

## Friendly Fifth Friday News June 16, 2023

**Send all web posting info and calendar dates/events directly to our webmaster at [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com). Feel free to share this with your lodge members!**

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### ***Membership Drive!***

Sons of Norway District 5 is pleased to announce the launch of our 2023 recruitment campaign. Starting August 1, 2023, all lodge members are asked to recruit new members to their local lodge. 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.

This campaign is an opportunity for all members to get involved and support their local lodge in meeting their membership goals. As well, it helps continue to grow the Sons of Norway organization. The contest will begin August 1, 2023 and go until October 31, 2023.

Please turn in all paper membership applications to Headquarters by October 31, 2023. This will ensure that they are processed by the deadline. New members who are signed up online via <http://www.sofn.com> should also be entered by October 31, 2023.

If you sign up a new member online, please email District VP, Wendy Winkelman, advising of that new membership ([wendyathadeland@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyathadeland@yahoo.com)).

Contact [wendyathadeland@yahoo.com](mailto:wendyathadeland@yahoo.com) with any questions.

Wendy K Winkelman  
President and Editor  
Shawnee Skogen 5-689

District 5 Vice President

## Task Force Call- May 27, 2023 Notes- 19 on the call

Duane Kittleson shared that there were more changes made to the Policy & Practices/Charter at the International Board Meeting. They also approved new nominating committee guidelines but wasn't sure when that information would be out. He had proposed a motion that District Board members didn't have to be benefit members but it failed. He explained that there were 4 proposals for re-districting of the organization- lots of questions, no decisions, and a re-districting committee was formed. He feels it may take 2-4 years to do with legal issues, finances, and property ownership to consider. He shared that many want to be part of District 5 as we have been successful.

There was discussion about Insurance Professionals being able to write policies for those not living in states that are licensed. There was a reference to interstate commerce concerns that we need to follow. The group discussed increasing the awareness of SN insurance products.

Darlene shared the survey results as of May 27, 2023 7:15 AM but we will continue to take online and hard copy input:

**What do you expect from your zone directors as far as visits, contacts, or other help?**

Visit once a year, Hosting zone meetings or events, In-person visits,

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Visit once a year, Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, In-person visits, Assistance with forms and filings

Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, In-person visits, Assistance with forms and filings

Visit once a year, Assistance with forms and filings

Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls

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Visit once a year, Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, In-person visits, Assistance with forms and filings, Input of ideas to help make local lodges better

Visit once a year, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls

I don't expect much from the zone director, based on history.

Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, In-person visits

Hosting zone meetings or events, In-person visits

Visit once a year, Assistance with forms and filings

Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, Assistance with forms and filings

Hosting zone meetings or events, Regular communications via email, virtual platforms, or phone calls, Answer any question that the lodge has

**Do you feel connected to the other lodges in your zone?**

We have limited dealings with other lodges.

We have limited dealings with other lodges., I'd like to see more social or cultural events.

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We never get together or work with them., I'd like to have leadership training provided., I'd like to see more social or cultural events.

Yes- we do many things with other lodges.

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We do things with other lodges, but these are organized by other groups and include other Scandinavian organizations.

Yes- we do many things with other lodges., I believe there are only 3 lodges in the Chicago area. Polar Star lodge, due to our connection with the Norsk Museum interact with Cleng Peerson

Yes- we do many things with other lodges., We have limited dealings with other lodges.  
We have limited dealings with other lodges., I think lodges should have cooperative events, like joint travel to local historical locations  
I'd like to see more social or cultural events., See other lodges when someone from the district has a program.

**Looking at the distance between some lodges and where the zone directors live, what suggestions do you have for addressing communications/visits/outreach in some areas?**Question about this topic

I'd like to have some in-person events., I'd like to have some monthly/quarterly opportunities to meet.  
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I'd like to have in-person training at least once a year.

Meeting via a virtual platform (ZOOM, TEAMS) is fine., I'd like to have some monthly/quarterly opportunities to meet.

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Meeting via a virtual platform (ZOOM, TEAMS) is fine.

One meeting/event every two years is reasonable.

Meeting via a virtual platform (ZOOM, TEAMS) is fine., I'd like to have some in-person events.

I'd like to have some monthly/quarterly opportunities to meet.

We can contact them ourselves

I'd like to have some in-person events., I'd like to have some monthly/quarterly opportunities to meet., I haven't found training to be helpful.

Meeting via a virtual platform (ZOOM, TEAMS) is fine., Meet at least once a year; Andy came to our lodge.

**Do you have any suggestions for realignment, changing the number of zones, or other ways that would make the zone assignments equal in numbers, distance and services provided by the District Board.**

I don't think we need zones at all.

I've reviewed the maps and think that some look like they'd work well.

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not having been to the meetings, I don't know what the zones are, and I can't find them on the S of N website.

More zones; some have six lodges now.

### **For the structure of the District Board**

I think the number of zone directors should be based on the number of lodges.

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elect the executive committee and other support directors at large so that

I don't think any officer should be a zone director.

I like the structure as it is- 2 zone directors per zone, all officers except Secretary and Treasurer are zone directors.

One zone director is enough.

I think the number of zone directors should be based on the number of lodges.

Elect an Executive Committee and then one zone director per zone.

The D5 BOD should define the zones and policies, not the lodges.

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### **Other thoughts or comments!**

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Communication between lodges as well as the SON office could improve. Sometimes, it's not easy to find out what is happening in the other lodges. However, I'm a relatively new member and probably don't know where to find everything. Thanks.

I think the map "Judy 1" is the best for us.

It seems like getting zone directors is a difficult task

Thank you for all of your work!!

Sorry, but I won't be able to be on the call Saturday, as I'll be on the road on the way to the twin cities. I've pondered over the zoning options numerous times, and see advantages and disadvantages to all. I guess my favorites were Duane's #3 and Judy's #1 and #3. With more lodges in each zone, travel miles would certainly increase for a director if the same visiting schedules were maintained. I do like the possibility of a director and alternate (assistant) for each zone, and for district officers not to have zone director responsibilities.

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The group discussed how we can get more input from members and lodges:

1. Handouts- put the survey and the map packet on the website, if task force members want copies- Darleen will run them, and share at meetings
2. PowerPoint- develop a PowerPoint that task force and board members can take to lodges and give presentations. Also do a YouTube video on the task force
3. Talking points- have a list of talking points to help task force members make presentations.

Other discussion:

- Lodge Achievement and Family Lodge of the Year forms are currently going to the international. There may be changes that they go to the District President which would be helpful in identifying lodges who need help.
- Encourage virtual lodge meetings, zone meetings, and adding task force and board members to lodge email lists. This would help communicate to those who don't live close to a lodge or if traveling is an issue.
- The next meeting will be Saturday, August 5, at 9:00 AM CST.
- We can look at what zone directors do and what can be done electronically vs in person.
- Task force key question- do we need zones?

There was a suggestion that we form sub-committees that can work to focus on particular areas:

1. Population and membership- using maps and membership lists to get a geographical and membership numbers view of our District. Jim Herman had volunteered to work on maps.
2. Role of the Board- Board Structure- What do board members do? What can be done virtual vs. in-person? Role of the various board members and officers. Esther Charlton is interested in being on this committee.
3. Current ways to support lodges- what can we do in the meantime to support lodges?

Darlene will work on the handout, PowerPoint and get the information out to see who will serve on sub-committees. Ideally the sub-committees will meet during June and July in preparation for the August meeting. If anyone needs help setting up a virtual call, contact Cheryl, Darlene, Bill and Wendy, or Duane who all have virtual meeting platform accounts.

# You can share this or fill it out via Google Survey!

I've invited you to fill out a form:

## [SN D5 Task Force May Survey](#)

Please send your thoughts on zones so the District 5 Task Force and Board can review them. Please input your responses by using this survey for discussion at our next meeting. The online, email and hard copies surveys will close on July 15. The District 5 Task Force will use your responses in their report to the Board. Send them to [arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com).

Thank you!

Darlene Arneson, District 5 Secretary and Chair (Zone Alignments and Lodge Development & Support Committee

### **FILL OUT FORM**

### **Deadlines and Dates! Changes in red!**

- July 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at [2nor1rus@gmail.com](mailto:2nor1rus@gmail.com)
- July 16-29- Masse Moro Camp
- **August 1- October 31- District Membership Drive**
- **August 5- Task Force Call 9:00 AM CST**
- August 13- Zone 3 picnic at John and Darlene Arneson's farm in Stoughton
- October 13-14- District 5 Board Meeting in Mt. Horeb, WI
- October 27-29- District 5 Adult Heritage Camp and Destination Stoughton Weekend in Stoughton, WI

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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.
- For anything fraternal- Connie O'Brien ([COBrien@sofn.com](mailto:COBrien@sofn.com)) or Amy Tuchenhagen ([ATuchenhagen@sofn.com](mailto:ATuchenhagen@sofn.com)). Sherry Gorse is no longer employed at Sons of Norway.
- 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
- If you need something related to sales, you can use [sales@sofn.com](mailto:sales@sofn.com)

### **Viking Chest / Immigrant Trunk Schedule**

Apr 2023 to Oct 2023:

Chest--zone 4 – Contact Connie Aiello and Judy Ghastin to reserve them

Trunk--zone 3 – Contact Scott Wegner and Cheryl Wille-Schlesser to reserve them

Oct 2023 to Apr 2024:

Chest--zone 6  
Trunk--zone 5

Apr 2024 to Oct 2024  
Chest--zone 2  
Trunk--zone 1

Oct 2024 to April 2025  
Chest--zone 3  
Trunk--zone 4

**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 and International 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)

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**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.

Darlene Arneson – [arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com)