



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

February 2019
Issue Number 19 - 02



Front Page News

Counselor's Corner — Chili & Bingo for February Lodge Meeting

Greetings from The Corner. This month I want to encourage a particular segment of our Lodge to “jump in with both feet.” You know who you are...those of you who have not attended one of our February Chili Dump Dinners. I am not certain if the mere word “chili” is what frightens your Scandinavian palate, but let me assure you, this is NOT scary, **spicy**, or **HOT** soup. The Chili Dump is a group of fellow SCANDINAVIAN Lodge members making the kind of chili they make for their own SCANDINAVIAN families, and dumping this SCANDINAVIAN Chili into a huge pot, mixing it together, and serving it to the rest of us fellow Lodge members. Nothing scary here!!!! The courageous members who have returned for this event year after year testify to how wonderful this meal. Just ask some of these hearty survivors...

Now for the pith--this is a potluck dinner. We still need more people to sign up to bring a variety of items as well as the Clean Up group. **Please give me a call at 651-631-0399** to sign up to bring one of the following: Chili, Corn Bread, Grated Cheese, Chopped Raw Onion, Pickles, or a Veggie Tray. And don't forget, we also need people to help us clean up after the dinner.

See you at the Chili Dump,
Sharon

We hope to see you at **6:30pm** on Tuesday, February 12th. If you need transportation to attend the meeting, please contact Ron or Susan Stow at 651-439-7255 or burl103@aol.com to request assistance.



Greetings to one and all. As I write this we are in the midst of record cold weather, the likes of which we haven't seen in nearly 30 years. Temperatures are at, or near, -30 degrees F. (-34 degrees C.). Windchills are in the -60 to -50 degree F. range (-61 to -46 degrees C.). As Minnesotans we often brag about how we can cope with cold weather but this has even the heartiest of us hunkered down in our homes and sitting in front of our fireplaces attempting to stay warm.

Speaking of staying warm, our next lodge meeting will feature our popular Chili Dump dinner followed by bingo called in both English and Norwegian. It may sound strange but we haven't had a bad batch of chili yet. If you plan to attend and have not signed up to bring something to contribute to the meal please contact Sharon Amann to find out what else we need to complete the meal. Remember, this is a potluck dinner and all are expected to contribute. I hope to see many of you there.

Our lodge has a new FBC, David Okeson, who replaces recently retired Paul Dormody. We look forward to meeting David in the near future. If you have any questions about Sons of Norway financial products please contact him at: North Lake Financial, Inc. 13146 Crane Street NW Coon Rapids MN 55448 (651) 260-7399 nlakefinancial@aol.com



Another card from my Bestemor's collection. 1907

Synnøve Nordkap Lodge is proud to offer generous scholarships to our members and their families!

Do you have a child or grandchild interested attending a Norwegian language camp this summer? Do you have a high school senior heading off to college or trade school next fall? Have you always wanted to learn how to knit a Sami hat, carve a wooden spoon, or rediscover the lost Norwegian art of printing on sheepskin?

The Nordic Experiences Fund was created last year to encourage members to try a class or experience to enhance their knowledge of Nordic culture.

Please visit the Synnøve Nordkap website (click on "Scholarship Info" in the left-hand column) to find application materials and deadlines. Camp scholarship applications are due February 15th. Post-Secondary and Nordic Experiences applications are due March 15h.

Questions? Please contact Lodge Scholarship Coordinator Sasha Aslanian sashaaslanian@gmail.com or 612-720-1021.

As always, thank you to our hardworking members who raise these scholarship funds through our booth at Festival of Nations and the Torsk and Meatball Dinner. Tusen tak



Secretary's Report

Board Meeting - 01/02/2019

The Board for Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008 met on Wed, Jan 2, 2019 @ 7 PM at the Ramsey County Library – Maplewood at 3025 Southlawn Dr, Maplewood, MN.

Members in attendance: Sharon Amann, Pat Carlson, Connie Chrissus, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Lowell Johnson, Dave Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler, Ron Stow, Susan Stow and Heidi Slen Walsh.

New President, Chuck Draheim, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **SECRETARY'S REPORT - HEIDI:** Dec 2018 Board Meeting Minutes to be approved with one change: the Board agreed to use up existing disposable dishware, and then purchase compostable products for all regular meetings.
2. **TREASURER'S REPORT - JEAN:** She will begin to plan for the annual report and meet with auditors, report to be filed by Feb 5th.
3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a. **Sunshine – Mary Beth:** Meredith Berg is having her hip replaced. Will send a card.
 - b. **District 1 – Ron:** No change from last report
 - c. **Festival of Nations – Pat:** Dates: 5/2-5/5/2019. Pat is doing paperwork. Definitely needs more people to help. Menu will be the same, except will replace water with lingonberry fizz.
 - d. **Junior Lodge – Susan:** Sami proverb (loosely) “The ptarmigan is multi-colored. The world is even more so.” Working with woven lasso rope, reindeer antlers, inventive carpentry. Kya Larson is applying for scholarship for Hardanger folk highschool. Auditions for Festival of Nations on Mar 17. Dancers will perform on 5/14 at Syttende Mai Lodge Meeting.
 - e. **Scholarships – Sasha:** No report.
 - f. **Foundation – Susan:** No report.
 - g. **Programs:** Lowell volunteered as contact person for upcoming planned meetings.
 - h. **Jan 2019 Installation of Officers and Show and Tell:** Dave will send information to Jan Osmundson for installation program. Susan and Ron will each make a presentation. Will email Lowell with pictures and information to prepare Lodge presentation. Treats to be set up by Maureen Austinson and Sharon Folland.
 - i. **Feb 2019 Chili Dump:** Sharon will get volunteers to sign up for Chili Dump at Jan Lodge meeting, with start time at 6:30 pm. Discussion about using up existing paper vs. new compostable products. Treats to be set up by Jen Stow and Kathy Kalusa.
 - j. **Brevet/Web site – Ingrid:** Absent due to illness. Email questions to Ingrid.
 - k. **Old Business – Ron:**
 - I. Ron meeting about bringing *New Land New Life* exhibit to museum in Rugby, ND. Lowell suggested putting together DVD of the exhibit. Discussion about getting grant money to finance the project, progress report at March 2019 meeting.
 - II. Chuck will meet with Pastor John about storage at church.
 - III. Our new sports director is Jacqui Carlone. Call her with any questions.
 - IV. Mary Beth talked to Len Carlson re: a new insurance contact for our area. More information as available.
 - V. Genealogy Group meets Sat. Jan 5th, 10 am, at Shoreview library.
4. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Lynn suggested Willie, a wood spirits carver, to conduct a program, and/or class. He collects linden wood from City of Minneapolis, and cottonwood bark from dead trees. Scholarship money may be available for people to attend a class.
 - b. Lynn suggested an in-lodge competition among members for book case and podium decorations, including needle-point, painting, plaques. Lynn and Lowell will report back by March 2019 meeting
 - c. Since it is a non-convention year, Ron suggested we could do a summer event.
 - d. Mary Beth called Parks and Recreation to reserve space for picnic on June 18th, and scheduled Magnolias to cater April member dinner and June picnic. Menus to be determined. Will bring specific information to next Board meeting. Discussion about possible programs. Lowell and Lynn will work on a slideshow about Lodge activities. Could be a good marketing tool.
 - e. Chuck reported we have 249 active members, 8 new members this month. Number of adult members determines number of delegates to Convention. Connie called to invite new members to meetings.
 - f. Jean suggested reserving meeting space starting at 6:30 for committee meetings from 6:30-7. Board members who cannot attend a meeting could dial-in by phone.
 - g. Lowell suggested leveraging the interest in Ancestry.com and 23andMe.com with a blurb in local papers. Chuck suggested a local Lodge SON Facebook page.

Next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 5th, 2019, 7-9 pm, with committee meetings from 6:30-7, in the Board Room, Ramsey County Library, Maplewood branch.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Slen Walsh

Secretary's Report continued on page 4

Lodge Meeting - 01/08/2019

The Lodge Meeting for Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008 met on Tue, Jan 8, 2019 @ 7 PM at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St. Paul, MN.

About 36 members, visitors and guests attended. Visitors included newly elected Zone Director, Jan Osmonson, and her husband, Glenn.

Out-going President Sharon Amann called the meeting to order at 7:02

January birthdays: Harry Thomsen and Jan Osmonson.

January anniversaries: None

Brevet and Lodge Meeting minutes accepted as printed.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Jan Osmonson installed the new directors, elected in accordance with Sons of Norway. New directors wore dress regalia. Chuck thanked the members for electing him and he hopes to live up to everyone's expectations for the next two years. Goals include increasing membership, recruiting younger members, involving more members in committee work, especially Festival of Nations, and a vow to keep Lodge Meeting programs interesting and enjoyable. Our motto: Freedom, Fraternity, Progress.

SPEAKERS:

- a. Sharon Amann encouraged more people to sign up to bring something for Feb 2019 Chili Dump Meeting, with start time at 6:30 pm. We will have Norwegian Bingo at the meeting too!

- b. Sasha Aslanian wished everyone a Happy New Year and encouraged members to apply for scholarships.

Deadlines:

2/15/2019 – Camp and Post-Secondary Scholarships

3/15/2019 – Nordic Experience Fund: Open to any member for cultural experience and to connect with Nordic heritage. Winner is expected to speak at Lodge meeting about the experience. We have not had any quests yet. There are many camps and experiences from which to choose.

- c. Ron Stow spoke out bringing the *New Land New Life* Exhibit to the geographical center of North America, Rugby, ND, to be on display at the Prairie Village Museum in Feb and Apr.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

PROGRAM – SHOW AND TELL:

Ron Stow presented his collection of mangletrier, Norwegian wooden boards and rollers to press clothing and linens. He conducted a very interesting presentation about their history, and how in the 1840's, with the rise of the feminist movement, the tradition declined.

Susan Stow presented information and history of Norwegian bridal crowns. In 1840s-1870s, all things deemed authentic Norwegian were much prized. Painter Adolph Tieterman made several famous paintings including bridal crowns. Susan's mother based her beautiful prize-winning needlepoint picture on one of them.

Chuck and Jan Osmonson drew two names for a \$5 prize each.

With program complete, it was time for a delicious ice cream social with vanilla ice cream and a myriad of toppings.

Next Lodge Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12th, 2019, 7:00 pm, at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St. Paul, MN.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Slen Walsh

The Minoan Question

by Don Halvorson

While out walking by one of his friend's fields in a late autumn evening in 1987, Johan Jarnæs of Kongsberg, Norway made an interesting discovery. Nearby, in the low evening light lay a familiar large slab of granite. He and his friend, the landowner, had passed by this rock many times before. But now as the light had changed and he moved closer, he began to notice for the first time, the appearance of strange, unknown signs and symbols carved onto its surface.

Holding university degrees in history, archaeology and languages, Jaenæs was immediately intrigued. As he cleaned the slab the images began to become clearer. Some reminded him of alphabet characters from Greek antiquity. Also on the rock was a drawing of a boat. Another image was interpreted to be a bag of water or wine. Next to the bag were three horizontal wavy lines that Jarræs believed to be symbolic of water.

Jarnæs was challenged. He believed the Greek characters were authentic, but he believed older, perhaps by 1000 years. Also they were all consonants. The ancient Greek language was rich in vowels. The boat image could also be found on the rock walls of southern Norway and Swedish Gotland. The wavy lines were identical to the Egyptian hieroglyphic sign for water. But what was the significance of the water jug?

Some answers came from conversations with Norwegian linguist, Kjell Aarton in 1994. Aarton, was an internationally acclaimed academic on the subject of ancient Mediterranean languages, who received a prize from the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters for his work on the subject. He concluded that the source of the letters were part of the Minoan Linear A Alphabet from the Greek island of Crete. The water jug and wavy lines were ancient symbols meaning a place of welcome for visitors.

The Minoan civilization was a Bronze Age culture that dominated the Aegean Sea from about 3000 BC to 1100 BC. Their position among the Greek islands afforded them the opportunity to monopolize maritime trade in the entire Aegean region. Eventually leaving the Aegean, they traveled into the Mediterranean Sea, south to Egypt and west to Mesopotamia. Their end came when the Mycenaean Greeks invaded Crete and destroyed their culture.



Jarnæs believes that at some point in time the Minoans traveled west, across the Mediterranean, rounded the south coast of Spain and up the European coast until they reached eastern Norway. From there, they entered the Oslofjord.

What were the Minoans seeking in Norway? Jarnæs believes it was silver. The Minoans were accomplished metal workers. They were also smart traders. The Egyptians considered silver more valuable than gold. The municipality of Kongsberg was founded in 1623 when a silver mine was opened. Mining continued there until the silver was exhausted in 1958. But numerous discoveries have clearly shown evidence of primitive mining being carried on as early as the Bronze Age and before.

Unfortunately, after 32 years, proof of a Minoan connection remains unsolved. Ships found on a wall painting in a Minoan palace in Santorini are remarkably similar to the ships found on petroglyphs in Norway and Sweden. DNA evidence of Minoan remains has been found in unearthed sites southern Scandinavia and Germany, but the debate remains on whether the Minoan ships ever traveled to Kongsberg. Linguists also differ on the origins of the Linear A Alphabet. Some believe it is Indo-European, others believe it is Semitic.

Prehistoric connections Crete / Norway . English version
<https://araenil.wordpress.com/2011/06/26/evidence-of-prehistoric-connections-crete-norway/>



Bulletin Board

Sunshine News

Best wishes to Meredith Berg as she recovers from hip replacement surgery.

Norwegian Language Classes

- Norwegian Language Lessons, Tuesday, February 12 — NO CLASS
- Norsk Nordmenn og Norge & Ny i Norge book, Wednesday, February 13 & 27, 1:00-2:30 p.m. at SunRay Library
- WELCOME to new members!
- Please contact Sheryl Hove at 651-738-4908 or sherylhove@netzero.net for information.

Genealogy Group

The genealogy group will NOT meet in February.

The Saturday, March 2nd Genealogy Group Meeting will be at the Shoreview Library, 4570 North Victoria Street, Shoreview, MN from 10 am to noon.

Hardanger Embroidery Class

If you are interested in joining this fabulous group, please contact Susan Stow for more information: burle103@aol.com or 651-439-7255
Next date and time TBD

For Information:

Chuck Draheim, President 651-433-2008 or cmdraheim@aol.com

Lowell Johnson, Vice President

Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor ingrid@steinmetz.org

Pictured below: 2019 Installation of Lodge Officers

Outgoing President, Sharon Amann
Incoming President, Chuck Draheim



Junior Lodge

January is such a great month for outdoor, Norwegian style activities. Of course, we usually have snow for sledding and nary a snowflake was on the hill. We did make the very best of our planned activities just the same.

Thirty-seven feet was the awesome winning toss by Killian. Abbi made a tremendous throw of thirty-four feet. Kaia L. and Claudia were tied with thirty-three feet each. Rounding out the field of contestants, Josie managed a good twenty-seven feet and Nora finished at twenty-five feet. Congratulations to all who competed.

Behind the scenes in preparation for our Sami style contest, Ron Stow was enlisted to “build” a reindeer out of wood, logs, wire, screws. Yeah, you get the idea. It was a very creative project. After the basic frame was built, we wrapped the body in quilt batting and pillow stuffing to form a reasonable facsimile of a reindeer. Wiring the antlers that had also been covered with genuine faux brown leather and shaping the head was the most difficult. The extra touch was the Norwegian soccer scarf around its neck. We named the reindeer, *Ruskat*, the Sami word for the color brown or *Brownie*.

Our fabulous new event this year was Lasso the Reindeer. With our concentration on Sami reindeer herding, language and culture, we thought of this super challenge. With a successful throw hooking the horns from ten feet away, a junior lodge member earned 10 points. A throw from 5 feet was worth 5 points. Anders was our first place wrangler with fifteen points on two attempts. Second in the Lasso the Reindeer was Killian.

Many thanks to Naomi Hagen for letting us use two pair of antlers from her father’s hunting collection. One set was placed on each side of Ruskat’s head to resemble the real reindeer antler formation.



Photos, clockwise from above: 1) Junior Lodge members and parents gather around Ruskat the Sami reindeer at the January fish toss and reindeer roping competition, 2) Kaia Larsen demonstrates good form tossing the “Fisk”, 3) Winner of the fish toss Killian Stow, 4) Reindeer roping winner Anders Peterson.

The mission of the Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008:

District 1 Lodge of the Year in 2013, Family Lodge of the Year in 2006, 2008, 2013, 2016, 2017

Visit Synnøve-Nordkap online: <http://synnove1.com/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/synnor/albums>

<https://peergyntdancers.wordpress.com/about/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SynnoveNordkap/>

Date and Time	Event	Location
Tuesday, February 5, 7:00 pm	Monthly Board of Directors Meeting ** All members welcome **	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr Maplewood, MN 55109
Tuesday, February 12, 6:30 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Church 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Wednesday, February 13, 1-2:30pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul 55109
Wednesday, February 27, 1-2:30pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library
Saturday, March 2, 10 - Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Shoreview Library, 4560 North Victoria Street, Shoreview, MN 55126