

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 awarded Cooking 1 and Nancy Andersen awarded Genealogy 1
Hilsen Polar Star Lodge!

What a fun time we had at the Barn Dance learning Norwegian folk dances with members of Cleng Peerson and Valhall Lodges! Thanks to Tom Maxson and his folk dancing group for putting up with all of us!

As we get closer to Vasa Park I hope everyone is planning what they will bake or donate for this fund raiser. It would be helpful if everyone would let me know what you will be bringing so we know what we have to offer. I encourage everyone to come to Vasa Park to work at least one shift. It's a lot of fun!

Warm up those singing voices because our choir will begin rehearsing September 15th thanks to our Director, Doris Pittman.

Your President, Ken Johnson



"How to Be a Viking"
Juletrefest at the Yorkville Public Library. More photos of week 3 and 4 of camp on page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

Scandinavian Festival

at Vasa Park

September 11, 2016

Polar Star Bakery and Flea Market

See article on page 7

October 2, 2016

**Polar Star Lodge Event
at St. Olaf Church**

See article on page 2

Polar Star

Taste of Norway

Høstfest

Sunday Nov. 6th

See flier on page 8

Polar Star Newsletter Deadline

Will be the 14th of every month.

Please submit all articles to Barb Johnson

at barbijohnsonb@aol.com

Follow us on facebook @

Sons of Norway – Polar Star Lodge

Members in Action

OCTOBER LODGE EVENT

October 2, 2016 – 1:30
at St.

Olaf Church.

Program still in progress

Buffet begins 1:30 p.m. Please bring your own table service and a dish to pass.

Polar Star Singers and Friends Needed.....



President Ken chatting with Tom Maxson at the Norwegian Barn Dance event.



Barb Johnson earns enamel walking pin

Fox Valley Norwegian Choir Rehearsal will begin Thursday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. at St. Olaf church for our Høstfest performance. The 2016 season will hopefully feature a children's choir. More information to follow from our choir director, Doris Pittman



Art Andersen enjoys the festivities at Navy Pier when the Draken sailed to town.

2016 CULTURE CONTEST CONTINUES

Culture Corner.....by Barb Johnson

Members of Polar Star, Cleng Peerson and Valhall Lodges participated in a Folk Dancing event on August 7th at the Norway Community Building. They received Norwegian folk dancing instruction from members of Leikarringen "Heimhug" the Norwegian Folk Dancing Group of Chicago.



The following Polar Star members completed requirements to earn Part I of the Folk Dancing Culture Medal at the Norwegian Barn Dance on August 7th.

Nancy Andersen, Al Bergh, Phoebe Bergh, Jerri Lynn Baker, Carol Devito, Barb Johnson, Ken Johnson and Frank Krawczyk

**“How to Be A Viking 2106”
at the Yorkville Public Library
A Norwegian Culture Program for our barnebarn (grandchildren)**



Week 2...Huldra, Nisser and Trolls Oh My!



“How to Be a Viking” ends with a Julefest and a visit from the julenisse!

Thanks to all our Polar Star Barnebarn and Besteforeldre for all of their help and support! We had a great month of “Viking” fun!

SON DISTRICT 5 CONVENTION REPORT

The District 5 SON Convention was held in Marshfield Wisconsin from June 22nd to June 26th. In attendance were 160 delegates representing about 39 lodges with 12 lodges not sending delegates.

The meeting was well organized and run strictly by Roberts Rules of Order with all votes passing by acclamation. All discussions and objections were in a respectful and orderly manner.

As a delegate to the District 5 Convention I was selected to serve on the Finance Committee for the Convention. The Finance Committee reviewed the proposed by-law changes and resolutions for their impact on the District 5 Finances and made recommendations as to whether they be adopted or not. The Finance committee consisted of:

Duane Kittleson, Chair- District Treasurer
Patricia Hermundson, Loven 29
Frank Krawczyk, Polar Star 472
Thomas Maxson, Elvesund 593
Kathy Secora, District Board
Ray Knutson, International Treasurer

The state of the District treasury was also discussed. Decreasing membership, in District 5 Lodges is an important cause of declining finances to the district since District 5 receives a portion of each SON member's dues for operations. Masse Moro is an important program for the district. But the cost of running the camp is greater than the amount received in campers fees. Increasing fees and closely watching expenses can help. Lodges should be encouraged to promote more campers. Typically 55 campers a year attend Masse Moro and the camp can accommodate 65 to 75 attendees with no increases in staff. Lodges are encouraged to have collections or fundraisers to benefit Masse Moro.

At the recent District 5 Convention, resolution and by-laws were voted in to assist the District Board and Officers to better control spending.

During presentations by Eivind Heiberg and Len Carlson on answering the questions of what Sons of Norway is, it became apparent that under the laws of Minnesota Sons of Norway is considered a financial institution because of the insurance and other programs available to members. Therefore: *Insurance laws require that the state of Minnesota conduct a comprehensive examination of Sons of Norway's insurance operations on a periodic basis. The scope of the most recent examination covered a period from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014 with the report issued by the state on March 7, 2016. With respect to corporate governance structure relative to the International Lodge and overall tiered lodge structure, benefit requirement for representation, terms of directors and officers, background and expertise of board members, etc.* The following are some governance conclusions and recommendations offered by the state:

- *Quote from the examination report: “While the structure of SON’S board may have been well suited for the Society’s needs at the time of the formation, the competitive, economic and regulatory landscape of insurers has changed significantly over the years and regulators are looking to insurance company boards to provide a more significant level of governance.*
- *further enhance the quality of the board. They propose SONS should do this by identifying the necessary characteristics and qualifications of board members and populating the board with members that possess those traits. They also recommend that the board include at least one “financial expert” (such as a CPA) that is experienced in accounting matters, financial statements and the role of the Audit Committee. Finally, the examiners cite other pertinent areas of expertise in insurance and/or financial services industries and experience in executive leadership of a medium to large business.*
- *Enhance active board oversight in financial, operational and strategic governance. One recommendation is to increase the frequency of board meetings.*

Newly elected District 5 officers and District 5 Directors are:

District 5 Board of Directors

Position	Name	City	State
President & Zone 6	Andrew Johnsen	Cedar Lake	IN
Vice President & Zone 5	Kathy Secora	Hoffman Estates	IL
Secretary	Darlene Arneson	Stoughton	WI
Treasurer	Mike Palecek	Racine	WI
Sports & Rec & Zone 4	Michaela Decker	Racine	WI
Publicity & Zone 5	Christina Fairchild	Rockton	IL
Cultural & Zone 6	Esther Charlton	Cincinnati	OH
Youth & Zone 3	Cheryl Wille-	Mt.Horeb Schlesser	WI
ZONE DIRECTORS			
Zone 1	David Hermundson	Eau Claire	WI
Zone 1	Geoffrey Wodell	Wheat Ridge	CO
Zone 2	Ron Iverson	Westby	WI
Zone 2	Tom Boudreau	Nekoosa	WI
Zone 3	Lucy Ghastin	Middleton	WI
Zone 4	Joy Bashara	Green Bay	WI
Int. Director	Jon Grinde	Madison	WI
Int. Treasurer	Ray Knutson	Davis Junction	IL
Webmaster	Richard Fairchild	Rockton	IL

Respectfully,

Frank Krawczyk

Editor’s Note: My sister Connie Kross was elected as a delegate to the International Convention in Tacoma, Washington August 23-28. I will be attending with her. Look for my convention posts on our Polar Star Facebook page.

VASA PARK SCANDINAVIAN FESTIVAL

Sunday, September 11th, 2015



TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**Mark your calendars and plan to attend and work
in the Polar Star Bakery Booth.**



Start baking (and freeze) your favorite Norwegian baked goods to sell in the booth and look for Norwegian collectibles at garage sales to re-sell in our loppemarked (flea market).

We will be baking Norwegian Vaffler with Lingonberries on site and selling pre-packaged baked goods and Norwegian knit items and collectibles.

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

Sons of Norway - Polar Star Lodge



“Taste of Norway” Høstfest – Fall Festival Sunday, November 6, 2016

St. Olaf Lutheran Church – 1233 Douglas Ave.

Noon - 3:30 p.m.

Montgomery, IL

**Taste Traditional Norwegian Food
Shop for Scandinavian gifts, and jewelry**

Lefse and Krumkake demonstrations

Norwegian Craft demonstrations

Rosemaling

Kolrosing

Jewelry

Knitting

- **Fox Valley Norwegian Choir Performance at 1:00 p.m.**

New in 2016....Children’s choir performance

**Contact: Polar Star Cultural Director - Barb Johnson
email barbjjohnsonb@aol.com or by phone: 630-553-7389**

NORDIKREATIONS~

*New Scandinavian/Nordic Shop in Northwest Indiana
Located at 1 Courthouse Square – Space #21
(Lower Level of the Old Courthouse)
Crown Point, Indiana
Regular hours: Tues-Sat 10am-5pm*

GRAND OPENING

Saturday - AUGUST 20TH

10am – 5pm

ENTERTAINMENT – PRIZE DRAWINGS

Come take a picture with a “real” VIKING....in battle attire!

Please check us out if you are interested in *Scandinavian* and *Nordic* items.

Below is a list of some of our inventory. If you do not see what you are looking for, and have a specific item you might like to purchase we may be able to order it for you. Call or come in to inquire.

Viking inspired jewelry – Earrings, necklaces,
Sami Bracelets
Swedish hand crafted items
Dala Horses
Ekelund runners and linens
Tiles, magnets, mugs,

and more representing Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland & Iceland

Questions? Call 219-923-9777
or email: Nordikcreations@yahoo.com
Lamsmith@hotmail.com

Välkommen till alla!!!

*Lynda Ann Smith
1502 Azalea Drive
Munster, Indiana 46321
home: 219-923-8777
cell: 219-741-8875*

Editor's note: This is the vender from our Polar Star Høstfest who has her jewelry featured on the TV series, *The Vikings!*

Gratulerer Med Dagen (Happy Birthday) Polar Star!



AUGUST

- 19. Pat Baughman
- 20. Floyd Anderson
- 26. Betsy Olson
- 27. Alexis Countryman
- 31. Burt Severson

SEPTEMBER

- 1. Michael Seidel
- 4. Frances Berg
- 8. Ron Thorson
- 12. Kari Schussler



“The Draken” at Navy Pier Photo courtesy of Frank Krawczak