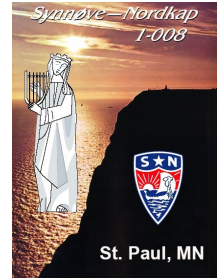




SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

November 2021
Issue Number 21 - 10



Front Page News

Visiting L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site Virtual November Lodge Meeting Tuesday, November 9th at 7:00 PM via Zoom

You may have read that new information indicates Vikings crossed the Atlantic Ocean and settled the area known as L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site in New Foundland exactly 1,000 years ago, in 1021 AD. What is it like to visit this historic site? Join the next virtual lodge meeting to hear from special guest Anne Sladky about the site and the experience of visiting this Viking settlement in North America. Technical difficulties forced this program to be rescheduled from the October meeting.

Members present at the November lodge meeting will also vote for the 2022 Board of Directors. Please see page 4 for more information about this election. Don't forget that a door prize is awarded at each lodge meeting, too!

This meeting will be virtual using Zoom. You will receive information about how to connect to the meeting in a separate email prior to November 9th.

More information about L'Anse aux Meadows

UNESCO: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/4/>

Ars Technica: <https://arstechnica.com/science/2021/10/vikings-were-in-north-america-by-1021-ce/>

New York Times: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/20/science/vikings-newfoundland-age.html>



President's Letter

Hi all! We are all likely very aware that we are moving into the Holiday Season. After all, the television and advertising information has been discussing gift buying for more than a month already! If you are like me, the most important part of the holidays is that we are able to gather with family, friends and loved ones once again. Our Board of Directors believes this is true for our Lodge as well. So even though we have been having good success with our series of monthly meetings on Zoom, we are planning to hold our annual Julebord meeting in person at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church in St. Paul. Please consider attending to enjoy some delicious cultural foods, and more importantly to share a holiday greeting with your Synnøve-Nordkap friends.

We cannot forget that the COVID pandemic continues, and much of our group is considered to be "at-risk". As an organization, we have an obligation to our members to make every effort to assure that our Lodge activities are conducted as safely as possible by following recommended and/or required health policies and practices. Our Julebord will be conducted in such a way. The meeting will follow **COVID-19 safety guidelines** from Gustavus Adolphus Church and Sons of Norway. We will be encouraging social distancing, e.g. fewer persons seated at dining tables together. Everyone must wear a mask unless actively eating or drinking. We will also ask that attendees be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a negative test within the previous 72 hours. If you cannot meet these requirements, or choose not to, I would respectfully ask that you NOT attend the Julebord event. Our members may include those that are personally at risk for COVID, those that may have family members personally at risk and/or those that have lost loved ones and experienced the hardships of COVID. You can show your respect and support for our organization and your fellow members by accepting and adhering to these protocols. In doing so, I hope we can all once again proclaim, "Glad Jul!" and share a holiday greeting with our friends.

See you soon, Lowell



'Tis the Season for Julebord

It is time to meet again, in person, for our annual lodge favorite, the Julebord Holiday Feast! It will be held on **Tuesday, December 14, at 6:30 PM** at our newly-opened meeting place, Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church. Lodge members are invited to attend and bring a dish to share.

This will be a limited feast with Norwegian appetizers, cold foods, and wonderful Norwegian sweets. You can sign up to bring a dish, to set-up, or to clean up by contacting Jean Knaak via email: knaak002@gmail.com or phone: 651-357-6139.

The suggested list of suggested foods is below. Please let us know what you are bringing or call to find out what we are missing.

Appetizer type foods include: sausage, cheese, and crackers; liver pate with crackers; a cheese platter with gjetost and Jarlsberg; lefse rollups; herring and crackers; cold salmon; shrimp; sliced buttered Julekake; flatbread or small smorbrod. Sweets include: rolled lefse with sugar; rice pudding; riskrem with lingonberries, vaffler with jam and sour cream; rommegrot; krumkake; rosettes; spritz; sandbakkels; plus other cookies to make up the remaining, traditional seven cookies. These are suggestions. Use your own ideas that fit our limited menu.

This meeting will follow **COVID-19 safety guidelines** from Gustavus Adolphus Church and Synnøve-Nordkap. We will be encouraging social distancing. Everyone must wear a mask unless actively eating or drinking and be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a negative test within the previous 72 hours.

Secretary's Report

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008 Board of Directors, Online via Zoom, 10/5/2021

Members in attendance: Dianne Anderson, Sasha Aslanian, Ingrid Bjorum, Pat Carlson, Connie Chrissis, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Lynn Hoffmeier, Jean Knaak, Dave Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler, LaRee Opdahl, and Ron Stow.

Guests in attendance: Sharon Amann

Vice President Ron Stow called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES-Ron: Agenda was approved as emailed, and minutes are approved by email before being printed in the Brevet.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Jean D: Report was accepted as presented. Jean D. requested permission to purchase a new checkbook binder and additional checks. Chuck moved we allow \$60 to purchase a new binder. Jean K. seconded. Chuck amended his motion from \$60 to \$100 to allow for new binder and additional checks. Mary Beth suggested we keep the original motion of \$60 for the checkbook binder and amend it to also order checks for whatever the cost is. Original motion along with the check order carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT-LaRee: There are currently 246 active members. We had one new transfer member in Sept. LaRee read the list of members who are overdue on their dues, and they will be contacted by Board members.

Mary Beth: Earlier this year, Ruth Gibson fell and broke her hip and shoulder. She spent several months recovering in a nursing home. She's now doing well and is starting to drive again at the age of 96.

DISTRICT 1-Ron: Will be heading to St. Cloud Thurs and Fri of this week to attend the District Board meeting. So far, the June 2022 convention is still a go. The convention will be conducted as it has been in the past. There will be a change in the future governance format. There is a proposal to drop the Youth and Sports Directors and to possibly add the Foundation Director at Board level.

GENEALOGY GROUP-Ron: The group met on Sat. Ron suggested the tidbit be about who or what got people started in genealogy. Fred Matson will start out on this and hopes others will join in with their stories.

JR LODGE-Ron: The next meeting Susan will talk about the lives of Viking children, and they will be playing a couple of games that the Viking children played.

BREVET-Ingrid: Will be doing website documents and make sure Jana gets a mention about the newsletter and website on social media. Ingrid will try to get us on mailing lists from other lodges so that we can see their newsletters and other mailings.

GA UPDATE-Jean D: The church council is still requiring masks in the building and no hospitality events. Pastor John was reassuring that we have our Tues for lodge meetings until we let them know otherwise. The evening custodian, Jerry, is still there and will help us in any way needed.

NOVEMBER MEETING-Jean K: Board decided meeting would be via Zoom, and Jean K. will find a Zoom program.

OFFICER ELECTION-Ron: After being asked if there were any changes to the list of Appointed Officers, Ron replied it was minimal. Connie asked if Ron would send the roster of proposed Appointed Officers to the Board so we can review it as we were able to see the Board of Directors list in the Brevet. Ron said Sheryl and Lenore are working on it.

DOOR PRIZES-Connie: Wondering if we are going to continue awarding door prizes since we haven't discussed prizes. Ron said he has lots of things that can be awarded, and we will have them if the wheel spinner is in attendance.

TORSK AND MEATBALL-Jean D: We're not having one. The planning committee didn't feel it would be safe. There will also be no silent auction. After checking into creating an online auction, Ron there wasn't time to get one in place at this time. Members thought that the dinner and the silent auction complement one another. Ron may put some items on e-bay or Craig's list. Sasha suggested we be given an idea of what items Ron has.

JULEBORD-Jean D: We can't commit at this time, but she suggested we review GA's policy later in Oct to see if anything has changed. If we do plan to have Julebord, it could be all potluck or some catered. Maybe people can bring appetizers and/or desserts.

NEW BUSINESS- For next month's agenda: Further discussion on Sasha's suggestion that we make krumkake for delivery to some of our members who can no longer attend meetings.

Ron said the Nordic Fest in Burnsville may take place next summer, a good place to use our waffle maker. We will also watch for news about the Festival of Nations next year which is usually announced in Oct.

October 9 is Leif Erickson Day!!

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tues, November 2 at 7p via Zoom. (cchrissis)

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge Meeting #1-008, Oct 12 at 7 pm via Zoom

- President Lowell Johnson called the meeting to order.
- **October birthdays:** Chuck Draheim
- **Anniversaries:** Lowell Johnson, Jean Knaak, Connie and Andy Chrissis
- **Members attending:** 33
- **Guests:** 1

(Continued on page 4)

(Secretary's Report, continued from page 3)

- **Foundation (Lowell):** October is Foundation month. Lowell asked people to look at the Brevet article about Foundation and ways to contribute.
- **Officer nominations and election (Ron and Sheryl):** Gary Legwold has agreed to be Foundation Director. We are still looking for a Vice President. The election will be held in November. The list of Officer and Appointed Positions was shown on-screen for members to view.
- **Program:** Our presenter for tonight's originally scheduled program, the L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site, unfortunately didn't have internet reception. We will schedule this program at a later date. Jean presented an interesting impromptu program about Norwegian organizations in this country, how they grew, thrived, and declined. We learned about the origination of bygdelagen, lags, and stevnes and how they are doing today. Members joined the discussions and shared their activities and experiences with these groups. www.fellesraad.org has a good map and information about how to find a lag for the areas people are from.
- **Genealogy (Fred M):** This is Family History Month. Fred asked "What got you interested in genealogy or family history?" There was discussion with attending members joining in about what got them interested in researching family.
- **Door Prizes:** Sons of Norway cap: Kathy Kaluza; Sons of Norway golf/curling towel: Sasha Aslanian; Pop-up USBank light: Sharon Amann. (cchrissis)

Synnøve-Nordkap 1-008

St. Paul, MN

Nominations for Election

Voting for 2022 lodge offices will occur at the lodge meeting on Tuesday, November 9th at 7 PM via Zoom.

Board of Directors

President - Lowell Johnson
Vice President - Chuck Draheim
Secretary - Connie Chrissis
Treasurer - Jean Draheim
Counselor - Chuck Draheim
Membership Secretary - LaRee Opdahl
Junior Lodge Director - Susan Stow
Social Directors - Pat Carlson and Dianne Anderson
Cultural Director - Jean Knaak
Scholarship Director - Sasha Aslanian
Foundation Director - Gary Legwold
Sport/Recreation Director - Audrey Waage
Directors-at-Large - Lynn Hoffmeyer, Mary Beth Mutchler, Dave Mutchler
Newsletter Editor - Ingrid Bjorum
Webmaster - Ingrid Bjorum
District 1 Lodge Contact - Ron Stow

Synnøve-Nordkap 1-008

St. Paul, MN

2022 Appointed Officers

Trustees - LaRee Opdahl and Dave Hegdahl
Marshall - Kathy Kaluza
Assistant Marshall - Doug Peterson
Historian - Lenore Jesness
Musician - Jan Allen
Greeters - Maureen Austinson and Mary Beth Mutchler
Librarian - Ingrid Bjorum
Sunshine - Mary Beth Mutchler
Newsletter Staff - Don Halvorson, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Dave Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler
Publicity - Leif Erickson and Jana Velo
Technology - Sasha Aslanian, Chuck Draheim, Dave Mutchler, Lowell Johnson
Genealogy - Cathie Reasoner and Fred Matson
Norse Language Classes - Sheryl Hove
Auditors - Connie Chrissis and Clayton Lance
Financial Benefits - David Okeson
Nominating Committee - Ron Stow, Sheryl Hove, Lenore Jesness

Finding Norwegian Shipwrecks

by Don Halvorson

Over the course of centuries, the seafloor of the waters surrounding the Norwegian coast have become cluttered with the remains of sunken ships. Scientists are aware of a numerous variety of wrecks lying off the Norwegian coast, ranging from Stone Age dugouts to the sunken World War II German Cruiser Karlsruhe. The most recent find, the discovery of three modern cargo barges, was located near Trondheim.

Any shipwreck that is 100 years old is, by law, a protected heritage site. Norwegian marine archeologists knew that sunken vessels were there; they merely had to find them. Any items that survived decay, such as bottles, metal objects, cannon, or anchors, could tell scientists a story.

In the beginning, approaching the shipwrecks presented a problem. Marine archeologists who dived down to the salvage site found the water deep and extremely cold with a rugged and often dangerous seafloor. The time spent exploring was shorter than desired. Regulation dives were limited to a depth of thirty meters and a maximum time limit of thirty minutes. Required decompression between dives was an hour.

In the 1980s, diving was revolutionized with the robot submersible. Also known as the autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV), this robot was a joint effort of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and the Norwegian Defense Research Establishment. With it, marine archeologists no longer had to dive. The AUV could go deeper and farther than any diver and stay underwater for as long as its power allowed. The robot also contained a video camera that was connected by cable to a surface vessel.

Many shipwrecks found in Norwegian waters were from the medieval period. These finds have yielded valuable information to archeologists about trade and interactions with those living along the coast. Most were cargo ships. Historically significant, most were of built

of clinker construction, a boat-building style that had evolved from the early Viking period.

Several modern ships found under Norwegian waters were involved in modern scientific ventures. Late in 1931, a U.S. Navy exercise, the Nautilus Arctic Expedition, was held in the Norwegian Sea to assess the performance level of the USS-12, an O class submarine, in Arctic waters. Renamed the *Nautilus*, this pioneer submarine faced a number of unexpected obstacles. En route, a violent storm knocked out both its engines. After repairs in Spitzbergen, it continued its trials submerged under polar ice, until its radio died, and it had to be rescued.

Though *Nautilus* was the first submarine to successfully dive under the polar ice, the mission was considered a failure by its sponsor William Randolph Hearst. *Nautilus* was towed three miles down the Byfjord near Bergen and scuttled in 1,138 feet of water. The wreck was not found by Norwegian marine archeologists until fifty years later.

During World War II, the *WBS 11 Hessen*, a German weather ship, was tasked with carrying supplies to a military weather station at Bear Island, sitting half way between Spitzbergen and the Arctic Sea. Surviving the war, *Hessen* was sold and renamed several times. In 1965, as a Norwegian fishing boat named *Kitik*, it suffered severe ice damage and went down near Ålesund off Norway's west coast.

[Locating shipwrecks along the Norwegian coast](https://sciencenorway.no)
<https://sciencenorway.no>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Shipwrecks_of_Norway - Wikipedia



Bulletin Board

Genealogy Group

The Genealogy Group will meet on November 6 from 10 am to noon via Zoom. An email notice will be sent to lodge members prior to the meeting.

The Genealogy Group will meet on December 4 from 10 am to noon via Zoom.

Norwegian Language Classes

November classes are cancelled.

Please contact Class Facilitator Sheryl Hove at sherylhove@netzero.net or 651-738-4908 for information

For Information:

Lowell Johnson, President:
pres.synn.nord@gmail.com

Ron Stow, Vice President Pro Tem:
stowronald@gmail.com

Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor:
ingrid@steinmetz.org

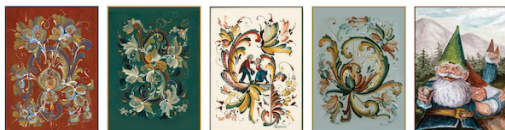
Folk Art Competition

Hey, all you talented folk artists, get your hardanger, rosemaling, painting, photography, woodcarving, etc. projects ready for the Nordic Folk Art Competition at the District Convention in June. Any project you have completed since June 2018 is eligible to be entered. Further information will be available in the spring.

Calendar and Note Card Sales

We will again be selling Norwegian & Swedish calendars and note cards. The cost of a calendar is \$15.00. A box of 10 note cards with envelopes is \$12.00. Orders can be placed from now until November 24, by emailing Mary Beth Mutchler at mbe43@q.com or calling her at 651-484-8872. Calendars will be delivered to you. These are good stocking stuffers! You can shop and avoid the crowds. **Ordering deadline is November 24th.**

If we are able to have the Julebord on December 14th, your order can be picked up then. If not, your order will be delivered to you or it can be picked up at the Mutchler home.



10 cards with 5 designs



10 cards with 5 designs

Junior Lodge Update — WHAT DID VIKING KIDS DO?

This school year, Peer Gynt is looking into all things Viking. Mostly, our members are curious about Viking kids, so in October we answered some of those questions. Basically, family status determined every facet of a Viking child's life. If the parents were **Jarls**, or the wealthiest landowners who could levy taxes, raise a militia and settle legal issues, then their children would have fine clothing and carved toys. A wealthy Viking boy received a double edged sword at age 10 and started being trained in how to use it. If the parents were **Karls**, or free peasants, farmers, blacksmiths, potters, wood carvers, weavers, jewelry makers, traders or soldiers, their family had the right to vote at the Ting, or parliament. Their children would have serviceable clothing and a ball made of felt. A Karl's son might learn to make bows and arrows and how to use them. If the parents were **Thralls**, or slaves owning no property, their parents did the most difficult tasks of digging wells, or ploughing fields and removing rocks. Their children would have had whatever ragged clothing was to be found. Their shoes were of birch bark and tied on to their feet. The parents might be freed if they were hard workers. Children had simple tasks to do, but no toys.

There were no schools for Viking kids, yet they were taught what they needed to know from their parents or were fostered to another family who could teach them a skill. They learned to carve, tend animals, fish, hunt, cook, weave, and knit.

What was there to do? In the winter, Viking kids could ski, snowshoe, skate, play board games, sing, or listen to stories. In summer, there were chances to swim, fish, hunt, learn boating, form teams for a tug of war, or play with pets. Dogs and cats were the usual pets, but it was not unheard of to play with a bear cub. Jarl's families often had falcons or hawks they trained to hunt. When Thrall children were not working, they might have competed with each other in running, swimming, or throwing stones.

In the longhouse during the long winter months, board games were popular for the Jarls and the Karls children. **Hnefetfl** game with carved figures and a woven linen patterned "board" is on the order of chess in that protecting the king is paramount. **Merels** game boards could be made from a cross cut piece of wood with the burned design; 9 dark stones, and 9 light stones serve as the figures. At our October meeting, we drew wooden discs with either a J or K. The J or Jarls played Hnefetfl and the Karls played Merels.



District 1 Update

Delegates to the 2022 District 1 Convention

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge is still looking for members to represent the lodge at the 2022 District 1 Convention to be held June 3-5 at Cragun's Resort near Brainerd MN. Synnøve-Nordkap will help pay for registration and lodging for each delegate. Three or four alternates will also need to be selected to be on-deck in case appointed delegates cannot attend the convention.

Delegates must attend all business sessions of the convention, including zone caucus meetings. This is a great way to serve our lodge. There are non-business sessions, often about cultural topics or idea-exchanges with other lodges. The convention provides a great way to meet members from lodges in states from Minnesota to Texas. District Convention delegates who own Sons of Norway financial products are eligible to be selected as delegates to the International Convention to be held in Eagan, MN August 30 – September 1, 2022.

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, 2018
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	Event	Location
Saturday, November 6, 10 AM	Genealogy Group	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, November 9, 7 PM	Lodge Meeting	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Saturday, December 4, 10 AM	Genealogy Group	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, December 7, 7 PM	Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, December 14, 6:30 PM	Lodge Meeting Julebord	Gustavus Adolphus Church 1669 Arcade St. St. Paul, MN 55106