

# 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

### President's Message



President Ken on the Kubb Pitch

#### Hilsen Polar Star Lodge!

It was great to be outside and playing Viking Kubb at our Vicing Picnic. We had a great time even though Team Ken lost to Team Barb so I'll never hear the end of that!.

Thanks to our kitchen crew for the great food and fun!

Vasa Park Scandinavian Day is coming !!! I hope everyone has started their Norwegian baking and plans to attend this fun fund raising event for our Lodge.

Your President  
Ken



### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Scandinavian Days**  
at  
Vasa Park  
**Sunday September 10th**  
see details on Page 3  
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**Polar Star Lodge Event**  
**October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**

**135th Anniversary**

**Slooper Dinner**  
**Sunday, October 8th**  
See Events Calendar on page 13  
details

**Polar Star Newsletter Deadline**  
Will be the 14<sup>th</sup> of every month. Please  
submit all articles to Barb Johnson at  
[barbjohnson@aol.com](mailto:barbjohnson@aol.com)  
Follow us on facebook @  
Sons of Norway – Polar Star Lodge

**OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> LODGE EVENT**  
**10:15 a.m.**  
**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**  
**Celebrates 135 years!**

Polar Star Lodge has been invited to join the congregation of St. Olaf Lutheran Church, the site of our monthly Lodge events, as they celebrate their 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Please plan to attend the morning church service at 10:00 a.m. dressed in your most festive Norwegian sweater or bunad.

In honor of the event please plan to bring a Norwegian dessert to share during their hospitality “coffee” following the service in the downstairs Fellowship Hall.

St. Olaf has been a great host to our group and we are thankful to have had them as partners.

**There will NOT be a Polar Star Potluck but please bring a Norwegian treat to share!**

**Editor’s Note... Be prepared...Our Norwegian Choir may be re-uniting for one song!**

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**Polar Star participated in  
The June 28<sup>th</sup> Swedish Day Parade**

**Viking Indoor Pkinnik**





# Vasa Park Scandinavian Festival

Sunday, September 10, 2023 – 10:00 a.m



“This will be the 43<sup>rd</sup> Scandinavian Day Festival. Many years have passed and the festival has evolved but it remains loyal to its roots; the heritage of the five Nordic countries. We achieved our mission to bring the Scandinavian community together last year when 1,400 people visited the Festival, and with your support we can look forward to a memorable 43<sup>rd</sup> Festival on **September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**”

“The Festival planning team is working to select the entertainment including the ever popular ABBA Salute and finding vendors to prepare those delicious Scandinavian foods and an assortment of Scandinavian goods for you. We are excited to bring to our 5 Nordic communities, and the Midwest, a vibrant and fun-filled Festival for 2023”



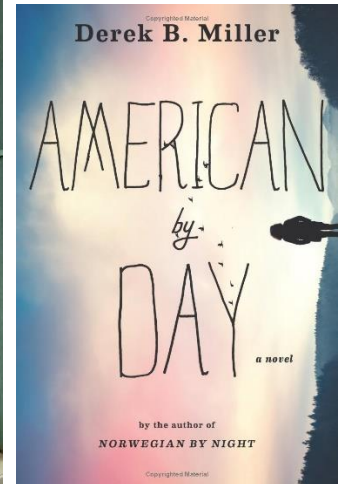
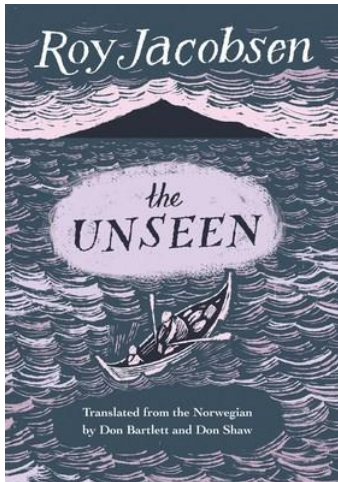
**Editor's Note: Polar Star will be on site at the Scandinavian Day Festival selling our baked goods and Norwegian collectibles. Please contact Barb and Kenny if you need your baked goods picked up prior to the event.**

# POLAR STAR CULTURAL CORNER

by  
Barb Johnson

## Sons of Norway Book Club

### August Book Selections



**So many wonderful books, so little time!!!**

**Book Club Zoom Meeting – August 31, 2023**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84738578369?pwd=WTM1RFJyYlhMUFNZZjIvaHBmcE1TUT09>**

To let us know if you will be participating this month or to ask questions about the book club, please send an email to: [SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com](mailto:SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com) Sons of Norway Book Club c/o Bill Browning P.O. Box 1050 Roswell, GA 30077



President Ken and I had the opportunity to attend Nordic Fest in Decorah, Iowa the end of July. If you have never attended this gathering of the Scandinavians, I would highly recommend going next year. Decorah is the home of the Vesterheim Museum and this year during the festival a brand new state of the art Scandinavian modern building was opened to the public. During this year's festival the new building housed traditional Norwegian craft demonstrations. We were delighted to find our Polar Star friend, Lynn Sove Maxson demonstrating her Telemark Rosemaling technique to visitors. We were also surprised to find another friend of Polar Star and a relative of Vi Skogen, Gordon, demonstrating his needlework art.



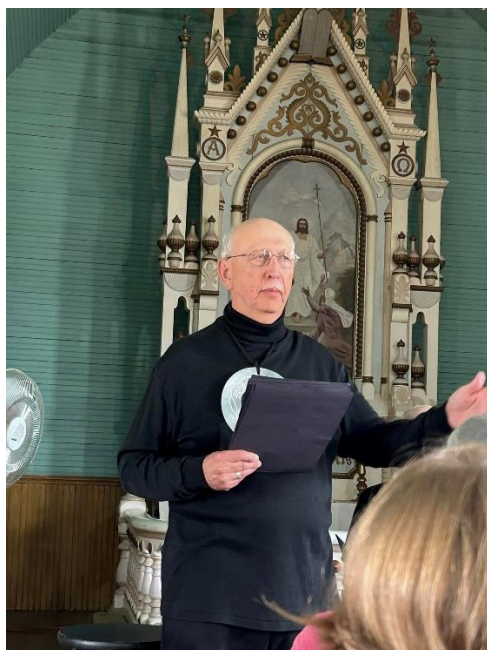
**NORDIC FEST  
2023  
IN DECORAH,  
IOWA**





**Kenny and I enjoyed the entertainment at the Vesterheim Museum campus and also the Nordic Dancers street performances. We also attended the outstanding parade and fireworks that concluded the weekend festivities**

**The best part of the weekend was the Lingonberry ice cream!!!**



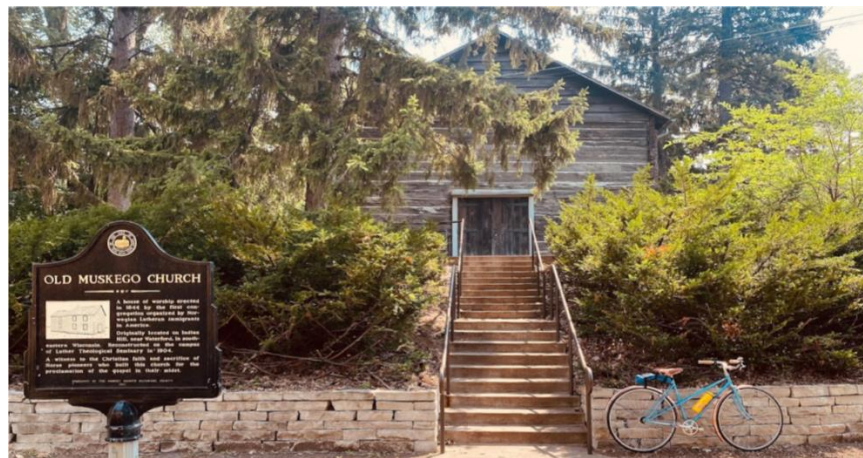
**L to R: Kenny enjoying Lingonberry ice cream; Cow calling with Peggy; Islandic Saga Readers Theatre; Nordic Junior and Senior Dancers.**

# Polar Star Sports and Activities

by Jerri Lynn Baker



**Just a reminder Polar Star Virtual Walkers....You should be really close to Muskego, Wisconsin by now. Our 114 mile challenge for the “Rosemal Bowl” will end on August 31. Don’t forget to record your miles and write your 100 word essay on the significance of Muskego to Norwegian immigration to be included in the drawing for the Rosmaled Bowl**



# GRATULERER MED DAGEN POLAR STAR



## 16 - 31 AUGUST

19 August - Pat Baughman  
20 August - Floyd Anderson  
23 August - Penny Ray  
30 August - Cynthia Ann Olson

## 1-14 SEPTEMBER

September 4 – Frances Berg

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## POLAR STAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events held at St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Montgomery, Il at 1:30 unless otherwise listed

**SEPTEMBER 10 - VASA PARK Scandinavian Festival - 9:00 a.m.**

**OCTOBER 1 - The St. Olaf Church Celebrates 135 years  
Church Service 10:00 followed by Birthday Party Reception in Fellowship Hall**



### **October 8, Norsk Museum Sloop Dinner**

Location: Cleng Peerson Lodge – Norway Illinois Community Building

Contact: Richard Gunderson at [gunder8506@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gunder8506@sbcglobal.net)

Additional Information:

Smorgasbord in Norway, Illinois

**NOVEMBER 5 - Høstfest begins at 11:30 a.m.**

**DECEMBER 3 - JULETFEST**

**January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 – Lefse Making Vi Skogen**



# Polar Star Indoor Picnic 2023



**And the 2023 Kubb Trophy is awarded to ...TEAM BARB with star Kubb players, Connie Kross, Dawn Gunderson, Frances Berg, Richard Vigsnes and Ed Hatteberg! Congratulations!!**



# **Sons of Norway - Polar Star Lodge 5-472**



## **“Taste of Norway” Høstfest – Fall Festival Sunday, November 5, 2023**

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church – 1233 Douglas Ave.**

**Noon - 3:30 p.m.**

**Montgomery, IL**

**Taste Traditional Norwegian Food**

**Shop for Scandinavian gifts**

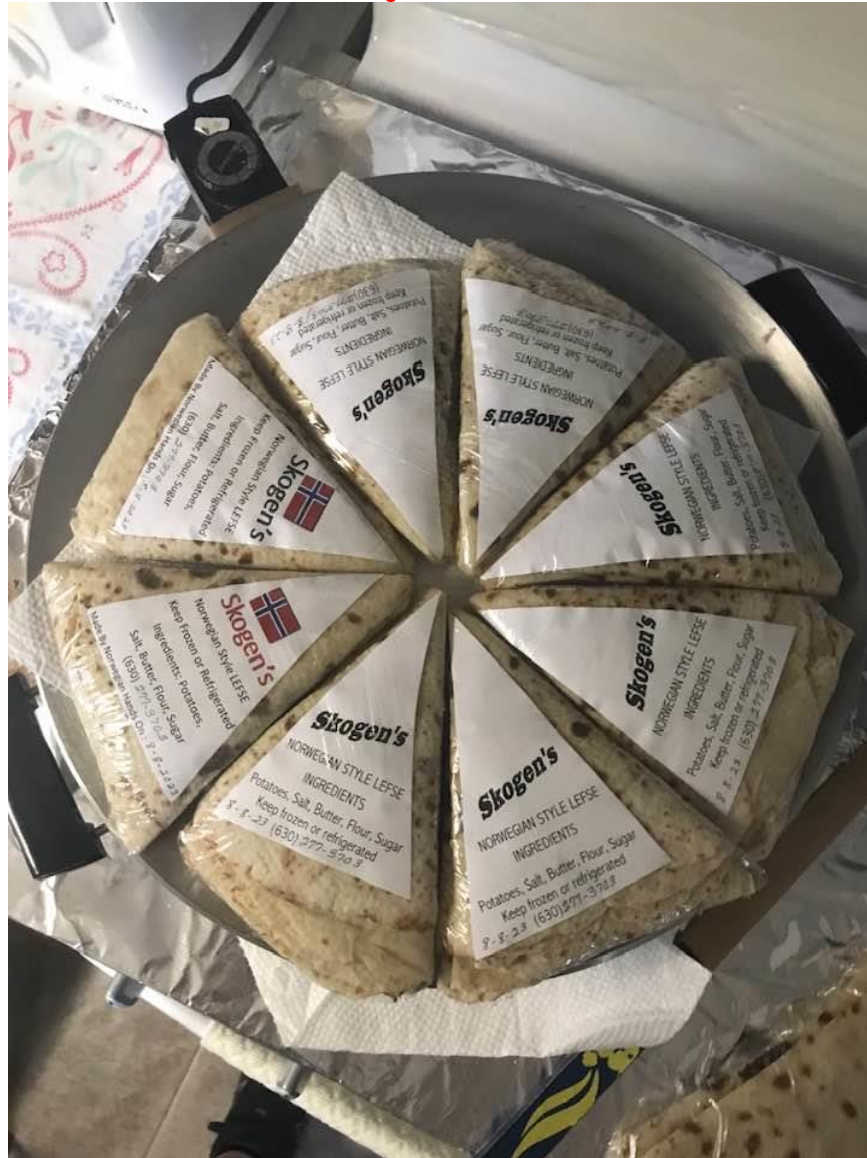
**Lefse and Krumkake demonstrations**

**Norwegian Craft demonstrations**

**Contact: Polar Star Cultural Director - Barb Johnson  
email [barbjohnsonb@aol.com](mailto:barbjohnsonb@aol.com) or by phone: 630-553-7389**



**Comin Soon in 2024 to a Lodge Near you...**  
**Lefse Making Workshop**  
**with our very own Vi Skogen**  
**January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>**



**Mark your calendars and tell your friends and family!**

**Sons of Norway  
Polar Star Lodge 5-472  
Regular Meeting, August 6, 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 following our 1:30 PM indoor piknik pot luck luncheon. Hot dogs were served, along with salads, side dishes, and of course desserts. Nancy brought potato lefse and hotdog buns for the hot dogs. Kitchen hosts were Barb Johnson, Nancy Andersen, Diana Raimond, and Ed Hatteberg.

**President's Announcements:**

- Ken opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, and introduced guests Colleen Coop and Roger Field.
- Ken will be submitting the fee for Polar Star's participation in the annual Vasa Park Scandinavian Festival on September 10th. He reminded everyone that we're looking for all of Polar Star members to provide baked goods and to work a shift at our booth at Vasa Park.
- There was discussion about whether Cleng Peersen lodge would be holding their annual smorgasbord event in October. Dawn indicated that that life had not yet decided.
- Frances Berg reminded that the Norsk Museum in Norway Illinois still needs volunteer docents. It is very easy to do, and you don't need any experience or prior knowledge. The museum is open only 1 PM to 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, June through September. We encourage everyone to sign up for at least one time slot this summer. Contact Frances or Steve Tanda for information.
- Vi Skogen invited us to the 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Olaf Church, which is going to be celebrated on October 1, the first Sunday in October. It was discussed, moved seconded and passed firstly, that Polar Star will attend the celebration instead of having our monthly meeting on that date, and secondly that our Lodge will provide Norwegian desserts for their event. We are happy and grateful to be able to hold our meetings here at St. Olaf's beautiful facilities.

**Treasurer's Report:** In Carol's absence, Ken read a summary of the Treasurer's report (copy attached), which was accepted. We had \$16.34 in income last month and no expenses. Total assets of \$15,362.20.

**Secretary's Report:** Karen reminded everyone to continue keeping track of their activity volunteer hours, to be able to report their annual hours in December.

**Sports Director:**

- Jerri Lynn awarded the Idrettsmerke enamel pin to Karen Oswald, and the enamel Gangemerke pin to Floyd Anderson, Frank Krawczyk, and herself.
- Jerri Lynn reminded everyone that there is still time to participate in the virtual walk to Muskego Wisconsin, to enter a drawing for a beautiful rosemaled plate.



**Cultural Director:**

- Barb reminded us that 2023 has been the Year of the Woman for Polar Star Lodge. She announced that in 2024 Polar Star will celebrate the Year of the Viking.
- Barb talked about the national Sons of Norway Book Club and mentioned several of the books they are reading. For example, “Far Traveler – Voyages of a Viking Woman”, and “Children of the Ash and Elm” (which may be used by Polar Star during our 2024 meetings for our Year of the Viking).
- Barb described an assignment for all of us over the coming months. She would like to refresh the “Uff Da” Norwegian trivia game that we played several years ago. So many of the questions are outdated, and Barb wants all of us contribute new/updated questions related to Norwegian culture customs are, geography, history, people, religion, language, etc. Details to come in a future Polar Star newsletter.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Today’s Meeting Program:** After the meeting we adjourned to the parking lot and adjacent field for our Kubb Game Tournament. A fun time was had by all, team members and fans alike, with Barb’s team winning the coveted Kubb Trophy.

**Next Meetings:** Instead of regular September/October meetings:

- September 10 we will be participating in the annual Vasa Park Scandinavian Festival event; and
- October 1 participating in St. Olaf Church’s 135th anniversary celebration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Oswald, Secretary