Sons of Norway District 5 - Friendly Fifth Friday News May 10, 2024 A District Weekly Newsletter to Keep Us Up to Date!

Don't wait to file your 990's- start today in case you have issues!

This is an IRS form so if your treasurer or whoever is filing the form has issues, they need to contact the IRS for help! SN volunteers and home office staff can give limited help! Start now!!

Don't forget to send a copy of your confirmation to <u>taxinfo@sofn.com</u>.

May 15

- D18 property association financial form is due from the lodges to Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- IRS filing deadline for tax form 990. Lodge treasurer needs to notify Sons of Norway Headquarters when 990 has been submitted.

990

All US lodges must complete a 990 form by **May 15.** Please send a copy of your confirmation to <u>taxinfo@sofn.com</u>.

Please go to the IRS website to view the user guide: IRS Form 990-N Userguide (irs.gov).

You can also call **877-829-5500** to contact the IRS regarding non-profit organizations and speak to someone.

Viking Chest & Immigrant Trunks New Sharing System

Please send your request for a trunk of the cultural collection for use by your lodge using the form below.

Your lodge will be asked to help transport the trunk from its location to your lodge and on to the next lodge. You may or may not get your first choice of a trunk depending on the route planned for each one.

In order to be on the first routing please **send your request to** <u>judy62ghastin@gmail.com</u> **by May 31.** The first schedule will be announced at the convention. It is hoped that all trunks will be available to send with the lodges requesting them.

Celebrate Norwegian Culture

"Sons of Norway is your destination for discovering and celebrating the rich tapestry of Norwegian culture . . . we have something for everyone." Sons of Norway website.

Nordic Trunk Information and Guidelines:

The District 5 Cultural Committee would like to encourage all Lodges to enhance their Norwegian culture experience by taking advantage of an opportunity for your lodge members. District 5 has a Norwegian Culture Collection in the form of three different containers (trunks), to assist you in discussing our heritage at your Lodge meetings. The trunks were created and made by Owen Christianson and contain examples of our Nordic heritage that have been donated over many years to these collections.

The three trunks are identified as:

1. Viking Chest 2. Immigrant Trunk 3. Mini-Family Immigrant Trunk

The Viking Chest was the first trunk. In addition to the cultural items, it contains a written history of the creation of the collection and includes information about the Viking House located at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay.

Each trunk contains different items representing Norwegian culture such as rosemaling, Hardanger embroidery, books, recipes, tools, cooking utensils, and much more. Included in each trunk is a list and description of each item, a list of suggested activities for sharing the items, and a space to document and describe new contributions.

Change in Trunk Rotation:

Due to the changes in our By-laws regarding Zone Directors, the Committee is looking at a different process to deliver the trunks to our Lodges. The Cultural Committee plans to track the containers and be a clearinghouse for arranging their routing throughout the district. Members are asked to assist in moving the trunks from one lodge to another. Communication will be important between lodges. Our goal is to keep the travel distance as short as possible. This will be a challenge for the eastern and southern part of the district where lodges are quite far apart, but if several people who can drive can find meeting places, a trunk could be transferred with 3 or 4 drivers cooperating.

The Cultural Committee will do our best to provide all three trunks to your lodge over a period of time. The trunks will be reviewed and updated by members of the Cultural Committee at the Spring and Fall Board meetings.

Donating to the Nordic Container Collection:

 Lodges are encouraged to donate to the collection, write a description of their donation on the sheet in the trunk, and email a copy to the District 5 Cultural Director.
All donations to the trunks will become the property of District 5, therefore NOTHING IS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE COLLECTION.

The Cultural Committee will distribute the donations among the trunks, so your donation may be found in one of the trunks other than the one in which it was originally donated.

Nordic Trunk Request Form:

To determine the routing proposal for the trunks, please complete the attached request form and email it to District 5 Cultural Director, Judith Ghastin at judy62ghastin@gmail.com. The Committee and or Director will then determine the best route to distribute the trunks. The Contact Person from your Lodge will be contacted to determine the best time and place to receive and transfer the trunk. Please contact Judith Ghastin, District 5 Cultural Director, if you have any questions or suggestions or comments.

Celebrate Norwegian Culture Nordic Trunk Request Form

To enhance our Norwegian Culture and Heritage, our Lodge would like to request a Nordic Trunk. We have read and understand the attached Nordic Trunk Information and Guidelines. The contents of the trunk will be on display and the descriptions will be presented to members at our Lodge meeting. We realize that the District 5 Cultural Committee will do their best to provide our lodge with the trunk of our preference and help arrange the transfer in a timely manner. We ask that the Cultural Director contact the person indicated below:

Contact's Name:					
Phone:	Email:_				
Address:			S	State:	Zip:
Name of Lodge:					
Lodge Meeting Dates:			Time:		
Indicate trunk preference:	1st Choice, 2nd Ch	oice, 3rd Choice	e:		
Viking Chest Im	migrant Trunk	_ Mini-Family Ir	mmigrant T	runk	
Indicate date preference: 15 2024	•	ce, 3 rd Choice:	_		
2025			_		
Please email or send your I	equest to: D5 Cultu	ıral Director, Ju	idith Ghasti	in at <u>judy6</u>	2ghastin@gmail.co
**** ****	**** ****	* *****	****	****	****
For Office Use Only: Name of Trunk to be transfe	erred:				
Name of Member responsit above):	,		;		
Location, Time, and Addres					
To Receive:					
To Return or Send on:					

Good day, Members,

As we inch every so surely toward the 2024 convention in June, I want to express my deep appreciation for this year's nominations committee comprised of Wendy Winkelman, Chr., Kathy Secora, and Janis Wegner. They have been working at a fevered pitch to find willing and viable candidates for the 2024-2026 board of directors.

I have been especially encouraged by Wendy's latest report which indicated that most board positions have candidates, and these individuals are product owners. It was exciting to learn that we have candidates from the eastern region of our district.

Seating individuals from these places gives their members a seat at the table and a voice for their needs. If you reside in the states of Tennessee or Michigan where Sons of Norway insurance cannot be sold, you may join the board without a product.

Through service on the district 5 Board of Directors, one will help to shape the future of the Sons of Norway (SofN) in the *Friendly Fifth*. You will also play an active role in helping the board to plan the 2026 convention, as there were no bids from local lodges for hosting the next convention.

As the new governance model is implemented, there will no longer be zones, but rather atlarge directors who can serve any lodge with their concerns. Eliminating the zone structure provides the flexibility of finding at large directors in many locales.

The nominations committee is searching for candidates who can fill the following positions:

- > Sports and Recreation Director
- > An at-large director
- Alternate Secretary

Thank you for your consideration and willingness to help us advance the ideals of the SofN in local lodges and throughout the Fifth District.

Fraternally,

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser District 5 President 608-219-4464 cwschlesser200bc@gmail.com



Hello there! This is LaVonne Wier, the District 5 Publicity Director. Many of you have received my emails in the past asking for photos for the Viking.

You will get information about these things in your packets, but I want to make sure you know them now so you can plan for the June get together.

First, I would love to see your **lodge banners** displayed at the convention. If you have one, please bring it with a stand to decorate our space. There isn't a contest this year, but we still would love to see the beautiful banners.

Second, I want to extend an invitation for your lodge to **bring a board of some kind with pictures** from your lodge activities. As you well know, not a lot of pictures make it into the Viking magazine bi-monthly. The Viking people have to give room to the other districts, so we only get 1 or 2 from District 5 into each issue.

Third, if you have an **<u>easel</u>** to put your board on for display, please bring it! If you have an extra one or two, please bring those, in case someone else doesn't have one.

Fourth, just a reminder that some of your pictures might be displayed on the District 5 website under "Happenings". You can look for them there. I know it is discouraging when photos are submitted, but don't make it to the magazine. Please don't stop sending them to me each month. I love to see them!

So, showcase your lodge with your banner and a board display of your pictures. Show us what your lodge has been up to!

That's all from me for now. See you all at the convention!!!

Fraternally,

LaVonne Wier District 5 Publicity Director



Calendar of Events, Deadlines, and Other Dates to Note (changes in red)

May 15

- D18 property association financial form is due from the lodges to Sons of Norway Headquarters.
- IRS filing deadline for tax form 990. Lodge treasurer needs to notify Sons of Norway Headquarters when 990 has been submitted.

*Insurance membership with Sons of Norway required

**Membership with Sons of Norway required (social or insurance)

May 17- Masse Moro Lodge Supporting Grants Due

May 19- District Sports Challenge Ends

May 19- Deadline to reserve rooms under the room block for the District Convention at convention rates-THE HOTEL BLOCK IS FULL

May 20- Viking photos due to LaVonne Wier

June 19-22- District Five Lodge Meeting and Convention in Indianapolis

June 20- Viking photos due to LaVonne Wier

Who to contact at the home office when you need help

- You can email <u>cbs@sofn.com</u> for any member updates that need to be made.
- For anything fraternal- Connie O'Brien (COBrien@sofn.com) or Amy Tuchenhagen (<u>ATuchenhagen@sofn.com</u>).
- For matter like submitting a death, a change to a members address or other info please email <u>cbs@sofn.com</u>
- 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

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 <u>inputd5@sonsofnorway.com</u> 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