



# Nordkapen

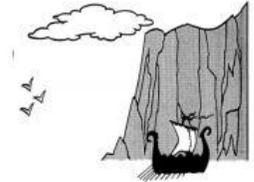
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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>



February 2016

Volume 86 Issue 2

## 2016 NORDKAP EVENTS

### Ongoing every Wednesday night

**through Feb. 24**– Norwegian language class, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth St., Farmington Hills, MI

**February 28** – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

**March 13** – Bowling fundraiser, 2 pm at Luxury Lanes, Ferndale, MI

**April 24** – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

**May 14** – Norwegian Constitution Day, 11 am to 3 pm at the Swedish Club

**June 21** – St. Hans/Midsummer celebration, 6 pm, Farmington Heritage Park

**July 16** – Farmington Founders Festival Parade, 9 am

**September 11** – Steak and Corn Roast benefit at the Swedish Club, 1 pm

**October 23** – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

**November 12** – Scandinavian bazaar, 10 am to 4 pm at the Finnish Center

**November 20** – Lodge Meeting, 4 pm at the Swedish Club

**December 11** – Christmas party, 2 pm at Western Golf and Country Club



## FEBRUARY MEETING OFFERS PASTIES AND SKIING

Snow and skiing: In Norway, they are pretty much a given this time of year, right? But in Michigan? Well, as I sit here writing on February 3, we have just reached a new, all-time high temperature of 55 degrees in Detroit. No skiing here today—not in this part of the state!

Yet about a week ago, near Traverse City, there was a good enough snow base to hold the annual Ski for Light event.

Not familiar with Ski for Light? Sons of Norway lodges—including Nordkap--have supported it financially for years. The non-profit was founded in 1975 to teach blind, visually- and mobility-impaired adults cross-country skiing.

How can a blind, visually- or mobility-impaired person ski? It's done by pairing each disabled skier with an experienced, sighted, able-bodied cross-country skier who acts as ski instructor and guide. And the results can be amazing. You'll have the chance to learn more about it at our next meeting at the Swedish Club on Sunday, February 28. And if the Norse weather gods give us snow, we'll offer actual skiing and sledding on the Swedish Club grounds. Come early for this and bring your own equipment!

The meeting will also feature hot pasties (a cold-weather meat-pie staple from Michigan's Upper Peninsula), initiation of new members, and election of convention delegates (see related story). The timeline is:

- **3 p.m.:** Skiing and sledding, weather permitting
- **4 p.m.:** Social time inside the clubhouse
- **4:30 p.m.:** Hot pasty dinner
- **5:15 p.m.:** Initiation of new members
- **5:25 p.m.:** Election of convention delegates
- **5:30 p.m.:** Ski for Light presentation



*Geir Gronstad skiing at the Swedish Club last year—Bob Giles photo*



## GRATULERER MED DAGEN

### February

Kristine Nicolaysen  
Dowhan, Mark Kalle  
Eelnurme, Dennis  
Flessland, Louise Giles,  
Deborah Gummerus,  
Sven Hahr, Greydon  
Hyde, Emma Jehle,  
Judith Kirsch, Michael  
Lindemann, Erik  
Lundberg, David Nelsen,  
Arthur Peterson, Hannah  
Peterson, Annele  
Richards, Linda Stinson

### March

Lilje Gronstad, Sonja  
Gronstad, Louise  
Harrison



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

When we asked a Nordic dance instructor to come out and teach us a few steps at our last meeting, I had a fleeting but persistent worry that...well, maybe no one would want to dance.

But when Glendene Thornbloom asked her audience to get up and form a circle, virtually everyone joined in. We barely had enough room on the "dance floor"-- the carpet of the Swedish Club's main dining room.

Glendene played several Nordic tunes on her big "boom box," and we stepped lively to each one of them. The time was growing late, or we would have done more.



But there is still another chance: *Photos by Merete Stenersen*

Glendene's **next Nordic Dance Workshop** is set for the Finnish Center at 35200 Eight Mile Road in Farmington Hills on Sunday, April 10, from 2 - 5 p.m. The workshop is free and open to everyone, 6 to 106 years old.



**Glendene Thornbloom**

Nordkap members will have another opportunity this month to get up and get the blood flowing. Weather permitting, **we are offering skiing and sledding** before our February 28th meeting at the Swedish Club. Bring your own equipment and come early at 3 p.m. to ski or sled, and then join the social hour inside at 4 p.m. We will have our hot pasty dinner at 4:30 p.m. And we can all be vicarious skiers as we watch a video on "Ski for Light."

If cold weather sports aren't to your liking, you can still be active with Nordkap at our annual **Bowling Fundraiser** for the Sons of Norway's Fifth District Scholarship Fund. This event is set for 2 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at Luxury Lanes, 900 E. 9 Mile Road in Ferndale. For a \$5.00 donation, you get three games, shoe rental, freshly baked pizza, and pop. Non-bowlers are welcome at the same low price. You don't have to be a professional bowler. This is an opportunity to have fun. Advance registration is required. To register, contact Bob Giles at 248-302-2222. This event replaces Nordkap's regular March meeting.

Med vennlig hilsen (With best regards),

Louise Giles



## SUNSHINE UPDATES

We sadly note the passing of Marilyn Bodrie, who bravely fought a six-year battle with cancer. Marilyn was the sister of Nordkap Treasurer Marge Sorensen. Marilyn's three daughters plan a memorial service in the spring.

Congratulations to our newest members, Merete Stenersen and Mark Eelnurme, who are planning their wedding in March in Wyandotte.

It's good to see Finn Roed again. Finn suffered a shoulder injury, but has steadily improved with physical therapy.

### 2016 Officers

**President:**

Louise Giles

**Vice President:** Elsa Jorgensen

**Secretary:** Open

**Financial &**

**Membership Secretary:**

Carol Jehle

**Treasurer:**

Marge Sorensen

**Editor:**

Bob Giles

**Foundation Director:**

Natalie Flessland Vaal

**Counselor:**

Geir Gronstad

**Contact us:**

nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com

## OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND CONTINUES TO GROW

The biggest fundraiser for our Nordkap Scholarship Fund is our silent auction in December. But in recent weeks, the fund has received several noteworthy new donations.

An antique set of drafting tools in an embossed leather case once owned by Nordkap's late member Knut Erichsen was donated by his widow, Jan. On behalf of Nordkap, Bob Giles listed the set for sale on E-bay where it netted \$47.50 for the scholarship fund. Thank you, Bob and Jan!

Some books that didn't sell at our silent auction in December were offered to students in Nordkap's Norwegian language class. The students eagerly snapped up several volumes

written by Norwegian authors or about Norwegian subjects, resulting in another \$11 for the scholarship fund.



*Knut's Drafting Tools*

And speaking of the silent auction, Nordkap members are already donating treasures for the next auction scheduled for December 11th. These include Howard Skovlund's gift of a large framed photo of the Christian Radich, a Norwegian full-rigged ship built in Sandefjord, Norway; Tove and Pres Bruning's gifts of an almond grinder and a primstav, a calendar stick devised by Norwegians in the 11th Century to help them keep track of the 37 new holidays or saints' days added to their religious obligations when Norway converted to Christianity; and another member's donation of a rosemaled candelabra in the shape of a Christmas tree. Tusen takk to all!

## NORDKAP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 30

One of the benefits of membership in Nordkap Lodge is our generous scholarship program. Last year, the Nordkap Scholarship Fund awarded three \$1,000 scholarships.

Scholarship applications are available on our Web site, DetroitNorwegians.com under the "About" tab, or by contacting Natalie Vaal at nordkap.scholarships@gmail.com. Instructions for filling out the form and mailing it are explained on the Web site. Applicants must: be a lodge member or child/grandchild of a member for minimum 1 year prior to scholarship submission; be 17-23 years of age; be working towards a bachelor's or associate's degree from an accredited educational institution; be in good standing at school, with a Grade Point Average of 2.0 or better.

## NICE TO MEET YOU, MR. SMORK

What does the troll figure at the Swedish Club have in common with European royalty? One doesn't often associate the trolls of Norwegian myth with the real-life royals still found in parts of Europe.

But we can make the connection with "our troll" who hangs out near the bridge leading to the stuga, because he recently received his official name in our name-the-troll competition. Actually he ended up with three names, just like modern royalty, which often doesn't settle for just one name but rather boasts a series of names. They are royals, right? Think of Britain's Prince Charles, or rather Charles Philip Arthur George.

Our troll was named over the course of several Nordkap meetings. First our members submitted prospective names for the cut-out figure, created by Swedish Club President Dan Nelson. Then they voted to select their favorites at the Christmas party. There were no fewer than 29 names to consider, and members and their guests were allowed to make three prioritized choices.

The result was announced by contest organizer Geir Gronstad at our January meeting: "Olaf Oskar Smork." Our own royal-like troll, right? As Geir says, "Probably a distant relative of the Mountain King:"

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In\\_the\\_Hall\\_of\\_the\\_Mountain\\_King](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_the_Hall_of_the_Mountain_King),  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_Dk4oWGJQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_Dk4oWGJQ)



***Olaf Oskar Smork***

## NEW STAMP HONORS SILVER JUBILEE OF KING HARALD V

On January 17, 2016, Norway celebrated Harald V's 25 years as King by issuing a 17NOK stamp. The stamp depicts the blessing on June 23, 1991, in Trondheim's Nidaros Cathedral of the King and Queen Sonja as the Norwegian royal couple.

Earlier that year, on January 17, King Olav V had died and Crown Prince Harald had acceded to the throne in an extraordinary Council of State at the Royal Palace in Oslo, declaring, "It is my duty to inform the Council of State that my dear father, His Majesty, passed away and that I, as King of Norway, have joined this Government by virtue of the Constitution. I will adopt the name of Harald V and abide by the same motto chosen by my father and grandfather: 'Everything for Norway.'"

The June 23 benediction formed part of a ten-day trip by the new royal couple by train and car to Trondheim, then down along the coast with the Royal Yacht "Norway" back to the capital. The year after the benedictory tour, the royal couple traveled to the three counties in the far north, visiting a total of 48 municipalities in three weeks. Now, 25 years later, it is possible to say that the royal couple have travelled

more in Norway and met more Norwegians than any previous royal personage. Queen Sonja knows the Norwegian mountains better than most people and has distinguished herself as a talented photographer of nature.



## **NORDKAP MEMBERS SCHEDULED FOR INITIATION**

Velkommen to the following Nordkap members! If you have not been initiated, we welcome you to be part of the annual new member initiation ceremony scheduled for our meeting on February 28th. You'll sign our membership logbook which has been used since the 1930s. Please contact Carol Jehle, our membership chairperson, and let her know that you are coming. Her telephone number is 248-626-2148.

As of January 1, 2016, recent members not yet initiated are the following:

Arne Borgnes, Veda Bryhn, Kristine Dowhan, Monica Dowhan, Myrtle Ebert, Mark Eelnurme, Jeff Hatteberg, Kaitlyn Hatteberg, Maureen Hatteberg, Judy Hildre, Kenneth Hildre, Greydon Hyde, Annette Lundberg, Cecilia Lundberg, Erik Lundberg, Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg, Leiv Lundberg, Wendy Marko, Linda Martinson, Roy Marvel, Annele Richards, Gail Ritchie, Daniel Rutkowski, Jakob Rutkowski, Kristen Schotts, Adrienne Shepard, Ana Skidmore, Erik Sorensen, Ian Sorensen, Merete Stenersen, Linda Stinson, Alexandria Sturgeon, Annelisa Sturgeon, Ondrianna Tavgian, Stacy Torgerson, Wade Tornquist, Eunice Turnbull, Erik Vingsness, Haley Vingsness, Heather Vingsness.

## **WHAT DOES A DISTRICT CONVENTION DELEGATE DO?**

At its February meeting, Nordkap Lodge will elect three delegates and three alternates to the bi-annual convention of the Sons of Norway's Fifth District. If you are considering election as a delegate, you will want to know what your responsibilities as a delegate would be:

- Travel to Marshfield, Wisconsin (in the middle of the state, about 130 miles west of Green Bay), and be present for the convention from Wednesday, June 22, through Sunday, June 26.
- Be responsible for your travel, registration fee of \$65 (includes Friday and Saturday lunch, four coffee breaks, and registration materials), and other food and hotel expenses; Nordkap Lodge provides each delegate a \$600 stipend, but that typically does not cover all the costs.
- Serve on a committee, if asked by the District president (committees meet Thursday morning and afternoon).
- Attend all delegate sessions on Friday and Saturday and the zone meeting Saturday noon to represent, speak, and vote on behalf of Nordkap Lodge.
- Accept any awards or recognition given to Nordkap Lodge.
- Learn about the Sons of Norway by attending workshops, visiting displays, and networking with delegates from throughout the District.
- Upon return, report to Nordkap on what you learned, the business conducted at the convention, and results of any elections.

Nordkap members can go to the convention as elected delegates or simply as attendees. Attendees may observe the convention and take part in activities, classes, and presentations available for all. Plans are in progress for a silent auction as well as rosemaling, wire-weaving, and genealogy classes.

A golf outing is being arranged for Wednesday. A Viking Feast is planned for Thursday evening. Fund-raising walk-a-thons for the District will be held Friday and Saturday mornings. Friday dinner will be on your own followed by an evening of Kubb (the ancient Viking game) at a local park. The installation of District 5 officers and directors followed by a banquet is set for Saturday. Bunads will be appropriate attire at the banquet.

# Family Bowling in March

**Nordkap Lodge Bowling Fundraiser for 5th District Scholarship Fund**

**GREAT FAMILY EVENT! REGISTER NOW!**

**For your \$5.00 donation you get: three games, shoe rental and freshly baked pizza & pop.**

**Cheerleaders (non-bowlers) also welcome for the same low price.**

**SUNDAY March 13, 2016, 2:00 pm at Luxury Lanes 600 E. 9 Mile Ferndale, MI**

**This Event Replaces Nordkap's Regular Monthly Meeting.**

**You don't have to be a professional bowler to have fun with us, but you need to register!**

**To register or for more information contact Bob Giles at 248-302-2222.**



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## **NORDKAP LODGE 5-378**

c/o Bob Giles

P.O. Box 1198

Royal Oak, MI 48068

**[Recipient Name]**

**[Street Address]**

**[City, ST ZIP Code]**