

WINTER 2007

# Sons Of Norway Polar Star Lodge 5-472 Aurora, Illinois



[HTTPS://HOME.COMCAST.NET/~POLARSTAR5-472](https://home.comcast.net/~polarstar5-472)

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## Fra Presidenten!

Don Danielson

2006 has been a good year for Polar Star Lodge. A sincere thank you to our members that worked so hard to make it so.

The Torsk Dinner in April was the 43rd annual one. Our Høstfest: "A Taste of Norway" in November was our 3rd annual one. A very fine Polar Star website was created by webmaster Michael Lund. Lodge vests were purchased to help identify Polar Star members. Our membership increased significantly in September, November and December.

Harold Michalsen won a blue ribbon for his painting of a Norway Scene in the Folk Art Competition at our District 5 Convention. Ralph Ervin celebrated his 90th birthday with about 300

well wishers present. Myrtle Thompson also



celebrated her 90th birthday with many well wishers at her church in Plano. Al and Phoebe Bergh celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Aurora.

Don and Charlotte Danielson also celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in January

To quote our secretary, Harriet Eklund, in her Recap of 2006: "Ja, it was a good year".

Now we look forward

to 2007 with the goal of making it even a better year. It began with a great January meeting. First was the good pot luck and a belated Birthday Party of our own celebrating our 45th birthday. Then we were treated to a delightful presentation about the fact and fiction of our Viking forefathers by Vera-Elisabet Littlejohn. Our first annual POLAR STAR FAMILY OF THE YEAR award was presented to the Jim Van Winkle family.

Finally we initiated all our new members. It was truly a "fun-filled" meeting. A sincere invitation is extended to all members of Polar Star Lodge to become more involved in 2007.

Don Danielson

# From the Secretary

Harriet Eklund

First, thank you to Michael Lund, who has created our new web site, and will have our new newsletter on line.

I would like to help him with items on current events.

Of course the next meeting will be "Our Penny Social". Now for new members who have never heard of a Penny Social. How do I explain that? It was invented by one of our Norwegian Polar Star Founding Fathers. Bring items of interest to our February 4, 2007 meeting that you wish to contribute to the Penny Social. We will tell you what to do when you get to the meeting. Then just sit back and see what great items

you can win for a ten cent ticket. I guarantee you, you will have a fun meeting.

I would like at this time to remind everyone to bring me their volunteer sheets, I really have to have them no later than the February meeting, so that I can get with the other officers, fill out the forms and send to the Zone Director before March 1, 2007.

Then a reminder to bring cookies for the Barnebirke, with a count marked on the packages, Gene and Tordis will pick them up and take to the Barnebirke.

Then so we can have a newsy newsletter, we need your input, tell me about your kids away at college, tell me if you have an anniversary, tell me if you are making a trip to Norway or other points. Or any news

that we would like to hear about.

My phone number is 1-630-690-8699, my address: 1732 Harrow Ct. Wheaton, IL. 60187 E-Mail: [heklund@isp.com](mailto:heklund@isp.com).

I will in turn forward it to Michael.

As for myself now, I will be at the Penny Social, then onto the Barnebirke, and from there to the frozen North Shore of Lake Superior, where my three nephews have just built the most modern Ice Fishing House available, and now need help in digging a basement.

Harriet Eklund

*Dear Polar Star Members:*

WOW !Thank you for your generous donation to the Sons of Norway Foundation.

Financial Support from our lodges and members has allowed us to award over \$100,000.00 in scholarships and grants in 2006.

We couldn't do it without you.

Cindy Olson  
Dir. Sons of Norway



The old Fire Station in Drammen

# Gratulerer med dagen!

## January

- 1 Eleanor B Bates
- 6 Brittany M. Chaussey
- 8 Ashley L Farinelli
- 8 Ralph B Kristensen
- 18 Mrs Edward(Nell)Evans
- 22 Dorothy M Beallis
- 24 Wayne H O'Brien
- 27 Ralph Erwin
- 27 Wayne D Funk
- 29 Elsie H Sorensen

## February

- 4 Alvin J Bergh
- 9 Robert N Ronning
- 11 Mae Frankenhauser
- 15 Orrin Stewart Thompson
- 16 Jeremy Olson
- 17 Karen S Anderson
- 20 Philip S Nelson
- 20 Larry V Rogers
- 27 Bruno Bartoszek
- 27 Richard J Larson

## March

- 1 Sara K. Meek
- 3 Louise Judd
- 4 Linda M Brorson
- 4 Betty Landorf
- 9 Shirley C Herberts
- 13 Margaret W Knutson
- 18 Stacy S. Shepardson
- 19 Thomas W Skogen
- 21 Jon D Brorson
- 25 Stephan B Solberg
- 28 Roger D Light
- 30 Matthew C. Chaussey

### Member Note:

For our meetings each member or member family brings a dish to pass.

Can be casseroles, salads, desserts or other goodies.

## Upcoming Events:

### Polar Star Lodge Events:

**February 4:** Program: Penny Social

**March 4:** Program: TBD

**April 1:** Tentative Program: Rosemaling: Presentation and Displays by Margaret Knutson and Margaret Wix

**April 28:** Torsk dinner at the Beecher Building in Yorkville

### Other Events:

**February 22:** Barnebirkie Children's Ski Race--Hayward Wisconsin  
 Call 715-634-5025, email [birkie@birkie.com](mailto:birkie@birkie.com) or write to us at  
 PO Box 911, Hayward, WI, 54843. We're eager to hear from you!

## Foundation report:

Al Bergh, Director

Thank you for your generous support of our Coin Bank and Donation for the Sons of Norway Foundation. Our gifts totalled \$482.00 which was a sizeable increase from previous years.



The Theater in Drammen, where you would go to see play not a movie.

POLAR STAR  
FAMILY OF THE  
YEAR:

The  
Jim Van Winkle  
family.

## Ole & Lena...

One night, a torrential rain soaked northwestern Minnesota. The next morning the resulting floodwaters came up about 6 feet into most of the homes there.

Mrs. Johnson was sitting on her roof with her neighbor, Lena, waiting for help to come. Mrs. Johnson

noticed a baseball cap, floating near the house.

Then she saw it float far out into the front yard, then float back to the house; it kept floating away from the house, then back towards the house.

Her curiosity got the

best of her, so she asked Lena, "Do you see dat der baseball cap a floatin' away from da house, den back again?"

Lena said, "Oh yeah, dats my husband Ole; I tole dat lazy-such and such he vas gonna cut da grass today, come hell or high water!!!!"

## Did you know...

The Normennenes Singing Society Chorus will be performing at Minnekirke Sunday, Jan 28, 2007 at the 11 am service (English service).

The Chorus will also be singing at the

KUMLA DINNER at Minnekirke on Sat evening March 3rd, 2007.

On March 23rd, the chorus will present their annual FESTIVAL OF SONG at the Estonia House.

For additional information please contact Thor Fjell, President of Normennenes a member of Polar Star at 630-369-4233.

## Have you heard...

**Justin Kasperson**, grandson of our treasurer Eleanor Bates, also grandson of Rev. and Mrs. Bob Kasperson, graduated from the University of Illinois in Chicago in mid December with a Bachelor of Science in accounting degree.

He is presently working at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange as an auditor and is studying in preparation for his CPA Exam.

**Brian Geddes**, a member of Polar Star, also grandson of Harriet Eklund, our

secretary, graduated December 16, 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in History from Western Illinois University. Brian's desire is to become a Youth Director, while continuing on with his studies to become a minister.

# From the Editor/Publisher

Michael Lund

Happy New Year.

Welcome to a new Polar Star Newsletter. I am looking forward to working with our members to create an interesting newsletter. What is an interesting newsletter?, well I think that depends on who you ask. If you ask your child or your parents I believe you might get a different answer from what you thought might be an interesting newsletter.

So how do we create and execute an interesting newsletter? First let's talk about execution for a second, the "make it happen" of any organization small or large, for profit or non

profit. Realism is the heart of execution. You can not have an execution culture without a robust dialogue, one that brings reality to the surface through openness, candor and informality. Robust dialogue starts when people go in with open minds. To accomplish just that, create an interesting newsletter, I need your help. I am looking for information for our newsletter, stories, pictures, etc. Our goal is to publish the next newsletter in the end of March, 2007.

I am kindly asking that the information be in digital format. Send me an email, wire a note in Word.

## **I cannot use photo copies of articles or handwritten notes.**

Please email me your likes and dislikes, about our website and newsletter. While it is hard to please everybody I will do my best to present a newsletter and a website our members will enjoy. I would like to have a "pool" of stories to select from for our newsletters so don't be shy; I would rather have too much information than too little. Until next time; Ha det bra!

Michael Lund

PS. This newsletter is available in color on our website



Picture from Drammen Torg to the North toward Bragernes Kirke (Church)



Picture from Spiralen over Drammen to the North

# New Members Nov & Dec 2006

## November:

Carol Devito  
 Barbara Benson Johnson  
 Joy L. Minor  
 Joni Benson Koehler  
 Ron A. Vann  
 Matthew C. Chaussey  
 Douglas D. Danielson  
 Sara K. Meek

## December:

David C. Adams, Jr.  
 Dawn M. Shepardson  
 Stacy S. Shepardson  
 Brittany N. Chaussey  
 Shelby L. Danielson  
 Bailey A. Danielson  
 Kelsey L Danielson

*Please email me some pictures from Norway unless you want to see more pictures from Drammen. Thanks, Michael Lund*



Our New Members. Picture from Jan 07 meeting

Bragernes Kirke (Church) in Drammen

## Get to know a Polar Star member.



Starting in the next newsletter I would like to introduce a Polar Star member and write a little bit about his or her back ground. Where they grew up, ties to

Norway, current family in Norway. How long they have been a member of Polar Star. Favorite things to do, hobbies, special interest etc. Please feel free to email me your biography. I will keep the information on file

and use it in future newsletter. Please include a picture if you have one.

Please email information to: [michaellund@comcast.net](mailto:michaellund@comcast.net)

# SON Grants & Scholarship Application Schedule

## ***General Heritage and Culture Grants***

Due January 15, 2007, Awards given end of March

(These are for community-wide events, hosting visiting groups, museum shows, musical presentations and large events)

## ***Helping Hands to Children Grants***

Due February 1, 2007, Awards given in early April

(Adopt a School, Barnas Norsk Klubb and children's heritage programming qualify)

## ***Local Lodge Partnership Grants***

Due April 1, 2007, Awards given end of May

(Cultural skills presentations, Lodge Anniversaries, Syttende Mai celebrations, etc., qualify)

## ***Cates/Beinhauer Scholarships***

Due March 1, 2007, Awards given in early May

(Post high school education, college and trade schools qualify)

## ***Oslo International Summer School***

Due March 1, 2007, Awards given in early May

(For college juniors to study for six weeks in Oslo, Norway at Oslo International Summer School)

## ***Tronvold Folk High School Scholarship***

Due March 1, 2007, Awards given in early May

(Post high school students for study in Norway, for one school year, at a Norwegian Folk High School)

## ***King Olav V Norwegian-American Scholarship***

Due March 1, 2007, Awards given in early May

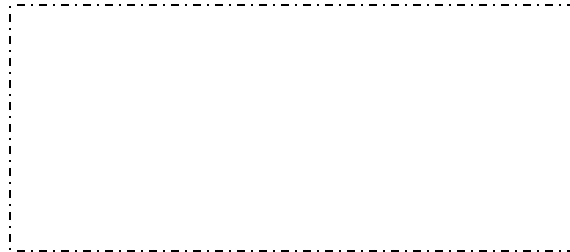
(American students studying Norwegian culture and Norwegian students studying American culture)

## ***Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship***

Due April 1, 2006, Awards given in early May

(Women, 18-35, majoring in Physics, Chemistry or Mechanical, Electrical or Chemical Engineering)

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## Language & Culture: NRK- Podcast

One of the hardest things about learning a new language is getting exposure to it. Hearing native speakers using natural language is key to building fluent listening skills. NRK, the Norwegian state broadcasting service, has a new, free tool that students of the Norwegian language will want to check out—podcasts. A podcast is simply a radio show saved to a digital audio file that can be downloaded from the internet. Podcasts differ from traditional net radio in that you can download and save a podcast, burn it to a CD or even listen to it on an MP3 player like an iPod. NRK offers several of their programs for free at

[www.nrk.no/podkast](http://www.nrk.no/podkast). Some of our favorites are Filmpolitiet, a weekly review of new movies, Norgesglasset, a variety show focusing loosely on Norwegian culture and Språkteigen, a half hour program on Norwegian language starring linguistic celebrity Sylfest Lomheim. You can also find a variety of other news and entertainment programs.

Despite the name, you don't need an iPod to listen to a podcast. All you need is a computer, a good internet connection, and an audio program like iTunes, which is available for free for both Macintosh and PC from [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes). The

easiest way to subscribe to NRK podcasts is to open up [www.nrk.no/podkast](http://www.nrk.no/podkast) in your internet browser and copy the link of the show you want to listen to. Then switch over to iTunes, go to the menu called "Advanced" and choose "Subscribe to podcast." Just past the link into the window that comes up, hit "OK" and your computer will automatically download the latest edition of that show!

Source:  
Nordlandet Lodge 5-620  
Newsletter Nov/Dec 2006