. This is an event kids and grandkids will enjoy.

As they do in Norway for this national holiday, we will fly the Norwegian flag, sing the Norwegian national anthem, turn out in "bunads"—Norway's national dress—and hear greetings from Norway's honorary consul to Michigan, Dennis Flessland. Next, we'll enjoy Scandinavian music, picnic foods, and Norwegian heart waffles as we prepare for the games. A complimentary dessert and coffee buffet will follow the games.

Among the games, Nordkap's own Cod Toss Tournament will challenge contestants to throw frozen fish for distance. Winners will take home prizes--all with a "fishy" theme. There will also be special games like the Norwegian yard game of Kubb and activities for the children.

Admission for the event is \$5 payable at the door.

This includes pølse (hot dogs), chips, soft drinks, Norwegian heart waffles with jam and sour cream, and desserts. Please consider bringing a favorite Norwegian dessert to share at the dessert buffet.

You can also shop at our general store stocked with imported cheeses, lefse, herring, candy, books, and Norwegian flags. Events will continue until the closing time of 3 p.m.

(Photos here all by Bob Giles from our last Constitution Day gathering in 2019)



Lefse Demo Raises Funds for Nordkap Scholarships



Mary Morehead and Roy Marvel demonstrate.



Lt. to rt: Arlene, Dee, Roy, Mary, Magda, and Eli

Mary Morehead enlisted five journeyman bakers from her Norwegian Baking Classes to help her demonstrate how to make lefse, the traditional soft Norwegian flatbread.

The Nordkap event on Sunday, March 20, at the Swedish Club, served as a fundraiser for the lodge's scholarship fund. In all \$564 was raised for scholarships from donations and the sale of lefse.

The affair was a welcome social occasion after the long dormant period that came with the COVID-19 pandemic. After the demo, a variety of desserts were served and samples of freshly made lefse were passed, with toppings including cinnamon and sugar, lingonberry jam, and brunost cheese.

Mary's able assistants were Roy and Dee Marvel, Eli Steyskal, Magda Pecsénye, and Arlene Crute.



Magda Pecsénye & Eli Steyskal roll and flip dough.



Above: Mercedes, a visiting exchange student from Spain, tries her hand flipping lefse as Arlene Crute looks on. Left: Samples of lefse with lingonberry jam.



Work for Lefse Demo Began Weeks Earlier in Mary's Baking Class

The preparation for the May 20th lefse demonstration began at the baking class at my house on March 8th. This was more than a class. It was a lefse production line! We make 50 packages (five lefse in each package to sell at \$5 each) with all proceeds earmarked for the Nordkap Scholarship Fund. We didn't make them all in one day. It took a total of five days to make this many.
– Article by Mary Morehead; Photos by Mary and Greg Morehead



Peeling Potatoes



Mixing the Dough



Cutting the Dough



Rolling & Grilling



Forming the Patties



Rolling & Grilling



Lefse



Chefs



Teacher



(Lt. to rt.) David Thompson, Mike Zarin, Eli Steyskal, Magda Pecsénye, Louise Giles Dennis Flessland & David Thompson

Members Come Out for Cross-Country Skiing – ‘Like Being on Vacation’

Nine hardy Nordkap members enjoyed a fine day of ‘friluftsliv’—life in the open air—with cross-country skiing on Saturday, February 19, at Huron Meadows Metropark in Brighton, Michigan.

It was cold and windy, but overall a beautiful day for skiing, with fresh snow on the ground and bright sunshine.

Six Nordkap members took to the ski trails: Magda Pecsénye, Mike Zarin, Dennis Flessland, Mary and Wade Tornquist, and Co-Youth Director David Thompson who organized the event. Three non-skiers—Eli Steyskal, Bob and Louise Giles—enjoyed the comfort of the lodge-like ski center for socializing and cheering the skiers.

Afterwards, David led the way to the Brewery Becker, a beautifully restored historic hotel in Brighton made into a brewery. It was fine day in all, like being on vacation!



Mary and Wade Tornquist



(Lt. to rt.) Louise, Wade, Mary, David, Eli, Magda, & Mike



(Lt. to rt.) Eli, Mike, Magda, Bob Giles, Wade, & Mary

Join Nordkap's Next Nature Hike – Saturday, May 7th, at 9 a.m.

Come join Nordkap Lodge members and friends on Saturday, May 7th, at 9 a.m. to hike at Kensington Metropark, a 4,481-acre wonderland at 4570 Huron River Pkwy, Milford, Michigan. **We will meet at the Nature Center parking lot located inside the park.** Signs will direct you to the Nature Center or ask for directions at the entrance booth. Park hours are 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

This is a great place to spot birds. We may be able to see the colony of Blue Herons at the rookery (the breeding colony that has a large collection of nests high up in the trees along the lake by the Nature Center). They start returning to their nests mid- to late-March each year, and hatchlings should start appearing 27-29 days after eggs are laid. Bring your camera and binoculars.

The fee to enter the park is covered in the 2022 Metropark pass, if you have one. Single day passes are \$10 per vehicle.

This event will take place rain or sun – we are Norwegians after all! If you have questions, please contact organizer Cathy Johnson at cjmichigan@comcast.net or 248-961-0326. She'll be wearing a Norwegian shirt in case you don't know her.

Earn Awards for Your Activities in this Sports Medal Program

--By Sports Director Cathy Johnson

As Norwegians, it's part of our heritage to be involved in outdoor activities and fitness. To honor this tradition, Sons of Norway offers Sports Medal Programs that all members can participate in.

There are five categories where medals can be earned.

1. Idrettsmerke – General Fitness
2. Skimerke – Skiing
3. Svømmemerke – Swimming
4. Sykkelmerke – Biking
5. Gangmerke - Walking



***Sons of Norway medals for Biking
(from Sons of Norway website)***

The different levels of medals that can be earned are

Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Enamel. Recently, Sons of Norway added two higher-level medals that can be earned after a member earns the Enamel level in a category.

The first of the new medals, **Idrettshelt** [*ee-dretts-hellt*]*—the sports hero pin—*is the 5th level within any sports medal category.

The second is **Hederspris** [*hay-dersh-prees*]*—the outstanding sports achievement award.* This pin is for members who've earned the bronze, silver, gold and enamel medals in each of any three sports medal categories.

If you are interested in learning more about these programs, please contact Cathy Johnson, our Sports Director. Contact Cathy at cjmichigan@comcast.net or call her cell phone at 248-961-0326.

Revised Nordkap Bylaws Require Approval by Lodge Members

At the direction of Sons of Norway international headquarters in Minneapolis, local lodges were asked to update their bylaws based on a common template provided by the international organization.

Accordingly, the Nordkap Board of Directors asked a committee comprised of Carmen Collins and Louise Giles to draft updated bylaws for our lodge. That task is complete, and the Nordkap Board approved the revised bylaws at its last meeting on March 30.

The next step is for Nordkap members to read the revised bylaws. A copy is included with this newsletter for that purpose. Please carefully read through the document, which adheres to the Sons of Norway template. Provisions specific to Nordkap are included in Section IX “Miscellaneous.”

The lodge approval process then requires these steps: A copy of the bylaws will be distributed and read at our April meeting. At our May gathering, members present will be asked to vote to approve the bylaws. Once approved by a two-thirds vote of members present, the bylaws will be sent to Sons of Norway International for approval by their CEO and Legal Counsel.

Nordkap’s bylaws were last revised in 2003 and contained several provisions that no longer applied to our lodge. This updated version eliminates those inconsistencies and reflects the consistent format mandated by Sons of Norway.

Planning to Apply for a Scholarship? Your Deadline Is June 30

All college-bound students looking to qualify for a Nordkap scholarship should be preparing their applications now to meet our June 30 deadline.

Applicants please note: Your application must include two current letters of recommendation, meaning they must be written within the last year. Letters can refer to volunteer community service, participation in extracurricular activities, academics, and/or employment. Application forms are available at: <http://www.detroitnorwegians.com/scholarship.html> or from scholarship chairperson Carmen Collins at skicarmen@att.net.

District To Offer Adult Heritage Weekend in October in Minnesota

An adult heritage weekend is being planned by the 5th District sons of Norway. District Vice President Cheryl Wille-Schaefer explains, “It’s the first heritage weekend for adults, a long-requested opportunity.”

Music, frivolity, learning, and fellowship are prominently on the agenda.

The festivities are set for Friday and Saturday, October 7-8. They will be held in conjunction with the Uff-Da Fest in Spring Grove, Minnesota.

The event is open to all Sons of Norway members in the 5th District.

For more information, see <https://sonsofnorway5.com/events/details/766-district-5-adult-heritage-weekend-letter-pdf> or email Cheryl at rogcher@mhtc.net.

New Officers for 2022 Installed at March Nordkap Gathering



Nordkap installed its 2022 officers at the March 20 gathering at the Swedish Club. Shown (left to right): Karen Herche, Co-Cultural Director; Carol Jehle, Membership Secretary and Sunshine Director; Eli Steyskal, Social Director and Greeter; Magda Pecsénye, Co-Cultural Director; Mary Morehead, Secretary; Derrick Hendricks, Foundation Director; Erik Duus, President; Louise Giles, Editor and Publicity Director; Cathy Johnson, Sports Director (behind Louise); Dennis Flessland, Co-Store Director; and Bob Giles, Counselor (*photo by Sue Schotts*).

Not shown are officers installed remotely at the March 30 Nordkap Board meeting: Vice President Haley Vingsness, Treasurer Carmen Collins, and Co-Youth Director David Thompson.

Enter Your Norwegian Craft Work in 5th District Cultural Arts Display

If you have crafted an item of Norwegian cultural art, you can enter it in a competition at the 5th District Convention in June. The convention will feature a display of cultural arts crafted by Sons of Norway members from throughout the district. Items need to be recent work completed after the 2018 convention. If you are not attending the convention, you may send your craft item with someone else.

All judging will be People's Choice. Pre-registration is needed. More information and a registration form can be found at https://sonsofnorway5.com/conventions/convention_events.php.

If you have questions, contact D5 Cultural Director Judy Ghastin at judy62ghastin@gmail.com.

Nordkap Book Club Holds First Meeting on Zoom, Meets again April 24

Nordkap Book Club members held their first discussion on Zoom video conferencing on March 27. Here Louise Giles attends the conference while holding a copy of the play *A Doll's House*, the first of three books they are reading.

Seen also on her computer screen are book club members, from the top, left to right, Karen Herche, Louise, book club leader Magda Pecsénye, Eli Steyskal, Carol Jehle, Mary Morehead, and Karen Fisher. All expressed their appreciation for the groundbreaking three-act play written in 1879 by Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen.



Next up for consideration via Zoom on April 24 will be *1222*, a murder novel set in a hotel, written by Anne Holt, former Norwegian minister of justice.

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Louise Giles

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