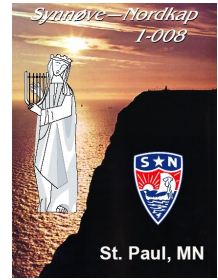




SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

October 2022
Issue Number 22 - 09



Front Page News

October Lodge Meeting Talent/Variety Show for Foundation Month

We hope we will see you at our monthly lodge meeting on **Tuesday, October 11 at 7:00 P.M.** October is Foundation Month at the Sons of Norway. Our talent/variety show is a way to get to know each other better and to raise money for the Foundation. If you are interested in participating, please contact Gary Legwold: glegwold@lutefisk.com.

This is your time to shine! Do you have a Nordic cultural skill you'd like to show off?? Can you play the harmonica?? Do you have a card trick that would leave us all disbelieving our eyes?? Or, maybe you have a more practical skill that would help us all out on that next project.

We are looking to you, our members, to help motivate others to donate to the Sons of Norway Foundation.

Because the health and safety of all our members is our top priority, please stay home if you are not feeling well. As we are back to meeting in person at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, they strongly encourage masking within their building.



Storli
Valley
Photo by
Jostein
Myklebust
on
Pixabay

President's Letter

Hello, Synnøve-Nordkap!

Fall is my favorite time of year. Cool, crisp mornings and evenings with warm dry afternoons! I love sitting on the front porch with my morning coffee or a favorite evening beverage as the sun goes down. A comfy sweatshirt, sweater, or flannel shirt is the wardrobe of the day. Memories of school days, farmers harvesting, and a Sunday afternoon pheasant hunt come rushing back when I hear dry leaves rustle and feel the cool wind on my face.

It feels good to feel good, doesn't it? Another way to feel good is to Do Good. And we can all do good, by giving to our Sons of Norway Foundation. October is Foundation Month for our lodge. We will have fun with a Talent/Variety Show at our Lodge Meeting this month. We are hopeful that we will also raise some funds for the Foundation through your generous donations. According to the Sons of Norway Foundation web page:

At the Sons of Norway Foundation, we are driven by a sense of purpose: to share and preserve Nordic heritage, to positively affect our members' lives, and to make Sons of Norway communities better places to live. Since 1966, staying true to this purpose, we have been supporting our members through scholarships and cultural exchange opportunities, providing disaster relief to members in need, and funding community programs that celebrate Norwegian heritage and culture. A donation to the Sons of Norway Foundation is a contribution to the positive impact we make through community, youth, educational, and cultural projects.

In 2021, the Sons of Norway Foundation distributed over \$147,000 in awards. \$111,000 in Scholarships for students to study in the United States, Canada, and Norway. \$23,000 In Grants for Norwegian culture and heritage programs. \$13,000 in Camperships for kids across the United States to attend Norwegian cultural camps.

I plan to add to my "feel good fall" by giving to the Foundation at our upcoming meeting. We will be collecting donations at the lodge meeting on Tuesday, October 11th. I hope you will donate, too! You can find out more information directly from the Sons of Norway on their website and may make your personal contribution by sending donations to the address below or online here, if you would prefer: <https://sofn.com/foundation/> Mange tusen takk!



Lowell Johnson, President

Sons of Norway Foundation
1455 West Lake Street
Minneapolis MN 55408

Secretary's Report

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008 Board of Directors, Via Zoom, 9/6/2022

Members in attendance: Lynn Hoffmeyer, Connie Chrissis, Dave Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler, Lowell Johnson, Jean Draheim, Audrey Waage, Dianne Anderson, Ron Stow, Susan Stow, Sasha Aslanian, Pat Carlson, LaRee Opdahl. Guest: Sharon Amann
Lowell called the meeting to order.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Jean D: Request for payment of \$53.07 to Dave Mutchler for printing of the Brevet and \$100 for the Sept lodge meeting's speaker. Jean D also asked for approval of a \$2,200 budget for the Torsk and Meatball Dinner being planned for Oct. Mary Beth moved we approve these expenses and the budget request as mentioned. Lynn seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT- Connie asked for coverage for the Sept 13 lodge meeting and the Oct 4 Board meeting. Dave said he'll cover as secretary. LaRee said we have 242 members.

DISTRICT ONE REPORT-Ron: Ron attended the International Convention which happened via Zoom. There were 150 delegates and 10 guests. It was a one-way presentation with no audience participation. New CEO Chris Pinkerton gave a wonderful presentation and said his job is to make sure the 3 F's (financial, fraternal, foundation) remain strong. The new governance was set up to prevent it being merged with other fraternal by state authorities. Therefore, there are no plans to merge Sons of Norway with anyone else. The next International Convention will be operated the way corporations and stockholders vote with Sons of Norway product holders doing the voting.

Susan Stow and Jana Velo played and sang the national anthems.

Dennis Rosinko is now the District 1 representative to the International Board, and Claudia Bomier is the alternate.

Past District 1 secretary Diane Halvorson's husband, Rod, passed away in August. Mary Beth will send a card from our lodge. Discussion was held about our lodge hosting the District 1 convention in 2024.

JUNIOR LODGE-Susan: The Valley Life newspaper has a nice article and picture of the group. The study of Viking craft continues with stenciling of bags the plan for the first meeting. The children made rosemaled letter openers that may be sold at the kids table at the Torsk and Meatball dinner.

SPORTS DIRECTOR-Audrey: "It's a Walk in the Park" and the disc golf outing previously announced will be a joint one-day event on the third Thursday, Sept 15, at 1pm at the Kaposia Disc Golf Course, 1028 Wilde Ave, South St. Paul. The date change occurred because the previous date was a league day for the park and wouldn't be convenient to fit our participation in. Connie will send an e-blast to all members with this update.

SEPTEMBER MEETING- There will be a sign-up for treats for the year at this meeting. Pat and Dianne will have treats for this meeting.

TORSK AND MEATBALL DINNER-Jean D: There will be sign-up sheets at the Sept lodge meeting for volunteers including cooking, help the day of, and the dessert buffet.

WAFFLE SALE AT UTEPILS-Jean D: Jean has been attempting to contact Utepils about the Dec event with no luck. She will continue to try to reach someone.

SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR-Sasha: Announced she will be moving to New York City after accepting a new job with ABC's podcast team. We will need a new Scholarship Director. Lowell, Sasha, and Connie will Zoom to do a turnover for the Zoom application.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tues, Oct 4, 2022 at 7p via Zoom.

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008, Lodge Meeting, 9/13/2022

The Lodge Meeting for Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008 met on Tue, September 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St Paul, MN. We met in the chapel because of a scheduling conflict.

Attendance: 35 Visitors and guests: Speaker Phil Holton and his wife Merrie Sue

President Lowell Johnson called the meeting to order and introduced speaker Phil Holton and his wife.

September birthdays and anniversaries were recognized. Birthdays were for Ken Bjork, Pat Carlson, Taffy Stork and Audrey Waage. Anniversaries were for Chuck and Jean Draheim and Bob and Dianne Anderson.

The September minutes were accepted as printed in the Brevet.

Walk in the Park: Audre Waage reminded us that the next day for this activity is this Thursday at 10:00 at Kaposia Disk Golf Course, 1028 Wilde Ave. in South St.Paul. Entrance cost is \$5, with an additional cost of to rent disks and compete. The park and trails are beautiful.

Foundation Month (Oct.): Gary Legwold reminded us that we will be having a "Talent Show" at our meeting, which should be great fun and a way to meet people. "Talents" can be most anything from flower arranging to yoyo tricks, whistling, joke telling, etc. Any goofy thing will do. Contact Gary at glegwold@lutfisk.com to be scheduled in.

(Secretary's Report continued on page 4)

Lodge News

(Secretary's Report continued from page 3)

Torsk and Meatball Dinner and Auction: Chuck Draheim (chairperson) reminded us of the date (Sat. 10/22), with Cooking Day on 10/21 at the church and chairs/set-up on Sat. morning. Jean D. (651-433-2008, jeanmarieverner@aol.com) had sign-up sheets for volunteers (Serving, bussing dishes, cleanup) and for Bestemor's Kitchen and Bestefar's Attic. Sharon Aamon (651-631-0399, slamman@comcast.net) had a sign-up sheet for the Desert Table. Ron Stow (651-439-7255, burl103@aol.com) is again running the Silent Auction and is seeking donations.

Junior Lodge: Susan Stow (651-439-7255, burl103@aol.com) is looking for more dancers; boys and girls ages 7 - 14 are invited. Bunads are provided. See their blog at <https://peergyntdancers.wordpress.com> for more information.

Genealogy: Fred Matson (651-771-6108, norhemian@comcast.net) announced that the Sat. 10/1 meeting at 10:00 will be both in person at the Shoreview Library as well as on Zoom remotely. All lodge members will receive a link to the meeting.

Program: Woodturning from Norway to America: Jean Knaak introduced our speaker, Phil Holtan, and his wife Merrie Sue. Phil gave a very interesting talk with a considerable variety of items which he has made over the years.

Break for treats at 8:45 pm. A special thanks to Dianne Anderson and Pat Carlson who set-up and cleaned up. Takk for maten!

Next Lodge Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade St, St Paul, MN.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Mutchler

JUNIOR LODGE UPDATE

It was so much fun to see everyone at our first Peer Gynt September meeting! We started with a Viking craft design, creating burlap bags for ourselves and some extras to sell at the Torsk and Meatball dinner on October 22nd. Then we tried out two new folk dances: **Ril fra Dønna** and **Eg rodde meg ut**. The **Ril** is performed in groups of four with numerous challenging patterns. **Eg rodde meg ut** is a song dance telling about rowing out to a favorite fishing hole and finding someone else has found the same spot. A mock fight follows, in which each partner pretends to slap each other while the other claps their hands covertly to make the fight seem real.





Synnøve-Nordkap

TORSK & MEATBALL DINNER

BAKE SALE AND SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2022 at 5:00 PM

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106

Celebrate with food, fun, and friends
at the annual event

Menu: torsk (cod), meatballs in gravy, roasted red potatoes with dill, coleslaw, mashed rutabagas/carrots, lefse, dessert table, coffee, tea, and milk

****** Your RSVP must include your choice of: 1) 1 cod fillet & up to 4 meatballs, 2) 2 cod fillets & no meatballs, or 3) no cod & up to 8 meatballs ******

Children's meals are half orders

Adults \$22, Children (6-10) \$11, Ages 5 & under FREE

Seating is limited, so reserve early for the one and only 5:00 PM dinner service by contacting:

Mary Beth Mutchler, 651-484-8872 or mbe43@q.com

Mail non-refundable check payable to: "Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge" to:

Mary Beth Mutchler

3496 Nancy Place

Shoreview, MN 55126-8005

Pick up tickets at door or enclose stamped self-addressed envelope with check.

RESERVATION REQUIRED BY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

Synnøve-Nordkap

TORSK & MEATBALL DINNER

BAKE SALE AND SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Our annual Torsk and Meatball Dinner will be held on

Saturday, October 22nd, at 5:00 PM

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church

1669 Arcade St., St. Paul, MN 55106

We need **volunteers** for a successful event!!

Please consider how you can help make this a fruitful fundraiser.

♥ **Bake:** Cookies, pies, bread, jam, or pickles for Bestemor's Pantry.
Homemade desserts are needed for the dessert buffet table.

♥ **Event Day Volunteer:** Set-up (October 22), serve, clean-up, work
sale tables

Volunteer sign-up and ticket sales will be available at our September 13th
and October 11th lodge meetings.

♥ **Donate, Donate, Donate to the Silent Auction:**

Books, sweaters, bunads, greeting cards, Scandinavian items, your time &
expertise (translate, bake, rake, paint, create!) — Bring your item(s) to
Ron Stow at the October lodge meeting or contact Ron at:
stowronald@gmail.com or 612-845-0393. Play a larger part in the
fundraiser by donating items or services. Money raised at this event are
used to fund youth & adult scholarships and lodge programming. And,
you'll feel good when you donate!

Note: Some items may be included in Bestefar's Attic at a set price.

Help make this event a success by making your dinner reservation early,
volunteering, and donating a Scandinavian item or service.

DINNER RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

The Hessdalen Lights

by Don Halvorson

Sightings of unexplained objects in the night sky have been happening for centuries, but unidentified flying objects (UFO's) did not reach their height of popularity until after WWII with the arrival of the Space Age.

One such sighting took place on the evening of December 8, 1981 to a couple living in the Hessdalen valley, north of Roros in Trondelag fylke. Standing at their kitchen window, Åge and Ruth Mary Moe suddenly witnessed what they described as a "burning fireball" falling through the night sky. Over the years, numerous other reports have surfaced from the local residents there describing sightings of the unexplained light shows spotted in the nearby mountains. Between December of 1981 and the middle of 1984 there were 15-20 sightings per week. By 2010, sightings had decreased to 10-20 per year. Some call these ghost lights; others call them Earthlights. They generally last only a few seconds, but some have lasted much longer. Occasionally they move quickly through the sky, while other times they sway slowly or simply hang in midair. Colors can vary between bright white, yellow, or red. Studies have found that they usually appear between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m., especially in winter.

News of the Hessdalen lights soon spread throughout Norway. Within a few years, scientists, photographers, and UFO hunters began to congregate at the site.

Explaining the phenomena has become difficult. Researchers from Østfold University College in eastern Norway have been trying to find the cause since 1983. The study has involved astrophysicists, geophysicists, physicists, chemists, and electro and data engineers. In 1998 they built the Hessdalen Automatic Measurement Station to register and record the appearance of these lights. In 2018 they established the Hessdalen Observatory, on

the top of Skarvan, the highest mountain in that valley, roughly 3,300 feet above sea level. This facility is powered by solar cells and methanol fuel and is large enough to house four researchers working there year-round. While there, they document data, take photos, and create videos, providing much of what we know to date about the phenomena.

Many theories exist about what causes these lights, but none have been proven. A paper written in 2007 noted that most of the lights appeared to be at a low altitude, not too far above the tree line. In and around Hessdalen are large deposits of a rare element called Scandium. The paper states that when enough particles of Scandium come in contact with acids in the air, they ignite.

Another hypothesis suggests the cause to be an ionized gas containing microscopic Coulomb crystals, air, dust, and alpha particles happening during radon decay in a dusty atmosphere.

Yet another theory defines the cause of the lights as a product of piezoelectricity, the ability of certain materials, under the right conditions, to produce an electrical charge. It is suggested that many crystal rocks in Hessdalen, including quartz, could produce an intense charge density.

Even so, with all the study, to date, the cause of the Hessdalen remains unsolved.

atmosphericlights.com/hessdalen-lights-norway Hessdalen Lights - Norway - Atmospheric Lights



Norwegian Language Classes

SON Norwegian Language Lessons
Tuesday Class, October 11, 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, October 12 &
26, 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 sherylhove12@gmail.com or 651-738-4908
for information.

Grand Opening: Norway House Innovation + Culture Center

An expanded campus at Norway
House in Minneapolis will celebrate its grand
opening on October 15th with special guest
Her Majesty Queen Sonja of Norway in
attendance. You are asked to RSVP if you plan
to attend, though the event is free.

There will be a ribbon cutting,
dedication of the new building, food trucks,
family activities and much more!

Our November lodge meeting will
feature Joe Grodahl, director of programs and
events of Norway House. This should be a
wonderful program following the October
Norway House event.

For more information about the Grand
Opening event: [https://
www.norwayhouse.org/calendar/
grandopening](https://www.norwayhouse.org/calendar/grandopening)

Genealogy Group

Need some great help finding your roots? Plan
to attend the October Genealogy Group
meeting. The group welcomes members of the
lodge who would like to begin researching their
family tree. The Genealogy Group will be
meeting on Saturday, October 1 from 10 am to
noon in the Community Program Room at the
Ramsey County Shoreview Library.

The November Genealogy Group meeting will
be via Zoom.



It's a Walk in the Park

"It's a Walk in the Park" will be Thursday,
October 20th at 1:00 pm at the Muriel Sahlin
Arboretum, 2525 North Dale St, Roseville, MN.

For Your Safety

The safety of our members is our top priority.
When attending lodge meetings/events,
please follow personal safety measures such
as:

- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Walk with at least 1 other person.
- Walk and park in well-lit areas.
- Don't leave valuables in your vehicle.
- Lock your vehicle.

For Information:

Lowell Johnson, President:
pres.synn.nord@gmail.com
Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor: ingrid@steinmetz.org

Donate to the Silent Auction and Bestefar's Attic

At the Torsk and Meatball Dinner, we will hold our Silent Auction and Bestefar's Attic market. It's time to look around for Scandinavian-related items that are in good, clean condition. Please contact Ron Stow now at stowronald@gmail.com and give him information about your items, including an approximate value, so the auction slips can be filled out prior to the meeting.

Please bring your items to the October lodge meeting. If you are unable to attend, call Ron Stow at 651-439-7255 to arrange a pick-up of your items. Auction items may include, but are not limited to, clothing, books, home decorations, carvings, hardanger, and other Nordic folk art. You may also donate services, such as translation, baking lessons, etc. Bestefar's Attic market will include items at a set price. For the Silent Auction, please bid early and bid often with your bidding number.

Here are some examples of items that will be available:



Note: Items for Bestemor's Pantry and/or the dessert table may be brought to Gustavus Adolphus when you arrive for the event on Saturday, October 22.

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, 2018
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, October 1, 10 am - Noon	Genealogy Group Meeting	Ramsey County Library - Shoreview 4560 Victoria St. N. Shoreview, MN 55126
Tuesday, October 4, 7 PM	Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, October 11, 6:30 PM	Norwegian Language Lessons	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church 1669 Arcade St. St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, October 11, 7 PM	Monthly Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Wednesday, October 12, 1 - 2:30 PM	Norwegian Book Group	SunRay Library 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119
Thursday, October 13	Last Day to RSVP for Torsk & Meatball Dinner	See page 5 for details
Thursday, October 20, 1 PM	It's a Walk in the Park	Muriel Sahlin Arboretum 2525 Dale Street North Roseville, MN 55113
Saturday, October 22, 5 PM	Torsk & Meatball Dinner	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Wednesday, October 26, 1 - 2:30 PM	Norwegian Book Group	SunRay Library
Tuesday, November 1, 7 PM	Board of Directors Meeting	Virtual meeting via Zoom