

Sons of Norway District 5 - Friendly Fifth Friday News

October 11, 2024

A District Weekly Newsletter to Keep Us Up to Date!

Kingdom Come

Would any of our lodges have a copy of the Norwegian play " Kingdom Come" by Amlin Gray, that we could borrow? The play begins in Norway, where the stern Lutheran Church teaches that emigration to America is sinful and that anyone who defies the church's stand will be punished by a vengeful God. Two brothers, Jens and Thomas Ansen, who live with a third brother, Kal, on his farm, defy the church and leave for Wisconsin when Kal announces his intention to marry, as Kal's farm is too poor to support so many people.

Contact Christina Fairchild at Valhall lodge - sofnvalhall5168@gmail.com or cfairc56@gmail.com

International Board Elected

Dear District Leaders,

Now that the election for the Sons of Norway International Board of Directors has ended, we'd like to announce the results.

Per the elections, these six individuals will be added to the Board and sworn-in at Sons of Norway headquarters in November:

Mary B. Andersen, Oxford, PA

Merv Eriksson, Missoula, MT

Luella Grangaard, Morongo Valley, CA

Chris Jenkins, St. Paul, MN

Andrew Mathisen, Tinton Falls, NJ

Dean Stiller, New Brighton, MN

In January 2025, look for photos of our new International Board, and find out the new members of the Executive Committee by checking the [Leadership page on our website.](#)

District seeks committee members

The District Board has committees that serve during the biennium which help with the operations of the District. We have a few committees that we would welcome some additional help with. The committees meet via ZOOM and usually 3-5 times year – depending on the committee. If you have an interest, please contact President Cheryl Wille-Schlessler at cwschlessler200bc@gmail.com.

- Audit- we'd welcome someone with financial background that can assist with our internal audit of accounts. This is done prior to the two board meetings and assists/advises the treasurer as needed.
- Fundraising- this committee helps develop and implement district-wide fundraising events, projects and opportunities that helps to fund both the District's budget and SN D5 Nordic Legacy Foundation.
- Budget and Finance- helps review the financial reports and develops budgets for the District. Helps to review and advise the Board as they make decisions on projects and activities.

MASSE MORO TASK FORCE TO MEET!

The 2024 D5 Convention delegates directed the district president to conduct a review of the Masse Moro (the district's youth camp) operations. The district president has called for participation from members across the district's geographic region. The following individuals have answered the call. There is representation from former campers, family members of campers, interested D5 members, and district board members. There is room for more participants!

- 1) Stacey Mentzer
- 2) David Amundson
- 3) Ruth Amundson
- 4) Janis Wegner
- 5) Johanna Grinde
- 6) Glenna Divine
- 7) David Hanson
- 8) LaVonne Wier-D5 Board
- 9) Karen Hare
- 10) Gretchen Bjork
- 11) Lisa Rove-Williams-past youth director
- 12) Sandra Olson-past youth director
- 13) Robert Schuck-current youth director

The two camp administrators, Keir Kristiansen and Leif Williams are interested in knowing more about the task force's findings and may also be present.

President Wille-Schlesser has met with the two previous youth directors of the camp and its current director. At that initial meeting, the youth directors voted in the affirmative to retain the current structure of our camping session: a two-week time frame to be held in July at Beaver Creek Reserve near Fall Creek, WI.

An agenda has been created for the first meeting of the task force. At the first meeting, we would like to hear from those who have volunteered in this capacity. We are interested in knowing more about your connection to Masse Moro and whether you have any improvement that can enhance our operations.

The first meeting of the task force will be held via Zoom on Thursday, October 24, beginning at 7 PM Central Time. We look forward to your participation as we chart the course for 2025 and beyond. Please make me aware if I have omitted your name from the list of participants or whether I can add your name! I will be sending the Zoom link to the participants shown above for this meeting in the coming days.

Thank you,

Cheryl Wille-Schlesser
D5 President
cwschlesser200bc@gmail.com
608-219-4464

Sons of Norway Foundation Grants

The Sons of Norway Foundation distributes over \$30,000 in grants every year. We're dedicated to empowering youth and supporting Nordic cultural projects throughout your communities.

Applications for our Helping Hands to Member grants are open year-round. For all other grant opportunities.

[Apply Now](#)

Heritage and Culture Fund

[Community Partnership Grant](#)
[Lodge Heritage and Culture Grant](#)
[Lodge Vitality Grant](#)

Humanitarian Fund

[Helping Hands to Children Grant](#)
[Helping Hands to Members – Disaster Relief Grants](#)
[Helping Hands to Members – Medical Relief Grants](#)

Please contact foundation@sofn.com with any questions or for more information.

We'd love to hear from you!

Find us
1455 W. Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Contact us
Mon-Th: 8 am – 5 pm Central time
Fri: 8 am – Noon

Email:
Foundation@sofn.com
Scholarship@sofn.com
Grants@sofn.com

Phone:
612-821-4655

Toll-free:
800-945-8851

***If sending a check, please make it payable to “Sons of Norway Foundation”**

[Like the Sons of Norway Foundation on Facebook!](#)



Important Dates

- October 1 – Grants and scholarships open
- October 1 – *Together We Are the Future* campaign starts
- October – Election results for Sons of Norway International Board of Directors (IBOD) announced. Watch for a separate email for that announcement.
- November – International Board of Directors (IBOD) officers installed
 - November 15 – Lodge Liability Insurance payments due
 - December 31 – Grant applications close
 - December 31 – D63 Officer Updates due

Together We Are the Future Campaign



You are invited to join in the *Together We Are the Future* campaign, raising funds for the grants and scholarships offered by the Sons of Norway Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization. There are many different ways to participate:

- Make a gift online at sofn.com by clicking “Donate” at the top of the page
- Use the envelope in the Sept/Oct issue of Viking magazine to mail in a check
 - Try out our new QR code (above)
- For questions about more complex gifts like stock gifts and IRA distributions, call us at 612-821-4655

Consider this: In 2024, the Foundation awarded 33 scholarships for over \$147,000 and 55 grants for over \$154,000, helping our members and Sons of Norway communities in the US, Canada and Norway. Invite your fellow lodge members to join you in making a meaningful gift. Gifts from lodges and districts are appreciated as well. Tusen takk!

[Learn More About Together We Are The Future](#)

[Give 2024 | Sons of Norway](#)

Grants and Scholarships

Applications are now open for both Sons of Norway Foundation grants and scholarships. Deadline for grants remains 12/31/24. Deadlines for [scholarships](#) vary, so please check the description for each fund, but they are generally in early 2025. [Grants](#) are issued Spring 2025 and scholarships are issued Summer 2025 for the 2025-26 academic year. Questions can be directed to foundation@sofn.com.

[Learn More About The Sons of Norway Foundation](#)

Christmas Ornaments



The 2024 Sons of Norway ornaments are now in stock on the website store. No phone orders can be taken, so follow this link to place your order:

[Limited Edition 2024 Rosemaled Old Rogaland Ornament](#)

Sometimes lodges decide to order ornaments in bulk, so check with yours to see if this is the case. Otherwise, grab yours while they last because supplies are limited!

Annual Lodge Liability Insurance

Invoices for 8/1/24 – 8/1/25 lodge liability coverage will be mailed out to all lodge treasurers. The updated certificate can be found on the website:

[Certificate of Liability Coverage 2024-2025](#)

Please reach out to fraternal@sofn.com with questions or if you didn't receive your invoice by the end of October. All payments are due by November 15, 2024. If not received by that date, a \$25 late fee will be applied, and dues will be withheld until the amount owed has been satisfied.

D63 Officer Updates

Review these instructions for how to update officers yearly:

[D63 Officer Updates for 2025](#)

Insurance Product News

Check out our updated page on the website that highlights the products we offer. On this page, you will also find educational fliers that you can print off and have at your lodge meetings and share with others.

[Products We Offer](#)



Lori Gubash

Sales Director

We are also happy to announce that Lori Gubash has been hired as Sons of Norway's Sales Director. Lori has held previous sales leadership roles at Krause Brokerage Services, LeClaire Group, National Guardian Life, Catholic Aid Association, and the Newman Group (Now Thrivent). Several of these companies are Fraternal Benefit Societies, so Lori has a deep understanding of selling within a Fraternal organization.

Lori holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from the College of St. Scholastica. Lori has also held the role of President of St. Paul Area National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors. We are excited to bring to Sons of Norway all of Lori's leadership and life insurance selling experiences.

Membership

Applications - Please make sure to use the updated membership applications found on the website. Encourage new potential members to join online for the quickest processing.

- [US Application](#)
- [Canada Application](#)
- [Norway Application](#)
- [Heritage Membership](#)

Paying for Membership

There are three options to pay for your membership:

- Check – annual payment, please put your membership number in the memo
- Credit Card – annual payment, online only, does not auto renew yearly
 - ACH – monthly payment, automatically made until you end it

NEW! Leadership Resource Archive

If you've missed out on a Leadership Resource, you can now find past issues on the website here:

[Leadership Resource Archive](#)

Training Series

Member training:

- [New profile page tutorial](#)

Leader training:

- [Intro to Sons of Norway Training](#)
- [Sons of Norway Foundation Training](#)

- [Local Lodge Training](#)
- [Publicity Training](#)

Charter & Bylaws and Policies & Procedures

The most recent version of the CBPP and templates to use are always on the website:

[View Governance](#)

Leader Training Series

Available trainings:

- Intro to Sons of Norway – [Intro to Sons of Norway Training](#)
- Sons of Norway Foundation – [Sons of Norway Foundation Training](#)
- Local Lodge Leader Training – [Local Lodge Leader Training](#)
 - Publicity Training – [Publicity Training](#)

How to Contact Us



Wondering who to reach out to with your questions?

Foundation, Scholarships & Grants
Amy Tuchenhagen
foundation@sofn.com
atuchenhagen@sofn.com
(612) 821-4655

Fraternal & Membership
Connie O'Brien and Kirsten Lehman
fraternal@sofn.com
[\(612\) 821-4643](tel:(612)821-4643)

Culture, Viking & Language:
Jana Velo
jvelo@sofn.com

Insurance Sales:
Ryan Bernard
sonsofnorwaysales@sofn.com
(833) 707-0012 – option 2

If you have questions about any of the topics in this issue, or if you would like to share a programming/recruitment tool that your lodge uses, contact us at sonsofnorway@sofn.com.

Fraternally,

Sons of Norway

Sons of Norway Membership Benefits you should try!

There are many membership benefits that most of us either aren't aware of, don't take advantage of, or don't know where to find them. Having time at meetings to show them **how to log-in** is a big first step as that opens up so many resources for members! Here is the video on how to do that:
<https://youtu.be/4q-7Mxuwv5Q?si=BNgdhKdlv2V687DT>

15. Viking Magazine- Browse current and archived issues.
Viking Magazine

Our award-winning magazine is one of the most popular benefits of membership. Written especially for you, by Sons of Norway, it delves into the details of modern and historic Norwegian culture as well as special topics related to family, finances, cuisine and travel.

- Do you like reading about designers, musicians, athletes, and others with a Norwegian connection who are making headlines?
- Would you love resources and ideas for sharing Norwegian culture and cuisine with your family?
- Do you enjoy reading about philanthropic events and activities in your community?
- Are you interested in a regular column that discusses financial products for specific life goals?

Viking magazine combines all of this – and more – with timely, relevant financial advice and perspectives developed exclusively for Sons of Norway members. *Viking* Magazine is just one of the benefits you'll enjoy as a member of Sons of Norway.

To visit the archives for *Viking* magazine [click here](https://www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/viking_magazine_archive/)-
https://www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/viking_magazine_archive/

Advertise in *Viking* Magazine

When you advertise in *Viking* Magazine, your message reaches more Scandinavian Americans than any other newspaper or periodical targeted to this special interest. Get the most recent media kit with demographic information, rates, editorial details and more by [clicking here](https://www.sofn.com/about_us/newsroom/viking_magazine_media_kit/)-
https://www.sofn.com/about_us/newsroom/viking_magazine_media_kit/

Other Dates to Note (changes in red)

October 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

October 24- Masse Moro Task Force Call- 7 PM CST

November 8-9- District 5 Board Meeting- northern IL (Chicago area)

November 15- Lodge Liability Payment Due

November 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

December 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

December 31- D63 Officer Election Reports Due

2025 Calendar

January 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

February 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

February 20- Barnebirkie Race in Hayward, WI

March 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

April 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

May 17- Masse Moro Lodge Supporting Grants Due

May 17- Masse Moro Registrations Due

May 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
June 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
July 13-26- Masse Moro- Youth Heritage Camp in Fall Creek, WI
July 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
August 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
September 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
October 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
November 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier
December 20- Viking Photos due to LaVonne Wier

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.
- **Foundation, Scholarships & Grants- Amy Tuchenhagen**
foundation@sofn.com, atuchenhagen@sofn.com, (612) 821-4655
- **Fraternal & Membership- Connie O'Brien and Kirsten Lehman**
fraternal@sofn.com, (612) 821-4643
- **Culture, *Viking* & Language: Jana Velo**
jvelo@sofn.com
- **Insurance Sales: Michael Godbout**
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
- For issues with passwords or website use 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) and District (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 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@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.