



Nordkapen

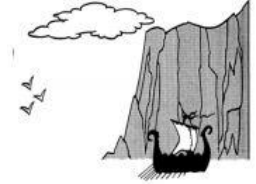
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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, October 27, 4 – 7 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club
22398 Ruth Street
Farmington Hills

Saturday, Nov. 16, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Scandinavian Market
The Finnish Center
35200 West Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills

Sunday, Nov. 24, 2 – 5 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club

Sunday, December 15, 12:30–4 p.m.
Christmas Party
The Kilgour Scottish Centre
2363 Rochester Rd
Troy, Michigan

Nordkap 2024 Officers

President: Haley Vingsness

Vice President: Heather Vingsness

Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:
Carmen Collins

Secretary: Mary Morehead

Membership Secretary

& Sunshine Director: Carol Jehle

Social Director & Greeter:

Eli Viik Steyskal

Cultural Director:

Karen Herche

Sports Director: Mike Jarasz

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

Photos by Bob Giles,
unless otherwise indicated

Facebook:

Norwegians in Michigan

October 2024

Volume 94 Issue 6

Norwegian Dinner and VIP Presenters Oct. 27

- A delicious hot Norwegian dinner...
- Instruction in making your own Norwegian greeting cards...
- Updates from top District officers in the Sons of Norway...

...these are just a few of the attractions you'll find at our October Nordkap gathering!

Let's start with dinner: The entrée will be Fårikål (the traditional Norwegian fall meal of lamb and cabbage stew) with potatoes and Mors Flatbrød, prepared by expert Norwegian chef Dennis Flessland, honorary consul of Norway to Michigan.

Vegetarian Lasagna will also be available. Dessert will be Kransekake and Vafler with whipped cream and berries. A \$10 donation is requested.

The District officers headlining our gathering will be Fifth District President Cheryl Wille-Schlessler and Connie Aiello, District 5 At-Large Director and Foundation Director. We are honored to have them coming from Wisconsin to Michigan especially for our event and look forward to a personal update from President Cheryl.



President Cheryl
(Mary Morehead photo)

Connie, an energetic, creative crafter interested in a variety of craft work, will be demonstrating stamping—using special hand stamps and ink pads to make Scandinavian cards (see p. 2).

We will also hear from our delegates to the District convention in Indianapolis, learn who's running for election as officers in 2025, and get an overview of the Sons of Norway Foundation from our Foundation Director, Derrick Hendriks.

Please join us from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, October 27, at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth Street, Farmington Hills.

GRATULERER MED DAGEN!



October Birthdays:

Emily Barnes, Gerald Bayer, Bob Giles, Kaitlyn Hattenberg, Eric Hetland, Katherine Hildre, Kristen Injerd, Michael Jarasz, Carol Jehle, Cathy Johnson, Hans Jorgensen, Roy Marvel, Colin Miller, Elijah Savage, Erik Scharf, Trish Skorpen, Diane Stanard



Leif Erikson Day

Leif Erikson Day is an annual observance honoring Leif Erikson, the Norse explorer. In approximately the year 1000, he led the first Europeans believed to have set foot on the continent of North America.

To honor Leif Erikson, son of Iceland and grandson of Norway, and to celebrate Nordic-American heritage, the Congress, by joint resolution approved on September 2, 1964, authorized the President of the United States to proclaim October 9 of each year as "Leif Erikson Day."

Accordingly on October 8, President Biden proclaimed October 9, 2024, as Leif Erikson Day. He called upon all Americans "to celebrate the contributions of Nordic Americans to our Nation with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs."

Learn To Make Your Own Norwegian Cards

Even if you're not into crafts, you'll see an interesting demonstration of how to make your own Scandinavian greeting cards at Nordkap's October 27 gathering.

Bringing materials from Wisconsin especially for the demo will be Connie Aiello, District 5 At-Large Director and Foundation Director. Connie has previously taught stamping and on-line cooking classes for District 5.



Connie Aiello with stamping materials, above and below

For our gathering, she'll focus on

Christmas or Get Well cards in Norwegian with special stamps. She'll also have stamping sets to sell.



Photos by Mary Morehead

A Letter from President Haley Vingsness:

Hi, Lodge members,

I'm so excited to see our District officers visit! Because Sons of Norway is an international organization, we get the chance to meet people from all over. We get the advantage of a built-in community wherever we go. When I moved to Dallas without knowing anyone, the Sons of Norway community at the Wooden Spoon helped me feel at home. And in college, it was a member who drove me to the Marquette airport in a blizzard after all the flights from Houghton were cancelled. Our members are truly incredible.

Our District offers ways for you to take advantage too! Youth can attend the Masse Moro summer camp or one of the private camps in our District: Concordia Language Villages and Giants of the Earth Heritage Center. Both also offer programs for adults! This month, Giants of the Earth has its first-ever adult Fall Camp. And Concordia Language Villages offers Holiday Weekend Workshops this winter to get your Norwegian baking skills ready for the holidays!

To venture a little further from home, both D5 and the international foundation offer scholarships to the University of Oslo's International Summer School. If you remember, I attended the ISS as a non-traditional student (one of many) at age 31.

Attending is a commitment -- you need to be willing to move to Oslo for 6 weeks and spend 4 hours a day studying your chosen subject: Norwegian language, culture, art, architecture, or politics. But it is surprisingly affordable, especially if you live in the dormitory (with a meal plan -- hurrah! Tasty Norwegian food just appears, 3 times a day, no cooking required!) and even more affordable with Sons of Norway's support. It's also a life-changing experience to meet students from 90+ countries. The diverse, international community fosters an environment of cross-cultural exchange... you are breaking bread together, learning together, and even taking side trips to Bergen together.

If you have the resources to consider it, I'd highly recommend you check out the UiO ISS; applications open on January 2nd.

All the best,

Haley



Haley Vingsness

Kickstart Your Christmas Shopping at the Scandinavian Market



Scandinavian food, holiday gifts, and music will greet visitors to the Finnish Center Association, 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, at the annual Scandinavian Market on Saturday, November 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You can purchase Nordkap's popular meatball dinner or the Finns' pasties or Karelian stew—and then get an early start on your Christmas shopping.

Finnish, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, and Icelandic imports will be on sale. Featured items will include baked goods, hand-woven rugs, decorative art, pottery, lavender soaps and lotions, Scandinavian sweaters and crafts, and wood carvings.

Nordkap's meal includes meatballs, potatoes, red cabbage, cucumber salad, flatbread, and a choice of coffee or lemonade—all for \$11, and just \$10 if paid with cash. Norwegian waffles will also be available.

Our participation depends on volunteers like you! Nordkap can only do this if we have the support of our members! If you can help serve the meal or sell at our import table, please contact Heather Vingsness at heather.vingsness@gmail.com.

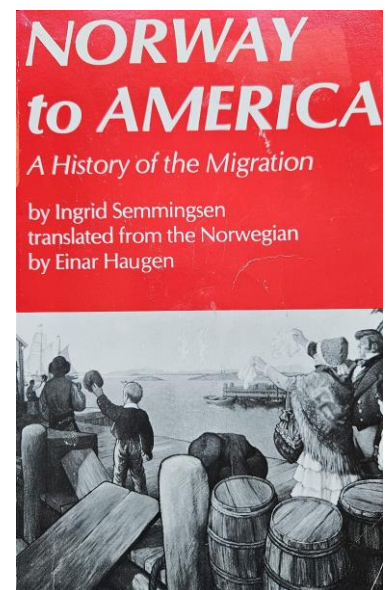
The public is welcome. The price is just \$2, paid at the door.

Nordkap Book Club Discusses its First Book on Norwegian Immigration

The Nordkap Book Club held its first Zoom session of the current season on Sunday, September 29, led by Magna Pecsénye. Club members discussed *An Untamed Land* by Lauraine Snelling, the first book of five that they're reading on the theme of Norwegian immigration to the United States and Canada.

The group's next meeting via Zoom will be at 7 p.m. on Sunday, November 10. Under discussion will be *Norway to America: A History of the Migration* by Ingrid Semmingsen.

Meanwhile, we need to correct an error in our September newsletter about the name of the third book chosen for the club to read. The name of that book is *Giants in the Earth* by O.E. Rolvaag. We had mistakenly listed the title as *Giants of the Earth*.



Memorial Service Scheduled for Georgia Roed

The family of our longtime member **Georgia Roed** has scheduled a memorial service in her honor on Saturday, November 2, and Nordkap members are invited to attend.

As reported in the last issue of Nordkapen, Georgia passed away August 21. We mistakenly reported her age at the time of passing as 81 years. Georgia's actual age was 82. We apologize for the error.

The memorial service will be held at Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 W. 12 Mile Road (between Halsted and Haggerty Roads), Farmington Hills, MI 48331. Visitation at 10:30 a.m. on November 2 will include a slide show. The service will start at 11 a.m. and is expected to run until approximately noon. The family is planning to offer food afterward.

To get an accurate headcount for planning purposes, Georgia's daughter Heidi asks that those wishing to attend RSVP her by calling or texting 704-905-3223 or emailing her at heidirsemail@yahoo.com.

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

In lieu of flowers, the family asks friends and family to donate to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance (OCRA) or visit Georgia's tribute page to donate:

<https://tribute.ocrahope.org/myamazinglystrongandbeautifulmothergeorgiaroed>

You can read the full obituary for Georgia with memorial service and donation details at

[Obituary | Georgia M. Roed of West Bloomfield, Michigan | Cremation Society of Michigan \(cremationmichigan.com\)](#)



Georgia Roed (family photo)

The Passing of a Friend of Nordkap

Sadly, we also note the passing of **Gary Heppard** at 86. Gary was the partner of departed Nordkap member Rick Aardal who shared his life with Gary for 38 years. As previously reported, Rick passed away on January 22, 2024.





Sunshine Updates

Best wishes to **Karen Herche**! Karen had back surgery on October 7 at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor. After a short stay in the hospital, she went to rehab at Kresge Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center in Chelsea, Michigan, and is receiving occupational and physical therapy.

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Karen Herche in a previous photo at the Steak & Corn Roast

Cathy Johnson has been turbocharging her recent retirement with a series of bucket-list travels. Her whirlwind of trips so far included:

- April/May 2023: two back-to-back, 7-day cruises. Montreal to Boston and then back to Montreal.
- June 2023: 10 days in Alaska. First a few days in Denali National Park then an inside-passage cruise.
- October 2023: trip to Churchill, Manitoba, to see the polar bears during their migration.
- December 2023: a 12-day cruise in the Caribbean including passage through the Panama Canal.
- February 2024: a 14-day cruise in the Eastern/Western Caribbean ending in Cozumel, Mexico.
- May 2024: another 14-day cruise, a Transatlantic crossing with many stops ending in Brussels, Belgium.
- July/August 2024: a 35-day “Voyage of the Vikings” cruise, with multiple stops including Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Labrador, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, The Netherlands, Ireland, and Northern Ireland.
- October/November 2024: a 51-day trip to Hawaii and the South Pacific.

Cathy takes off early next year for a month in Australia & New Zealand. “After that,,” she says, “I’ve decided I will stay home for a long while – I’ll have done enough traveling for a while.”

Why so many trips? Cathy says, “Yep, I made the decision to do a heck of a lot of traveling for the first two years of my retirement, but starting next year, I’ll slow it down to a trip or maybe two a year. Of course I’ll balance that out with 3 to 4 day trips to Canada, up north, etc.”



Cathy met up with her cousin, John Ivar, in Oslo, when she was there on a cruise. (Cathy's photo)

Steak and Corn Roast Goes Down Well with the Swedes!

Nordkap hosted the Steak and Corn Roast at the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills on September 8. Our lodge puts on the annual event to thank the Swedes for renting us their clubhouse for our gatherings. The meal is a fundraiser for the Swedes.

We served 55 charcoal-grilled New York Strip Steaks with all the fixings to some very happy customers! Included were roasted corn, fresh tomatoes, cole slaw, cucumber salad, baked beans, pickled herring, garlic bread, brownies, ice cream, and coffee—all for the great price of \$20.

Kudos to the organizers who planned and made it happen: Mike Jarasz, Haley Vingsness, and Bob Giles. And thanks to the hard-working volunteers: Carmen Collins, Louise Giles, Karen and Lynn Herche, Eli Steyskal, and Mary Morehead. Wrapping it up, Haley brought the Swedes up to date with the latest news from Norway.

After clean-up, our volunteers enjoyed a Linie toast on the clubhouse deck.



Mike Jarasz grills 55 NY strip steaks.



Haley, with volunteers, offers News from Norway.



Skål! A Linie toast by the volunteers

Two More Scholarship Winners Say, ‘Thank You, Nordkap’

Scholarship Chair Carmen Collins received two more gracious notes from winners of this year’s Nordkap scholarships.

Kevin Duffy, studying Art History at Fordham University in New York, penned this postcard in August:

“To everyone at the Nordkap Lodge: Very thankful to once again be blessed with the scholarship! Entering my last year at Fordham, and all has been going well. Currently in Milan but [in Norwegian] “have had some opportunities to speak Norwegian here!” Hope all is well back in Michigan. Tusen takk for alt. Kevin”



Kalina Thompson, studying Actuarial Science and Statistics at Butler in Indianapolis, Indiana, emailed Carmen in September:

“Dear Carmen, I apologize for the tardiness of the email, but I would like to offer my greatest thanks and gratitude to you and the scholarship committee for awarding me a scholarship again this summer. This support will greatly assist me in pursuing and achieving my academic goals, and I tremendously appreciate your generosity. With thanks, Kalina Thompson”

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Louise Giles

Box 1198

Royal Oak, MI 48068