



# Nordkapen

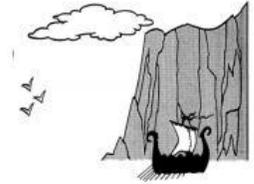
**Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway**

The North Cape 71° 10' 21" North Latitude – The Top of Europe

A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway

Organized August 10, 1929 – The first Sons of Norway Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>



## NORDKAP CALENDAR

**Scandinavian Market**

**Saturday, Nov. 12 – 10 a.m. -4 p.m.**

**The Finnish Center**

**Sunday, Nov. 20 – 4 p.m.**

**Members Gathering**

**The Swedish Club**

**Sunday, Dec. 11 – 12:30 p.m.**

**Christmas Party & Silent Auction**

**Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center**

## Nordkap 2022 Officers

**President:** Erik Duus

**Vice President:** Haley Vingsness

**Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:**

Carmen Collins

**Secretary:** Mary Morehead

**Membership Secretary**

**& Sunshine Director:** Carol Jehle

**Social Director & Greeter:**

Eli Viik Steyskal

**Co-Cultural Directors:**

Karen Herche & Magda Pecsénye

**Sports Director:** Cathy Johnson

**Co-Youth Directors:**

Yana Thompson & David Thompson

**Foundation Director:**

Derrick Hendricks

**Co-Store Directors:**

Natalie Vaal & Dennis Flessland

**Editor & Publicity Director:**

Louise Giles

**Counselor:** Bob Giles

**Contact us:**

[Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com](mailto:Nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com)

**Call and leave a message at**

**248-919-8355**

**Photos by Bob Giles,  
unless otherwise indicated**

November-December 2022

Volume 92 Issue 7

## ***Bring Cookies & Enjoy Pasties in November***

**Nordkap's final members gathering of the year** will be Sunday, November 20th, at the Swedish Club at 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills.

This one promises to be an especially fun event.

**It's a Christmas Cookie fundraiser** for the Nordkap Scholarship Fund.

**To participate, bake two dozen cookies to sell.** Then purchase other cookies for \$5/doz. A prize will be given for the cookie voted the best overall.

**We'll eat pasties,** the hot meat pies favored years ago by copper miners in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and cole slaw, with brownies for dessert.

**We'll elect Nordkap officers for 2023.** (See story on page 6.)

Come early for the social time at 4 p.m. and the meal at 4:30. A donation of \$10 is requested.



Bob Giles Photo

## Sunshine Update

Sincere condolences to **Eli and Roy Steyskal**. Roy's brother, Walter Steyskal, 78, of Howell, Michigan, died October 15 at the VA Hospital in Ann Arbor. Walter was a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and attended the University of Michigan. He was a decorated disabled Vietnam War army veteran. Roy was his guardian for 40 years.

Sympathy also to **Phyllis Skora**, whose sister Ruth Gehart, 80, died in Armada, Michigan, on October 23. Ruth was retired from the City of Warren where she worked in data processing and code enforcement.

Best wishes to **Lilian Bryant**, dealing with vision problems caused by macular degeneration.

Wishing improved health to **Kristin Duus' father, Joe Martin**, recovering at home after quadruple bypass surgery. He would appreciate prayers for him and his wife, Linda Martin, who recently contracted COVID-19.

All the best to **Greg Morehead** for his upcoming back surgery.



## GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

### November Birthdays:

Erik Bryhn, Carmen Collins, Inger Ehrenfeld, Karen Herche, Sheldon Johnson, Paul Michalsen, Nancy Radwan, Eileen Gjerpen-Shea, Geir Skorpen, Kalina Thompson, Mike Zarin

### December Birthdays:

Bob Bruner, Bette Clary, Derrick Hendricks, Chet Jehle, Elsa Jorgensen, Marlene Kehoe, Sue Kohl, Karen Lafnear, Leiv Erik Lundberg, Gary Olson, David Pederson, Ed Radwan, Louise Sherwin, Russ Simms, Merete Stenersen-Eelnurme, Natalie Flessland Vaal

## Christmas and Nordkap's Party are Coming!

Our Christmas party plans are complete, and the invitations and reservation forms have gone out. We hope you can join us as we again take our celebrations to the Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center on Sunday, December 11, at 8768 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth, Michigan.

**You must have reserved in advance to attend. Attendance will be limited to about 80 people, so please send in your reservation early.**

We will begin our celebrations at 12:30 p.m. with our social hour and silent auction to benefit the Nordkap Scholarship Fund. Dinner will follow at 1:30 p.m. with a choice of salmon, ham, or vegetable lasagna. The adult salmon meal will be \$60 if payment is received before November 21. The adult ham and vegetarian lasagna meals will be \$50 if payment is received before November 21. After November 21, all adult meals will be increased by \$5.



A children's meal of chicken strips or grilled cheese will be offered for \$15, with no increase in price after November 21.

**A special invitation has been extended to the Julenisse, who's expected to make an appearance bearing gifts for the children.**



*Kate Zawicki helps Grandmother Mary Morehead mail invitations. (Mary's photo)*

## ***Scandinavian Market Offers Good Food -- and Great Shopping***

Come to the Scandinavian Market on Saturday, November 12, to enjoy Nordkap's popular meatball dinner and get an early start on your Christmas shopping.

**You'll find a variety of Nordic items** offered by Nordkap Lodge and many other good things from the Swedes, Finns, Iceland, and retail vendors.

Our Norwegian dinner includes meatballs, potatoes, red cabbage, cucumber salad, flatbread, and a choice of coffee or lemonade. The meal is priced at \$11, discounted to \$10 for cash payments. Norwegian waffles with sour cream and jam will also be available for purchase at \$5.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Finnish Center at 35200 W. 8 Mile Road in Farmington Hills. A \$2 donation is requested at the door.

**Nordkap's participation depends on support from our volunteers, who find it's fun to serve together.** If you can help with the meal or our import table, contact Carol Jehle at [jehlecarol@yahoo.com](mailto:jehlecarol@yahoo.com).



*Volunteers serve dinner at a previous Scandinavian Market*

## ***Nordkap's New Member Recruitment Still Short of 2022 Goal***

Each year, the Sons of Norway sets numerical goals for new-member recruitment for each of its lodges. Nordkap's new-member goal for 2022 is nine--a goal we're still short of reaching.

As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, we had signed up five new members.

**If you have friends or family interested in joining our lodge**, now's the time to encourage them to join—this year! Adding to our membership rolls helps ensure that our lodge will be able to continue sharing and preserving Nordic heritage, positively affecting our members' lives, and making Sons of Norway communities better places to live.

## **October's "Show & Tell" Proves a Hit with Members**

"Show & Tell" brought out an enthusiastic crowd to Nordkap's last gathering at the Swedish Club on October 23.

**Thirty members and guests turned out** in Farmington Hills for a Torsk (codfish) and meatball meal, which drew positive comments from diners. Many thanks to chef Dennis Flessland (shown at right), aided by Bob Giles!



**But the Show & Tell was the highlight.** It began with delegates to the Sons of Norway conventions showing and telling what they experienced this summer. (See story on the following page.)

Then members explained the Norwegian items they brought. Here are a few examples:



***Karen Lafnear with a wooden 'tutekanna,' a spout-jug pouring vessel for beer, handmade by her late Norwegian uncle, Anders Njosen***



***Jayne Lafnear Bannister with a wooden butter tub, also made by Anders Njosen***



***Mary Morehead with her daughter's painting***



***Carol Jehle with Sons of Norway ornament and Viking ship from her mom***



***Georgia Roed with Norwegian wall hanging, handwoven by Karen Linnell***



***Haley Vingsness with heritage album from her family***



***Duane Kirking explaining complexities of Kirking family name in Norway***

## ***Nordkap Delegates Report on Sons of Norway Conventions***

At our members gathering in October, the four Nordkap delegates who attended the Fifth District convention in Wisconsin gave brief reports on their experiences.



***Jan Flessland***



***Karen Herche***



***Phyllis Skora***



***Dennis Flessland***

**Dennis Flessland** headed the convention's Fraternal Affairs Committee. There he mentioned three concerns from our lodge:

- That the name Sons of Norway should be changed to be more gender inclusive
- That we had misgivings about the decision to reduce pages in the *Viking* magazine designated for district photos
- That an additional sports award should be offered exclusively for jogging.

Dennis noted the election of new District 5 Officers, including Cheryl Wille-Schlessler, elected president, and Nathan Nutter, elected treasurer. (Nathan subsequently submitted his resignation due to work commitments and the time needed for the position. District Secretary Darlene Arneson will be listed as interim treasurer until January when Corey Olson will take over as treasurer.)

Dennis also reported the defeat of the resolution to bar District 5 members from wearing helmets with horns, since depicting Viking helmets with horns is not historically accurate. The resolution drew only one positive vote among 105 delegates.

**Jan Flessland and Karen Herche** both reported on the cultural events and historical re-enactors that added extra color to the convention. Jan thanked members for electing her an alternate. She took the place of delegate Magda Pecsénye, who couldn't attend.

**Phyllis Skora** showed photos from the convention. She was elected by the district to serve as a delegate to the International Sons of Norway convention, held remotely on Zoom. Phyllis said the international delegates were sent Norwegian cookies to enjoy at home during breaks and were treated to music on the Hardanger Fiddle played by Robin Fossum.

## ***Nordkap Officers for 2023 To Be Decided on November 20th***

**The leadership of our lodge for next year** will be determined on November 20, when we elect a new slate of officers.

Our Nominating Committee of Chair Haley Vingsness, Louise Giles, and Erik Duus has developed the following tentative slate of nominees for office and reported on this at our October 23 gathering.

**The nominations are not closed.** If you would like to run for office, you can so indicate at our November gathering before the final vote is taken.

### **Here are the nominees:**

- President: Haley Vingsness
- Vice President: Cathy Johnson
- Treasurer & Scholarship Director: Carmen Collins
- Secretary: Mary Morehead
- Membership Secretary & Sunshine Director: Carol Jehle
- Social Director & Greeter: Eli Viik Steyskal
- Co-Cultural Directors: Karen Herche and Magda Pecsénye
- Sports Director: Cathy Johnson
- Co-Youth Directors: Yana Thompson and David Thompson
- Foundation Director: Derrick Hendricks
- Co-Store Directors: Natalie Vaal and Dennis Flessland
- Editor & Publicity Director: Louise Giles
- Counselor: Bob Giles

## ***Members Contribute \$126 to Sons of Norway Foundation***

October was Sons of Norway Foundation Month. The foundation funds activities preserving and promoting Norwegian heritage.

Nordkap demonstrated its support at our last gathering when Foundation Director **Derrick Hendricks** made a presentation about the foundation and took up a collection. Members contributed \$126, which has been forwarded to the foundation.

If you missed this opportunity but would still like to donate, you can do so directly on the Sons of Norway website at <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/donate/>

## ***Uff-da! Correcting an Error in the October Newsletter***

Our apologies to **Derrick Hendricks**, whose last name was mistakenly given as Hendrickson in a story about our October gathering on page 1 of the October 2022 newsletter.

## ***A Little Humor from our Friends, the Finns...***

In 2025 the world is set to change its official language to Finnish. All other languages will be considered unfinished.

## ***Glorious Autumn Foliage Graces Nature Hike***

A small, but enthusiastic group turned out for Nordkap's Nature Hike at Kensington Metropark on October 15.

Sisters Sheryl Dalton and Stacy Torgerson joined Sports Director **Cathy Johnson** and Cathy's friends, Lynn and John Hughes, for a two-mile walk around Wildwing Lake. They were greeted by an abundance of birds and other wildlife and enjoyed the bright colors of autumn leaves.

Cathy is planning another hike in the spring, when quantities of young fledgling birds will provide an amazing sight.



***From left, Stacy Torgerson, Lynn Hughes, Cathy Johnson, and John Hughes (Sheryl Dalton photo)***



***Sheryl Dalton, left, and Stacy Torgersen (Sheryl Dalton photo)***



***Red-bellied woodpecker (Cathy Collins photo)***

## ***Viking Magazine Reduced to 6 Issues a Year Starting in 2023***

As you may have read in your November issue of *Viking*, the Sons of Norway magazine will be reduced from 12 issues a year to six, beginning in 2023.

**The change was one of the tough decisions** the International Board faced during an annual budget review, according to Ron Stubbings, International President of Sons of Norway. While the number of fraternal members of Sons of Norway has been steadily growing, sales of the organization's financial products have declined over the past decade.

"Over the past two years," he pointed out, "the organization has cut \$2 million in operational expenses, and the Board has sought other ways to scale back the budget." He said changing the frequency of the magazine was necessary "in order to be one of the fraternal organizations that survive."

**Other fraternal organizations are shrinking.** "We want Sons of Norway to be around another 50 years," he explained. "Nearly every fraternal organization has migrated to 100% digital publishing, but knowing how much members appreciated receiving *Viking*, we are glad that we can still offer bi-monthly print editions of the magazine." You can read Stubbings' full account on page 4 of the November 2022 *Viking* and further explanation from Sons of Norway Chief Executive Officer Christopher Pinkerton on page 30 of the magazine.



## ***A Letter from President Erik Duus:***

**So what's your favorite Norwegian expression?** Mine is unquestionably "Takk for sist," ("thanks for the last time"). And I love saying it to my Tante Myrtle [Ebert], not just because when I see her it's "memorable," but because I think she gets a kick out of me saying it, since few, if any, others in her life greet her that way!

Like Habit #2 from "The 7 Habits of Highly Successful People" – ***Begin with the End in Mind*** – "takk for sist" picks up the relationship right where it left off. It's a beautiful and emotionally intelligent way of communicating with people you care about and like to be with. One could even make the case that living a "takk for sist" life might help people intentionally create great times with others because one day they'll have to thank them for it! A "takk for sist" mindset creates stronger memories, too, since one's brain (and heart) can't help but recall the prior visit, get-together or gathering just before uttering those words, "takk for sist."

**Speaking of "takk for sist," in February 2020 I began my very first president's letter in Nordkapen with the following:**

*"I want to thank you ALL for allowing me the privilege to serve as your new president, alongside an incredible team of board members. I also thank my predecessor, Haley, for her service and her wonderful servant's heart. Godspeed in your big move to NY and in all your endeavors! We look forward to saying 'takk for sist' (thanks for the last time) the next time we see you."*

...A LOT has happened since February 2020! On the bright side, Haley Vingsness came back to Michigan (and Nordkap!) and as soon as she could, she plugged back into serving our lodge, most recently as vice president. Additionally, since I had rotator cuff surgery in April, Haley has gone above and beyond in helping me with my Nordkap duties as I took needed time off for my recovery and rehabilitation. I can't say "takk for sist" enough, Haley...tusen, tusen takk!

**The Norwegian word for "rumor" is "rykte," and the rykte is true...** Last month, the week before my last week of physical therapy on my *left* shoulder, I suffered a massive rotator cuff tear in my *right* shoulder! Thankfully, I had a promising surgery to repair it on October 18<sup>th</sup>, and "no," I did not say "takk for sist" to my surgeon (Uff da, maybe I should have!).

This new setback, along with work challenges and other family health concerns, has forced me to reflect and prioritize. So it is with deep regret that I will be stepping back from serving Nordkap Lodge as a board member beyond the end of this term, at least for the foreseeable future. Haley has graciously offered to, again, stand in the gap for me for the remainder of my term. Eventually, I hope to follow the example set by her in leaving, and then coming back...I can hardly wait! In the meantime, I look forward to creating some mutual "takk for sist" moments with you ALL down the road.

***So takk for sist to all of you, and "tusen takk" for allowing me the privilege to serve as your president, alongside an incredible team of board members!***

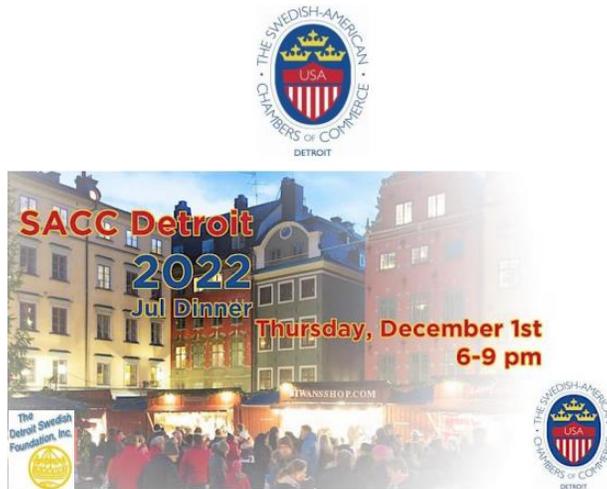
**Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards),  
Erik Duus**

**PS** – My mom, Harriet Duus, just today asked me to please make sure to "*thank Carol Jehle and all the members of Nordkap for the most thoughtful card(s);*" so this here is proof that I did ☺. And when Carol heard about my shoulder, she sent me a beautiful "thinking of you" card...you know, one of those cards that are almost too nice to throw away. ***Thank you, Carol, for ALL you do for ALL of us!***

## Yes, You're Invited to a Swedish Jul Dinner Dec. 1st!

The Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce has graciously invited Sons of Norway members to a festive Swedish Jul dinner at the Birmingham Country Club at 1750 Saxon Drive, Birmingham, Michigan, on Thursday, December 1st, from 6 – 9 p.m.

The dinner price of \$30 per person is a big discount for Sons of Norway members (who can each bring just one guest) on the \$100 price others pay for General Admission. To attend you must be a Sons of Norway member and RSVP by November 24 to buy tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacc-detroit-jul-dinner-tickets-435961451437>. See below for details.



### SACC JUL DINNER IS BACK!

Transforming our popular Jul lunch into an evening event, the Jul Dinner present a relaxing atmosphere to celebrate the season with diverse members of the Detroit community of international business leaders and social organizations. This year's event is in cooperation and support from the **Detroit Swedish Foundation** and will be held at **Birmingham Country Club**.

A full spread of **Swedish Julbord**, including meatballs, herring, gravlax, prinskorv and much more.

**When:** December 1, 2022 at 6-9 pm

**Where:** Birmingham Country Club, 1750 Saxon Drive, Birmingham, Michigan, 48009

#### Program:

6.00 pm – 6.30 pm	Welcome and mingle with glögg
6.30 pm – 8.00 pm	Dinner (Wine at table and open bar)
8.00 pm – 9.00 pm	Dessert and Keynote speaker TBD

#### Tickets

- SACC Detroit Member Renewal and Jul Dinner Ticket \$130 per person
- SACC Detroit Member or +1 Guest \$30 per person
- Swedish Club Member or +1 Guest \$30 per person
- SWEA Michigan Member or +1 Guest \$30 per person
- Sons of Norway Member or +1 Guest \$30 per person
- Allied Chamber of Commerce Member or + 1 Guest \$30 per person
- General Admission \$100

**RSVP by November 24:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sacc-detroit-jul-dinner-tickets-435961451437>

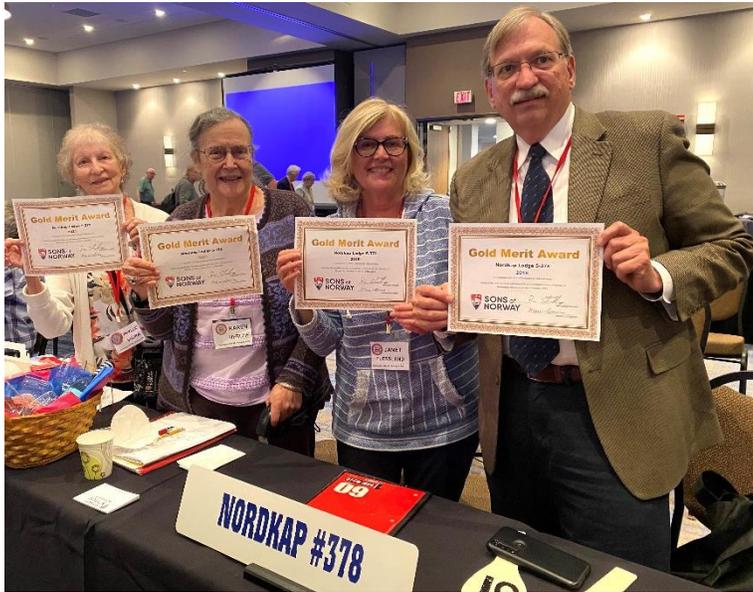
Please direct any inquiries to [director@saccdetroit.org](mailto:director@saccdetroit.org)

## ***Nordkap Wins Big at District 5 Convention***

Nordkap was honored with seven awards at the District 5 Convention this summer! Among these were: **District 5 Family Lodge of the Year** awards for 2018 and 2020 and **District 5's 2019 Lodge of the Year** award for large lodges.

Our delegates also accepted four **District 5 Gold Merit Awards** for 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Thanks to all our members whose work has made us a winning lodge!

*(Photos provided by Jan Flessland)*



**NORDKAP LODGE 5-378**

**c/o Louise Giles**

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