

Sons of Norway

Polar Star Lodge 5-472

Meetings on the first Sunday of the month – Potluck at 1:30 p.m.
St. Olaf Lutheran Church – Douglas Road, Montgomery, IL

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President's Message



President Ken at the District 5 Convention in 2014

Hilsen Polar Star Lodge!

Remember the Syttendemai parade in Park Ridge on Sunday, May 15th. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Anderson Tree Farm as we celebrate Midsummer together on June 5th. Lastly, congratulations to all of you for earning culture medals. Our lodge won the first District 5 Culture Medal Contest! Well done!

Your President
Ken Johnson



Nancy Andersen with Norwegian violinist, Skogen Sällström at the Madison Friends Dinner for NAGC/NL in Madison, WI on May 1, 2016

Upcoming Events

Syttendemai 2016

Park Ridge Parade
and Park Events

MAY 15

Noon

See article on page 3

Midsummer 2016

at

Anderson Tree Farm

Sunday, June 5th

1:30 potluck

See article on page 2

Polar Star Newsletter Deadline
Will be the 14th of every month.

POLAR STAR

WINS!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Polar Star Midsummer
Celebration at Anderson Tree Farm
Sunday June 6, 2016
Potluck Picnic begins at 1:30 p.m.
Bring picnic table service and a picnic dish to pass.**



Andersen Tree Farm is located at the southwest corner of Ridge Road and Rout 126 – west of Plainfield, IL

THE VIKINGS ARE COMING!



It's been over a thousand years since Leif Erikson purportedly made the voyage from Europe to North America, and now a crew is making the same voyage across the Atlantic ocean through the St. Lawrence Sea Way into Lake Huron and then to Lake Michigan. The world's largest viking ship will sail into Lake Michigan and land at Navy Pier to join the Tall Ships from July 27-31. For more information about other locations and celebrations check out the Draken Expedition America website:

<http://www.drakenexpeditionamerica.com/>



Jerri Lynn Baker wins the District 5 Individual Culture Medal Contest with 6 medals earned between July 1- December 31, 2016





Syttendemai 2016 Sunday, May 15th

Wear your Polar Star Vest, Norwegian "genser" (Norwegian style sweater) or red, white and blue and join us as we march in the Syttendemai parade. Arrive at noon and park in the Nelson Funeral Home Parking Lot at 820 West Talcott. Parade begins at 1:00. View the parade from Hodges Park. Pre-parade activities begin at noon.

Syttendemai Parade Activities begin at Noon, Hodges Park – Park Ridge

Syttende Mai Celebration Concert - Tuesday, May 17, 2016 At the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, 7:30 PM 2614 N. Kedzie Boulevard, Chicago IL Free Will Offering. Refreshments served following concert. Information: 773-252-7335. www.minnekirken-chicago.org



JUNE 22-26

HOTEL MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

Sons of Norway 2016 District 5 Lodge Meeting and Convention
From June 22 to 26, 2016, Sons of Norway District 5 Board is hosting the 2016 Convention at Hotel Marshfield, 2700 S. Central Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449. There is a special room rate for Sons of Norway until May 22, 2016. Room rates before tax: double queen, \$109 -- sleeps 4; King, \$109 -- sleeps 2; studio suite, \$119 -- sleeps 4; two room suite, \$129 -- sleeps 6. Hot breakfast is included for registered guests and available at a reasonable price for others. Room rates are for the number of people indicated for each type of room. Ask for the special rate when booking your room. Phone: 715-387-2700 or Toll Free: 855-583-2700

There is a small "lift" to access the second floor at Hotel Marshfield. A lift is slower than an elevator, but it does the job. To help keep things moving when you check in, we will try to have enough strong young volunteers to carry luggage to the second floor via the stairs on Thursday. There will be volunteers on call Wednesday afternoon as well. Ask at the hotel front desk if you need help getting luggage to the second floor. We will do our best to help you promptly.

There are other nearby hotels ranging from "drive-up-to-your-door" style to Holiday Inn in case Hotel Marshfield fills up. It is a good idea to book your room as soon as possible.

There will be opportunities for delegates and others to golf or take classes in rosemaling (1,2, or 3 days), Viking wire weaving, Hardanger embroidery or genealogy on Wednesday. Presentations will be offered Thursday and will continue Friday during the business meeting for those who are not delegates. Visitors are also welcome to observe the business meetings.

Thursday evening enjoy a Viking feast with a menu similar to food available in Viking times. After dinner, learn how a Viking longhouse was built, then top off the evening listening to tales from the Sagas around the open outdoor fire. The two events which follow the feast are open to all e good exercise convention attendees.

Bright and early both Friday and Saturday mornings the traditional walk-a-thon will take place with participants following a local guide through a nearby park. The walk-a-thon offers some good exercise and helps raise money for District 5. The early morning workout ends in time for delegates to prepare for the business meeting.

Friday night dinner is on your own with the option of a burger special at Libby's

or ordering pizza in from Scotty's downtown. No reservations are needed for this meal. Friday evening Kubb will be set up in a neighborhood green area. All are welcome to join.

After two days of serious business it will be time on Saturday to honor the outgoing and incoming District 5 officers and directors at the installation ceremony with the banquet later in the evening. Bring your bunad to wear for this festive occasion which includes Scandinavian music and awards.

The committee has done everything possible to keep costs within reach of everyone who wishes to attend. The delegate and non-delegate registration fee is \$65. That is less than four years ago! It includes four coffee breaks, Friday lunch, Saturday lunch and registration materials.

Convention pins at \$5 and T-shirts at \$10 (\$13 for 2X & 3X sizes) can be ordered and picked up at the convention. The order form is with registration materials sent to lodge presidents and on the District 5 website.

Questions may be directed to planning committee members or Districts 5 Board members.

Dorothy Berg -- advertising in program book, well wisher lists-bergdo@msn.com

Diane Hesseltvan Dinter -- vendors, pins & t-shirts, registration, sponsorship, classes, presentations, -- bbaclio@gmail.com

Esther Charlton -- cultural display -- esthersofn@aol.com

Andrew Johnsen & Owen Christianson -- golf outing -AIJOHNSEN@ATT.NET., owen.christianson@gmail.com

Owen Christianson -- Viking Feast -- owen.christianson@gmail.com

Judy Ghastin -- volunteers -- judy62ghastin@gmail.com



Everyone loves the ...

TASTE OF NORWAY BREAKFAST !!



Even Rolf the Viking LOVES Fried Kumla!



Sat., June 4, 2016 7 to 11 a.m.

Norway Community Bldg.

Norway, IL

Just off Route 71 (West)

Wide variety of items including Ham, sausage, **FRIED KUMLA**, scrambled eggs w/chives, **NORWEGIAN WAFFLES**, guma, fresh fruit and so much more!

UFFDA, you're bound to fill up here!



ADULTS

\$8 (Advance Sales)

\$9 (at the door)



CHILDREN (under 8)

\$5 (Advance Sales)

\$6 (at the door)

Phone (815) 343-5070 for more information and tickets

Or Email @ david7dog@yahoo.com

All proceeds help support the Norsk Museum and its efforts. Norwegian Center incorporated is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization



NORSK MUSEUM

GRAND OPENING

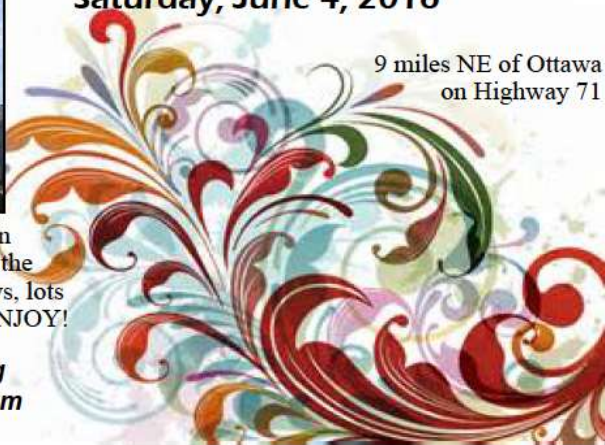
Saturday, June 4, 2016

9 miles NE of Ottawa
on Highway 71

After your delicious Norwegian Breakfast, come and join us at the **Norsk Museum!** New displays, lots to see and to learn! COME, ENJOY!

www.norskmuseum.org

[Facebook/Norsk Museum](https://www.facebook.com/NorskMuseum)



NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN GENEALOGY AND HERITAGE

by Nancy Andersen



Did you think you would have to go to North Dakota or Norway to do research on your family roots? The Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library is an amazing resource right in Madison, Wisconsin. The Andersens and the Bergs were invited by a mutual friend to the annual fundraising dinner of the NACL on May 1. We found ourselves in the company of many other Norwegian-Americans, a number of whom were dressed in beautiful, authentic Norwegian regional bunads. After a traditional Norwegian meal we were treated to a superb violin and Hardanger fiddle concert by the very talented young artist, Skogen Sällström, who had come from Trondheim, Norway for the occasion. We hope you will be able to hear him perform yourself when he returns for another tour.

The following day we were given a tour of the Norwegian American Genealogical Center near the UW campus. We were amazed at their collection of bygdeboks (local Norwegian record books, including farm information) and many other resources. They also have obtained online access to databases in Norway. Something that really sets them apart is that they also offer translation assistance and expert, in-house research

assistance (for a fee). The fees are reduced for members, and basic membership is just \$40 per year. Go to their website (www.nagcnl.org) and check out what they have to offer. Be sure to watch their fine, short videos. Wouldn't that be a great place for a Polar Star field trip? We were told that they could give us some time to acquaint us with their resources and to answer our questions. (NOTE: NAGC is closed weekends and holidays, and it is best to make an appointment ahead.)

On the way up to Madison or on the return trip, don't miss Livsreise (Life's Journey) Norwegian Heritage Center in nearby Stoughton. It shows interpretations of the experiences of immigrants who came to this country. It also offers access to the databases of the NAGC/NL, its partner institution. (Closed Sundays and Mondays. Check hours and holiday schedules online.) Stoughton also has Nordic shops to explore, and a lot of Norwegian heritage. So...are you up for a trip???

Suggestion for Summer Weekend in July **by** **Carol Devito**

A trip to Stoughton, Wisconsin would be a pleasant Norwegian mini holiday. It is an easy drive, only 2 to 2 ½ hours away.

A few years ago many members of my family went up to Stoughton for the weekend to celebrate Syttende Mai. We always stayed at the Chose Family Inn (now the Days Inn). It is on the edge of town and within walking distance of the downtown area. So very convenient. Now I go to Park Ridge to celebrate Syttende Mai. It would be great to get back to Stoughton.

Just recently the Livsreise-Norwegian Heritage Center opened. I have an information letter from the manager of the center. The center tells the story of Norwegian immigration to the Midwest from 1825 to 1920, when 800,000 people left Norway for a new life. They house a combination of historic artifacts along with electronic and interactive displays, immigrant storybooks, and a large "map wall" where visitors can build a sample immigrant journey. They also have another small gallery housing the "Sacred Symbols of Norway" exhibit on loan from the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa. There is also a small genealogy lab where you can research your family lineage.

The town is fun to explore. It has many specialty shops and, of course, a bakery,

And Stoughton is the home of The Sons of Norway Mandt Lodge #314.

This would have to be a Friday-Saturday outing returning on Sunday because most everything is closed on Sunday.

If all else fails there is always golf.

Madison is only about a half hour north.

Editor's Note: Sounds like Nancy and Carol have come up with our Polar Star July Field Trip if we combine both ideas! Suggested dates anyone?

UPCOMING EVENTS



July 7, 14, and 21 from 10:30-12:30

How to Be A Viking II

Language, Cooking, Games, Music, and Stories

Call Yorkville Public Library to register 630-553-4354

Attend one session or all three

Presentors: Barb Johnson, Polar Star Lodge

Connie Kross, Cleng Peerson Lodge

Funded by a Sons of Norway Community Grant

POLAR STAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 5 MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION

JUNE 22-24 S of N DISTRICT 5 CONVENTION MARSHFIELD, WI

JULY 7, 14, & 21 "HOW TO BE A VIKING" CHILDRENS WORKSHOPS

JULY Polar Star Field Trip – Dates TBA

AUGUST 7 NORWEGIAN BARN DANCE WITH CLENG PEERSON

SEPTEMBER 11 VASA PARK 9:00 a.m.

OCTOBER 2: PROGRAM TBA

NOVEMBER 6 Høstfest begins at 11:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 4 JULETREFEST

Gratulerer Med Dagen (Happy Birthday)

Polar Star Members!



Mai

- 19. Thor Fjell**
- 20. Blake Chaussey**
- 21. Brian Geddes**
- 30. Ellen Jensen**

June

- 3. Nilslee Kreppert**
- 4. Nels Johnson**
- 10. Ben Gehler**
- 10. Gerald Rucks**
- 15. Kirsten Miller**



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