

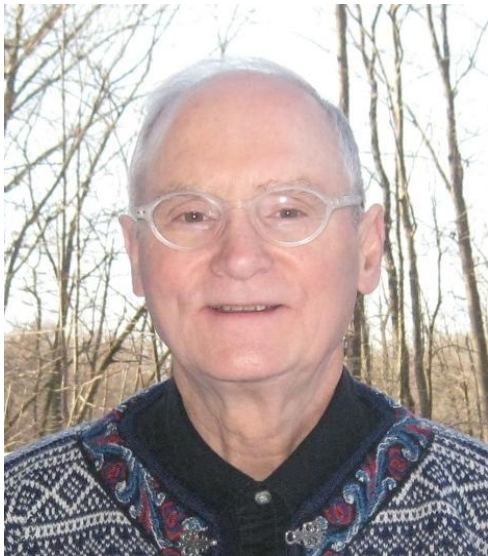


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|   | <br>VOLUME 37 ISSUE 10 |
| <b>Sons of Norway Lodge Scandiana 5-600</b>   |   |
| <b>Mission statement:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway. To celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to its members</i></li> </ul> |   |

PRESIDENTEN HAR ORDET

Volume 35, Issue 10 November 2024



Greetings. It is late autumn, the leaves are falling from the trees, and our Lodge is preparing for the holidays and the new year 2025.

Our October Lodge event was our annual Foundation auction on October 26. We raised over \$500, a record for our Lodge. Thanks to all of you who donated items to the auction. A special thanks to our skillful auctioneer, Dennis Lindborg, and to his faithful assistant, Kathy Rowberg. This

is our Lodge's main fundraising event for the year.

Our next Lodge event is November 23 at the Chesterton main library. The program is a Christmas cookie exchange – bring cookies and also a container to take cookies home. Also, Lodge members are encouraged to tell us how their families keep

Scandinavian traditions alive at Christmas. Come to the meeting to get new ideas for celebrating Christmas!

The new year 2025 is approaching rapidly, and your Executive Committee has been planning for it.

1. Slate of Officers. The Executive Committee has compiled a slate of officers for the new year. The proposed slate is shown on page five. Many thanks to Darlene Henderson for leading the nominations process. We will vote on the slate at our November 23 meeting.
2. Meeting Dates. For our 2025 Lodge meetings, we have reserved the meeting room at the Chesterton library. We will be meeting on the *third*

Saturday of the month in 2025. (The third Saturday of the month is our traditional meeting date in years past.)

3. Programs. We are in the process of scheduling programs for the new year. Suggestions are still being accepted; please send them to Dave Hirschey (phone #219-728-6044) or Darlene Henderson (phone #219-221-6641).

\* \* \* \*

Again, I hope you can attend our Christmas cookie exchange on November 23. Learn how other families celebrate Christmas, and "fire up" for the holidays !

Takk for Alt!! Beste Hilsen, David Carlson Hirschey, president

## October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 1:12PM on October 14 by President Dave Hirschey. Present were Dave Hirschey, Sue Strohkirch, Oleif Olsaker, Darlene Henderson, Jim Nelson, and Ann Thorvik.

Minutes from the September Board Meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Oleif Olsaker provided the Treasurer's Report, including September transactions, and confirmed the Lodge is still "in the black."

FRIENDSHIP GARDENS UPDATE: Oleif will have a follow-up discussion with his contact at the International Friendship Gardens in Michigan City to discuss membership status, communication, and benefits. Hugh Hopkins has identified a new log and is making plans to retrieve and store it for winter 2024-2025 carving of a new Viking statue

for placement in Friendship Gardens. Artist renderings and pattern creation is underway. Costs for chainsaw carvers are quite high and local carvers have expressed interest in doing the work themselves. Darlene Henderson has offered tools and assistance in coordinating these efforts.

**SEPTEMBER PROGRAM REVIEW:** Jim Nelson reviewed the September 21 Lodge event at the LaPorte County Historical Society Museum, which was attended by fourteen members and guests. The event was enjoyable, although having additional opportunities for seating or rest during the tour would have been appreciated.

**OCTOBER PROGRAM:** The Scandiana Lodge's Foundation Auction will be held on October 26 in the B. Woods room of Chesterton's Main Library. Dennis Lindborg will act as auctioneer and Sidsel Lindborg will coordinate auction logistics (paddles, tracking, payments). The Lodge and SON Foundation split proceeds 50/50, and this is a great opportunity to generate revenue. Special items to be auctioned include an original painting from Mark Zimmerman, an original woodcarving from Darlene Henderson, and a selection of Scandinavian items from Jim Nelson. Members should bring items to contribute to the auction and should be reminded that the auction accepts only cash or checks. In addition to the Foundation Auction, attendance medals will be distributed.

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM:** The Scandiana cookie exchange will occur on November 23. A program suggestion, via Hugh Hopkins, was to ask attendees to share how they plan to keep their heritage's traditions alive this holiday season.

**2025 PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS:** On the heels of the LaPorte visit, potential future programs including visits to the Porter County Museum in Valparaiso or the Westchester Township History Museum in Chesterton were discussed. The Westchester Public Library's YouTube channel contains an 8-part series entitled, "Duneland's Swedish Immigrants" as well as a "Making Swedish Ornaments" video. Serena Ard, Westchester Township History Museum Curator, will be approached regarding these videos as well as any other resources in their collection. Hugh Hopkins has been investigating the trove of materials saved and organized by Eva has potential to be developed into an "Exploring Eva's Attic Treasures" program. Rather than a full language course, Jim Nelson suggested more practical and less daunting, conversational Norwegian (or Swedish) lessons. Sue Strohkirch is investigating some program materials available through Vesterheim's Folk Art School programs. There was discussion of attempting better coordination with the Parks Department to minimize overlaps between Lodge meetings and Parks Dept schedules for Scandinavian Christmas at Chellberg Farm and Midsommer celebrations.

**2025 MEETING SCHEDULE:** Per Dave Hirschey, confirmation of the 2025 meeting schedule should occur shortly after the October 21 arrival of a new contact person at the Library.

**BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE:** Discussed opportunities to improve attendance at Board meetings, including use of Zoom (or similar) platform for video or call-in participation.

**MEMBERSHIP UPDATES:** The Board shared member updates, address changes, actions to engage prospective members, and newsletter distribution updates.

**2025 SLATE OF OFFICERS:** The Board assigned follow-up tasks in efforts to secure a slate of officers for 2025. These final communication updates are expected to be complete before the October 26 meeting.

**FACEBOOK:** The new Scandiana facebook page is active and is receiving great reviews. Should discuss with Mark Zimmerman how he would like to handle contributions from members (post and have him approve or send to him for entry and posting).

The next scheduled Executive Committee meeting is November 18, 2024 at 1:00PM at the main library. Meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Darlene Henderson, Secretary.

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## **October Lodge Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, October 26, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President David Hirschey at 2PM. 18 lodge members were present. The members sang the US and Norway national anthems.

Norwegian, Lee Nedreau, of Valparaiso, was introduced as a guest of Darlene Henderson and was given a membership application form. He also belongs to the Michigan City Woodcarving Seniors.

Oleif Olsaker gave a treasurer's report. He paid \$138 for our lodge insurance liability policy and indicated with appropriate figures that the lodge was in the black.

Future meetings in 2025 are all scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of every month, except December, is the 2nd Saturday of the month. Meeting instead on the 1st Saturday was discussed because the Chelberg Farm presents the St. Lucia program is also on the 2nd Saturday in December. No final decision was made.

Due to construction and repair issues, there is no indication as to when we will be able to return to the Baugher Center for our meetings. Until then, we will continue to meet upstairs in the library. Watch the newsletter for any changes in meeting dates or places.

The 2025 slate of officers will be printed in the November Newsletter and voted on at the November lodge meeting. The slate will then be reported to the home office.

At the January board meeting a tentative list of monthly programs will be discussed so it can be presented to the membership, noting that all programs are subject to change. Monthly newsletters will confirm each program.

Membership pins were awarded to Deana Slater 5 years, Kathy Rowberg 10 years, George Scott 25 years, Marilyn Arvidson 35 years, Marianne Olsaker and Darlene Henderson 45years.

Dennis Lindborg auctioned items donated by members and Irene Nelson and Sue Strohkirch recorded sales. October is Foundation month for scholarships and such. Half of the auction profits will be sent to the Home Office Foundation, and the other half is deposited in the lodge treasury. The total collected was \$530.00. (1/2 is \$265.00)

The meeting was adjourned at 3PM.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Darlene Henderson

**November Birthdays**

Melvin Sorensen -16<sup>th</sup>

Patricia Paulsen – 20<sup>th</sup>

Olief Olsaker – 24<sup>th</sup>

**November Executive Committee Board Meeting** - November 18<sup>th</sup> in the B. Wood Room in the main library building from 1-3 pm.

**November Lodge Meeting**

|  |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| November 23,<br>12:00-4:30,<br>meal begins at<br>1pm | Main library,<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> floor, B.<br>Wood Rm | Hosts:Lauren<br>Mache and<br>Justine Sams | Main dish O-Z<br>Side dish A-J<br>Dessert K-N | Cookie Exchange. Also,<br>members share how they<br>plan to keep their heritage’s<br>holiday traditions alive. |
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**Slate of Lodge Officers for Year 2025**

- President David Hirschey
- Vice President Mark Zimmerman
- Counselor Darlene Henderson
- Secretary Darlene Henderson
- Financial Secretary Sidsel Lindborg
- Treasurer C. Sue Strohkirch
- Social Director Hugh Hopkins
- Asst. Social Director Justine Sams
- Cultural Director Kathryn Rowberg
- Marshal Paul Sams
- Greeter Dennis Lindborg
- Sunshine C. Sue Strohkirch (Birthday Cards)
- Trustee 1st year Ann Thorvik
- 2nd year Kathleen Hays
- 3rd year Hugh Hopkins
- Historian Darlene Henderson

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Musician              | Sidsel Lindborg   |
| Editor                | Ann Thorvik       |
| Foundation            | Kathleen Hays     |
| Publicity             | James Nelson      |
| Sports Director       | -----             |
| Volunteer Coordinator | -----             |
| Youth Leader          | -----             |
| Cultural Skills       | Darlene Henderson |
| Stamp Coordinator     | Darlene Henderson |
| Friendship Gardens    | Oleif Olsaker     |

### Scandinavian Food Arrives For Christmas

Lodge member Hugh Hopkins carries Scandinavian items in his store at 427 S. Calumet Rd. in Chesterton. Hugh has just received these food items for the holidays: Bondost cheese, Swedish ginger snaps, Leksands crispbread in rounds and triangles, Swedish meatballs, Swedish potato sausage, Wild Swedish lingonberries jam, grandpa Lundquist Glogg winter beverage, and Lars Lingonberry drink concentrate. Drop by Hugh's store to see his selection.

**Reminder:** We are still collecting postage stamps for those in need. The nuns will sort and trim them. Just bring the stamps you have collected to our monthly lodge meetings.

### Photos from the October auction:



Michael Leland donated an Irish wool blanket



Dennis Lindborg auctions Mark Zimmerman's painting of Chellberg Farm.



Kathy Rowberg receives her 10 year membership pin



Irene Nelson models the beret she won at the auction



Darlene Henderson and her guest, a fellow carver



Dennis and Kathy auctioning a lovely quilt



Marianne Olsaker receives her 45 year membership pin



Sara Johnson donated a sewing box her mother rosemaled. Over the years Sara has donated many rosemaled items to the auction.

Sons of Norway Lodge Scandiana 5-600  
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Officers you can contact:

David Carlson Hirschey, President  
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Darlene Henderson, Secretary  
219-221-6641

Oleif Olsaker, Treasurer  
219- 874-7457

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