



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

November 2018
Issue Number 18 - 10 Print Edition



Front Page News

A Passion for Rosemaling

We are fortunate to have Andrea Herkert at our November meeting on November 13th to share her passion of Rosemaling with us. Her mother learned to Rosemal in the late '50's, and some of Andrea's earliest memories are of sitting with her as she painted. These experiences impacted Andrea greatly. She wanted to learn Rosemaling too.

Andrea has a degree in Art and Art History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She spent years doing free-lance illustration and calligraphy, but always wanted to learn Rosemaling. But it wasn't until 2006, when their youngest child left for college, that the time was right.

She found a Rosemaling class and never looked back. From the first moment she knew she had found her passion. She took every class she could, with master Rosemalers from the United States and Norway, served an apprenticeship with Nancy Schmidt, VGM, for one year and pushed herself to paint every day.



She read everything she could find and entered competitions to hone her skills. She received the coveted Vesterheim Gold Medal (VGM) in 2013.

When she began Rosemaling it was important to her to do her best and find her own voice within the art form. As she grew in her painting, she also grew in her understanding of the traditions and history of the art and became passionate about sharing her love for Rosemaling through teaching. She teaches private students throughout the United States, and is currently mentoring her fifth apprentice through grants from the Wisconsin Arts Board. Most recently she was awarded a Fellowship from the American Scandinavian Foundation which supported a month-long individual study of Rosemaling in Norway in June of 2018.

She looks forward to sharing a bit of her journey and love of Rosemaling with us, as well as offering a glimpse into the foundations and traditions upon which today's Rosemaling is based and the importance of carrying those traditions into the future!

Dear Members,

Happy November and an early Happy Thanksgiving to you! As I was thinking about thankfulness and writing this article, I couldn't help but reflect upon our 2017 November meeting. I am still almost moved to tears and yet, at the same time, am overwhelmed with respect for Gene Hanson and his life during and after his duty at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The veterans around us deserve our gratitude and respect. I gently remind you to express your gratitude to any you know or even pass by anywhere you see someone in uniform.

Since this letter is due to the Editor before the Torsk & Meatball Dinner, I can't even give you a report on it. (I am going to ask if I can squeak in a short article before this goes into print, though...) I am eager to experience all we have planned for that wonderful evening: the food, the Silent Auction, the bake sale and market place, not to mention the inauguration of the Dessert Buffet.

I am going to indulge in an extremely uncharacteristic Scandinavian action—Bragging! Gulp, I know! So, please permit me, okay? Our Lodge Board is sooooo great! We have such talented and hard-working members who faithfully serve us all. I think we know that "90% of life is showing up." Well, these people not only SHOW UP; they volunteer for EVERYTHING. They go above and beyond in order for our Lodge to have great programs, goodies to eat, events to attend, picnics, scholarships, monies managed, Festival of Nations, Cultural Skills programs, newsletters, E-Blasts, directories, name tags, music, a Junior Lodge with dancers, language classes, announcements on the wall, smiling faces and kind words when entering a meeting, coming early and staying late to meetings so we all think things come together by osmosis, etc. I am so thankful for them, and I certainly hope you are too.

We are privileged to have Andrea Herkert (a Vesterheim award winning Rosemaler) presenting our November 13th program. I certainly hope you noticed page 35 in the November "Viking" the picture of our own Mary Beth Mutchler's family immigrant trunk that was done by Andrea. Do not miss this program and please bring others with you.

Looking ahead to December and our Julebord, we will have a sign-up sheet available to accomplish that. I am most thankful for The Reason for the Season.

I am so thankful for you, dear Lodge members.

Blessings,
Sharon



Secretary's Report

Board Meeting Minutes, 04 September 2018

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Ron and Susan Stow, Dianne Anderson, Chuck and Jean Draheim, Dave and Mary Beth Mutchler, and Naomi Hagen.

We reviewed the September meeting. Gary Legwold was very well received. People enjoyed the presentation and the lefse, and book sales even went well. The Lefse and fruit at the end were a big hit.

We previewed the Torsk and Meatball dinner coming up on October 27.

- Silent Auction / Raffle: Ron already has some items from Gloria Blomstrand and from Kay Sandeen. Dave got the raffle containers from the International Convention to him.
- Bake Sale / Market Place: Jean has some concerns that the dessert table may impact the Bake Sale, but we are hoping for the best.
- Ticket Sales: Mary Beth reported that sales have been slow to date, but the October meeting should see more action.
- Setup/decorations: Dianne will again be in charge of room setup. We will use the centerpieces from the International Convention, but need to add flowers or leaves for Fall color. We would consider silk flowers or leaves if on sale, and perhaps Mutchler's bittersweet. Susan and Jean will experiment in the next week. Mary Beth will arrange for placemats and napkins.
- Dessert Buffet: Sharon will take charge of this, and wants to have a nice tablescape to display the items.
- Dianne suggested that wait staff could wear the cute buttons we got recently for conversation starters.

We previewed the October meeting with the Norwegian elkounds. Naomi has confirmed that they are ready. We voted to donate \$150 to their club. Ron will finish up his report on the International Convention. The committee leaders will read off the names of their teams to be recognized. Naomi will get materials from Corrie Knudson for Susan to use for a brief presentation on Foundation, and the blue and red donation containers will be passed around. Patti and Joanne Hogenson have treats. We would like Pastor John to come at 7:00 to receive our \$500 check toward the new screen.

Susan gave a Junior Lodge report. Their Sami project is going well, with a bracelet done and some braiding coming next, plus. Susan got a CD from headquarters with Sami fairy tales. Their work on hand clapping continues. She is looking for three pairs of deer antlers for a game in January. The dancers will be performing at St. Paul Church in Stillwater on November 4.

We need a committee for Julebord. Sharon will try to get volunteers at the October meeting. We need leaders in the lodge outside the Board.

The Recording Secretary position remains open for next year. Dave will help with this transition if we get a volunteer. Ron will activate the Nominating Committee to check for any other vacancies.

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00PM on Tuesday, Nov. 6 in the Board Room at the Maplewood Library.

Submitted by: Dave Mutchler, Secretary

Lodge Meeting on October 9, 2018

We started at 7:00PM with President Sharon Amann introducing Pastor John Hierlinger of Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church. Chuck Draheim presented Pastor Hierlinger with a check for \$500 from our lodge to help defray the cost of the wonderful new projector and screen in Luther Hall. Pastor Hierlinger thanked our lodge and wished us continued success.

52 Members and guests attended our October lodge meeting. Sharon started our business meeting with the three anthems and the Pledge of Allegiance. We welcomed member Bob Barduson back after missing several months, and visitors Naomi Hagen's cousins Kari and Kate, as well as Judy Jourdan's son Mark. There were no October birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate..

There were no changes to the September minutes as printed in the Brevet.

Ron Stow continued his discussion on the International Convention, which was held in Bloomington and co-hosted by our lodge. Many lodge members were recognized for their help (some for multiple shifts and duties). Please see the full list in our September newsletter on page 9 at <http://synnove1.com/Newsletter/18Sep/September%202018%20Brevet%20Online.pdf> . Ron asked the Committee Chairs to introduce their teams, and then he recognized the other people on the list. Dianne Anderson thanked the people who baked the wonderful cookies for the convention. Their names were not on the list above and are Sasha Aslanian, Ken Bjork, Marge Dormody, Naomi Hagen, Sue Halvorson, Millie Hartleben, Sheryl Hove, Char Lance, Erna McGuire, and Dianne herself.

(continued on page 4)

(Secretary's Report continued)

Sharon stated our imminent need for a new Recording Secretary to replace Dave Mutchler after December. She then gave the microphone to Susan Stow, our lodge Foundation Director, who emphasized that we all do better when we work together, and that helping the Foundation is helping ourselves as well. We collected around \$350 at our Foundation Month meeting.

Sharon adjourned the meeting, and Naomi gave a brief introduction to our guest speakers and their 4-legged friends. Karen Elvin, Kim Chisholm, Dale Christianson and Tom Slattery gave a very interesting presentation on Norwegian elkhounds. They represent the Norwegian Elkhound Association of Minnesota, and were accompanied by elkhounds Axel, Finn, Jet, Kat, and Ruby. We learned many things about this breed, which has lived and evolved with Norwegians for thousands of years. They are primarily hunters of moose (not elk), and make wonderful family pets as well. While moose hunting is not allowed in Minnesota, in Norway the annual harvest of moose typically numbers around 30,000! These dogs have plenty of work to do when hunting season begins.

We closed the meeting with coffee, juice, and treats provided by Pat Carlson, JoAnn Hogenson, and Susan Stow. Tusen takk.

Submitted by Dave Mutchler, Secretary

♥♥♥♥♥ Torsk and Meatball Dinner Wrap-up ♥♥♥♥♥



I am happily tired (exhausted really) from our Torsk & Meatball Dinner this evening. Everyone seemed to have a good time. So many participated in the Silent Auction and took treasures home. The bake sale was a sell-out in record time. I heard lots of comments from folks about having a wonderful meal, especially the rutabaga/carrot compote. That dish is ALWAYS a favorite.

Wow, the introduction of the Dessert Buffet was a resounding success! I can't remember seeing so many smiling faces bounding up to the beautifully decorated table that was laden with scrumptious desserts! Thank you, dear members for bringing all those wonderful desserts.



Mange Tusen Takk to all the faithful who worked so tirelessly on both yesterday (Friday, October 26th) and today (Saturday, October 27th). We will hear more about this event at our meeting on November 13th. I just wanted to share the fact that this annual event was such a well-received and enjoyed event and

to thank all of the people who worked so hard!

Blessings,
Sharon

The Huldrefolk

by Don Halvorson

For the isolated early Norwegians living between impassable high mountains and deep dark forests, the knowledge of the hidden people always existed. Imagined witches, giants and dragons were hiding everywhere.

Among the most familiar of creatures were the trolls. These incredibly large and stupid creatures lived in the mountains of Utgard, and were the sworn enemies of the gods. They were also found in deep forests, in mountain castles made of stone and along the shoreline. Trolls very often lived together in family groups. Once they died, they turned to stone when exposed to sunlight. They were extremely dangerous to humans, and were thought to be man-eaters. They could change their appearance to trick humans into dropping their guard. After Norway's Christian conversion in the 1300s, trolls were branded by the new religion as pagan monsters. They were able to smell the blood of a Christian man and had become a scapegoat for anything to do with what was wrong with the old ways.

Next popular were the Nisser. These shy, barn dwelling pranksters are still considered the guardian of the rural household, and have become synonymous with the Norwegian holiday season. In folklore, their cousins the elves and dwarves lived unseen in the subterranean caverns of Midgard. Made famous by J. R. R. Tolkien books, they were charged with making weapons and jewelry for the gods.

Several spirits used music to lure their victims to their undoing. The forest Huldra, a beautiful but dangerous cow-tailed female seductress, enticed her unsuspecting male prey into the woods with her hypnotic siren's song. Once there, their quarry was forced into days of dancing and other acts of submission. Eventually they all died from exhaustion. Her male counterpart, Fossegrimmen, lived in the mists near a waterfall and plied his magic of



seduction with the haunting lyrics of his alluring violin.

The water also held other demons. In the freshwater lakes and deep ponds lived the Nyk. This dark creature lay totally submerged, with only its eyes above water, watching as people passed by. One's safety was only assured if a small piece of metal was dropped nearby in the water while passing. In the cold Norwegian Sea lived the Kraken, a giant sea serpent resembling a gigantic crab or octopus that dragged ships down to the

bottom of the sea. Another creature no one in a boat on the water would want to meet was Draugen. This frightening specter was the ghost of a man long since lost at sea. Covered in seaweed, and rowing half a rowboat, Draugen appeared large and screaming in the middle of a storm, sinking ships and drowning seamen in his wake.

During the sleeping hours, some unfortunate soul could have the misfortune to be visited by the Mare. This evil wraith sat astride its victim's chest, filling the sleep with bad dreams, commonly known today as nightmares.

In time the hidden people became only stories used to scare children. The old ways that Christianity meant to destroy were never really forgotten, and still today hold a special place in modern Scandinavian culture.

10 Creatures in Scandinavian Folklore - Listverse
<https://listverse.com/2012/10/15/10-creatures-in-scandinavian-folklore/>
Barefoot on moss: Some beings of Scandinavian folklore
<http://scandinavianfolklore.blogspot.com/2012/01/some-beings-of-scandinavian-folklore.html>



Community Outreach

Ruth Gibson will coordinate our lodge bell-ringing again this year.

When: Saturday, December 1. Shifts are: 10-Noon, Noon-2, 2-4

Where: Oakdale Fleet Farm

Who: Enthusiastic bell ringers, 2 people per shift preferred

Contact Ruth at 651-429-5572 Thanks!

Norwegian Language Classes

- Tuesday, November 13, 6:30-7 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church before SON meeting
- "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" book & "Ny i Norge" book Wednesday, November 14 & 28, 1:00 - 2:30 pm at SunRay Library
- WELCOME to new members!
- Please contact Sheryl Hove at 651-738-4908 or sherylhove@netzero.net for information.

Junior Lodge

Sat., Nov. 10th, 1 - 2:30

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 609 5th St.
Stillwater.



Genealogy Group

The November 3rd Genealogy Group Meeting will be at the Stillwater Library, 224 – 3rd Street North, Stillwater. Street parking is available on both 3rd & 4th Streets. There is also a parking ramp that can be entered from the 3rd Street side. The meeting room, Margaret Rivers Room B, is on the top floor of the library. After the meeting, the group will select a restaurant in Stillwater for those who interested in going out to lunch.

The Genealogy Group does not meet in December.

Hardanger Embroidery Class

- Next class: November 9th
- 10 AM - Noon at Susan and Ron Stow's home at 103 East Burlington, Stillwater, MN.
- Please bring a very sharp small embroidery scissors.
- Contact Susan Stow burle103@aol.com or 651-439-7255 for more information.

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

Junior Lodge Update

Continuing our investigation of Sami culture, we sat around a log fire, imaginary of course, but created of birch logs and fire hued tissue “flame” while hearing a recording of an arctic fairytale from northern Norway told by Stina Fagertun. We thought about sitting in a lavvu, or arctic sort of tipi made using reindeer hides. The tale is about the Tromsdal troll.

Our Sami proverb for October: “You can’t row in a straight line with only one oar.” Meaning - it takes cooperation to make progress. We certainly need the cooperation of all junior lodge members at our meetings and performances supported by the cooperation of our junior lodge parents.

Using Sami flag colored cotton thread some weaving for another Sami bracelet. One pattern was a four colored braid; the other pattern featured knots and loops. These will take a few meetings to complete.

Those who chose not to weave a Sami bracelet had a Sami flag to complete with the same colors as those in their national dress. Red represents fire, blue - the moon and water, green - nature, yellow - the sun. The Sami flag became official in 1992. Another activity was seeing how many words could be made using the letters in the word Scandinavia. Try it for yourself!



Norwegian
elkhounds
visit with
lodge
members.



Gustavus Adolphus
Church Pastor John
Hierlinger thanks
the lodge for its
generous
contribution for the
purchase of the
new projection
screen.



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 theYear 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, November 3, 10 - Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Stillwater Public Library, 224 3rd St. N., Stillwater MN 55082
Tuesday, November 6, 7:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting ** All members are welcome **	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr Maplewood, MN 55109
Friday, November 9, 10 - Noon	Hardanger Embroidery Class	Stow Home, 103 East Burlington Stillwater, MN 55082
Saturday, November 10, 1-2:30	Peer Gynt Meeting/Rehearsal	St. Paul Church, 609 5th St. S., Stillwater, Mn 55082
Tuesday, November 13, 6:30-7 pm	Norwegian Language Class	Gustavus Adolphus Church, 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, November 13, 7:00 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Church
Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1 - 2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119
Wednesday, Nov. 28, 1 - 2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	SunRay Library