



**SONS of
NORWAY**

Budstikken

Wergeland Lodge #5/028 P.O. Box 3591, La Crosse, WI 54602-3591



Facebook: [Sons of Norway La Crosse Wergeland Lodge](#)

October 2023

Volume 58, Issue 9

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Wergeland Kalender

- ♦ October 5—6:00 Wergeland Lodge Meeting at the DAHL AUTO MUSEUM, 711 3rd Street S, La Crosse
- ♦ October 10—5:30 Board Meeting at Perkins in Onalaska—ALL are welcome!
- ♦ October 16 — Deadline for Budstikken articles
- ♦ October 18—Bus Trip to Norway House
- ♦ October 26—Budstikken mailed to members
- ♦ November 2—6:00 Wergeland Lodge Meeting, Radisson Center, located on the corner of 2nd & Jay St

Fra Presidenten



PLEASE READ THIS BUDSTIKKEN!

September is the month when we start to plan for the next year. That means many things! And, September is history. Welcome to **October, 2023!** A new roster of officers and directors will be put in place, so I want you to give some thought to how you can help to make 2024 a year to remember.

Some key officers are stepping down. President, Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Cultural /Program director and Historian. **Without this leadership, the future of Wergeland Lodge is in jeopardy.**

Enjoy the beauty of fall in Wisconsin! And remember to attend our October meeting at the Dahl Ford Museum. Ramona J.

ATTENTION!

<> See p. 5 for updated Bus Trip Info—change in departure time for Norway House trip. Adrian will continue to collect for the two trips at the Oct meeting.

<> Special Instructions for parking for our October meeting at the Dahl Auto Museum is on p. 3.

<> We will soon work on our officer nominations for next year—please say YES when asked to fill a spot! :)

<> Remember to write on the Cards for Veterans and bring them back to the Oct meeting. Marilyn is arranging to send and/or deliver cards to Veterans Homes.



www.vectorsonline.com



PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER

We will meet at the Dahl Auto Museum, 711 3rd St S, La Crosse

Lunch providers for the October 5 meeting:

Sandwiches (2½ dozen): Shirley Schoenfeld, Nancy Solberg, Mark Dregne, Carla Burkhardt, Lynn Curtis

Cakes or bars (18 pcs): Pam Sprain, Dee Johnson, Carol Stekel, Mary Sween

Pickles: Lee Grippen (sweet)

Vegetable or Fruit Tray: Linda Sherwood

Members as asked to donate \$3-5 per person at the lunch table for lodge expenses.



Oktober Birthdays

- 1 Karan K Mathison
- 2 Steven D Johnson
- 10 Corey L Forrester
- 12 Richard A Anderson
- 13 Beverly C Arity
- 14 Jean C Giese
- 14 Madonna J Hansen
- 15 Adriana F Gonzales
- 15 Marion K Strong
- 16 Royce Curtis
- 19 Carolyn Sorenson
- 20 Edward A Davig
- 21 Sandy M Mattie
- 22 Agnetha R Ames
- 29 Cary Jon Ivalis
- 31 Darlene M Erickson
- 31 Judean K Everson

Program for November

Sharen Storhoff will give a presentation on artist Herbjørn Gausta

Sekretær Notater...

September 7 Wergeland Lodge Meeting, Radisson Center, La Crosse, WI.

Dave Glomstad brought meeting to order at 6:38.

The Pledge was said and the three national songs were sung.

The Charter was draped for Joanna Briggsa and moment of silence was observed in her memory.

The Secretary's report from July was printed in the Budstikken and approved as printed. The Treasurer's report was read and approved as read.

Our next meeting will be held at the Dahl Auto museum - 711 3rd Street S. in La Crosse.

Raffle - \$37.00 - Winners - Ann Piper and Bev Ranis

Birthdays - Song was sung.

Marilyn Rudser - Notice of cards for vets, bundles of 25 cards on each table for everyone to take and write on and bring back next month. She needs someone to deliver cards to Chipewewa Falls, Green Bay and others. If you can deliver to any of these locations, please let Marilyn know. It will be much appreciated.

Songs: #42 "A Sailors Greeting" #46 "Hills Fra Mig Der Hjemme"

Dave: May Peace and Harmony reign in our Lodge.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00.

Members present: 51

Program: Gunner Sveen From Oslo.

—Kathy Anderson, Secretary



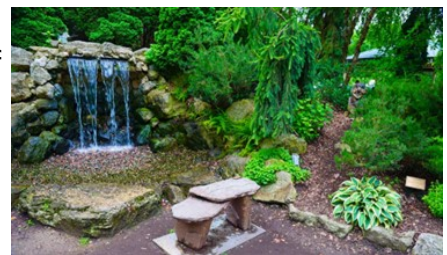
Adrian will have the 2024 calendars (above) for sale at our October and November meetings. They are \$14 each and are filled with beautiful images!

Treasurer's Report:

Aug 31, 2023 checking balance	\$2614.28
(which includes \$159.91 for Dancers)	
Aug 31, 2023 scholarship balance	\$806.50
Aug 31, 2023 savings balance	\$12,785.45
Aug 31, 2023 Wergeland has	\$16,206.23

Our Trolls

Did you see the feature in the Sons of Norway E-News on Sept 22? As they announced the Sons of Norway Foundation campaign, they highlighted the grant Wergeland received for the Trolls at the International Gardens: "One recent grant brought new trolls to the International Friendship Gardens in La Crosse, WI. Visitors come from great distances to see the trolls and gardens which grow hardy shrub roses varieties Ole, Lena, Sven & Sigrid developed by the University of Minnesota. The Norway section of the gardens features a waterfall and a torvtak reminiscent of sod-roofed buildings you'll see in Norway. Surely a fine example of a community partnership grant."

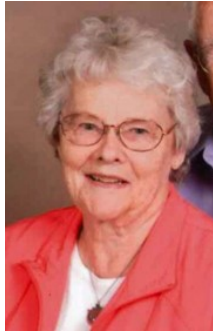


Til minner om...

...Joanne Briggs, 88, who passed away August 19 at Eagle Crest South, La Crosse. She was born in Ettrick and resided in Onalaska for many years. Our thoughts are with Keith and their family.

God Bedring...

...til Skip Temte, who had a fall injuring his shoulder. He has been recovering at Benedictine Manor but is expected to return home soon!



Program for October: October's program will be held at the **Dahl Auto Museum**! The evening will consist of our normal fellowship time until lunch with a short meeting and then a program presented by the current Dahl Automotive ownership. They will talk about their Norwegian Heritage, their American beginnings in Westby and, since 1915, owning their dealerships in La Crosse. This will be a memorable evening for all who attend!



Parking Information for the October Meeting!!

The museum is on the east side of the street between Division and Market Streets. **The doors will open at 5:00 pm** for those who want to visit the museum before our lunch, which will be held at 6:00 with a program following. There are three doors entering the museum, all of which will be open at 5:00 for a special event such as ours. There will be **no charge** to visit there for our lodge that evening.

After 5:00, parking is available:

- on the Service Department lot on the corner of 3rd and Division Streets. From there, you can walk in the north door of the museum.
- There is also a gravel lot across 3rd St, which Dahl owns and you can park there and cross 3rd Street to reach the museum.
- Also, 3rd Street itself is available on both sides of the street. **Just be careful crossing 3rd if you park on the west side of the street!**
- Lastly, on the south side of the museum, there are two handicapped spots available and anywhere else you can find a spot to park. From there you can use the south door to enter.
- Please do NOT park on the paved lot across the street, as that is owned by La Crosse Toyota dealership.

From the September Program:



For the September program, we had a presentation by **Gunnar Sveen**. He was accompanied by his daughter, Una, and granddaughter Selma.

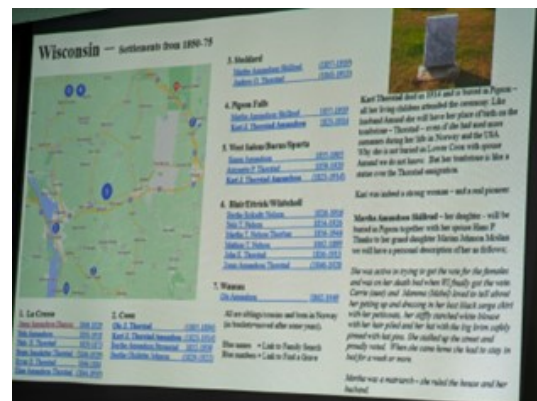
Gunnar shared the in-depth research about his ancestors and where they settled in the United States. Ancestral farms and families he has researched include Skillrud, Amundson, Thorstad, Sveen and Stromstad from Biri, Ringsaker and Fåberg areas of Norway.



Gunnar's research efforts over the years have led him to know **Rev. Donald Fox**, pictured below.



The extensive research has resulted in a fabulous document (sample pictured to the right) that explores each family and their path. He is happy to share his information with any interested parties.





Dis og Dat



Jarle Bryn was a guest of his host family, the **Grip-pens**, in Caledonia. He graduated from Caledonia HS in 1978 and was here for his 45-year reunion.

Jarle grew up in Voss and lives near Drammen. He just retired from his job as an engineer with the Norwegian Railroad System.



Carol Stekel, daughter Sue, and friend Cindy Jacobsen, traveled to Norway for 2 weeks in July along with an Augustana alumni group. They saw a lot of Norway including the

Akerhus Historical museum (formerly a Quisling prison in WWII) up through the North to Selbu, Trondheim and Geiranger; and then the usual Norway in a nutshell trip. The pictures shows Carol and Sue looking over Bergen after having gone up the funicular ride. They also saw the Briksdal glacier and its rushing melt waters (before the glacier recedes even more). The exciting part was going to the Nidaros cathedral for a vesper service as the visit coincided with St. Olaf's Day....it was beautiful.



Looking Back

Fem år siden (5 years ago) 2018

A project of the District 5 Sons of Norway Nordic Legacy Foundation that was recently introduced is a 'friendship flag' pin. It features two small, crossed flags, an American and a Scandinavian flag. All Scandinavian flags (except Greenland) have the Nordic Cross, which symbolizes Christianity.

Welcome to new members – Theodora Michelle Ranis, David K. Johnson, Rita A. Johnson, Steven D. Johnson and Brian G. Johnson.

Freida Nowland introduced Marcia Crowley who told us about her role as the Norwegian cook for the Dousman family at Villa Louis, a National Historic Landmark in Prairie du Chien.

Ti år siden (10 years ago) 2013

As part of October Foundation month, Cindy Olson, Foun-

dation Director, will be joining us to give updates on new initiatives of the Sons of Norway Foundation as well as a recap of the past

On September 12th, Arlan and Doris Henderson hosted 15 guests from Norway for afternoon coffee, dinner, lodging and breakfast. Arlan demonstrated sawing lumber for them and later took them on a hayride before dinner. On Monday, October 14th, another group of 15 Norwegian tourists were guests at the Henderson's again.

Femten år siden (15 years ago) 2008

On Lil Malzacher recently celebrated a wedding in Budapest, Hungary for her son James and his wife Csilla.

Jim and Joyce Halvorson returned from a trip to Germany, Denmark, Norway and Sweden on August 20th.

Wayne and Elsie Olson attended the Sognefjordlaget meeting in Albert Lea MN on August 8 and 9.

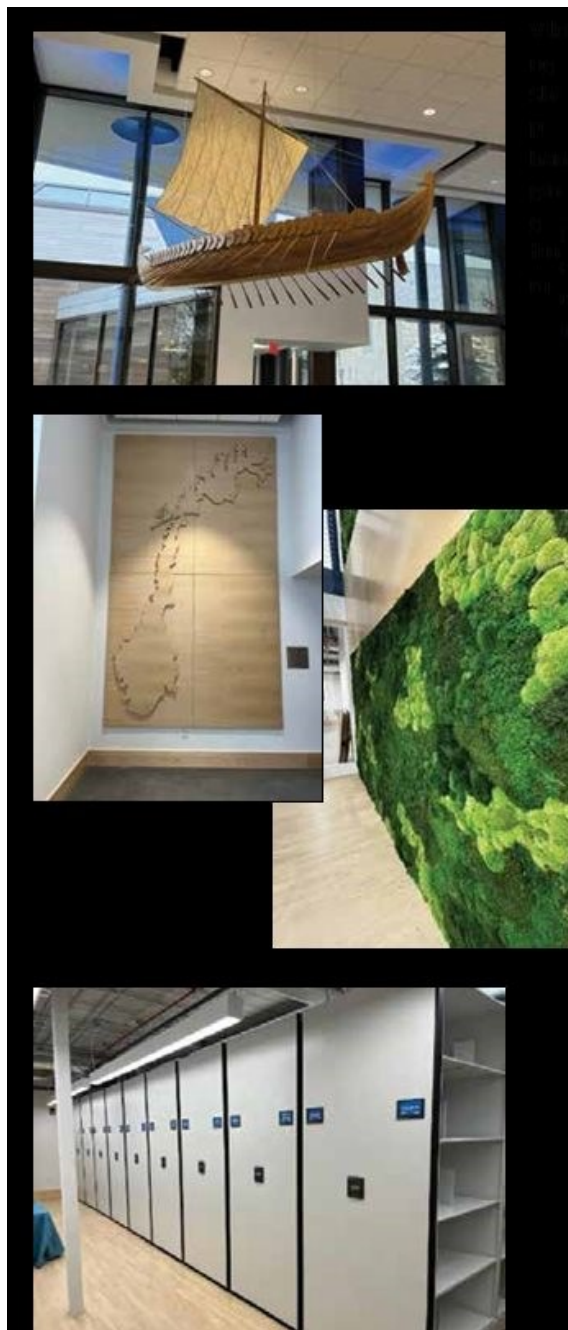
Sons of Norway Mission Statement

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 our members.

Norway House Sneak Preview

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld shared 4 pictures from Norway House that she found in a newsletter.

The top one is Model Viking Ship hanging from the Foyer ceiling at the Norway House and the second one is a map of Norway wall sculpture. The 3rd one is a 3-D sculptured (and very green) "Moss Wall" in the stairwell (made of reindeer moss); and the bottom one is in the library there of the movable archive bookcases on floor tracks. This is where bygdelags are storing books about Norway and the Farms and Families (Bygdeboker).



(at right) Ilene Pavelko found a slip of paper on which she had made some observations as she drove across Wisconsin on Hwy 21 a few years ago...

Minneapolis Bus Trip Information

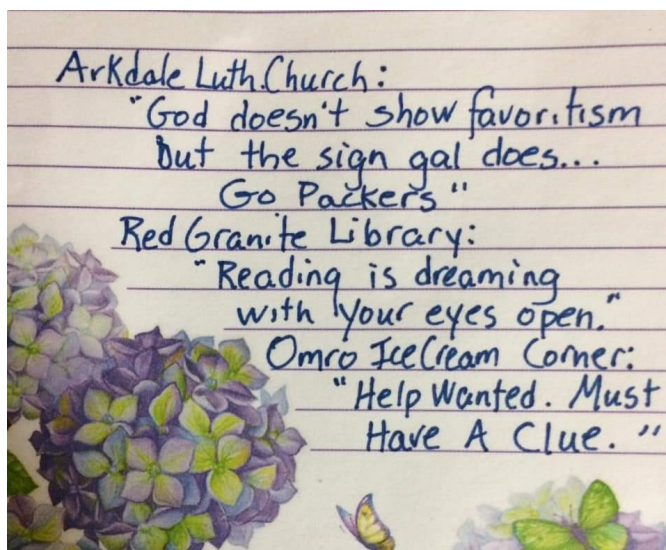
The October 18th bus trip to the Norway House is coming up quickly! Here are the details:

1. Leave Sams Club at **8:30 am**—**be there at 8:15 for loading**
2. The cost is 60.00 dollars (you should have paid Adrian by now).
3. Lunch is not included in this price. There is a Kaffebar at Norway House, and each person can order as they wish.
4. (There might not need to be a restroom stop in Rochester as there is a restroom on the bus...)
5. Arrive Norway House around 11:00. Tour is not guided. Admission price is included in trip price.
6. Stop at Swedish Museum. We won't go on guided tours, but will see the first floor, visit gift shop and have coffee.
7. Return home around 6:00 pm.

November 29th Bus Trip to Decorah

1. Leave Sam's Club at 10:00 am.
2. Total cost is \$60.00, includes lunch at Mabe's restaurant in Decorah.
3. Admission to Vesterheim is on you. If you are a member, bring your card. \$10.00 for non members.
4. Concert at Luther is free. Bus will leave downtown Decorah at 3:00 for Luther College. Concert is at 4:15.
5. Return home at about 7:00 pm.

Come prepared to pay for this trip at **the October meeting**. If you aren't at the meeting, send check to Ramona Johnson, 4650 Juniper St. La Crosse, WI 54601. We can add more people to this trip.



A Norwegian Gap Year

Norwegian folk high schools in Norway are unlike anything we have in North America.

Danish writer and pastor Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig came up with the concept of the folk high school. His idea was based on the fact that students needed “lifelong learning” skills in order to succeed. He liked the English Boarding School concept and mixed that with popular education and enlightenment rather than the formal education curriculum. Folk high schools stand out because they offer a wide variety of subjects, no final exams, freedom, self-motivation and a focus on self-development.

Norway’s first folk high school was formed in 1864 and now there are 85 folk high schools around the country. About a third of these schools have a religious focus but all vary according to subjects and location. To learn more about Norwegian *folkehøgskoler*, visit the official Norwegian *Folkehøgskole* website: <https://www.folkehøgskole.no/en/frontpage>

Did you know that the Sons of Norway Foundation offers financial support for members attending folk high schools? Visit the Foundation’s scholarship page to find out more: <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/>



2023 District 5 Lodge New Member Recruitment Contest

Have you invited anyone to join our Lodge this month?? This is part of the recruitment challenge from the Sons of Norway District 5 which runs through Oct 31: “For every new member (not Heritage Member) recruited, the lodge will receive \$10 for an individual or \$20 for a family membership. This does not include adding adults to an existing Adult Family membership. The money awarded will be sent to the local lodge of the recruiting member to be used as the lodge would like.”

Talk to your FRIENDS, RELATIVES, and NEIGHBORS about our lodge and how much fun we have! If you are in need of membership materials or have any questions about membership, contact Kathi Beane, beane.kath@eagle.uwlax.edu.



More Pictures from the Holmen Kornfest Parade

Here are some additional photos from the fun at the Kornfest Parade! Mange Takk to the Kawatski's for providing the transportation!

A little in English...

Motion to Move Russ Celebrations Before Exams

The majority of students in Oslo want to change the russ period [of pre-graduation festivities], a survey shows.

The City of Oslo has carried out a survey on russ pre-graduation celebrations. 1,900 pupils and principals responded. Most want to move the russ period to after the exam.

Marte Gerhardsen is director of Utdanningsetaten [the Oslo Board of Education]. The pupils deserve a celebration after 13 years in school, she says.

"But the celebration does not have to take place in the middle of the exam period," says Gerhardsen.

Embla Kristoffersen Sjøvoll is student council leader at Elvebakken Upper Secondary School. The russ board and the students must be allowed to decide for themselves, she believes.

"But it is more practical to hold the celebration after exams," she says to newspaper VG.

"I hope the russ period will be moved. It's fun to finish on Syttende Mai. But it is better for us to celebrate after the exam and get a good grade in the end."

Many students and parents report exclusion and pressure of consumerism during the russ period.

"We in Oslo Public Schools want to take more responsibility for the russ celebration. And work to create an inclusive celebration that everyone can take part in," says Gerhardsen.

Sunniva Holmås Eidsvoll is the city councilor of education for the city of Oslo. The study is important, she says to news agency NTB. It can help create a more inclusive russ celebration.

Eidsvoll asks the Board of Education to talk to the schools about the russ period.

"I would like to ask the Board of Education to enter into a dialogue with the graduates-to-be, the schools and the employees about how we can ensure that the russ both get a chance to concentrate on the exam, and the party they deserve, says Eidsvoll.

She believes the celebration should start after the exam. In Tromsø, the russ themselves have chosen to move the russ period, she says.

Litt på Norsk...

Vil flytte russetiden til etter eksamen

Flertallet av elevene i Oslo vil flytte russetiden, viser en undersøkelse.

Oslo kommune har gjort en undersøkelse om russefeiring. 1.900 elever og rektorer har svart. De fleste vil flytte russetiden til etter eksamen.

Marte Gerhardsen er direktør i Utdannings-etaten. Elevene fortjener en feiring etter 13 år på skolen, sier hun.

– Men feiringen trenger ikke foregå midt i eksamensperioden, sier Gerhardsen.

Embla Kristoffersen Sjøvoll er elevråds-leder på Elvebakken videregående skole. Russestyret og elevene må få bestemme selv, mener hun.

– Men det er jo mer praktisk å ta feiringen etter eksamen, sier hun til avisa VG

– Jeg håper russetiden flyttes. Det er gøy å avslutte på 17. mai. Men det er bedre for oss å ta feiringen etter eksamen og få en god markering på slutten.

Mange elever og foreldre melder om ekskludering og kjøpepress i russetiden.

– Vi i Osloskolen ønsker å ta mer regi på russefeiringen. Og jobber for å skape en inkluderende feiring som alle kan ta del i, sier Gerhardsen.

Sunniva Holmås Eidsvoll er byråd for utdanning i Oslo kommune. Undersøkelsen er viktig, sier hun til nyhetsbyrået NTB. Den kan hjelpe til å skape en mer inkluderende russefeiring.

Eidsvoll ber Utdannings-etaten prate med skolene om russetiden.

– Jeg vil be Utdannings-etaten gå i dialog med rusen, skolene og de ansatte om hvordan vi kan sørge for at rusen både får arbeidsro til eksamen. Og festen de fortjener, sier Eidsvoll.

Hun mener feiringen bør starte etter eksamen. I Tromsø har rusen selv valgt å flytte russetiden, sier hun.

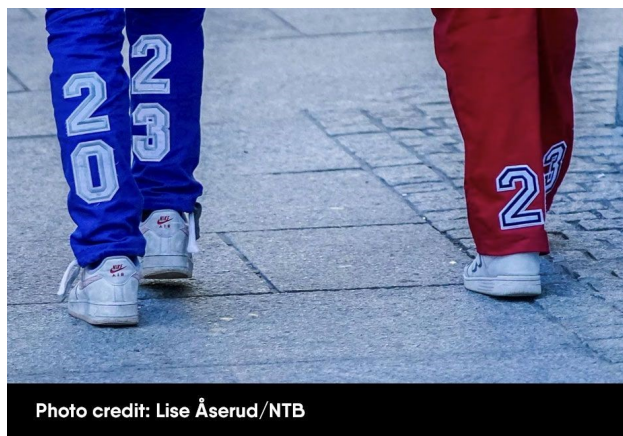


Photo credit: Lise Åserud/NTB

Sons of Norway
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OCTOBER 2023



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Norskedalen Activities

Throne Visitors Center

Hours From May - Oct:

Monday-Saturday from 9am--5pm
Sunday from 11am--5pm



Admission rates for all programs with the exception of Heritage classes is \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, \$15.00 for families, and free for members of "Friends of Norskedalen."

All visitors, including Norskedalen organization members, should check in at the Throne Visitors' Center for your admissions, wristband, maps and information.

Norskedalen Members may use the Norskedalen grounds 365 days a year from sunrise to sunset. Member parking pass must be clearly displayed in front windshield while using Norskedalen grounds.

Non-members may only use Norskedalen grounds during regular business hours and must check-in with office staff to pay admissions and receive a wristband.

Norskedalen phone: 608-452-3424

Web site: www.norskedalen.org

E-mail Address: info@norskedalen.org