



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

November 2019
Issue Number 19 - 10



Front Page News

The Viking Battalion's Secret Missions of WWII

Tegan Godfrey will be the guest speaker at our lodge meeting on Tuesday, November 12th. In honor of Veteran's Day, he will give a presentation about the 99th Infantry Battalion, a unit of Norwegians and Americans of direct Norwegian descent, which was activated out of Camp Ripley, Minnesota on August 15, 1942. Individuals selected for this unit needed to have a working knowledge of Norwegian and, ideally, know how to ski. For Norwegian seamen who were not in Norway when Germany invaded and ultimately occupied Norway, the 99th Infantry Battalion became a way for these Norwegians to fight for liberation of their homeland. At 1,001 men strong, this unit fought in France, Belgium, and Germany before heading to Norway in June 1945.

Please join us at the November lodge meeting to hear more about the 99th Infantry Battalion and its place in Norwegian and American history.

To read more about this fascinating story, please visit the website of the 99th Infantry Battalion. <https://99battalion.org/index.htm>



WWII Educational Foundation



Hilsen alle sammen.

Our 2019 Torsk and Meatball dinner is now history. In my estimation, it was a huge success. Many thanks to all those who participated in some way. We had lots of goodies for the bake sale. The junior lodge sold their handmade cards and bookmarks in the Marketplace. And, we had many fine items donated for the silent auction. The dessert buffet was lovely and loaded with plenty of delicious goodies provided by the lodge members. We tried a new method of taking reservations this year by asking you to make your menu selection at the time you made your reservations. It was a bit more work for Mary Beth, but it meant that we could better plan our purchasing of groceries, which allowed us to keep our excess product buying to a minimum to help our bottom line. Again, mange tusen takk to all of you who participated. The lodge's next big event is Julebord, and I, for one, am looking forward to all of the delicious food that will be available.

Our membership continues to grow. Since last January we have 16 new members to the lodge. We currently have 249 members, one of the largest lodges in District 1. Each year the International Lodge sets membership growth goals for each local lodge. Our goal for 2019 is 25 new members, we are at 64% of that goal. We have two more months in which to add nine new members. Last year our goal was 21 new members. We reached and even surpassed that goal by adding 30 new members. Can we do that again? I hope so. We can with your help.

Jean and I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving.

President Chuck



Thanksgiving card from 1910.

Help Wanted

Lodge Secretary

Festival of Nations Norway Café co-chairs

These are critical positions for our lodge's continued success. For more information, please contact President Chuck Draheim (cmdraheim@aol.com) or Nominating Committee Chairperson Ron Stow (ron.stow12@icloud.com).

Secretary's Report

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008, Board Meeting, 10/01/2019

The Board met on Tue, October 1, 2019 at 7pm at the Maplewood Library.

Members in attendance: Sharon Amann, Dianne Anderson, Sasha Aslanian, Ingrid Bjorum, Jacquie Carlone, Connie Chrissis, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Lowell Johnson, Dave Mutchler, Ron Stow, Susan Stow, and Heidi Slen Walsh

Absent: Pat Carlson, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Mary Beth Mutchler, LaRee Opdahl,

President Chuck Draheim called the meeting to order.

1. SECRETARY'S REPORT: Approved with change regarding bookcase frame.
2. TREASURER'S REPORT - JEAN: Bank balance as of Sep 30th. Report approved as presented.
3. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - a. **Festival of Nations**: Looking for co-chairs. Will follow up with a couple people. Discussion about recruitment Eblast message. Potential changes ahead for FON.
 - b. **November 5th Board Meeting**: Must be out of library by 8:30, from this month forward. November meeting 6:30-8:30.
 - c. **Torsk and Meatball Dinner – Sharon - October 25th**: Reservations due by Oct 21st. Need volunteers to set-up, clean up and run event, bake sale entries, and dessert table. Will invite Pastor and wife as our guests. Need some paper supplies: placemats, napkins, prayer sheets. Food available for pick up in Stillwater.
 - d. **Junior Lodge – Susan**: Rosemaling lessons to refine basic brush strokes. Will create bookmarks to sell at Torsk and Meatball. Asked for 12 volunteers to help at dinner, and baking and/or canning goods to sell.
 - e. **Foundation – Susan**: Corrie Knudson making kits for Foundation Month.
 - f. **Brevet/Web site – Ingrid**: Had website meeting last month, more to come. Fred will keep up genealogy page and links. Sasha to help with scholarship info and links. Brevet looks good - reflects the personality of the Lodge.
 - g. **Storage Space – Ron**: Moved storage units to basement storage area. Cleaned up and organized our area. Ready for more stuff! Pat to move FON goods to basement storage.
 - h. **District 1 – Ron**: Board meeting end of the month at Cragun's Resort, near Brainerd. Guideline for creating resolutions on SON website. Need to bring resolutions to Board by Feb to include at Annual Convention. Additional details to follow.
 - i. **Cultural Director – Ron**: Oct mtg – Modern Norway, by Ethan Bjelland
 - j. **Membership – Connie, LaRee, Lowell**: 2 new members in September.
 - k. **Review of Taco Daze – Ron and Susan**: Lots of interest. Good to have Lodge banner. Map was a hit.
 - l. **Sports Director – Jacquie**: Walking/game/lunch event at Como. Sat, Oct 5th. Will try to do weekly.
 - m. **Social – Dianne**: Volunteers set for Tue.
 - n. **Bookcase Challenge – Lowell**: Need new options for bookcase display frame after TAM Dinner. Chip carving plaque by Lowell?
4. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. **Festival of Nations – Chuck**: Presentation on Nordic Waffles.

Next Board of Directors meeting – Tuesday, November 5, 2019, **6:30-8:30 pm** at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr, Maplewood. **Note the earlier start time.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Slen Walsh

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008, Lodge Meeting, 10/8/2019

The Lodge Meeting for Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008 met on Tue, October 8, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St Paul, MN.

Attendance: 44, Visitors and guests: 1 guest, plus Guest Speaker Ethan Bjelland.

President Chuck Draheim called the meeting to order.

October birthdays and anniversaries recognized.

The September minutes were accepted as printed in the Brevet.

Committee Reports

1. Torsk and Meatball Dinner – Sharon and Ron: Prep day volunteers needed on 10/25. Volunteers needed at event to help set-up, serve, clean up, make desserts both for sale and dessert table. The marketplace and bake sale proceeds are used to fund scholarships. We need your help! Received some items for Silent Auction, but need more.
2. Sports Director – Jacquie Carlone: Walk and lunch events at Spring Lakeside Pavillion at Como Park. Will try to do weekly. Sign-up sheet available.
3. Festival of Nations: Need new co-chairs and volunteers to work shifts or coordinate a day. Many options to help!
4. District 1 Convention - Ron: Convention end of the month at Cragun's Resort near Brainerd.
5. Foundation – Susan: More than \$20,000 awarded to 33 Sons of Norway Lodges. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible.
6. Office Nomination/Elections – Ron: Other than President, Vice President and Counselor, all positions are open.

Business meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.

Program: Norway Today by Ethan Bjelland, introduced by Susan.

A very interesting and lively discussion about Norway today, touching on pop culture, the royal family, politics, art, architecture and music.

Break for treats at 8:50 pm. A special thanks to the volunteers who set-up and cleaned up.

Takk for mat!

Next Lodge Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St Paul, MN.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Slen Walsh

♥♥♥♥ Torsk and Meatball Dinner Photo Album ♥♥♥♥



Butter for torsk
or potatoes



Gunbjørn's Rock

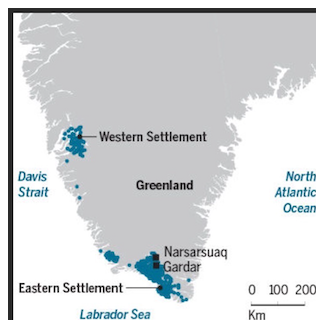
by Don Halvorson

At the dawn of the Tenth Century, a Norse mariner, Gunbjørn Ulfsson from Iceland, found himself in the offshore islands of an unknown land. He had wandered off course on his way back home from Norway. Decades later, this mysterious land now known as Gunbjørn's Rock, would become of great interest to the controversial Icelandic chieftain Erik the Red. After the killing of several neighbors, Erik was banned from Iceland for three years. In 982, he sailed west looking for this new land. He arrived first on the bottom southeast tip of the huge island. He found it to be uninhabitable and impossible to set foot on. Its shoreline was covered with glaciers and ice. Next he sailed around the tip to the west coast. There he found a totally different landscape. The arctic climate was relatively temperate, warmed by the Gulf Stream. Blue fjords cut out of the coastline were covered with banks of trees, berries and wildflowers. Inland there were fertile valleys that Erik believed could be used for farming. He stayed there for three years exploring the west side. Hoping to coax settlers to move there after he returned to Iceland, he named this island Greenland.

Around 985, Erik, his wife and children led a large group of settlers, from Iceland to the west coast of Greenland. Of the twenty-five ships that began the journey, only fourteen survived. The rest turned back, or were lost at sea. Once ashore, Erik and his family claimed the best location for themselves, a place they named Brattahlid on the Eriksfjord.

Over time other ships arrived with more newcomers from Iceland. They made their homes in one of three settlements, all located on the southwest coast. The Eastern settlement in the south had 190 farms. The Western settlement, approximately 300 miles north, had about 90

farms. Between the two, the Middle Settlement had 20 farms. At the height of their time in Greenland, there were around 4000 people. The land was too poor to farm. The settlers lived off their livestock, hunted game and harvested fish from the rivers and the coast. They had none of the raw materials that



they were used to. There was no wood for building ships and houses, and no iron for weapons. They had to make do with stone, turf, driftwood and whalebone. Most of their major exports were skins, pelts and walrus ivory. Greenland falcons and polar bear skins were highly desired in Europe. The teeth of the narwhal were believed to hold magic powers in

Medieval Europe. By the year 1000, Greenland had become a thriving Norse trading center.

That same year, Erik's son, Leif left Greenland, sailing southwest, in a course that eventually would take him to the coast of Newfoundland. After returning to Greenland, he traveled to Norway, and was converted to Christianity. He then brought his new religion home with him. While many Greenlanders eventually accepted the new faith, Erik refused to convert. When his wife showed interest in this new faith, he indulged her by building a small church, the first one on the west side of the Atlantic.

In the Thirteenth Century, things started to change drastically. In 1261, Greenland lost their independence and became part of Norway.

Around 1300 the climate in Greenland began to chill. Raising stock became difficult.

Growing sea ice began to isolate the island from the outside

world. The *skrælings*, the Inuit people of northern Greenland, began moving further south. Contact between the two cultures was often violent. The last recorded contact in 1410, revealed that only the Eastern Settlement had survived. In 1540, a ship reaching that settlement found only deserted farms and one unburied body. Everyone else had disappeared.

Johannes Brøndsted **The Vikings**. Penguin Books, 1960 pp.86-7

John Haywood **The Penguin Historical Atlas of the Vikings** Penguin Books pp.96-7



Help Wanted

We are seeking new co-chairs for the Norway Café at Festival of Nations. This event is our largest fundraising event of the year and is crucial to reaching our lodge goals.

Contact President Chuck Draheim if you are interested.

Community Outreach

Ruth Gibson will coordinate our lodge bell-ringing for the Salvation Army.

When: Saturday, December 7. 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!

Sports News

Sports Director Jacqueline Carlone thinks members might be interested in visiting the Pottery Museum of Red Wing and their special exhibit of Prohibition Pottery. For more information, contact Jacqueline at: 715-377-7578 or visit <https://potterymuseumredwing.org/>

For Information:

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

Lowell Johnson, Vice President, jhnsn7440@msn.com

Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor, ingrid@steinmetz.org

Norwegian Calendars

- Reservations will be taken at the November lodge meeting. Cost is \$12.50.
- Delivery at the December lodge meeting
- See Mary Beth Mutchler to order.
- They make a good Christmas gift!

Norwegian Language Classes

- "SON Norwegian Language Lessons": Tuesday Class, November 12, 6:30-7:00 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church before the meeting in the back corner
- "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" book & "Ny i Norge" book: Wednesday Class, November 13 & 27, 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 or 651-738-4908 for information

Genealogy Group

The November 2nd Genealogy Group Meeting will be at **Don and Sue Halvorson's house** from 10 am to noon. The address is 170 Skillman Ave. E, Maplewood 55117. We will be reviewing the changes that we have made to our genealogy pages on the lodge website.

The Genealogy Group does not meet in December.

Hardanger Embroidery Class

- **Note November date change: Wed., Nov. 13th**
- No Hardanger class in December.
- All the meetings are 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.

Junior Lodge

Our rosemaling lesson for October continued with refining our basic brush strokes, especially the rosemaling scrolls. Using some colored paint, we created small bookmarks to display sell at the Torsk & Meatball Dinner. Special thanks to our rosemaling instructor, Joanne Brown, we are making progress. She is such an enthusiastic and inspiring teacher!

Three new dancers joined in October, full of enthusiasm, and eager to do well. We rehearsed six dances plus the flag entry with the experienced dancers helping the new recruits.

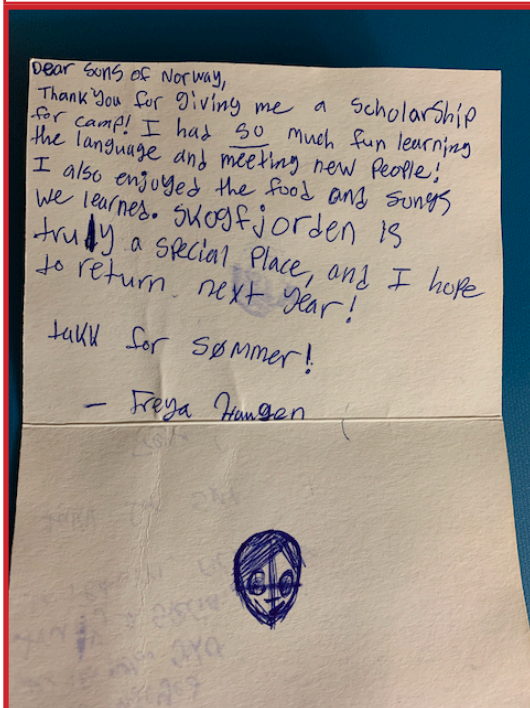
In November we have been invited to perform for the St. Croix Valley Syttende Mai Society, on Thursday, November 14th at 7:00. Admission is free, but everyone is asked to bring a homemade Scandinavian treat to share. This will take place at the Bradshaw Celebration of Life Center, 2800 Curve Crest Blvd. in Stillwater. The Syttende Mai Society celebrates at the half year mark, in November, and then the special bigger event actually on the Norwegian Constitution Day. Synnøve-Nordkap members are welcome to come to this event and support our junior lodge Peer Gynt Dancers. The children really give their all as we rehearse our folk dancing and work on our various cultural skills. It would be lovely if our senior members would come to cheer them on!

Tenker på det - Think about it!

Three new members joined Peer Gynt Dancers in October.



Scholarship winners give thanks to the lodge for their opportunities: Freya Haugen (left) and Kaia Larsen (right)



Hi Everyone,

This year I am studying Friluftsliv (outdoor life) at Hardanger Folkehøgskule in Norway. This is a year-long program where I will go on outdoor trips and be immersed in Norwegian culture. My favorite activities so far are allsang (sing-along), volleyball, and going on hikes. I have been learning lots of Norwegian and it kind of feels like a grown-up Skogfjorden. This photo is from my first backpacking trip in Hardanger National Park. I really appreciate the scholarship from our lodge, making this year possible. Tusen takk!

Beste Helsing,
Kaia



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: <https://synn-nord.org>

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

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

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

Date and Time	Event	Location
Saturday, November 2, 10 - Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Sue and Don Halvorson 170 Skillman Ave. E. Maplewood, MN 55117
Tuesday, November 5, 6:30 pm * Note time change *	Board of Directors Meeting ** All members are welcome **	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr Maplewood, MN 55109
Tuesday, November 12, 6:30-7 pm	Norwegian Language Class	Gustavus Adolphus Church, 1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 pm	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Church
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 10 - Noon	Hardanger Embroidery Class	Susan Stow, 103 East Burlington Stillwater, MN 55082
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 1 - 2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119
Wednesday, Nov. 27, 1 - 2:30 pm	Norwegian Language Book Group	SunRay Library