

## Important dates to remember:

### Lodge Meeting Dates: 2:00 pm start

January 18, 2026

March 15, 2026

All Lodge meetings held at the  
Community Center - 107 N Grove St. in Mount  
Horeb unless otherwise noticed in the  
Newsletter article of a different location.

### Board/Business Meeting Dates: 6:30pm at Culver's restaurant in Mt. Horeb

January 14, 2026

February 11, 2026

March 11, 2026

April 8, 2026

May 13, 2026

## Mark your calendar dates –

January 5, 2026 – Twelfth Night (Sweden)

February 6, 2026 – National Sami Day (Norway)

March 25, 2026 – Waffle Appreciation Day

May 17, 2026 – Syttende Mai

June 5, 2026 – Constitution Day (Denmark)

June 6, 2026 – National Day (Sweden)

June 15, 2026 – Edward Grieg's Birthday

June 17, 2026 – National Day (Iceland)

Hei,

My fellow Vennelag members. Warm wishes to you & yours. Hoping that you had a great holiday season! As our Lodge embarks on 2026, I wish for all peace, Love, joy and much laughter! I want to say "Tusen Takk" to all who helped with the many duties in all the activities we partake in for our running of the Lodge! Many hands make light work.

Coming in the next couple of months, our January 18th meeting we will be showing a Hallmark movie and on February 7th we will be partaking in the Scandihoovian Winter Festive, which is a very large event for our great town of Mount Horeb, it gives us great exposure to be seen partaking in these events to let locals and visitors know that we are an active part of the Community and does help promote new membership of persons of all ages, including families.

We are still selling raffle tickets for the Norway trip, the drawing will take place in April. This is a fundraiser to raise money for the Lodge.

Takk så mye, Steve

**January meeting:**

**We will be celebrating the Koslig season by staying in and watching A Heidelberg Holiday. The movie centers on a lady called Heidi and her journey to sell her hand-painted ornaments, possibly find a romantic connection with a local artisan or will she find a hidden connection to her past?**

February doings:

No meeting this month as we will be joining in on the festivities during Mt. Horeb's Scandihoovian fest. Please make sure to keep eyes and ears out for what the plan is for the Saturday of the fest that our Lodge will be working on. As things are still being settled we will need hands to help run a few games and help with handing out goodies.

March meeting:

We will be hoping to have Ron Goplin and his ukelele group back to serenade our Lodge with their songs and don't forget to bring your warmed up vocal cords.

**Sons of Norway Foundation –**

**It is my privilege to share that our Sons of Norway Foundation campaign in October was a tremendous success! The Vennelag lodge board of directors set a goal to raise \$750 for 2025, and we met our goal, thanks to you!**



**This amount came from your tax free contributions and will be sent to our Sons of Norway District 5 Nordic Legacy Foundation. I thank you as the Vennelag Lodge Foundation director for your efforts in providing the funds to support the Foundation's mission to support our youth, heritage, culture, scholarships and education grants. Your generosity to the Foundation in 2025 is truly appreciated!**

**Harley Skjervem**



Vennelag Lodge 5-513

## Vennelag Lodge Continuing Education Scholarship Application

2025-2026

Vennelag Lodge is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to an applicant who has Norwegian heritage. This scholarship is available to a high school graduate or to a student currently attending an accredited post-secondary or technical college or a student who has chosen to postpone further education and now plans to attend an accredited post-secondary school or technical college.

The applicant needs to submit the following criteria:

- Transcript showing successful completion of high school and evidence of maintaining a 2.5 GPA or better
- Transcript showing successful completion of previous semester in post-secondary and evidence of maintaining a 2.5 GPA or better
- A student choosing to postpone further education will need to submit a high school completion transcript with evidence of maintaining a 2.5 GPA or better

These items, official school transcript and a copy of the acceptance letter, **must be** submitted with this application. Payment will be sent to the school of choice.

Please complete the following:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please check one or both of the following as they apply to you.

I am a current member of Vennelag 5-513 Lodge.

My parent/grandparent is a member of Vennelag 5-513 Lodge.

\*Name and address of the Institution you plan to attend or update us when a decision has been made. Payment will be sent to the school of choice:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship Deadline is March 1, 2026**

Mail your completed application form to:

Arlene Watrud Krueger

7366 Old Sauk Rd.

Madison, WI 53717

arlene.w.k54@gmail.com

This application will be submitted such that the recipient will be chosen by the scholarship committee based solely on the responses given.

**VENNELAG Lodge 5-513 Scholarship Application**

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE PORTION:**

Include the following in your application letter.

- A. Describe a learning experience that you had during school which you found to be significant in your life. How did it affect your thinking about your future path?
- B. List the academic and extracurricular activities you were involved in during school. Describe your involvement in each including: office held, if applicable, what you contributed to the activity, and what you learned from your participation.
- C. Describe your community involvement.
- D. Share what you know about your Norwegian heritage.
- E. Describe the goals you have set for yourself as you continue to further your education.



## Sons of Norway High School Graduate Scholarship Rubric

CRITERIA	MEETS OR EXCEEDS CRITERIA 4	MEETS CRITERIA 3	MISSING INFORMATION 2	NOT PRESENT 1
A. Describe a learning experience that you had during school which you found to be significant in your life. How did it affect your thinking about your future path?	Thoroughly described experiences and detailed explanation of effects	Good description of experiences or effects	Insufficient responses	Minimal description of experiences
B. List academic and extra-curricular activities you were involved in during school. Describe your involvement in each. Include: office held, your contribution to the activity and what you learned from your participation.	Clear concise list of activities and detailed explanation of level of involvement and amount of learning gained	Good list with clear explanation of involvement or amount of learning gained	Unclear responses of involvement or amount of learning gained	Minimal responses
C. Describe your community involvement.	Thorough descriptions of involvement	Adequate description of involvement	Minimal description of involvement	Lacks involvement
D. Share your knowledge of your Norwegian heritage.	Shows complete knowledge of Lodge and good level of involvement	Some level of Lodge-knowledge and some level of service	Attempts to describe Lodge and no service	Minimal Knowledge and no service
E. Describe the goals you have set for yourself as you continue to further your education.	Quality goals that show forward thinking	Fairly clear picture of the future	Vague goals and outlook of the future	Minimal goals for the future

TOTAL POINTS \_\_\_\_\_

## **VENNELAG Lodge 5-513 Scholarship Application**

### **POST SECONDARY PORTION:**

Include the following in your application letter.

- A. What have you learned about yourself from your college experience thus far and how you see yourself in your future profession?
- B. Explain how your studies thus far have influenced your decision about the career you have chosen to pursue.
- C. How will this scholarship support your future college plans?



## Sons of Norway Post Secondary Scholarship Rubric

CRITERIA	MEETS OR EXCEEDS CRITERIA 4	MEETS CRITERIA 3	MISSING INFORMATION 2	NOT PRESENT 1
A. From your college experience thus far, what have you learned about yourself and how you see yourself in your future profession?	Thoroughly described experiences and detailed explanation of effects	Good description of experiences or effects	Insufficient responses	Minimal description of experiences
B. Explain how your studies thus far have influenced your decision about the career you have chosen to pursue.	Clear concise list of activities and detailed explanation of level of involvement and amount of learning gained	Good list with clear explanation of involvement or amount of learning gained	Unclear responses of involvement or amount of learning gained	Minimal responses
C. How will this scholarship support your future college plans?	Thorough descriptions of involvement	Adequate description of involvement	Minimal description of involvement	Lacks involvement

TOTAL POINTS \_\_\_\_\_

**The application that is featured on the previous pages are to be given out to those individuals that are seeking additional education please see our website <https://www.sonsofnorwayintheb.org> if there is a need for additional copies.**

## Appelsinkake / Orange Cake

This refreshing and easy recipe is a Norwegian favorite at Eastertime so taste-test now.

### Ingredients:

150 g (2/3 cup) butter  
2 dl sugar (3/4 cup plus 1.5 Tbsp.) sugar  
3 eggs  
1 lemon  
1 orange  
3 dl (1 1/4 cup) all-purpose flour  
2 tsp. baking powder  
2 dl (3/4 cup plus 1.5 Tbsp.) powdered sugar

### Glaze:

2 Tbsp. lemon juice  
2 Tbsp. orange juice  
1 Tbsp. softened butter

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 175° C / 350°F.

Wash the fruit. Zest the peel and squeeze the juice of both the lemon and orange.

Beat the butter and sugar until white and fluffy. Add the eggs, one at a time, and then the zested peel and fruit juices (reserve 2 Tablespoons of lemon and 2 Tablespoons of orange juice for the glaze).

Sift together the flour and baking powder and mix this with the wet ingredients.

Pour the batter into a greased and floured bundt cake pan. Bake the cake for approximately 45 minutes. Use a knitting needle or toothpick. to know if the cake is fully baked. No batter should remain on the needle/toothpick. Cool the cake.

### Glaze:

Mix the icing sugar, softened butter and reserved fruit juice to make a smooth glaze. Pour glaze evenly over the cake. If desired, sprinkle a bit of grated orange peel over top before the icing hardens.



## **Stavanger Celebrates 900 Years**

**Stavanger was founded in 1125, with the completion of its cathedral. Today, this southwest coastal city stands as the country's third-largest city and is central to the country's oil and gas industry. To mark the occasion, the city is taking the entire year to celebrate with the theme of *Stavanger 2025: Past, Present, Future*. Over the course of the year, events will occur that include themes of origin, cultural heritage, community, urban life, and natural wonder. The topics of innovation and sustainability will also be evident.**

**Festivities kicked off in January, with an estimated 17,000 in attendance for light festival events. Spring and summer festivities will be full of music, dance, performances, reenactments, and food celebrations. One of the biggest highlights will happen in July when the replica ship *Restaurasjon* sets sail from Stavanger harbor to re-enact the start of Norwegian mass migration to America in 1825. The year-long commemoration will conclude in December with an event called *Into the Future*, that will focus on technology and innovation topics.**

### **Sources:**

**[How Norway's Stavanger Will Celebrate Its 900th Year In 2025](#)  
[The celebration of Stavanger's 900th anniversary is now underway – NRK Rogaland – Local news, TV and radio](#)**

### ***Baking Workshop – fun had by all***







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**Do you have a change of address?**E-mail: [gragan51@gmail.com](mailto:gragan51@gmail.com)

Please inform International Headquarters (800 -945-8851 or [address@sofn.com](mailto:address@sofn.com)) of any change in mailing address or email.

You may make a request to discontinue the printed copy of the Newsletter and to receive an email copy.

Our newsletters are always available in color on the District 5 website: [www.sonsofnorway5.com](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com).

\*Find us on the web: [www.sonsofnorwaythoreb.org](http://www.sonsofnorwaythoreb.org)

\*If you know someone who is interested in membership in Vennelag Lodge, please direct them to this site. It will give them a better idea of our organization.