



NYHETER BREVET

-A NEWSLETTER-

Published by The Sons of Norway's Valkyrien Lodge in Woodville, WI.

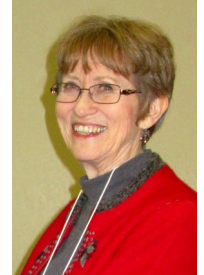


VOLUME 39, NUMBER 1

JAN-FEB, 2020

ORD FRA DIN VALKYRIEN LOSJE PRESIDENT

(Words from your Lodge President)



Hilsen

With the holidays behind us, we can relax inside watching the snow fall outside. Our first meeting of 2020 is on Monday, Feb. 24, starting with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will feature Trivia of Norway and will help us get to know our fellow members. Many lodges have daytime meetings in the winter so we will discuss that option at our next board meeting. Would you be in favor of an afternoon time for our winter meetings?

The Barnebirke is Thursday, Feb. 20th. The lodges in our District 5 are providing cookies for the children's ski event. We have budgeted \$40 to buy cookies, but if you would like to make some homemade kinds (*without nuts*) please let me know. I plan to take our donation of cookies with me when I go up to Hayward on the 20th. One of our members will be in the Birkebeiner on Saturday.

We are working on the programs for the year. Since this is the 125th Anniversary of the Sons of Norway, we will plan to promote our lodge during this special year. This is also the 115th year for Valkyrien Lodge which was formed in Hudson in 1905. In 1982, the site of the lodge was moved to Woodville. Gary Stang was president at that time and the lodge had over a hundred members.

We have a standup tri-fold presentation poster about the Sons of Norway. This can be used in our area to provide information for prospective members. If you have a spot in the public eye that would make room for the poster for a few weeks, let me know. I would like to see it travel to Menomonie, Hudson, Hammond, and Baldwin. Merlee, Sue and I hosted cookies and coffee on Saturday Jan. 11 in the Woodville Library in conjunction with the History Center Open House next door.

The District 5 Sons of Norway is selling the following three clothing items as a fundraiser for the District Foundation that funds Masse Moro Heritage Camp. Take a look at these items on page 8 of this newsletter. I will also be bringing them to our meeting.

Opphold varmt,

Audrey Severson, President

P.S:

At the end of December 2019, our virtual walk to Norway totaled 923 miles. We are almost 1/4 the way to 4,036 miles and five months to go. Way to go members!!!! At this rate we will be in Norway ahead of schedule. Keep it up!!



Our best wishes for a Happy Birthday go out to these members:

FEBRUARY:	Randi Hoffman	Feb. 2
	Sylva Anderson	Feb. 8
	Betty Larson	Feb. 16
MARCH:	Katherine Pedersen	Mar. 2

From one of our readers ...

We received the following with regard to our article on the donations our lodge made to four different local non-profit organizations. The article was in the November-December issue of our newsletter.

November 17, 2019

“God Sondag,

Takk for the Nyheter Brevet. I read with interest your news letter and wish to compliment your members for all of their efforts. Valkyrien Lodge made a great decision to contribute to numerous non profits that are in need of such support. Your donations could be life-changing for some individuals.

It is part of the Sons of Norway’s mission to share our heritage and culture with others. The work of your members has cast a wide net. It is obvious to me that Valkyrien Lodge is a proud community partner. I am sure you share your accomplishments with the general public, but if not, be sure to do so. Valkyrien Lodge makes a difference!

*Gratulerer til alle for dere god arbeider—
Congratulations to all for your good work. ”*

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser
District 5 Sports and Recreation Director.

2020

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Nyheter Brevet is published six times yearly beginning with the Jan-Feb issue. Please submit any news items to Arlyls Olson, Editor, by the 30th day of the months of December, February, April, June, August and October to be included in the following month’s publication. Email your submissions to: olsondon@hughes.net



The mission of the Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve heritage and culture of Norway and to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members. For information contact: www.sofn.com

LODGE LINES

Valkyrien Lodge Meeting

November 25, 2019

November Meeting Notes:

After visiting Park View Care Center for a Christmas Sing-a-long, we held a potluck meal at the church.

A short business meeting followed.

Secretary's and Treasurer's reports from previous month were approved as printed.

Membership pin for 10 years was given out to Tom Gunderson.

Virtual walk to Norway was discussed.

Our contributions approved by the board to help nonprofits in our area were: \$500 to Family Resource Center, \$500 to the Pierce County Food Shelf, \$750 to Bridge to Hope in Dunn County, and \$250 to the Spring Valley Community Cancer Fund.

The board approved \$40 to buy cookies for the Barnebirkie on Feb. 20. Volunteers are needed in the cookie tent that day.

Christmas Potluck on Sunday Dec. 8 at 5:30 pm at Erling Lestrud's home. No meeting in January. The Board will meet on Monday Feb 3 at 1 pm. Our next meeting will be Feb. 24 at 6:30 pm

Submitted by Audrey Severson.



Lotsa Food and Lotsa Fun !!
Lestrud's Christmas Party

A Grand Milestone for Sons of Norway

On January 16, 1895, the original 18 members of Sons of Norway gathered for their first official meeting. Now we celebrate the 125 years that have passed since that meeting, as well as the fact that we have grown to become the largest Norwegian organization outside of Norway.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE SONS OF NORWAY



Our Valkyrien Lodge served coffee and Norwegian “goodies” at the Woodville Historical Society Building on Saturday morning, Jan. 11th. This was to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Sons of Norway.

Audrey Severson-President of our Lodge, is presented with a proclamation announcing that Jan. 11th was the Sons of Norway Day in Woodville.

Presenting the proclamation was Steve Gossel, President of the Village of Woodville.

Note: An article on this was featured in the Thursday, January 11th, issue of the *Woodville Leader*.
Special thanks to Merlee Jensen for submitting the information.

Coming Attractions

REMINISCING
WITH
DR. GRAY

THURSDAYS AT 2:00
JANUARY 9, 16, 23 AND 30
AT GIANTS OF THE EARTH HERITAGE CENTER
163W. MAIN STREET, SPRING GROVE MN

COFFEE AND TREATS PROVIDED

JAN 9.....THRESHING
JAN 16.....SILO FILLING
JAN 23.....TRACTORS & HORSES
JAN 30.....HANDLING LIVESTOCK

MEN AND WOMEN WELCOME

SHARE YOUR STORIES ~ BRING PHOTOS IF YOU WISH

Hudson Hot Air Affair is the premier winter ballooning event and winter festival in the Midwest

February 7-9, 2020



Join us in Hudson, Wisconsin, along the beautiful St. Croix River for Hudson Hot Air Affair, the premier winter ballooning event and winter festival in the Midwest. This family friendly event includes activities such as an evening Torchlight parade, hot air balloon launches, geocaching, marketplace and craft fair, smooth boarding, bingo, balloon moon glow or field of fire, children's activities and theme events, just to name a few.



47th Annual Wahlstrom Nordic Workshop
Beaver Creek Reserve
Fall Creek, WI
February 21-23, 2020





Lectures • Crafts • Dance • Ax-Throwing

Join Norden Folk and Scandinavian Studies programs from across the Upper Midwest for a weekend of education, social connections and midwinter fun! \$50 registration fee covers program, food, and accommodations. Registration Deadline: February 10, 2020

To register or for more information, contact: Valorie at vsarrowsmith@gmail.com. Find information on the Wahlstrom Nordic Workshop Facebook group, and go to www.visitnordenfolk.org to see photos of past events.

Location: Beaver Creek Reserve, S1 Co. Rd. K, Fall Creek, WI 52742, 715-877-2212
Program: lectures, discussions, Nordic movies, ax casting, spark races, wood carving, weaving, folk dancing, home cooked meals, + use snow shoes and cross country skis.

Rosemaling
All levels welcome

Rosemaling requires the skill to create a variety of strokes using brushes and paint. Supply list will be emailed prior to class start date. Supplies may be purchased at a local craft store.

Julie Anderson paints and teaches many styles of decorative painting. Inspired by Nordic and Germanic folk arts, Julie structures her classes to teach techniques and paint designs.

Brush Techniques
Learn basic strokes using a round brush and line work compositions. Ideal for anyone who wants to learn brush strokes to do other painting styles, brush lettering, face painting, border work, etc. Approximate supply cost \$25.

Norwegian Folk Art Painting
Painting is based on brush stroke work traditionally done with oil paint (you may use oil or acrylic paint in class). Focus on flower forms and simple scroll work. We will also discuss some history and various styles of Telemark, Hallingdal and Os, color theory and color selection. Learn or improve brush stroke skills and paint a design on painted poster paper or a wooden surface of choice. Not required but you are encouraged to take Rosemaling Brush Techniques before this one. Each class will be different so both beginning and continuing students are encouraged to enroll. Supply cost \$30-50 depending on student choices.

<p>A440-A3 Th 6-8 pm Feb 6-13 DEC Rm 1026 \$39</p> <p>A440-B3 Th 6-8 pm Apr 16-23 DEC Rm 1026 \$39</p>	<p>A442-03 Th 6-8:30 pm Mar 5-19 DEC Rm 1026 \$69</p> <p>A442-04 Th 6-8:30 pm May 7-21 DEC Rm 1026 \$69</p>
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ISD 191 Community Education,
200 W Burnsville Parkway, Burnsville, MN 55337
Visit our website for new classes and additional dates for ongoing offerings at communityed191.org, 952-707-4150, Fax 952-707-4140

Viking runestone may allude to extreme winter, study says...

Ninth-century Rök stone may deal with fear of cold climate crisis in Scandinavia



The Rök stone in Sweden bears the longest runic inscription in the world. Photograph: Alfredo Dagli Orti/Rex/Shutterstock

One of the world's most famous runestones is now believed to have been erected by Vikings fearing a repeat of a previous cold climate crisis in Scandinavia, a study has concluded.

The Rök stone, raised in the ninth century near Lake Vättern in south central Sweden, bears the longest runic inscription in the world, with more than 700 runes covering its five sides.

It is believed to have been erected as a memorial to a dead son, but the exact meaning of the text has remained elusive, as parts are missing and it contains different writing forms.

The stone refers to the heroic acts of "Theodoric", which some scholars believe refers to Theodoric the Great, a sixth-century ruler of the Ostrogoths in what is now Italy.

Researchers at three Swedish universities now suspect the inscriptions are more of an allusion to an impending period of extreme winter, as the person who erected the stone tried to put their child's death into a larger perspective.

"The inscription deals with an anxiety triggered by a son's death and the fear of a new climate crisis similar to the catastrophic one after [AD]536," the authors wrote in a study published on Wednesday.

The sixth-century crisis is believed to have been caused by a series of volcanic eruptions that dramatically influenced the climate with lower than average temperatures, ruined crops with ensuing hunger and mass extinctions.

AFP in Stockholm-THE GUARDIAN Wed 8 Jan 2020 14.23 EST

“The Sami”



CULTURAL CORNER: On February 6th the Scandinavian countries celebrate "National Sami Day." It will be a special day in the Arctic communities of Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Kola Peninsula in Russia. This once was an area called Lapland, but that name has been changed to Sami (saw-me). The arctic area they live in is often referred to as "Sapmi." Most Sami live in Norway, about 60,000, out of 107,000. If you are familiar with the Disney movie "Frozen," then you know about the arctic reindeer called Svein and his friend Kristoff, who represents the Sami culture! The Sami language is divided into 3 dialects, but related to Finnish, Estonian, and

Hungarian.

The National costume of the Sami is called "gakti." This costume is a dress or tunic with leggings, a 4 cornered hat, reindeer boots, and a belt. The colors used are blue, red, and yellow. The Sami have their own national flag and it is flown in Oslo on February 6th. The flag has the same 3 colors used in the costume. The Sami have their own special way of singing which is comprised of vocal sounds and not words. A drum is used to keep the beat and the Sami use their voice to sing a lyric like an instrument. This type of singing is called Yoik...(.Yoyk).

The Sami are often called "Reindeer People" because they follow the reindeer herds, round up reindeer to train to pull their sleds, and to eat and skin the hides for clothing, bedding, and handicrafts. Small dolls are made with reindeer hide for clothes. Shoes are also made with pointed toes out of reindeer hide. A lasso is used to catch the reindeer. The



handicrafts made are called "duodji" and are made from nature. These include the use of wood, bones, antlers, and leather as raw materials. Bead jewelry is added with tin thread for weaving and textiles.

Food eaten in the Sami culture includes: reindeer meat, salmon, crab, cod, reindeer milk, cheese, berries like blueberries, cloudberryes, crowberries, lingonberries, and coffee. The Sami do not eat bread, but enjoy macaroni and cheese, soups, stews, sausage, and blood cakes. The marrow found in the bones of the reindeer is drunk by the Sami because it is filled with protein and vitamins. The Sami live in a tipi called a "lav vu" or a small cabin in the mountains, or a ranch home. Only about 10% of the Sami live the old way in tents with a central fire for warmth and preparing food. Reindeer skins are put on the dirt ground and used as blankets too.



The jobs of these nomadic people are following the reindeer and sheep for herding, hunting, fishing, making handicrafts, berry picking, and small scale farming. They also enjoy canoeing, trekking, rowing, skiing, kayaking, snowmobiling, sled racing, dog sledding, mushroom picking, and bicycling. Fishing is excellent in the Tana River especially for Salmon. Wild cats have been found in the Arctic area and need to be killed because of over population.



It is very surprising that most Sami know English. They predominately go to the Lutheran Church, where Scandinavians are born into the Lutheran Church. Weddings are performed in the church in their National Dress. Before arriving at the church, a big procession starts from the bride's house with 3 couples leading, then the bride and groom, and then the invited guests which can be 600-700 people! The bride wears many white scarfs with silver pins under the scarfs, and the groom wears one white scarf crossed in front with silver pins. The silver pins resemble the solje which is dangling small spoons on a silver brooch in several shapes and sizes.

Following the Sami is a very special experience for all those who have an interest in the indigenous people of the Scandinavian Arctic.



Come to our meeting on Saturday, February 24th from 1--3pm to hear more about these fascinating people and see and feel the flag, handicrafts, and reindeer hides. We'll also have Reindeer soup, Salmon soup, and berries....recipes you have never tried before!

Submitted by Cheri Johnson, Blåfjell Lodge Cultural Director

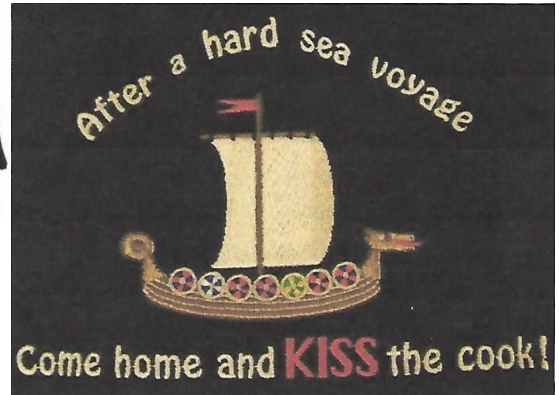
**Items for Sale by District 5 Sons of Norway...
Show off your Nordic pride!**



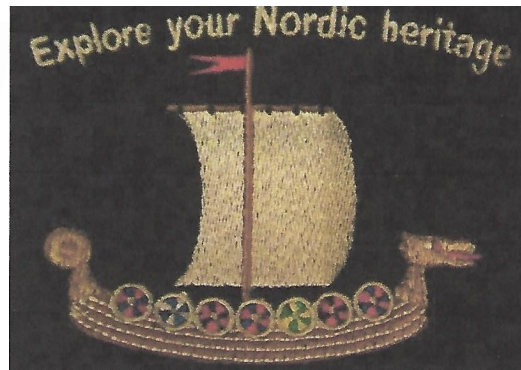
Norge Hat



*Embroidered
Apron*



*Embroidered
Sweatshirt*



These 3 items are all Navy Blue in color.

All proceeds from sales benefit Nordic Heritage and Cultural activities of the Nordic Legacy Foundation, including the Masse Moro Norwegian heritage youth camp.