



# SONS OF NORWAY

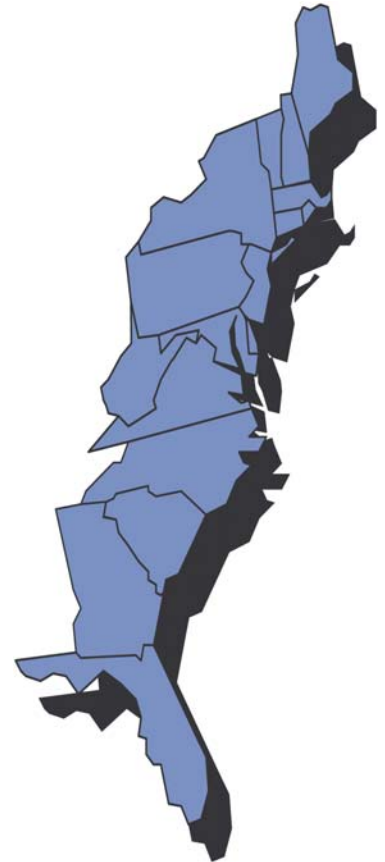
# 3D

## Godt nyttår!

January 2010

### Third District Today

#### Fra Presidenten Ralph Peterson



Godt nytt år!

I hope that you all had a great Christmas. For many of you it was a white one and I think that's the only time of the year when I can handle a bit of snow. I used up my quota for snow during my 21 years in ND, 10 in NJ and 4 in Norway.

November and December have been great months for **new members**, 102 so far. Gateway to Florida with Ken Larson leading the way picked up 18 new members and Nansen Lodge was right behind with 15 new members. I am writing this on 18 December so we have a few days left in December. Forty Seven of our lodges signed up at least one new member this year.

November was our web sites busiest month this year with over 97 visitors a day. We need more lodge pictures and lodge events posted on the site. <http://www.3dsofn.org/home.html> The information on the D3/Hurtigruten trip is now on our web site.

We will be instituting the New Bern NC lodge, Drammen 3-682 in February. Please check out the web site for the exact date and location. I hope that we can have a large crowd on hand for the event. While this is our 4<sup>th</sup> new lodge in a short period of time we should not slow down. If you are aware of any location that looks like it can support a new lodge please notify Vice President Ekloff.

January will see a lot of Lodge Office installations up and down the coast. I want to thank and congratulate all the new officers for taking on their new positions. I am sure that they will find it rewarding. For some it may be a bit intimidating to start. There are a lot of people that you can go to for guidance. There are past lodge officers, your Zone Director and the District Board to call on for help. There is a lot of written guidance available as well; the leadership manual (if you can't find one call supply at Headquarters and ask for one), your own bylaws, District bylaws, The SON Constitution, Roberts Rules of order and the SON web site which contains a multitude of information like available programs, Viking resource and your local lodge membership information.



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This is also the month when Lodge of the Year forms are being filled out. I was disappointed last year when 20 lodges failed to submit their forms. There are at least 3 reasons why you should fill out the form. You might win. One lodge who did not fill out a form last year probably would have won the Family Lodge of the Year based on what I saw in their newsletters. Even if you have no chance of winning your members have worked all year and their efforts should be recognized. They can be recognized by achieving Gold, Silver or Bronze status. Finally, it is important for the Sons of Norway to be able to document all the activities our lodges participate in to ensure our non-profit status remains intact.

I want to thank all of you for what you did for the Sons of Norway last year and in past years. I am looking forward to working you again this year and I have great faith that we will have even greater success in the years ahead.

Med vennlig hilsen

Ralph Peterson  
President  
District Three  
Sons of Norway



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Don't forget to:

**PASS THE PIGGY!**  
Have you fed your piggy today?  
All proceeds help fund grants and scholarships through Sons of Norway Foundation.




Celebrating culture. Expanding horizons.  
For more information, visit [www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation](http://www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation) or call 1-800-945-8851



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## *Fra Vise Presidenten Gail Ekloff*



A New Year – The opportunity for all members, officers, and lodge to try NEW programs and events. Use the 3D website to advertise your lodge events and meeting. Publish your events in the local paper or local TV. Outreach to the neighborhood; let them know that Sons of Norway is involved in the community. (With all the budget cuts, this might be the time you could get into an Adopt-A-School program).

Get ready for the Convention – Prepare resolutions to present. Review the Bylaws, the Charter and Constitution. See if there is a way to clarify an issue that is important in the running of Sons of Norway - as a whole, the District or your Lodge.

Be a delegate to the Convention – Time to think about it. While there is Convention business to attend to, there is also the opportunity to get to know other lodge members throughout the District and exchange information on ways to enrich your lodge's cultural programs. Attending the breakout sessions is informative and beneficial for you and your fellow lodge members. This is the time for you to voice your thoughts and let the leaders of the organization know your ideas and thoughts on the future of the Sons of Norway. Hope you want to attend and represent your lodge at the Convention.

Alt for denne gangen,

Gail

**REMEMBER THE 2 A'S TO GET NEW MEMBERS--- ASK AND ADVERTISE  
AND, TO KEEP MEMBERS, THE 2 M'S -----MENTOR AND MINGLE**



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## Our Secretary Says

*By Marci Larson – Gateway to Florida, President and Third District Secretary*

Many thanks to the lodges that sent me information re: their installation of officers and also copies of your D63 change of officers forms. As I have said repeatedly, I cannot update the 2010 Membership Directory without your lodge information, even if you have no changes. If you have not yet sent me this information - and about 15 lodges have not - please do so as soon as you can. There's really no point in doing a membership directory if the respective lodge information is inaccurate. And speaking of the 2010 directory, I will forward an order form to each lodge through the president and secretary in early January. I'm securing advertising to help offset the production and mailing costs so it can be offered to lodges at a slightly reduced price. My time line to complete and distribute the directory is March 1, sooner if possible.

Reminder - individuals or lodges should be considering a nominee for the prestigious Leif Erikson Award, which District 3 presents to a recipient who promotes the ideals of Norwegian culture and heritage. Many dedicated and deserving persons could be honored by this award and certainly have been since its origination in 1967 by the Hartford Lodge.

The criteria is as follows: Candidates may be any person or persons who has/have made major or significant contributions

- as humanitarians
- in public or charitable services
- in the fields of sports, education, medicine or the sciences
- for cultural advancement

1. Nominations may be made by any member of the Third District, Sons of Norway. They must include reasons for the nomination and factual evidence supporting the same. (Pictures, newspaper or news media articles, etc.)
2. A committee composed of members of the Third District, who have been appointed by the Third District Board, will make preliminary selections from the list of nominees and choose three (3) finalists.
3. The Third District Board will elect, by a ballot vote, the award recipient and the first and second alternates.

Completed nominations should be mailed to me at 4013 Moresburg Court, Jacksonville, FL 32257. **The nomination must be received no later than Friday, Feb. 19, 2010.** The Cultural Director and her committee will review the nominations submitted and will present them to the District Board at the spring board meeting in March. The District Board in turn will select the winner. If you have any questions about the process or need information please let me know. My e-mail is [mlarson@northfloridatpo.com](mailto:mlarson@northfloridatpo.com); my office phone is 904-306-7513; home is 904-260-4064.



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## Publicity

by Mary Andersen, 3D Publicity Director

### Our Harrisburg Convention

As I read the lodge newsletters I am in awe of all our talented members!! Please seriously consider joining forces and sponsor a lodge vendor table at the convention.

You should have received multiple communications regarding placing an ad in the convention journal at early bird prices, please try to take advantage of this great opportunity!

Many of our lodges have lodge newsletter advertisers, please remember to ask them to advertise in the convention journal; it is a great way for your advertisers to touch a larger audience at very reasonable prices!

*The following two articles were taken from Noreg's newsletter (I wasn't able to edit but I heard the Ribbe Dinner was a big success!!) Congratulations Barbara and thanks for the articles!*

### THE LUCIA LEGEND



This celebration goes back to the Middle Ages, yet it has significance today. The legend takes us back to the year 304AD, to a little town called Syracuse, Italy. Lucia, a maiden of nobility, suffered a martyr's death for becoming a Christian. She ministered to the poor by giving them food and hope. She also carried food at night to Christians hiding in catacombs, and used candles in her hair to light the way.

Tales of courageous deeds were carried by Missionaries to Northern Scandinavian countries. December 13<sup>th</sup> is celebrated in Scandinavia as "Lucia Dag", which ushers in the Christmas season. Sweden is perhaps the country where Lucia has its deepest roots. The singing of Christmas songs and the Lucia Pageant with the Lucia bride, bakers, star boys, maidens and tomten is the message that Christmas will soon arrive.

Come join us on December 6<sup>th</sup> for the Ribbe Dinner and Saint Lucia Pageant at Noreg Lodge.

Barbara Bensen



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## JEWELRY OF NORWAY

In rural Norway in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, women, men, and children wore some kind of silver jewelry every day. Often that jewelry was in the form of a brooch or *sølje*. Some styles of *sølje* were specific to a region, others were used across the country. Simple pins were worn daily as the only fastener on a shirt or blouse. On special occasions, Norwegians wore more silver with their *bunader*, festive folk costumes, such as large brooches, buttons and shoe buckles, and finger rings.

Silver showed the wealth and prosperity of a family, and Norwegians also believed it cured sickness in humans and animals, improved crops, and protected against storms and evil spirits. *Huldrefolk* were perhaps the primary reason for wearing silver jewelry. Also known as underworld creatures, *huldrefolk* tried to strengthen their gene pool by marrying humans and stealing children. Rural Norwegians never knew when or where they would encounter a *huldrefolk*, so they felt it was important to wear silver jewelry daily. The metal itself was strong, and dangling ornaments added protection by reflecting evil away from the wearer. Each time jewelry was worn in church or was handed down to the next generation, it became even more powerful.

Rites of passage, especially baptism and marriage, were common times of *huldrefolk* attack, because humans were vulnerable as they changed status. The time between birth and baptism was particularly dangerous for infants because they were in constant danger of being swapped with *huldrefolk* babies. Parents often pinned a tiny *sølje* on the baby's clothes until baptism provided more permanent protection. Girls might get their first full-sized *sølje* to protect them at confirmation.

At the precise moment a woman went from being single to married, she risked being taken into the mountain by *huldrefolk*. Brides wore the most and finest jewelry, including several large brooches, finger rings and bridal necklaces. Women throughout Norway wore special headdresses. Brides in central Norway wore headdresses decorated with beads and dangles. In western and northern Norway, brides wore metal crowns with hanging decorations shaped like circles, crosses, leaves and birds. The few crowns that existed in a church parish were often available for rent from the owner, usually a minister or wealthy farmer.

The Norwegian immigrants often took their *bunader* with them to their new homes but rarely used them. They did, however, continue to use their *sølje*. Norwegian women quickly adapted American clothing but proudly wore a *sølje* at the neck to show their Norwegian heritage. *Søljer* are no longer used for protection; in fact, most wearers today are not even aware of that function which was so important in the past. Silver is still powerful as a symbol of ethnic ancestry.

The prong in the center of the *sølje* was originally the fastening device. Some of the shirt fabric was pushed up into the center of the hole and the prong was stuck through the fabric. Even after modern pin clasps were added, beginning in the 1890's, the center prong has remained on many *søljer* as a design element.

Hanging decorations, called *lauv* or *lov*, are a characteristic feature of Norwegian brooches. Though most commonly round, *lov* can also take the form of spoon-shaped ovals, even-sided crosses, or diamonds that are left plain or engraved to look like leaves. In addition, filigree *lov* are used. Some brooches have just three *lov*, while others literally drip with hangings.

Filigree is a Norwegian speciality. The technique originated in the Far East and came through Europe, first appearing in Norway in the 14th century. It fell out of use until the 18th century, when it once again became popular. Rural Norwegians were especially fond of this technique and elevated it to an art form. (by Lillian Gilbertson, Curator of Textiles) If you own pieces of *sølje*, wear them and enjoy them. B. Bensen



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## Words from our webmaster

*By Jim Dunagan, Oslo Lodge, 3D Webmaster*

It's a real pleasure for me to be able to help the Third District with our internet effort. If you haven't checked lately, I would encourage you to visit the Third District's official site at [www.3dsofn.org](http://www.3dsofn.org). It has a great new design, with plenty of information available about events happening at lodges all over the district.

As our effort to grow the district's outreach to existing and potential members using the Internet continues, we've been really encouraged by the response our website is getting. From September through November, we've seen a 30% increase in total visits and a 28% gain in unique visitors over the previous 3 month period! That translates into over 1800 different visitors to our site each month, which helps boost lodge events and membership, not to mention the tremendous boost in publicity it gives to SON! Thank you so much for your support of our site.

One of our newest initiatives is to provide our member lodges with the means to host their own website on the Internet. We recently worked with Hudson Valley Lodge to set up their lodges' site, and now it's up and running and looking great! Take a moment and visit it at <http://hudsonvalley.3dsofn.org/> to see for yourself!

## Cultural Corner

**Many of our lodges have on-going cultural programs!! If you are in the area, check them out:**

**Hartford Lodge** -third Sunday of every month (except December, June, July & August) learn rosemaling, woodcarving and knitting!

**Nor-bu** - folk dancing on the second and fourth Monday of the month

**SunViking** -knitting on the third Friday of the month; rosemaling is available too!!

**We can make this a regular feature; let us know your ongoing and upcoming cultural events; share your ideas and success stories, blog about it!**



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## What's LOV got to do with us?

LAND OF THE VIKINGS

*A District 3 Cultural and Recreational Center*

### A Message from our LOV Board An Important Clarification

Earlier this year, a lodge weekend at Land of the Vikings had to be cancelled, resulting in some hard feelings and misunderstandings. This unfortunate incident did, however, serve to remind us of the need to clearly communicate LOV policies to all lodges, and the need to review the current policy book to determine what changes may be needed to avoid a repetition of what happened.

As a point of clarification, we all have to remember that LOV is a business. It is not, however, a 24/7 day-to-day operation with full-time staff. Member groups and others can call and book rooms, providing rooms are available and a sufficient number of rooms is booked to make it financially feasible to open the facility. The managers need notification of how many people will be coming in order to purchase the correct amount of food and schedule sufficient staff for the weekend.

The lodge in question had originally booked 11 rooms for the weekend. There were five cancellations, two of them just days before the weekend, leaving a total of only 9 adults and 4 children. Unfortunately, that is not enough for LOV to break even for a weekend. To cover costs, we need to have a minimum booking of ten rooms and twenty adults (children only pay for meals). Cancelling the lodge's weekend was a difficult, but necessary, decision to make.

In years past, when lodges were filling the rooms and many lodges had waiting lists, an issue like this would not have come into play. But most lodges are no longer filling every room. That has led to lodges joining together for weekends, resulting in new friendships and more fun. The unfortunate cancellation of this lodge's weekend will help us to focus on and gain a better understanding of the changes that are taking place. The LOV Board is taking a look at the policy book to see what changes might need to be made to existing policies.

We need everyone's support to help keep Land of the Vikings growing and thriving. We encourage everyone to come and enjoy the serenity, the peacefulness, the opportunity to get to know other Third District members, and to enjoy side trips to visit attractions in the area.



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If you haven't been to LOV in awhile you might want to check out the [look of LOV](#). Prepared by Luana Jøsvold, LOV Publicity Director.

*Make your reservations for New Year's Eve now!!! Over 90 people attended the festivities last year*

## **“In the Zone”**

Did you know you can find out what is going on in other lodges by clicking on About Us and then lodges on the 3D website. This will take you to the Sons of Norway page which contains all of our lodges. Lodge names highlighted in blue means they have their own website; check out what they are doing and if you are travelling in the area, drop in and say hello!!

## **Zone 2**

### **Hartford Holiday Happenings!**





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## Maine Nordmenn Christmas festivities



## Zone 3

## Bernt Balchen Christmas Festivities





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## Zone 5

### Gateway to Florida



#### Membership Recognition

When the Gateway to Florida Lodge in Jacksonville held its annual Jul Fest Dec. 6 with a record attendance, individuals who had reached membership milestones of five, 10, 15, etc. years, were recognized for their longevity. Recipients attending who had achieved 25 years and more membership include (from left) Kent Larson, lodge treasurer; 40 years; Ann-Rita Perkins, 30 years; Evelyn Hopkins, Saga Skafte-Lindblom (age 104 years young) and Pete Hopkins, 35 years; Karin Parks, 25 years; Marci Larson, lodge president and District 3 secretary, 30 years; and Adolph Baste, 50 years. Evelyn, Saga, Pete and Adolph are charter members. This group SON membership totals 280 years. In addition to the membership recognition, 14 new members joined, many of Finnish heritage.

### Southern Star Celebrates!



### Suncoast International Night



Third District Today



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Zone 6

Hampton Roads- Dancing around the Christmas tree

Check out the 3D photo gallery <http://www.3dsofn.org/photogallery/index.html>

## Parting Shot

Courtesy of Eleanor Froiland Andrews - Maine Nordmenn (too nice not to include - thanks Eleanor!!)

**God Jul og Godt Nytt U!** Erna Gunhild Nelson Collection - 1915





## Upcoming Events

### January 2010

- 6<sup>th</sup> Fram - Installation of Officers
- 8<sup>th</sup> Gateway to Florida - Installation of Officers
- 8<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Installation of Officers
- 8<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley - LOV weekend
- 10<sup>th</sup> Færder - Installation of Officers
- 10<sup>th</sup> Fram - Installation of Officers
- 10<sup>th</sup> Southern Star - Installation of Officers
- 11<sup>th</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing
- 15<sup>th</sup> Bondelandet - Installation and Lutefiske
- 15<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen - Membership meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> Hartford learn some Norwegian Folk dances
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing

### February

- 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Hartford - Vinterfest
- 7<sup>th</sup> Southern Star - Super Bowl Party
- 7<sup>th</sup> Fram - Annual cod fish dinner
- 8<sup>th</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Viking weapons & armor
- 13<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley - bowling
- 14<sup>th</sup> Færder - Valentine Party
- 19<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen - Membership meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> Hartford - learn about Ski for Light
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing

### March

- 7<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen- bowling
- 8<sup>th</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing
- 12<sup>th</sup> Troll - Installation of Officers
- 12<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Vikings in Ireland
- 13<sup>th</sup> Southern Star - St. Patrick's Day Parade
- 13<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley - meeting at Maennerchor
- 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Gateway to Florida - Viking Boat Regatta
- 19<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen - Brothers night
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Færder - Bowling followed by lapskaus dinner
- 21<sup>st</sup> Hartford - author David Faxon discusses his book re the murder of two Norwegian immigrants
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nor-bu - folk dancing

### April

- 9<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Easter Bonnet Parade
- 10<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Picnic at Crews Lake Park
- 10<sup>th</sup> Hudson Valley - Yutes night at Maennerchor
- 11<sup>th</sup> Færder - Sisters Night
- 18<sup>th</sup> Zone 1 (Brooklyn) Memorial Service
- 18<sup>th</sup> Hartford - Ham Dinner
- 24<sup>th</sup> Zone 4 Scholarship Dinner at LOV

### May

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Færder - Kentucky Derby Dinner
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Zone 1 (Long Island) Memorial Service
- 16<sup>th</sup> Syttende Mai parade in Brooklyn
- 14<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - Syttende Mai celebration

### June

- 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Third District Convention
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sun Viking - mid-summer festival
- 13<sup>th</sup> Færder - business and bingo
- 18<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen - Strawberry Festival
- 19<sup>th</sup> Henrik Ibsen - yard sale
- 20<sup>th</sup> Hartford - Ice cream social

Remember to post your events to the Events Calendar on our 3d website

<http://www.3dsofn.org/eventscalendar/>

Get the word out and remember one of Vice President's "A's" - ADVERTISE



# SONS OF NORWAY

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## 3D Officers

President, Ralph Peterson  
Vice President, Gail Ekloff  
Secretary, Marci Larson  
Treasurer, John Gregg  
Counselor, Louis Olsen  
Youth Director, Evelyn Karpack  
Sports/Recreation Director - Phil Nelsen  
Publicity Director, Mary Andersen  
Cultural Director, Karen Doty  
Adopt A School Coordinators, The Olson's

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Zone 2 Director, Judith Mack  
Zone 3 Director, Joan McKillop  
Zone 4 Director, Arnold Johnsen  
Zone 5 Director, Carol Anderson  
Zone 6 Director, Kathy Dollymore

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