

Fra Presidenten!

Spring is a season of change and new life. It is also a time of change for Polar Star Lodge. We were sorry to learn that Michael Lund's schedule and commitments no longer make it possible to continue as Editor and Webmaster. Polar Star Lodge is most grateful to Michael for establishing and maintaining the Website and expanding and redoing the format of our Newsletter. Members have been most appreciative of such a quality Newsletter. I speak for all our members when I say Thank You for your dedicated and faithful service. Fortunately, Karen Oswald has stepped up and volunteered to take over as Webmaster. Norm Olson has volunteered to assume the role of Editor with Seth and Jeremy as Assistant Editors. A sincere Thank You to Karen, Norm, Seth and Jeremy.

Again Polar Star has lost a special member. My grandson, Matthew Chaussey, died March 6, 2011. We will miss his cheerful presence and help at every meeting. Matt touched a lot of lives and gave

President

Donald D. Danielson
(630) 299-3661
ddlcdan@aol.com

Vice president

Ken G. Johnson
(630) 553-7389
barbjjohnsonb@aol.com

Sec & Assist. Editor

Harriet F. Eklund
(630) 690-8699
heklund@att.net

Treasurer

Eleanor B. Bates
(630) 393-3693

Financial Secretary

Carol J. Devito
(630) 629-9545
cjdavon@sbcglobal.net

the gift of life through organ donation. The family thanks Polar Star Lodge for the many expressions of sympathy, for memorials and for the beautiful floral arrangement. Visit Matt's Guest Book at: www.Blake-LambFuneralHome.com Planning and preparation for our 50th Anniversary Celebration continues. The History Committee is requesting members from earlier years to submit memories of interesting, experiences, events, programs, etc. to Harriet Eklund or Don Danielson.

Harriet Eklund
1732 Harrow Ct. Apt D
Wheaton, IL 60187
heklund@att.net

Don Danielson
3130 Cambria Ct
Aurora, IL 60503-5751
ddlcdan@aol.com

We encourage every member able to get to meetings to join us and help celebrate our Anniversary Year.

The Polar Star Cultural Express is underway. Many members are already aboard but there are still a number of vacant seats available.

FIND THE VIKING IN YOU!!!!!!

FIRST ANNUAL VIKING FAMILY ENCAMPMENT

MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 18, 2011 - 10:00 A.M.

Leisure Lake – Joliet, Illinois

\$4.00 per-person admission to the campground

Cleng Peerson and Polar Star Lodges will combine to celebrate Midsummer with a family picnic that will focus on Viking games, food, crafts, and fun.

Viking Kuub Tournament: Kubb is an outdoor strategy game for all ages of Vikings. If you can throw a stick you are old enough or young enough to play!!! Enter your family teams of six players, and maybe you will be the first team to take home the "Kubb" tournament trophy. Sports medal points will be earned for the time spent practicing and competing.

All teams of six must register with Polar Star Cultural Director barbjjohnsonb@aol.com by June 5th so that we can create our tournament brackets. Remember, we will be competing against Cleng Peerson members—so we don't want the first "Kuub" to leave our Lodge!!!!!! (See page 7 for registration information.)

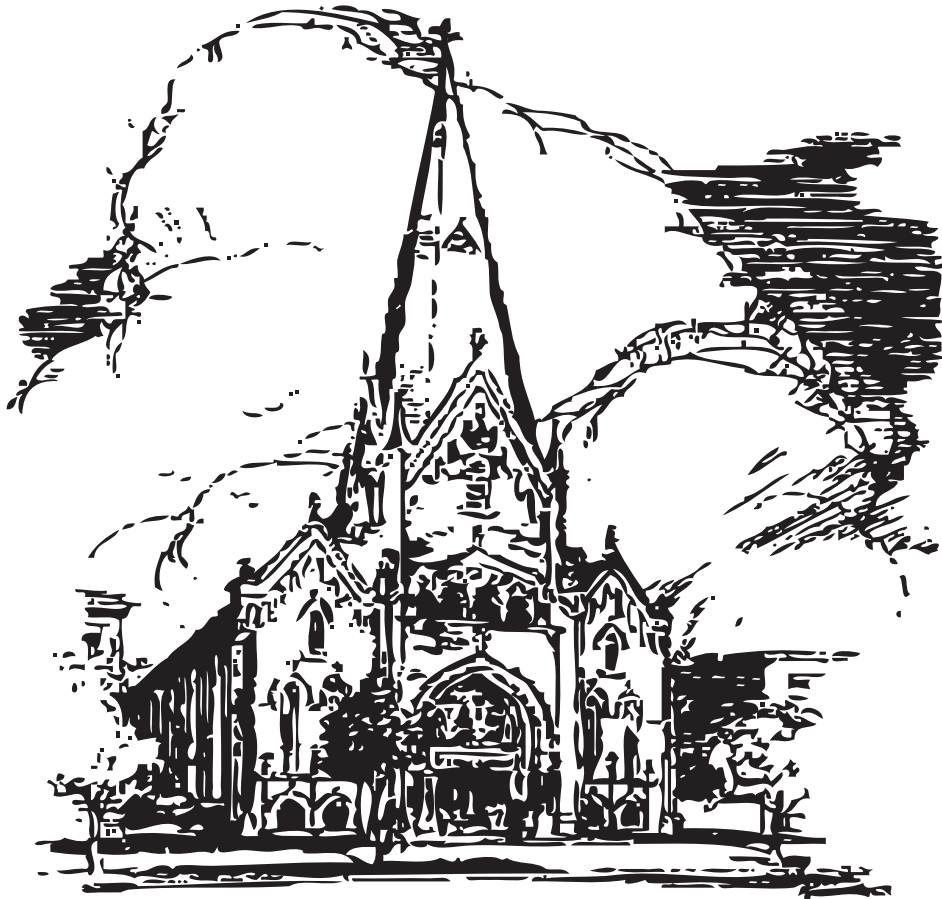
LAST CALL FOR THE APRIL FIELD TRIP!!!!

April 3, 2010

**Polar Star field trip to Minnekirken Den Norske Luthereske Minnekirke
Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church
and lunch at Tre Kroner**

The church service begins at 11:00 a.m. and lunch is being planned for 1:00 p.m. Call Barb Johnson for carpooling if you are still interested in attending.

Be sure and bring money for lunch.



THERE WILL **NOT** BE A GENERAL MEETING IN APRIL.



UPCOMING POLAR STAR GENERAL MEETINGS

APRIL 3, 2011

Field trip to the Norwegian Memorial Church in Chicago

No general meeting

MAY 2, 2011

1:30 – Lunch – Bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

Program: Culture Interest Groups will meet.

Traditional Norwegian Food Group

The food group will meet at noon and prepare a main dish for our potluck dinner.

Norwegian Ornamental Wood Carving Group

After our potluck, this group will begin working on their medals, viewing a film on Ornamental Woodcarving – Relief Style, provided by the Culture Dept. of International Sons of Norway.

Book Club

The Polar Star Book Club will meet after the potluck to review the current book and discuss future selections.

Not earning either of these medals????

Come for fellowship and bring whatever you have chosen to work on—knitting, hardanger, literature, rosemaling; or, just walk around the block to get started on your sports medal.





MAY 15, 2011

Syttendemai Parade in Park Ridge, Illinois

Polar Star Lodge will have an entry in the parade, and we would like to have everyone participate in this, our anniversary year. It will be a good way to let everyone know it is our 50th Anniversary, and that Polar Star is planning something special November 6, 2011.

JUNE 5, 2011

Food Group

Meet at noon to prepare dessert for the potluck.

What to bring: a jar of lingonberry or cloudberry preserves, two sticks of butter, a pastry cutter and a 9" springfoam or 9 x 11 baking pan.

1:30 Potluck lunch followed by Culture Groups

Program: Culture Groups and Movie

Hardanger and/or Strikker Groups

Anyone interested in earning a Hardanger Culture Medal should attend this group. Luanne Ludwig from Sandwich, Ill., will be teaching us the basic stitches necessary to complete a cream and sugar mat. Please order your kit K2161—Hardanger Basics— Creamer and Sugar Mat Kit before the meeting at Nordic Needle (800-433-4321) or online at nordicneedle.com. The price is \$11.99 + shipping. Please let me know if you want to order a kit, and we will send in one order and save on shipping.

Woodworking Group

Movie: "The Hjemkøst of Robert Asp"

This 1986 documentary chronicles the efforts of Robert Asp, a Moorhead School Guidance Counselor, who built the Hjemkøst Viking Ship replica in Hawley, Minnesota, in honor of his Norwegian heritage. Hopefully this will provide inspiration to our woodworkers to create a Viking Ship for Polar Star!

JUNE 18

Viking Encampment Family Picnic At Leisure Lake, Joliet, Illinois

10:00 A.M.

Admission cost: \$4.00 per person

Mark your calendars and invite your children and grandchildren. We will be eating Viking food, making children's crafts, and playing games—see Viking Kubb tournament information!

To all Polar Star members interested in joining a Literature Circle:

A new book club is forming with members of Cleng Peerson and Polar Star lodges. This group will focus on completing the requirements for a Norwegian Literature Culture Medal. They are currently reading *Fellowship of the Ghosts*, by Paul Watson; *What Never Happens*, by Anne Holt; *Pimpenel Gold*, by Dorothy-Braden Powell; and *The Northern Path*, by Douglas "Dag" Rossman. The group will meet for breakfast at the Hinckley Cafe in downtown Hinckley, Illinois at 10:00 a.m. every other Tuesday morning, beginning March 29, 2011. For more information contact Connie Kross at conkross@comcast.net.

Polar Star Culture Medal Group Upcoming Dates

Literature Group: May 2 – after the 1:30 p.m. Potluck at St. Olaf

Books being read: *Fellowship of the Ghosts*, by Paul Watkins, a nonfiction travel log of hiking the Norwegian mountains – ISBN# 0-7922-6799-0

Pimpenel Gold: How Norway Foiled the Nazis, by Dorothy-Braden Powell – St. Martin's Press - New York - 1978

What Never Happens by Anne Holt – a nonfiction murder mystery set in Oslo, Norway

Read these books and attend six Literature Discussion Groups and you have completed Part I of your medal!

Knitting Club: Every other Wednesday

1:00 p.m. at Panera on Orchard Road

March 16, March 30, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, June 8, June 22

Learn to knit and purl, keep a glossary of knitting terms, write a short report about the history of Norwegian knitting, and make a dishcloth—and you will complete Part I requirements for the Hand Knitting medal.

Food Group: May 1 & June 5 - 12:00 noon at St. Olaf Church

May 1 Menu: Onion Pie with Jarlsberg Cheese and Thyme

What to bring: your favorite cutting knife and a large red onion

June 5 Menu: Tyttebær Kake (Lingonberry Cake)

What to bring: a jar of lingonberry or cloudberry preserves, one stick of butter, pastry cutter and a 9" springfoam pan or a 9 x 11 baking pan.

June 18: Viking cooking

What to bring: To be announced—but it will be good!

Make five Norwegian recipes; take pictures during preparation and before serving; choose an elective activity; and you have completed the requirements for Part I of the Traditional Cooking medal.



Woodworking: May 1 & June 5, after the potluck luncheon

Movie from sons of Norway showing the basics of Ornamental Woodcarving – Norwegian Relief Style to get us started!

Hardanger Embroidery – May 1 – after the luncheon

Pre-order the Hardanger Basic kit – contact Barb Johnson for details

How to access the Sons of Norway Cultural Skills units on-line

1. Log in to sofn.com
2. Click the red icon **Members log In**
3. Register if you have no done so
4. Log in with user name and password
5. Select the Cultural Skills pull down to view all medal criteria

Other Traditions

(This is the sixth and final part of the series we have been featuring in the past five newsletters.)

The brewing of ale and drinking in good company was closely tied to “holidays” and other festive events. It had ritual and magic connotations and the old laws prescribed it. To celebrate a festive occasion by eventually getting drunk was quite appropriate, and refusing to drink without having a good reason for it was an open insult to one’s host(ess). The betrothed were usually married within a year or so, unless the groom-to-be asked for the marriage to be postponed for obvious reasons such as long travels. He had to return within three years, or the woman would be eligible for other marriage contracts. For practical reasons most weddings took place in the summer—preferably at a time when there was little urgent work to do. The wedding celebration was first and foremost a family affair, but we know that neighbors and friends often were seen among the guests. Like today, the number of guests probably depended on the means of the family, but it is also probable that people extended themselves to provide the best and biggest party possible. The family honor was at stake.



Polar star book club

Book Review by Barb Johnson

What Never Happens

by Anne Holt

Grand Central publishing – 2004 - ISBN# 0-446-57803-7

Anne Holt is a Norwegian crime writer. If you are a fan of Kay Scarpetta or Alex Cross you will soon become a fan of Adam Stubo – Norway's top Crime Scene Investigator - and his wife Johanne Vik, an FBI trained profiler. In *What Never Happens*, it is the "dark" of winter in Norway, Adam and Johanne have just given birth to a baby girl and are both looking forward to their much needed parental leave. Just as they bring their baby home from the hospital a famous Norwegian talk-show host is found murdered in a very macabre way. She will not be the last! Adam is forced to join the investigation and Johanne becomes obsessed with the immersing and terrifying profile that stirs up FBI memories that she has tried desperately to forget. The two crime fighters battle lack of clues, lack of sleep, NCIS (Norway Crime Investigation Services) pressure, and parental fatigue, to unravel the pieces of the mystery that appears to lead to.....them!

If you have been to Oslo you will enjoy the way the author connects the murder investigation to landmarks that are part of every tourist visit to the city. Action takes place in and around the National Theatre, the Storting (Parliament), Frogger Park and the Oslo harbor to name a few. I have definitely become a fan of Anne Holt and look forward to reading *The Final Murder*, the sequel to *What Never Happens*!

This book fulfills Norwegian Literature Culture Medal criteria as fiction literature written by a Norwegian author. Just complete the fiction book report and you're half-way to your Literature Medal.

Other novels written by Anne Holt include *What is Mine*, *Death in Oslo*, *Punishment*, *Madame President* and her most recent novel, *1222*.

Viking kubb tournament Family team registration form

Please register your family/lodge team for our 1st annual Midsummer Kubb Tournament. There is no age-limit for team members – remember if you can throw a stick you can play. Every team must have six members. We will, however, have a separate tournament for children up through 6th grade. Pre-Registration is not required for the Barn Tournament.

Team name - _____

Team Captain and contact information

Phone: _____ e-mail _____

Please return completed registration form to Polar Star Cultural Director, Barb Johnson at 501 W. Ridge Street, Yorkville, IL 60560 or return by e-mail at barbjohnsonb@aol.com



Polar Star Parade Plans



Polar Star Lodge will be hitting the parade route this spring to celebrate our anniversary year. We plan to participate in the Syttendemai Parade in Park Ridge on May 15 and the Geneva Swedish Day Parade June 26th. Mark your calendars and gather your barn and barnbarn as we unveil our new Polar Star Viking Ship float!!!!