



SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap

Lodge #1 - 008

Summer 2025

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Front Page News

Summer Fun on Ruth's Deck!



Summer fun is something we all look forward to, especially in the middle of winter. Ruth Gibson has invited us to do exactly that on Monday, August 18, 2025, from 2 to 4pm. It seems we just never have enough time to just fellowship with one another, so this is that perfect opportunity. We will be served lemonade, coffee, with cookies and bars. Ruth's address is 3947 Lakewood Avenue, White Bear Lake, MN 55101



A Little Bit of Norway—Hands On

Hmmmm, I wonder what THAT means???? The Board is proposing to do a special event where there will be different "stations," and different members will be making and serving Rommegrot, Lefse, Krumkake, Rosettes, and Kransekake. At this point, we are thinking sometime this fall. Just be assured it will be a fun-filled meeting. Stay tuned for further information.



January & February Meetings?????

We brought this subject up at the picnic, so this is just a memory jogger. January and February have weather concerns as well as the darkness factor. The Board has some thoughts:

- Not having January and February in person meetings, but having meetings in July and August
- Zoom those meetings (and we know that many of you do not have capabilities to do this...

We need feedback from you, the members, in order to make decisions. Please give this thought, as we will be voting on this at the September meeting.

President's Letter

Dear Members,

I hope are all in good health. I hope your summer is full of fun and exciting events.

Ruth Gibson has invited us to her house for Fun and Fellowship and Friendship on Monday, August 18 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

No meeting in August -- our next board meeting is September 2 at the Maplewood library, next regular meeting is Tuesday, September 9.

Kathy Kaluza, Synnøve-Nordkap President

Help Wanted!

Synnove-Nordkap Lodge Silent Auction Fundraiser

Our lodge, Synnove-Nordkap, is seeking a dedicated member to take over the management of the Silent Auction fundraiser at the Taste of Scandinavia event this fall. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to our lodge's community and help make the event a memorable success.

Please contact Ron Stow at 612-845-0393 for more details. He will be glad to assist you. Takk!

Membership Directory Updates

WE NEED YOUR HELP

We're trying to organize our Membership Directory, so we will ask you to verify and/or update your information at our September meeting (if you didn't take care of that at the picnic). Please check out what is in our current directory, and then give us new information or any corrections. It seems that many have given up landlines, or have that plus a cell phone. Thanks in advance for your help getting this updated.

TRANSLATION

<https://www.pressreader.com/norway/verdens-gang/20231216/page/6>

Har spart kakestykke fra kong Harald og dronning Sonjas bryllup i 1968

Kakestykket ble nemlig aldri spist, og det finnes fortsatt.

Kjell Karlsens orkester hadde det ærefulle oppdraget med å spille i bryllupet til daværende kronprins Harald og hans kronprinsesse Sonja 29. august 1968. Bandet hadde også underholdt på forlovelsesfesten.

Karlsen, en legende i norsk musikk, var nemlig ikke så opptatt med slotts festen at han glemte kona som spent ventet hjemme.

Han valgte rett og slett å ta med et stykke bryllupskake med hjem.

– Det var jo såpass sent, så jeg hadde ikke lyst til å spise kake da, sier 89 år gamle Lill-Louise Karlsen i NRKs nye dokumentarserie «Folkets konge».

Dagen etterpå var hun heller ikke ivrig på å spise kake, så hun satte den i fryseren. Der ble den værende.

I NRK-serien viser Lill-Louise Karlsen og datteren Tone-Lill Karlsen (60) frem kakestykket.

Lukter vanilje

Datteren graver frem en plastboks fra morens fryseskap hjemme på Ullern. En hvit lapp er festet på.

– Her står det med pappas sirlige skrift: Bryllupskakebit fra kronprins Harald og Sonjas bryllup.

Tone-Lill konkluderer med at det fortsatt lukter vanilje.

– Jeg lurer på om kongen og dronningen husker kaken? Hvis ikke kan de få dette, sier moren – før hun leende legger til:

– Nei, det får de ikke.

Døde før TV-premierer

Da innslaget til «Folkets konge» ble filmet på nyåret i fjor, visste ikke Lill-Louise at hun hadde kort tid igjen.

Når VG drar på besøk til datteren på Frogner i Oslo onsdag denne uken, forteller hun at moren likevel ikke tok for gitt at hun skulle få med seg TV-premierer.

– Jeg husker hun sa at «det er ikke sikkert jeg får med meg den».

Det gjorde hun heller ikke. 5. april i år døde Lill-Louise Karlsen, fem uker etter at hun hadde fått diagnosen bukspyttkjertelkreft.

Men 89-åringen fikk likevel se det ferdige opptaket av seg selv og datteren.

– NRK ordnet det sånn at vi fikk tilsendt en link. Det likte mamma.

Da lå hun på Ullern helsehus. Hun smilte veldig, forteller Tone-Lill.

Lill-Louise Karlsen ble enke i mai 2020, da Kjell Karlsen gikk bort, 88 år gammel.

– De var så tette og hadde så mye kjærlighet for hverandre. Det at begge forlot oss med så kort mellomrom, har vært heftig. Det er et stort savn, forteller datteren.

Da musikerlegenden Kjell Karlsen spilte i kronprinsbryllupet for 55 år siden, tok han med et stykke kake hjem til kona. Nå har datteren arvet klenodiet.

Hedret med medalje

Kjell Karlsen ble i 1999 hedret med Kongens fortjenstmedalje i gull for sin innsats innen norsk musikk.

– Det var stort. Mor var med far på Slottet den gangen, forteller Tone-Lill.

Saved a piece of cake from King Harald and Queen Sonja's 1968 wedding

The piece of cake was never eaten, and it is still there.

Kjell Karlsen's orchestra had the honor of playing at the wedding of the then Crown Prince Harald and his Crown Princess Sonja on August 29, 1968. The band had also entertained at their engagement party.

Karlsen, a legend in Norwegian music, was not so distracted at the palace reception that he forgot about his wife who was eagerly waiting at home.

He simply chose to take a piece of wedding cake home with him.

"It was so late, that I didn't feel like eating cake," says 89-year-old Lill-Louise Karlsen in NRK's new documentary series "The People's King."

The next day she wasn't keen on eating cake either, so she put it in the freezer. There it stayed.

In the NRK series, Lill-Louise Karlsen and her daughter Tone-Lill Karlsen (60) show off the piece of cake.

Smells like vanilla

The daughter digs out a plastic box from her mother's freezer at home in Ullern [a borough on Oslo's west side]. A white note is attached to it.

"Here it says in her father's neat handwriting: Wedding cake piece from Crown Prince Harald and Sonja's wedding."

Tone-Lill concludes that it still smells of vanilla.

"I wonder if the king and queen remember the cake? If not, they can have this," says the mother – before she adds with a laugh:

"No, they can't."

Died before the TV premiere

When the segment for "The People's King" was filmed on New Year's Eve last year, Lill-Louise didn't know that she had little time left.

When VG [newspaper Verdens Gang] visited her daughter in Frogner [a westside borough] in Oslo on Wednesday this week, she said that her mother still didn't take it for granted that she would be able to see the TV premiere.

"I remember her saying that 'I'm not sure I'll be able to see it.'"

She didn't either. On April 5 this year, Lill-Louise Karlsen died, five weeks after she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

But the 89-year-old was still able to see the finished recording of herself and her daughter.

"NRK arranged for us to be sent a link." Mom liked it.

She was in Ullern Health Center at the time. She smiled a lot, says Tone-Lill.

Lill-Louise Karlsen became a widow in May 2020, when Kjell Karlsen passed away, aged 88.

"They were so close and had so much love for each other. The fact that they both left us in such a short space of time has been intense. It is a great loss," says her daughter.

When music legend Kjell Karlsen played at the crown prince's wedding 55 years ago, he brought a piece of cake home to his wife. Now his daughter has inherited the treasure.

Honored with a medal

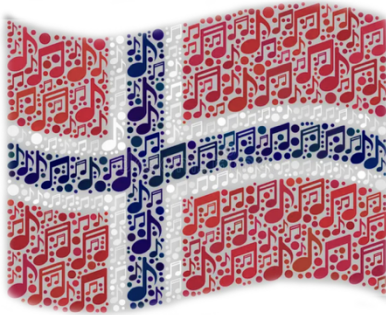
In 1999, Kjell Karlsen was honored with the King's Medal of Merit in gold for his contributions to Norwegian music.

"It was a big deal. Mother was with father at the Palace that time," says Tone-Lill.

Junior Lodge Update

A new season for Junior lodge with new ideas and a new place to rehearse. Several of our newer members are from the greater Twin City area. In the past when recruiting new members, telling that the group rehearsal was in Stillwater was almost an automatic negative response. Stillwater has been an outstanding place for our group when the majority of the kids were from this town.

Starting in September the Peer Gynt Dancers will be rehearsing at the Unity-Unitarian Church located at 732 Holly Avenue, in St. Paul. It is in a safe neighborhood with good parking available. Our special thanks to the Synnøve-Nordkap Board for voting to support this move and pay the yearly rental of \$337.50 for September through May.



The focus for this next year will be *Norwegian Music and Musicians*, which is a cultural skills unit for adults, however we will adapt the content for younger members. We will be inviting musicians who play various Norwegian instruments to be part of this emphasis. For example: Hardanger fiddle, Munnharpe, Tussefløyte, Trekkspill. We will try making a shoebox langeleik and maybe attempt some cow calling.

Each year for the opening meeting a new dance is planned. That way the experienced dancers and new dancers are all challenged. Also, we want to learn a Norwegian song that has accompanying hand motions.

The Peer Gynt Norwegian Dancers

invite you to...

BLI MED – JOIN US!



What we do:

- Meet one Saturday a month
- Learn about Norwegian culture, food, language, sports
- Dance at local events
- Offer scholarships to Norwegian camps and college

Families with kids 7-17,
join us in September!

Find more info here

Or reach out to:

peergyntdancers@gmail.com



Taste of Scandinavia

Yes, we will be having this great event again this year on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Please put this on your calendar, and also begin to think of who you can invite to this wonderful gustatory experience. (See photo of a plate from 2024)



We plan to be proactive this year by inviting other Lodges to attend our "Taste."

Our team from last year's event will be starting to make plans very soon. Members will be hearing from this committee about donating food items like you did last year, and also helping in other capacities.

Many who have attended "Taste" events at other places mentioned that \$10 for all that we served was probably priced too low. The Board decided to raise the price to \$15 this year as the price of food has risen so much.

We need someone to be in charge of the Silent Auction. Ron Stow will help that special person, but has decided to not bear the total responsibility for that important job.

The Tall Ship Races

by Don Halvorson

*Originally published by Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge in the June 2018 SynNor Brevet.
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Between July 26 -29 [2018], Stavanger, Norway will be the host port for this year's tall ship races. Visitors who come from far and wide to the city's Vågen Harbor will see the tall ships and their energetic crews, plus three days of music and the festival's wide range of activities. Also anchored in the harbor, will be Norway's three White Ladies, the sailing ships, Christian Radich, Statsraad Lehmkuhl and Sørlandet.

The first race, July 11-18, will be from Sunderland, UK to Esbjerg, Denmark. Then the ships will make their way to Stavanger. The second and final race, August 3-6, will be from Stavanger to Harlingen, Netherlands.

The Windjammer is the name given to a large sailing ships that made its debut in the later half of the Nineteenth Century. Over the fifty plus years of its service, it was the workhorse of the seas. With its large square sails, its tall masts and elaborate rigging, this elegant ship was distinctly recognizable, as an eloquent icon to the end of the thousand-year evolution of the sailing ship. Twice as long as its predecessor, the clipper ship, with its large hull could carry thousands of tons of cargo anywhere in the world.

By the beginning of Twentieth Century Windjammers were being sparingly used and were eventually replaced by steamships. By the 1930's the only product that could be economically shipped by sailing ships was grain. During those years, Gustaf Erikson, an owner of a large fleet of Windjammers in the Åland Islands, spent the sailing season moving grain from the southern Australian ports in Spencer, around Cape Horn, to Cornwall on the southwest coast of Great Britain. This venture, informally known as the Great Grain Race, was expected to be completed in under 100 days. The last Grain Race took place in 1949. To most, it was an end of an age. To a retired London solicitor, Bernard Morgan, it became the answer to a dream. For some time he had envisioned using those beautiful ships as a training ground for maritime cadets and seamen. Their training would take place during a race, a competition of skill and speed between naval cadets from the UK and any other country that would take the challenge. His idea soon caught on, first with Dr. Pedro Theotonio, the Portuguese Ambassador to the UK; and then with Earl Mountbatten, the First Sea Lord, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh.

In July 1956, the Sail Training International Race Committee was established, and a race was run from Torbay on the English Channel to Lisbon, Portugal. The race was intended to be a one-time event, but it was so well received that it was decided to run another one in 1958, and every other year after that. Eventually, it was changed to every year. From 1973-2003, the race was renamed the Cuttey Sark Tall Ship Race after its new sponsor. From 2004 on the sponsors have varied.

Christian Radich won the overall race in 2010, its fifth victory in the tall ship races. It was launched in 1937, and built specifically to train naval cadets. The Statsraad Lehmkuhl won the race in 2016. It was originally built in Germany in 1914 as a training ship for cadets in the German navy. After WWI it was claimed by the UK as a shipwreck, and in 1923 was purchased by the Norwegians to be used as training ship. In WWII it was seized by the occupying Germans and renamed the Westwarts. After the war it was reclaimed, and again became a training ship. The training ship, Sørlandet, built in 1927, participated in the first Tall Ship Race in 1956.

Editor's Note: The 2025 Tall Ship Races visited Kristiansand, Norway from July 30 to August 2. They will stop in Stavanger again as part of the 2026 schedule.



Windjammer – Wikipedia
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Windjammer>

Tall Ships' Races - Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tall_Ships%27_Races

The Tall Ships Races Stavanger 2018 – Tall Ships Network
<https://tallshipsnetwork.com/events/tall-ships-stavanger-2018/>

Hardanger Embroidery

The Hardanger Embroidery group is taking a break for the summer and will resume meeting in September.



Norwegian Language Classes

Tuesday Class: September 9. 5:30-6:00 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church before the Lodge Meeting. We will share **Travel to Norway Hints and Phrases**.

Wednesday Class: September 10 & 24, 1:00-2:45 p.m. at SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119. We will study **Norwegian Fairy Tales** with Audrey Waage.

WELCOME to new members! You can join our classes at any time!

Sheryl Hove, sherylhove12@gmail.com
651-738-4908

Sunshine News

A sympathy card was delivered to Happy and Randy Youngs. Their daughter, Toni, passed away July 10 after a long and brave battle with cancer.

Logging Our Volunteer Hours

A reminder for everyone to keep track of Volunteer Hours for lodge-related activities for the year and fill out a form, returning it to LaRee Opdahl at the September meeting.

Sunshine News

Please contact Sharon Amann if you become aware of the death or illness of members so I can send a card from the Lodge.

H/651-631-0399,
C/ 651-706-9700.

Thanks in advance for keeping me informed.

For Information:

Kathy Kaluza, President:
kaluzakathy@gmail.com

Becky Foro, Brevet Editor:
rebecca jean_w@yahoo.com

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

SynNor Brevet
289 Karen Dr., Unit 403
Woodbury, MN 55129-5722

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
Tuesday, September 2, 6:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (All lodge members are welcome)	Ramsey County Library Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr. Maplewood, MN 55109
Tuesday, September 9, 5:30 - 6:00	Norwegian Language Lesson	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church 1669 Arcade Street, St. Paul, MN 55116
Tuesday, September 9 6:00-8:00pm	Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church 1669 Arcade Street, St. Paul, MN 55116
Wednesday, September 10 & 24, 1:00 - 2:30 PM	Norwegian Language Lesson	SunRay Library 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119