

Friendly Fifth Friday News June 5, 2021

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

THERE'S A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL!
(AND IT'S GETTING BRIGHTER!)



Hello, all lodge leaders and members,

Exciting things are happening in the Fifth District! Our zones and lodges are reaching out to their members in a variety of ways: Syttende Mai dinners, drive-thru meals, and parades, virtual social hours, delivering flowers, and by sending greeting cards or other mailings. All of these actions reinforce with your members their importance and how they are valued by you. Great work has been exhibited...let's keep moving forward!

Your newsletter has been critical communication piece throughout the pandemic and will continue to link your members to your lodge. Include some summer activities that people can do in a cohort or with a family group over the course of the summer months. Suggest a historical outing, a baseball game, or a safely distanced Nordic event. Add to your newsletter neighboring lodge events for your geographical area and encourage participation.

If your lodge has scheduled a picnic, make it as energetic as possible. Consider adding some lively entertainment and try a new venue. Cater a meal so no one needs to prepare anything. All your members need to do is arrive and plan to have a social evening among friends. Encourage guest participation. Hold a raffle. Plan a scavenger hunt around the picnic grounds. Start a bonfire and celebrate Midtsommer.

Watch the District 5 Facebook page for more great ideas. Log-on to Facebook. Create a user account and a secure password. Longer passwords are safer than shorter ones. Include a combination of letters, cases, numbers, and special characters. DO NOT use the word "password" as your password! Change your password about every three to six months or sooner, if you suspect any violation of your account.

If your lodge has not established its own Facebook page, that is something to also consider seriously. Many people are tech savvy today, and they choose to use virtual sites before any others!

Join me for a virtual meeting about lodge reopening. I have arranged a session via the *Go to Meeting platform*. To participate, download the *Go to Meeting* app for your tablet, laptop, or computer. One may also participate using the phone number provided.

Encourage your lodge officers to attend, and specifically ask those who serve on your lodge's membership committee to be present; usually, this is your lodge vice president and could include the membership secretary or the social director. I will share some ideas for membership recruitment from Doris Kamstra at the International Office. There will be time for idea exchange and questions. I look forward to "seeing" representatives from your lodge very soon!

Vice President Cheryl Schlessner

Follow the link below to access the meeting.

LODGE REOPENING-MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT & RETENTION
Sat, Jun 12, 2021 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/CherylWille-Schlessner/lodge-reopening-membership-recruitment--retention>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(571\) 317-3122](tel:+15713173122)

Access Code: 776-840-237

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/776840237>

Viking Photo Time!

It's June and the weather and the health of our country is getting better! Time to meet and explore the outdoors. Make sure you have someone taking photos to share with your lodge members, newsletter and local paper to entice everyone into more local participation and increased membership opportunities. (Be sure to list your lodge contact).

Support your local parks and ballparks with picnics and fun activities. Do a local newspaper follow-up lodge meeting report and invitation to next month's meeting. People will want to get out and be with people!

Please have this month's lodge photos to me by June 10th. Also consider sending some lodge photos to our District 5 webmaster at inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com so more people can see what we are doing in our different locations.

From international Doris writes 'And, if your lodges are having events that are open to nonmembers, they are welcome to add upcoming events—virtual or otherwise—at sofn.com/events as well as sharing posts to our Official Sons of Norway Facebook

Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorway> Our Face Book Group has nearly 24,000 members and we know about 75% of them are not Sons of Norway members when they ask to join our FBG, so this is a great place to share information about lodges and their activities to attract those who might want to join a lodge.'

Thanks for your photos Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director,
eber01dj@gmail.com

Dear Lodge Leaders,

As 2021 moves forward, I am starting to see a reawakening of our lodge activities. Did your lodge members enjoy a Syttende Mai celebration—outdoors, virtually or with a hybrid event? Or perhaps your lodge has made plans for Midsummer picnic in June, to let members safely catch up with one another and enjoy a favorite meal.

Recruitment Update

Our Sons of Norway family has welcomed more than 5,000 new financial and social members in 2021. Eight lodges have met their recruiting goal so far. [You can view the recruitment results through April 30 by lodge online.](#) In July, I'll be posting updated quarterly results through June 30.

Over and over, I hear from excited new members who are thrilled to have joined our Sons of Norway family. Many are SO EAGER to learn about their family ties to Norway, and our shared Nordic history, traditions, and culture. They often mention how impressed they are with *Viking* magazine, the *E-Post* digital newsletter and your lodge newsletters. So, an extra *tusen takk* for spreading our Nordic spirit of *velkommen* to new members with calls, notes AND greetings in lodge newsletters.

And don't forget the important role of Social Media in all member and prospective member outreach. Use your lodge's Facebook page with plenty of advance notice for fun, upcoming events. Share these posts to the [Official Sons of Norway Facebook group](#). You can also post lodge events at sofn.com/events.

What DO we offer members?

Some lodges and members ask questions about member benefits beyond social lodge activities. From our monthly [Viking magazine](#) to online resources like our Recipe Box, Cultural Skills topics, [online blog](#), Sports Medal Program, active online Facebook communities and members-only genealogy guide—all members have many areas to explore in enjoying their unique membership. You can also suggest members visit our [updated member benefits page](#) to learn more about their exclusive members-only benefits and discounts.

Sincerely, Doris Kamstra, Membership Manager and Sons of Norway Member
membership@sofn.com

ACH Deposit Deadline- <https://youtu.be/EEg35V4Dkow>

In this week's video, David Crabb explains the May 15th deadline for receiving U.S. lodges' ACH authorization forms to begin depositing lodge dues electronically.

If your lodge hasn't filed your ACH information, you won't be getting a June check until you set it up!! Check with the home office on that!

Ideas for Growing and Strengthening Your Lodge

<https://youtu.be/PYixVC6MTy4>

In this week's video, Mark Agerter, Vice President of the International Board, shares six problems commonly encountered by lodges, and some ideas for how to grow and strengthen your lodge.

Nordic News

Nordic News, Tuesday **June 1**, featured the **Albert Skare Norwegian Folk Art collection** at the McFarland (WI) Historical Society museum. Watch it here: <https://www.screencast.com/t/BuIEy0Pa7>

The Skare collection includes representations of several different types of Norwegian folk art: (1.) original folk art from the homeland, either initially brought over by immigrants or acquired by them at a later date via an inheritance; (2.) craft produced by a first generation Norwegian-American, to be used as a functional tool; and (3.) craft produced by a later generation as an imitation of or an expression of the folk art. For a link to Nordic News (6:20 PM Central / 7:20 PM Eastern), email mikep@sonsofnorwayracine.com

Deadlines and Dates!

Changes in red!

Nordic News Weekly Program- Every Tuesday night (with some exceptions!)

Tune in at 6:20 PM (Central); 7:20 PM (Eastern) every Tuesday.

By computer: <https://gotomeet.me/SofN-D5>

By phone: 646-749-3112 (access code: 509-077-557)

By iPhone, iPad, or Android tablet/phone: download the GoToMeeting app from the Apple or Google Play Store. Launch the app and enter the meeting code: SofN-D5

June 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

June 12, 2021

- Lodge reopening call- membership recruitment & retention call at 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CDT)

July 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

July 18-31, 2021

- Masse Moro Youth Heritage Camp in Fall Creek, WI

July 24, 2021

- Stoughton Kubb Invitational

August 1, 2021

- Zone 4 Meeting at Green Bay Botanical Gardens from 10-4
- Zone 3 Picnic at John & Darlene Arneson's farm- 12:30 PM

August, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

September 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

October 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

November 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

December 10, 2021

- Photos due for The Viking – send to Karen Eberhardt, District 5 Publicity and Zone 3 Director at eber01dj@gmail.com

DISTRICT FIVE LODGE MEETING

Idun Lodge will host the meeting on June 15-19, 2022 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton, Wisconsin.

INTERNATIONAL LODGE MEETING

The International Lodge Meeting will be held in 2022 in Minneapolis, MN. The convention will be held August 31th to Sept 1st 2022, with first time delegates arriving on the 30th of August for the First Timers Training. Delegates will depart the 2nd of September. Here is the information about the venue, be sure and watch the virtual tour of the site!

<https://youtu.be/S7TljcinVCU-> Omni Hotels and Resorts, Omni Viking lakes Hotel, 2611 Nordic Way, Eagan, MN 55121

Viking Chest Rotation

The Viking Chest has not traveled since the health emergency began, and the new schedule cannot be announced until it is safe to hold in-person meetings. Therefore, the rotation schedule is suspended until further notice.

Note:

- Check correspondence from the International and District and the International (www.sofn.com) and District (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 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 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@sonsofnorway.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