

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 participating in the "Drive By" Birthday celebration for his mother -in- law, Cleng Peerson member, Phyllis Benson, who turned 99 on May 13th.

Hilsen Polar Star!

Stay home, stay safe, and take care of each other! I hope to see all of you soon!

**Your President
Ken Johnson**

Polar Star Sports Director Jerri Lynn



Reminds us all to keep walking... only 3,000 miles back home

Upcoming Events

All Polar Star scheduled events will only occur if the "sheltering in" order in Illinois is lifted and we can safely meet.

Polar Star will make every effort to contact members by e-mail or phone to update our events calendar.

**How to Be a Viking
July 13, 15, 17**

**Polar Star Indoor Picnic
August 2, 2020**

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Polar Star Newsletter Deadline
Will be the 14th of every month.
Please submit all articles to Barb Johnson at
barbjohnsonb@aol.com
Follow us on facebook @
Sons of Norway – Polar Star Lodge

What is Syttende Mai?



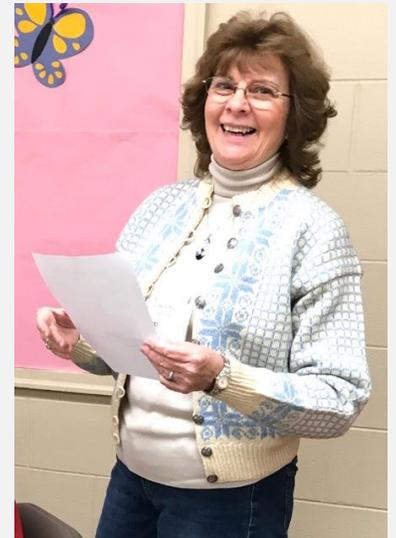
We can not celebrate Syttende mai this year, but we can use the time to learn a bit more about why it is celebrated. Many people think that this special Holiday in Norway celebrates Norwegian independence, but in reality, Norway did not become an independent nation until 1905.

“Norwegian Constitution Day” is the official National Day of Norway, celebrated on the 17th (syttende) of May (mai). Among Norwegians, the day is referred to simply as “Syttende Mai” or Grunnlovsdagen (The Constitution Day).

The Constitution of Norway was signed at Eidsvoll, Norway on May 17, 1814 following the Treaty of Kiel that ended the Napoleonic war but also ceded Norway to the King of Sweden. Norwegians wanted independence so they wrote their own constitution and declared Norway as an independent nation even though it continued to be ruled by Sweden. The Swedes were not happy with any celebration that commemorated the signing of the document. For a few years in the 1820s, King Carl Johan of Sweden even forbade the celebrations. The celebration of this day in Norway began spontaneously as a student led protest in Christiania (Oslo) that would be later called the Battle of the Square in 1829.

It was not until 1836 that anyone ventured to hold a public address on behalf of the day. That year, official celebration was initiated by the monument of the late politician Christian Krogh, known to have stopped the king from gaining too much personal power. In 1905, Norway separated from Sweden peacefully and became a truly independent country. By historical coincidence, World War II ended when the occupying German forces surrendered in Norway on May 8, 1945, just nine days before that year’s Constitution Day. Even if the Liberation Day is an official flag day in Norway, the day is not broadly celebrated. Instead, a new and broader meaning has been added to the celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day on May 17.

POLAR STAR is earning Culture Medals



Carol earned Part 1,2 & 3 Literature



Kenny Part 2 & 3 Literature
Karen Part 1 Knitting

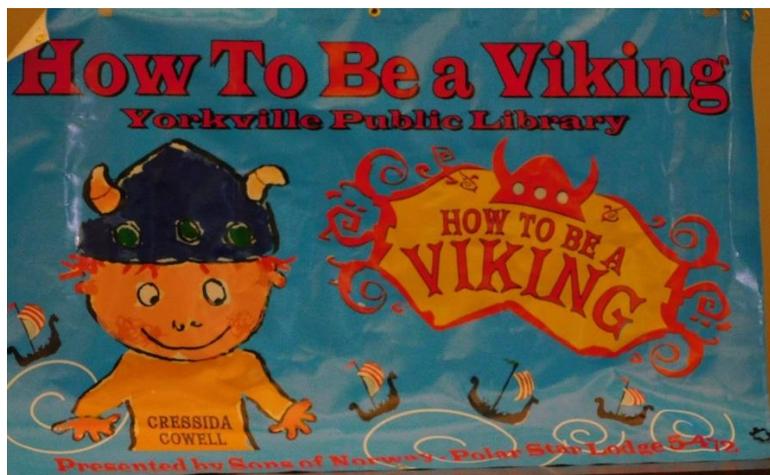


Barb Part 2 & 3 Literature

NORSK MUSEUM will delay opening



The Norsk Museum is waiting for us to return when it is safe. We will keep you updated and hope that we will be able to get back to serving as docents soon.



July 13,15, & 17 from 10:30-12:30

How to Be A Viking VI

Language, Cooking, Games, Music, and Stories

Call Yorkville Public Library to register 630-553-4354

Attend one session or all three

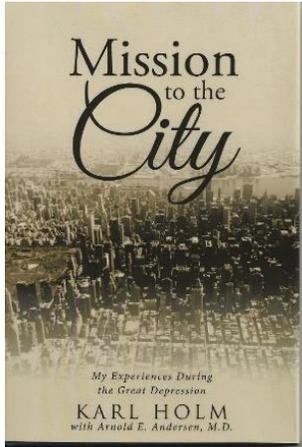
Presentors: Barb Johnson, Polar Star Lodge

Connie Kross, Cleng Peerson Lodge

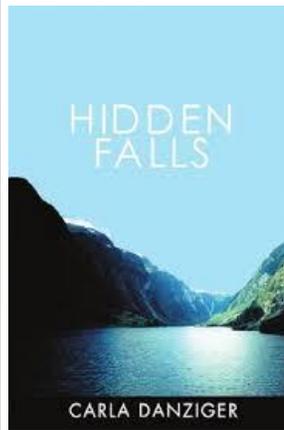
POLAR STAR CULTURE CORNER

by Barb Johnson

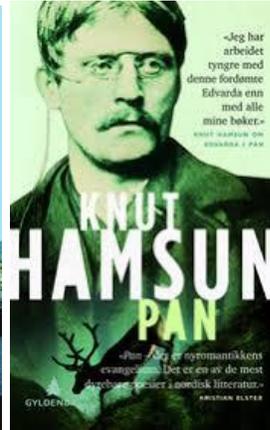
Many of our Lodge members have been “sheltering in” with a book and earning their Literature culture medals. Here are some of the books they have reviewed to earn their medals



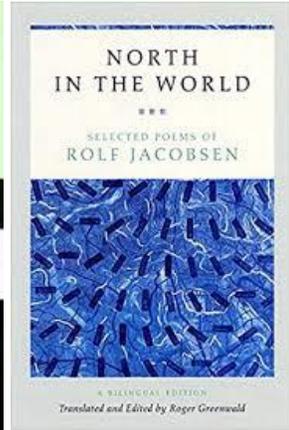
Non Fiction



Fiction



Fiction



Poetry

“Mission to the City” by Karl Holm reviewed by President Ken.

Mission to the City is a journal account of Karl Holm's work in Ørken Sur, a shanty town in Brooklyn New York during the depression. I was not familiar with the situation that existed at this time and the book and Art's presentation were very eye opening to me.

Norwegians were (and are) very proud and hard-working people. Mr. Holm characterized the love and compassion Norwegians have for their fellow kinsman. Their lives were filled with hardship yet they kept pushing forward to achieve a respectable life and living.

I was not aware of the hardships Norwegians endured trying to achieve a better life. Mr. Holm was the only “life line” many of these individuals had. His goal was to give them some peace when they neared the end of their lives.

I liked the book, but came away with a sad feeling. Mr. Holm was a bright light in a world of darkness. I can't express what an extra ordinary person he must have been. Everyone should read this just to be aware of the hardships proud Norwegian immigrants faced during the depression.

“Hidden Fall” by Carol Danziger reviewed by Carol Devito

Kristina visits her cousin Elsa in Norway to recover from a personal breakup. During her visit her cousin is killed. Kristina believes she is murdered because of an article she was working on involving a man she believed was a Nazi and responsible for the death of hundreds of Norwegian Jews.

I liked this book and would recommend it. Being an American, I realized how other countries were also deeply affected by WWII.

“Pan” by Knute Hamsun reviewed by Barb Johnson

This book was one of required reading assignments at Skogfjorden Norwegian Language Camp. The main character of this book, “The Lieutenant”, was a very troubled man who was “clueless” about women. He rejected true love and makes poor choices as he chases social status.

Knut Hamsun explores the conflict of agricultural vs industrial Norway and also the disparity between the social classes. The author’s upbringing obviously led to some serious unresolved issues that were apparent throughout the life and loves of the Lieutenant.

Knut Hamsun was a Norwegian hero heralded for his brilliance before WWII. His Nazi party affiliation led to a treason conviction and this added to my interest in this book and this author.

I can’t say that I loved this book, but I did love the Skogfjorden discussion that we had about the author and the themes of the book. I was especially interested in how the author’s life and choices affected past and present Norwegians especially after WWII.

I also plan to read the children’s book written by Knut Hamsun’s wife, Marie and “Enigma, The Life of Knut Hamsun by Robert Ferguson.

“North in the World” Selected Poems of Rolf Jacobsen reviewed by Barb Johnson

Rolf Jacobsen is a Norwegian poet, whose poems are often read in Norwegian at Skogfjorden Language camp by our camp director, Kari, and in English by her brother, Steve, who is a published poet. Since Skogfjorden spring camp was cancelled this year because of the corona virus one of our campers decided to recreate “dagens ord” to give us a taste of camp while we were sheltering in. Every other day in April at 10:00 a.m. Ole would read a poem by Rolf Jacobsen. This inspired me to order “North in the World” – a collection of bilingual poems. This was perfect. Short poems that were easy to read in Norwegian and the English translation to check my work. This book is a collection of poems from all twelve of Jacobsen’s books. Nature is always present in his poems and the Introduction by Roger Greenwald was fascinating. I highly recommend that you all read a Rolf Jacobsen book if you are working on Part 1 or Part 2 of your literature medal.

Ingers Språkkriggere

Ingers “Language Warriors” are still studying Norwegian. Inger calls us every week with assignments and we continue to use our on-line apps to expand our vocabulary and pronunciation. We have still not solved the “Mystery of Nils” but we keep trying!



Lessons will continue as soon as the Hinckley Library re-opens
Join the fun!

POLAR STAR – What have you been doing during the “Stay-At-Home Order”

Submitted by Carol Devito

“Carol, what have you been doing during the “STAY-AT-HOME?”

So glad you asked. Lately I have been making masks. I just hit the “100” mark. To date, I have donated 60 to two different neighborhood nursing homes. Lexington Health Care in Lombard, where a friend of mine, had an apartment. When she eventually became bedridden, she was transferred to the health care facility. She was there for years. I visited her three to four times a month and shopped for her to bring her the essentials she needed (mainly snacks). I have a neighbor who is a therapist and works at the Oakbrook Care in Oakbrook Terrace. I also donated masks to her for her facility. The other masks I have given to friends and family. I don’t know if any of you are aware of the fact that there is an elastic shortage. When I started making masks I did not have elastic, so I made ties to tie the masks on. What a time consuming and material wasting practice. JoAnn Fabrics and Michael’s of course, are out of elastic. On the internet I belong to “Nextdoor Westmore”. So I got on the computer and entered my plea for elastic. Two women responded. One woman dropped off yards and yards of elastic. She had ordered it on line and received a huge spool so she shared with me. I used that elastic up and I called the other woman who had elastic that she had accumulated over the years. So I picked that up. In the meantime I ran out of material. My daughter in Algonquin sent me the material she had left over from projects. Again, I ran out of material and elastic. A friend through my Rosmaling group brought me more supplies; material and elastic. So I am back in business. Whew!!

This is also a plea for elastic!!!! In case I run out again.



You ask, “Carol, what else are you doing?”

Well, on Fridays Frank and I go grocery shopping and pick up a “to-go” lunch on the way home. We also shop for our church’s St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and drop a box off at the designated drop off station (a member’s home where a tent is set up). Wally is a gardener and has many little pots of plants (labeled) from his garden under the tent. So you can drop your food donations off and pick up a plant. What a great idea! I have

even made extra trips during the week to drop off food and pick up a plant. Obviously I have lost plants in my garden over the winter. Wally's plants are different from mine so it is fun to see what I can pick up. My daughter from Algonquin was so excited about the plants (she is starting a butterfly garden this year) that she had me request certain plants from Wally and she donated cash to the Pantry. Also, a friend of mine picked up some masks from me and brought a donation for the Food Pantry. I guess I talk a lot about the Food Pantry.

Polar Star “Sheltering In” Recipe

We all know Vi Skogen is a wonderful baker and she has been baking all sorts of wonderful things while “sheltering in”.



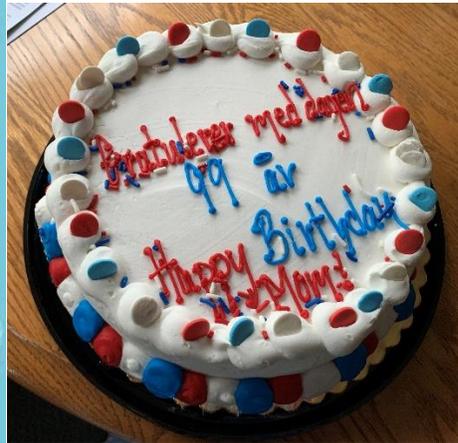
Here is her KRINGLA recipe. Enjoy!

½ cup butter	2 t. baking soda
1½ cup sugar	3 t. baking powder
1 egg	1 t. vanilla
1 pint sour cream	4 cups flour

Mix butter, sugar and egg. Beat well. Add part of sour cream, leaving a small amount to mix with baking soda. Add vanilla, flour, baking powder and soda. Mix well. Let chill about one hour. Roll out 1 heaping teaspoon into a pencil shape. Shape into a figure 8. Bake at 400 degrees for 8 minutes.

Gratulerer med dagen (Happy Birthday)

Polar Star Members!



Mai 16-31

- 12. Reagn Gryder
- 19. Thor Fjell
- 20. Blake Chaussey
- 30. Ellen Jensen

June 1-15

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

POLAR STAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 13-15-17 - "HOW TO BE A VIKING" CHILDRENS WORKSHOPS

AUGUST 4 : Polar Star Indoor Picnic

SEPTEMBER 8 - VASA PARK Scandinavian Fest cancelled for 2020

OCTOBER 6 - PROGRAM TBA

NOVEMBER 1 - Høstfest begins at 11:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 6 - JULETFEST



TUBFRIM
NO-3540 NESBYEN - NORGE



Save your stamps!