

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

President's Message



President Ken competing in Polar Star Lodge Team Toss

Polar Star has a full fall Schedule and we need all hands on deck! Please send in your registration to participate in "Celebrating Norwegian Immigration". Take a look at the complete schedule and let Karen Oswald know how you will help make the weekend successful. If you are a baker we need your skills at Scandinavian Day at Vasa Park for our Polar Star Bakeri and again for Coffee breaks and the Sloop luncheon for the Heritage Weekend. Please let Nancy Andersen know what you will be bringing to both events. Thanks in advance for your time and commitment to our Lodge activities this fall. Looking forward to seeing all of you!

Your President

Ken



Coming Soon....Norwegian Bakeri at
Scandinavian Days at Vasa Park and at the
Heritage Weekend In Norway, IL.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Scandinavian Days

at

Vasa Park

Sunday September 7th

see details on Page 2

District 5

Heritage Weekend

October 3-5, 2025

Norway Community

Building

Norway, Illinois

details on page 3

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

Vasa Park Scandinavian Festival

Sunday, September 7, 2025
10:00 – 5:30



The Polar Star “Norsk Bakeri and Loppemarked” will showcase our Norwegian heritage at the 45th annual festival of Scandinavian heritage at Vasa Park in South Elgin on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Our booth will feature our homemade traditional baked goods and our “on site “Norwegian Vafler. President Ken has also collected a wide variety of Norwegian “flea market” items that will be sold. Set up will begin at 8:00 a.m and we will work our booth until our baked goods are sold or the last act has performed on the main stage. Please contact Nancy to let her know what baked goods you will be bringing or if you are willing to work in the booth. Call Barb or Kenny if you need to have your baked goods picked up. Bring a lawn chair and plan to enjoy a beautiful day immersed in Scandinavian culture.

This event is our main fund raising event for the year and replaces our September Lodge Meeting. We will not be meeting at St. Olaf on Sept. 1st.

Polar Star members walk the

POLAR STAR PIONEER PIKNIC 2025

Welcome to Polar Star Paul !





POLAR STAR
OCTOBER LODGE EVENT
will be held at the
Slooper Society
Annual Meeting
Norway Community Building
October 5, 2025 at Noon.

Polar Star Lodge will hold our October Lodge Meeting at the Norway Community Building on October 5th, 2025 to Celebrate the 200th anniversary of Norwegian Immigration to the Fox Valley area of Illinois . This year, the annual gathering of the descendants of the “Restauration”, who call themselves “Sloopers” will culminate a weekend of District 5 Heritage activities at the Norway Community Building. The weekend is sponsored by Polar Star Lodge, Cleng Peerson Lodge, The Slooper Society of American, the Norsk Museum and the village of Norway, Illinois. This event gives our lodge and the Norwegian community an opportunity to meet with other groups who are connected to the ship that brought the first permanent Norwegian settlers to the Illinois prairie. There will be a catered lunch for \$20.00 that must be prepaid. Please RSVP using the attached Heritage Weekend registration form by September 1st. (A full schedule of events can be found on the Polar Star Website.

Please plan to bring Norwegian baked goods to share with the Heritage Weekend visitors.



See you at the Polar Star Lodge Bakeri on September 7th!

at Vasa Park in South Elgin

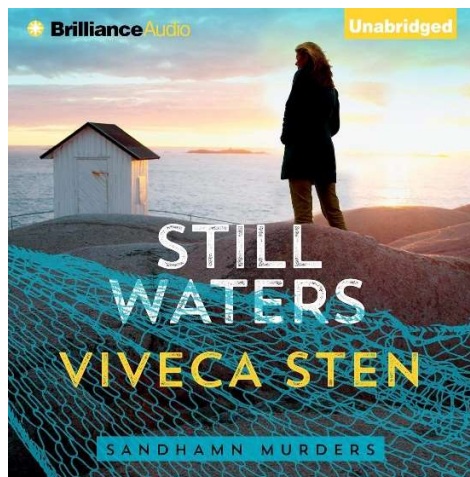
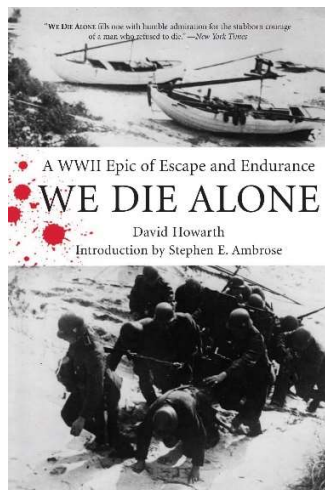
Set up begins at 8:00 a.m.

POLAR STAR CULTURAL CORNER

by
Barb Johnson

Sons of Norway Book Club

September Book Selections



Main Read: “We Did Alone” by David Howarth

Mystery Read: “Still” (Sandhamn Murders Book 1 by Viveca Sten

To join the Sons of Norway Book Club, please send an email to: Bill Browning
SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com

Polar Star Sports and Activities

by Jerri Lynn Baker



Just a reminder Polar Star Virtual Walkers...."Celebration Migration"

WE HAVE ALMOST THERE!!!

On August 4th, 2024 the Polar Star Virtual Walkers began the 836 mile trip from New York to Norway, Illinois. "Celebration Migration" has been our theme.

October 9th, 2025 marks the 200th anniversary of the "Sloopers" arriving in America but we will celebrate the end of our walk on Saturday morning October 4th as we complete our "Sluppen Around Norway" Fun Walk..

Congratulations to Diana Raimond who has already arrived and will be waiting for us at the starting line of the Fun Walk!!

GRATULERER MED DAGEN POLAR STAR



16 - 31 AUGUST

20 August - Floyd Anderson
23 August - Penny Ray
30 August - Cynthia Ann Olson

1-14 SEPTEMBER

2 September - Frances Berg
4 September - Gardis Dale

POLAR STAR CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events held at St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Montgomery, IL at 1:30 unless otherwise listed

SEPTEMBER 7 - VASA PARK 9:00

Scandinavian Festival

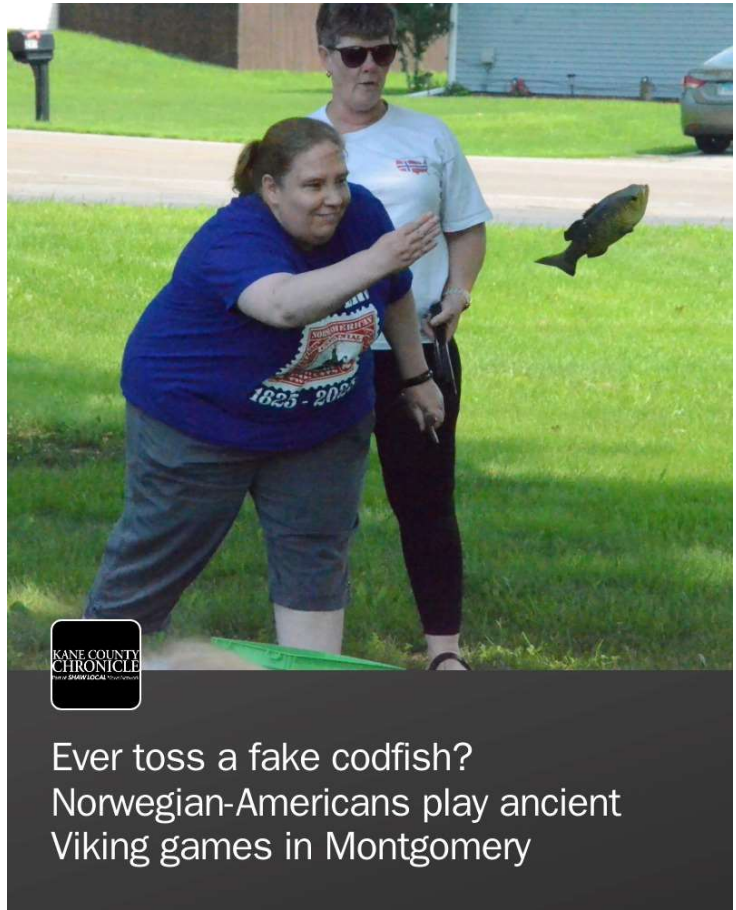
**OCTOBER 3-5 – Celebration Norwegian Immigration Heritage Weekend
Norway, Illinois**

**October 5 -Slooper Society of America Annual Meeting
Noon Lunch and Program at Norway Community Buidling**

NOVEMBER 2 - Høstfest begins at 11:30 a.m.

DECEMBER 1 - JULETREFEST

Polar Star Pioneer Piknik and Games 2025



Ever toss a fake codfish?
Norwegian-Americans play ancient
Viking games in Montgomery

Polar Star Lodge “Throws in” for the District 5 Lodge Competition 2025



TORSK TOSS



BATTLE AX THROWING



THROWING STARS



FJORD HORSE HEAD THROW



KUBB THROW



2025 PIONEER PIKNIC “TEAM TOSS” GOLD MEDAL WINNING TEAM





SILVER MEDAL TEAM

Congratulations to all!!

Sons of Norway
Polar Star Lodge 5-472
Regular Meeting, August 3, 2025

St. Olaf Lutheran Church
1233 Douglas Avenue
Montgomery, IL 60538

President Johnson called the meeting to order following a 1:30 p.m. Pioneer Polse Piknik luncheon.

President Announcements:

- Ken opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, and welcomed everyone.
- Paul Thomason was introduced. He recently visited Norway, and has just joined our Polar Star Lodge.
- There were no objections to the April meeting minutes.

Treasurer Report: Carol read a summary of the monthly Treasurer's report (copy attached). Current checking account balance is \$13,490.36, and our total assets \$28,102.47. Motion to approve the report was made, seconded, and passed.

Sports Director Report:

- Jerri Lynn reported that 53 people have signed up for the October 4th Sloopster Fun Walk.
- She talked about our August 4, 2024 to Oct 5, 2025 immigration virtual walk from New York City to Norway, IL, and reminded everyone to keep walking.
- Diana Raimond completed the 836 mile walk. She was awarded a pin for being the first finisher, and was given a very nice, soft blanket. Diana agreed that all of her mileage for the remaining months of our virtual walk will go to Floyd Anderson, who has been in and out of Edward Hospital and Marianjoy Rehabilitation Center over these last months.
- Everyone agreed that each walkers' surplus miles will go to Floyd.

Social Director Report:

- We need to begin baking for our 4 big upcoming events:
 - Oct 3-4-5 - Cultural Weekend Event
 - September 7 - Vasa Park
 - November 2 - Hostfest
 - December 7 - Christmas Julefest
- Nancy stressed that our October Cultural Weekend Event is a very important historical event, celebrating the 200th anniversary of the very first *organized* Norwegian immigration: the 1825 immigration of the "Sloopsters".
- For the Oct 3-4-5 - Cultural Weekend, we need to bake goods that won't spoil (for example, cookies and bars). Nancy plans to make simple cakes (without whipped cream, etc.)
- The Norwegian American newspaper had 18 photos; 4 of those photos were from us. They also published Dave Johnson's Oslo Syttende Mai Parade picture.

Cultural Director Report:

- So far, 81 people have signed up for our Cultural Heritage Weekend event.

- Barb announced that while she and Ken were in Stavanger, Norway in July, President Ken actually stood on the deck of the Restauration sloop replica, standing by haddock drying on a traditional rack. She also said that Jeanne and Craig Leifheit will be in New York City to see the Restauration arrive.
- Wow – between seeing the Restauration launched in Stavanger Norway, seeing it arrive in New York after its long voyage across the Atlantic Ocean, and planning and hosting our October Cultural Heritage Weekend celebration, our Polar Star lodge is well represented in this important historical event celebration!

Meeting Adjournment: After adjournment, we all went outside. To participate in the 2025 District 5 Lodge Throwing Competition. Barb Johnson developed a throwing game called “Pioneer Picnic Team Tossing”. There were three teams, 5 people per team, and five different things to toss: rubber “cod” fish, Kubb batons, axes, stars, and fjord horse heads. Two rounds were played, and the team with the most points earned gold medals. Fun was had by all. The weather was terrific!

Next Meeting/Event: Sunday, September 7, the annual Vasa Park Scandinavian Festival

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Oswald, Secretary
 Diana Raimond, Assistant Secretary

Sons of Norway - Polar Star Lodge 5-472



“Taste of Norway”
Høstfest – Fall Festival
Sunday, November 2, 2025

St. Olaf Lutheran Church – 1233 Douglas Ave.

Noon - 3:30 p.m.

Montgomery, IL

Taste Traditional Norwegian Food

Shop for Scandinavian gifts

Lefse and Krumkake demonstrations

Norwegian Craft demonstrations

Contact: Polar Star Cultural Director - Barb Johnson
email barbjjohnsonb@aol.com or by phone: 630-632-2329

Activity Volunteer Hours Tracking Sheet - Polar Star Lodge 6-472

Member Name _____ Phone _____ Service Year _____

This data is used for mandatory reporting that maintains Sons of Norway tax-exempt status, and for National Sons of Norway to lobby on behalf of Fraternal benefit societies. Annually, by end of January, submit your completed form to the Polar Star Secretary. Tusen takk.

- **Membership Activities** – Volunteer time spent on preparing, running or supporting projects/programs organized by Sons of Norway at a lodge, district or international level that were devoted to lodge business affairs, recreational/social events, training seminars, cultural classes, officer duties, etc. **Include only volunteer time** spent organizing, planning or working before/at/after the events. Do **not** include lodge meeting attendance time.

Member Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Lodge Meeting/Food (prepare food for pot luck; set/clean up; kitchen duty)													
Lodge Meeting Programs/Activities (plan/prepare/lead)													
Training/Seminars (plan/prepare/lead)													
Officer Duties													
Manage Newsletter/ Facebook/Website													
Board/Committee Meetings													
District or National Meetings/Training													
Other (describe)													
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP HOURS:													

- **Community Activities** – Record time that you volunteered in the name of / on behalf of Polar Star lodge, another Sons of Norway lodge, or SON district or international level at events focusing on community involvement/interest. **Include only your volunteer time** working at, planning for, or traveling to/from the event. Do **not** include time just attending.

Community Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Høstfest (prep/food/work)													
Fox Valley Norwegian Choir													
Vasa Park (prep/food/work)													
Norsk Museum (docent/manage/maintain)													
Norsk Museum Fundraisers breakfast/smorgasbord/etc. (prep/food/work)													
Sloopers													
Syttende Mai Parade/Banquet (prep/food/work)													
Norwegian National League (plan/prepare/lead)													
Viking Ship (docent/manage/maintain)													
MSI Christmas Tree													
Barnebirke/Norge Ski													
SOFN Book Club													
Tubfrim													
Schools/Libraries													
Support Other Lodge													
Other (describe)													
TOTAL COMMUNITY HOURS:													

Revised 2024

