



Nordkapen

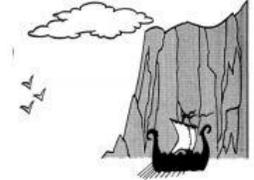
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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

Sunday, Sept. 11 – 1 p.m.
Steak & Corn Roast
The Swedish Club

Nature Hike, Oct. 15 – 9 a.m.
Kensington Metropark

Sunday, Oct. 23 – 4 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Scandinavian Market
Saturday, Nov. 12 – 10 a.m. -4 p.m.
The Finnish Center

Nordkap 2022 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:

Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com

Call and leave a message at
248-919-8355

Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated

September 2022

Volume 92 Issue 5

Next Events:

Steak and Corn Roast

Nordkap hosts its annual Steak and Corn Roast for the Swedes on September 11. We invite you to come as a guest—or, better yet, as a volunteer—to help prepare and serve the meal.

Volunteers report at 10 a.m.

Sunday, September 11, at the

Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth Street, Farmington Hills. Dinner is \$15 for adults, \$7.50 for children. If you can help, contact **Bob Giles** at 248-302-2222 or bobgiles@newcarnews.tv.

Members Gathering October 23

Nordkap resumes its normal gatherings with our get-together for members on Sunday, Oct. 23, 4 p.m. A Torsk dinner (codfish) will be served, and the delegates who represented Nordkap at the Sons of Norway conventions will “show and tell” us about the meetings and their travels. Following their talks, everyone will have a chance to “show and tell” about an item with a special Norwegian character or history. ***Please come with your item to show.***

Scandinavian Market November 12

The Market is a good way to get an early start on your Christmas shopping with the Nordic objects offered by our lodge and the Swedes, Finns, and retail vendors. This year, we will again sell our Norwegian dinner and Norwegian waffles. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 12th, at the Finnish Center at 35200 Eight Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, Michigan. There is a nominal entrance fee.



Grilling steaks in 2018 (lt. to rt.): Haley Vingsness, Dennis Flessland, Geir Gronstad, and Derrick Hendricks.



GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

September Birthdays:

Coco Bruner, Janice Capler, Marsha Gilman, Connie Hart, Elaine Keech, Gregory Kehoe, Anne Kristine Kilen, Sandra Miller, Ted Redilla, Timothy Michael Roman, Sherry Rose, Jason Schnitzer, Eli Viik Steyskal, Haley Vingsness, Heather Vingsness, Paul Wiekierak



**See Kensington Metropark in Fall Splendor
On Nordkap's October 15 Nature Hike**

You may have hiked before at Kensington Metropark in Milford, Michigan, but have you seen the park in the fall? The park takes on a whole new spectrum of glorious colors, sights, sounds, and smells at this time of year.

Come Saturday, October 15, you'll have a chance to see Kensington developing its full fall dress as Sports Director Cathy Johnson again leads us on a refreshing hike in this 4,481-acre wonderland.

Join Cathy at 9 a.m. at the Nature Center parking lot inside the park. If you're driving to the park via I-96, take exit 151 – the westernmost entrance --for the fastest way to the Nature Center. See map below.

Travel advisory: Please be aware, construction is being done on I-96 which may cause delays. Remember to allow yourself extra time to arrive at the park.

If you like bird watching, bring your camera, binoculars, and a little seed in your pocket to entice birds to eat from your hand.

There's a single-day entrance fee of \$10—unless you have a 2022 Metropark pass, where it is included in your membership. Signs inside the park will direct you to the Nature Center, or ask for directions at the entrance booth. Park hours are 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.

We will take our hike no matter the weather – we are Norwegians after all! If you have questions, please contact Cathy Johnson at cjmichigan@comcast.net or 248-961-0326. She'll be wearing a Norwegian shirt to help you recognize her.



Sunshine Updates



Congratulations to **Erik Vingsness** and his new bride, the former Jasmin Herendeen—Erik’s college sweetheart. The couple eloped in late July to marry Up North in a small ceremony, attended by only immediate family and close old friends, due to Covid.

Erik’s mom, **Jennifer Vingsness**, captured the couple with a double rainbow in this photo—she assures us it was not photoshopped!

* * *

Another Nordkap member had a wedding this summer. **Annelisa Sturgeon** married Geoffrey Holden on July 23 on the porch of the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. The rehearsal dinner at Mackinac’s Island House Hotel featured a Kransekake wedding cake made by the bride’s mother, Nordkap member **Jeannine Sturgeon**. The couple currently resides in Skykomish near Seattle, Washington. Annie is a flight controls engineer for the Amazon drone team, and Geoff is a financial security advisor for Salesforce.



*Left: The wedding couple on the porch of the Grand Hotel
Right: With the Kransekake made by the bride's mother.
(Photos by Jeannine Sturgeon)*

* * *

Heather Vingsness has a new job. She is now working at the University of Michigan Museum of Natural History as its Educational Outreach Manager, running science programs and career pipelines for middle schoolers. She will also be coordinating with faculty to create and teach lesson plans relating to their National Science Foundation grants.

(Continued, next page)

(Sunshine Updates: Continued, from previous page)

We sadly report the death of longtime Nordkap member, **Samuel E. Trupiano** of Ferndale, who passed away on May 19 at the age of 42. Sam graduated from Walled Lake Western High School. He was a passionate railroad enthusiast who collected railroad stamps originating from many different countries around the world, and he loved participating as a member of the Knights of Columbus in Berkley, MI.



Sam Trupiano (photo from funeral home obituary)

Sam was a member of Nordkap for 20 years and several times a Nordkap Scholarship recipient. He frequently attended lodge special events, like the Christmas party, Syttende Mai celebrations, and the 2014 special dinner at the Lark restaurant celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution.

* * *

We also extend sincere condolences to former Nordkap President **Geir Gronstad** upon the death of his mother, Inger Solveig Grønstad, who passed away April 13 at the age of 81. Geir, his wife, Lori, and their children, Lilje and Sonja, traveled to Norway for the funeral on April 28 at Lørenskog Church close to Oslo.

* * *

Erika LeBarre offered this report and photos about a recent trip to Norway with husband, Matt, daughter Camille, and Erika's parents, **Pres and Tove Bruning**: "We were there for three weeks. We were able to see friends and family, go a few places, even celebrated my parents' 59th wedding anniversary! We also worked on selling my parents' apartment while there. We were glad we made the trip, and all remained in good, stable health during our travels." *(Erika's photos below)*



* * *

Finally, best wishes to **Carol Jehle** who had cataract surgery on both eyes this summer.

Four Outstanding College Students Win Nordkap Scholarships

The Nordkap Lodge Scholarship Fund has again awarded a total of \$4,000 in scholarships to four deserving college students. This is a repeat of last year, when \$4,000 was shared among four students.

Our lodge of just 172 members can be proud of the continued performance of our scholarship fund in helping offset the costs of higher education for so many students. However, our scholarship committee now needs to find ways to replace this year's expenditures so sufficient funds are available for next year's applicants. The committee is comprised of Scholarship Director Carmen Collins, Bob and Louise Giles, and Bill Injerd.

The 2022 winners, their colleges, and chosen fields of study are:

- **Caterina (Catie) Hart** –Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University –Aerospace Engineering
- **Camille LeBarre** – College for Creative Studies -- Illustration
- **Kalina Thompson** – Butler University –Actuarial Science and Statistics
- **Yana Thompson** – Purdue University – Materials Engineering

Catie Hart is the daughter of Connie Hart of Ann Arbor. Camille LeBarre is the daughter of Matt and Erika LeBarre and granddaughter of Pres and Tove Bruning, all of Royal Oak. Kalina and Yana Thompson are the daughters of David and Margarita Thompson of Livonia, Michigan.

Congratulations to our winners and best wishes for continued success at school!

Please consider the Nordkap Scholarship Fund in your charitable giving, and generously support our silent auction in December, which dedicates its proceeds to our scholarships.

If you wish to donate directly to the scholarship fund, please send a check written to Nordkap Lodge 5-378 -- with the notation in the memo line "scholarship fund" -- to Louise Giles at P.O. Box 1198, Royal Oak, MI 48068.

Events Firmed up for Adult Heritage Weekend in Minnesota

A full schedule of events has been posted for District 5's first Adult Heritage Weekend to be held October 7 – 9 in conjunction with the UffDa Fest in Spring Grove, Minnesota.

The UffDa Fest is a celebration of autumn that features outdoor activities, Norwegian heritage events, and family fun! District 5 President Cheryl Wille-Schaefer promises, "Music, frivolity, learning, and fellowship are prominently on the agenda."



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

The calendar of events, suggestions for lodging, and a registration form can be found in the District's *Friendly Fifth Friday News* of August 26 at

<https://sonsofnorway5.com/library/original/docman/August262022-FFFN.pdf>

S'mores, Kubb, and Paper Witches Headlined our Midsummer Fest

Nordkap gathered its members at the Swedish Club on June 23rd to celebrate “Sankthansaften” (St. John’s Eve), one of the longest days of the year.

The Midsummer festivities centered around a bonfire. We roasted hot dogs, burned paper witches for good luck, and toasted s’mores. We also hiked the grounds searching for hidden Viking symbols, acted out special characters in a game of Billy Goats Gruff, and played Kubb—the lawn game of the Vikings.

The weather was mild and clear—a perfect evening to mark the beginning of summer.



Building the bonfire (lt. to rt.) are Haley Vingsness, Jacob Henley, Yana Thompson, and Bob Giles.



Mary Morehead with grandkids Kate & James Zawicki, holding paper witches

We enjoyed the evening and the bonfire as long summer shadows stretched over the lawn. (Yana Thompson photo)



News and Notes from the 5th District Convention

The four delegates we sent to the 5th District Sons of Norway convention in Wisconsin will have an opportunity at our members gathering on October 23 to share the highlights –and maybe lowlights -- of their adventures. Delegates **Phyllis Skora, Karen Herche, Jan and Dennis Flessland** (lt. to rt.) shown here at the convention are holding awards Nordkap won in several Lodge of the Year competitions. (Photo from Jan Flessland.)



Dennis additionally had the honor of serving as chairman of the Fraternal Affairs Committee, at the request of District President Andy Johnsen. Honors also came to **Phyllis** when she was elected as a delegate to the International Sons of Norway convention August 31 – September 1.

Delegate **Karen** and husband Lynn were kind enough to transport **Louise Giles'** display of the Nordkap newsletter to be shown with other newsletters at the convention. The Herches also found room in their car for 11 pounds of used stamps for District 5 to forward to the Tubfrim children's charity in Norway. Nordkap Tubfrim coordinator **Carol Jehle** says the donated stamps were given to her by members over a period of four years, since Covid cancelled the biennial convention in 2020. Carol thanks the friends and members who donated and gives a special shout out to two major contributors-- **Peter Blom**, who offered a large stamp collection from his family, and a Swedish Club member who moved and gave us six shoe boxes of stamps.



Dennis sports "The Scream" socks & tie (Jan's photo)



*Above: Carol's photo of bags of stamps
Right: Nordkap's newsletter display*



Nordkap Members Join Sognefjord's 50th Anniversary Cruise

-- By Kathie Injerd

Sognefjord Lodge #5-523 (Muskegon, Michigan) celebrated their 50th anniversary on August 7 with a ride on the *Aquastar* for a sunset cruise on Muskegon Lake. Nordkap Lodge and guests were invited, with **Bill and Kathie Injerd** representing our lodge. Gail Taggard and lodge president Merle Hanson coordinated the cruise event for the Sognefjord Lodge.

Bill's cousins, Scott and Becky Injerd, joined them as guests, since they lived nearby in North Muskegon. Due to crowded conditions on the *Aquastar*, many of the Sognefjord members were scattered over the boat – including the Injerd. “Music was great on the upper deck, although we could hardly hear each other when conversing,” Bill said. Kathie added, “We had located ourselves unintentionally near the live music and away from the other lodge members.” Moving was not an option, as they would lose their table and there was no room elsewhere on the ship.



Aquastar on a sunset cruise (Aquastar photo)

Cake was served below deck, which all passengers -- both Sons of Norway and regular passengers – enjoyed.

Bill and Kathie had the pleasure of meeting onboard our new District 5 President **Cheryl Wille-Schlesser**, from Mount Horeb, Wisconsin.

Sunset conditions were non-existent during the actual sailing. Even though rain was threatening, it did not hamper the event.



***Bill Injerd & Cheryl Wille-Schlesser
(Injerd photo)***



Sognefjord Anniversary Cake (Injerd photo)

A Letter from President Erik Duus:

Did I ever tell you about when I “spit” in a test tube and then dropped it in a mailbox?

So both Kristin and I got Ancestry.com’s 2021 Mother’s Day “deal,” but we had to wait almost two months to get our DNA results back due to increased Covid demand. When I got my results back, I was flabbergasted (Kristin was surprised, too, but more on that in a moment)...

Because my mother was born in Norway – yet my father was born in Germany – I always felt “legit” wearing that Norwegian flag button my mom gave me that bore the words: “51% Norwegian.” I mean who wouldn’t want to be *1% more* Norwegian than, perhaps, they really were, right? However, based on my DNA, my “ethnicity estimate” came back as:

Norway	69%	Germanic Europe	6%
Sweden & Denmark	23%	England & NW Europe	2%

69% is waayy better than 51%! Add in Sweden & Denmark, and I’m basically “92% Viking!”

My French Canadian wife, Kristin, who knew she also had that and other European genes, was shocked to discover that she is also 8% Norwegian (waayy better than 0%!).

Like other spouses of Nordkap Lodge members – who aren’t “ethnically” Norwegian” but “Norwegian by marriage” – Kristin has always been a faithful “Viking wife” in our almost 27 years of marriage. How ironic that it’s been in her since the day she was born! Of course she isn’t alone, because many spouses, partners and friends of Nordkap members are “Norwegians by choice” and are among us each and every time we gather.

French Canadian *by choice*? Twice in two weeks this month – and the first time ever – I joined Kristin as we explored her French Canadian heritage at two different *Rendez-vous Détroit* events: One was a celebration of French colonial history in Detroit, held at the fabulous Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle; the other was a lakeside gala for celebrating the 1679 christening of “Lac Sainte-Claire” (Lake Saint Clair). Both provided me with greater understanding of Kristin’s family tree (which goes back to Lewis & Clark’s indigenous translator, George Drouillard)...AND deeper appreciation for Kristin’s love (really her “need”) for being around WATER – whether rivers and streams, Lake Saint Clair (that she grew up on), the Great Lakes, and/or now we find out, the North Sea!

SIDEBAR: At the Dossin Museum, I mentioned to the guide in the *S.S. William Clay Ford* Pilot House that my Norwegian grandfather worked on Great Lakes freighters after he emigrated from Norway. He suggested I check out Bowling Green State University’s Great Lakes Database to track down his personnel records: <https://greatlakes.bgsu.edu/>. I did and was amazed at what I discovered: My Bestefar worked on six different freighters, starting briefly in the position of Wheelsman and then as Third Mate. Here is a photo of the *Alva C. Dinkey* passing under the unfinished Mackinac Bridge...what a fitting “work environment” for my Norwegian Bestefar! ***(Continued next page)***



(President's Letter, continued from previous page)

Whether your Ancestry.com's "ethnicity estimate" is 0% or 100% (or any number in between), you are either Norwegian by DNA or Norwegian by choice, and *Vi Elsker Deg* ("We Love You")!

**Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards),
Erik Duus**

PS – Although "vi elsker deg" unconditionally, when Henrik Ibsen said, "*The strongest man in the world is he who stands most alone,*" he wasn't referring to Lodge participation. Like churches, schools, and service organizations, we are only as strong as our people. Consider volunteering to do something "small" but needed at our Lodge, maybe again or for the first time. Bring a younger person/bring an older person with you next time. Invite a friend to find out more about *your* Norwegian heritage. If you still just do "outdoor" activities for now for whatever reason, fine, then come when we're outside (we are often). Put Lodge gathering and event dates on your calendar right now while we're talking about it. Have **any** questions, comments, feedback, suggestions? Then email: NordkapLodgeSuggestionBox@gmail.com

Join Our Cozy Group on Zoom for the Nordkap Book Club, 2nd season

--By Magda Pecsénye, Nordkap Co-Cultural Director

You're invited to the second season of Nordkap Book Club. We'll be focusing on fiction for this season of the book club by reading some Viking sagas, an atmospheric historical fiction best-seller, a short little book about letting yourself love someone, a story about life in Oslo right after WWII, and a strange funny tale about the search for meaning. All these books are VERY Norwegian, and we should have fun reading through the fall and winter and discussing them on Zoom. (Listening to the books as audiobooks is totally fine if you prefer that to reading with your eyes.)

Nordkap Lodge members who read all five books and come to at least one Zoom discussion will earn the Level 2 Literature Cultural Skills Pin. We welcome anyone to read and come to the Zoom discussions, even if they're not members. If you didn't do the last season and earn the Level 1 pin, you can still join and do this level.

Book club discussions will be on Zoom at 7 p.m. for about an hour or so. (If you read but can't come to the discussion, you can still earn the pin.) It would help me to know who is joining, so if you plan to do so or have any questions, please contact me at magda.pecseny@gmail.com. (If you were in the group the first season, I'm assuming you want to continue, so I've got you on the list.)

Meeting link for all meetings:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87383466491>

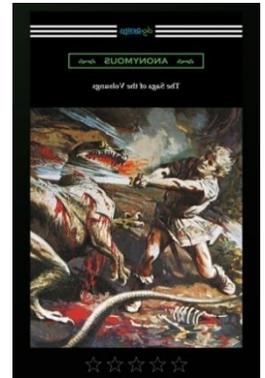
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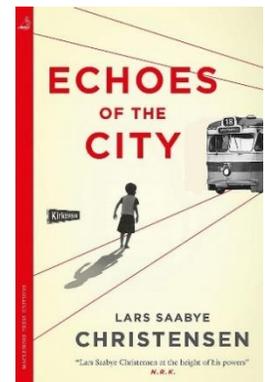
(Book Club: Continued from previous page)

Here's the schedule:

October 2, 7 pm: *The Saga of the Volsungs* edited by Eiríkr Magnússon and William Morris with an introduction by H. Halliday Sparling. (There are a lot of versions of this saga, so look for the one by these translators to know you're reading the same one as the group.) This is a genuine Viking saga! The introduction is very historical, so feel free to only read it if you're interested, and we'll focus our discussion on the actual sagas, which are about 100 pages to read. We'll talk about how storytelling was different back then, facts vs truth, and how translating this is different from translating modern works.

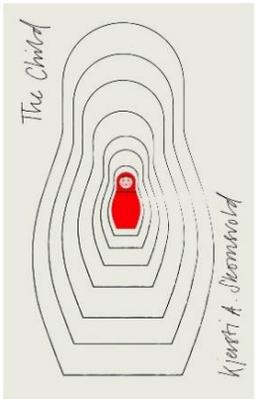


October 30, 7 pm: *Echoes of the City* by Lars Saabye Christensen. A gentle, observational story about a family living in Oslo right after WWII. For those of us who read the History of Norway last season, this might be a good look at daily life where the history book stopped.

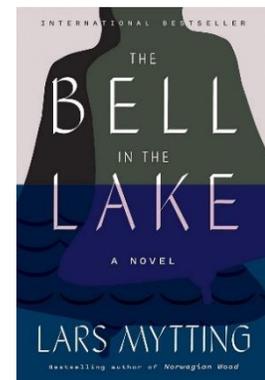


November 20, 7 pm: *The Child* by Kjersti A. Skomsvold. A very short, odd and extremely intimate musing about a woman who gets pregnant with her second child and is trying to figure out how she was able to allow herself to open up to fall in love with her children's father. It's an examination of falling in love with another person and of letting yourself love yourself despite your weaknesses.

Note: We're reading the next book, *The Bell in the Lake*, in December but not meeting about it until January! Maybe you want to save it for *julrom*, the week between Christmas and New Year when everyone just lies around reading and eating chocolate.

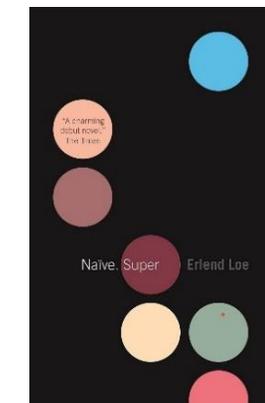


January 8, 7 pm: *The Bell in the Lake* by Lars Mytting. "Love, suspense, nature, and superstition are woven together in this powerful novel." –Maja Lunde. A beautiful legend about rural Norwegian life in the early 20th century, including a radical priest and a stranger who arrives from another country. The first in a trilogy, this book was a best-seller in Norway when it was published.



January 29, 7 pm: *Naïve. Super.* by Erlund Loe. A funny, short book about a young man who drops out of college to find the meaning of life and makes some questionable decisions. This should be fun and easy to get through in January.

All the books or audiobooks can be easily ordered on Amazon at <https://www.amazon.com/>.



Uff-da! Revised Nordkap Bylaws Require Further Changes

Nordkap has been updating its bylaws and reached what we thought was the final step in the revision process. Our members actually approved the revised document at our last gathering on June 23. All we lacked was final approval from Sons of Norway.

However, we recently learned from Sons of Norway International in Minneapolis that they have put the local lodge bylaw process on hold pending the re-write of their Charter, Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures, which was necessitated by their 2021 governance change. According to Kevin Cassidy, Sons of Norway Chief General Counsel and Compliance Officer, “We are very near the end of this process, and I expect that the final versions of these documents will pass the Minnesota Department of Commerce approval process in the coming months.

“When approval has been obtained, we will be sending out or posting all the new documents on the website; what this means is that some of the sections referenced in your bylaws may need to be updated/stricken to remove redundancies that will already be covered under the new Charter, Bylaws, and Policies and Procedures.”

He added in an email to Nordkap’s Bylaws Committee, “I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause--the changes should be minor in nature.”

So stay tuned: We will have more work to do and appreciate your support!

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Louise Giles

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