

# **Sons of Norway District 5 - Friendly Fifth Friday News**

## **August 28, 2026**

### ***A District Weekly Newsletter to Keep Us Up to Date!***

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**Hei!**

### **It's Time Again for Viking Photo Submissions!**

First, let me start by introducing myself. I'm **Christina Fairchild**, your 2026 Sons of Norway District 5 Publicity Director. My husband, Richard, and I are members of Valhall Lodge 5-168. I look forward to working with each of you. LaVonne Wier did an awesome job as our past publicity director. I hope I can be as creative as she was in sending out reminders for your photo submissions. Getting back to the business at hand

As your lodge holds events, celebrations, service projects, cultural activities, and gatherings, snap some photos and forward them to me along with your photo submission form for each photo. If your lodge attended the Sons of Norway D5 Convention or hosted a special event or fun activity? I'd love to help your lodge share those moments with our members.

### **How to Submit Your Photos**

Please send your photos **along with a completed [Photo Submission Form](#)** in the same email. The form ensures we have accurate names, lodge information, and event details — just like labeling a family photo album so future viewers know who's who. (I will be unable to submit your photos without a completed submission form.) If you have questions on what photos to submit you may refer to the photo guidelines here [Sons of Norway Lodge Forms](#)

### **For Publicity or Viking magazine Submissions,**

Email to [\*\*SofNPublicity@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:SofNPublicity@gmail.com)

Selected photos may be forwarded to **Viking magazine** for consideration or featured in [Happenings](#) on the Sons of Norway website. All submissions will be included in the District 5 photo galleries for members to enjoy.

### **Deadline**

Please send your photos and completed form by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. (ASAP for this month, I apologize for the late notice this month.)

Thank you for helping us highlight the wonderful activities happening across District 5. I look forward to seeing your lodge's photos and sharing your stories with our members.

Fraternally,

Christina Fairchild



## Sons of Norway Viking Happenings Photo Submission & Events Calendar Form

### **Purpose:**

This form is for lodges to share information and photos about past and future events that they host or participate in.

The event posting or photo caption will be based on information you provide, so please check the spelling of lodges, member names, and location information. Include last names and make sure you have received permission from all of those in the photo to share (especially for minors). Send this form with photo file(s) attached to your lodge publicity director who in turn will forward it to the district publicity director. If your lodge does not have a lodge publicity director, please send submissions directly to your district publicity director.

### **1. Past Events, Lodge and Member Activities**

Includes recognition of current members, lodge celebrations, community service projects, and other past activities. Please include event purpose and location. Member names (first & last) of those shown in photo may be included, however we are limited in caption length to 1 or 2 lines per photo.

#### **Submitter's Contact Information (All fields required)**

- **Name:**
- **Phone:**
- **Email:**
- **Lodge Name:**
- **District/Lodge Number:**
- **Lodge City/State:**

#### **Photo Description/Caption:**

Are you providing a High-Resolution photo ( ☐ **Yes** or ☐ **No**): (Not sure? Here is a [link](#) explaining what a high-resolution photo is)

#### **Photo File Name:**

#### **Acknowledgment:**

- ☐ *By submitting this photo submission form, I grant permission and consent to Sons of Norway and the Sons of Norway Foundation for the use of the following photograph(s) as identified below to promote the organization(s). Use may include but is not limited to print publication, publicity, advertising, and digital or online content.*



## 2. Future Events Calendar

We have an events calendar on the Sons of Norway website for lodges to advertise upcoming local and district events. It features in-person and virtual events such as fundraising, festivals, community events, and cultural activities. A photo is not required but may be helpful. You may attach to the email.

Please use this link to add your events to the website (*preferred*) - [Submit an Event – Sons of Norway](#)  
***\*If the event is virtual, submission must go through the Sons of Norway website.***

If unable to complete the submission online, please provide and submit the following information:

- **Event Title:**
- **Event Description:**
- **Event Contact Name, Email, and Phone #:**
- **Event Day & Time:**
- **Event Time Zone:**

***Is this a reoccurring event? If yes, provide details:***

### Event Categories:

- |                                          |                                           |                                          |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Event | <input type="checkbox"/> Foundation Event | <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting Event  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District Event  | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Event    | <input type="checkbox"/> Meal/Food Event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lodge Event     | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Event   |                                          |

### Event Descriptions:

- |                                               |                                                            |                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theater/Play/Concert | <input type="checkbox"/> Happy Hour                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Kubb              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Movie                | <input type="checkbox"/> Dessert                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum Tour          | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnic                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Ski               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Festival/Bazaar      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parade               | <input type="checkbox"/> Grants                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Walk/Run          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Viking/History       | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarships                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports – other    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silent Auction       | <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sale          | <input type="checkbox"/> Easter                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rosemaling        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Signing         | <input type="checkbox"/> Thanksgiving                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Hardanger         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Convention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Syttende Mai                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Culinary          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Service       | <input type="checkbox"/> Midsommer/4 <sup>th</sup> of July | <input type="checkbox"/> Language/Heritage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast            | <input type="checkbox"/> Oktoberfest                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Camp              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luncheon             | <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Language Class/   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner               | <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Lessons           |

## Webmaster's Message

I'm Christina Fairchild, your Sons of Norway District 5 Webmaster.

My husband, Richard, and I manage the District 5 website together from Rockton, Illinois, where we are members of Valhall Lodge 5-168. You can access the website here: [sonsofnorway5.com](http://sonsofnorway5.com)

Here's what I need from you:

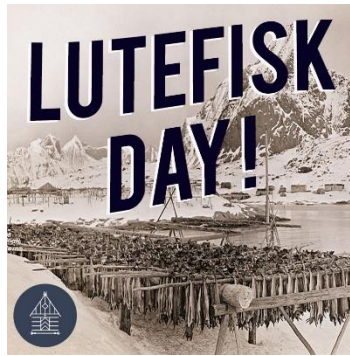
- Log into the D5 website and verify your lodge information, meeting time and location, president, etc. Send me any corrections.
- If you have a Website or Facebook page, send me the link. I will add it to your lodge information.
- If your lodge is holding an event, celebration, cultural activity, or gathering that may be of interest to others, send me the information so I can add it to our calendar
- If you hear of an event (lutefisk dinners, meatball dinners, etc.) that might be of interest to others, let me know.
- Send me your newsletters. I will post them on the website.
- **\*\* Note:** The maximum allowed total uploaded file size per newsletter is **48MB**.  
EXAMPLE: Your upload limit is 48 MB. If you send a newsletter file that is over 48MB, it will fail and I will be unable to post it to the website.\*\*

Send your Website Submissions to the following email: [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com)

Fraternally,

Christina Fairchild

SON District 5 Webmaster



## Lutefisk dinner information needed!

Emails and inquiries about the lutefisk dinner season so if you can help me update my annual list of lutefisk dinners, that would be great! I only want lutefisk dinners (no other dinners or updates- use the District calendar to promote them). I need the name, date, location (address and please include the state!), costs, if reservations are needed, flyers if you have them! I'll start compiling the list and share it as it becomes complete. Thanks! Darlene



*Celebrate*  
**201** *Years*  
OF NORWEGIAN IMMIGRATION  
AND  
**100** *Years*  
OF SLOOPER GATHERINGS  
IN NORWAY, ILLINOIS

*Restauration*  
I EMIGRANTENES KJØLVANN

The Sloopers were led by the father of Norwegian immigration **Cleng Peerson**.

**NORWAY, Ill. — October 11, 2026 —**

Join the Sloopers as they commemorate two remarkable milestones in Norwegian-American history: the 201st anniversary of the first organized Norwegian emigration to America and the 100th anniversary of the Sloopers' annual meetings in Norway, Illinois.

The Sloopers were led by the father of Norwegian immigration **Cleng Peerson**.

The celebration will take place Sunday, October 11, 2026, at the **Norway Community Building** in Norway, Illinois.

The event also honors the historic voyage of the sloop *Restauration*, which departed Stavanger, Norway, on July 4, 1825, carrying 52 Norwegian emigrants to New York. Their journey marked the beginning of organized Norwegian immigration to the United States and inspired generations of Norwegian Americans.

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Seating is limited, and advance reservations are required.

**LUNCH PRICES**

Adults: \$20

Children (10 and under): \$10

To reserve your place,  
text Dave Johnson at  
**(815) 343-5070.**



**EVENT SCHEDULE**



**Noon** – Annual Business Meeting



**12:30 p.m.** – Traditional Norwegian Smorgasbord Lunch



**1:00 p.m.** – Featured Presentation:  
**"Restauration 200: In the Wake of Emigrants"**  
(66 minutes • English subtitles)

This award-winning documentary follows the remarkable recreation of the *Restauration*'s historic Atlantic crossing. Exactly 200 years after the original voyage, a replica of the legendary sloop retraced the emigrants' pioneering journey, bringing history to life for a new generation.

**CAN'T ATTEND IN PERSON?**

The featured documentary, *Restauration 200: In the Wake of Emigrants*, along with more than 90 Norwegian films and documentaries, is available through *Films of Norway* - Watch Norwegian Movies Online. New titles are added monthly.

Subscriptions are **\$4.99** per month. Stream from home at [www.filmsofnorway.com](http://www.filmsofnorway.com) (subscription required).



**FILMS  
OF NORWAY**



For updates about the celebration and other Norwegian-American heritage events, follow the Sloopers and Norsk Museum on Facebook.



Additional information is available at  
[www.norsk-museum.org](http://www.norsk-museum.org)

## Looking to learn something new?

A NAGC member just published a book about one of his ancestors. He's giving the ebook away during the first part of September. He asked me to share this info with Sons of Norway, so feel free to share widely!

Dana Kelly – NAGC & NL

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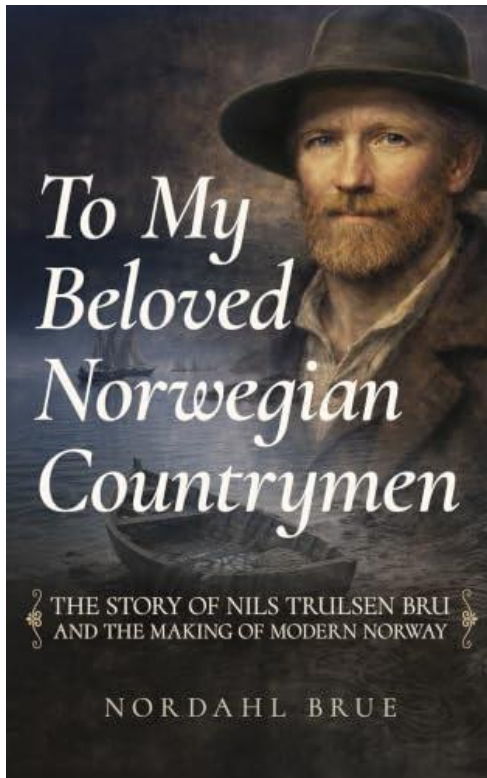
**From:** Amazon.com <[digital-noreply@amazon.com](mailto:digital-noreply@amazon.com)>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2026 1:53 PM

**To: Subject:** Nord Brue has sent you a Kindle Book



You've received a Kindle Book from Nord Brue



**Message:**

We are live at Amazon. This link will enable you to to download free Kindle version. From Sept 3-7 there will be a free Kindle (or other reader device) for all comers. Please let all your members know to download it during that window.I would be grateful if you communicated this free offer to Sons of Norway for circulating to all the members. It doesn't get cheaper than this.

**To My Beloved Norwegian Countrymen: The Story of Nils Trulsen Bru...  
( Kindle Edition )**

by Nordahl Brue

[Accept this Kindle Book](#)

Say thank you with a Kindle book

## **Vesterheim Classes**

Registration is open! Vesterheim Folk Art School registration through March 2027 is open with new online and in-person classes in rosemaling, metalworking, woodworking, jewelry, cooking, fiber arts, youth and family, and more! Register here: <https://vesterheim.info/4xSGUzb>

## **NAGC & NL Classes**



Fall Norwegian Language Classes





Join us this fall for our Norwegian Language courses, held in person at NAGC and instructed by Marcia Lund.

### Benefits of Learning Norwegian In-Person

- Connecting with others who have traveled to Norway
- Practicing Norwegian expressions and dialogues one-on-one
- Building vocabulary with written assignments and sharing them
- Simulating ordinary experiences – buying groceries or navigating Oslo
- Working together to learn the rules of grammar
- Making discoveries about the history and culture of Norway
- Reading books, comics, and singing songs together
- Drinking coffee together and sharing stories



## Class Information:

### Beginning Norwegian Language

Wednesdays from September 9th - October 28th,  
2026

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM Central

\$150 member/\$175 non-member

Coffee and social time will begin at 1:30, class will  
follow at 2:00. Class size will be limited to ten  
participants to maximize conversation.

Free off-street parking is available onsite.

[Enroll](#)

-

These are continuing Norwegian language classes for  
individuals with some previous Norwegian language  
experience.

Continuing Norwegian  
Language - Morning  
Thursdays September  
10 - October 29, 2026  
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Central

Continuing Norwegian  
Language - Afternoon  
Thursdays September  
10 - October 29, 2026  
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM  
Central

\$150 member/\$175  
non-member  
Coffee and social time  
will begin at  
9:00, class will follow at  
9:30. Class size will be  
limited to ten  
participants to maximize  
conversation.  
Free off-street parking is  
available onsite.

[Enroll](#)

\$150 member/\$175  
non-member  
Coffee and social time  
will begin at  
1:30, class will follow at  
2:00. Class size will be  
limited to ten  
participants to maximize  
conversation.  
Free off-street parking is  
available onsite.

[Enroll](#)

Questions? Contact us at [genealogy@nagcni.org](mailto:genealogy@nagcni.org) for  
more information.



**NORWEGIAN  
AMERICAN**

Genealogical Center

## **2026 Calendar**

November 1- Lodge Liability Insurance due

December 31- Lodge Officer Updates (D63) due

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### **Who to contact at the home office when you need help**

- You can email [cbs@sofn.com](mailto:cbs@sofn.com) for any member updates that need to be made.
- **Foundation, Scholarships & Grants- Amy Tuchenhausen**  
[foundation@sofn.com](mailto:foundation@sofn.com), [atuchenhausen@sofn.com](mailto:atuchenhausen@sofn.com), (612) 821-4655
- **Fraternal & Membership- Connie O'Brien and Kirsten Lehman**  
[fraternal@sofn.com](mailto:fraternal@sofn.com), (612) 821-4643
- **Culture, Viking & Language: Jana Velo**  
[jvelo@sofn.com](mailto:jvelo@sofn.com)
- **Insurance Sales:**  
[SonsofNorwaySales@sofn.com](mailto:SonsofNorwaySales@sofn.com), (833) 707-0012 – option 2
- For matter like submitting a death, a change to a members address or other info please email [cbs@sofn.com](mailto:cbs@sofn.com)
- For issues with passwords or website use [ithelp@sofn.com](mailto:ithelp@sofn.com).
- The 800 number to call in for member support is 800-945-8851

#### **Note:**

- Check correspondence from the International and District and the International ([www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com)) and District ([www.sonsofnorway5.com](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com)) websites for any updates and changes.
- Additional deadlines for the District 5 Conventions/Lodge Meetings will be added as those dates are established. Watch for future mailings and the District 5 website.

Compiled by Darlene Arneson, SN District 5 Secretary ([arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com) or 608-873-7209)

#### **FFFN Basics**

In an attempt to help our lodge leaders become more familiar with resources, changes, deadlines and other information, I will compile a weekly "Friendly Fifth Friday News" email to our leadership. Some of the information you might already have, but hopefully it will be a good reminder for all of us (me included) of all the great resources that Sons of Norway has to offer. **Please feel free to cut and paste any of this information for your lodge's use!**

#### **Send all web posting info and calendar dates/events directly to our webmaster at [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com)**

With our new arrangement, I actually send the FFFN pdf to our webmaster on Thursday morning before I go to work. So if you have anything you'd like me to consider putting in, please send it by 4 am on Thursday morning. Please do not send pdf's as I have a hard time cutting and pasting them. The Word Document works best for me. Don't forget that lodge events should be submitted to [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com) as I have a hard time keeping track of all lodge activities. I'll put some in but that is more the role of the website event calendar. If you would like to get the MS Word document, just shoot me an email and I'll add you to the list. I send it out right after I send the email to the large group.