



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

March 2018
Issue Number 18 - 03



Front Page News

March Movie Night!

Join us for a Norwegian movie night at our March meeting on Tuesday, March 13th. We'll be showing highlights from the film, *Siblings are Forever*.

Siblings are Forever is the most-watched documentary on Norwegian TV 2 ever. It follows a 70+ year-old brother and sister, Magnar and Oddny, as they work on their tiny Norwegian dairy farm holding on to their traditions and faith. The sequel follows the pair as they take "The Grand Journey" to New York City and Minnesota to visit family.

Come and see Minnesota through the eyes of this uniquely Norwegian pair. This movie also continues last month's focus on the Norwegian language, as it's filmed mainly in Norwegian and has English subtitles.

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Hygge

Be koselig (cozy) at our March meeting. Get out your favorite cozy scarf to wear at our March 13th meeting. Choose a bold color, a striking pattern or the material that comforts. March is probably our last full winter month, we hope, so we will conclude our hygge/koselig initiation with an "easy to transport" scarf.

Fra Presidenten

Dear Members,

I wish you a "Happy Saint Urho's Day" (March 16) to you and yours. I can do this because Sons of Norway is interested in things Scandinavian, so the Finnish half of me is shouting out now... Look for the green and purple as St. Urho (as the legend goes) drove the "krass-hoppers" out of Finland to keep them from eating all the "krapes" and thereby eliminating the wine-making and drinking. Please note the phonetic spelling, since there isn't a "g" sound in Finnish. Cathie Reasoner will agree with me, right?

We had a really fun Chili Dump dinner at our February meeting. Even though 8 of us brought our own family recipe for chili and dumping it into a big pot, it is really an amazing and delicious result. Hence, Chili Dump. It is definitely not a lovely name, but it does definitely describe the recipe. Then when one adds in sour cream, cheese, onions, and crackers, it becomes a personal favorite. Let's not forget the wonderful cornbread dripping with honey and butter. It makes me hungry just writing about it. Thanks for all who brought the ingredients for this wintery fun! An even bigger "Thank You" goes out to those who came early to set up and those who stayed late to clean up.

I look forward to our March meeting when we have Movie Night. We will see a documentary about aging siblings who live in Norway and then experience a travel adventure. That's all I will say, but a little bird has told me it is a very sweet story that will touch our hearts.

Please think about who you would like to invite to our Membership Event on April 10th. We are planning to have appetizers rather than a sit-down meal. We are also having Cultural Skills tables, and some other fun and exciting things that you will not want to miss. Start inviting friends, co-workers, family, and anyone else who may want to have fun with us!

Blessings,

Sharon



Secretary's Report

Board Meeting Minutes, 6 Feb, 2018

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Ron and Susan Stow, Trudi Johnson-Richards, Ingrid Bjorum, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Dianne Anderson, Pat Carlson, Dave and Mary Beth Mutchler.

Naomi Hagen had a conflict and could not attend. She had sent an email to Sharon, and we began by looking at our future programs at lodge meetings.

- February is pretty well set with the Chili Dump and Bingo. Naomi still needs to buy the prizes, and Sharon needs more volunteers to bring items.
- For March, we decided on the film "Siblings are Forever". Dianne has it on DVD. Both parts are 75 minutes, but Dave will try to delete the slow parts. Paul Dormody wants 10 minutes in both March and April to announce the new SON insurance product.
- For April, we want to do something different for the Membership Dinner. After discussion, we will have hors d'oeuvres and allow people to browse the tables set up for the cultural skills that we offer: Genealogy, Reading, Norwegian, Hardanger, Woodcarving, and Junior Lodge cultural skills. We'll add a table for Festival of Nations, and we'll have tables for Financial Products and membership, Plus lodge brochures and Viking Magazines. The dessert will require signatures or marks from most of the tables to qualify (Ingrid's idea). We decided on a separate table or tables for the hors d'oeuvres to keep exhibit tables clean.
- For May, perhaps Lowell Johnson on chip carving, etc.
- For June the picnic, again catered by Magnolias. Mary Beth will make the contacts.
- Looking ahead to November, Mary Beth suggested Andrea Herkert on Rosemaling. Everyone agreed.
- Looking ahead to December, Mary Beth suggested an outstanding bell choir for our Julebord. Everyone agreed.

We discussed the Festival of Nations. Sasha and Naomi have set up an online sign-up for volunteers with some shorter shifts available as well. We voted to compensate Pat and Chris for onsite parking, and will get a "World Pass" for Chris to save money and extra tickets for workers.

For the District 1 Convention in Rochester in June, Sharon and Chuck are delegates for sure, and Lynn volunteered if needed. Perhaps the new secretary(s) would be a good candidate also. Jean, Diane, and Susan are alternates. The lodge will reimburse \$100 per delegate towards hotel expenses, plus mileage costs for one car or van. We are all asked to send Susan notes on our experiences in using the SON website for a resolution she is writing.

For the International Convention in August in Bloomington, co-sponsored by our lodge, Ron suggested that the lodge should compensate our committee chairpersons and workers from the profits which come back to us. We agreed to look into that.

Susan gave a brief report on the Junior Lodge activities. She has some concerns that the new membership dues may have a negative impact on some of her dancers.

Trudi announced that she is resigning her Membership Secretary duties as soon as a replacement can be found. Sharon thanked her for her years of faithful service.

In response to Ruth Gibson's suggestion that we might seek members from the SON 000 and/or 999 "lodges", Ron will send Dave a list of potential candidates.

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 6 in at the White Bear Lake library, located at 2150 2nd Street in White Bear Lake.

Submitted by: Dave Mutchler, Secretary

Lodge Meeting on February 13, 2018

48 Members and guests attended our February Chili Dump. We welcomed new lodge member Sandy Oftedahl and Lorri Vaughn, a guest of Pam and Wayne Bjorum.

We sang the anthems and did the pledge of allegiance, with a couple of changes from the past. Our new musician, Norma Erickson, played piano, and the song lyrics were shown on the screen rather than by song book.

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

The hygge item for February was Afghans; unfortunately, not many people brought them. Susan hopes that more people bring scarves to the March meeting.

With the International Convention coming to Bloomington in August, we will need volunteers to bake cookies and to enter items into the Folk Arts competition.

Pat Carlson had a sign-up sheet for the Festival of Nations May 3-6 and Cooking Day April 30. These will be incorporated into the online sheets that were prepared by Naomi Hagen and Sasha Aslanian. Thanks, ladies!

Ron Stow recognized the 5-year anniversary of our New Land, New Life exhibit, which has received accolades wherever it has appeared. He asked that everyone who had contributed to the exhibit or its opening at Landmark Center in 2013 to stand up for recognition. (He neglected to mention that **he** has been the main person scheduling and managing the exhibit for the past 5 years!) Sharon reminded us that this major project began with just the germ of a good idea, as have several other good projects in the lodge.

We celebrated the February birthdays of Sam Haroldson, Lynn Hoffmeyer, and Mary Beth Mutchler, and the anniversary of Millie Hartleben. Mary Beth won the door prize, an afghan donated by Millie.

Our Financial Benefits Counselor, Paul Dormody, had pens for everyone, and whet our appetites for a new Sons of Norway health offering which will apply to everyone, even those with pre-existing conditions. He'll be able to discuss it more in March and April when it is released.

We then enjoyed playing Bingo, led by Naomi Hagen and Sheryl Hove. There were prizes for the 15 winners.

We ended with some great treats from Sue Halvorson, Lenore Jesness, and Cathie Reasoner. Tusen takk!

Submitted by Dave Mutchler, Secretary

The Norse Saga

by Don Halvorson

Prior to the 12th Century the only written alphabet the Norse culture had was the Germanic rune alphabet. Dating from the 2nd Century, it was used mainly on stone, ornamentation and weapons. Consequently, the Norse sagas began as an oral tradition. Songs and stories of the old gods and heroes told again in poetry to a new generation.

The earliest observer of this oral tradition was the Roman historian, Tacitus. In his chronicle *Annals*, he writes of his encounter with the Germanic tribe, Cherusci in 114 AD. During his visit, he witnessed the singing of the heroic ballad of Arminius, a tribal chieftain responsible for destroying three Roman legions a century earlier.

Two types of oral poetry have survived: the *Poetic Edda*, and skaldic poetry. Both are heroic poetry but different in form. The *Poetic Edda*, a single Icelandic manuscript of narratives about the gods and heroes, was found in 1270, but is believed to be three centuries older. Skaldic poetry, the poetry of the court, was composed of short elegant stanzas, praising the heroic deeds of some living king or warrior.

Norse and Icelandic sagas are tightly intertwined. It's no coincidence that the Icelandic sagas and the *Poetic Edda* are as similar in form as those sagas found in Viking Norway. Usually historical and always anonymous, they are often the length of a modern novel. Sagas fall into three general categories.



The Family Sagas, originating in Iceland, chronicle the domestic life of the settlers there. The Kings Sagas tell the stories of the lives of Norwegian kings. The Ancient Sagas include stories of the old gods, heroes, and the supernatural beings of the misty past. A shorter narrative also existed. The *Theattir*, is a small episode that was often inserted between the longer stories in a collection of sagas.

In beginning of the thirteenth century, two written collections of Norse myths emerged: *The History of the Danes* by Saxo Grammaticus, a Danish cleric and historian (c.1215), and *The Prose Edda* by the Icelandic nobleman, Snorri Sturluson (1220). Saxo Grammaticus deals mainly with lays of human kings and heroes of the Danish past. There is some mention of the gods, but is always handled with a feeling of disdain and contempt.

Snorri Sturluson (1179-1241), poet, historian and politician, was born in Hvammur in western Iceland, to an aristocratic family, the Sturlungar. In the early part of the 13th Century, his family became involved in a civil war with other clans in Iceland, a violence that would cause Iceland to soon lose its independence from Norway. Through his family and his marriage, he acquired great power and wealth, and served as president of the country's *Althing* for two terms. He traveled to Norway twice, befriending King Haakon IV, and involved himself in Norwegian politics. Their friendship did not last. In 1241, after returning to Iceland, he was assassinated on orders from Haakon.

Sturluson is known for two monumental works. The *Prose Edda*, thought to be influenced by the earlier *Poetic Edda*, is considered to be a masterwork of composition, humor and satire. *Heimskringla* stands as one of the greatest works of medieval literature. Some also believe that he is the author of *Egil's Saga*, the best of the anonymously written Icelandic Sagas.

Snorri Sturluson | Icelandic writer | Britannica.com
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Snorri-Sturluson>
skaldic poetry

medieval_literature.enacademic.com/547/skaldic_poetry

DragonBear Histoy: All That: Eddas and Sagas



Benefits and Finances

Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Insurance is Now Available From Sons of Norway !!!

As your financial benefits counselor, it has been frustrating to talk with people who would like to make plans for their will or for final expenses, but have been excluded because of some type of medical condition.

I am very excited to announce a new financial product that is now available from Sons of Norway – a product that will allow you as Sons of Norway lodge members to possibly obtain life insurance for yourself or will allow you to reach out and help other lodge members, family members, and friends.

This new product is called **Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Insurance**. Sons of Norway has just received final approval from the State of Minnesota this new product. The policy will be offered to both members and non-members who in the past, because of medical reasons, have not been able to qualify for life insurance.

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
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

If you have not been able to qualify for life insurance, I would urge you to give me a call. If that is not the case and you do have your personal life insurance program in place, take a moment to think about the people you know who may:

1. Be a lodge member but who may have a medical condition that has prevented them from considering life insurance in the past,
2. Are a friend or associate who falls in this category,
3. Or people who may have a child or grandchild who in the past, because of either a mental or physical condition, could not qualify for life insurance.

Drawing Announcement: I am planning to sponsor a **cash** drawing that will allow all lodge members to participate in the excitement surrounding this new product and plan to announce details at the next lodge meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

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

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.

All slots are available here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0448a9af2aa3fb6-synnve>

Take your first pick of dates. We'll be inviting others to help us fill these 105 slots. Festival will be here before we know it.

If you have trouble with the electronic sign up, please call or email Naomi Hagen at nahagen4@gmail.com or 651-373-8801.

Folk Art Exhibit & Competition

Any S/N member may enter 2 items in each cultural skill/category for the District 1 Convention and the International Convention.

Norwegian hand-crafted items made within the last two years are welcome to exhibit and compete.

For example: figure carving, chip carving, rosemaling, weaving, hardanger embroidery, knitting, photography, or painting with a Norwegian motif.

Check our website for further information & forms.

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

Norwegian Language Classes

- "SON Norwegian Language Lessons" Tuesday Class, March 13, 6:30-7:00 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church
- Norsk Nordmenn og Norge & Ny i Norge Wednesday Classes, March 14 & 28, 1:00-2:30 p.m. at SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119
- WELCOME to new members!
- Please contact Sheryl Hove at 651-738-4908 or sherylhove@netzero.net for information.

Genealogy Group

Would you like to learn about helpful websites for genealogy research? Come to the Genealogy Group on March 3 to learn about the links that are posted on the Synnøvd-Nordkap Genealogy Group web page. The meeting is from 10 am to noon at the White Bear Lake Library, 2150 2nd Street, White Bear. An optional lunch at a nearby restaurant will follow the meeting.

Peer Gynt Dancers

March 10th, 1-2:30 pm at the Hovland Conservatory of Music, 200 Chestnut St. E., Stillwater

Wear your complete bunad. It is time for a fitting check for those who have "sprouted" during the year.



Past & Future

Chili & Bingo!



Naomi and Sheryl call the bingo numbers in English and Norwegian



Pam Bjorum wins two games of Bingo and chose from the basket of goodies from Ingebretsen's



Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Door Prizes!



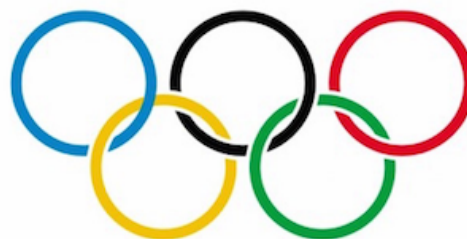
The mission of the Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



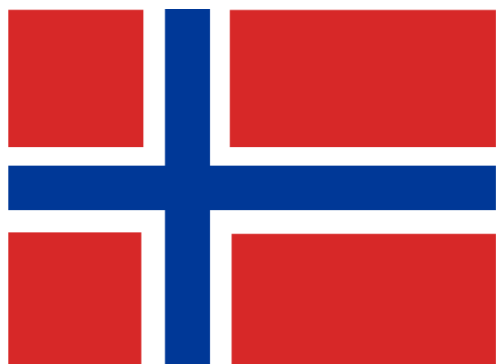
Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008:
District 1 Lodge of the Year in 2013, Family Lodge of the Year in 2006, 2008, 2013, 2016
Visit Synnøve-Nordkap online: <http://synnove1.com/>
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/synnor/albums>
<https://peergyntdancers.wordpress.com/about/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SynnoveNordkap/>

Date and Time	Event	Location
Saturday, March 3, 10 am	Genealogy Group Meeting	White Bear Lake Library 2150 2 nd Street, White Bear Lake, MN 55110
Tuesday, March 6, 6:00 pm *Note time change	Monthly Board of Directors Meeting **All members are welcome	White Bear Lake Library *Note location change
Saturday, March 10th, 1:00 pm	Peer Gynt Rehearsal	Hovland Conservatory of Music 200 Chestnut St. E. Stillwater, MN 55082
Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 pm	Norwegian Language Class	Gustavus Adolphus Church 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, March 13, 7:00 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Church
Wednesday, March 14, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul 55109
Wednesday, March 28, 1-2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	Sun Ray Library

Member Challenge! See if you can answer the five questions on the Peer Gynt Challenge about the Norwegian athletes at the 2018 Olympics. The Junior Lodge will be bringing their findings to our March meeting. Those who return their answer sheet completed will win a Norwegian prize.



1. List five events you watched featuring Norwegian athletes.
2. Name five Norwegian medal winners.
3. Describe the Norwegian Olympic Team sweater or curling team pants.
4. What was the total Norwegian team medal count?
5. Which Norwegian athlete, who is participating in 2018, has won the most Winter Olympic medals?



Nordkap evening event.

Last month we invited the dancers from the Minneapolis Fjell og Fjord group to visit and rehearse together before our combined Festival of Nations audition. We taught them a new reinlander that our Teen dance group will perform in April at the Synnøve-

In addition to our Olympic Challenge for March, we will all be wearing our bunads to check hems, sleeve lengths, and see who has pins, sockebunner and ribbons. So many of our of group have sprouted over the winter. It is time we had a wardrobe check to look our best for Spring and Summer performances.