

Friendly Fifth Friday News  
September 17, 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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**Lutefisk dinner season ahead and the calls are coming!**



If your lodge has a lutefisk dinner or there are ones in your area, please send me the information so we can share it.

**I need the: name, date, time, street address, price, phone number of who to call, and if they need reservations. Please email me the information at [arnesonfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com)**

**I do NOT want all the other event flyers for other types of events and dinners.** Please post that on the District calendar. I just have time to do the lutefisk dinners! We'll post them on our Facebook page, District calendar, and in this document!

**Please send all flyers for the District Website Calendar of Events to [inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto:inputd5@sonsofnorway5.com)**



# Membership Updates from Cheryl Schlessner

Hello District 5 Leaders,

Below please find the latest lodge membership recruitment and retention numbers from the headquarters in Minneapolis. It is food for thought as we enter a new lodge year with some of our lodges.

It is also with sadness that I announce the closing of Vakkertland Lodge in Wisconsin Dells. Membership recruitment and retention is the lifeblood of any lodge's existence. Lodge presidents are the face of your group in their community, and they are responsible for its viability. Covid-19 has posed immeasurable challenges for 2020 and into 2021, but enrolling new members is possible!

Ask your current membership to take the satisfaction survey provided on the [www.SofN.com](http://www.SofN.com) website or create a more appropriate one for your members. Please share with your Board what the membership has enjoyed and also indicate their concerns. How will your Board work to address any issues? Are your members friendly? New members want to be part of an energetic group with a positive attitude. They want to help with community service projects, especially those newly retired who want a focus. For example, do you work with children at a local school? If so, how do your efforts make their lives better? Do you have a working relationship with another not-for-profit group?

When does your lodge have fun together without working? Do you provide options for the arts? Travel? Cultural challenges? Exercise? Nordic museum options? Genealogy? How has your lodge thanked your members for their continued support? Appreciated members will proudly contribute more to your mission, and they will promote the lodge for you!

Identify your current community service projects, and don't forget to put your name out into the community! Simple things like a bake sale, a blood drive, a food collection, a clothing drive, or holiday gifting are all possibilities. Use the free press whenever possible, but paying for a small ad could reap the rewards. Facebook provides an option for a virtual presence. Some lodges also have accounts on Twitter and Instagram. Snapchat is another place to post the happenings of an event. Does your lodge have a website? For those of you who are trying to attract younger members, remember that those individuals seek a virtual site first!

What kind of programming do you offer? Is the programming varied? Have you visited other lodges to see what they are doing? Which speakers have proven effective and entertaining? Have you opted for the arts as presentations? Do you pair with another lodge to defray the cost? Are you aware that the District 5 website: [www.sonsofnorway5.com](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com) has a Speakers' Bureau listing possible presenters, as well as the Nordic News programs? Is there someone in your community who has accomplished a stellar task? Invite them to speak to your members.

If you have not done so already, form a cultural committee to plan activities and events for 2021-2022. Locally posting your upcoming events brings interest from others. Think of venues where most people visit: the library, a grocery store, banks, fitness centers, local restaurants, gas stations, community centers, the Chamber of Commerce office, and community bulletin boards around your city or town.

Your lodge's social director and cultural director could work in tandem to plan some great options for your members. Invite your vice president or membership secretary to sit on this committee. Don't wait! Begin your planning process now! If there is something I can do to assist your lodge, please don't hesitate to ask. Also, I would be happy to join your members for an event!

Aug-21 Membership by Lodge

Dist	Ldg	Zone	12/31/2020			8/31/2021			Change in Membership			
			Adults	Juveniles	Adults & Juv	Adults	Juveniles	Adults & Juv	Adults		Adults & Juv	
			Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%		
5	0	0	1,329	62	1,391	2,757	58	2,815	1,428	107.4%	1,424	102.4%
5	999	0	86	0	86	82	0	82	-4	-4.7%	-4	-4.7%
		sub-total	1,415	62	1,477	2,839	58	2,897	1,424	100.6%	1,420	96.1%
5	29	1	77	9	86	70	9	79	-7	-9.1%	-7	-8.1%
5	53	1	50	3	53	54	3	57	4	8.0%	4	7.5%
5	220	1	21	6	27	21	6	27	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
5	353	1	70	13	83	66	13	79	-4	-5.7%	-4	-4.8%
5	625	1	22	1	23	19	1	20	-3	-13.6%	-3	-13.0%
5	670	1	20	0	20	17	0	17	-3	-15.0%	-3	-15.0%
		sub-total	260	32	292	247	32	279	-13	-5.0%	-13	-4.5%
5	28	2	231	16	247	218	15	233	-13	-5.6%	-14	-5.7%
5	286	2	17	0	17	16	0	16	-1	-5.9%	-1	-5.9%
5	457	2	96	3	99	89	3	92	-7	-7.3%	-7	-7.1%
5	496	2	42	1	43	36	1	37	-6	-14.3%	-6	-14.0%
5	534	2	35	6	41	31	6	37	-4	-11.4%	-4	-9.8%
5	556	2	40	2	42	31	2	33	-9	-22.5%	-9	-21.4%
5	580	2	33	0	33	32	0	32	-1	-3.0%	-1	-3.0%
5	609	2	26	8	34	27	7	34	1	3.8%	0	0.0%
5	616	2	45	1	46	44	1	45	-1	-2.2%	-1	-2.2%
5	627	2	62	0	62	60	0	60	-2	-3.2%	-2	-3.2%
		sub-total	627	37	664	584	35	619	-43	-6.9%	-45	-6.8%
5	74	3	101	7	108	93	7	100	-8	-7.9%	-8	-7.4%
5	314	3	216	1	217	226	3	229	10	4.6%	12	5.5%
5	513	3	173	16	189	173	14	187	0	0.0%	-2	-1.1%
5	544	3	37	3	40	38	3	41	1	2.7%	1	2.5%
5	570	3	40	5	45	36	4	40	-4	-10.0%	-5	-11.1%
5	642	3	38	1	39	39	1	40	1	2.6%	1	2.6%
5	650	3	39	9	48	33	8	41	-6	-15.4%	-7	-14.6%
		sub-total	644	42	686	638	40	678	-6	-0.9%	-8	-1.2%
5	82	4	187	8	195	187	5	192	0	0.0%	-3	-1.5%
5	183	4	106	11	117	105	11	116	-1	-0.9%	-1	-0.9%
5	491	4	63	6	69	62	6	68	-1	-1.6%	-1	-1.4%
5	549	4	55	5	60	52	5	57	-3	-5.5%	-3	-5.0%
5	632	4	70	2	72	67	2	69	-3	-4.3%	-3	-4.2%
		sub-total	481	32	513	473	29	502	-8	-1.7%	-11	-2.1%
5	100	5	138	14	152	138	13	151	0	0.0%	-1	-0.7%
5	168	5	69	4	73	73	4	77	4	5.8%	4	5.5%
5	472	5	68	3	71	66	3	69	-2	-2.9%	-2	-2.8%
5	525	5	69	4	73	60	3	63	-9	-13.0%	-10	-13.7%
5	593	5	34	0	34	31	0	31	-3	-8.8%	-3	-8.8%
5	689	5	44	0	44	39	0	39	-5	-11.4%	-5	-11.4%
		sub-total	433	25	458	407	23	430	-26	-6.0%	-28	-6.1%
5	378	6	175	0	175	170	0	170	-5	-2.9%	-5	-2.9%
5	490	6	24	1	25	25	0	25	1	4.2%	0	0.0%
5	523	6	46	1	47	47	1	48	1	2.2%	1	2.1%
5	568	6	32	0	32	29	0	29	-3	-9.4%	-3	-9.4%
5	600	6	55	0	55	51	0	51	-4	-7.3%	-4	-7.3%
5	610	6	80	3	83	80	3	83	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
5	614	6	110	2	112	94	2	96	-16	-14.5%	-16	-14.3%
5	657	6	84	0	84	79	0	79	-5	-6.0%	-5	-6.0%
5	662	6	40	0	40	39	0	39	-1	-2.5%	-1	-2.5%
5	677	6	61	0	61	72	0	72	11	18.0%	11	18.0%
5	681	6	58	0	58	48	0	48	-10	-17.2%	-10	-17.2%
		sub-total	765	7	772	734	6	740	-31	-4.1%	-32	-4.1%
Total District 5			4,625	237	4,862	5,922	223	6,145	1,297	28.0%	1,283	26.4%

MEMBERS JOINING AND LEAVING *									
August YEAR-TO-DATE 2021									
District:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Total</u>
Members 01/01/2021	8,783	9,488	6,667	4,545	4,862	5,739	1,135	703	41,922
Local Lodge Members									
Joining	3,007	781	4,892	215	1,832	1,532	123	9	12,391
Voluntarily Leaving	955	676	766	325	438	525	24	75	3,784
Involuntarily Leaving	254	121	151	94	111	111	23	10	875
Local Members 08/31/21									
Adult & Juv	10,581	9,472	10,642	4,341	6,145	6,635	1,211	627	49,654
Ins Non-Lodge Mem	2,415	886	752	720	741	593	3	15	6,125
Heritage Members	<u>693</u>	<u>982</u>	<u>556</u>	<u>649</u>	<u>411</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>4,145</u>
08/31/21 Total Members	13,689	11,340	11,950	5,710	7,297	7,780	1,486	672	59,924
% Members Owning Ins	51.4%	20.9%	49.7%	28.6%	46.0%	34.0%	1.5%	6.2%	38.8%
Membership at December 31, 2020									
Local Members 12/31/20									
Adult & Juv	8,783	9,488	6,667	4,545	4,862	5,739	1,135	703	41,922
Ins Non-Lodge Mem	2,372	894	698	734	722	539	3	15	5,977
Heritage Members	<u>701</u>	<u>1,025</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>669</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>265</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>4,122</u>
12/31/20 Total Members	11,856	11,407	7,871	5,948	5,973	6,808	1,403	755	52,021
% Members Owning Ins	45.9%	19.8%	37.3%	28.2%	39.1%	27.3%	1.8%	5.6%	32.1%
MEMBERS JOINING AND LEAVING *									
YEAR-TO-DATE 2020									
District:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Total</u>
Members 01/01/2020	8,257	9,486	5,181	4,860	4,339	5,264	1,185	754	39,326
Joining	1,049	646	1,233	174	631	675	41	15	4,464
Voluntarily Leaving	729	676	466	322	258	422	-6	44	2,911
Involuntarily Leaving	161	100	81	85	80	77	36	6	626
Local Members 08/31/20									
Adult & Juv	8,416	9,356	5,867	4,627	4,632	5,440	1,196	719	40,253
Ins Non-Lodge Mem	2,048	1,065	1,444	562	1,051	861	11	22	7,064
Heritage Members	<u>697</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>683</u>	<u>385</u>	<u>523</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>4,129</u>
08/31/20 Total Members	11,161	11,453	7,813	5,872	6,068	6,824	1,478	777	51,446
MEMBERS JOINING AND LEAVING *									
Aug-21 Local Lodge Adult & Juvenile									
District:	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Total</u>
Members 07/31/21	10,346	9,498	10,147	4,331	5,990	6,483	1,199	632	48,626
Joining	337	72	568	34	196	227	16	0	1,450
Voluntarily Leaving	65	80	44	18	27	57	1	3	295
Involuntarily Leaving	37	18	29	6	14	18	3	2	127
Members 08/31/21	10,581	9,472	10,642	4,341	6,145	6,635	1,211	627	49,654
Increase for Month	235	-26	495	10	155	152	12	-5	1,028

# Sons of Norway is now offering easier access to our most requested insurance forms.

You can find them on [sofn.com](http://sofn.com). On the right side of the navigation bar, find "My Account" and hover over "How do I." This will give you access to forms needed to:

- Change beneficiary
- Change name and/or address
- Make payment changes
- Request a withdrawal

Here is where to find this new feature:

AGENT PORTAL

MEMBER RESOURCES

JOIN/RENEW

Culture

Foundation

Blog

My Account



Change Beneficiary

How Do I?

Change Name and Address

Make Payment Changes

Request a Withdrawal

dvantage of the

# Viking Dog: The Norwegian Elkhound

Norway's national dog, the Norsk elghund (Norwegian Elkhound or more accurately "moose dog") is a medium-sized dog that has hunted, herded and played guard dog since Viking times. This ancient Spitz is one of the oldest dog breeds, having originated as early as 5,000 B.C. Elkhounds have been found buried at Viking grave sites such as the Svarthola in Jæren, Norway. According to DNA research, the elkhound is descended from an extinct type of gray wolf originating in western Russia and central Europe.

[Read More](#)

<https://www.sofn.com/blog/viking-dog-the-norwegian-elkhound/>

## Enjoy an Elkhound Event!

Members in Minnesota and nearby states can meet the "Dog of the Vikings" at the National Norwegian Elkhound Association show September 19-24. The Washington County Fairgrounds in Stillwater, MN will host this event. AKC Norwegian Elkhounds from across the country will take part in obedience, agility and other events. Plus, you can come to a fun welcome party featuring a performance by the Peer Gynt Junior Dancers of Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge 1-008! Learn more at [sonsofnorway.com/events](https://sonsofnorway.com/events).

## Deadlines and Dates! **Changes in red!**

### Weekend of October 8-10, 2021

- District Board Meeting – **Madison, WI**

### 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>st</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/S7TIjcinVCU>)-** Omni Hotels and Resorts, Omni Viking lakes Hotel, 2611 Nordic Way, Eagan, MN 55121

**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 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](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@sonsofnorway5.com](mailto: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](mailto:arnesonfamily5@gmail.com)