

# Sons of Norway District 5 Convention 2026 August 2-6, 2026 Stoughton, WI Delegate registration information and details!

## A few things about this convention

As we presented our proposal in 2024 in Indianapolis, we explained that our hotels do NOT have meeting space and that this will be a convention where delegates will be in multiple hotels and driving to the meetings. The delegates understood that and approved our proposal. We will have some of our Mandt members volunteering with those who have transportation issues or that need to be picked up at the airport (use Dane County Regional Airport in Madison). Stoughton has several hotels but as they fill, some may have to drive 15-20 minutes to the various convention activities. Thank you for understanding this situation but it was the only way we could host it in Stoughton and not move it to a larger city where prices for meeting space and meals was much higher. Our goal is to have a great convention experience, get our business done, have some fun, and to do it economically!

## Updates will be made and more details on items here

District 5 Website: <https://sonsofnorway5.com/conventions/> There are multiple tabs so be sure to check them all out and watch for updates!

District 5 Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1410575062591249> or **Sons of Norway District 5** (need to request to join)

## Deadlines

- June 15- Well wishers, advertisements and sponsorships due
- July 1- Registrations and any additional meals
- July 4- Hotel blocks go off but we encourage you to book rooms ASAP- don't wait!

## What registration form do you use?

- If you are a delegate from your lodge or a District 5 Board member, use the **Delegate Registration Form**
- If you are not a delegate but are a SN member, a spouse or family member, or others interested in attending the convention events, use the **Non-Delegate Form**.
- If you are a SN Mandt Lodge member who is volunteering at the convention and also want to attend parts of the convention, use the **Mandt Lodge Registration Form**.

## Meals at the convention

- Delegate fees include the Wednesday and Thursday lunch at the SASD.
- Others can attend the Wednesday and Thursday delegate meals but need to register for them by July 1.
  - Wednesday- Brunch with fresh fruit, variety of quiches, 7-layer salad, au gratin potatoes with ham, and bakery items for \$17.
  - Thursday- Specialty sandwich trays with TAB (turkey, apple, bacon) on cracked wheat and Italian bread, Chicken croissant, Italian sandwiches on Italian and Cracked Wheat

bread, and supreme veggie sandwiches on Tomato Basil Wraps and Cracked wheat, cabbage salad, potato salad, rotini salad for \$14. Note: Gluten free bread is available as an alternative to lettuce wraps.

- The Tuesday lunch at Sons of Norway is a closed luncheon for only the District 5 Board and spouses, District convention committees and their spouses, and SN Mandt volunteers who are helping at the lodge that day.
- Tuesday- the American Legion is offering a pulled pork, potato salad, carrots and dip, potato chips, cookie, and water/lemonade or coffee for \$10. If you are attending the Hardanger Class or going to any of the afternoon workshops, this is an option for you. No registration needed for the meal.
- Wednesday banquet at the VFW- Baked cod and roast beef, coleslaw, macaroni salad, baked potatoes, corn, baked beans, and Berries on a Cloud dessert for \$30.
- All meal reservations must be made by July 1.
- If you have dietary restrictions or prefer a vegetarian option, please note that on the registration form so we can work with the providers.

### **Classes the convention is offering**

See separate file on class offerings. Rosemaling, woodcarving (at SN), and Hardanger classes register on the convention registration forms. Classes at Grand Inspired, Innovation Center Stoughton, and Spry Whimsy will use their direct links as they are handling their own registrations.

### **When do you have to be there as a delegate?**

Wednesday and Thursday for sure if you are a delegate. If you are asked to serve on a convention committee, there is a lunch for the committee members and spouses on Tuesday and the committees will meet that afternoon if they need to. Most do a lot of their work via ZOOM prior to the convention.

### **Convention Pins and t-shirts**



Pins- Should will be available in May if you want them before the convention, can be delivered via a board member or other means, or picked up at the convention. Cost is \$5/pin.

T-shirts- Must be preordered and pick up will be at the convention. A very limited number of extras will be available for sale at the convention. The cost is \$20/shirt. Sizes: S, M, L, XL, 2X, and 3X.

### **Day on the Prairie**

Two options for a Day on the Prairie which is a day full of experiences on the Koshkonong Prairie.

1. **Bus Option**- Up to 54 people taking a coach bus for a guided tour with off the bus stops at West Koshkonong Lutheran Church, East Koshkonong Lutheran Church, Rockdale Beer

Cellar, Cambridge Historic School Museum, and St. Paul's Liberty Church and drive-by many more historic places. The \$75 registration fee includes the bus, water on the bus, lunch at East Koshkonong, dinner at St Paul's Liberty Church, and a presentation by Dana Kelly on *The Norwegian-American Legacy in Wisconsin*: Descendants of Norwegian immigrants make up a relatively small percentage of Wisconsin's population. However, their impact can not be overstated. Join us to discover the history of Norwegian Americans in Wisconsin.

2. **Drive on your own**- We will provide a map and narrative of the stops we are going to but you will be on your own for them. If you are at a stop when the bus is there, you are welcome to join us. If you want lunch or supper, you must sign up for the meals by July 1. This option allows you to take a class in the morning or getting to Stoughton a bit later on Monday.

### **Meals for Day on the Prairie**

- Lunch – 11:30 AM at East Koshkonong Lutheran Church- \$10/person- This will consist of a sandwich, fruit cup, chips, pickles, and dessert. We will provide coffee and water.
- Supper- 4:30 PM at St. Paul's Liberty Prairie Church- \$20/person- Chicken Tetrazini, salad, bread and dessert with coffee, lemonade and water.
- Meal prices are part of the Bus Trip package. If others want to eat who are driving on their own, meals must be ordered by July 1.

### **Farm Tours for Sunday, August 2**

1:00 PM	Furseth Farms- 2157 County A, Stoughton	Farm tour- crop operation	Visit farm shop, grain storage, and equipment area
2:15 PM	Furseth Farms-1114 Starr School Road, Stoughton	Farm tour- dairy operation	It is milking time! The dairy set up with cows and calves!
3:30-5:00 PM	Fevolden Farms- 2454 E. Gaston Rd, Cottage Grove	Tour of studio and weaving demonstrations	Will also have items for sale- cash, check or credit card.

**Furseth Farms-** The grain operation encompasses 3,500 acres. We are into vertical integration, meaning we control the crop from seed to market. We have 775,000 bushels of grain storage and we are drying and processing the grain on our farm. You will see our farm shop along with a short video and the opportunity to see our grain complex. An additional 155 acres of alfalfa are used to support the dairy operation where 180 cows are milked 3 times a day (6am, 2pm, and 10pm) in a double 8 parallel milking parlor. We are proud of our Norwegian roots.

### **Fevolden Farms-**

Plan now to attend an open house with Tom & Ginny Olson at Fevolden Farm Alpaca Studio in Cottage Grove, WI on Sunday August 2, 2026 from 3:30 – 5:00 pm. See displays of alpaca fiber from their herd in various stages of processing from raw fleece to finished goods. Ginny will explain how she sets up one of the many looms for weaving that will be on display in her studio. Learn how the Viking Twill pattern came about and see examples of her handiwork. Tom will demonstrate some of the other equipment they work with. The Olsons co-own a small herd of alpacas and manage the fiber end of the business. Alpaca clothing from head to toe are available for sale year-round at their studio in Cottage Grove, a shop in Black River Falls and on-line. They specialize in socks, carrying

over 50 different socks including compression, loose top and traditional in lengths from ankle to knee socks. For those interested, alpaca clothing and gifts will be available for sale during the open house event. Fevolden Farm Alpaca Products, 2454 E. Gaston Rd, Cottage Grove, WI 53527 608-839-4610

## **Foundation Fun Night**

Tuesday night at Sons of Norway- Mandt Lodge will be presentations on the Sons of Norway Foundation and the Sons of Norway District 5 Nordic Legacy Foundation (SN D5 NLF). Then we will have some fun raising money as we play bingo, board games, Heads n Tails (benefitting Masse Moro), and socializing! Proceeds will be divided between the SN Foundation and SN D5 NLF.

## **Hotels**

**The hotel block is through the Tru Hilton in Stoughton.** If we fill their hotel, we have a convention rate at their partner hotels in Madison. Rooms must be booked by July 4.

- Tru Hilton in Stoughton- \$125/night for Sunday through Thursday. All rates are net, non-commissionable, and do not include any applicable taxes unless otherwise noted and agreed upon. **Booking Link:** [Sons of Norway-Tru by Hilton Stoughton](#).
- Courtyard East in Madison- \$125/night for Sunday through Thursday. All rates are net, non-commissionable, and do not include any applicable taxes unless otherwise noted and agreed upon. [Book your group rate for Sons of Norway](#)
- Fairfield Inn & Suites- Madison East- \$125/night for Sunday through Thursday. All rates are net, non-commissionable, and do not include any applicable taxes unless otherwise noted and agreed upon. [Book your group rate for Sons of Norway](#)
- Hampton Inn Madison East- \$125/night for Sunday through Thursday. All rates are net, non-commissionable, and do not include any applicable taxes unless otherwise noted and agreed upon. Here is the booking link for **Hampton Inn Madison East:**  
[Sons of Norway](#) The group code is NOR.

## **Our area has other options for lodging (not a block- on your own)!**

Quality Inn and Suites (in Stoughton)- <https://www.choicehotels.com/wisconsin/stoughton/quality-inn-hotels/wi075>

Air BnB's- we have a number of properties in the area- <https://www.airbnb.com/>

Sleep Inn and Suites- Oregon, WI (8 miles away)-  
<https://www.choicehotels.com/wisconsin/oregon/sleep-inn-hotels/wi288>

Comfort Inn and Suites- Monona- (12 miles away)

<https://www.choicehotels.com/wisconsin/madison/comfort-inn-hotels/wi205>

Quality Inn- Edgerton (Newville – 13 miles) -

<https://www.choicehotels.com/wisconsin/edgerton/quality-inn-hotels/wi072>

New Bed and Breakfast opening this summer- (3 blocks from the meetings)- The Goose Crown Inn-  
thegoosecrowninn.com

### **President's Reception- Sunday, August 2 at 5-9 PM**

Join President Cheryl Wille-Schlesser for an evening of fun at the Arneson farm. Address: 2056 Skaalen Road, Stoughton. We will be playing kubb, games, and have other activities for you to do. There will be light appetizers, beverages and a chance to socialize, meet new friends and see friends you've met before. No reservations needed!

### **Workshops- Tuesday, August 3 at the American Legion- 803 North Page St, Stoughton**

The American Legion is offering a pulled pork, potato salad, carrots and dip, potato chips, cookie, and water/lemonade or coffee for \$10. If you are attending the Hardanger Class or going to any of the afternoon workshops, this is an option for you. No registration needed for the meal.

### **Workshops**

**12:15-** Those darn SN required reports!- District Secretary Darlene Arneson will review the reports that lodges are asked or required to submit. They include D63 Officer Election, D17 Audit, 990 IRS form, Lodge Achievement/Family Lodge of the Year, AFA Volunteer Hour reporting and others that come up!

**1:00-** SN Foundation Grant Writing- Amy Tuchenhagen- Will cover how to submit grant applications to the SN Foundation and what criteria they are judged on.

**1:50-** District 5 Roundtable- Your questions and needs! District SN Board members and leaders will ask and answer questions that lodges have. Sharing of how lodges address membership, publicity, officer elections and other topics will likely be covered!

**2:30-** Youth Activities and Masse Moro- Highlighting our District 5 Youth Heritage Camp, how to promote camp, volunteer and staff needs, and other details related to Masse Moro. Also discussion of what lodges do for youth activities and attracting families.

**3:10-** Dana Kelly and NAGC & NL- The Norwegian American Genealogical Center is the premier genealogical organization for Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogy. Join Executive Director Dana Kelly to learn about resources available at the center as well as some common pitfalls to avoid when embarking on your Norwegian genealogy journey.

**4:10-** James Nelson on Yukon Relief Expedition- A Journal of the Yukon Relief Expedition of 1898

On February 4, 1898, the steamship *Manitoban* sailed from Alta, Norway, bound for New York City, with 48 Sami reindeer herders and their families, 20 Norwegian men and 538 reindeer. They were headed for Alaska territory, at the behest of the US government and Sheldon Jackson, the US General Agent of Education for Alaska. Their initial goal was to use the reindeer to help starving miners trapped in the mountains between Yukon territory and Alaska. America's transportation and communication networks were still developing, and in Alaska they were primitive and unreliable. Unpredictable events changed the expedition's goals several times, bringing people and reindeer into precarious and dangerous situations. Carl Johan Sakariassen, a young Finnish Norwegian member, kept a daily journal of the expedition's progress from start to demise, and continued his journal as he and other young men followed "gold rush fever" to the Nome gold rush. Carl Johan's descriptions of his experiences and impressions are memorable and often exciting.

## **Sons of Norway-District 5 Convention At-a-Glance Schedule of Events (June 1, 2026 update)**

### **Sunday, August 2**

- 9:00 AM- St. Paul's Liberty Church service- Schuster's Round Barn- 1326 Hwy 12 & 18, Deerfield
- 12 PM- 2 PM- Registration at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St
- 1:00 PM- Farm tour at Furseth Farm's Grain Operation- 2157 County A, Stoughton
- 2:15 PM- Farm tour at Furseth Farm's Dairy Operation- 1114 Starr School Road, Stoughton
- 3:30 PM-5:00 PM- Open hous at Fevolden Farm's (Alpaca) Studio- 2454 E. Gaston Rd, Cottage Grove
- 5:00-9:00 PM- President's Reception at the Arneson Farm, 2056 Skaalen Rd, Stoughton

### **Monday, August 3**

- 8:00 – 9:00 AM- Registration at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 6:30 PM- Day on the Prairie Bus Trip
- 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM- Rosemaling Class with Nancy Odalen at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM- Carving Class with Roger Odalen at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM- Norwegian American Genealogy Center & Naeseth Library, 415 W. Main St., Madison is open for research (suggest appointments) or stopping by to visit!
- 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM- Registration and Setting up Cultural Arts Display at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton

## Tuesday, August 4

- 8:00 AM- 7:00 PM- Registration at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9 AM – 12 noon- Hardanger Class and product sales at American Legion, 803 N. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 11:00 AM- Wet Felted Flowers at Spry Whimsy Fiber Arts, 168 W. Main St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 11:30 AM- District 5 Board of Director's Meeting- Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM – 12 noon- D5 Laser Engraved Rolling Pin Class at Innovation Center, 421 W. Main St. Stoughton
- 9:00 – 4:00 PM- Norwegian American Genealogy Center & Naeseth Library, 415 W. Main St., Madison is open for research (suggest appointments) or stopping by to visit!
- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM and 12:30 PM-5:00 PM- Livsreise is open- 277 West Main Street, Stoughton
- 10am – 4:00 PM with a break for lunch- Hnefatafl (Viking Chess) Board & Players at Grand Inspired, 501 E. Main St, Stoughton
- 11:45 AM- Invited luncheon for District 5 Board, convention committee, and convention volunteers at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 12 Noon- 4:00 PM- Spoon Carving Class at Grand Inspired, 501 E. Main St, Stoughton
- 1:00 PM- Conventions committee meet (as needed) at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 12:15 – 5:00- Workshops at the American Legion, 803 N. Page St. They also will have food available.
  - 12:15- Those darn SN required reports!
  - 1:00- SN Foundation Grant Writing- Amy Tuchenhagen
  - 1:50- District 5 Roundtable- Your questions and needs!
  - 2:30- Youth Activities and Masse Moro
  - 3:10- Dana Kelly and NAGC & NL
  - 4:10- James Nelson on Yukon Relief Expedition
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM- Wet Felted Flowers Class at Spry Whimsy Fiber Arts, 168 W. Main St. Stoughton
- 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM- Free-will donation to visit Stoughton Historical Society Museum, 324 S. Page Street
- 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM- D5 Nordic Cookie Stamp Workshop at Innovation Center, 421 W. Main St, Stoughton
- 5:00 PM-6:30 PM- Supper on your own
- 6:30 – 9:30 PM- Foundation Fun Night at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton

## Wednesday, August 5

- 8:00 – 9:30 AM- Registration and setting up silent auction, banners, and newsletter displays at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- 9:00 – 4:00 PM- Norwegian American Genealogy Center & Naeseth Library, 415 W. Main St., Madison is open for research (suggest appointments) or stopping by to visit!
- 9:30 AM- 4:00 PM- District 5 Lodge Meeting at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton

- 9:00 AM- 11:00 AM- Wet Felted Soap Class at Spry Whimsy Fiber Arts, 168 W Main St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 1:00 PM- Rosemaling Class with Nancy Odalen at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 12 Noon- Nordic Cookie Stamp Workshop at Innovation Center, 421 W. Main St, Stoughton
- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM and 12:30 PM-5:00 PM- Livsreise is open- 277 West Main Street, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM- Cultural Arts Display on the stage. Time to socialize and network! Watch videos at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 11:30- 12:30- Lunch for delegates and those paying for the lunch at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM- Yarn Spinning Demonstrations at Spry Whimsy Fiber Arts, 168 W Main St, Stoughton
- 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM- Free-will donation to visit Stoughton Historical Society Museum, 324 S. Page Street
- 1:00 PM- 4:00 PM- Laser Engraved Rolling Pin Class at Innovation Center- 421 W. Main St, Stoughton
- 5:30 PM- Banquet at the VFW- 200 Veterans Rd, Stoughton

## Thursday, August 6

- 8:30 AM- Registration for any changes at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- until business is done in the afternoon!-District 5 Lodge Meeting at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- 9:00 – 4:00 PM- Norwegian American Genealogy Center & Naeseth Library, 415 W. Main St., Madison is open for research (suggest appointments) or stopping by to visit!
- 9 AM- 1 PM- Laser Cut Rubber Stamp Class at Innovation Center, 421 W. Main St., Stoughton
- 9:00 AM- 1:30 PM- Time to visit Cultural Art Displays, watch videos, and pick up entries between 12:00- 1:30 PM at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton
- 9:30 AM-12:00 PM and 12:30 PM-5:00 PM- Livsreise is open- 277 West Main Street, Stoughton
- 10:00 -10:30 AM- Coffee Break and Silent Auction ends at 10:30 AM at SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- 10 AM – 11:30 AM- Tatting Demonstration at Spry Whimsy Fiber Arts, 168 W. Main St, Stoughton
- 11:30 AM-12:30 PM- Lunch for delegates and those paying. Pick up silent auction items at the SASD Administration Building-320 North St, Stoughton
- After Business Meeting Adjourns- Reorganization Meeting of the District 5 Board at Sons of Norway, 317 S. Page St, Stoughton

**Questions-** contact Darlene Arneson at [arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com) or 608-873-7209