

# Sons of Norway District 5 - Friendly Fifth Friday News March 20, 2026

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

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## For those near Detroit

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra is making plans for a special "Meet & Greet" for the Scandinavian community after the matinee performance on Sunday April 19. The post-concert VIP reception would include Guest Conductor Tabita Berglund, Detroit Symphony President and CEO Erik Rönmark, and members of the Nordic community to celebrate the close of the Northern Lights festival. That afternoon's concert is at 3:00 pm, and the reception would start immediately following the program.

The DSO is putting together an invitation and RSVP information for later this week. Meanwhile it has asked us to estimate how many of our members might attend.

Please let me know if you plan to attend the April 19 concert and the reception that would follow.

Tusen takk!

Louise Giles, editor

Nordkap Lodge 5-378

Sons of Norway



## Please Save the Date!

Sunday April 12, 2026, 6 PM Central Time

District-wide Update for Lodge Leaders and Members



Welcome Spring!

Three volunteers ceased service on the District 5 Board recently, and their replacements took oaths of office and will serve until August. Leadership changes are as follows: Foundation and At-Large Director, Scott [Wegner-srweg61@gmail.com](mailto:Wegner-srweg61@gmail.com), Youth Director, Lisa Rove [Williams-rovewilliams@comcast.net](mailto:Williams-rovewilliams@comcast.net), and Vice President Connie Kross-[conkross@gmail.com](mailto:conkross@gmail.com).

The District 5 Board met this past weekend in Rockford, IL. During that time, the board members identified a date to meet with our lodge leaders and members. Finding a common time for seventeen directors to meet was a challenge, but I am happy to say...We did it! Please save the date and join us. Zoom details are forthcoming.

Each board member will provide the latest information from their elected position. Mandt Lodge members will share finalized plans for this summer's D5 Convention. *The convention will be held in Stoughton, WI, August 4-6, 2026. Please note that some individuals may need to report earlier if they are selected to serve on a review committee.*

We discovered that the location of the 2024 convention provided many challenges for members living in the upper Midwest. We hope that many more delegates will report since the site is closer this year. Local lodges should have chosen their delegates by this time, and discussions should clearly identify the level of support that will be provided to each attendee.

One item of grave concern as we look forward is the fact that no lodge has volunteered to host the 2028 biennial gathering. I will be personally reaching out to lodges that are clustered within a geographic region, and I will ask for their assistance. There are several possibilities, but due to costs, I have prioritized locations whose hotels can provide facilities with a reasonable fee structure.

This week, two required reports were due at the international office. The first, the American Fraternal Alliance Survey, details lodge volunteer projects and the number of hours members served. Second, the submission of the D17 Lodge Financial Form was expected. Both items help us to monitor the health of our district lodges. We have noted that there are several lodges amid disbanding procedures.

In our district several lodges are delinquent in these reports. Our at-large directors and officers are reaching out to aid the identified lodges.

Fraternally,

*Cheryl*

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser  
District 5 President  
[cwschlesser200bc@gmail.com](mailto:cwschlesser200bc@gmail.com), 608-219-4464



Please send the March photo submissions to me by March 20th. I'm waiting to hear from you!

Here is the Photo Submission form: [https://sonsofnorway5.com/publicity\\_director\\_messages/](https://sonsofnorway5.com/publicity_director_messages/)

LaVonne Wier  
D5 Publicity Director

**Think Spring- and kubb!** <https://kubbon.com/>

Kubb On is your number one source for rules, tournaments, connecting to local groups and more!

Tournaments Lifestyle Strategy Rules Interviews Opinions

**KUBB on.com**

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**MARCH KUBB TOURNAMENT**

**March 2026 Kubb Tournaments Preview**  
February 20, 2026

**BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR AMERICAN KUBB**  
The AKA Open Championship Series: Building the Foundation for American Kubb  
January 6, 2026

**AKA CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES**  
American Kubb Association announces formalized Championship Series  
January 5, 2026

**Kubbing the Holidays: Our List of Kubb Holiday Gift Guide 2025**  
December 1, 2025

**ON: TOURNAMENTS** ALL | PREVIEWS | RECAPS

**LATEST**

**MARCH** March 2026 Kubb Tournaments Preview

# Stoughton Kubb Invitational



visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/stoughtonkubbclub> or send an email to [StoughtonKubb@gmail.com](mailto:StoughtonKubb@gmail.com)



## Kubb Like A Viking!!

### Everyone is Welcome!

**Saturday, May 9, 2026**  
**@ 9 a.m.**  
**“Rain-or-Shine”**

**Virgin Lake Park, 1901 Roby Road**  
**Stoughton, WI 53589**



The Stoughton Kubb Club is hosting the *Stoughton Kubb Invitational* at Virgin Lake Park on May 9th. Open to all ages and groups. A fun family event for people with all skill levels.



- Scan code to sign up and for details.
- Play starts promptly at 9:00 a.m.
- Entry fee is \$50 per team (2-6 players)
- Pay online, in person (cash or check made out to Sons of Norway)
- Kid teams 12 and younger play free!
- Non-Profit event with proceeds going to local charities.
- Trophies and cash prizes
- Grab your friends, grab your family, it promises to be a great time!

#### Upcoming Area Tournaments

- Midwest Championship - Batavia 4/18/26
- WI State Kubb Champ. – WI Dells 5/2/26
- US National’s – Eau Claire 7/11-12/26
- US Open - Beloit 8/9/26
- IL Kubb Championship - Batavia 9/5/26
- US Kubb Club Championship - Milwaukee 9/12/26

#### Sponsored by:

- King Oscar Seafoods
- Stoughton Parks & Recreation
- Sons of Norway – Mandt Lodge
- Stoughton Kubb Club



Mandt Lodge 5-314



**STOUGHTON KUBB CLUB**

Stoughton, WI 53589

(608) 695-1336 | [StoughtonKubb@gmail.com](mailto:StoughtonKubb@gmail.com) | Join Us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1570027859977959/>



**SONS OF NORWAY**

# Masse Moro Heritage Camp

**What is Masse Moro?** Masse Moro is a Norwegian Heritage camp with a rich history specifically created with a focus on sharing the history, arts and rich culture of Norway with our youth since 1979. Norwegian language is one of the key components to our program. Campers leave their American culture behind for 2 weeks and participate in daily activities in a hands-on atmosphere learning camp songs, Norwegian vocabulary classes, team sports, and a variety of traditional Norwegian arts, cuisine and Norwegian history.

To learn more about District 5 Masse Moro Heritage camp, visit their website at <http://www.massemoro.org>.



## Looking for Masse Moro scholarships?

Check out the "[Masse Moro Heritage Camp Scholarships](#)" section of our [Benefit/Scholarship page](#).

**A new item Lodges can use when speaking to perspective Camp families or when searching for Masse Moro information.**

Check out "Tools for Lodges" at <http://www.massemoro.org/tools-for-lodges-1>

📄 [2026 Camper Registration Form - Printable.pdf](#)

📄 [2026 District 5 Lodge Support Scholarship Application.pdf](#)

📄 [2026 Masse Moro Camp Flyer pdf](#)

📄 [2026 Masse Moro Staff Recruitment Flyer pdf](#)

📄 [2026 Masse Moro Camper Health Form PDF](#)

📄 [Donation Form Nordic Legacy Foundation pdf](#)

📄 [Masse Moro Slide Show 2023 PDF](#)



This t-shirt design was submitted by Abby Olson in a contest with 10 entries. She won a \$100 prize for having the most votes in a Masse Moro Friends & Family Facebook poll. Abby is a former camper, former counselor, and current camp co-director.

# Cultural Committee Challenge-

[https://sonsofnorway5.com/programs/cultural\\_arts.php](https://sonsofnorway5.com/programs/cultural_arts.php)

*Cultural Committee Challenge to D5 Members Leading up to the 2026 District 5 Convention*, the District 5 Cultural Committee gives all District 5 members this challenge: Try some new Norwegian cultural skill that you've never done before. Complete any one Sons of Norway Cultural Skills project begun between May 1st 2025 and May 1st 2026 that you complete within this time frame. You would be eligible for a Cultural Skills pin from your local Sons of Norway lodge and after completing this challenge, *this member would also be recognized by District 5 and receive a token of appreciation*. Each member needs to send the Cultural Committee Chair, Lucy Ghastin, proof that all aspects of a particular cultural skill level were completed. There is no need to send the whole project. An officer of your lodge (usually the Cultural Director) would sign the paper, and the member would sign. All requirements and skill levels for each Cultural Skill can be found on the Sons of Norway website: <https://www.sofn.com/>

### Cultural Committee Challenge to D5 Members

Leading up to the 2026 District 5 Convention, the District 5 Cultural Committee gives all District 5 members this challenge:

Try some new Norwegian cultural skill that you've **never done before**. Complete any one Sons of Norway Cultural Skills project completed between May 1st 2025 and May 1st 2026. You would be eligible for a Cultural Skills pin from your local Sons of Norway lodge and after completing this challenge, this member would also be recognized by District 5 and receive a token of appreciation. Each member needs to send the Cultural Committee Chair, Lucy Ghastin, proof that all aspects of a particular cultural skill level were completed. There is no need to send the whole project. An officer of your lodge (usually the Cultural Director) would sign the paper, and the member would sign. All requirements and skill levels for each Cultural Skill can be found on the Sons of Norway website: <https://www.sofn.com/>

Name & Signature of Member Submitting the Report

\_\_\_\_\_

Email & phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge Officer name & signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date signed by officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Skill Title	Level (1, 2, 3)	Lodge Name & #

## **2026 Calendar**

March 20- Viking Photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier

April 12- 6 PM CST- District-wide Update for Lodge Leaders and Members

April 20- Viking Photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier

May 1, 2025 – May 1, 2026- Cultural Challenge

May 15- 990 IRS forms due; D-18 Audit Reports due for lodges that own property

May 17- Deadline for Masse Moro Local Lodge Supporting Funds (Matching Grants)

May 20- Viking Photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier

May 31- Submit Throwing Challenge Activities to Clara Solak

June 20- Viking Photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier

June 30- 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle deadline for D5 Nordic Legacy Foundation Cultural and Matching Grant applications

July 12-25- Masse Moro

July 20- Viking Photo submissions due to LaVonne Wier

August 2-6- District 5 Convention in Stoughton

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 Tuchenhagen**  
[foundation@sofn.com](mailto:foundation@sofn.com), [atuchenhagen@sofn.com](mailto:atuchenhagen@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)

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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@sonsofnorway.com](mailto: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.