

The Fabulous Fourth Footnotes

Montana • North Dakota • Alberta • Saskatchewan



SONS of NORWAY

January 2024



Fra President

Saude: Deadlines are there to keep things “Flo-ing” and Flo means business when she says, *Today...I need it today!* So, on this 11th hour I’m writing to you in hopes that

you will all take notice of Flo’s calling.... Please do it now, not later. I have the great privilege to work with an amazing group of directors that you elected at the 2022 & 2020 conventions. We have met in-person for one spring and one fall meeting and several ZOOM sessions in between. In today’s ever-changing world, being able to be responsive and nimble is vital to keeping Sons of Norway active and relevant. We have lost more lodges in the past year; dwindling membership from several causes, leadership that has grown tired from serving too long, and sometimes for lack of programming and community activities. No lodge has a magic elixir to make people of any age want to join Sons of Norway, no lodge has a secret coffee recipe that can keep them if they join. But lodges that have members who want to celebrate their Scandinavian heritage have a chance to meet the minimum requirements of keeping that lodge going. It might grow if their community doesn’t further decline and their school closes. It might grow if they can offer their community some outreach and participation in public events. It takes thinking outside the box, reading the leadership resources from Sons of Norway, asking people to join and asking members to do a job, no matter how big or small. It might mean helping the Lions Club or Commercial Club or the High School with a project. It takes getting your name out and showing the volunteer efforts that your lodge members can do. But when you need help, who do you call? Logically the zone directors and the district board are available to be

sounding boards for ideas. We might even know a lodge doing a similar event and it would be great to talk to them about it. That’s why district conventions should be attended by every lodge, every two years. Talk to Sons of Norway members about Sons of Norway issues. Come to Bismarck North Dakota in June with resolutions, complaints, questions, reason and goodwill for our lodge sisters and brothers. *Vi skal sees deg I juni. Ha det bra.....*



Convention Delegates Deadlines and Alternates

Lodges will be receiving a letter regarding their elected delegates and alternates. The deadline for submission was extended at the last convention by the delegates. But start asking for interest within your lodge. Dates are June 26-29, in Bismarck ND. The convention opens with a Thursday night President’s Reception and Memorial Service. Friday morning the business session opens and will conclude by Saturday afternoon. The awards banquet will be held Friday night. The Radisson Inn downtown is the convention center. Rooms are available at any time. Ask for the Sons of Norway block and confirm the rate. Specify if you are arriving Thursday and staying until Saturday or Sunday. Details will be mailed to the lodges and then the elected delegates and alternates.



Silent Auction Items from Lodges

Lodges attending the 2024 District IV Convention in Bismarck are encouraged to bring an item for the Silent Auction and Live auction. Proceeds will be given to the Sons of Norway Foundation campaign for grants and scholarships. Let’s make it a great auction!

Sons of Norway’s Mission

The mission of the Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage & culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

www.sofn-district4.com



Lodge Calendar and Other Deadlines 2023-2024

February

February 15 District IV Scholarship due
February 15 All domestic scholarships due

March

March 15
• D17 form due
• Lodge Achievement and Family Lodge of the Year forms due
• American Fraternal Alliance Survey due
• D64 due

April

April 1 District IV Cultural Scholarship
Application Due

May

May 15
• D18 property association financial form due
• IRS filing deadline for tax form 990.
Lodge treasurer needs to notify SofN Headquarters when it has been submitted

May 17 Syttende Mai

June

June 6-9 Trollfjorden Language and Cultural Camp

June 26-29 **District IV Convention-Bismarck**



Flo Kallenbach, Director Culture and Publicity

Hands down, my favorite part of this job has been to meet all the people I have met at conventions, both district and international, attending events put on by any of the lodges and especially by attending lodge meetings. I have felt so honored when I've been invited to install your officers or for whatever reason I've been able to visit and see what everyone is doing.

Recently, I was invited to the Fagerlund Lodge from Manfred ND. The meeting was in Fessenden, and I think they had members from Harvey, as well. They were having a membership dinner and I was able to say a few words about our financial products. I was blown away by the enthusiasm shown by that lodge. **AND THE GOOD FOOD.** It was maybe the best torsk I've ever eaten, and they had meatballs, too. They served all the good Norwegian foods you could ever want it was all grand. I know they got new members. I'm not sure how many.

Maybe this is a good time to say that my term in office will be finished in June when we elect new officers at convention. Think about running for office. If not this one, there are other offices that will need filling as well. A couple of my biggest jobs as publicity director involve sending in photos to the Viking magazine and publishing and sending out this Fabulous Fourth newsletter. The cultural part has evolved a little bit with the change over at the head office, but it is job that can go in the direction that interests you the most.

Thanks for submitting the photos. The photos have improved in quality over the time that I have been in office. That has really helped to make my job easier, and it is just fun to see what everyone is doing. Maybe this month's hints could be to make sure you have permission to publish pictures of those in your photos and be sure the people in your photos are Sons of Norway members.





Susan Gecho Gobbs

Vice President

Godt nytt år

It's hard to believe but we are already in the midst of Scholarship season and I wanted to share the important information that our younger members and their families will need in order to be successful in this process. Sons of Norway Foundation has eleven domestic scholarships and four international scholarships.

One of the domestic scholarships is the District IV scholarship. This scholarship is unique in that we are the only SON district that offers its own scholarship for members in their district. Depending on the amount of money available from our investments, we are able to award up to 3 scholarships of \$1,000. Applicants must be a member of Sons of Norway and belong to a lodge in District 4. The Scholarship Committee which consists of several members of the District IV board makes the decisions of awarding these scholarships, unlike the other scholarships which are awarded through a process involving district scholarship committees and the International Board.

The District IV Scholarship deadline is February 15th so please talk to your lodge members about all the scholarship opportunities and urge them to visit the District 4 website and learn of all the scholarship opportunities available.



Muffins With Carrot, Squash, Cheese and Ham

These muffins are perfect to carry in your bag for a portable snack while hiking or otherwise on the go. The cheese makes them extra moist, and the combination of ham, squash and carrot is delicious. A hearty alternative to sandwiches!

Makes 12 servings.

Ingredients

200 g (1 2/3 cups) all-purpose flour
100 g (about 1 cup) lightly cooked oatmeal
2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
100 g (2/3 cup) squash
1 carrot
120 g (1 cup) white cheese
110 g (3/4 cup) cooked ham
2 eggs
4 dl (just under 1 3/4 cups) milk

Directions

Preheat oven to 200° C (about 390° F). Cut squash, carrot and ham into small, thin pieces. Grate the cheese. Mix all the ingredients in a bowl and stir together.

Fill muffin tins 2/3 full and bake for about 25 minutes. Insert a toothpick in the middle of the muffin to make sure it is done.

Tips

Some muffin tins need to be greased before you fill them. Spray pans with Muffins With Carrot, Squash, Cheese and Ham oil or grease them with melted butter or margarine.

This recipe was taken from the **Recipe Box** on the Sons of Norway website,





Betty Dhuyvetter Secretary

Hilsen, fellow Scandinavians! Godt Nytt Ar!

January finds us deep in the throes of a monstrous Alberta Clipper, which is sending our wind chill temps into

the -60-degree range in Northwest North Dakota.

Our vehicles won't start, our REC's are working overtime, our mail probably won't be delivered, and our farm animals all want to move indoors (including the cows!). Despite this cold spell, things at Sons of Norway District IV are moving forward as planned.

We give a big thank you to Sverdrup Lodge in Bismarck for agreeing to host this year's District Convention from June 27-29, 2024, at the Radisson Inn. I'm sure the wheels are already turning as they prepare to host this big event. President Jerry and I will be meeting with them this winter to help them work out the details.

Currently, I'm working on updating the officer rosters for the coming biennium. So far, twenty-five rosters have been updated; however, information is still missing for thirteen of the lodges. Sadly, two of our lodges—4-557, Sma Fjell in Hettinger, ND, and 4-576, Brubyen, in Saskatoon, SK—are working on disbanding. We regret seeing them close their doors.

Once I have all the information for new officers, I'll be able to update the directory. It will be helpful if all officers have their own email addresses and current phone numbers. This time I should be able to do a much better job of including the correct information in the directory!

As for old business, we may still have a lodge or two who have not completed the essential D17's or D18's or 990's for various reasons. Even the lodges that are closing need to make sure they have all their reports turned in. Some lodges have worked very hard to get those documents completed and sent in to headquarters. Hopefully it will be

easier this year to get them done promptly. I will see if I can get an updated list from Kirsten Lehman at HQ.

I will try to get letters out to all the lodge presidents and secretaries soon regarding the deadline for electing and reporting delegates, guidelines for submitting bylaw and resolutions to the convention, and stating the number of delegates for each lodge.

Just a reminder that we all need to report on our volunteer hours! HQ has simplified the process this year, utilizing Survey Monkey for the reporting.

On a personal note, I will include a picture of the two newest Belwegians (Belgian-Norwegians) that became part of our family on November 25, 2023, thanks to my youngest daughter Allison and her husband Justin. They join three-year old sister Nora (most popular girls' name in Norway this year).



They look like Sons of Norway leaders to me. Brooks is on the left and Payton is on the right. God Bless Them.



Convention Host 2026

Please consider bidding on the 2026 and even the 2028 conventions for our District. Forms are available on the district website. Most lodges that host make a profit to directly benefit their lodges hard work.

Scholarships and Grants

If you have children and others who are members of your lodges and are attending higher education courses, February 15th is the deadline for those applications to be entered on the Sons of Norway website. Complete one application and be considered for one of the 15 opportunities the Sons of Norway Foundation is offering.

Elections Coming Up

District board and zone director positions are on the 2024 convention agenda. Please consider your interest and commitment to serving your organization. A nominating committee will be making calls and preparing a slate of qualified candidates for the delegates to vote on for the next two years. Step up and help this worthy organization with your life experiences and interest in your heritage.



Winner! Winner!

The following lodges in District IV have submitted Cultural Grant applications for 2024, and all of them will receive their grants.

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|---|
| Solglyte Lodge 4-143 | \$300 | Zoom Subscription and Rosemaling Supplies |
| Jotunheimen 4-499 | \$200 | Woodcarving Cllass |
| Fjell Heim 4-524 | \$300 | Viking Tent at Valhalla Dayz |
| Mollarguttem 4-478 | \$300 | Supplies for monthly Cultural Skills days |
| Thor Lodge 4-067 | \$250 | Supplies for Syttende Mai Event |
| Mjøsen 4-078 | \$300 | Supplies for Cultural Skills Classes |

Trollfjorden Camp June 6-9

Nearing the 25th anniversary of this District event, the camp board encourages your lodge to consider a donation to help keep the camp viable and to also consider scholarships for your lodge members that attend. Youth scholarships are a great way to get them interested. Parents and grandparents who bring two or more children can feel the financial burden of this family bonding time at lake Metigoshe, but other youth scholarships are also available through the SofN Foundation Draxten Fund. A set amount is offered to camp and then the camp board will allocate these funds to all or most of the campers. The Thursday afternoon to Sunday morning camp experience is open to ND lodge members and their families. The multi-generational language and skills camp is full of food, fellowship, cultural skills and all around FUN. Find them on Facebook and your lodge will be receiving a mailing and sample registration forms. Don't delay as the camp has a maximum number of campers it can handle.



Claudia Berg
International Director

2025 North American Planning – Update 1.15.2024

There has been a group working on the 2025 North American Planning for the 200th anniversary of the first Norwegian immigrants for the last several months. There also is a planning committee in Norway. I was nominated and accepted to be part of the Executive Committee, as a connection to the Sons of Norway (a logical organization with an early history and interest in the 200th anniversary) and geographically to the Upper Midwest/Northern Great Plains. The executive committee will provide an umbrella to promote cooperation, collaboration, and coordination between groups.

Amy Boxrud, liaison to the Norwegian Planning Committee and Executive Director at the Norwegian-American Historical Association and Chris Johnson, Executive Director and CEO of Vesterheim Museum, have been spearheading some of the initial planning efforts in the US.

These are some notes from previous meetings:

Current 2025 Executive Committee members are: Claudia Berg, Terje Leiren, John Nilson, Bjorn Rektorli, Urd Milbury, and Kirk Mies.

“**Crossings**” is the theme for the 2025 anniversary.

The 2025 anniversary will be referenced as a **commemoration** not celebration. There were Native Nations that were irreversibly affected by the arrival of European settlement across the continent, and we want to be respectful and acknowledge that immigration had ramifications and is part of our history.

Urd Milbury of the Norwegian Royal Embassy reported that a replica of the sloop, Restauration, will depart Stavanger on July 4, 2025, and arrive in New York harbor on October 9. The tall ship

Christian Radich will likely also arrive needing deeper waters. Plans are in motion regarding logistics for the arrival. There will be a full day of activities with the ships arriving in New York. Sølvguttene, a well-known Norwegian boys’ choir, plans to visit. The Department of Defense has contacted the Embassy about its marching bands that would like to participate, potentially at several events throughout the year. Musician Mari Hauge, granddaughter of author Alfred Hauge, is planning a North American tour in collaboration with the Restauration. We expect many artists to follow with plans related to the bicentennial as we get closer to 2025.

North America is too large an area, and too many events are taking place over the year, for members of the Norwegian Royal Family to visit all places where Norwegian Americans are concentrated. We don’t expect any plans or announcements until much closer to 2025.

Amy Boxrud added that there is a planning form. This is a current tool for communicating with the larger planning group, whether plans are firm or tentative. After an official North American website is launched, there will be a calendar where organizations can submit events, search by region, etc.

Logo/Branding – Amy Boxrud, Norwegian-American Historical Association, is working with Augsburg University’s Design & Agency to create the transatlantic “Crossings” theme, the branding committee is working with Jeff Johnson of Replace Design in Minneapolis to create the visual identity. The designers have used both Viking and nautical imagery for their inspiration and have given it a modern twist with the aim of engaging a younger audience. Boxrud gave the group a preview of the logo and its several variations and potential uses. The tagline will be translated into Norwegian and perhaps other relevant languages. In addition to the color versions, a black and white version will be available for organizations that want to reduce printing costs. The graphics and a full style guide will be available for organizations to download.



Committee member Bettine Hoff Hermanson stressed that it will be important for participating organizations to both use the shared branding and to follow the usage guidelines. Discussion about the identity followed. The group expressed enthusiasm for the design and appreciation for the committee's work. Boxrud said the committee will bring this feedback to the design and branding committee. They will also discuss logo registration and identity rollout.

Website and Communications — Lori Ann Reinhall, The Norwegian American Newspaper, The Norwegian American, is pleased to serve as host of the official bicentennial website. Using WordPress as a platform, there are also possibilities for the website to provide some internal communications for our planning group. Reinhall shared some additional ideas for communication: an email list and perhaps a newsletter to share key messaging; a webpage listing key contacts; a curated list of resources and existing content; a social media presence; and perhaps a speakers' bureau. Boxrud reminded the group that the easiest way to inform Lori Ann of upcoming events to cover is to fill out the form. The question of securing funding to support this communications work was raised. This larger question of funding will be brought to the executive committee.

Creating and Expanding Subcommittees — Chris Johnson, Vesterheim Museum. Johnson put out a request for people to get involved in planning subcommittees. He encouraged participation in five areas of current need:

- Governance/Strategy: This group will consider the overall outcome or end game of the bicentennial. What structures are needed to accomplish this?
- Communications: This committee will develop effective communications for both internal and external audiences and stakeholders.
- Programming Resources: This group will curate resources that can be used by participating organizations. This could take the form of a YouTube Channel, written materials, a speakers' bureau, and more.

- Finance: This group will consider fundraising opportunities and provide transparent financial management to support our plans.

- Centennial Coin: Members of the large planning group have suggested creating a commemorative coin for the bicentennial. Johnson encouraged those who would like to help with this project to join this subcommittee. Johnson encouraged people to respond to 2025-volunteers@stolaf.edu by December 1 to indicate interest in serving on subcommittees. (Note: Emails after December 1 are still welcomed.)

(NAHA) Multi-Day conference: "Crossings and Connections" NAHA-Norge, NORTANA, St. Olaf Norwegian Department. Week 25, 2025 June 18–22, (tent.) Presentations and experiences geared to scholars and the general public, including pre- and post-conference programming. Mari Hauge (granddaughter of Norwegian writer, Alfred Hauge) Norwegian Singer/Songwriter U.S. tour featuring release of album, based on Alfred Hauge's immigration trilogy. Looking for Performance





Zone Reports



Zone 1 Becky Gunderson

4-021 Gyda-Varden-Grand Forks ND, 4-078
Mjosen-Mayville ND, 4-178 Heim-Devils
Lake ND, 4-203 Fagerlund-Manfred ND, 4-478
Mollargutten-Maddock ND

Mjosen Lodge 4-078 Mayville

On October 19, the Lodge held a Heritage/Cultural/
New Member Open House featuring demonstrations
of Rosemaling, Hardanger, Tine Boxes, Heart
Shaped Waffles, Krumkake, and Lompe. There
were displays on Mjosen Lodge History, local ski
jumpers, SofN Insurance, SofN Foundation, Sports
Medals and a children's table of activities.

Dan Haglund attended the November meeting and
shared SofN Insurance information. Several
members came early to the meeting and crafted
Nisse and



Heart-Shaped baskets.

21 Sju Slag Kaker Boxes were sold as a Lodge
fundraiser and were a huge success. 6 cookies of
7 different Norwegian cookies were baked and
packaged and sold for \$30/
box. This is the second year the lodge has done
this.



Members, dressed in Santa hats, red scarves, and
Norwegian Sweaters "danced/marched" in the May-
Port Community's Winterfest Parade.



Mjosen Members celebrated Christmas with a
Julebord and enjoyed great conversations and
a right/left game with winners receiving an
assortment of coffee mugs with Norwegian saying
on them.

The officers have met to plan out the January
meeting that includes an inventory of cultural
subjects members would like to see as programs in
2024, a 2024 budget and a video highlighting the
2023 Year in Review.

Gyda-Varden 4-021 Grand Forks

Marianne Oyerhavn Knudson, President spent
Christmas at her home in Bodo, Norway.

Several ladies baked the seven kinds of Christmas
cookie platters again this year.

The members of the Gyda-Varden Lodge celebrated
Julefest in December by enjoying treats, a reading
of the "Lutefisk Lament", the Luke 2 Christmas
Story and John Schaefer's accordion music.

Members collected items for refugee families
supported by Global Friends Coalition in Grand
Forks.

The Norwegian classes will continue to be offered
and the Rosemaling Paint-ins will continue.



Fagerlund 4-203 Manfred

In February 2020, Fagerlund Lodge of Manfred, ND was eagerly planning for its 100th Anniversary Celebration. This plan came to an abrupt halt in March with the coming of the Covid pandemic. Thirty-two months later in October 2022, a small group of Fagerlund members met to reorganize and in January 2023 a successful Julefest was held.

We celebrate that Fagerlund has become active once again with monthly activities including themed programs with hands-on activities, lefse making workshop, school programs, attending Møllargutten Syttende Mai dinner, mid-summer's night bonfire with crown wreath making, playing kubb and corn hole in the summer, and a soup supper fundraiser last fall.

Five new members joined Fagerlund in 2023! Three of the new members plus another member met to make krumkake and flatbrød, bringing to their attention the various food making traditions from the different valleys of Norway.

On January 7, 2024, Fagerlund enjoyed another successful Julefest with District IV Cultural/ Publicity Director, Flo Kallenbach, and her husband Myron in attendance.

On February 13 'Valentine's Eve', Fagerlund will hold a Waffle Supper for the public with regular waffles as the main course, to follow with vafelhjarter (waffle hearts) featuring a demonstration of how they are eaten in Norway.

The new Fagerlund meeting day is the second Tuesday of the month, usually beginning at 7 pm mostly either in Manfred or in Fessenden. Please call 701-870-4627 or 701-399-9741 for meeting information. Everyone is welcome to attend Fagerlund activities!



This editor apologizes to the Fagerlund Lodge and anyone else who might be offended that the only photo I took at the Fagerlund JuleFest was of my full-blooded German husband. I had admired the tree with the Norwegian flags. Myron Kallenbach is a member of Mollargutten. I hope that soothes it over

Mollargutten 4-478 Maddock

The Mollargutten Sons of Norway lodge wishes everyone a very Happy New Year.

November was our election of officers. Becky Gunderson, our zone director, presented us with a very interesting talk about her hiking experiences and how they can relate to earning medals. She also gave us a lot of information on lodge forms that need to be done in a timely manner. Thank you, Becky!

Our culture day in November was Norwegian knitting. This form of knitting is a little different than how we usually knit. It was a lot of fun to learn. The old and new officers met to plan our meetings and cultural classes for 2024.



December was our JuleFest with a catered meal. The Christmas Story was read, Christmas carols were sung, our own bell "ringer dingers" entertained us, and we had a visit from Jule Nissan. After the program we played cookie walk and bingo. Our culture day was Christmas baking for our party. Maddock's local "Caring and Sharing Tree" was the recipient of our District IV Charitable Giving Grant.



Ruth Lindgren, our treasurer is shown handing the check to Karen Johnson, member of Maddock Active Women who manage the project each year.



Zone 2

Kay Halverson

Jamestown - Wergeland

Members met October 17 for an early Halloween event. The theme led to prizes given for costumes as well as Halloween goodies. The monies raised were donated to the SONS International Foundation. November will be a soup and bread night with a pizza party planned for December to celebrate the holiday season. The lodge is excited to welcome three new members.

Cooperstown - Ueland

On October 20, a carriage house will be transformed to become a Halloween open house. A community wide celebration will highlight crafts, Halloween goodies, activities for all ages and viewing of the movie, Troll Hunter.

The public is also invited on November 17 to a lefse making day. Cookie decorating for children will be the theme for their December meeting along with a Christmas party and caroling at the local nursing home.

Fargo -Kringen

Activities are going strong at Kringen. Many levels of language classes are being held weekly. The bus tours have been very successful with full capacity on almost all trips. This year excursions were to the Jasper Theater 🎭 in Park Rapids, Peace Gardens overnight adventure, mystery tour to the Wishek sauerkraut festival, Concordia College Christmas concert, Hostfest overnight to Minot, and the Bis-marck inter lodge day trip including a riverboat cruise. The Troll Lounge has entertainment nightly Tuesday through Friday and the Kafe serves lunches daily Tuesday through Friday with Thursday being a special “pie day”. An evening meal is also served on Tuesday. Monthly Lutefisk and meatball dinners and Sunday brunch are also served.

The cultural committee is busy with work on expanding the library, offering “lunch and learn” classes and a book club with an author talk.

Wahpeton -Henrik Ibsen

Members visited and toured the Wilkin County Museum for their monthly meeting. A meal was served at the historical building. After the hectic holiday season, the lodge will gather to celebrate Christmas in January. Several local community and school related parades found members participating with a float or decorated car and passing out candy suckers with the SONS logos on the stick. This provided great community visibility for SONS. Three members plan to attend the October Foundation meeting at Kringen in Fargo.

Valley City - Hjemdahl

Monthly meetings are being held with a variety of activities and social get togethers. They had a booth at the local fall college day with a drawing for a gift certificate. Members are planning a Christmas party and social. They are organizing a social and party for prospective new members and planning to apply for a district membership grant. Norwegian food will be made and served and there will be cultural activities.





Zone 3

Martha Elliot



Vennlig Lodge 4-618

Vennlig Lodge does support the Foundation each year. We also participated in the District Charitable Giving Program with money used for the food pantry in Tioga and close towns around Tioga.

Members brought goodies to the Tioga Museum on December 2nd for the Parade of Lights held in Tioga.

For the December meeting we had a quiz on Norwegian Christmas Traditions. It was a bit challenging for some but very interesting. We had a guest join the lodge and he played his guitar while we sang Christmas Carols and shook our Christmas



Vennlig Lodge at their Christmas party

bells. We enjoyed Norwegian goodies of rice porridge with an almond in our cup. We all received a Marzipan Pig which some had never tasted before, and we were all happy that we should have good luck in the coming year. We also had rosettes, almond cake, pecan and apple pie, Christmas bread and other goodies. All had an enjoyable afternoon with a lot of visiting.

Vidda Lodge 4-663

Despite the adverse road conditions which kept some from attending, Vidda Lodge celebrated its 20th. Anniversary in October with a catered meal, presentations, and music.

The local food pantry was chosen as the recipient of the District IV Fundraiser. Food and funds were collected at the November and December lodge socials.



At the

Items collected by Vidda Lodge for Divide County Food Pantry, November 13, 2023, worth about \$102. Lodge members Brenda Ekness, Marlys Dolan, Rod Gillund.

December social, members enjoyed a meal of meatballs, mashed potatoes, salads, bløtkake, fatigmann and other goodies followed by readings and a sing-along.

They contributed money to the S/N Foundation.

Meetings are scheduled each month with a social to follow for the next three months.

Vidda Lodge President Gene Nygaard presents check for \$212 to Divide County Treasurer Anderson.





Zone 6

Paul Christofferson

Godt Nyt Ar (Happy New Year)!

For this article I made it a point to gather information from each lodge in Zone 6--not a difficult task when I receive copies of the lodges' newsletters. After e-mailing and/or calling each lodge I learned that not all issue newsletters. When we did not have an editor for the Hovedstad Lodge we sent out a president's letter via e-mail. An idea for those lodges without editors. I digress! Now to the article, which is a day late, but hopefully not a dollar short!

Quite a bit has been going on in zone six this fall and winter. A brief discussion of the happenings in the various lodges follows.

Great Falls (Lodsen 4-138)

October featured an appreciation dinner. This was followed in November by a social featuring the movie "Narvick". They also made lefse for the Christmas bake sale on three afternoons. Lodge members rang the bell for the Salvation Army at



the end of November through December 1st. In December they had a Christmas craft day; bake sale and social.

Kalispell (Fedraheimen 4-140)

In October one of the lodge members provided a presentation about Norwegians and their involvement in the thwarting of the German production of heavy water during World War II. In December the lodge members provided a lutefisk dinner at Kalispell's Bethlehem Lutheran Church. I am working with the lodge president to set up a meeting with the board members he can gather while I am in the area (Polson and Kalispell are only 51.5 miles apart) this January. One lodge does not have regularly scheduled monthly meetings and one was not on their calendar for January.

Missoula (Normanden 4-424)

The lodge had quite a busy fall and holiday season. This was kicked off in October with a family Halloween party. November events included a Norwegian cooking demonstration at the Missoula Public Library and a Scandinavian pancake breakfast. December started with their annual Scandinavian Marketplace. This is a very enjoyable event if you are in the Missoula area. Denise and I attended this last year and purchased quite a few items. This was followed by their traditional Christmas party.

Cut Bank (Normont 4-507)

Every Fall the lodge holds a drive to collect gloves and hats that are presented to the local schools during the holiday season. Additionally, they helped the local Lutheran church with their Lutefisk dinner. Monthly their lodge met at a local restaurant with nearly all lodge members in attendance.

Helena (Hovedstad 4-528)

The lodge held regularly scheduled meetings in October and November. The October Meeting included a potluck dinner with a movie about Summer Solstice celebrations in Norway (they are already looking forward to summer!) The November meeting included the annual soup and



roll dinner and a presentation regarding Norwegian immigration to America. In December they held Helena Hovedstad's lodge 50th anniversary with an open house followed by a catered dinner. About 30 members attended the dinner. A few members from the public attended and the lodge gained at least one new member because of the event. Members enjoyed Helena's Tuba band as our entertainment at the anniversary event. Helena's anniversary celebration fell on the same day as the Butte Daughters of Norway Lutefisk dinner so attendees couldn't enjoy their great feed, rats!

Libby (Norhaven 4-536)

The lodge members met to make lefse in their October meeting. This was quickly sold out so they made more lefse in their November meeting. Now they have some left over that is still for sale, so, if you are in the area, contact one of their lodge members. Unfortunately, it is a very long drive to Libby, or I would go pick some up!

Polson (Nordmanns Vis 4-542)

Each fall the lodge works with the local Lutheran church in putting on a harvest dinner. In preparation for the dinner lodge members make 700 to 1,000 pieces of lefse. Proceeds from the dinner are split between two charities. This year these were donated to the Senior Center and Search and Rescue, both in Polson. In December they met at the Senior Center and made Krumkake and lefse while the residents watched. The residents found this entertaining and enjoyed consuming the fresh desserts when they were done. Attendance at the Polson Lodge's January meeting is on my schedule.

Bozeman (Fjelldal 4-453)

The lodge members met for a potluck in October and enjoyed a presentation on Hygge (a Danish quality of life term). The November potluck included a program on the Vesterheim Folk Art School including a review of their on-line course offerings. In December they had a Christmas themed potluck with a presentation on Kubbestol (a traditional Norwegian Chair made from a log). The Great Falls lodge has a beautiful rosemaled chair

making workshop. Using the church kitchen as a mixing area, the participants were instructed on the entire process from ricing the potatoes to cooking the lefse on the seven grills set up for the workshop. They followed this with a public dinner with cooked pork that some used to stuff the lefse. Since the Lutheran church they meet in will not allow them to accept money, the lefse not consumed during the meal was given to the participants. Everyone had a great time. So far, they have gained two members as result of the event. In December they had their Christmas party which includes their annual lodge photo.

I hope everyone has a great year in 2024!



Galaxy S20 FE 5G





Sverdrup Lodge members prepared 442 lbs. of lutefisk and made 150 lbs. of meatballs the day prior to the dinner. Lodge members made about 130 dozen homemade cookies for dessert. The dinner, held on Saturday, Oct. 21st, served about 500 people. It was delicious!

Bottom left: The Saturdays before Thanksgiving and Christmas, Sverdrup holds their annual lefse sale at Gateway Mall.



Sverdrup Lodge member Susan Hammer Schneider and son Kael Schneider hiked St. Olaf's Way from Verdal to Stikkelstad, a 7 mile hike. Susan is holding the August 2021 issue of the Viking Magazine.