

Sons of Norway Polar Star Lodge 5-472

Meetings on the first Sunday of the month – Potluck at 1:30 p.m.
St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Douglas Road, Montgomery, IL



Polar Star Field Trip to Stoughton 2017

Hilsen Polar Star!

In our Polar Star world, “April Showers” bring “May Flowers” that we will be seeing at all of our many upcoming Lodge and Syttendemai events.

I hope that you will make plans to participate in Norwegian Constitution Day Syttendemai events the weekend of May 19-21 in Park Ridge, Illinois or Stoughton, Wisconsin. Barb has included activity information from both locations on pages 5-9 of this newsletter.

Finally, just a reminder that our the Norsk Museum will be honoring Cleng Peerson and Polar Star members at a Memorial Service on Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 10:00. Roald Berg and Barb’s mother, Phyllis Benson will be recognized along with many Norsk Museum Board members.

Your President,
Ken Johnson



Upcoming Events
Norsk Museum
Memorial
Service
Saturday, May 6
10:00 a.m.
Norway, Illinois

Polar Star
Lodge Event
Celebrating
Syttendemai
Sunday, May 7
1:30 pm.
St. Olaf Lutheran
Church

See page 2 for details

Polar Star Newsletter
Deadline
Will be the 14th of every
month. Please submit all
articles to Barb Johnson at
barbijohnsonb@aol.com

“Grunnlovsdagen”

CELEBRATING SYTTENDEMAI

May 7, 2023 - 1:30 p.m.
St Olaf Church



What are Norwegians celebrating on May 17th? Come and find out as Polar Star celebrates this special day in Norwegian History.

Please wear red, white and blue and wear your syttendemaia buttons.

Polar Star Pot luck luncheon will begin at 1:30. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

Syttende Mai

Sløyfe Ribbon

Celebrate the 17th of May - Norway's constitution day - in style!

A nylon Sløyfe (ribbon loop) will be perfect for the occasion.

Approximately 7".

[Syttende Mai Sløyfe Ribbon \(ingebretsens.com\)](http://ingebretsens.com)



JOIN THE PARADE....

March with Polar Star in the Park Ridge Parade on Sunday, May 21st.

Parade begins at 1:00 from Talcott and Cumberland to The City Hall



See flier on page

Polar Star Culture Corner

by

Barb Johnson

May 17th has always been a special day in our family because it was the day my parents were married in 1942. Both of my parents were of Norwegian heritage, but at the time they had no idea that they would share an anniversary with the country of their ancestors. They were just trying to squeeze in a wedding after my mom's first year of teaching and before my dad was sent off to be stationed at an air force base during WWII. When we became "professional" Norwegians in 2006 (after my dad's death in 2005) Mom loved attending the Syttendemai banquet at Park Ridge and dancing with Frank. I'm sure it reminded her of Dad. Mom also loved to go to the Stoughton, Wi Syttendemai celebrations. She loved the food, the bunad Fashion show, the Stoughton high dancers and she especially loved going to watch the Stoughton Village Players perform the annual Norwegian Mello-drama at the Stoughton Village Players Theater. This year the play is called "It's a Blunderful Life". Kenny and I have purchased our tickets and plan to head up to Stoughton on Thursday, May 18th to enjoy the celebration. We also plant to head up through Park Ridge and march in their parade. It's a busy weekend, but a weekend that reminds us of our heritage, and our friends. Hope to see all of you at one or both locations the weekend of May 19-21.



Sons of Norway Book Club

April 27th Zoom Meeting – 6:00-p.m.

Meeting via Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81524055998?pwd=MmpPTEZ0akZySHJMYkpObTRPTW42Zz09> or Join

Zoom Meeting via Website Meeting

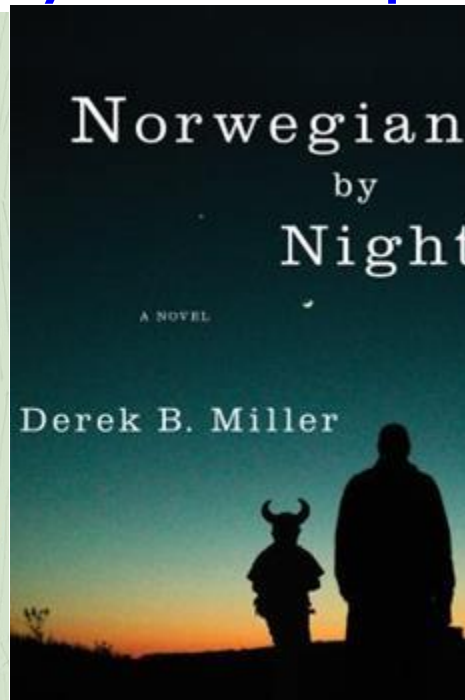
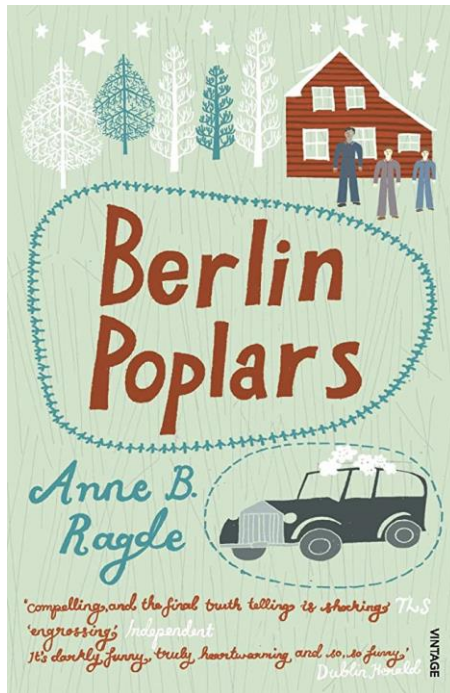
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May Selections

Main Read: *Berlin Poplars*
by Anne B Ragde

Zoom Meeting May 25th – 6:00 p.m.



Mystery Read: *Norwegian by Night*
by Derek B. Miller.

POLAR STAR SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

by Jerri Lynn Baker



**Karen earns the Gold Idressmerke medal and a walking award fro
completing the January 5K challenge from sports Director, Jerri Lynn Baker**



Gratulerer Med Dagen (Happy Birthday) Polar Star Members!



April 15-30

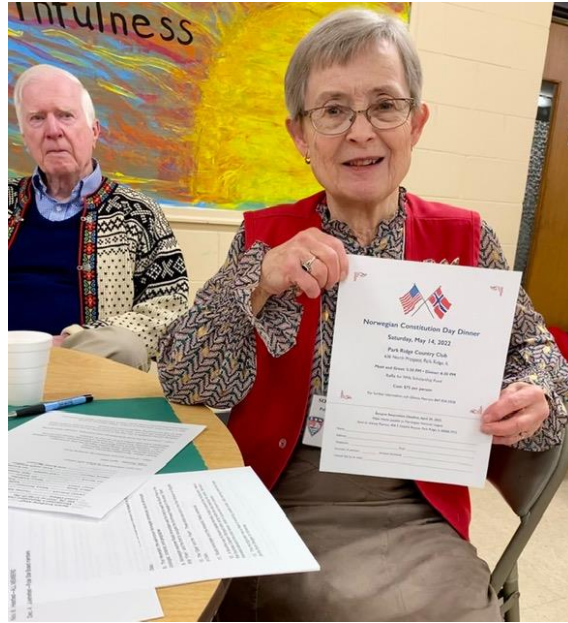
- .15 Brett Todd
- .19 Phoebe Bergh
- .19 Nicolette Minor
- .23 Jerri Lynn Baker
- .24 Matilda Berg
- .30 Diana Raimond

May 1-15

- .7 Ken Nordan
- .12 Reagan Gryder



Syttende mai Season is here!

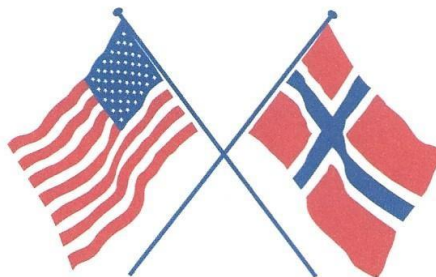


Norwegian Constitution Day Luncheon
Saturday May 2, 2023 – 11:30-3:00 p.m.
See registration flier on page 4

Join the PARADE! Celebrating Norway Day Sunday, May 21, 2023
Hodges Park Festivities In front of City Hall 11:00 - 3:00 pm Music –
Vendors Children’s Activities – Dancing Scholarship Presentation
Parade Starts at 1:00 PM Talcott & Cumberland to City Hall Sponsored
by the Norwegian National League



Norwegian Constitution Day Luncheon



*The Norwegian National League
cordially welcomes you to celebrate 17 de mai*

*Guests: Heidi Olufsen, Norwegian Consul General, New York
Susan Meyer, Norwegian Honorary Consul, Illinois*

Saturday, May 20, 2023

Park Ridge Country Club
636 N. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge, Illinois

Meet & Greet 11:30 am • Luncheon 12:30 – 3:00 pm

Cost: \$60 per person

Paid Luncheon Reservation Deadline: May 8, 2023

Send to: Jill Crooker, 702-D North Western Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60068

Complete the following form and enclose a check payable to Norwegian National League.

Name: _____ Petite Filet or Salmon

Name: _____ Petite Filet or Salmon

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I would like to sit with: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Questions or more Information? Call Jill Crooker: 847-825-2778



PARADE!

Celebrating Norway Day

**Sunday,
May 21, 2023**

Hodges Park Festivities

In front of Park Ridge City Hall

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

*Music – Vendors
Children’s Activities – Dancing
Scholarship Presentation*

Parade Starts at 1:00 PM

Talcott & Cumberland
to City Hall



Sponsored by the Norwegian National League

www.nnleague.org



NORWEGIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

STOUGHTON, WISCONSIN

May 19-21, 2023

Celebrate Norwegian Heritage
at the Stoughton Syttende Mai Festival

Visit Stoughton's Syttende Mai festival for a weekend of family-friendly fun and cultural experiences where there's something for everyone. Come join us for three days of parades, arts, food and drink, kid's activities and plenty of Norwegian culture for the whole family.

Syttende Mai takes place annually on the weekend closest to Norway's Constitution Day, celebrated in Norway on May 17th. From the late 1800s to the early 1900s, Stoughton enjoyed an influx of Norwegians and at one time, as many as 75 percent of its residents spoke Norwegian. These immigrants celebrated Syttende Mai unofficially, but it became an annual, city-wide tradition in the 1950s. Norwegians throughout the world continue to celebrate May 17 as *Syttende Mai*, the Norwegian Constitution Day.

Editor's Note:

This is the link to the Stoughton Events Calendar:

[Printable schedules — Syttende Mai Festival - Stoughton Wisconsin \(stoughtonfestivals.com\)](#)

This is the link to the digital 2023 program with background information about all the events.

[Syttende+Mai+Program WEBSITE.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)

Help Support the
Norsk Museum Opening Day &

Taste of Norway Breakfast

Sat., June 3, 2023 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

After Breakfast, join us at
the Norsk Museum [9am to
2pm]

- ◇ Rosemaling sales and demonstrations by Lynn Sove Maxson
- ◇ Hardanger by Linda
- ◇ Polar Star Lodge
Norwegian Food Sales
- ◇ Cultural demonstrations



Norsk Museum — Norway, IL

Right in Norway — 3856 E 2611st Rd - Sheridan, IL 60551

Enjoy delicious home cooked Norwegian
Frokost (Breakfast) at the Norway Com-
munity Building. Serving fried kumla,
ham, scrambled eggs with chives, fruit
cups and coffee!

No Advance Tickets
Donations ONLY

Support our museum

Phone (815) 343-8070 (text)

See all the new exhibits
Visit Norsk Museum
www.NorskMuseum.org

Former Polar Star Member returns from Mission Work in Indonesia



Betsy Olson is back home after teaching MAF (Missionary Aviation Fellowship) children in Indonesia for three school years. She will be moving to Raleigh, NC, near her son Jeremy.

POLAR STAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1:30 p.m. St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Montgomery, IL (unless listed)

MAY 6	Norsk Museum Memorial Service 10:00 a.m. Norway, Illinois
MAY 7	Celebrating Syttendemai
JUNE 4	NORSK MUSEUM BREAKFAST
AUGUST 6	Polar Star Viking Piknik
SEPTEMBER 10	Scandinavian Days at VASA PARK
OCTOBER 1	Program TBD
NOVEMBER 5	HØSTFEST begins at 11:30 a.m.
DECEMBER 3	JULETFEST



Polar Star Glad Mat Fest 2023

Mat Presentasjon

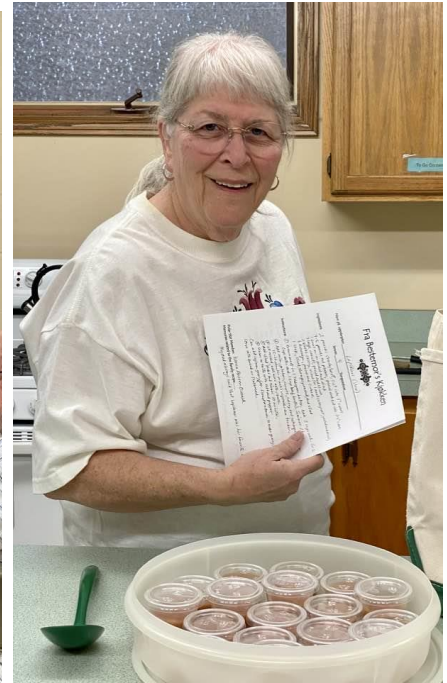
Kjøtt



Salater



Dessert



Editors' Note: Please continue to submit family recipes and memories to Barbjohnsonb@aol.com – use form on the next page.

Fra Bestemor's Kjøkken



Navn på oppskriften _____

Serves: _____ Temperature _____

Ingredients

Instructions

Polar Star Member:
Memories related to the family recipe.....

**Sons of Norway
Polar Star Lodge 5-472
Regular Meeting, April 2, 2023**

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church
1233 Douglas Avenue
Montgomery, IL 60538**

The lodge met in person in St. Olaf's Lutheran Church basement. President Ken Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:33 PM, following a 1:30 PM delicious "Gladmat" (happy food) Norwegian Festival luncheon. Kitchen hosts were Jeanne and Craig Leifheit, and Carol and Richard Vigsnes.

Our April meeting program was devoted to everyone making and bringing a favorite family recipe to share at our "gladmat fest". The recipes were not necessarily Norwegian. After we sampled the food from the buffet table, we sang songs and then shared our recipes and family stories about our recipe choices. All recipes will be included in our upcoming Norwegian American Women booklet.

President's Announcements:

- Ken opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
- Ken introduced visitor Mary Ann Doetschman, who also brought a recipe to sample and share.
- Steve Tanda said that a driver is needed to drive the Norway Museum Viking ship to/from the Park Ridge syttende mai parade on Sunday May 21, and/or for the Geneva Swedish Days parade on Sunday June 25. Children may ride in the boat. Adults needed to walk beside it. The parade in Geneva will generate a lot of exposure for the Viking ship and Sons of Norway due to the restored Viking ship dragon head and tail that was moved to the Geneva Historical Museum and is now on display. Please contact Steve to drive/march.
- Art Andersen will lead Polar Star's efforts to collect cancelled stamps for charitable donation to Stamps for the Wounded in Dunn Loring, Virginia, which promotes stamp collecting by veterans as a hobby. This organization is one of two selected by Sons of Norway national to replace Tubfrim.
- It was moved, seconded and passed to donate \$400 (as in 2022) to support Scarlett Anderson attendance at Masse Moro camp again this summer.
- Steve Tanda reported that volunteers will be needed this summer at the Norsk Museum in Norway Illinois., and passed around a sign-up sheet. The museum is open only 1 PM to 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, June through September. You don't need experience or prior knowledge; it's a great educational experience for both visitors and docents. Please sign up volunteer for at least one session this summer. Contact Steve.

Treasurer's Report: Carol read the Treasurer's report (copy attached), which was accepted. Total assets of \$16,379.17.

Secretary's Report:

- March meeting minutes were published in the March newsletter. The minutes were accepted.
- Karen reminded everyone to consistently keep track of volunteer hours for 2023. The sheet to record hours is available on the Polar Star Lodge.com website, and also available from Karen.

Social Director:

- Kitchen helper volunteers still needed for our August and October meetings. Please contact Nancy Andersen.
- National League syttende mai banquet is for luncheon on Saturday May 20 this year (rather than in evening). Contact Nancy for information about tickets for the luncheon banquet, or about the May 21 Park Ridge parade.

District 5 Representative:

- Connie Kross reported that the District 5 Cultural Heritage Weekend will be held in Norway, Illinois in fall of 2025. With colorful fall weather and proximity of the Norsk Museum, Norway Illinois will be a great place to hold the cultural/heritage weekend. It will be hosted jointly by Polar Star and Cleng Peerson lodges. Discussions will be ongoing, and Connie will be looking for volunteers to contribute to discussions, and to help with committees and planning, Much more to come.

Sports Director: Jerri Lynn announced that Karen Oswald earned the gold Idrettsmerke medal, was also awarded a prize for completing the January 5K challenge.

Next Meeting: Our next regular meeting will be Sunday, May 7. The program will be “Celebrating Styttende Mai”, as well as our annual May Day memorial celebration. Please bring non-perishable food items (or donate \$) for the St. Olaf Food Pantry. Carol DeVito and Frank Krawczyk will be kitchen hosts.

Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Oswald, Secretary
