

SONS OF NORWAY VALHALLA LODGE #4-341, Calgary, AB, Canada

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January

FLYGEBLAD

Honorary Consul
Chris Mylde with
wife Sue and
Valhalla
president Ron
Reine at the
Calgary European
Film Festival in
November.



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FRA PRESIDENTEN

Godt nytt år alle.

As we wind down another Christmas season, we turn our thoughts to the coming year. This will be a busy and perhaps a defining year for our lodge. There is lots on our plate, especially in the first half of the year and your executive needs your help more than ever. Please volunteer if you can help in any way.

I would first like to say a huge thank you to Dylan Viste for volunteering to be our Financial Secretary for the coming term. If we get a few more people volunteering for committees and other positions, the load on those currently doing the various tasks to keep the lodge alive can be lessened and they may choose to stay active a little longer.

This year your lodge is hosting the Zone 4 Sports Weekend. It will happen in High River on the weekend of May 29 – 31. It will be based out of the Heritage Inn in High River and you are encouraged to make your reservations early. To make this event successful, we need a number of people to assist and encourage volunteers to step forward.

This is also a convention year with the District Lodge meeting in Watford City, ND in June and the International Lodge meeting in Ringsaker, Norway in August. Look for more information on both of these events at the monthly lodge meetings. We will need to select delegates for the District Lodge meeting very soon so if you are interested in volunteering as a delegate please be sure to let your executive know as soon as possible.

February is the annual Ski for Light event and again we will be looking for volunteers to help with the annual effort to assist skiers and guides as they arrive in Calgary. Look for more information elsewhere in this newsletter.

Other events typically held in the first part of the year include Syttende Mai and St. Hans celebrations. Again, volunteers are needed. Notice the theme here? Your lodge will not survive without people stepping forward to assist in all aspects of these events, from planning to execution to clean up. If you can help, please do so.

Hilsen,
Ron Reine

CALGARY PHILHARMONIC CONCERT

Nordic Greats, 7:30 p.m. January 25th, Jack Singer Concert Hall. Pre-concert chat at 6:35 p.m. calgaryphil.com or phone 403-571-0849 for tickets.

Violinist Eldbjørg Hemsing was already a household name in her native country when she began championing Norwegian masterworks like Borgstrøm's Violin Concerto, a late Romantic tribute to the country's arresting mountains, valleys, and fjords. Also capturing the landscape and folk spirit of Norway is the world premiere collaboration: Yukichi Hattori choreographs Music Director Rune Bergmann's favourite selections from Peer Gynt!

MEETING TIMES / COFFEE LIST

If you can't do your coffee month, please swap with another person or contact Rut, bjorkumr@shaw.ca

- Jan 11, 10 am- Margit Svee and Anna Calvert
- Feb 1, 10 am- Peter Rodland and Thordis Kamp
- Mar 7, 10 am- Bernice and Oscar Roth
- Apr 6, 7:30 pm- Turid and Kåre Asak
- May 4, 7:30 pm- Karen Reno and Don Larsen
- Jun 1, 7:30 pm- Marlene Flynn and Rut Bjorkum-Mason

THE JANUARY MEETING IS ON THE 11TH!

Agenda: officer installation, brief history of Sons of Norway, celebrating 125 years since its founding.

For the February 1st meeting, we've invited historian Harry Sanders to give a presentation focused on Norwegians and their descendants in our area.

DECEMBER LODGE ACTIVITIES

Valhalla Family Christmas party, Dec. 1st -- 39 children and their accompanying adults had a busy, fun afternoon. Thank you again to Nadine (Wellwood) Brown and Jason Brown for their huge contributions to the occasion, all the other adults who brought food and helped organize activities, and of course Santa.

Lutefisk dinner, Dec. 14 – Great food, great company. Rut organized the food, Kathryn cooked lutefisk, and Ron MC'd. Kari related her experiment in luting dry cod with maple ashes (conclusion – use birch ashes). Norwegian consul Chris Mylde and his wife Sue tried lutefisk for the first time, visited with everyone, and then Chris rolled up his sleeves to help with the dishes.





In 2020, Ski for Light participants gather at the Scan Centre on Monday Feb. 3rd before getting on a bus for their ski week in Kananaskis. We help out by picking them up from the airport or their hotel, and providing lunch in the Valhalla room.

About 5 drivers and 3 lunch preparers are needed. Please e-mail secretary@sofncalgary.ca and indicate whether you'll drive or make lunch. Drivers should have a cellphone.

While documented evidence is lacking, cross country skiing was likely introduced to both eastern and western Canada by Scandinavian immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century. Ski for Light Canada Inc. was founded in 1978, modelled on Ski for Light USA which began in 1975. Ski for Light Canada Inc. was originally formed by Sons of Norway and various ski clubs. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88HeYPbUvT4&feature=youtu.be> is an excellent video about Ski for Light 2019.

MEMBER NEWS



From Clarissa Peterson: A few weeks ago, I took my dad to "An Old World Christmas" at Old World Wisconsin, a living history museum that shows the immigrant experience in Wisconsin during the 1840s through 1910s. One highlight was seeing their yule goat, the largest in North America! Yule goats are a Scandinavian Christmas tradition, and you can find them erected in towns and cities in Norway and other Nordic countries. Old World Wisconsin is located on 480 acres near Eagle, Wisc. About a third of the buildings are in the

"Scandinavian homesteads" section, including farms from Norwegian, Finnish, and Danish immigrants. I highly recommend a visit if you ever get a chance!

Clarissa

More details in the newspaper article at

<https://www.wisfarmer.com/story/life/2018/12/20/yule-goat-holidays-and-good-crops/2369257002/>

From Velora Piltingsrud: Interested in attending a District 7 (B.C.) convention? Velora, a Charter Member of Hardanger lodge in Kelowna, notes that Kelowna will host the 2020 convention from April 30 – May 3. More information to follow as it becomes available.

FOR SALE – LIMITED QUANTITIES

Gjetost, \$22. Norwegian Calendars, \$20 each or 3/\$50. Call Russ or Alison at 403-283-1299

ART NEWS

(Calgary) Scott Campbell is a Canadian landscape photographer who has had a long love affair with Norway (and a beautiful Norwegian girl as well, which might explain things!). He will be part of the Calgary Exposure Photography Festival, held February 5 to March 01, 2020. His exhibit title is: *Sognsvann – A Little Lake in Oslo*. Our lodge is putting some money towards his opening reception.

Scott writes:

Trails around Sognsvann form part of a loop in the city's trail system, and is a natural turning point for my morning runs when I am in Oslo. It is also a very beautiful place, and the landscape is always changing. These images were all made with my phone or a small "point and shoot" camera I sometimes carry in my runner's belt. Please come see the images at my opening reception at cSPACE King Edward, 1721 29 St. S.W., from 5 pm to 9 pm on Thursday, February 6.

(Ottawa) The Norwegian Embassy notes that the National Gallery of Canada has a beautiful Edvard Munch painting called "Clothes on a Line in Åsgårdstrand" hanging in the permanent gallery. The painting is uncommonly cheerful for Munch, with vivid colours depicting a solitary figure hanging laundry to dry in a garden.

MEDIA SUGGESTIONS

- Calgary Public Library members can search on "Norwegian Fiction – Translations Into English". There are lots of books to choose from. Library membership is free.
- Netflix shows with Norwegian connections: "The Innocents" is a short series with some spoken Norwegian (English subtitles). "Home for Christmas" is another short series, made in Norway and dubbed into English.
- *Snakker du litt norsk?* Sons of Norway's online [language lessons](https://www.sofn.com/norwegian_culture/norwegian_language_lessons/) (https://www.sofn.com/norwegian_culture/norwegian_language_lessons/) get you going with 37 installments, including how to decipher a Norwegian cake recipe (Lesson 28).

SPORTS

Hitmen hockey
Multicultural Night, March 7th. Group tickets are \$12/person plus fees & taxes.

SAVE THE DATE
CALGARY HITMEN 5TH ANNUAL
MULTICULTURAL NIGHT
A dedicated night to celebrate and showcase Calgary's cultural diversity!
SATURDAY | MARCH 7 | 7:00 PM **\$12** GROUP TICKETS
TICKETS GO ON SALE JANUARY 6, 2020 PLUS FEES + TAXES
Hitmen Hockey.com
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
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