



**SONS OF
NORWAY**

SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

January 2018
Issue Number 18 - 01



Front Page News

A Hygge celebration of Light — Bring your favorite candle to add a cosy warmth to our January Lodge meeting.
Go easy on the fragrant candles, please.

January Lodge Meeting

One way to enjoy Danish hygge, or Norwegian koselig, is to curl up with a good book on a snowy winter day. It's even better if you're also sipping a hot drink in the glow of dancing candlelight and wearing your favorite pair of cozy slippers!

To help achieve this coziness, wellness, and contentment while enjoying the simple pleasures of life, we're doing an encore of our Member Book Reviews program in January. Join us as some fellow members provide brief reviews of books with ties to Scandinavia and/or Scandinavian authors. We will also have a list of titles to help with your winter hygge.

Come on Tuesday, January 9th and enjoy an evening of conviviality with our lodge members. Hear what they're reading and converse about your favorite books over coffee and goodies!

New: Synnove-Nordkap Bok Klubb (Book Club)!

In conjunction with our January Book Review Night, we will begin a four-month Bok Klubb (Book Club). The Bok Klubb will meet from January to April following our monthly lodge meeting program, and will read a variety of books based on members input.

For January, choose a book written by a Scandinavian author and come ready to share a very brief review of the book with those at our table.

We'll meet during coffee/treats, so grab your goodies and join us at the table with the RESERVED FOR BOK KLUBB sign on it.

Check out the lodge's library or your own neighborhood library for suggestions. We'll also have a brief list of Norwegian authors and books available at the welcome table. Hope to see you sitting around the Bok Klubb table in January!

Fra Presidenten

Happy New Year to you all!

It is always exciting to start a fresh new year and leave behind the old. We, as a Lodge, have a lot of exciting things that will be happening in 2018: Installation of officers in January, Festival of Nations in April, the District 1 Convention in June, and the International Sons of Norway Convention here in Bloomington in August. You have heard Ron Stow speaking about this forthcoming event many times, as we are one of the three host Lodges. As time inches closer to August, we will become busier doing more things to help this happen. We will be reporting on the status of our readiness, and we will also need many volunteers. There are also a couple of amazing events that you may wish to attend, even though you may not be a delegate. Stay tuned for more information, OK?

It is also customary to reflect on the past as we move into a new year. And, these reflections may be bitter and/or sweet. Many of us have lost loved ones, been ill or injured, etc. this past year. Or we have welcomed new members into our circle of family and friends. The "Tincture of Time" and sharing burdens and joys with friends and family seems to lighten the load and make life's journey so much easier.

The Julebord was a perfect example of one of my favorite phrases, "Food, Fun, and Fellowship." It is always a delight to see our members having such a good time socializing with each other while enjoying our favorite Scandinavian foods. Yum!

Our January program last year was such a marvelous success that we decided to do an encore this year... Book reports by fellow members. Be certain to take notes so you will be able to track down the books being mentioned.

Blessings as we move forward,

Sharon



News from District One

2018 will be an exciting year in Sons of Norway's District One, which means it will also be so for Synnove-Nordkap Lodge 1-008 of St. Paul. Besides the normal events in which our lodge is involved, there will be two major events in which some of our members will participate.

From June 14th - 16th, the District One Convention will take place in Rochester, Minnesota. Synnove-Nordkap Lodge will send four delegates to represent our lodge. They will vote on bylaw changes and resolutions, as well as meet with delegates from the lodges of the district which covers Minnesota down to Texas. It will be a wonderful way to gather new ideas and to share our successes with other lodges.

Your lodge Board of Directors has started the process of selecting delegates to the district convention. In addition to the four delegates, the lodge needs to have four alternates in place, in case delegates are unable to attend. Please consider helping represent the lodge as an alternate delegate.

At the convention, our delegates will also be caucusing with those from the other eight lodges in Zone 9, which includes St. Paul up to St. Cloud. In the caucus, there will be discussion about resolutions and bylaws, especially as they relate to Zone 9.

During the convention, the slate of candidates for district offices is presented for consideration, and then voted upon by the delegation. If you are interested in holding a district office, you must be a delegate to the District Convention. Currently, I am serving on the district board of directors as District Vice President. I encourage you, fellow members of Synnove-Nordkap, to consider serving on the district board, perhaps as Sports, Youth, Publicity or Cultural directors. There are also openings for District Secretary and for Treasurer. We all know our members are capable of performing these duties. Please let me know now if you would like to serve in one of these capacities at the district level.

In the Zone 9 caucus, the delegates will select, from those present, the delegates to the 2018 International Convention, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel near the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota August 16-18. Most likely, Synnove-Nordkap will have two delegates representing our lodge, and District One, at the International Convention.

Synnove-Nordkap is one of three host lodges for the International Convention. Several of our members are now serving on convention committees, and will be recruiting additional members to the Silent Auction, Decorations, Folk Art, and New Land, New Life display committees. All members are encouraged to help in some capacity to make this convention the best one ever.

One of the major events of the 2018 convention will take place at the US Bank Stadium, a nice tie-in to the Viking ship logo of the convention. All of you will be invited to take part in an evening meal at the stadium. In fact, you are invited to attend any convention events as non-delegates, including the Leadership Conference. More information will be forthcoming.

These are examples of wonderful, near-by opportunities for you to represent your lodge and to broaden your own knowledge of the Sons of Norway beyond the lodge level. Which will you choose to do?

Ron Stow, Vice President, District One

Secretary's Report

Board Meeting Minutes, 5 Dec, 2017

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Ron and Susan Stow, Chuck and Jean Draheim, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Pat Carlson, Dave and Mary Beth Mutchler.

We reviewed the November lodge meeting. Both our feeling and the audience feedback were very favorable. Not only was it an excellent topic for November, but Gene Hanson did a fine job in showing us another "quiet" voice in our membership with much to offer. There must be many other members with interesting stories to tell.

We previewed the upcoming Julebord in December. Sharon said we still have food items open. We reviewed Naomi's conversation starters sheet and decided to put the whole sheet at each table in case one item goes very quickly. There is some frozen torsk left from the October dinner; it will be offered in half pieces. We'll start with hors d'oeuvres at 6:00, with dinner at 6:30 as usual. After dinner we hope to have Lowell Johnson and Lisa Mutchler lead in singing Christmas carols. Mary Beth said that Paulstad had sent us a complimentary calendar with our order; it will be our door prize in December.

Naomi sent an email that she has only two people signed up so far for book reports in January.

We discussed the cost of sending paper copies of our newsletter to members without email addresses. We are going to need to charge them \$10 annually for this. Dave agreed to send the mailing list to Chuck and Ron. They'll make phone calls regarding this.

Jean gave a brief Treasurer's report.

Susan gave a Junior Lodge report. The European Christmas Market was rather poorly organized for the dancers with location, timing, and speaker issues. In spite of this it went well! The cheerful kids saved the day, and were photographed and written up in the Star Tribune. They even earned \$200 for their performance. Next is their Christmas baking day, which is coming soon and a fun time.

Chuck will be contacting our members who are more than 45 days late with their dues to see what problems they may be having with their lodge membership.

We reviewed our list of officer nominations for 2018. Norma Erickson has volunteered to be our new Musician, so Susan said she will pick up Foundation, which fills all our slots. We'll vote at the Julebord meeting and try to get Gina Pockrandt, the Zone 9 director who did such a nice job last year, to do the installation in January.

Susan suggested that Leif Erickson be asked to try to get our lodge news and calendar in local Lutheran church bulletins.

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 2 in the Board Room at the Maplewood library._

Submitted by: Dave Mutchler, Secretary

Julebord celebration on December 12, 2017

Seventy members and guests attended our annual Julebord celebration on Tuesday, December 12.

As usual, there was lots of good food, beginning with appetizers and hot glug at 6:00 PM.

While we let that settle, Sasha Aslanian made some announcements about our summer camp scholarships. She will provide an appropriate announcement in the January Brevet to update members with camp scholarship information and application deadlines.

The main course followed, with lots of Scandinavian goodies to sample.

President Sharon Amann then announced the list of officers for 2018. All positions are filled and the installation will be at our meeting in January.

We celebrated the December birthdays of Russell Bailey, Bill Lund, John Nordale, and Scott Torvi, and the December anniversary of Ken and Nancy Bjork. Ron Stow won the door prize, a 2018 calendar from Paulstad.

Susan Stow led the dancing around the poinsettia plants, as there was no Christmas tree in the room. She also played the Christmas carols as Lowell Johnson and Lisa Mutchler led us in caroling.

We ended with our dessert table.

Tusen takk to our Julebord chairperson, Sharon Amann, and to all of you who brought food to share.

Merry Christmas!

Submitted by Dave Mutchler, Secretary

The Voyage of Pietro Querini

by Don Halvorson

To those living Medieval Europe, arctic Norway seemed like the ends of the earth, a frozen wasteland, devoid of any life except unimaginable beasts and mythical sea creatures. To the knowledgeable traders however, the North was an unending resource of furs and amber, and after the fourteenth century, stockfish for the dinner tables of northern Europe.

In the summer of 1431, a Venetian nobleman and merchant named Pietro Querini, together with a crew of 68 men and a cargo of wine and spices, set sail on the Mediterranean for Bruges, Flanders on the North Sea. Approaching the English Channel, they encountered a violent storm that pushed them completely off course to the west coast of Ireland and beyond, and toward the Scandinavian Peninsula. While the ship was tossed about in the turbulent waves, the ship's rudder was shattered, and most of the sails were shredded. Out of control, the galleon finally broke apart on one of the skerries on the north Norwegian coast.

Abandoning the dying ship and all its cargo, Querini and his crew split up into the two lifeboats, in an attempt to drift towards land. The smallest boat disappeared quite quickly. The larger boat with 47 men drifted north on the Gulf Stream. In three weeks time, on the 5th of January 1432, Querini and 10 surviving crewmembers stumbled ashore, exhausted and starving, on the frozen archipelago near Røst in the Lofoten Islands.

Once there, they constantly suffered from the wet cold and snowstorms, and the lack of light caused by the Polar Night. To stave off their thirst and hunger, they survived on melted snow and fish. To keep from freezing, they managed to find enough materials around them on the skerry to erect a primitive makeshift hut.



It took a month before passing fishermen found them. In his diary of his voyage, Querini insisted that the rescuing fishermen were drawn to the sight by a mystical image that he had left for them in a dream he had while sleeping. From the skerry, they were transported to the village of Røst, where they stayed for three months, until they returned to normal health. During their convalescence, they observed some strange things: nude fishermen, turf houses and stockfish drying on giant racks.

When the winter fishing season was over, Querini's men secured space on a merchant ship bound for Bergen. They exited the ship at Trondheim, made their way by land to Sweden, and continued down the rest of continental Europe until they again reached Italy.

Upon returning to Venice, Querini persuaded people of influence to pursue the fish trade with North Norway. The resulting importation of cod to Italy was so successful that it soon spread throughout the rest of southern Europe. Today Italy still remains the largest importer of Norwegian cod. In Røst, the arrival of Querini and his crew continues to be celebrated. A memorial stone was created in 1933. The Querini Pub and Restaurant has now opened its doors in Røst, and in 2012 and 2014 a hit opera was produced there retelling the story of Pietro Querini.

[The Tale of Pietro Querini | Bivrost](#)

www.bivrost.com/the-tale-of-pietro-querini

[Pietro Querini's amazing journey | Sandalsand](#)

www.sandalsand.net/pietro-querinis-amazing-journey

7 Reasons Why Life Insurance is an Important Part of a Financial Plan

by Paul Dormody

I hope everyone had a wonderful 2017 Holiday season.

As I reflect on this past Christmas and New Year celebrations, I had the thought that for some reason, it seems like the year between these holidays is passing more quickly as I get older. I reflected on how my family is changing and how some of my relatives are no longer with us. And this thought made me think again how important each day is and how important it is to celebrate family and friends as much as we can while we can.

I've enjoyed meeting the members of your lodge. And I've also reflected on how those members enjoy their Norwegian heritage and enjoy sharing their own special stories with the extended family of lodge members. It's truly a blessing.

As the Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor for your lodge, it is my privilege to bring an understanding of some of the ways Sons of Norway can help all of us take care of our families and loved ones after we are gone. And how we can share our good fortune to benefit our families, the Sons of Norway lodge, and the communities where we live.

Life insurance is an important part of the Sons of Norway heritage. Here are seven reasons life insurance can be one of the most important parts of your financial plan:

1. Life insurance can be used to replace the income of a breadwinner or spouse and could mean the difference between a comfortable life and a life of hardship for a family after the primary breadwinner dies. And if you have retired and are not as concerned about replacing income, for many of us, our sons, daughters, and grandchildren still have those needs. Sons of Norway products can help our relatives of all ages.
2. In the case of a sudden death, life insurance can be used to pay off debts, mortgage, student loans, car loans, medical bills, and final expenses. If you left a life insurance

legacy to a relative who could use it to pay off a student loan, you would change their life forever.

3. Life insurance often helps to fund expenses for college. This is truly a legacy that will never be forgotten.
4. Life insurance proceeds go directly to beneficiaries, not to creditors. Life insurance proceeds are one of the most efficient ways to leave money to loved ones, tax free!
5. Life insurance is a safe investment. The stock market can go up and down. And although the stock market has only seemed to go up recently, all financial planners agree that will not always be the case and when the correction comes, it could be severe and longlasting.
6. A life insurance policy can be structured to accumulate cash value that can be used to supplement an income during retirement as well as provide financial security to a family.
7. If you have no close relatives, life insurance can be used to create a generous legacy for a charity or foundation like the Sons of Norway. You may no longer be here, but your legacy will persist.

I hope everyone will celebrate a happy and healthy new year. And if I can assist you with ideas about a financial plan, I hope you will contact me.

Paul Dormody

Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor
651-731-5358; pdormody@mwisa.com



Bulletin Board

Tusen Takk

Thank you to Ruth Gibson for organizing an enjoyable bell-ringing experience for our volunteer ringers. Ruth provided them with snacks, cider, cocoa, and stools to sit on, if necessary.

Thanks to Lowell Johnson, Dave Hegdahl, Rob and RJ Grove, Ron Stow, and Doug Peterson for helping with this Salvation Army Lodge Community Service Project. Their kettle collected \$818.74. Not bad for 6 hours of work!!

Norwegian Language Classes

- Norwegian Language Lessons, Tuesday, January 9, 6:30-7:00 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church before the meeting in the back corner
- Norsk Nordmenn og Norge & Ny i Norge book, Wednesday, January 10 & 24, 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

Make a New Year's Resolution to trace your family roots. The Genealogy Group will help you accomplish your resolution. Join us on January 6th at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W. of Maplewood Mall) to begin your journey. An optional lunch at a nearby restaurant will follow the meeting. In February, the Genealogy Group will be meeting at the Shoreview Library.

Peer Gynt Dancers

- Saturday, January 13: Annual Fish Toss and Sledding event
- Stillwater Middle School East Hill
- If you wish more outdoor time, come early.
- 523 West Marsh from 1 - 1:30 at the hill.
- Drive to 200 E. Chestnut for rehearsal.
- More information re. camp scholarships.

Hardanger Embroidery Class

- Next class - Friday, Jan. 5th at 10:00 am
- Location - 103 E. Burlington, Stillwater
- Bring a sharp embroidery scissors and get ready for a delightful morning!
- Contact Susan Stow, burle103@aol.com or 651-439-7255 to register.

For Information:

Sharon Amann, President 651-631-0399 or slamann@comcast.net

Chuck Draheim, Vice President 651-433-2008

Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor
ingrid@steinmetz.org



Past & Future

December Julebord



Scholarship Info

Think summer! If you have young people in your life ages 7-18, it's not too early to plan for a Norwegian summer camp experience. Our lodge offers generous scholarships to Masse Moro in Fall Creek, Wisconsin (July 15-28, ages 9-18) and Skogfjorden, the world-renowned Norwegian language immersion camp that's part of Concordia Language Villages in Bemidji (June-July check website for sessions and ages). Scholarship deadline is February 15. Please check <http://synnove1.com/Scholarships.html> for details and to download application or contact Scholarship Coordinator Sasha Aslanian at 612-720-1021 or saslanian68@yahoo.com.

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, January 2, 7:00 pm	Monthly Board of Directors Meeting	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr Maplewood, MN 55109
Friday, January 5, 10:00 am	Hardanger Embroidery Class	103 E. Burlington Stillwater, MN 55082
Saturday, January 6, 10-Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood
Tuesday, January 9, 6:30 pm	Norwegian Language Class	Gustavus Adolphus Church 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Church
Wednesday, January 10, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul 55109
Saturday, January 13th, 1:00 pm	Peer Gynt Fish Toss & Dance Rehearsal	Multiple locations. See Bulletin Board notice for details.
Wednesday, January 24, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library

Junior Lodge

As busy as family schedules can be, our Junior Lodge Peer Gynt Dancers made time for two special events in December. I wish you all could have been at the European Christmas Market at Union Depot on Sunday, December 3rd. Our one hour performance was no doubt one of the best Peer Gynt ever presented. All the dancers were enjoying their steps, smiling and laughing. It carried over to the enthusiastic way the audience reacted to the children. By the time for the audience participation dances at the end of the program, we had no trouble asking people to join in. Smiles all around!

Baking Day was our second event in December. We baked our favorite Krum Kake, Kringla and Sandbakkelse, adding Fatigmann to the goodies everyone took home in their tins. Elsebet, from Skogfjorden, came just as we completed the baking to tell everyone about the day camp, one week, two week and credit camp 4 week program.

Thanks to parents: Sasha Aslanian, Scott Kneeskern, Laura Regino and Rebecca Urban who guided busy hands to safety throughout our Baking Day.

