



SONS OF NORWAY

3D

June, 2009

Third District Today

Fra Presidenten Ralph Peterson

June 2009

Hei alle sammen,

I hope that you had a great Syttende Mai where ever you where. I was in Brooklyn for that parade. I know that we had a lot of great events throughout the District. Please post your lodge event pictures on our web site.

The Grand Marshall of the Brooklyn parade was International President Dan Rude. This was his second visit to District Three in a very short time and he is welcome back whenever he wants.

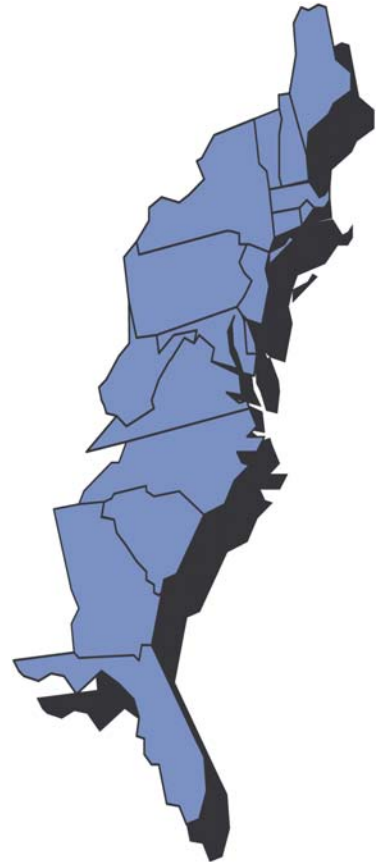
Our membership status is entering a tough part of the year. So far we have lost some members but we are very close to holding our own. The summer months have historically been months where we have lost a lot of members. Please do your best to keep in contact with all your members and continue to sign up new members. In other words you don't have the summer off when it comes to membership.

The Founders awards for 2008 have been released. The Founders awards are given to lodges who have had at least a 3% increase in membership growth over the past year. I am happy to say that we had several lodges who earned the award which comes with at least a \$50 check and more if you have more that a 20% increase. Sister Gail has more on this subject and the winners will be posted on our web site. Congratulations to those Lodges on this list. Hopefully we will see your lodge's name there next year.

We have had a flurry of Anniversaries in the District in the past days. Sarasota celebrated their 35th, Henrik Ibsen their 75th, Oslo their 60th, Southern Star their 15th, Hartford their 45th and Gateway to Florida their 35th.

I wanted to get to all the anniversaries as they are truly special events. I did get to 3 of them and they were all great. Congratulations to all.

Our Hurtigruten project is going well. If you haven't seen any tickets yet, check with your President. I hope to hear from the winner(s) as they cruise the Northern coast of Norway. This is our major fund raiser for the year so help yourself and the District by purchasing a ticket.





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Most of our lodges as well as the District do not publish a news letter during the summer. Our District web site will be up and running all summer so you can continue to post your events and the District Board will continue to post information as well. I hope to send you a short note as well over the summer months. The bottom line is to continue to check the web site on a routine basis as there is a lot of pertinent information available there.

Our web site has been doing well since we had it reworked. We have been averaging about 5,000 hits a week and two weeks we were in the 10,000 hit range. The posting of the District Newsletter (TDT) may have had an impact on the 2 high numbers. Hopefully we have some future members looking at the site trying to check on *your* lodge. We have asked for a history of each lodge to post on the site; so far we have only received about 10 histories, we can do better. Please send your histories in so we can get them posted. We also want you to post your pictures and events. Let's keep the site full, current and interesting for our own members, our prospective members and potential visitors from lodges across the country. It can only help our membership goals.



Have a great summer and don't leave home without a couple of membership applications in your pocket!!!!!!!!!!!!

Fraternally

Ralph Peterson
President
District Three
Sons of Norway



Fra Vise Presidenten Gail Ekloff



MEMBERSHIP – THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Congratulations to all the Lodges who earned Founders Award from Sons of Norway in 2008! The Sons of Norway Founders Awards recognizes and rewards lodges who achieved certain levels of membership growth during the year. Along with a certificate, each lodge is awarded a cash prize: \$50 for growth of 3% to 19% or \$100 for growth of 20% or over.

Lodges with membership growth of 3% or more in 2008 have each earned a Founders Award. While none went over 20%, the following District 3 lodges were in the 3% to 19% growth range:

3-232 Dovre, Providence RI, 9%	3-551 Port Orange, Port Orange FL, 5%
3-337 Norge, East Williston NY, 6%	3-566 Bernt Balchen, Rowlands PA, 11%
3-432 HudsonValley, Kingston NY, 10%	3-607 Sun Viking, Spring Hill FL, 5%
3-438 Oslo, Syracuse, NY, 15%	3-612 Bondelandet, Lancaster PA, 11%
3-539 Sarasota, Sarasota FL, 4%	3-615 Space Coast Viking, Melbourne FL, 6%
3-541 Gateway To Fl., Jacksonville FL, 9%	3-664 Maine Nordmenn, Falmouth ME, 14%

Gratulerer med alt deres harde arbeid!

We are half way through the time period to reach our District Goals; let's revisit the first five District Three goals for period 1 June 2009 to 31 May 2010 relating to membership and see where we stand.:

Goals

1. Grow local lodge membership by 5%
2. Reduce local lodge members voluntarily leaving by 5%
3. All lodges to recruit at least one new member
4. Increase the number of lodges with active Membership Committees to 70%
5. Start one new lodge

Progress to date

Of our 52 lodges: 22 had 0% or better growth, leaving 30 in the negative membership numbers. Out of the 6 Zones in the District only Zone 6 showed a positive growth, due in part to the institution of Norsk Carolina Lodge.

District 3 has 52 Lodges (one is in progress) with 7193 members adult and Juveniles as of 20 April 2009. As of 31 December 2008 we had 7,302, which mean we are down 109 members. Of course, a small amount is due to those we have lost involuntarily. An overwhelming number of members in the April membership report were in the suspended column; out of 96



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members reported as leaving, 80 were in the suspended column! Hopefully, these members have been contacted and have now paid their dues, so next month's numbers will be up.

To date I have received information from 19 lodges verifying they have a Membership Committee, which brings us to approx. 32%. (Please remember that the Committee works on both retaining and attracting new members.)

There are 20 lodges that have no juvenile members. Please work to increase this number. Most of you have young relatives that could join as "Heritage" members, it costs nothing for them to join, and it helps your lodge ensure its future.

Survey* results

The trend of losing members needs to be addressed by each lodge and turned around, so with that in mind a Survey conducted by Sons of Norway on why members do NOT rejoin identified the following key points:

- Half of former members joined Sons of Norway to celebrate their heritage.
- Programming was not interesting.
- Meeting and event times are inconvenient for people who work full time.
- Age gap, few people their own age.
- Difficulty in connecting with others at meetings and events.
- Wanted more opportunities for families and children.
- Sons of Norway perceived as an organization of "old people".
- Programming should reflect more current interests.
- Focus on recruiting the 40-55 age group with more on line communication.

The Sons of Norway membership is aging: 70% of members are over age 60 and 19% are over 80. If Sons of Norway continues to have a 2% annual decline in membership, the projected membership will be 35,000 in 2029!! That is sobering news. It is, therefore, important that all members are made aware of the consequences and work seriously to reverse the trend.

The Membership/Retention Committee chaired by Fraternal Director Eivind Heiberg met and reviewed the survey findings and are working on specific action steps and strategies to address the results of the survey.*

What you can do

The survey results should be reviewed by your lodge board and kept in mind as you plan activities for your lodge.

Did your lodges take the Membership Satisfaction Survey and the Health Lodge Review in May? If not, I URGE you to do it in June and, along with the above survey results, utilize them in the goals of your lodge growth for the rest of 2009 and 2010. The good news is you have data to work from to help you change how your lodge runs and to improve how it can serve your members better. We have one year from now until the convention in June to achieve our goals.



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In the fall we will start a 9 Month Medlemskap scorer bord (Membership Score Board) to see who can win the challenge for the most 999 members to transfer to a lodge. All lodges can participate and we will keep track each month to see who's ahead. From June 2008 to April of 2009, we had 28 members transfer from 999 to 13 local lodges. In 2008, the lodges to get members were Sun Viking 3; Maine Nordmenn 3; and Washington 2. Norumbega, Norsk Carolina, Lauderdale, Bernt Balchen, and Sarasota all had 1. So far, in 2009 we have had 8 members transfer: Bondelandet 3, Vennekretsen 3, Loyal 1, and Hudson Valley 1.

Let's all commit to get the membership numbers back up!

Remember the 2 A's — Ask & Advertise to get members, AND the 2 M's — Mentor and Mingle keep your members

Good luck!

Alt for denne gangen,
Gail

*excerpted from a report I received from International Vice President Marit Kristiansen

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

Financial

Thor's Top Ten Reason to Own a Sons of Norway Annuity

1. Guaranteed Safety of Principal
2. Guaranteed Minimum Interest Rate
3. Guaranteed Income For Life
4. High Current Interest Rates
5. Tax Deferred Accumulations
6. No Sales Charge
7. No Annual Service Fees
8. Penalty Free Withdrawals Beginning in Year Two
9. Penalty Free RMD Withdrawals for IRA's
10. Safety and Security with over 113 Years of Experience

Contact your financial benefits counselor for more information.



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International Insights

By Barbara Berntsen, International Director

International Insights

It is my greatest pleasure to visit with so many members across the tremendous Third. I have been traveling throughout the district and enjoyed seeing all of you. My schedule allowed me to visit 5 states: Connecticut twice, Florida twice, New Jersey twice, North Carolina once and Pennsylvania three times (and of course those lodges in New York) totaling visits to 12 different lodges, attended events at Zones 1, 2, 5, & 6, facilitated 3 exchanges of ideas, besides joining events at LOV 8 separate times, all between the months of January through June 2009. I thank everyone who welcomed me to their lodge and/or event and thank all the members who participated in the exchange of ideas. I will be heading up to Maine this summer but look forward to relaxing in Saratoga, although you can never tell what the future will bring. There are many amazing things happening at LOV and this summer may be as active as ever.

There are some exciting things happening for all the members in the order. There has been an overall increase of a little more than 20% in the **Sports Medal Program**. Our district earned 107 medals that were awarded during 2008. Let's see if we can beat that figure for 2009. There is also an increase in the participation of the cultural program and I am presently working on my Norwegian Literature award. I have almost completed part 1 and hope to have part 2 finished by the end of the summer.

There are three Sons of Norway website upgrades:

- The first upgrade is to the **On-Line signup** section on the www.sofn.com site. If a prospective member is interested in joining a lodge that does not require a vote, they are given the opportunity to join the lodge immediately. However, lodges that require a vote will have the lodge information name and phone number available, enabling prospective members to contact the lodge directly. The lodge contact people should forward their e-mail address allowing those who sign up on line, to then click directly into your vice president or contact person e-mail, giving the lodge the opportunity to respond and welcome prospective/new members to visit the lodge. The sooner you forward your e-mail address, the sooner you will start receiving these member requests.
- The second upgrade will enable Lodge officers will now have the availability to **download the 000 & 999 membership lists**. This is the perfect venue to recruit and welcome these members into your lodge.
- The third upgrade is in the **In Loving Memory** section where members can now post respectful obituaries of members who have recently passed away.

Membership is a goal set for every member. If we all bring in one member we could double our district membership. Vice President Ekloff is working very hard with this effort, so we can all assist her by recruiting one member. We have 12 lodges that had grown by 4% and more. The star lodge is Oslo Lodge, NY whose membership grew 15%, followed closely by Maine Nordmenn, ME with 14%. Gratulerer to Oslo and Maine Nordmenn plus these lodges: Dovre, Norge, Hudson Valley, Sarasota, Gateway to Florida, Port Orange, Bernt Balchen, Sun Viking, Bondelandet, and Space



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Coast Vikings. All these lodges had a growth between 4% - 11%. The good news is our members continue to be active and successful recruiters. Their efforts added 77% of the new members in 2008. Keep up the great work!

Fed Ex and Kinko's discount program began this spring. The breakdown will be:

- 35% discount on all black and white or color printing/copying
- 15% discount on banners, binding, design services, FedEx shipping, etc.
- 10 % off all in-store merchandise at any FedEx/Kinko's location

This will really save money for the lodges mailing out their newsletters, making brochures, posters, and advertising materials. The program is scheduled to roll-out in May and the Third District Lodges can utilize this savings. The lodges will receive this information very soon. Happy saving!

The 2010 international convention will be an expensive endeavor. The fraternal department is developing a **sponsorship program** where businesses and strategic partners are given promotional opportunities in exchange for underwriting various expenses, programs, and events. This can be a potential savings for all facets of the convention expenses. If you know of a business or strategic partner who might be contacted or would like to participate please contact me or Fraternal Director Eivind Heiberg.

The International Board of Directors and Sons of Norway Headquarters are seeking viable ways to increase our savings and/or implement cost savings. The board and staff feel it is prudent to be proactive and cautious as we proceed in the future. If anyone has any ideas, please feel free to let me know.

Have a wonderful Summer Vacation

Barbara

Fraternally Speaking

By Mary Andersen

The Sons of Norway was formed by a group of Norwegian immigrants to insure each other in case of unexpected events. With that in mind, as we head into the summer months there are always calls for more blood; lately a recent article in the Wall Street Journal <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124338408532856679.html> reminded me of how many of us in Sons of Norway are connected by a special heritage. While this article focuses on minorities, we all share similar characteristics which could help others with our heritage. If you are so inclined to donate blood, think about bone marrow, who knows, you could be helping a fellow lodge member or Norwegian somewhere and it might be someone closer than you think. If you make the donation a lodge event, it could even be membership opportunity!



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Charitable Trust

You, collectively, the members of the 3rd District, have responded in a gratifying manner to the appeal letter written to you in February, 2009. I asked you to answer the need for donations to the District Lodge No. 3 Charitable Trust...and you did. You made personal donations, offered memorial gifts for loved ones, celebrated another lodge's anniversary with a donation, showed appreciation to the installing officer of your lodge through a donation, recognized a lodge member's achievements with a donation, sent a direct donation from your lodge's treasury and on and on. You demonstrated a personal connection to the fraternal spirit embodied in the work of the trust fund. And this effort highlighted the perpetual expression of your loyalty to our Sons of Norway heritage and the welfare of our brothers and sisters.

On behalf of the Executive Committee Board/Trustees, I congratulate each and every one of you.

For those who might feel left out as you have not responded yet, do not dismay. Opportunity still exists for you. So, pick up that pen and do what others have done and include yourself among those receiving accolades. And I congratulate you also!

Checks - District No. 3 Charitable Trust
Mail - Louis O. Olsen, M.D., Counselor
7 Farnham Way
Timonium, MD 21093-7417

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 or call 1-800-945-8851



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Publicity

by Mary Andersen

Website statistics

Our new website (www.sofn3d.org) has been up for two months!! Last week we had over 5000 hits and the place most visited was the calendar of events! Please take some time to update the website for your lodge events and don't forget to submit your lodge history. The latest buzz phrase is "content is king"; take some time and your content to the events calendar. Who knows how many visitors from the Third District as well as from other parts of the country might be interested in attending one of your events; but your event has to be posted for them to know something is going on!

The following is a link to an article regarding internet usage

<http://seniorjournal.com/NEWS/WebsWeLike/2009/20090207-FastestGrowing.htm> . Whether we agree or disagree, like it or not, internet communication is here to stay!

Photo Gallery

Have you checked out the photo gallery on the website?

Extract from a local lodge newsletter

Excerpted from Norrøna's Midnatsol

NORSE MYTHOLOGY

The Norse myths were passed down orally for centuries in Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and Germany. In the 11th century they were written down by Icelandic scholars, including Snorri Sturluson in the PROSE EDDAS and POETIC EDDAS. When Christianity came to the area in the 12th century, church officials attacked the myths as pagan blasphemy.

Myths are stories with a supernatural content. Such stories are found in all cultures. They serve important functions like teaching rules for living, answering "questions of ultimate meaning," and providing entertainment.

Like the better known Greek and Roman myths, Norse myths described a hierarchy of gods with differing levels of power and importance. These gods had human frailties and emotions; they could be spiteful, jealous, and foolish. The gods had areas of specialization, such as being a war god, a healer god, and a trickster god. Gods presided over music, farming, skiing, and herding sheep. Unlike the immortal Greek gods, the Norse gods could die.

Norse mythology pictured a universe made of realms. Valhalla (Gimle') was the highest realm, inhabited by warriors who died while fighting bravely in battle. They were selected for this honor by the Valkyries. Asgard and Vanaheim were realms inhabited by two kinds of gods (Aesir gods and Vanir gods). Jotunheim was inhabited by giants and trolls. Midgard was the earth, inhabited by humans. Darkalfheim was an underground realm inhabited by ugly dwarves who forged wonderful metalwork. Niflheim or Hel was the underworld, inhabited by all the dead except those in Valhalla.



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Yggdrasil was the giant tree of life. When this tree died, there would be a final battle between good and evil forces, Ragnarokk (Armageddon).

(Editor's Note: I omitted more of the following article for lack of space)

Recurrent themes in the Norse myths include: 1) the importance of fate, 2) everyone has a weak spot, 3) danger comes when you don't expect it, 4) when you make a mistake, consequences will follow, 5) everything comes at a price, 6) show reverence for the gods, 7) the importance of honor, and 8) male supremacy.

The gods lived in Asgard. Some of the Norse gods and goddess' were:

- o ODIN foremost god, omniscient and all-seeing.
- o FRIGG favorite wife of Odin, goddess of household and spinning.
- o THOR thunder god, used magic hammer to kill trolls and giants.
- o SIF Thor's wife, her hair was stolen.
- o FREYA goddess of beauty.
- o HEIMDALL god who guarded Asgard, had Gjallarhorn to warn of danger.
- o BALDER god of light, most popular god.
- o HEL goddess who guards the gates of the underworld.
- o IDUN goddess who had apples which kept the other gods young.
- o LOKI demigod who played mean tricks.
- o SKADE goddess of skiers.
- o HOD blind god who accidentally killed Balder.
- o FREY god of fertility and harvest.
- o NJORD kind god whose breath made winds to sail ships and put out wild fires.

Some prominent giants were Ymir whose body was used to make the earth (mountains from his bones, forests from his hair, etc.) and Mimir who gave wisdom to Odin in exchange for Odin's eye.

D'AULAIRE'S BOOK OF NORSE MYTHS by Edger & Ingri D'Aulaire, first published in 1967 and was reissued in 2005.

Excerpted from Suncoast News, article by Wendy Copeland, Cultural Director

Norwegian Summer Solstice

Midsummer may simply refer to the period of time centered upon the summer solstice, but more often refers to specific European celebrations that accompany the actual solstice, or that take place on the 24th of June and the preceding evening. European midsummer-related holidays, traditions, and celebrations are pre-Christian in origin. They are particularly important in Northern Europe - Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden - but are found also in Ireland, parts of Britain (Cornwall especially), France, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, the Ukraine, other parts of Europe, and elsewhere - such as Canada, the United States, Puerto Rico, and also in the Southern Hemisphere (Brazil), where this imported European celebration would be more appropriately called Midwinter.



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Solstitial celebrations still center on 21 June, which is no longer the longest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. The difference between the Julian calendar year (365.2500 days) and the tropical year (365.2422 days) moved the day associated with the actual astronomical solstice forward approximately three days every four centuries, until Pope Gregory XIII changed the calendar bringing the solstice to around 21 June. In the Gregorian calendar, the solstice does shift, but in the long term it moves only about one day in 3000 years. Sankthansaften is celebrated on 23 June in Norway. The day is also called Jonsok, which means "John's wake", important in Catholic times with pilgrimages to churches and holy springs. For instance, up until 1840 there was a pilgrimage to the stave church in Røldal (southwest Norway) whose crucifix was said to have healing powers. Today, however, Sankthansaften is largely regarded as a secular event. In most places the main event is the burning of a large bonfire. In parts of Norway a custom of arranging mock marriages, both between adults and between children, is still kept alive. The wedding was meant to symbolize the blossoming of new life. Such weddings are known to have taken place in the 1800s, but the custom is believed to be older.

Wendy Copeland Cultural Director

Youth Camp *By Evelyn Karpack, Youth Camp Director*

Do you have a skill you can share?

Do you like working with children?

Looking to escape the heat and spend some time in the mountains?

We are finalizing our list of camp counselors for the 2009 Youth camp and there is always room for more!! Let me know if you can help in the following areas:

- **Language**- Young group- teach table prayer and anthem - with both groups can teach basic language, history, culture, games, etc.
- **Wood carving**- Actual wood carving with the older group and just simple wood working with the younger group.
- **Archery** - teach the basics.
- **Hardanger** - for beginners may use plastic canvas and then graduate to aida cloth according to the ability of the camper.
- **Nurse** - Mostly handle headaches, small bruises etc. and dispense medication as needed.

The classes are 40 minute periods each morning. Besides conducting classes in the morning, we all help prepare meals, clean up after meals and chaperone activities which include transporting campers to the movies and to go canoeing. Counselors also help organize games and crafts in the afternoon and plan activities for the evening.

If you are willing to do what is needed and want to have some fun at the same time, please contact me to find out which spots are open.

Thank you,

Evelyn Karpack Third District Youth Director farmorkar@msn.com or 973-627-563



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Celebrate Culture

Work on the Cultural Skills program this summer!

Add some Norwegian books to your summer reading list; visit http://www.sofn.com/members/PDF/Cultural%20Skills/CS2_04.pdf for more information.

Syttende Mai Parade in Brooklyn

People came from all over for this parade! More pictures in the 3D website Photo Gallery.





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“District Doings”

District 3 Golf Outing in September (17th-20th)

(The following is a condensed version of Keith’s letter; for the complete letter which includes more details regarding pricing go to <http://www.3dsofn.org/eventscaledar/eventdetail.aspx?EventID=33> or contact Keith)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is with great pleasure that I announce the 9th annual 3rd District “Robert Morton Golf Invitational”. The event will take place on September 17th, 18th and 19th. This year’s lodging and banquet will return to the Crown Reef Resort, which is in Myrtle Beach at 2913 South Ocean Blvd. The accommodations are the standard rooms and all have balconies.

Golf play will be in a scramble format with a handicap calculation to even the field. Each round gets added to achieve a cumulative total. Full teams can enter and players will be teamed up to keep the teams as evenly balanced as possible. Please indicate your average golf score when you send in your deposit money. This event will include 3 rounds of golf starting Thursday afternoon. The 2nd round will be on Friday morning and the final round on Saturday morning. To add to the challenge, each round will be played on a different course. We will conclude this event with an awards Banquet on Saturday night. We will have entry prizes along with the customary “Closest to the Pin” and Longest Drive” awards. Place prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place. .

Deposit requirements of \$150.00 per person must be received by July 17th. The balance of all monies must be paid by the 17th of August.

This facility is on the beach and September starts the busy golf season. **Do NOT put off making your reservation** if you want to be part of this tournament. In addition to the golf package, there is a Tournament Fee of **\$50.00** for each golfer.

There are many things to enjoy at Myrtle Beach besides golf. There are many places to visit as well as good restaurants and nightlife.

Contact me with your questions

Office - 407-240-9376

Cell - 407-908-5529

Office Fax - 407-240-1236

E-Mail - Beserker56@aol.com or beserker56@bellsouth.net

Fraternally,

Keith Lavin
3D Golf Chairman



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What's LOV got to do with us?

Many hands make light work and have a lot of fun!

Come one come all!



I want to welcome you to a fabulous weekend at Land of the Vikings.

Plan on joining many of my valued volunteers for a fun filled work weekend from June 26th to June 28th. You do not need to be a handy-man or have any expertise in repairs.

We are going to repair/replace and paint the white fence surrounding the property. We need 15 people to make the project run perfectly.

There are many projects on my agenda to begin or complete at LOV and everyone can join in, some are large projects and some are small projects.

The list of projects is:

- the dining room chairs cleaned
- the managers house -
 - kitchen wall-paper to be removed and walls painted
 - the downstairs bathroom painted
 - floor tiling in downstairs bathroom
 - stucco the outside foundation
- remove the wood around the playground
- remove the flower boxes under the dining room windows
- power wash the white house
- cut up the awning to dispose of
- build shelves for Youth Camp items

All of these projects might not be completed, but many can be done that weekend if we have the volunteers to get the projects done. Remember this is a free weekend for those who come and work. You can become one of the comrades in arms whose friendships last a lifetime.

Please contact Roy at 516-791-3983 or 516-457-4893 or royb50@optonline.net and let me know you are coming and what project you would like to tackle so I can have the materials ready when you arrive.

We need you!!!

Roy



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Don't Forget

The LOV Operating Board would like to find names for four of the buildings at Land of the Vikings. The four buildings are: 1) the main lodge; 2) the "white house"; 3) the managers' house; and 4) the "butikk" building. The "white house" is a house next to the main lodge sometimes used for overflow housing for family reunions, weddings, and hunting season. The "butikk" building has two bedrooms upstairs and store space downstairs. The Board would like suggestions from Third District members for names for these buildings, preferably something in keeping with the Viking/Nordic theme of LOV. So: What do you think? Send your suggestions to any member of the LOV Operating Board and we'll announce the winning suggestions after the fall board meeting.

[Scrapbooking](#) at LOV September (25th-27th)

LOV Golf Tournament

A good time was had by all, golfer and non golfer alike!!



The Jockeys



The golfers



The Domino Players



“In the Zone”

Zone 2

Valg i Valhalla weekend - Zone 2 weekend at LOV



Kubb competition heats up



Thor's Thunderbolt Party



Ull Party Singers

Zone 6

Collected and submitted by Kathy Dollymore, Zone Director

Zone 6 Happenings

Blafjell:

We are active daily promoting our history, heritage and culture throughout Roanoke Valley and beyond. Besides our regular monthly meetings and special programs we perform lectures regularly in our public schools and for various groups and organizations.

We are involved with many public events and festivals throughout the year including:

St. Patrick's Parade and Celtic Festival (Spring)

- Grandin Village Block Party (May) and Holiday Parade (November)
- SummerBlast (Summer) and Enchanted Eve (New Years Eve) for Roanoke County Parks and Tourism;
- Taste of Culture Series from June-October (Taste of Scandinavia in October honors Iceland this year);
- Local Colors Multicultural Festival with over 80 countries represented (May 16 this year) , Festival in the Park, a four day Festival over the Memorial Weekend;
- Latino Festival in October

These last three events bring thousands together and we, as the Vikings and Sons of Norway, are always well received.



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Bondelandet:

As you know, we are an active, but small lodge. We contribute to the Sons of Norway Foundation through our "sparebøsse" efforts. We usually have a raffle each month of items (usually Norwegian) that have been donated by various members. The Bondelandet Lodge has a Meatball/Lutefisk Dinner every January. Some of the proceeds from this dinner go to the Third District Charitable Trust. We have ice cream socials every Wednesday evening during the summer months, April thru September, usually two summer picnics, and an Adopt-a-school program. Like most other Lodges, we celebrate the various Holidays, including 17 Mai and the annual Julebord. Several of our members also try to participate in the Zone 6 memorial service every year.

Lodge President Astrid Mullen and her husband Ken have been involved volunteering with the Regional vision impaired programs Ski for Light and Sports for Health at LOV, for a number of years. Astrid also participates in the International Ski for Light Program. Astrid has also knitted several items, including an adult Norwegian sweater that was raffled off to benefit the repair/refurbishing the rooms at LOV. Our Lodge is responsible for room 2N.

Norsk Carolina *(written before the very successful parade!)*

There is a wonderful article about our Charlotte Syttende Mai Picnic and Parade on May 17th in the Norwegian American Newspaper this week and we also were featured in the Sons of Norway Viking Magazine distributed to more than 60,000 people! We should have a big crowd for the day! Even with Nascar Race week in town maybe many will be "checking us out" to do two events in one while they are here in the Carolinas!

We have special games for children (carry a potato on a spoon, fox tail, water sponges and more), an Orienteering demonstration, a "Draw a Viking" Contest for children AND ADULTS with examples and "live Viking models" to help inspire your pictures. Including a specially autographed book from World Popular author Astrid Scott sent to specifically benefit our lodge and some special DVDs from the cooking show "A PERFECT DAY" featuring Norwegian Cooking. We're also going to talk about a trip to Norway the last week of July/first week of August 2010 that you can sign up for that is absolutely a deal!

We help our community in NC/SC know about the heritage and celebration of Syttende Mai but also to know about our lodge, wonderful members, SON benefits and cultural activities. We'll mention the huge ScanFest Charlotte event, International Day at UNCC, a Norge Craft and Food Fest Day, participation/partnership in local schools and Juletrefest!



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Washington:

The June meeting will be Friday, the 19th. The program will be "Stave Churches in Norway". Our guest speaker will be Dr. Verlun Anderson, Professor Emeritus of Scandinavian Studies and History at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. His presentation will include his own photos of all 29 surviving, of the original 1000, stave churches built between 1050 and 1300, along with the church's histories.

our program begins @ 7:45 and 6 Director Kathy Dollymore will visit Happenings".



We begin with a pot-luck dinner at 7pm, business meeting starts about 9pm. Zone and report to the lodge on the " Zone 6

Hampton Roads:

We have decided to have an extra meeting in June. This is because of the availability of a special program on Norwegian Stave Churches that month only.

Fredriksten:

Fredriksten Lodge will be celebrating St. Hans after the meeting on Friday June 26. Enjoy sitting around a bonfire, snacking on some good "made by Norske hands" food and the comradery of Sons of Norway Brothers and Sisters.

The business meeting will be at 8pm so plan accordingly to attend- Bring your lawn chair perhaps we will sing a few Norwegian songs.



Restauration:

We initiated the new members into the Restauration Family at the May meeting and had wonderful program on the History of Ja Vi Elsker and the Norwegian National Anthem.

The June 13th Midsummer's Day picnic to be held in conjunction with our friends at the historical Swedish Cabin is a "pot luck" event, which often includes Scandinavian delicacies, fresh cider, and such typical picnic fare as hot dogs and hamburgers. Just bring a side dish to share on the Smorgasbord table. Activities for the young and the young at heart include a "Hawk" (tomahawk) throw and Boot Toss. Items from the Butiken are displayed and available for purchase. A wonderful time to enjoy our Scandinavian friends along the banks of the creek.

North Carolina Vikings:



Next meeting is Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 PM and our Assistant Cultural Director, Don Kloe, will leading a discussion of the flag of Norway. Kari Crenshaw, as usual, will be organizing our social event.

June 18th - Monthly Membership Meeting - 7:00 PM at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Underwood Hall.

June 20th - Friends of Scandinavia Midsommar celebration at Montague Farm/Lake

PHOTO: Installation of New Officers.



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The Hurtigruten Raffle

Click on the link

Ask your lodge President for information about the Hurtigruten Raffle and support the 3D fund raising efforts!

Embark on the vacation of a lifetime aboard Hurtigruten through the majestic Norwegian fjords and discover why we're known as "The World's Most Beautiful Voyage."

For over 116 years, Hurtigruten has navigated the 1,250-mile, fjord-filled west coast of Norway calling on 34 ports between Bergen in the south and Kirkenes in the north near the Russian border. Visit tiny fishing villages in the Lofoton Islands, experience the Sea Eagle Safari through Trollfjord, or simply relax and enjoy the awe-inspiring scenery of Geirangerfjord. Hurtigruten's Norwegian Coastal voyage immerses you in authentic Norwegian culture and history in this amazing vacation. **NORWEGIAN COASTAL VALUE PACKAGE:** Enjoy special one-stop shop pricing for peak season departures on Hurtigruten's Norwegian Coastal Voyage including airfare, hotel, and transfers on select 6, 7 and 12-day cruises from only \$2,359!

Call 1-800-323-7436 or visit www.hurtigruten.us for more information. Be sure to mention reference #SN09 when you call.

*Offer valid on selected 12, 7 and 6 day Norwegian Coastal cruises departing May 1- September 30, 2009 in category U - I. Prices are USD valid for North American residents only, capacity controlled and subject to change or withdrawal without notice. Offer cannot be combined with any other discount or promotion, is valid for selected departures and restrictions apply. Ships' Registry: Norway

Parting shots

The following link at Syttende Mai Brooklyn parades in days gone by was provided by Joyce Svendsen from Nor-bu Lodge

<http://www.scandinavian-museum.org/8avepics/source/17thmay.htm>

This past December, I received an email from Kjell Hansen, President of Port Orange Lodge (as well as from Larry Lund from Henrik Ibsen in May). Attached to the email was a [powerpoint presentation](#) with absolutely stunning pictures of Norway. I hope you can access the powerpoint.

Remember to take a chance on the Hurtigruten trip and enjoy your summer!!!!



Upcoming Events

May

22nd -23rd Suncoast Lodge - Syttende Mai Viking boat Regatta and Dinner Dance
23rd Norden - garage sale
28th Loyal - Ladies Auxiliary
29th Loyal - Little Vikings
31st Zone 1 - scholarship play

June

4th Norumbega - movie night
5th Norumbega - Innovation Norway
5th-8th Norge - Sunny Hill weekend
5th Loyal - Barbeque and St. Hans celebration
5th Roald - Ice Cream Social
6th Garbog - Atlantic City trip
6th Bernt Balchen - Viking Pork Dinner
7th Fram - Norwegian covered dish luncheon
12th Sun Viking -Ice Cream Social
12th Peconic - Barbeque & Viking Sail
14th Loyal - Lobster Party
14th Færder - dinner and Bingo
16th Nansen - St. Hans
18th Bernt Balchen - Strawberry festival
19th Henrik Ibsen - Strawberry Festival
20th Hudson Valley - St. Hans Celebration at Elvedal
20th Norrøna - St. Hans Day at Budd Lake
20th Morgensolen - Midsommer Dag
23rd Nor-Bu - St. Hans (midsummer bonfire)
27th Blåfjell -Annual Smith Mountain Lake Picnic

July

4th Bern Balchen - march in Hawley July 4th parade
4th Hudson Valley - Saugerties parade
10th Sun Viking - 4th of July Indoor Picnic
11th Fram - Annual Picnic/Lobster Fest
12th Zone 1 - LI Ducks baseball game
16th Bernt Balchen - Surprise Social
25th Zone 4 picnic at Elvedal

August

1st Maine Nordmenn [Hummerfest](#)
9th Garbog - Picnic
9th Hudson Valley - 3 month picnic at Elvedal
16th Loyal - Family Picnic
16th Nor-Bu - Annual Picnic
22nd Blåfjell - Scandinavian Culture/Norway
TBD Bernt Balchen - Annual Lodge Picnic
23rd Zone 1 - Lobster Fest

September

11th Loyal - Sister's Eve
11th Norge - Game night
11th Sun Viking Cultural Night Viking Auction & Craft Fair
12th Bernt Balchen - Annual Scandinavian Craft Fair
13th Hudson Valley - Soup Day; close Elvedal
19th Nor-Bu - Anniversary Month (67th)
17th Bernt Balchen - Financial planning
24th Loyal - Ladies Auxiliary
25th Loyal - Little Vikings
27th Loyal - booth at St. James Fair

October

2nd Roald - Viking Auction
9th Loyal - Oktoberfest
9th Norge - Brother's night
9th Sun Viking - Lapskaus Dinner
9th-10th - Gulfstream Lodge -[Leif Erikson](#) weekend
10th Hudson Valley - Leif Ericsson Dinner
11th Lauderdale - Jensen Beach Viking Ship Regatta
15th Bernt Balchen - Leif Erikson celebration
17th Nor-Bu - Heritage/Foundation Month
17th Henrik Ibsen - yard sale
18th Loyal - *85th Anniversary Dinner*
22nd Loyal - Ladies Auxiliary
23rd Loyal - Little Vikings
24th Blåfjell - 13th Anniversary Dinner
24th Lauderdale - Halloween Party

November

6th Loyal - Thanksgiving dinner
9th Hartford - Scandinavian Heritage Day
13th Sun Viking - Soup Dinner
14th Loyal - Bazaar
14th Bernt Balchen - membership drive luncheon
14th Hudson Valley - Men's night at Maennerchor
19th Bernt Balchen - Ellis Island presentation
20th Loyal - Little Vikings
20th Henrik Ibsen - Sisters night
21st Nor-Bu - Fall Dance
21st Blåfjell - Grandin Holiday Parade (10 am)
21st Blåfjell - Traditional Seven Cookies (3pm)

December

4th Loyal - Initiation
5th Bernt Balchen - Annual Christmas Party



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- 5th Loyal - Deck the Halls Glogg Party
- 5th Lauderdale - Christmas Party
- 6th Loyal - Children's Christmas Party
- 11th Sun Viking - Juletefest
- 12th Hudson Valley - Christmas Dinner
- 12th Loyal - Adult Christmas Party
- 12th Henrik Ibsen - Children's Christmas Party at 1
- 12th Henrik Ibsen - Adult's Christmas Party at 7:30
- 13th Hudson Valley - Children's Christmas Party
- 19th Blåfjell - Julefest
- 19th Nor-Bu - Julefest



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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

Zone 1 Director, Kris Rasmussen
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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