

# 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 and VP Frank prepare for "The Scandinavian Festival" at Vasa Park in September

### Hilsen Polar Star Lodge!

Start baking Polar Star!!!! We have just received notification that The Scandinavian Days Festival will be held at Vasa Park in South Elgin on Sunday, September 12, 2021. We are excited to return and look forward to meeting all of our Scandinavian friends to celebrate our shared heritage! Our Norsk Bakeri and Loppemarked is a fan favorite and Frank and we look forward to returning!

Your President  
Ken Johnson



The Norsk Museum is Open!!!  
See page 6

Send Newsletter articles and pictures for publication to the Polar Star Newsletter Editor at [barbijohnsonb@aol.com](mailto:barbijohnsonb@aol.com)

### Upcoming Events

**Polar Star Viking Games and Picnic**  
**August 1**

1:30

**St Olav Lutheran church**  
**See page 2**

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**Polar Star Newsletter Deadline**  
**Will be the 14<sup>th</sup> of every month.**  
Please submit all articles to Barb Johnson at [barbijohnsonb@aol.com](mailto:barbijohnsonb@aol.com)  
Follow us on facebook @  
Sons of Norway – Polar Star Lodge

# The Polar Star “Viking Games” 2021

August 1, 2021

1:30 p.m. – St Olaf Lutheran Church, Montgomery, IL.

In honor of the 2021 Olympic Games being held in Tokyo July 23 through August 8, Polar Star will be hosting “The Polar Star Viking Games 2021” when we meet together on August 1st. Dress appropriately, gather together your family teams (3-6 members) and be prepared to participate in a variety of “Viking challenges”.

Our Polar Star Potluck will be outdoors and hotdogs will be served. Please bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs/tables/blankets.



## Membership News

### Docents needed at the Norsk Museum



Norsk Museum Board Members Steve Tanda and Dave Johnson hold up the sign up sheet for Museum docents. If you are able to work at the museum on Saturday or Sunday through September please contact Steve at [stephantanda@yahoo.com](mailto:stephantanda@yahoo.com).



Polar Star's Språkkrigere “lærer”, Inger Langsholt displays her «Julehus» Norwegian imports at the Norsk Museum opening on June 6th.

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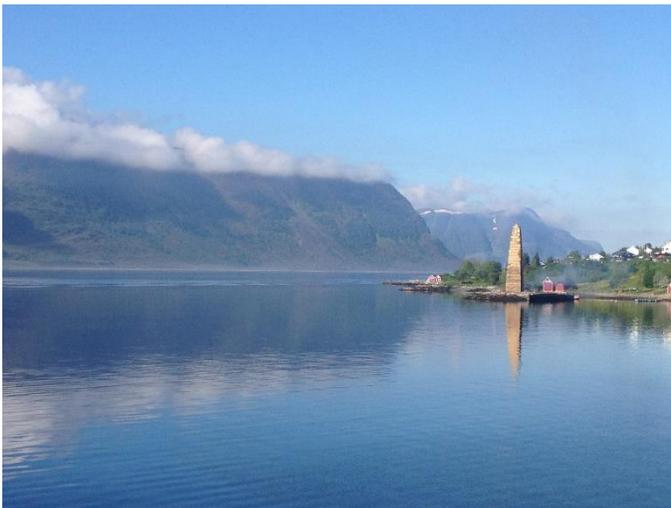
## Norwegian Midsummer

### June 23<sup>rd</sup>

On Midsummer Day, Norwegians remember the birth of John the Baptist and they celebrate the summer solstice.

Midsummer's Eve is often referred to as "jonsok", which originates from Norse and means, "vigil for Jon". In earlier times, people believed that "witches" and other supernatural spirits were strong on Midsummer Eve since the sun turns on that day. People would gather herbs and make a bonfire to keep the witches away.

Modern Norwegians celebrate Midsummer with friends and family with a barbecue followed by playing games and relaxing much like Americans do on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. After eating and fun for hours, everyone goes together to watch the lighting of the bonfires.

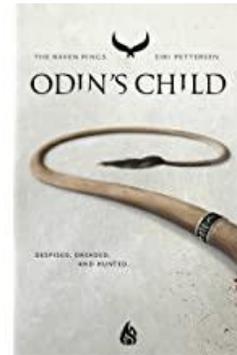
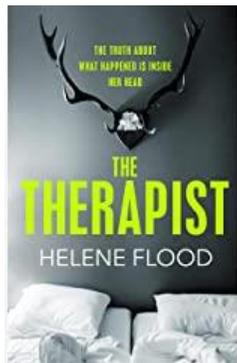
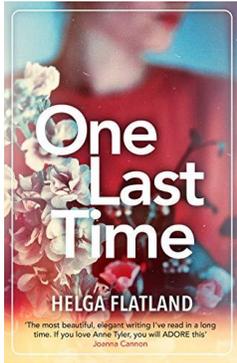


Editor's note: left - Ålesund Norway bonfire tower taken on 6/20/15 from the MS Kong Harald

# Polar Star Culture Corner

by Barb Johnson

## New English releases of Norwegian Books for Summer reading.



### **“One Last time”** by Helga Flatland.

**Editor’s Note:** Helga Flatland made her literary debut in 2010 with the novel *“Stay If You Must”*, for which she was awarded the Tarjei Vesaas’ First Book Prize. She has written four novels and a children’s book and won several other literary awards. *One Last Time* was released in April 2021.

**Amazon overview:** “Anne’s diagnosis of terminal cancer shines a spotlight onto fractured relationships with her daughter and granddaughter, with surprising, heartwarming results. Anne’s life is rushing to an unexpected and untimely end. But her diagnosis of terminal cancer isn’t just a shock for her - and for her daughter Sigrid and granddaughter Mia - it shines a spotlight onto their fractured and uncomfortable relationships. On a spur-of-the moment trip to France the three generations of women reveal harbored secrets, long-held frustrations and suppressed desires, and learn humbling and heart-warming lessons about how life should be lived when death is so close.

With all of Helga Flatland’s trademark humor, razor-sharp wit and deep empathy, *One Last Time* examines the great dramas that can be found in ordinary lives, asks the questions that matter to us all; and ultimately celebrates the resilience of the human spirit, in an exquisite, enchantingly beautiful novel that us to treasure and rethink ... everything.

### **Norwegian Crime**

#### **“The Therapist”** by Helene Flood

**Editor’s Note:** Helene Flood is a psychologist who obtained her doctoral degree on violence, revictimization and trauma-related shame and guilt in 2016. She now works as a psychologist and researcher at the National Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress. She lives in Oslo with her husband and two children. *The Therapist* is her first adult novel and was released in English on Ma6 6, 2021. It has been sold in 27 counties and film rights have been bought by Anonymous Content. Her second novel, *The Lover*, will be published in English in 2022.

**Amazon Review:** From the mind of a psychologist comes a taut and chilling domestic thriller with a double twist that will leave you reeling.

“At first it’s the lie that hurts. A voicemail from her husband tells Sara he’s arrived at the holiday cabin. Then a call from his friend confirms he never did. She tries to carry on as normal, teasing out her clients’ deepest fears, but as the hours stretch out, her own begin to surface. And when the police finally take an interest, they want to know why Sara deleted that voicemail. To get to the root of Sigurd’s disappearance, Sara must question everything she knows about her relationship. Could the truth about what happened be inside her head?”

## ***Everything is Mine by Ruth Lillegraven***

**Editor's Note:** Ruth Lillegraven was born in 1978 in Hardanger, Norway, where she grew up on a small farm. She debuted as an author with a poetry collection in 2005. Since then, she has written sixteen books, including children's books, several poetry collections, a novel, and two plays. Her work has been translated into Dutch, English, French, German, and Spanish. Among other prizes, she has won both the Brage Prize and the Nynorsk Literature Prize (for the poetry collections *Urd* and *Sickle*). Her first crime novel is the prize-winning ***Everything Is Mine***, was released in English on March 22, 2021 and has become an international bestseller

## **Norwegian Fantasy**

### ***“The Raven Rings”*** by Siri Pettersen

Siri Pettersen, lovingly labeled «Norway's Fantasy Queen» by the press, was born under the northern lights, with a severely overactive imagination. It survived countless attempts at numbing from the regular world, rendering her an expert escapist in a wide range of media, such as web, comics and illustration. In October 2013, she launched «Odin's Child», the first book in «***The Raven Rings***» trilogy, changing the Norwegian fantasy landscape forever. The series became a bestselling phenomenon, harvesting numerous awards, nominations and critical acclaim. The series is inspired by Nordic culture, climate, and mythology, exploring subjects like xenophobia, faith and class division. Readers have embraced «***The Raven Rings***» with a fierce passion. They are an expanding crowd of fantasy lovers from around the world, creating artwork, craft, cosplay and tattoos from her books. Die-hard fans have a remarkable age span, the true mark of crossover literature. Siri has worked as a designer for many years, but since her sensational debut, she's been writing full time, devoted to her fantastical worlds

**Editor's Note:** Just a reminder that reading three books by Norwegian authors or Norwegian American authors will earn you a Literature Part I Culture Medal. It's easy...Read the books, complete a Reader Review form for each book, and write a review for one of the books and you're good to go!



***This beautiful pin can be yours for reading!!!!***

# **OPENING DAY AT THE NORSK MUSEUM**

Submitted by Carol and Frank



Sunday, June 6, 2021 Polar Star met at the Norsk Museum in Norway, Illinois. In attendance were Frank and Carol, Roald, Steve, Art and Nancy, Carol and Rich, Kelly, Jerri Lynn and Floyd. We gathered on the lawn near the Viking Ship at 1:30. We set up our chairs and small tables. It was a beautiful day to spend outside. Fortunately overcast with a breeze. Frank led us in prayer and then we enjoyed our picnic lunches from home and conversation. Nancy brought her famous waffles and jams to share at the museum with museum attendees. Kelly brought rhubarb cake for our desert. Then we spent time catching up with each other.

We then visited the Norsk Museum. The addition of the alter, pulpit and baptismal font completes the church. The alter painting was done by a renowned Norwegian painter. Lynn Maxson was demonstrating and selling her rosemaling; Linda Floyd was demonstrating and selling her hardanger; Inger Langsholt was also there with all of her Norwegian treasures for sale.

Many of us also went shopping at the Norway Store. Such a landmark! Of course we had to buy some potato sausage.

## Gratulerer Med Dagen (Happy Birthday)



## Polar Star Members!

15-30 JUNI

21. Jim VanWinkle  
21. Delilah Vacik  
23. Roald Berg  
23. Sherry Jensen

25. Jeanne Leifheit  
26. Richard Hatteberg  
29. Harold Broten  
30. Sasha Betker



Editor's note: My mom, Phyllis Benson, received a Birthday Card from King Harald V of Norway  
*"Mine hjerteligste gratulasjoner i anledning av dere 100-års fødselsdag"*

## Polar Star Midsummer Culture Quiz 2021

**Editor's Note:** Last summer during the Pandemic, we introduced the first (and soon to be annual) Midsummer Norwegian Culture Quiz to support and encourage our members to learn "litt norsk". The Polar Star "Språkkrigere" have completed *The Mystery of Nils Part I* and will start *The Mystery of Nils Part II* in September. The 2021 Midsummer Quiz will include questions about Norwegian history, current events, language and food. Just complete the quiz, mail it to Barb Johnson at 501 West Ridge, Yorkville 60560. All entries must be postmarked by June 30<sup>th</sup> or brought to the August 1<sup>st</sup> Viking Games Polar Star Event.

1. What is the English translation of "litt norsk"?
2. Midsummer in Norway is held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate whose birthday?
3. «Jeg vil gjerne ha?» What does this phrase mean?
4. "Hva heter du?" What does this phrase mean?
5. Hot dogs and ice cream are favorite foods at a Norwegian Midsummer picnic. How would you say "hot dogs and "ice cream" på Norsk.
6. Midsummer Eve is often called "jonsok". What does this mean?
7. Midsummer falls in the month of June. What is the Norwegian word for June?
8. Norway is known as the Land of the Midnight sun. How do you say "land of the Midnight sun" på norsk?
9. What is the Norwegian name for the Summer Solstice?
10. Who is the current Foreign Minister of Norway?
11. Raspberries, cloudberries and Strawberries are favorite summer fruits in Norway. What are the Norwegian words for:  
a) raspberry   b) cloudberry   c) strawberry   d) fruit
12. Which Polar Star members will celebrate their birthday on "Jonsok" this year?
13. What is the Norwegian word for "novel"?
14. How many Polar Star Culture Medals were earned during the Pandemic?
15. Name the three Polar Star members who successfully completed the first Midsummer Culture Quiz (2020)?
16. How do you say "Happy Midsummer" in Norwegian?
17. What is the Norwegian word for "Cloudberry"?
18. "Atlantic Crossing" is the name of a television series about the Crown Princess of Norway. What is her name? Who did she marry? What is the name of her great granddaughter who will be the first Queen of Norway?
19. What is the English translation of King Harald's birthday card to Phyllis Benson. Which Lodge does Phyllis belong to?
20. Hvor skal du resier i sommer?



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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THE DATE!!!**  
**VASA PARK SCANDINAVIAN FESTIVAL**  
**Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**



## **POLAR STAR 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**2021 PROGRAMS 1:30 p.m. (unless listed)”**

**No scheduled July Events**

**AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> – Polar Star “Viking Games”**

**OCTOBER - Program TBA**

**NOVEMBER 1st - Høstfest**

**December 5<sup>th</sup> - Juletefest**

