



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1 - 008

September 2023
Issue Number 23 - 08



Front Page News

September Lodge Meeting with Jeff Sauve

Author Jeff Sauve will be the special guest speaker at our lodge meeting at 7 PM on Tuesday, September 12. He will be discussing his 2022 non-fiction work *Murder at Minnesota Point*, which tells the true story of the murder of a young woman found on Duluth's Minnesota Point in 1894. As a historian, author, and editor, his research into this little known and mostly forgotten story will undoubtedly lead to a captivating presentation. *Murder at Minnesota Point* received a bronze award for best midwestern non-fiction by the Independent Publisher Book Awards in 2023.

Jeff worked for over 20 years as an archivist at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota and has extensive editing and writing works on his resume. You can read more about him by following the links below. You can purchase *Murder at Minnesota Point* at our meeting or buy it at your favorite bookstore and begin reading today!

<https://www.mnopedia.org/creator/jeff-m-sauve>

https://www.southernminn.com/northfield_news/news/unsolved-19th-century-duluth-murder-is-subject-of-local-authors-book/article_b3df4f4a-f3fa-11ec-adfe-6f487ebcfde0.html

https://www.amazon.com/Murder-Minnesota-Point-captivating-long-forgotten-ebook/dp/B0B653Y96C?ref=ast_author_mpb

Meeting Social Hour Coffee and Snacks

A very important part of our monthly meetings is the practice of having coffee and treats provided by members. It only takes 2-3 people to be responsible for this. Volunteers should arrive by 6:30 to set the tables and put the treats on serving plates provided by the church, if not brought in already on plates. Plan for 40-50 people. A sign-up sheet will be available at the September meeting and following months. Below is an update for long time members and hopefully information for new members. Social Committee members will be available to assist and answer questions if needed.

Decaf coffee is provided and made by Social Committee. Creamers and sugar are also provided. Water is always available for the non-coffee drinkers, and often servers bring in a cold drink such as punch, cranberry juice, apple juice, etc. Two bottles are usually enough.

Treats can be whatever servers want to make or purchase – bars, cake, cookies nuts, etc. Food does not have to be Scandinavian.

Three tables will be set up: one for the drinks and two for the food. Plastic table cloths (.99 at the Dollar Store) are used to cover the tables. Napkins and decorations for the tables are optional but always add a festive look. The lodge does have some tablecloths and white napkins, if needed.

Servers are responsible for clearing the tables at the end of the evening, washing, and putting away serving pieces and any silverware used. Social Committee members will be there to assist.

President's Letter

President's Letter

God dag, alle samen! (Hello, everyone!)

It's hard to believe that summer is nearing its end. The state fair is in full swing, students are starting a new school year, and Synnøve-Nordkap is ready to begin a new round of our monthly meetings. I look forward to seeing you all again.

We have just learned of the passing of member Lenore Jesness, a longtime member of our lodge. She will be missed.

We have added a new member to our tech team, Chris Bales. He has experience in the AV world, and his talents will greatly enhance the quality of our meetings. Both Chris and Lowell Johnson will be staffing the audio and video booth, which should make the job easier; one person just cannot cover both positions. Welcome, Chris.

The International Institute of Minnesota has announced the end of an era, the permanent cessation of the Festival of Nations. Our lodge, along with many other organizations, was a participant in the festival since its inception more than 80 years ago. Not only was the Festival of Nations a fun and educational experience, it was our lodge's main source of income to help fund our many activities. In discussions I have had with the festival organizers I learned that the festival was a drain on both IIMN staff and its finances. These factors took away resources from the prime mission of assisting immigrants in their transition from their home lands to their new life in the US and Minnesota. The Festival of Nations will be greatly missed. I encourage all lodge members to visit and support the many other ethnic events and festivals available in the Twin Cities.

This month's picture is not of Norway but the beautiful north shore of Lake Superior. Many of those involved in the Lake Superior fishing industry have Norwegian roots, so I thought it appropriate to include this in the *Brevet*.

Fishing has been, and always will be, a part of Norwegian culture. I recently acquired six, three inch, three ring binders full of my family history information, the result of over 40 years of research painstakingly carried out by one of my aunties. One of the remarkable aspects of her research is that she did it all without the use of digital records. Perusing through some of the records showed several of my ancestors were listed as lost at sea. I can only assume at this point that they were somehow involved in the fishing trade.

Looking forward to seeing you all on September 12th.

President Chuck Draheim



Junior Lodge Update

Norwegian Legends, Folk Tales, Myths, and Adventures are the focus for the '23 - '24 Peer Gynt calendar. Like the **Skalds, or Viking** story tellers of old, we will share tales around the campfire. We won't have a real campfire, of course, but a simulated one. There will be five modern day Skalds, engaging our group with amazing stories throughout the season.

We will start the year with three new dances, a glimpse of Norwegian trolls, and a short painting project on Saturday, September 9th. Check out the blog if you have children ages 7- 14 who would be interested in beginning the year with Peer Gynt Dancers.
peergyntdancers@wordpress.com

Secretary's Report

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1 – 008 Board of Directors, Via Zoom, 08/08/2023

Members in attendance: Sharon Amann, Dianne Anderson, Patty Carlson, Connie Chrissis, Chuck Draheim, Jean Draheim, Jill Hanson, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Lowell Johnson, Kathy Kaluza, Jean Knaak, Gary Legwold, Dave Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler, LaRee Opdahl, and Ron Stow.

Chuck called the meeting to order. The meeting was both in-person and on Zoom at the Draheim's community room.

SECRETARY'S REPORT-LaRee: 244 active members

TREASURER'S REPORT-Jean D: August treasurer reports were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Jean D. reviewed the reports. No checks needed Board approval. She gave us the second quarter total for the American Funds account. Jean D. will call Wells Fargo about an outstanding check written to GA. GA has received the money, however, the amount has not been removed from our account.

SCHOLARSHIPS-Jill: Presented a draft letter to Skogfjorden requesting action on a refund for a student who cancelled during the program's allowable time frame for a refund. She received edit suggestions and will email Skogfjorden soon with the Board's request.

FOUNDATION-Gary: Suggested we ask several past recipients to speak on how they used monies received from the Foundation. Maybe we could ask Emily Stark to speak again on behalf of the Foundation.

PROGRAM-Jean K.: Our September speaker will be Jeff Sauve, archivist for St. Olaf.

"A TASTE OF SCANDINAVIAN FOOD"-LaRee: Summarized committee plans from the August 4 meeting. Mary Beth will be in charge of tickets. Sharon will be in charge of foods and table presentation. Dianne and Patty will set up tables. LaRee suggested small gift baskets be prepared to add to the Silent Auction. Ron and Dave will work on the Silent Auction. Jean D. and Kathy K. will work on the Bake Sale.

Jean K. suggested we should prepare a letter to be sent to all members as a separate page in the Brevet explaining the reasons for this year's changes.

AV INSTRUCTIONS-Chuck and Lowell: After suggestions, a condensed version of the proposed form will be written.

LOCATING CONTRACT WITH GA: Jean D. will contact Rob at GA to ask that he send us a copy of our contract as through various officer changes, we have misplaced ours.

Chuck adjourned the meeting. The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Tues, Sept 5, 2023 at 7pm in person and via Zoom.

Anniversary Pins

Membership anniversary pins will be awarded to those members listed below who are present at the September lodge meeting and who contact Ron Stow prior to the September 12 meeting.
stowronald@gmail.com or
612-845-0393

5 years

Margaret Moe
Pamela Bjorum
Dennis Svendsen
Marie Svendsen
Toua Vang
Chue Yang
Yan Mai Youa
Michelle Yang
Yia Yang

10 years

Dianne Anderson
Pamela Johnson
Harold Sater
Kari Ann Hermansen
Dolores Jacobsen
Sylvia Vaala

15 years

Marilynn Erickson
Charles Draheim
Ingrid Bjorum
Lynn Hoffmeyer
Kari Sandberg

20 years

Russell Susag
Nora Steinmetz
Pat Carlson

25 years

Paul Hove

35 years

Norm Vinnes
Karen Vinnes
Leif Erickson
Linda Erickson

40 years

Georgia Lucas
Daniel Mathison
Patricia Luther
James Groe
Betty Groe

50 years

Marianne Hageman



Synnøve-Nordkap Sons of Norway Lodge
Proudly Presents

A TASTE OF SCANDINAVIA

BAKE SALE AND SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023

We are having just a "taste" of home-made Scandinavian food and desserts.*

Doors open at 5:00 PM

Two lines: Savories and Desserts

Suggested minimum donation: \$10 per person

MUST MAKE ADVANCED RESERVATION

DUE MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023

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

Non-refundable check payable to: "Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge"

Mail check to: Mary Beth Mutchler
3496 Nancy Place
Shoreview, MN 55126-8005

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

Synnøve-Nordkap Sons of Norway Lodge
Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
1669 Arcade Street; St. Paul, MN 55106

** Food prepared by lodge members in their own kitchens.*

A Taste of Scandinavia

This year our lodge is doing something different from our usual Torsk and Meatball Dinner due to a significant rise in food costs. We are having a “taste” of Scandinavian food and desserts. Each participant will get two plates: a large one with a taste of appetizers and main dishes, and a small one to taste many desserts. The large plate may include flatbread, Smorbrod, lefse, meatballs, cheeses, and herring; the dessert plate may include rosettes, Krumkake, fruit soup, and almond cake. These special foods will come from the kitchens of lodge members.

As Synnøve-Nordkap members **we need you to participate.** The Festival of Nations was our major fundraiser, and it has been permanently canceled. The Sons of Norway home office has significantly reduced their contributions to all lodges for their programs. So, we strongly encourage your participation and donations. We want to continue to be the preeminent lodge in our area and to be able to continue to fund our activities and scholarship program.

We need you to encourage others to attend by inviting your friends and acquaintances, using social media to make contacts, and copying and posting the flyer from the *Brevet* in common areas in your buildings or churches. At a suggested minimum donation of \$10, it is a fun evening for everyone! Reservations are required as noted in the flyer.

You will be receiving a special explanatory email or a letter sent to those without email requesting your participation. This includes preparing food specialties for the food tasting program, our usual donations to the silent auction, Bestefar's Attic, and Bestemor's Pantry. We would also welcome monetary donations if you are unable to participate directly. Please respond and assist us with this fun activity.

Any questions? Contact LaRee Opdahl at laopdahl@comcast.net or call LaRee at 651-738-6072 with questions.

Shhh! Silent Auction is coming soon to a lodge near you

During our lodge's Taste of Scandinavia fundraiser in October, the lodge will be holding the annual Silent Auction and Bestefar's Attic. In order to make these fundraisers a success, the lodge needs donations from you, dear members. Please check in your closets, attics, and garages for Scandinavian items, which are in good condition, that you would like to donate to the Silent Auction (items for bid) and to Bestefar's Attic (set price, buy-it-now).

Please bring your items to the next lodge event, in September or in October. Ron Stow will collect them and place them in the Silent Auction or in Bestefar's Attic. Please write a short description and approximate value of the items. Mange tusen takk!



Viking Legacy Today

by Don Halvorson

At the turn of the 20th Century, the revival of Viking interest that started in Scandinavia during the Renaissance, remained strong and began to spread into Britain, continental Europe, and America. On both continents, Viking age villages, markets, and festivals began to spring up everywhere. Replica dress and weaponry remained popular. Viking reenactments of battles and daily life grew into annual events. The Jorvik Viking Festival in York, England is the largest of its kind in Europe. *The Battle of Stiklestad*, a large-scale passion play about the death of St. Olav, plays to a packed audience every year.

Two icons have emerged: the horned helmet and the Viking longship. The only helmet uncovered to date, was found in a gravesite in Buskerud, Norway. There is no evidence of it ever having had horns. The source of this image could have come from the archaic designs created by 19th century artists or the costume designers of Wagner's opera, *Ring of the Nibelungs*. Regardless of historical origins, the horned helmet has caught on. The longship, an easily recognizable image, became an instant icon. In Europe, the Viking ship image can still bring up memories of long past Northmen raids. In America it is more associated with exploration, sea voyaging, and memories of distant contacts.

The Viking interest that reached its peak in Scandinavia during the Nationalist-Romantic period, began to mellow in the 20th century. Pride in their past was still important but had now become just an acceptance of that past. Viking symbols mainly show up in advertising, trademarks, pop music, and souvenirs.

In Germany, that interest took a more sinister turn. With their shared linguistic past and close geographic proximity, it was a short leap for many Germans to believe that they were genetically linked to the Vikings. The National-

Socialism party in the 1930's used that link to push their platform of German racial purity and superiority.

Scandinavian-American interest in the Vikings is a deep and personal one. The astounding number of immigrants who arrived in the United States from these countries in the last half of the 19th Century brought with them a deep national pride in their Nordic past and concern about how the Vikings were represented and understood in their new surroundings. In 1898, in northwestern Minnesota, the Kensington Stone was found, a discovery that would create decades of academic controversy.

In post WWII America, the Vikings became a part of pop culture. In 1954, movie makers produced *The Vikings*, based on the book of the same name by Edison Marshall. This was followed by Disney's *Island at the Top of the World* (1974) and the comedy *Eric the Viking* (1989). On TV, the History Channel rekindled that interest with its miniseries, *Vikings* (2013-2020). In books, there are Edison Marshall's sequel, *West with the Vikings* (1952) and *Eaters of the Dead* by Michael Crichton (1976). In printed media,

Marvel comics introduced *Thor*, a super hero based on the god of thunder in Norse mythology. In the newspaper, in 1973, cartoonist Dik Browne created *Hagar the Horrible*, a comical Viking character on a continual quest for meat, loot, and mead for his family.

In 1961, the NFL granted Minnesota a franchise. The name chosen was *the Minnesota Vikings*. In 1976, NASA launched the *Viking Mission to Mars*, a project to search for life on that planet.

Vikings The North American Saga Smithsonian Institute Press pp.362-375



Sunshine News

Longtime member Lenore Jesness passed away suddenly on August 20th. We send wishes of peace and comfort to Lenore's family and friends. A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date. You may read more about Lenore's life by following this link to her lovingly-written obituary: <https://epilogg.com/obituary/lenore-jesness-st-paul-mn-usa-9725>

Genealogy Group

Did you attend a family reunion over the summer and would like to find more about your ancestors? The Genealogy Group can help you begin your journey. The group does not meet in September, so plan to attend the October meeting on Saturday, October 7 from 10 am to noon at the Shoreview Library, 4570 North Victoria Street, Shoreview, MN 55126

Norwegian Language Classes

1. NEW! Norwegian Language Class for Beginners 1-2:30 PM on Wednesdays: September 13, October 11, November 15, December 13 At SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119. With 2 Texts: "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" beginning with Chapter 1 and "The Mystery of Nils" beginning with Chapter 1. There will be 5 copies of *The Mystery of Nils*, Part 1 that can be checked out of the Synnøve-Nordkap Library on Tuesday, September 12th. Or, you can purchase your own copy on Amazon for \$27.49 + tax or less for a used copy. Enjoy the Story!

The 1st class is Wednesday, September 13th. Please pre-register for the class with Sheryl Hove at sherylhove12@gmail.com or 651-738-4908.

2. The current class will continue at 1-2:30 PM on Wednesdays: September 27, October 25, November 29 with 2 Texts: "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" Chapter 23 and "Ny i Norsk" Lesson 29.

3. The Tuesday Class meets 6:30-7:00 PM at the church before the Lodge Meetings with the SON "Norwegian in 5 Minutes a Month" beginning with Lesson 1, on September 12, October 10, November 14. For more information, contact Sheryl Hove at sherylhove12@gmail.com or 651-378-4908.

Lodge Library

Our beautiful Synnøve-Nordkap library is back open! Items can be borrowed on a monthly basis during our monthly lodge meetings and returned the following month. If you are unable to return your borrowed items the following month, simply let me know. If you have any of our library materials that were borrowed on or before March 2020, please return them at your earliest convenience, or feel free to send me a message. Ingrid Bjorum: ingrid@steinmetz.org

Sports and Recreation Director

Synnøve-Nordkap is looking for someone to step forward to fill the position of Sports and Recreation Director. For more information, please contact Ron Stow (stowronald@gmail.com).

For Information:

Chuck Draheim, President:
pres.synn.nord@gmail.com

Ingrid Bjorum, Brevet Editor:
ingrid@steinmetz.org

Sons of Norway HQ: https://www.sofn.com/contact_us/

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/>

Tuesday, September 5, 7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (Members are welcome to attend)	Draheim's Contact Draheims for more information Call or text 651-210-0401
Tuesday, September 12, 6:30 PM	Norwegian Language Lesson	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church 1669 Arcade St. St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, September 12, 7:00 PM	Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Wednesday, September 13, 1- 2:30	Norwegian Language Lesson	SunRay Library 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119
Wednesday, September 27, 1-2:30	Norwegian Language Lesson	SunRay Library
Tuesday, October 3, 7:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (Members are welcome to attend)	Draheim's and Zoom
Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 PM	Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Saturday, October 21, 5 PM	A Taste of Scandinavia	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church