

## Friendly Fifth Friday News May 14, 2021

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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### **Important deadline on May 15 – 990's must be filed!**

May 15, 2021

IRS filing deadline for tax form 990. Lodge treasurer needs to notify Sons of Norway Headquarters when 990 has been submitted at [taxinfo@sofn.com](mailto:taxinfo@sofn.com) or [fraternal@sofn.com](mailto:fraternal@sofn.com)

### **IRS Form 990 (this includes the 990, the 990EZ and the 990N): must be filed by May 15, 2021**

The IRS requires all Sons of Norway lodges to file a 990 form:

- For lodges with less than \$50,000 in gross receipts, a 990-N (e-Postcard) must be filed electronically via the IRS.gov website. More information and the link to the "Form 990-N Electronic Filing System (e-Postcard)" can be found here: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard>
- For lodges with gross receipts in excess of \$50,000 a form 990EZ or form 990 must be filed.

Directions for filing the 990s can be accessed on the IRS website, or the lodge may choose to utilize the services of a tax preparer to complete and file the forms.

**Once your 990 filing is complete (either the 990 form itself or an extension), please notify Sons of Norway headquarters by sending an email to [taxinfo@sofn.com](mailto:taxinfo@sofn.com) or by calling Sherry Gorse at 612-821-4643.**

**It is imperative that you file this important tax form by May 15. Failure to file could result in an automatic loss of tax-exempt status for your lodge.**

Sons of Norway takes this compliance very seriously. We have learned that it can be a very costly and time-consuming experience for a lodge to lose its tax-exempt status, and non-compliance of these reports could jeopardize the tax exempt status of the entire organization.

**Important Note:** The Board of Directors has implemented procedures to encourage 100% compliance in the filing of the D17s, 990s and D18s, including withholding local and district dues, and potential revocation of a lodge's charter. Thank you for your attention to this important yearly procedure.

**Need help? [taxinfo@sofn.com](mailto:taxinfo@sofn.com) or call Sherry Gorse at 612-821-4643**

## **From Mike Palecek**

The Norwegian-American settlement history course had five presentations from course participants this week. It gave them an opportunity to share with the class details of Norwegian-American history which were of special interest to them. These presentations are:

### SATURDAY PRESENTATIONS - WEEK 15

Dunn County, Wisconsin - by Sandra Olson (Valkyrien - Woodville WI) (28:54) <https://www.screencast.com/t/hFp4EOMMKD>

Norwegian-American Women - by Barb Johnson (Polar Star - Montgomery IL), Connie Kross (Cleng Peerson - Norway IL) and Connie Weimer (Koshkonong Prairie Historical Society) (50:46)  
<https://www.screencast.com/t/lrGePpDLKLBE>

### MONDAY PRESENTATIONS - WEEK 15

Immigrant Chest - by Kevin Podewitz and Kim Cade. (31:47)  
<https://www.screencast.com/t/gywY9WTJFquH>

Waushara County, Wisconsin - by Sherrie Framness (Myrmarken - Marshfield WI) (24:09) <https://www.screencast.com/t/auaEraCCLC1I>

Emma Cleven: Muskego and Koshkonong - by David K. Miller (Nordlyset-Racine WI) and Chuck Johnson (Nordlyset-Racine WI) (34:30)  
<https://www.screencast.com/t/ODMzjXyzuE>

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**No Nordic News last week.** On May 18, there will be a presentation on Norwegian sweaters. Nordic News is at 6:20 PM (Central) / 7:20 PM (Eastern) at <https://gotomeet.me/SofN-D5>

## **Ideas for Growing and Strengthening Your Lodge**

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. <https://youtu.be/PYixVC6MTy4>

## ***ACH Dues Notice***

Each month, you receive a lodge dues payment that comes to you as a check in the mail. In an effort to save money, time, and labor, we will be transitioning the form of these payments from a physical check to an ACH electronic deposit.

To this end, [we have attached an ACH authorization form](#) to this message, which will allow us to make a direct deposit into your lodge's bank account on a monthly basis. Please fill out this form with your routing number, bank account number, and a voided check and return to Sons of Norway Headquarters **by May 15, 2021**.

This change will be made in the month after we receive your form. Beginning May 15, we will no longer send checks in the mail, so in order for you to receive this monthly deposit you should complete and return this form as soon as possible.

Reports will continue to be mailed in hard copy.

If you have any questions about this process, please don't hesitate to reach out to [fraternal@sofn.com](mailto:fraternal@sofn.com). We are glad to assist you in ensuring you receive your monthly lodge dues payments in a timely and efficient manner.

## **Cultural Skills and Sports Medals update**

### **What is the new process for lodge leaders to order pins for the Cultural Skills and Sports Medals Programs?**

- Sports Medals and Cultural Skills pins have now moved to our [Lodge Supply Store](#).
- Lodge officers can order pins by logging into [sofn.com](http://sofn.com), and searching for "lodge supply store" or by clicking this link: <https://sofnlodge.logoshop.com/>
- Place an order for Cultural Skills pins and/or Sports Medals



## What is the new process for ordering Sports Medals?

The first steps are the same:

- When a member earns a sports medal, they submit their tracking card to their lodge Sports Director
- Sports Director checks over mileage/point totals
- The Sports Director then places an order for medal(s) on the Lodge Supply Store
- To save on shipping, we recommend combining multiple orders when possible
- Some lodges already order pins 2- 4 times a year and have a group ceremony for pin earners a couple times a year

## How does the process work for Cultural Skills?

The first step is the same:

- A member turns in their report to their lodge Cultural Director
- The lodge Cultural Director determines if all of the steps on the **Pin Application Form** have been fulfilled:

PIN APPLICATION FORM - TRADITIONAL NORWEGIAN COOKING PART 1

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**LODGE AFFILIATION INFORMATION:**

(Required) Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

District #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attached are (all required):**

1. For activity 1:

- Recipe review forms (5)
- Recipe photos (5)

2. Elective activity # \_\_\_\_\_

- Summary about your elective, if required
- Any additional attachments required for this elective (photos, copies of patterns, articles, entry forms, etc.)

3. Evaluation Form \_\_\_\_\_

- Cultural Director orders a pin and/or bar from the Lodge Supply Store
- Sports Medals and Cultural Skills pins can be ordered together, to bundle shipping costs

## What are expectations of lodge leaders when receiving Cultural Skills reports?

- Cultural directors are not expected to judge the quality of the work
- There's no need to be a professional judge
- Headquarters has used a similar evaluation
- Do check whether the person has thoughtfully completed the requirements

## **How does the process go for members of Central Lodge?**

- Central Lodge members forward pin/medal submissions to their District Sports Director or District Cultural Director
- This is a small number of participants
- District officers can place an order on their behalf

## **Who pays for the pins?**

- Individuals pay for their own pins
- Some lodges may decide to cover or subsidize the cost to encourage members to take part, as Cultural Skills reports boost lodge programming

## **Is there an alternative to pins, so members can still receive recognition without buying anything?**

Yes. Lodge leaders may also print a certificate of recognition for members, if that is preferable.

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## **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

### **May 8, May 15, May 22, 2021**

- Repeat Rosemaling Class for Level 2

### **May 15, 2021**

- Fraternal Funds Report due to Sons of Norway Headquarters (District Treasures)
- IRS filing deadline for tax form 990. Lodge treasurer needs to notify Sons of Norway Headquarters when 990 has been submitted at [taxinfo@sofn.com](mailto:taxinfo@sofn.com) or [fraternal@sofn.com](mailto:fraternal@sofn.com)

**June 10, 2021**

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

**July 10, 2021**

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

**July 18-31, 2021**

- Mase Moro Youth Heritage Camp in Fall Creek, WI

**August 1, 2021**

- Zone 4 Meeting at Green Bay Botanical Gardens from 10-4

**August, 2021**

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

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**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 31<sup>th</sup> to Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, with first time delegates arriving on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August for the First Timers Training. Delegates will depart the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. Here is the information about the venue, be sure and watch the virtual tour of the site!

<https://youtu.be/S7TljinVCU-> 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)

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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**

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 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