

January 5th
2025

Godt Nytt År
Lodge Event

Sons of Norway

Polar Star Lodge 5-472

Meetings on the first Sunday of the month – Potluck at 1:30 p.m.

St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Douglas Road, Montgomery, IL

1:30 St. Lutheran Church
See page 3 for details

Upcoming Events

Polar Star Winter
Lefse Making Workshop
Date TBD

9:00 a.m. St. Olaf Lutheran Church
Details on page 2

President's Message

God jul og godt nytt år!



**POLAR STAR
PENNY SOCIAL
and
SOUPER BOWL**

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025
1:30

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
See article on page 4

Polar Star Newsletter Deadline
Will be the 14th of every month.
Please submit all articles to Barb
Johnson at barbjohnsonb@aol.com
Follow us on Facebook @
Sons of Norway – Polar Star Lodge

Godt Nytt År Polar Star!!

“Viking Music”

Sunday January 5, 2025

St. Olaf Lutheran Church – 1:30 p.m.



**Potluck begins at 1:30 followed by the program.
Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service**

Editor's Note: Polar Star Lodge members who have completed the 2024 Culture Goals will be awarded their medals on January 5th. All paperwork must be turned in to Barb at barbjohnsonb@aol.com by midnight on December 31, 2024.

POLAR STAR “VINTER” LEFSE MAKING WORKSHOP

Date TBD -on a Saturday morning - 9:00 a.m.
St. Olaf Lutheran Church Basement



Polar Star will be hosting a winter Lefse Making Workshop led by our very own Vi Skogen as soon as the Idaho Russet “Burbank” potatoes become available. The Public is invited to learn how to cook, prepare and roll potato dough to make Vi’s fabulous lefse recipe. Don’t miss this special opportunity to learn this traditional Norwegian staple! Please bring your lefse rolling pins, rolling boards, and grills if you have them. Please let Barb know if you want to be included on the email list when the event is scheduled.

Don't forget your favorite apron

POLAR STAR PENNY SOCIAL and The Great Polar Star Norwegian “Souper” Bowl Competition

FEBRUARY 2, 2024

1:30 p.m.

Begin gathering your garage sale treasures for re-sale at our Penny Social Auction and start digging out your Norwegian soup recipes for our annual lodge soup competition. Tickets for the Penny Social will be sold for 25 cents each and soup tasting and judging will begin at 1:30 followed by the Penny Social.



Who will win the title this year??????

Norge Ski Club 120th Winterfest Ski Jumping Tournament 2025

Saturday, January 25, 2025 - Sunday, January 26, 2025

11:00 AM - 05:00 PM

Norge Ski Club

100 Ski Hill Road, Fox River Grove, IL, USA



Weekend Schedule

The fun begins Saturday Noon with our juniors, followed by intermediate ski jumpers on our 40 meter jump. The energy grows into the afternoon to the main event: Olympic hopefuls launch off the towering 70 meter jump!

Sunday starts again at Noon, with Big Hill Thrill action on the 70 meter jump all afternoon.

Buy your ticket in advance here at TicketBud and pick up your entry button at will call when you arrive. Your button is your entry pass, good all weekend. No carry-ins, no dogs. Bring your friends, bundle up and come have fun!

SATURDAY JAN. 25	SUNDAY JAN 26
Junior Tournament Small Hills – Noon	Opening Ceremonies – Noon
Junior National Qualifier K70 Big Hill	US Cup Competition K70 Big Hill
	Longest Standing Competition

[Norge Ski Club Winterfest Ski Jumping Tournament 2025](#) | [Buy Tickets in Fox River Grove](#) | [Ticketbud](#)

Purchase buttons online \$20.00

Purchase buttons at gate \$25.00

Polar Star Sports and Activities

by
Jeri Lynn Baker



Keep Walking Polar Star

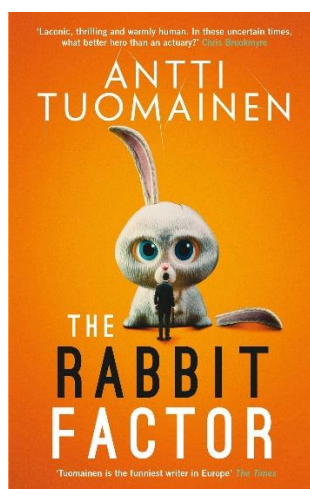
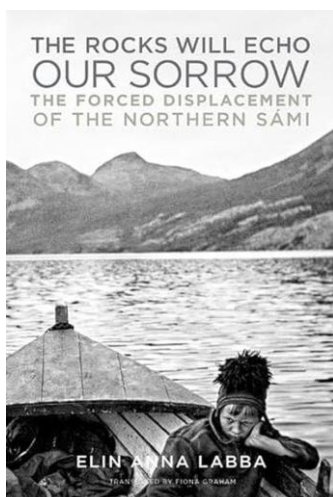
Post your miles every month on the Polar Star Facebook Page or to you Sports Director. Remember it's 55.74 miles per month through October 31, 2025. A total of 836 miles from New York City ot Norway, Illinois.

Polar Star Culture Corner

by
Barb Johnson

To join the Sons of Norway Book Club, send an email with your name, lodge name and contact information to SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com.

Sons of Norway January 2025 Zoom Book Club Selection



Main Read: *The Rocks Will Echo Our Sorrow* by Elin Anna Labba

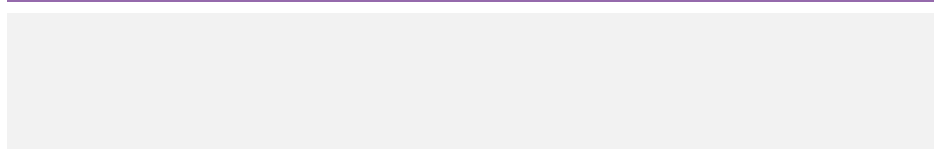
Mystery Read: *The Rabbit Factor* by Antti Tuomainen

Editor's Note: I have read both books and enjoyed them both. I listened to the Rabbit Factor on Audiobooks and laughed throughout. The main character is a trained "Actuary" who inherits an Adventure Park in Finland from his brother. It is the first book in the series of mishaps, murders and romance at the park.

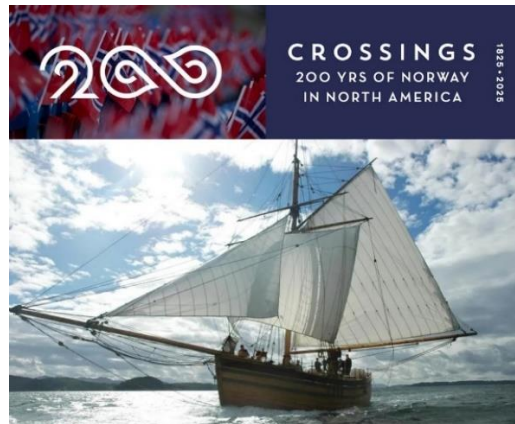
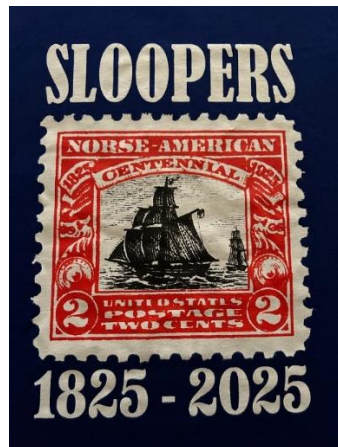
Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time:
January 30 - 6:00 p.m. Central Time



**The Norwegians
"kicked off"
The Winter Reading Program
at the Aurora Public Library
December 6, 2024**



Sons of Norway District 5 Culture Weekend
“Celebrating Norwegian Immigration”
The Sloopers 200th
Anniversary
October 3-5, 2025



2025 marks the 200th Anniversary of the first organized emigration of Norwegians to the United States. The single mast sloop, Restauration, left Stavanger on July 4, 1825, with 52 people on board. Often referred to as the “Sloopers,” they arrived in New York City harbor on October 9, 1825.

The coordinated undertaking for the 200th anniversary has been identified as Crossings, Norway & North America, 1825 – 2025

Editor’s Note: Polar Star and Cleng Peerson lodges will be “Celebrating Norwegian Immigration” and the 200th anniversary of the Sloopers arriving in America, by presenting a 3- day culture weekend [October 3-5, 2025](#). We will honor the history and culture of the early Norwegian-American pioneers who settled and established farms and communities on the Prairie of LaSalle County, Illinois.

Please be sure to mark these three dates on your 2025 calendars. Plan to attend, as well as to volunteer a little of your time. Registration packets are being finalized by the committee and will be emailed to Polar Star and Cleng Peerson members in January. They will also be made available to Sons of Norway District 5 members and to the public after our January 5th Lodge Event.

Polar Star 5-472 - 2025 Events and Programs

1:30 p.m. St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Montgomery, IL (unless listed)

JANUARY 5	VIKING MUSIC
FEBRUARY 2	POLAR STAR PENNY SOCIAL and SOUP COMPETITION
MARCH 2	“CELEBRATING NORWEGIAN IMMIGRATION” CROSSING 200
APRIL 6	
MAY 4	POLAR STAR MEMORIAL SERVICE
SAT. - JUNE 1	NORWAY MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE AND BREAKFAST
JULY	POLAR STAR FAMILY MONTH – NO EVENT SCHEDULED
AUGUST 3	PIONEER PICNIC
SEPTEMBER 7	VASA PARK 9:00 a.m.
OCTOBER 3-5	CELEBRATING NORWEGIAN IMMIGRATION CULTURE WEEKEND – NORWAY, ILLINOIS
OCTOBER 5	SLOOPER ANNUAL MEETING, NORWAY, IL
NOVEMBER 2	Høstfest begins at 11:30 a.m.
DECEMBER 7	JULETREFEST

Help is needed for the Kitchen Committee in 2025. Please let Nancy Andersen know which month you would like sign up for.

2025 POLAR STAR KITCHEN COMMITTEE

Jan. 5	Jeanne & Craig Leifheit
Feb. 2	Karen Oswald and Soup Competitors
March 2	Carol Devito, Frank Krawczyk, Sue and Steve Tanda
April 6	
May 4	
June 1	Norsk Museum Opening
Aug 3	
Sept 7	Vasa Park Event
Oct. 5	Slooper Meeting Event- Desserts needed
Nov 2	All members - Høstfest
Dec 7	Polar Star Board

SONS OF NORWAY – Polar Star Lodge 5-472

MEETING HOSTS (Kitchen Committee)

At least two members/families are needed each meeting to serve on the kitchen committee. Join in by volunteering for one time each year.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR HOSTS FOR SETTING UP LODGE MEETING

Chairperson: Contact members of your committee to complete your plans ahead of time. The committee normally supplies meat or main dishes and one gallon of 2% milk and ice for drinking water. All other members are asked to bring a potluck dish to share.

- Arrive at the hall 1-½ hours prior to meeting time.
- Set up 6-8 tables with chairs in their proper places.
- Provide table decorations according to season. Napkins and placemats may be in cabinet – check this at meeting before – for inventory.
- Make the coffee (50-60 cups). Coffee is provided by Lodge and is in the Lodge cabinet. If not, purchase coffee and you will be reimbursed. Start coffee immediately. Takes at least one hour.
- Set up the buffet table (two long tables). Arrange the food on the tables as it comes in. Include a basket at the front end for donations.
- Please set up an entry table for the sign in book.
- Set up the podium and the three flags in the front of the room.
- After everyone has eaten, wash cups, spoons, etc. and clean up area. Use our lodge dishtowels (in storage room). One person from the committee needs to take the dishtowels home, wash them, and bring them back to the next meeting.
- Return all chairs and tables to their proper places
- If it is inconvenient for you to serve at the time scheduled for you, exchange with someone or find a substitute. Any questions notify the Social Chairperson, Nancy Andersen.

If there is anyone who would like to assist in serving, please feel free to do so. The committee will love you!

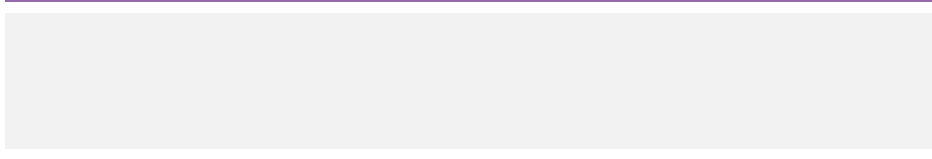
Don't forget the gallon of milk!

*Coffee: (Usually taken care of by Pres. Ken Johnson.) 1) Fill urn with COLD water. DO NOT IMMERSE URN OR CORD IN WATER. 2) Pour coffee into basket. For 55 cups, use 3-1/2 cups ground coffee. 3) Plug in urn. When it has finished brewing, remove basket with grounds

Updated January 2021 by Nancy Andersen

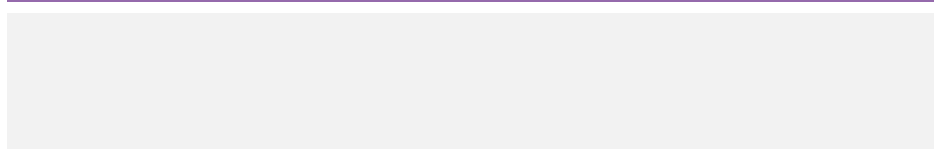
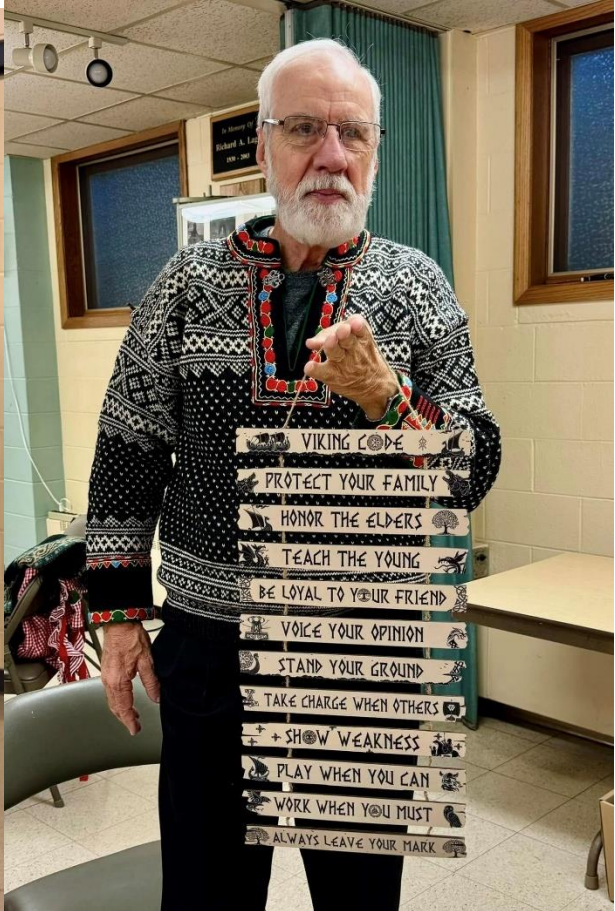


GOD JUL
ALLE SAMMEN





CONGRATULATIONS
Barb Johnson
winner of the
Polar Star 2024 Julebaker
Spatula Award











December 16-31	Birthdays	January 1-15	Birthdays
19	Carol Vigsnes	1	Eleanor Bates (101 st)
22	Ken Johnson	1	Larry Baker
23	Tom Harkins	5	Carol Baker
26	Gail Anderson	8	Ralph Kristenson
31	Charles Ray	29	Elsie Sorensen

**Eleanor Bates will turn 101 on January 1st 2025!
Please celebrate her life with a birthday card to:
Michaelsen's Healthcare Center - Holmstead Dr,
831 N. Batavia Avenue - Batavia, IL 60510**

Please turn in your volunteer hours at the January meeting!

Activity Volunteer Hours Tracking Sheet - Polar Star Lodge 5-472

Member Name _____ Phone _____ Service Year _____

This data is used for mandatory reporting that maintains Sons of Norway tax-exempt status, and for National Sons of Norway to lobby on behalf of Fraternal benefit societies. Annually, by end of January, submit your completed form to the Polar Star Secretary. Tusen takk.

- **Membership Activities** – Volunteer time spent on preparing, running or supporting projects/programs organized by Sons of Norway at a lodge, district or international level that were devoted to lodge business affairs, recreational/social events, training seminars, cultural classes, officer duties, etc. **Include only volunteer time** spent organizing, planning or working before/at/after the events. Do not include lodge meeting attendance time.

Member Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Lodge Meeting/Food (prepare food for pot luck, set/clean up, kitchen duty)													
Lodge Meeting Programs/Activities (plan/prepare/lead)													
Training/Seminars (plan/prepare/lead)													
Officer Duties													
Manage Newsletter/ Facebook/Website													
Board/Committee Meetings													
District or National Meetings/Training													
Other (describe)													
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP HOURS:													

- **Community Activities** – Record time that you volunteered in the name of / on behalf of Polar Star lodge, another Sons of Norway lodge, or SON district or international level at events focusing on community involvement/interest. **Include only your volunteer time** working at, planning for, or traveling to/from the event. Do not include time just attending.

Community Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Høstfest (prep/food/work)													
Fox Valley Norwegian Choir													
Vasa Park (prep/food/work)													
Norsk Museum (docent/manage/maintain)													
Norsk Museum Fundraisers breakfast/smorgasbord/etc (prep/food/work)													
Sloopers													
Syttende Mai Parade/Banquet (prep/food/work)													
Norwegian National League (plan/prepare/lead)													
Viking Ship (docent/manage/maintain)													
MSI Christmas Tree													
Barnebirke/Norge Ski													
SOFN Book Club													
Tubfrim													
Schools/Libraries													
Support Other Lodge													
Other (describe)													
TOTAL COMMUNITY HOURS:													

Revised 2024

Sons of Norway
Polar Star Lodge 5-472
Juletrefest and Regular Meeting, December 1, 2024

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
1233 Douglas Avenue
Montgomery, IL 60538

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m., following a delicious potluck holiday luncheon. Ham and boiled cod were served, along with salads, side dishes, and of course desserts. Kitchen hosts were the Polar Star Board.

President's Announcements:

- Ken opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and welcomed everyone. Guests included Karen Oswald's daughter-in-law Jenny and granddaughters Elyse, Kayleigh and Leah; Floyd Anderson's granddaughter Lauren Ruhl with her husband Jack and their children Archer and Lucy; and the Rubis family (who first visited Host Fest and may become new members): Tim, Kim, and their daughter Charlotte.
- Vasa Park Scandinavian festival was Sunday September 8. Our popular booth sold out of almost everything.
- Instead of our usual October meeting, our lodge attended the Sloopers Annual Meeting on October 1st in Norway, Illinois. Polar Star members presented a vintage Settlement play and provided Norwegian desserts.
- Our annual Host Fest was held on Nov 3. Attendance and income was almost as much as last year.
- Some of our members decorated the annual Norwegian Christmas tree on November 6 at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.
- Al Bergh reported that Polar Star past president Don Danielson passed away two weeks ago. The family plans to arrange a memorial in 2025, and details will be provided when available.
- Barb Johnson reported that was sent a check for \$250 for volunteer work at the June District Convention. She moved to donate the full amount to the national Sons of Norway Book Club to assist with guest author fees for their meeting presentations. A discussion was held regarding whether some should be retained by Polar Star to help recover 2023 Vasa Park losses. Motion to donate the full amount was made, seconded, and passed.

Treasurer Report:

- Carol read a summary of the Treasurer's report (copy attached). Current checking account balance is \$3,654.30, and our total assets are \$17,924.74.
- The Treasurer's report included information about last year's December donations. We donated \$100 each to several different Norwegian-related organizations. Motion passed to donate the same amounts this year.
- Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made, seconded, and passed.

Secretary Report: Karen reminded everyone to finish recording their 2024 activity volunteer hours, and to submit their report to her no later than January's Polar Star meeting.

Social Director Report:

- Nancy brought a pan of Norwegian risgrøt (rice pudding). The person with the whole almond in their serving was guest Elyse Oswald, who won a traditional marzipan pig.

- She reported that we need members to sign up for kitchen duty for least one 2024 Polar Star meeting. Jeanne Leifheit volunteered for January, and Karen Oswald for February, but coverage is still needed for our remaining 2025 meetings.

Cultural Director Report:

- Barb reminded everyone working toward the 2024 Year of the Viking award to complete the requirements by year end.
- Also reminded about the Christmas tree ornament needle felting workshop to be held at 10 a.m. this coming Thursday Dec. 5, in Big Rock, Illinois. Fee is \$25 to cover the materials. See December newsletter for details.
- This Friday evening December 6, Barb will be in her bunad and manage a Norwegian culture table at the Aurora Public Library's winter reading program.
- In January, Barb will putting together a Polar Star cookbook and asked everyone to email/snail mail family recipes (with a related family story/memory) to her before our January meeting.

Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:45, followed by Polar Star's Juletrefest traditions: singing around our Christmas tree, a visit from the Nisse with gifts for the children, auction of tins of traditional Norwegian cookies (proceeds donated to the Sons of Norway Foundation), and our adult gift exchange.

Next Meeting: Sunday, January 5: Viking Music and Awards.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Oswald, Secretary