



SONS OF  
NORWAY

# SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap  
Lodge #1 - 008

April 2018  
Issue Number 18 - 04



## Front Page News

### April is Membership Month

Bring a friend or family member on **Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** and celebrate all our lodge has to offer!

We'll begin at **6:30 pm** and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres. There will be a \$5 charge per person unless you bring a prospective member, in which case both of you will eat free. The talented youngsters of the Peer Gynt Dancers will provide the evening's entertainment.

At the meeting, we'll showcase all our lodge has to offer. There will be tables for each of the cultural skills group, with a leader there to discuss the activity with interested members. Carving, Genealogy, Hardanger, Language, and Literature will be represented, and there will be a general table for all other skills and for Sports medals. In addition to a table for new members, there will be information about Festival of Nations, and Financial Benefits with Paul Dormody.

**Reservations are needed for this event, so we will have enough appetizers.  
Please call Mary Beth Mutchler at 651-424-8872 to R.S.V.P.**

## Fra Presidenten

Dear Members,

I want to welcome spring, or at least its beginning. As I was driving today, I could really recognize it is here. I can see large areas in yards that do NOT have snow! Driveways are clear, and most of them are dry. And, I saw a robin on the railing of my deck yesterday. In my book, all these signal sure signs of spring!

Spring means many things to our Lodge. We know our Snow Bird members will probably be at the April meeting. That meeting is our annual Membership Event. This time we are going to change what we have been doing. We will be serving light appetizers rather than a sit-down dinner. We will also highlight the Cultural Skills groups that are currently active within our Lodge. And, we are showcasing our Peer Gynt dancers from the Junior Lodge. A huge "Thank You" goes out to Susan Stow for her wonderful leadership to that group.

Reservations are needed for this meeting so we will have enough food. Please call Mary Beth Mutchler at 651-424-8872 to R.S.V.P.

Festival of Nations is just around the corner. Volunteers are needed for all aspects of this favorite event:

- Monday, April 30, is Cooking/Baking Day from 9AM to noon at Gustavus Adolphus.
- Wednesday, April 2, is the day we move in and set up at River Centre.
- Thursday, April 3, through Sunday, April 6, are days we need the bulk of our volunteers to butter lefse and work the counter.
- Sunday, April 6, we also pack up and move out of River Centre after the shift ends at 6PM.
- Please check your calendars before the meeting on April 10, so you will know when you are available to sign up for some shifts. Thanks in advance for that...

June and August hold biennial events for some of our Board members. June 14-16 will be the District 1 Convention in Rochester, MN. Our Lodge will be sending 4 delegates, and we also hope to have 4 alternate delegates at the ready.

The International Sons of Norway Convention will be held in Bloomington August 16-18. Our Lodge will be one of the three local host lodges, so things have been happening behind the scenes for about a year already in preparation. There are things that you can participate in without having to be a delegate. The Leadership Conference will be a very worthwhile event to attend on Wednesday, August 15. On Thursday, August 16, the US Bank Stadium will be open to friends and families to enjoy appetizers and a "Look/See." Lots of great things happening for us coming up soon and very soon!

Blessings,  
Sharon



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# Secretary's Report

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## **Board Meeting Minutes, March 6, 2018**

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Ron and Susan Stow, Trudi Johnson-Richards, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Dianne Anderson, Pat Carlson, Dave Mutchler, Chuck and Jean Draheim by phone.

We started with the summer camp scholarship application of Josie Haugen, our only applicant this year. Sasha had submitted her application earlier by email, and Susan spoke highly of Josie. A motion (Chuck/Lynn) to cover half of her expenses passed unanimously.

We briefly reviewed the February chili dump meeting, which everyone agreed went very well.

We previewed the March movie night meeting, at which we'll see highlights from the Norwegian film Siblings Are Forever. We'll have popcorn and theater candy during the movie, with a very brief intermission to replenish supplies. There will be no treats afterward, but ladies should bring their scarves for hygge.

We discussed the April membership meeting. The tables for the active cultural skills in our lodge will have a leader to discuss the activity with interested members. Carving, Genealogy, Hardanger, Language, and Literature will be represented, and there will be a general table for all other skills and for Sports medals. In addition to a table for new members, Festival of Nations will also be represented, and Financial Benefits with Paul Dormody. We'll have an hors d'oeuvres table rather than a dinner, and we'll start at 6:30 PM. There will be a \$5 charge per person unless you bring a prospective member, in which case both of you will eat free. The Peer Gynt Dancers will provide the entertainment.

Carl Tomlinson, grandson of Ron and Susan, presented his Eagle Scout project. He proposes to build a lodge bookcase which could be locked and remain in Luther Hall, but provide secure and safe storage for our books and media. A motion (Dave/Dianne) to reimburse Carl for all costs passed unanimously.

Jean gave a brief treasurer's report. All forms have been filed to complete our 2017 reporting.

Pat gave a brief Festival of Nations report. This year the church will be charging \$150 for Cooking Day kitchen rental.

Susan gave a brief report on our Junior Lodge. She is very happy to have 22 dancers and good family support. Spring Break and Festival of Nations tryout scheduling continue to present ongoing challenges.

For the District 1 Convention in Rochester in June, Sharon, Chuck and Lynn are delegates, and hopefully the new secretary. Jean, Dianne, and Susan are alternates. Susan presented four resolutions for our review and approval.

We discussed candidates for the vacancies which will be created by Dave and Trudi's departures. Dave was asked to write up both the position of Recording Secretary and of Executive Secretary for use in getting volunteers.

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 3 in at the Board Room at the Maplewood Library.

Submitted by: Dave Mutchler, Secretary

## **Lodge Meeting on March 13, 2018**

42 Members and visitors attended our March movie night. President Sharon Amann welcomed 3 visitors to our meeting: Audrey and Thor Nordwall from Gustavus Adolphus church and Tom Henderson, who is interested in genealogy. We hope that they enjoyed the evening and will return in April.

After we sang the anthems and the pledge of allegiance, Sharon read a note from lodge member Shirley Brekke, who donated money in memory of her husband, Don, whose funeral was in February.

The February meeting minutes were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The hygge item for March was scarves. Sharon not only had hers that she had knit, but also slippers that her grandfather had made as a boy and an afghan as well. Susan Stow and others had scarves too.

April is our annual Membership Meeting. This time we will be having hors d'oeuvres, rather than a full dinner. There will be displays and leaders for each of our active cultural skills groups, and the Peer Gynt dancers will entertain us. The meeting will begin at 6:30 and will cost \$5 for members, unless you bring a prospective member, in which case you and they will eat free. Reservations are required; please contact Mary Beth Mutchler.

Sharon spoke on the upcoming Festival of Nations. We still need lots of help for this major lodge fundraiser and outreach of Norwegian culture.

Paul Dormody announced the new SON Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Insurance and had pens with his phone number for each of us. He is available for free financial advice, and will have a table at the April meeting.

Ron Stow mentioned the upcoming International Convention, and put in a plug for attending the evening dinner and tour of US Bank Stadium on the evening of August 15.

We celebrated the March birthdays of Curt Hogenson, Doug Peterson, and Ron Stow, and the anniversaries of Ron and Susan Stow and Doug Peterson.

We enjoyed highlights from 2 DVD's which Dianne Anderson donated to our lodge library: Siblings Are Forever parts 1 & 2. This charming documentary tells the story of Magnar and Oddny, who have worked their tiny Norwegian farm all their lives. The most-watched documentary on Norwegian TV 2 ever, it follows their journey to America to meet relatives who have come to meet them twice and invited them to see America and their Minnesota farm. Copies of the highlights DVD's are also in our library and available for checkout.

Treats were popcorn & movie candy. We enjoyed them during the movie. We thank Dianne Anderson, Pat Carlson, Naomi Hagen, Kathy Kaluza, the Mutchlers, and Jen Stow. Tusen takk!

Submitted by Dave Mutchler, Secretary

## The Telemark Canal

by Don Halvorson

When the Telemark Canal was completed in 1892, it was hailed by many as the eighth wonder of the world. Hand carved out of the surrounding rock, this scenic waterway covers a distance of just over 65 miles, through a system of locks, from Skien on the east coast of Telemark, to Dalen in the interior.

The canal's name is relatively new, conceived around 1990, and includes two separate canals. The first, the Norsjø-Skien Canal, is the oldest, built between 1854 and 1861. It connects Norsjø to the sea by way of the locks at Løveid/ Skotfoss and Skien. The second, the Bandak Canal, finished in 1892, links Norsjø with the western lakes Nomevatn, Fløtvatn, Kvidesiedvatn and Bandak.

For centuries before the canal was built, local people in the area used the waterways to travel and move goods to market in Skien. Farmers from upper Telemark sold their products there, and purchased needed goods to take back home. Whetstone, an ages old export, was carried by boat to Skien. Roads were mostly impassable. Wheel carts found travel difficult in many areas. All too often, it was impossible to move goods loaded on carts around waterfalls and rapids. Because of the time involved, there were places to stay along the way. Boats and barges could be rented and were used until the waterways became frozen. Then horses became an easier mode of transportation for use over ice. Lumber, a highly profitable commodity for the sawmills in Skien, was floated down rivers, but often piled up beneath a waterfall and was ruined before arriving at its destination.

With the building of the two canals, movement of goods and people became much easier. The western part of the



canal became more prosperous and opened up more western markets. It also created new commercial opportunities. Sam Hyde, the founder of Norsk Hydro began fertilizer production in Rjukan and Notodden and moved barges full of fertilizer up and down the canal. Greater movement of lumber to Skien meant more wood for the production of paper for books from the large paper mill at Union Fabrikker.

In 2006, the last paper mill in Skien closed its doors, and with it, the end of commerce on the Canal. Today it has become one of the most popular tourist attractions in Telemark. Tours run daily on three boats between Skien and Dalen or between Akkerhaugen and Lunde. Leisure boats and other recreational craft are also permitted on the canal, and cycling is a popular pastime as well.

A quiet boat trip through the Telemark Canal takes its passengers from one lake to another through a series of locks that connect them all together. The scenery is not much different than a trip on any other chain of lakes or river anywhere else in the northern latitudes. Evergreen trees line both sides of the waterway. In wider stretches, a smaller boat or occasional island passes by. A solitary farm and recreational building slide by on either side. As a lock approaches, the boat cuts its speed and slowly slides into the narrow one boat entrance. One after another, the boat creeps through a series of giant closed doors, as the water level rises in each, the doors open until the boat is released through another narrow causeway, into the water level of the next lake. While taking this trip through the canal, passengers will certainly appreciate the 150 years old process of a boat moving through a canal from one part of a waterway to another.

[The Telemark canal kanaler.arnholm.nu/english/norge/telemarke.shtml](http://TheTelemarkcanal.kanaler.arnholm.nu/english/norge/telemarke.shtml)

[History of the canal - Telemarkskanalen - Visit Telemark](#)





## Benefits and Finances

### Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Insurance Lodge Member Contest Announcement !!!

At the last lodge meeting, I spoke about the new Guaranteed Issue Life Insurance product that had just become available on March 1<sup>st</sup>. For those who were not able to attend the meeting, here are the important points:

1. This is a **whole life insurance product** with a **guaranteed fixed premium** payable for life. It has a fixed death benefit and **builds cash values**
2. **Issue of the policy is guaranteed** on the first day after the initial premium and completed application have been received by the Sons of Norway headquarters. **There is no medical exam!**
3. **If non-accidental death occurs within two years**, the death benefit paid is the return of premiums plus interest
4. **Issue ages: 0 – 85**
5. **Face amounts available: \$5,000 to \$25,000**

I mentioned at that meeting I would have a contest open to all lodge members. If you, a member of your family, or a friend may not have life insurance because of some type of medical or pre-existing condition, you can help them, help the lodge, help Sons of Norway, and at the same time, enter the following drawing that I am sponsoring.

#### Here is how to enter:

1. Ask the person you feel might be interested if they would be interested in a life insurance policy if there was no medical exam involved
2. If they say yes, ask them if they would mind if the lodge financial benefits counselor gives them a call
3. If they agree, write down their name, address, and phone number. Each name that you provide to me will enter you in the drawing

#### That's all there is to it!

1. I will provide pink entry cards at the lodge meeting, or just write down and pass the information to me. I will fill out the entry card for you. Make sure to put your own information on the card too.
2. Each name provided will equal one entry in the drawing
3. If you are interested personally, your own name will qualify as a contest entry
4. The drawing will be held at the May lodge meeting
5. You do not need to be present to win
6. The prize will be at least a \$25 gift certificate (perhaps more depending on the number of names received)

Sons of Norway lodge members and the Sons of Norway organization has a rich tradition of helping their members and friends. I hope this drawing is a way we all can work to benefit the community while having a little fun at the same time.

Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

**Paul Dormody, CPCU**

Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor; 651-731-5358

## Bulletin Board

### Sunshine News

Best wishes to La Ree Opdahl as she recovers from surgery while in California.

### The Festival of Nations is approaching!

Please sign up for a shift (or several!) and invite your children and teenage grandchildren to join in the fun. Festival runs from Thursday, May 3rd to Sunday, May 6th this year. We have many roles, from the Lefse butter brigade in the back (sit and butter/sugar lefse and enjoy good conversation) or don your bunad or Norwegian sweater and help out at the front counter. There you'll enjoy festival-goers' appreciation for our delicious Norwegian food. And remember baking day too! It's Monday, April 30th.

Festival will be here before we know it!

Sign up sheets will be available at the April 10th lodge meeting.

### Norwegian Language Classes

- Tuesday Class, April 10, No class
- "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" book & "Ny i Norge" book Wednesday Classes, April 11 & 25, 1:00-2:30 p.m. at SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119
- WELCOME to new members!
- Please contact Class Facilitator Sheryl Hove at [sherylhove@netzero.net](mailto:sherylhove@netzero.net) or 651-738-4908 for information

### Genealogy Group

We would like to welcome new members to the lodge who would like to begin researching their family tree or to receive help if they have already started their family tree to attend the April Genealogy Group meeting. The meeting is on April 7 from 10am-noon at the home of Ron & Susan Stow, 103 Burlington St. E., Stillwater.

There is no Genealogy Group Meeting in May so that members are able to participate at the lodge's Norway Café at the Festival of Nations.

### Attention Folk Artists

Synnøve-Nordkap Folk Artists are invited to display or exhibit at the District 1 Convention in Rochester, MN, June 14-16. Norwegian handcrafted items, created in the last two years, are welcomed to the competition. Each artist may enter two pieces of chip carving, acanthus carving, flat plane carving, knitting, tatting, crocheting, weaving, photography of Norwegian scenes or objects, drawing, painting, rosemaling, Hardanger, nålbinding, or knife making.

### Peer Gynt Dancers

We will perform at the April 10th senior lodge membership event at 7:00 at Gustavus Adolphus Church.

Our April 14th mtg. **CHANGED** to Bayport Public Library, 1 - 2:30, 583 N. 4th St., Bayport, MN.

**This dance rehearsal is essential!**

Festival tickets will be available to pick up.

### Sons of Norway's Newest Product Guarantee Issue Whole Life No Medical Questions Asked Guaranteed Acceptance

Here are the advantages:

- Available to anyone up to age 85
- No medical exam or health questionnaire
- \$5,000 - \$25,000 cash payout
- Guaranteed cash values
- Fixed premiums

*Sons of Norway, Minneapolis, MN offers financial products. Products are not available in all states. Products issued by Sons of Norway are available to applicants who meet membership, insurability and residency requirements.*

### For Information:

**Sharon Amann**, President 651-631-0399 or  
[slamann@comcast.net](mailto:slamann@comcast.net)

**Chuck Draheim**, Vice President 651-433-2008  
**Ingrid Bjorum**, Brevet Editor [ingrid@steinmetz.org](mailto:ingrid@steinmetz.org)

## Junior Lodge

### Junior Lodge Update

We all have heard and seen images of March Madness as stores promote their annual clearance sales. Our Junior Lodge March Madness involved wearing our bunads to the rehearsal and checking each outfit for length of sleeves on the shirts, length of the bunad jumper and general size. Sometimes children in this age bracket sprout inches between our bunad evaluations. Lucky for us that there was one larger boys vest in the closet that fit Logan and his, in turn, fit Killian. Bridget Haugen, mother of Josie and Freya, was on the job with a wooden yard stick to measure to see if the hem length was 5 inches from the floor. It is also important to see if everyone has their homemade sølje pins and the girls have their red hair ribbons.

Looking forward to the Festival of Nations audition and the April senior lodge performance, we had an intense rehearsal of our newest dances, especially the two reinlenders. The Dobbel reinlender is performed in a group of four with many weaving variations where the four dancers hands are connected continuously, that is if we are right on the choreography. Gammel reinlender, or old reinlender, is known throughout Norway. It is even a challenge for adult dancers. Every year we try to learn new folk dances to keep up the interest in those who have been in the group for several years. A challenge is always good.

We hope you all we enjoy our April performance!



*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

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, April 3, 7:00 pm	Monthly Board of Directors Meeting <b>**All members are welcome**</b>	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr Maplewood, MN 55109
Saturday, April 7, 10-Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Ron and Susan Stow home 103 E. Burlington Stillwater, MN 55082
Tuesday, April 10	Norwegian Language Class	No Class
Tuesday, April 10, 6:30 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting <b>Membership Event</b>	Gustavus Adolphus Church 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Wednesday, April 11, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul 55109
Saturday, April 14th, 1:00 pm	Peer Gynt Rehearsal <b>**Mandatory Rehearsal**</b>	Bayport Public Library 583 N. 4th St., Bayport, MN
Wednesday, April 25, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library