



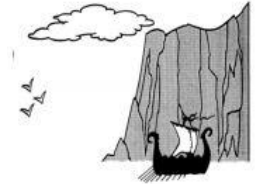
Nordkapen

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



NORDKAP CALENDAR

Saturday, November 8
Scandinavian Market
The Finnish Center Association
35200 West Eight Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan

Sunday, November 23, 2 – 5 p.m.
Members Gathering
The Swedish Club
22398 Ruth Street
Farmington Hills, Michigan

Sunday, December 7, 12:30 – 4 p.m.
Christmas Party & Silent Auction
Kilgour Scottish Centre
2363 Rochester Road
Troy, Michigan

Nordkap 2025 Officers

President: Haley Jarasz

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

Youth Director:

David Thompson

Foundation Director:

Derrick Hendricks

Co-Store Directors:

Natalie Vaal & Dennis Flessland

Editor & Publicity Director:

Louise Giles

Counselor: Bob Giles

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unless otherwise indicated

Facebook:

Norwegians in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>

November/December 2025

Volume 95 Issue 7



Volunteers serve Nordkap's meatball dinner.

Christmas Shopping & Nordkap's Good Meal!

Don't forget! Scandinavian food, holiday gifts, and music will greet visitors at the Scandinavian Market on Saturday, November 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Finnish Center.

You can purchase Nordkap's popular meatball dinner (or the Finns' pasties) and then get an early start on your Christmas shopping. Our meal includes meatballs, potatoes, red cabbage, cucumber salad, flatbread, and a choice of coffee or lemonade. Norwegian waffles with sour cream and jam will also be available.

Finnish, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, and Icelandic imports will be on sale along with artist merchandise, baked goods, clothing, jewelry, and other handcrafts. The public is welcome.

The admission price this year is \$5, with a portion of the money going to the Finns' Capital Campaign. Their campaign is financing repairs and restoration of the Finnish Center and concludes in June 2026.

Do come and immerse yourself in the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of Scandinavia at the Finnish Center at 35200 West Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills. And volunteer with our members serving meatballs or selling items at our Nordkap imports table.

Gratulerer med Dagen!

November Birthdays:

Carmen Collins, Karen Herche,
Paul Michalsen, Luke Savage, Geir
Skorpen, Kalina Thompson, Mike
Zarin

December Birthdays:

Bob Bruner, Bette Clary, Derrick
Hendricks, Chet Jehle, Elsa
Jorgensen, Karen Lafnear, Leiv
Erik Lundberg, Gary Olson, Louise
Sherwin, Russ Simms, Natalie
Flessland Vaal



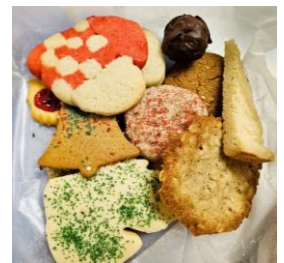
Sunshine Report

Do you have a notable event or achievement to share with fellow Nordkap members? A birth in the family? An unusual hobby, new job, or promotion? Achieving a special goal or academic degree?

We'd love to know about it to include in our Sunshine Report.

Please send your item to Nordkap editor Louise Giles at louiseagiles@gmail.com

Cookies for College Fundraiser Set for November



A Norwegian Christmas Cookie fundraiser at our members gathering on November 23 will feature all kinds and shapes of tasty Christmas treats!

To participate, bake a dozen or so of your favorite cookies and donate them to our Cookies for College fundraiser. Then purchase any of the donated cookies for just \$5 a dozen. All funds raised will go to our Nordkap Scholarship Fund.

We'll also teach how to make a Julekurver (Norwegian heart-shaped basket). These beautiful woven paper heart-shaped baskets are made on Christmas Eve in Norway. They are then filled with figs or sweets before being hung up on the Christmas tree. They make great favors for the kids and can also be used for other occasions, such as a wedding or bridal shower.



Election of officers for 2026 will also take place. New candidates for election can still be nominated at the gathering, but current candidates include:

President: Haley Jarasz
Vice President: Heather Vingsness
Treasurer & Scholarship Director: Carmen Collins
Secretary: Mary Morehead
Membership Secretary & Sunshine Director: Carol Jehle
Cultural Director: Karen Herche
Sports Director: Mike Jarasz
Youth Director: David Thompson
Foundation Director: Derrick Hendricks
Co-Store Directors: Natalie Vaal and Dennis Flessland
Editor & Publicity Director: Louise Giles
Counselor: Bob Giles

Join us and be part of these events on Sunday, November 23, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth St. in Farmington Hills.

Christmas Party Set for December 7 at Kilgour Scottish Centre in Troy

Holiday plans are fully in place for Nordkap's festive Christmas party this year at the Kilgour Scottish Centre in Troy. As Party Chair Mary Morehead exclaims, "You won't want to miss it. It's always so much FUN!"

The party is Sunday, December 7, at the beautiful Scottish Centre with its high ceilings and wooden beams located at 2363 Rochester Rd., Troy, Michigan 48083.

Guests are welcomed for the Social Hour at 12:30 p.m. A crowd-pleasing part of the hour is our traditional Silent Auction typically featuring such Scandinavian items as Norwegian pewter, Norwegian sweaters and other clothing, freshly made *Julebrød* (Christmas Bread), rosemaling articles, and more.



This Norwegian sweater donated by Alice Clarke (right) will be included in the 2025 auction.

Competition to place winning auction bids gets pretty lively! It's all in fun, and proceeds go to benefit our Nordkap Scholarship Fund.

The dinner buffet follows at 1:30 p.m. Dinner entrées with all the fixings include salmon or ham, vegetarian pasta marinara, and chicken tenders for children. Christmas cookies and a Kransekake top off the meal.

The price for adults (before November 24) is \$50; after November 24, \$55. The price for children (17 and under) is \$15. A Cash Bar is available and, since it's a Scottish Centre, Scotch and other adult drinks are available. After dinner, President Haley Jarasz leads the dancing around the Christmas tree, and the Julenisse pays a visit with gifts for the children.

To reserve your place, you must RSVP with your payment in advance. Members were mailed invitations several weeks ago.

If you haven't yet responded and still need the instructions and reservation form, you can access them with the Christmas party story at this link: <http://www.detroitnorwegians.com/>



The Scottish Centre at last year's party



Costumes and Games Make It a Party for Halloween

Our Halloween theme turned a typical Nordkap gathering into a party with costumes, games, and pizza for the adventurous who joined us on October 26.

“Viking” Heather Vingsness prepared pizzas and salad to serve. Teams competed against time to create toilet paper mummies. And Foundation Chair Derrick Hendricks explained the benefits of the Sons of Norway Foundation (members donated \$175 for the Foundation).



Derrick Hendricks



Costumed party-goers show their stuff.



Heather Vingsness offers BIG Costco pizzas.



The race to create a mummy is on!

Memorial Service Planned for November 16 for Nancy Redilla

A memorial service will be held for our departed Nordkap member and animal lover, Nancy Redilla, at the Davison Church of Christ at 10122 Lapeer Rd, Davison, MI 48423 on Saturday, November 15. Nancy's son, Ted Redilla, and his wife, Carrie Sills, will be attending.

The 1 p.m. service will be followed by a church-hosted potluck meal. If attendees wish to bring a potluck dish, it would be appreciated but not expected.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to Nancy's favorite charity, the Association to Rescue Kritters (ARK).

ARK is a wildlife rescue service in Roscommon County where Nancy and family and friends volunteered. It rehabilitates injured wild animals and returns them back to the wild, when they recover. More information is available on ARK's website at

<https://share.google/2gs0NAJDFowgMEQJo>



Nancy Redilla (family photo)

New Deadline for Sons of Norway Foundation Scholarships

Nordkap Lodge has its Nordkap Scholarship Fund and each year awards multiple scholarships to deserving students.

However, the Sons of Norway Foundation in Minneapolis offers 17 different scholarships of its own to both members and non-members of Sons of Norway. It is another benefit of Sons of Norway membership! These programs promote cultural exchange and support higher education to help students follow their dreams.

To learn about the Foundation's 17 scholarships and how to apply go to:

<https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/>

Please note: Foundation scholarships have a new deadline of January 15, 2026.

The scholarship application takes some time and thought, so any students wishing to apply need to allow themselves ample time.



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A Letter from President Haley Jarasz:

It's awesome to find Norway on the cutting edge of innovation!

We see it here in Detroit with the companies joining NorCham. And now OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT, is building a massive, renewable-energy powered AI complex near Narvik in the Arctic Circle. The project, called Stargate Norway, will run on clean hydropower and be cooled by Arctic air. It should be running by 2026.

As a Microsoft employee, I hear about similar projects here in the United States. Microsoft partners with OpenAI and is investing in data-center projects in rural communities with open land and reliable renewable energy. There's a certain poetry to it. Many of our families left small Norwegian farms and fishing villages to build new lives in rural America. Now both of those types of places are transforming technology. It reminds me that heritage isn't just about the past. It's about seeing familiar strengths in new light.



Haley Jarasz

**Vi sees,
Haley**

Nordkap Wins High Honor from International Sons of Norway

At Nordkap's October gathering, President Haley Jarasz reported that Nordkap had been named International Lodge of the Year for 2022 by the Sons of Norway International. Nordkap's award came in the category for large lodges.

News of the event and the award certificate were delivered to Haley just about a month ago.

Nordkap Board members were surprised and thrilled by the news.

An honor of such distinction is always welcome, and we thank the International for the recognition!



Nobel Peace Prize To Be Awarded in Norway—but Why Norway?

The Norwegian Nobel Committee will award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2025 to **Maria Corina Machado**, a Venezuelan politician, activist, and prominent leader of the Venezuelan opposition to the administrations of Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro.

She is receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for her tireless work promoting democratic rights for the people of Venezuela and for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy.

The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded on the day of Alfred Nobel's death, the 10th of December, a time-honored tradition since 1901. The formal ceremony in Oslo City Hall gathers representatives of the Norwegian royal family, government and parliament representatives, corps diplomatique, and other representatives from Norwegian civil society, in total close to 1,000 guests.

Why is the Nobel Peace Prize awarded in Norway and not Sweden?

Alfred Nobel (1833 to 1896) was a Swedish chemist, inventor, engineer, and businessman known for inventing dynamite, as well as having bequeathed his fortune to establish the Nobel Prizes. He stipulated in his will that the Nobel Peace Prize should be awarded in Norway, while the other prizes (Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, and Literature) would be awarded in Sweden.

Alfred Nobel never explicitly stated his reasoning, leading to several educated theories as to why he chose Norway:

- **Norway's peaceful traditions:** During Nobel's lifetime, Sweden and Norway were in a personal union under one monarch but had separate governments. Sweden had a history of militarism, whereas Norway was known for its advocacy for international arbitration and peaceful conflict resolution. Nobel may have considered Norway a more neutral and suitable custodian for a peace prize.
- **A division of responsibility:** By assigning different tasks to Swedish and Norwegian institutions, Nobel might have intended to distribute responsibilities between the two countries in the union.
- **Admiration for Norwegian individuals:** Nobel admired several Norwegian public figures, including the author and early peace advocate Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, whose idealism may have influenced his decision.
- **Avoiding political influence:** Some speculate that because the Swedish monarch was also in charge of Norway's foreign policy during the union, Nobel thought the Norwegian parliament would be more independent from Swedish power politics in controversial peace matters.

Ultimately, the exact combination of reasons remains a mystery, but the tradition has endured for over a century, even after the peaceful dissolution of the union in 1905. The Norwegian Nobel Committee, appointed by the Norwegian Parliament (Storting), is responsible for selecting the laureate, and the ceremony is held annually in Oslo on December 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death.

How To Be Norwegian is based on the experiences of native French author Lorelou Desjardins as she learned to adapt to life in Norway. She found that, yes, Norwegians *do* drink a lot of coffee. They have their babies nap outside in freezing temperatures. They'll choose a rustic cabin in the woods over a luxury resort. And it almost *does* seem that Norwegians are born with skis on their feet.

Next up for the club to read is *A Cabin in the Mountain* by Robert Ferguson, with discussion scheduled for 7 p.m. Sunday, January 18, on Zoom.

c/o Louise Giles

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