



Vennelag Lodge 5-513

## Vennelag News

September – Oktober 2023

### Important dates to remember:

**Lodge Meeting Dates: 6:30 pm start**

**Thursday September 28, 2023**

**Thursday October 26, 2023**

**Thursday November 16, 2023 (held 1 week ahead of normal time due to Holiday.)**

**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 Skål restaurant in Mt. Horeb**

**September 6, 2023**

**October 11, 2023**

**November 8, 2023**

**December 6, 2023**

### **Mark your calendar dates –**

**Høst Frokost – October 7, 2023**

**Lief Erikson day –October 9, 2023**

**Newsletter Article DEADLINE  
-October 1, 2023**

**Lodge Elections November 16, 2023**

**JultreFest - December 3, 2023**

**Finland's Independence day  
-December 6, 2023**

**National Sami Day - February 6, 2024**

**Syttende Mai –May 17, 2024**

**Kaffe Stue – July 12 & 13 , 2024**

### **From the President-**

I hope you all had a good summer. We certainly didn't need to waste much time mowing yards. Thanks once again to all who helped make the July Kaffe Stue a big success. It's a long, long list of names, but in particular thanks go to Tiffany Schwoerer who took over the chairperson's job and really did well in her first year at the helm.

As we move into fall, there's a pretty full slate of upcoming events as usual. Join us at the September 28 meeting to hear Dave Amdahl's discussion of the prequel leading up to the events depicted in The Atlantic Crossing.

October will also see the Høst Frokost breakfast and the Foundation month. So once again we will be looking for assistance to make another successful event.

Many people claim that fall is their favorite time of the year, and I'm one of them. So get out there and enjoy everything that the season offers.

Takk så mye  
Allen

**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**

## September 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting Details:

***Crown Princess Martha, The American Story***: Not a Power Point but a 52 min. video produced by the Norwegian government on the occasion of her statue erected in front of Norway's embassy in Washington DC in 2005. Between the story of her early life as a Swedish princess, her courtship and marriage to Olav and her tragic death in 1954, is the tale of their tenth anniversary trip to the USA. This was an extensive journey covering our nation from Niagara Falls to the Grand Canyon and also their meeting FDR with an invitation to America should the situation in Europe worsen. It did within a year and Martha and her three children did spend five years in America, hosted by the Roosevelts. A prequel to the PBS series ***The Atlantic Crossing***!

Questions and discussion of ***The Atlantic Crossing*** would be appropriate at the conclusion of the video.



David Amdahl is the son of a Norwegian immigrant. His father, Olaf came from the Stavanger area to North Central Iowa in 1927. He and his wife Jill are also the parents of an emigrant as their daughter, Staci, moved to Norway in 2008. Staci now lives with her husband Espen, and daughters, Ariel and Harley, near Trondheim.

David spent most of his working life in the farm equipment industry, the last fifteen at Northeast Iowa Community College teaching Agricultural Equipment Technology. Since retirement in 2005 he has spent time volunteering as a guide at Vesterheim, visiting family and grandchildren and reading considerable history. He enjoys sharing

programs involving little known historical events and facts that he has discovered through his travels and reading.

He began traveling to Norway with his father in 1980 and hasn't been able to stop. A visit in April 2019 with wife Jill, to Staci, Espen and family was the sixteenth. And if anyone has the ticket, he would be on his way again.....tomorrow morning!

I would like to perhaps provide a little clarification. I would not really describe it as being a presentation of Martha and ***the Atlantic Crossing*** but rather, perhaps a prequel. It was made as a tribute to her by the Norwegian Embassy in Washington D. C. on the occasion of the unveiling of a statue on the embassy grounds. It begins with her life as a Swedish Princess and continues with her marriage to Olaf. (Some real good royal family history there) The majority covers their 10th anniversary trip to the USA where they meet the Roosevelts and that sets up the Atlantic Crossing story. It's extremely well done and I'm glad to discuss how it was received in Norway as well as accuracies and inaccuracies in the PBS production.

-David Amdahl

## October 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting reminder:

In October we will be having Foundation Night and so be prepared to support our Headquarters in supporting the local lodges.

\*\*\*Also don't forget that this year is an election year for our Lodge and we are in need of officers. Please consider getting more information and getting more involved in the future of Vennelag.

*Some Sailors From the Verona Parade below.*



## Our Syttende Mai celebration!!







***Just Some of the Kaffee Stue Preparations!***











# ***FINALLY IT'S KAFFE STUE DAY!!!***









*As I'm sitting here enjoying the moment the day after Kaffe Stue I can't express myself enough how I appreciate you all stepping up to help me out. I feel that this year's event was as seamless as I could have made it which is very much to do with you being at the Kaffe Stue. I know that I cannot make doughnuts (found that out this year) nor can I make everything and I'm so grateful to everyone that made items whether it's a time tested treat for the bake sale or a new standard recipe for the serving line. THANK YOU!*

*Also a big thank you to those who took time out of their day(s) to help with the making beforehand at the communal prep days, I sometimes forget how much we need to make sure our guests, friends and family don't go away hungry. If I could go around to you all and give you hugs I would instead I'm sending you an emotional hug; I am in deepest awe of your willingness to be there and help but also share your knowledge so that we can learn from each other to make our goodies. I also am very glad to have the time to get to know you all better - as many of you know my Grandmother Lennys Luchsinger was a long time member who is since gone from us but she loved telling me stories of those members who wore green tights for a play or who made the best rosettes but she really was proud to know the members of Vennelag. Now I have my stories of the day that we discussed the differences of recipes and how to make the perfect meatball and TrollRoll lefse-Thank you!*

*I feel that our guests had a wonderful time despite all the heat and humidity that we had in the Community Center. I believe to my soles (yes I mean my feet since they are telling me that we did real well even the day after) that it was because of your smiles and helpfulness in*

*explaining all of our goodies to our guests, it just reminds me that we are Vennelag which we translate into "Circle of Friends". As I made my rounds yesterday I couldn't help but be so thankful that I have you all to help me with this event being on the serving line, jumping in wherever we needed hands or the all-important dish washing crew I cannot express enough -Thank you!*

*I am honored that we are able to make the Kaffe Stue as a huge success as we have and I would like to continue as long as possible as your chair of the Kaffe Stue to make it so for future generations. Which means that somehow we have to cajole, corral, and mayhap even catch (I know that all of my loved ones are always on the go so this might be something I consider) our loved ones into helping next time (Høst Frokost is not that far away and I know that Rita is looking for help making that a successful breakfast event). We can only continue if we have in place people who value what we have now and are willing to take it into the future with us and beyond us.*

*As with any endeavor there are learning opportunities that I hope to take with me for next year but if I missed a learning moment let me know at [vennelageditor@gmail.com](mailto:vennelageditor@gmail.com) and mange takk!!*

*Tiffany -Chair Kaffe Stue*

***Thank you!!!!***





Twenty Vennelag members and guests had a great time at the July 20 Mallards game, and saw a good game played by two talented teams.

The weather turned out to be ideal, and the ballpark food hit the spot. Think about joining us next year. This is usually scheduled in lieu of the regular meeting, and is a lot more fun (so says the president....)

## Høst Frøkost

The Høst Frokost will be **October 7, 2023 is from 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM at the Mt Horeb Community Center.**

The planned menu consists of heart waffles, lingonberries, soft and hard boiled eggs, rullepølse, lefse, bread, meats, cheeses, herring, smoked salmon, fresh fruit, coffee, and Norwegian desserts ... and don't forget the rømmegrøt!

Setup begins on Friday, October 6th at 2:00 pm. Help is needed on Friday for setting up tables, chairs, etc. and in the kitchen for prep work additionally organizing the bake sale. Help is especially needed early Saturday morning (6:30 am - 7:00 AM at the latest) as well as during the breakfast. There will be clean up from 11 AM to 12 noon. Food donations are welcome Friday after 2:00 – 4:00pm or by 7:00 am on Saturday, October 7. Thank you for any help you can give.

We need the following food items: applesauce, fry cakes, kringle, krumkake, lefse, rosettes, almond cake and sandbakkeles. We will also be having a bake sale, so any goodies, Norwegian or not, would be welcome. Søt Suppe is welcome but we are using just one recipe. Please contact Rita if you want to donate søt suppe.

If you are unable to help or donate food items listed above, a cash donation of \$20 per member would be appreciated. Those donations are used to buy grocery items for the Frøkost. Mail checks, payable to Vennelag 513, to Anna Olson, 2200 Olson Rd, Dodgeville, WI 53533-9292.

Rita Schraepfer-Derke is the event chairperson and contact person for the breakfast. You may reach Rita at 608-220-7565 or email at rsderke@gmail.com.

**\*\*\*Lefse for the Frokost** We will be making lefse for the Frøkost on **Thursday, September 14 and Friday September 15 starting at 9:00 AM at the ELC Church** in Mt Horeb. We welcome all who can help. Those with a lefse grill, board, rolling pins, and turning stick are asked to bring them. Remember your parking pass! Please watch your emails for more details.

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Please inform Duane Kittleson of any change in mailing address or email. You may make a request to discontinue the printed copy 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.sonsofnorwaymthoreb.org](http://www.sonsofnorwaymthoreb.org)

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