



Nordkapen

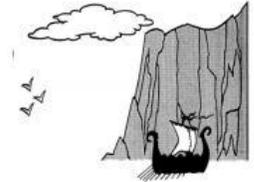
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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 Norway Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>



NORDKAP CALENDAR

Sunday, Oct. 22 – 4 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club
22398 Ruth Street
Farmington Hills, MI

Sunday, Nov. 19 – 4 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Saturday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Scandinavian Market
The Finnish Center
35200 Eight Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Nordkap 2023 Officers

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

Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com

Call and leave a message at
248-919-8355

Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated
Stay Connected on Facebook at
Norwegians in Michigan

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/>

September 2023

Volume 93 Issue 5

Nordkap Hosts a Great Steak & Corn Roast

There are few places –if any– that you can get a full steak dinner with lots of sides, coffee, and desserts for a price like this! Plus this one comes with the comradery of many Scandinavian friends and a beautiful setting overlooking a scenic valley in Farmington Hills.

Yes, we're referring to the Swedish Club's annual Steak and Corn Roast that Nordkap is hosting at the Swedish Club at 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 10. We offer the Swedes this service to thank them for renting us their beautiful facility (at a great price) for our other Norwegian activities throughout the year. We invite you to come as a paying guest—or, better yet, as a volunteer to help prepare and serve the meal.

Volunteers report beginning at 10 a.m. on Sunday at the clubhouse at 22398 Ruth Street, Farmington Hills.

Dinner--complete with New York strip steak, roasted corn, baked beans, cole slaw, fresh tomatoes, garlic bread, dessert, and coffee--is offered for the great price of \$20 for adults, \$10 for children.

Mike Jarasz and **Haley Vingsness** are heading up the effort, buying and supervising the preparation of the food. **Bob Giles** is coordinating Nordkap's volunteers. If you can help, contact Bob Giles at 248-302-2222 or bobgiles@newcarnews.tv.



Mike Jarasz grilling last year





GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

September Birthdays:

Lucille Barnes, 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



Sunshine Updates

Co-Cultural Director **Magda Pescenye** is moving to Natick, Massachusetts, outside Boston, and will be marrying the man she met at college 33 years ago.

The date of Magda’s wedding to Nordkap member **Mike Zarin** is October 8. Congratulations to the couple! (We’re hoping Magda will retain her membership in Nordkap, where she’s ably headed our Nordkap Book Club for the past two years.)

Blessings to **Eli and Roy Steyskal** who had a tornado rip through their 80-acre property in Fowlerville, MI, on Aug. 24, snapping electrical poles in half and splitting and uprooting mature trees.

Their house was mercifully spared, and Eli and Roy are OK, but their electrical power went out. Thankfully, they had a generator and wonderful neighbors and friends, including a local farmer with a heavy-duty tractor, who showed up to help clear downed trees.

Eli says there is debris all over, and it will take a couple months to clean up the property.

Hold these Dates for Special Events!

**October Members Gathering—
Sunday, October 22**

- **Krumkake Demonstration** -- Mary Morehead and her cooking class chefs. Learn how to make this Norwegian cookie staple traditionally made during the Christmas season and often filled with delicious, whipped cream and fruit. We’ll get step-by-step instructions from fellow members who polished their skills under Mary’s expert supervision.



Mary with Krumkake

**November Members Gathering—
Sunday, November 19**

- **Cookies for College** -- a Norwegian Christmas Cookie Scholarship Fundraiser. Donate and buy cookies to raise money for our 2024 Nordkap Scholarship Fund.
- **Norwegian Heart Ornaments** -- instructions in the craft of making *julekurver*, small heart-shaped ornaments in paper or red felt. The idea is often attributed to Hans Christian Andersen. These traditional ornaments are often filled with candy and given at special events, like showers or weddings, or hung on Norwegian Christmas trees.



Julekurver

More details will be coming in future newsletters.

Donations Needed for Silent Auction

Proceeds from our silent auction at the Christmas party on December 10 will again benefit our Nordkap Scholarship Fund.

You can help by supporting the auction with your donated items—particularly things with a Norwegian origin or theme.

Please bring your articles to donate to our upcoming Members Gatherings at the Swedish Club on October 22 and November 19 or to the Scandinavian Market at the Finnish Center on November 11. **Carmen Collins** and **Louise Giles** who work on the auction will be glad to receive your donations.

We Join the Swedes for their Midsommar



Dancing 'round the Maypole (Midsommar photos by Louise Giles)

We tried something a little different to celebrate the longest day this year. Instead of our traditional *Sankthansaften* (St. John's Eve) or Midsummer event on June 23, we joined the Swedes at the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills on June 24 for their celebration of the beginning of summer.

We 20 or Norwegians who attended found ourselves swept up in a full-blown, all-out Swedish *Midsommar* festival with several hundred people. There was a huge tent, a buffet luncheon with beer and wine, traditional singing and dancing around a Maypole covered with flowers, and live music by the Swedish folk group *En Gång Till* (One More Time). Adults paid just \$10 (children were free), with the Detroit Swedish Foundation sponsoring and absorbing most of the costs.

It was nice being the guests of the Swedes at such a happy, festive event!



Our table of Norwegians



Maypole goes up!



Ticket sales and welcome booth

Nordkap Again Awards College Scholarships to Four Students

The Nordkap Scholarship Committee is very happy to announce that four young Nordkap members have been awarded a total of \$4,000 in scholarships. These 2023 awards represent a “three-peat” – the third year that \$4,000 from Nordkap’s Scholarship Fund was shared by four college students.

The 2023 winners, their colleges, and chosen fields of study are:

- **Kevin Duffy** – Fordham University – Art History
- **Caterina (Catie) Hart** – Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University – Aerospace Engineering
- **Kalina Thompson** – Butler University – Actuarial Science and Statistics
- **Yana Thompson** – Purdue University – Materials Engineering

Kevin Duffy is the son of Michael and Sally Duffy of Livonia, Michigan. Catie Hart is the daughter of Connie Hart of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Kalina and Yana Thompson are the daughters of David and Margarita Thompson of Livonia, Michigan.

The Scholarship Committee consists of Scholarship Director Carmen Collins, Heather Vingsness, and Bob and Louise Giles.

Yana Thompson was the first of our winners to formally thank the lodge for a scholarship. “Hello, Carmen,” she wrote in an email. “This is wonderful news! It is such an honor to be a four-time recipient of the Lodge Scholarship. As I wrap up my undergraduate degree, I will always remember being a Nordkap member as a key part of making my college experience possible. Please pass on my gratitude to the rest of the scholarship committee and the board at large.”



Yana Thompson (her photo)

Yana was truly an outstanding scholarship candidate, as were our other three winners. To give you an idea of how incredible our scholars are, here’s a brief look at Yana Thompson’s many accomplishments:

Even during her years at Purdue, where she is a junior, Yana has remained active in Nordkap. She currently serves as Co-Youth Director with her father David Thompson and has made it a point to travel home from Indiana when possible for the Scandinavian Market and our Christmas party. Yana was one of the youngest students in our Norwegian language classes and won first place in the Women-under-30 category in our Cod Toss in 2022.

At Purdue, she has been a member of the Purdue Engineering Dean’s List and the Purdue Dean’s List. Among her many activities at Purdue, she’s a member of the Women in Engineering, Longboarding Club, Climbing Club, and Caduceus Club (for students interested in careers in health care). Yana has also served three terms as a co-op at Cook Medical, a medical device company that works with physicians to develop devices that are less invasive for patients. She says the experience has helped her realize her desire to work in the medical device field as an engineer. Eventually, she may go to medical school to merge her background in engineering and medical devices with the practice of medicine.

We suspect there’s much more to come from Yana, and we look forward to seeing what her future brings!

A Letter from President Haley Vingsness:

Dear Nordkap members,

Summer is winding down, which can mean only one thing -- our Lodge is back from summer break!

Our board held a productive brainstorming session in June to plan a range of club activities. We are bursting with enthusiasm to present more cultural events that celebrate the rich tapestry of our Norwegian heritage. From baking workshops that bring the aromas of our homeland to your kitchens, to Christmas crafts that reconnect us with tradition, our calendar is brimming with excitement.



Haley Vingsness (her photo)

On September 10th we are hosting a sumptuous steak lunch for the Swedish Club. It will be a feast for the senses as we savor delicious grilled steak and roasted corn with the Swedes. Following the lunch, we invite you to put on your dancing shoes and join us at the Finnish Cultural Center for an evening of folk dancing. We'll create bonds of fellowship with the Finns to the rhythm of their talented folk musicians.

November brings elections for next year's leadership! Our club's success is driven by the dedication of its members. I encourage you to consider taking a more active role in shaping our club's future. Nominations are preferred by October, and self-nomination is encouraged! Your ideas and energy are invaluable, and the rewards of leadership are immeasurable. We would be truly honored if you would contemplate running for a Lodge office. My heartfelt gratitude goes to our 2023 officers; our shared love for our Norwegian heritage binds us together in a unique and special way.

Let's continue to nurture these connections and create lasting memories together.

**Warmest regards,
Haley Vingsness**

NORDIC HERITAGE FOLK DANCE PRACTICE

- GOAL:** To have fun while preserving our Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish culture through folk dancing.
- FOR:** Everyone who would like to have fun learning basic steps and simple dances from the Nordic countries along with more complex dances for the experienced folk dancer.
- AGES:** 6 - 100
- WHEN:** Sunday, September 10, 2023
- WHERE:** Finnish Center Association
35200 W. Eight Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI
- TIME:** 2:00 - 5:00 pm

If you have any questions please email Glendene Thornbloom
at gathorn4@gmail.com or the FCA at
finnishcenter@gmail.com



Sponsored by the FCA Cultural Committee

Our Last Stamps Go to Wounded Veterans—and We Get Thanks!

As reported previously, Nordkap no longer accepts used postage stamps for Tubfrim, the Norwegian charity that ceased operations. Our last collection of stamps from members was in April at our Nordkap Movie Night.

Those stamps and others still in our possession were sent to an alternative domestic charity, as suggested by our Fifth District.

Both Carol Jehle and Louise Giles processed used stamps contributed by members and shipped them at Nordkap's expense to Stamps for the Wounded.

Stamps for the Wounded is a service organization dedicated to providing comfort to U.S. veterans through stamp collecting. Stamp collecting is not physically challenging and is very stimulating. SFTW has been helping veterans since 1942.



One shipment of Stamps for the Wounded

Carol and Louise received acknowledgements from SFTW thanking Nordkap Lodge “for your kind support of our program. Your contribution of stamps will help cheer a hospitalized or out-patient veteran. We thank you on behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity. Thank you for support of our veterans.”

U. of M.'s Bentley Library Thanks Us for Historical Records

In May 2017, Nordkap Lodge contributed a large batch of its historical records to the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

We took this step to ensure that the history of our Sons of Norway lodge in Michigan was preserved for future generations long after our current leaders--who have safeguarded this material--have departed from the scene.

To update our archived material, each year since 2017 we've sent the library copies of that year's Nordkapen newsletters and our secretary's minutes of Nordkap Board meetings.

The library recently sent us a card thanking us for our support of their endeavors.



First files given to the Bentley in 2017



“You made history,” the card read. “As a supporter of the Bentley Historical Library, you helped preserve history for the future. You helped ensure the materials living in the Bentley can be accessed by more diverse audiences all over the world...Thank you for making this past year historical.”

Help our Lodge Recruit New Members for District Recruitment Contest

Sons of Norway District 5 has launched its 2023 Lodge New-Member Recruitment Contest.

In the contest, all lodge members recruiting new members to their local lodge win their lodge monetary awards from the District. For every new member (not Heritage Member) recruited, the lodge receives \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a family membership. This does not include adding adults to an existing Adult Family membership.

Any money awarded is sent to the recruiting member's lodge to be used as the lodge likes.

This campaign is an opportunity for all members to get involved and support their local lodge in meeting its membership goals. It also helps the Sons of Norway organization continue to grow. In 2023, Sons of Norway is asking every lodge to recruit three or four new members. Nordkap so far this year has recruited four adults and three children—Heritage Members.

The contest began August 1 and continues until October 31.

All paper membership applications should be turned into the Minneapolis Headquarters of Sons of Norway by October 31. This will ensure that they are processed by the deadline.

New members signed up online via <http://www.sofn.com> should also be entered by October 31. If you sign up a new member online, please email 5th District VP, Wendy Winkelman, at wendyathadeland@yahoo.com, advising of that new membership. Contact Wendy with any questions.

Sons of Norway District 5 Plans 2024 Convention

Mark your calendar now! The 2024 Sons of Norway District 5 Convention is coming in June 2024!

Plan your vacation so you can enjoy the many attractions in the Indianapolis area before and after the convention. Members asked for classes and activities that delegates could enjoy, so classes and speakers will begin on Wednesday, June 19, and continue through Saturday morning, June 22.

Delegates who are not on a committee can take part in a class or enjoy speakers on Wednesday and Thursday. Everyone will be able to enjoy the evening programs on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday besides the banquet on Saturday evening.

Those who are not delegates can attend all three-and-one-half days of their class of choice or learn from the presentations offered during that time or take a local trip.



The Latest Selections to Read from Your Nordkap Book Club

Looking for a cool-weather activity that'll expand your mind? Join the Nordkap Book Club this fall and winter. We'll read five non-fiction books (listening to an audio book counts) and meet on Zoom for an hour each book to talk about them. The Zoom link will be the same for all meetings: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81669961927>

Members of Sons of Norway will earn the Literature Level 3 pin, but anyone can join the book club. You don't have to have read any of the previous book club books or earned the first two level pins to join this series. To get reminder emails, email Magda.pecsenye@gmail.com, but you don't have to let her know--just attend the Zooms. If you hate the book and don't finish it, come anyway and say why. Here's the lineup:

- ***Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific in a Raft*** by Thor Heyerdahl--Discuss Sunday, October 1, 7-8 pm
- ***Across the Deep Blue Sea: The Saga of Early Norwegian Immigrants*** by Odd S. Lovoll--Sunday, November 19, 7-8 pm
- ***Travel as a Political Act*** by Rick Steves--Sunday, January 21, 7-8 pm
- ***The 12th Man: A WWII Epic of Escape and Endurance*** by Astrid Karlsen Scott--Sunday, March 3, 7-8 pm
- ***The Viking Heart: How Scandinavians Conquered the World*** by Arthur Herman--Sunday, April 14, 7-8 pm

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Louise Giles

Box 1198

Royal Oak, MI 48068