

Friendly Fifth Friday News March 3, 2023

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!

From Publicity Director LaVonne Wier-

Photo submissions should reach me at this e-mail address by March 5th.

I am still receiving photos without the photo submission form. Giving me a detailed explanation of the photo in an e-mail doesn't replace the needed form. Sorry! I can't send in the photo without the accompanying photo submission form that is required by headquarters.

The photo submission form is attached to this message.

This request is also being sent to your editors and secretaries.

Is spring just around the corner? I hope so!

LaVonne Wier
D5 Publicity

From President Cheryl Wille-Schlesser **MANDATORY REPORTING**

The Lodge Financial Statement, D17, is due at the home office on March 15, 2023. If your lodge has not completed this filing, please do so at your next convenience. In addition, please send me a copy of your D 17 and D 18 reports, if applicable.

Last year, we discovered that numerous lodges had not filed their paperwork in a timely manner. I would like to congratulate Grønnavik Lodge of Green Bay, WI for being the first lodge to send a copy of their report. The next mandatory report is the IRS 990 due on May 15, 2023.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS MEETING

Presidents of the eight districts of the Sons of Norway met via a Zoom format on February 18, 2023. Updates were shared from the home office, and these have now been distributed to local lodge leaders. Our organization is not what it used to be; staff cuts were addressed. We are at a loss as to what items will be sent back to the districts for attention.

The district presidents were told that there is to be no engagement with outside organizations regarding public relations. That is the responsibility of the SofN fraternal department under the direction of Connie O'Brien.

Questions were raised about the SofN advertising campaigns. Local lodges should continue to advertise their events. The district presidents asked for the compliance guidelines for advertising. Local boards should be reviewing the policies and procedures, as posted online. District Boards may also want to address these items and determine whether any district language needs revision. Templates will be available for use.

A new reimbursement per mile was discussed and will be shared from the home office. The district presidents expect a forthcoming report.

All districts will be electing their 2024 Nominations Committees at their spring board meeting. Each district presented an update on upcoming youth camp and family camp offerings for 2023. Locations of some district conventions were shared. Issues of hotel and convention site costs were mentioned. Costs are becoming prohibitive in some locations. District 5's site review committee will make their recommendation at the April board meeting.

New contacts at the home office were shared. For member support: cbs@sofn.com (preferred) or 800-945-8851. Submitting the death of a member: sofn.com/inlovingmemory/, insurance sales: sales@sofn.com, fraternal topics, D17, D18, Lodge Achievement: Connie O'Brien: cobrien@sofn.com or Amy Tutenhagen: atutenhagen@sofn.com, Viking Magazine, Jana Velo: jvelo@sofn.com, for Customer Service: 800-945-8851 (membership and insurance, insurance sales, new business support, insurance licensing, for commissions, and lodge support.)

Districts will receive a reimbursement of \$1.00 per member belonging to the Central Lodge who has an insurance product.

The next scheduled meeting for district presidents is March 18, 2023.

District 5 Task Force Starts Their Work this Saturday

District 5 Special Task Force

The meeting will be held via Zoom. This meeting is open to all District 5 members whether you were appointed by the District President or not. We are looking for everyone to have an opportunity to provide their ideas!

The login information is as follows:

Topic: District 5 Task Force Call #1

Time: Mar 4, 2023 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86101658736>

Meeting ID: 861 0165 8736

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,86101658736# US

Agenda

- Definition and objectives of the Task Force

- Review the Resolution
- Description of current District 5 Zones
 - How states are grouped together
 - How Lodges are grouped into Zones
 - Current Board members Duties
- Possible Zone Realignment
- Changing Officer duties and changing Zone Directors
- Moderator for future meetings
- District Lodge Development & Support Zone Realignment Committee
 - Darlene Arneson, Chair
 - Connie Kross
 - Bill Bultinck
 - Judy Ghastin
- Goal to have preliminary information for 2023 Fall District Board Meeting

Those asked to serve on the Task Force include:

First	Last
PAUL	ABELQUIST
MATTHEW	AGEN
CONNIE	AIELLO
DAVID & RUTH	AMUNDSON
NANCY	ANDERSEN
NANCY	ANDERSON
DARLENE	ARNESON
CORLENE	BARTELS
EILEEN	BELOW
DOROTHY	BERG
SUE	BERG-ROEDEL
GRETCHEN	BJORK
VEE	BJORNSON
CLARK	BREKKE
KAREN	BRINKMAN
KAREN	BROADHEAD
BRENT	BRYE
BILL	BULTINCK
DEE	BUMPERS
ESTHER	CHARLETON
MICHAELA	DECKER
WESTGOR	DENNIS
ERIK	DUUS
ELIAS	ELLEFSON
JOANNE	ERICKSON
CHRISTINA	FAIRCHILD
OLGA	FAST

DAVID	FISCHER
ROBIN	FOSSUM
DOUGLAS	FRAMNESS
SHERRI	FREELS
JUDY	GHASTIN
VICKI	GOPLEN
DEE	GRIMSRUD
JON	GRINDE
DAWN	GUNDERSON
CHRISTINE	GUTSCH
ROGER	HANSON
MERLE	HANSON
LEE ANN	HARP
DARLENE	HENDERSON
JIM	HERMAN
DAVID	HIRSCHEY
ROGER	INSTENES
ADRIAN	JOHNSON
KEN	JOHNSON
JANET	JOHNSON
BARB	JOHNSON
DIXIE	JORNES
EBERHARDT	KAREN
KAREN	KENNEDY
ALAN	KJERNES
OSCAR	KROSNES
CONNIE	KROSS
ARLENE	KRUEGER
ROBERTA	LOUISON
THOMAS	MAXSON
CHERYL	MEINGAST
SUSAN	MORTON
ARNO	MORTON
STEVEN	MUNKVOLD
MAREN	NELSON
BETH	NELSON
JOAN	O'BRYAN
BRIAN	OGNE
DON	OLSON
ROBIN	ØYE
MIKE	PALECEK
PEGGY	PARKER
AUDREY	PARRETT
NANCY	ROBINSON
JERRY	RUD
VICKI	RUDH-JONES
KAREN	SCHAAF

PEGGY	SCHROEDER
WILLIAM	SCHRUBA
KATHY	SECORA
AUDREY	SEVERSON
HARLEY	SKJERVEM
SUSAN	SOLLI
WAYNE	STORDAHL
GAIL	TAGGERT
JEANETTE	THOMPSON
GAIL	THOMPSON- HADLEY
HALEY	VINGNESS
GEOFF	WODELL
CHERYL	WOLOHAN
SALLIE	WYLIE

Thank you for your Barnebirkie efforts!

I share with you two messages I received from Birkebeiner administrators concerning our volunteer work at the Birkebeiner Event this past week.

We had Sons of Norway volunteers:

Judith and Lucy Chastin, Sandra Olson and Cheryl Wille-Schlesser as well as my wife Robin Fossum and me.

The coffee, cookies and information booth at the EXPO center garnered over \$1370 in contributions. While there were fewer children skiers due to the inclement weather (500 bibs were handed out) the reception by the young skiers was really great. We made it to the Destination Tent. The people from Swiss Miss in Menomonie who were to pass out cocoa didn't.

Med vennlig hilsen,
Robert Fossum, District 5 Sports Director

From: Colleen Graham

The 2023 Barnebirkie is a wrap and it was EPIC! The snow and wind made it impossible for many of our volunteers to get to Hayward. Luckily, the ones who did make it were willing to do whatever was needed to make the event a success. Somehow, the weather didn't seem to affect our skiers nearly as much since almost 500 bibs were picked up. Best guess is that our numbers were down by about a third, which, given the conditions, was amazing.

Special thanks to Bill & Jane Butsic who stepped up to lead the cocoa effort in the absence of the Swiss Miss crew from Menominee; and, Robert & Robin Fossum who represented the Sons of Norway with hundreds of dozens of cookies. Also, kudos to Sue Scheer and Linda Fenton who came to watch the Barkiebirkie but stayed to dole out cookies.

And to the rest of you (Wendy, Stephanie, Karen, Jan, Kerry) thanks for being willing to handle all the tasks you didn't sign up for whether pouring cocoa, moving furniture, directing traffic, cleaning up the aftermath, or chasing lost kids. Your number was small but your accomplishment was great.

Best regards,

Colleen Graham

Barnie Finish Line Chief

From: Ronda Tworek:

Good day, Robert

Thank you for your time and efforts volunteering with the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation. We would not be able to host World Class events without your help. So, we *truly* appreciate you and your willingness to lend a hand.

The mission of the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation is:

To promote and conduct the finest international cross country ski competition;

To serve as good stewards of the American Birkebeiner Trail;

To support healthy and active lifestyles among people of all ages and abilities.

Our Core Values are:

Bring Joy

Do the Right Thing

Be a Team Player

Look For Ways to Innovate

Facilitate Diversity

Lead by Example

Get Stuff Done (GSD)

By volunteering and giving back to the events of the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation, you're showing our participants and communities what it is to be a part of something larger than ourselves. Sharing smiles and *Being a Team Player* is what it's all about. Helping others and *Serving as Good Stewards* of the beautiful and challenging Birkie Trail. Thank you for *Bringing Joy* to so many for the 49th Annual American Birkebeiner.

There are a few quotes below that we like to share that captures our gratitude for your assistance over the week of amazing events.

"That's what I think a meaningful life is. Living not for oneself, but for one's community." - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

“Everyone has the power for greatness, not for fame but greatness, because greatness is determined by service.” – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Should you have comments to share, or feedback on events, please feel free to reach out to us at the contact information below.

Looking ahead to the 50th American Birkebeiner - join us Birkie Week, February 21 - 25, 2024!

Until we meet again, Happy Trails!

Yours truly,

Ronda Tworek

Director of Volunteers

American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation

www.birkie.com/volunteer

ronda.tworek@birkie.com

Deadlines and Dates! Changes in red!

- **March 4- Task Force ZOOM call at 10 am CST**
- March 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at 2nor1rus@gmail.com
- March 10- Bylaw proposal ballots due to District Secretary from the District 5 Lodge members
- March 15-
 - **D17 Financial Statements** are due to Sons of Norway Headquarters. Lodge Treasurers can file electronically from their profile page on sofn.com. An editable PDF is also available from the forms area of the website. **This can only be filed online this year- no hard copies or email versions!**
 - **Lodge of the Year (LOY), Family Lodge of the Year (FLOY), and AFA Year End Reporting** forms are due to Sons of Norway Headquarters. Lodge secretaries can file the LOY and FLOY electronically via the forms section of sofn.com, where they can also download PDF versions of the LOY, FLOY and AFA Year End Reporting Forms. Note: lodges using www.fraternalgive.org don't need to file an AFA Year End Reporting form.
 - **D64 Property Officer Forms** are due to Sons of Norway Headquarters from lodges with property/building associations. These forms can be downloaded from the forms section. Online entry is not yet available.
- April 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at 2nor1rus@gmail.com
- April 14-16- Spring District 5 Board Meeting in southern Illinois
- April 15- Sarah Paulsen Scholarships due to Scandiana Lodge for Masse Moro
- May 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at 2nor1rus@gmail.com
- May 15-
 - **D18 Lodge Property Association** forms are due to Sons of Norway Headquarters. They can be entered electronically via the lodge treasurer's profile page. A PDF can be downloaded from sofn.com.
 - **990** The 990 tax forms are due to the IRS by 5/15/2023. Lodges who fail to file a 990 three years in a row will lose their not-for-profit status and cease being a Sons of Norway lodge.

- June 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at 2nor1rus@gmail.com
- July 5- Photo submissions for the Viking to LaVonne Wier at 2nor1rus@gmail.com
- July 16-21- Masse Moro Camp

Who to contact at the home office when you need help

- You can email cbs@sofn.com for any member updates that need to be made.
- For anything fraternal- Connie O'Brien (COBrien@sofn.com) or Amy Tuchenhagen (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
- For issues with passwords or website use 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

Viking Chest / Immigrant Trunk Schedule

Oct 2022 to Apr 2023:

Chest--zone 1
Trunk--zone 2

Apr 2023 to Oct 2023:

Chest--zone 4
Trunk--zone 3

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) 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