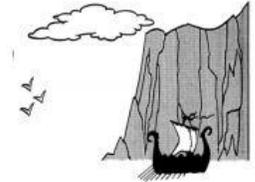




Nordkapen

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 SofN Lodge in Michigan
<http://www.detroitnorwegians.com>



June 2015

Volume 85 Issue 5

2015 NORDKAP EVENTS

June 23 – St. Hans/Mid-summer celebration

June 28 – Detroit Tigers game

July 18 – Founder's Day Parade "There is No Place Like Home, USA"

August 29 – Bus trip to Chicago; Viking exhibition at Field Museum

September 12 – Youth Day

September 13 – Corn & Steak

October 25 – Lodge Meeting

November 14 – Scandinavian Bazaar

November 22 – Lodge Meeting

December 13 – Christmas Party

MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION SET FOR JUNE 23 AT HERITAGE PARK

Midsummer Eve, called Sankthansaften or St. John's Eve in Norway, will be celebrated by Nordkap Lodge starting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

- Take a "Viking Walk" through the beautiful wooded hills of the park at 6.
- Roast hot dogs over the fire pit at 6:30.
- In keeping with old traditions, any bad memory from the previous year will be burned up with a paper witch tossed upon the bonfire. The paper witches were hand-made by Nordkap members.
- We will finish with the Viking Decathlon--a trivial pursuit style competition based on knowledge of Norway and recent events we have had. It's just for fun--but there are cool prizes for the winners!
- Join us at Heritage Park at 24915 Farmington Road just south of 11 Mile in Farmington Hills. Meet at the Campfire Ring in front of the Nature Center. Members are asked to bring side dishes or desserts to share and lawn chairs.

The Midsummer celebration replaces our regular monthly meeting.



Paper witches, like this one, will be cast into the bonfire on June 23. (Photo by Bob Giles)





GRATULERER MED DAGEN

May

Anton Anderssen, Arne Borgnes, Myrtle Ebert, Olive Engman, Helen Fischer, Norman Kirsch, Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg, Zachary Marko, Ralph Pedersen, Gail Ritchie, Finn Roed, Laura Roed, Susan Schotts, Patricia Smith, Jennifer Vingsness

June

David Ray Bryhn, Ronald Greenough, Ernest Halvorson, Jeff Hatteberg, Maureen Hatteberg, Adrienne Shepard, Kristi Smythe, Sheryl Dalton, Samuel Trupiano, Edward Vingsness

July

Gladys Baldwin, Monica Dowhan, Arnold Hagen, Benjamin Lanham, Wendy Marko, Judith Rutkowski, Ana Gjesdal Skidmore, Jeannine Sturgeon, Erik Vingsness

SCHOLARSHIP

Nordkap 2015 Scholarship Applications Due June 30, 2015

Scholarship applications are available on our website or contact Natalie Vaal at nordkap.scholarships@gmail.com.

To be considered for this scholarship, 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, have a GPA of 2.0 or better
- Please note you may qualify up to 4 times for this scholarship

BASEBALL, HOT DOGS, APPLE PIE AND ... LUTEFISK?

Tiger fans will know we are there when our Detroit Norwegians visit Comerica Park on June 28. Our special message to the thousands of baseball fans in the stadium will appear on the giant scoreboard after the fourth inning.

This is the place and the time where people typically offer birthday greetings to family members at the game—like “Happy 90th Birthday, Grandma, always a Tiger fan!” It is also where proposals of marriage are made—“Mary, be my bride.... please? Love, Ryan.”

Our message will inform the crowd:

Detroit Norwegians Love Lutefisk and The Detroit Tigers



Nordkap has reserved a block of seats for 25 of us to see the 1:08 p.m. game together that day, as the Detroit Tigers take on the Chicago White Sox. As we went to press with this newsletter, just a handful of tickets were still available at \$32 each from Nordkap Counselor, Bob Giles. Check with Bob at 248-302-2222 if you are interested in a purchase.

And if you are coming to the game, remember to wear your red Detroit Norwegians T-shirt. The shirts will be available for advance



SUNSHINE UPDATES

Young member Lili Gronstad will be attending Summer School in Dublin, Ireland

2015 Officers

President:

Louise Giles 248-224-3369

Vice President: Elsa Jorgensen

248-561-1452

Secretary: Open

Financial &

Membership Secretary:

Carol Jehle 248-626-2148

Treasurer:

Marge Sorensen 313-563-2280

Editor:

Geir Gronstad 248-649-2779

Foundation Director:

Natalie Flessland Vaal

248-761-3982

Counselor:

Bob Giles 248-302-2222

Sunshine Chairperson:

Sylvia Lindemann 248-320-3276

purchase for \$18 each on June 23 at our Midsummer picnic at 6 p.m. in Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

JOIN US FOR A TRIP TO VIKINGS EXHIBIT IN CHICAGO AUGUST 29

A landmark exhibit on the Vikings will be the destination of a modern-day group of Vikings—Nordkap Lodge members and friends who will travel by deluxe motorcoach to Chicago to see the exhibit on Saturday, August 29.

The trip will leave from the Swedish Club at 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills at 8 a.m. and return late the same day. It will include round-trip bus transportation on a Bianco Travel & Tours Inc. full-size motorcoach and admission to the special exhibit at Chicago's Field Museum. Lunch will be available for purchase at the museum. Cost of the trip, including snacks on the bus, will be \$79.

“We Call Them Vikings” is the name of the international touring exhibition at the Field Museum. Its subject is the world of the Vikings and our image of their world – an image that has changed thanks to the archaeological discoveries of recent years. The legend of Vikings as brutal warriors is widespread, but few people know about their society and culture. “We Call Them Vikings” shows that the tales of violence are only a small part of the Viking world.

The exhibition is one of two that were created by the Swedish History Museum in association with MuseumsPartner and studio-exhibit in Austria to tour museums in Europe and around the world. Chicago is the only scheduled stop in the U.S.

You can see this very special exhibit by participating in Nordkap's August 29th field trip. Sign up now, while spaces are still available, by contacting Louise Giles at 248-398-5976 or by e-mail at louiseagiles@gmail.com.

To see a video about the exhibit, go to:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fcw4nfg8Hbg>



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

A Great Summer Awaits Us!

So much to look forward to this summer, following our lively celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day on May 17!

- **June 23 Midsummer observance of St. John's Eve in Farmington Hills:** Nordkap will provide hot dogs to roast on the bonfire—and later, paper witches to burn for good luck! Join the party at 6 p.m. in Heritage Park at 24915 Farmington Rd. We'll have hot coffee and cold drinks to greet you. (See related article.)
- **June 28 visit to Comerica Park to see the Tigers play the White Sox.** We're hoping our Viking zeal will bring the Tigers a win! (See related article.)
- **July 18 Farmington Founders Festival Parade:** Nordkap members along with their kids, grandkids, and friends are invited to march in front of the Swedish Club's giant helmet float. If you've never been in a parade, this is a fun place to start, with the Founders Festival going all weekend. Join us as we form up before 9 a.m. on Grand River Avenue, between Orchard Lake and Power roads.
- **August 29 field trip to see a major exhibit on the Vikings:** Just \$79 will take you on a deluxe motorcoach to the Field Museum in Chicago and back. You'll travel in comfort. You'll learn about our Viking heritage. And you'll experience an adventurous trip with some spirited Scandinavians. (See related article.)

But let's remember once again our festive celebration of Syttende Mai—the Seventeenth of May (all photos by Bob Giles):

We had a beautiful spring day, with approximately a hundred people accepting our invitation to come out and help us celebrate the 201st anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution. The Swedish Club and its freshly manicured grounds looked beautiful. And your Nordkap Board of Officers did its best to make the event fun.



We had five (!) talented Scandinavian musicians to lead the parade around the club grounds and provide sweet music virtually all day. We had national flags flying and national anthems sung. There was an inspiring speech from our Norwegian consul to Michigan and a grateful recognition of Nordkap members who are World War II veterans (see story in this issue). We had grilled hot dogs in buns (some served in lefse), warm Norwegian heart waffles, and a bounteous buffet of desserts, including such Norwegian favorites as Kransekake (Ring Cake), Verdens

Beste Kake (World's Best Cake), Riskrem and Fyrstekake (Prince Cake or Royal Cake). We had bunads worn and a full complement of Norwegian imports for





sale. There were “potato races”, games and pony rides (yes, Shetland pony rides!) for the kids, along with balloon animals and face-painting. There was a large map of Norway to find your family’s hometown and a 50/50 raffle, named for our late member Torgy Torgerson who always seemed

to win it. Last, but not least, we had frozen fish flying—well, being thrown for distance and kooky prizes in our traditional “cod toss.” We think a great time was had by most, if not all.



Very special thanks are due to our Nordkap Board of Officers, especially Carol Jehle, who coordinated the day; Swedish Club President Dan Nelson, who made the club available and had it looking perfect for our day; Karin Arneson, leader of the musicians; Dennis Flessland, our Norwegian consul; hot dog grillers Malcolm Alestra and

Lynn Herche; waffle and Norwegian dessert makers, Natalie Vaal and Jan and Dennis Flessland; store manager, Natalie Vaal; Shetland pony owner Leiv Erik Lundberg and his family; Norway map facilitator and riskrem



maker, Geir Gronstad; children’s games coordinator, Jennifer Vingsness; face painter, Sonja Gronstad; cod toss captain, Bob Giles; and the countless volunteers, among them Ian Sorensen, Karen Herche, Judy and Norm Kirsch, Sheryl Dalton and Stacey Torgerson, Øystein Hekneby, Marge Sorensen, Sue Schotts and Gladys Baldwin, who did such things as help with the store, the games, and the raffle or brought desserts or helped clean up.

Tusen takk!

Louise Giles

Nordkap President

WORLD WAR II VETS HONORED AT MAY 17TH

During our celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day—and the 70th anniversary this year of the end of World War II in Europe--Nordkap was pleased to recognize four of its members who are World War II veterans. All four survived the war years due to lucky timing—or some very narrow escapes.

Thad Aardal has been a Nordkap member for more than 50 years. He enlisted in the Navy right out of high school and took advanced training to become a Seabee—the elite construction battalion that built and maintained Naval bases around the world during the war. Thad’s unit was awaiting transport to the Island of Formosa, which they were to occupy after a planned land invasion of Japan. But that risky invasion never happened. The atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima made it unnecessary. That’s unit was reassigned to the remote Aleutian Islands of Alaska. The Navy had an important submarine base there on Adak Island. Thad’s unit maintained that base, where 10,000 servicemen were stationed.

Hans Jorgensen was one of six men and two sisters in his family who were part of the war effort.

- Oldest brother Sverre was co-pilot of a four-engine heavy bomber in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He flew 50 bombing missions out of Southern Italy in a plane so shot up that it was nicknamed “Flying Patches.”
- Brother Thor served in the U.S. Marines as an anti-aircraft specialist in the Aleutian Islands and in Tinian in the South Pacific.
- Two brothers-in-law were engaged in sub-chasing in the Atlantic and providing a sea escort for needed supplies going to England.
- A Norwegian uncle captained a merchant ship carrying war materiel from the States to England.
- Two sisters served as nurses’ aides.



World War II vets, left to right: Howard Skovlund, Hans Jorgensen, and Thad Aardal, with Louise Giles. Not pictured is Clarence “Doc” Myrold. (Photo by Bob Giles)

Hans enlisted for pilot training with the U.S. Army Air Corps right out of high school. He was part way through his training when the war ended. He completed his two years of service maintaining planes at a base in Mississippi.

Howard Skovlund served in the Army’s 26th Division in Europe and saw action in four major battles in France, Belgium, the Rhineland, and Germany. As part of a medical unit, Howard distributed medical supplies to aides who tended the wounded. For seven long months, Howard’s unit dealt with the wounded and dying. He narrowly escaped becoming wounded himself, when an enemy bullet slammed through a truck he was riding in—right in front of Howard’s face. Once Victory in Europe was declared, Howard’s unit was re-assigned to distributing food to refugees in Austria. He was promoted to staff sergeant and was scheduled to join the fight against Japan in Burma. But before he left for that fight, the A bomb ended the war, and Howard eventually came safely home.

Clarence “Doc” Myrold, who did not attend the May 17th event at the Swedish Club, was a member of the U.S. Army 2nd Infantry Division. His unit was mortars, and Doc was an ammunition carrier. He spent 320 days in combat, seeing five major battles, including Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge, eventually moving up to staff sergeant. He was hit twice, once by the Germans and once by shrapnel from his own artillery. Luckily, both shots were nearly spent by the time they hit him and failed to penetrate his skin.

Our hats are off to our World War II vets, who helped ensure the freedom that those of us in the U.S. and in Norway enjoy today.

SCANDINAVIAN YOUTH DAY

FOR YOUNG VIKINGS
BETWEEN THE AGES
OF 5-95

WHEN

September 12th, 2015
2pm – a little bit late

WHERE

Sport-n-Fun & Swedish Club,
Farmington Hills

30749 Grand River Ave & 22398 Ruth Street
(at Freedom Road)

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

Putt-Putt Challenge • Pizza • Kubb Viking Game •
Bonfire • Current & LOUD Scandinavian Music •
Eurovision Song Contest • Movies Indoors &
Outdoors • Rune Treasure Hunt • and more....

HOSTED BY:

Metro Detroit Scandinavian Heritage Clubs

IN-THE-DARK OUTDOOR MOVIE (PG13)



INDOOR MOVIE (PG)



QUESTIONS?

datsnorg@gmail.com

YOUTH DAY

Our 4th annual Youth Day has been scheduled for Saturday, September 12. The Swedes have challenged us in a game of miniature golf – or putt-putt – and we intend to open the day at the Sport-n-Fun facilities, next to/east of the Swedish Club. We established this day with focus on youthful Scandinavian activities, and to ensure success **we need volunteers** to support the planning and setup of the following activities:

- **Music** – hookup of the Swedish Club's super loud sound system and bring playlists.
- **Movies** – outdoor/indoor screens, projector and super sound.
- **Games** – Putt-Putt Challenge, Kubb and Rune Treasure Hunt.
- **Food & Drinks** – Possibly at Sport-n-Fun.
- **Bonfire** – Permit and firewood.

Please contact Geir at datsnorg@gmail.com for further details and to sign up.

LANGUAGE CLASS STARTS AGAIN

Our favorite Norwegian language teacher Adrienne Hayes Shepard is willing to start up again with lessons in the fall. Most likely they will take place at the Swedish Club on Wednesday nights. We have already conducted 4 semesters, however we would like to include beginners. If you are interested, please send a note to Geir (datsnorg@gmail.com) and state how proficient you are already in speaking/understanding Norwegian so we can start to create the lesson plans accordingly

SAMHOLD CANCELS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

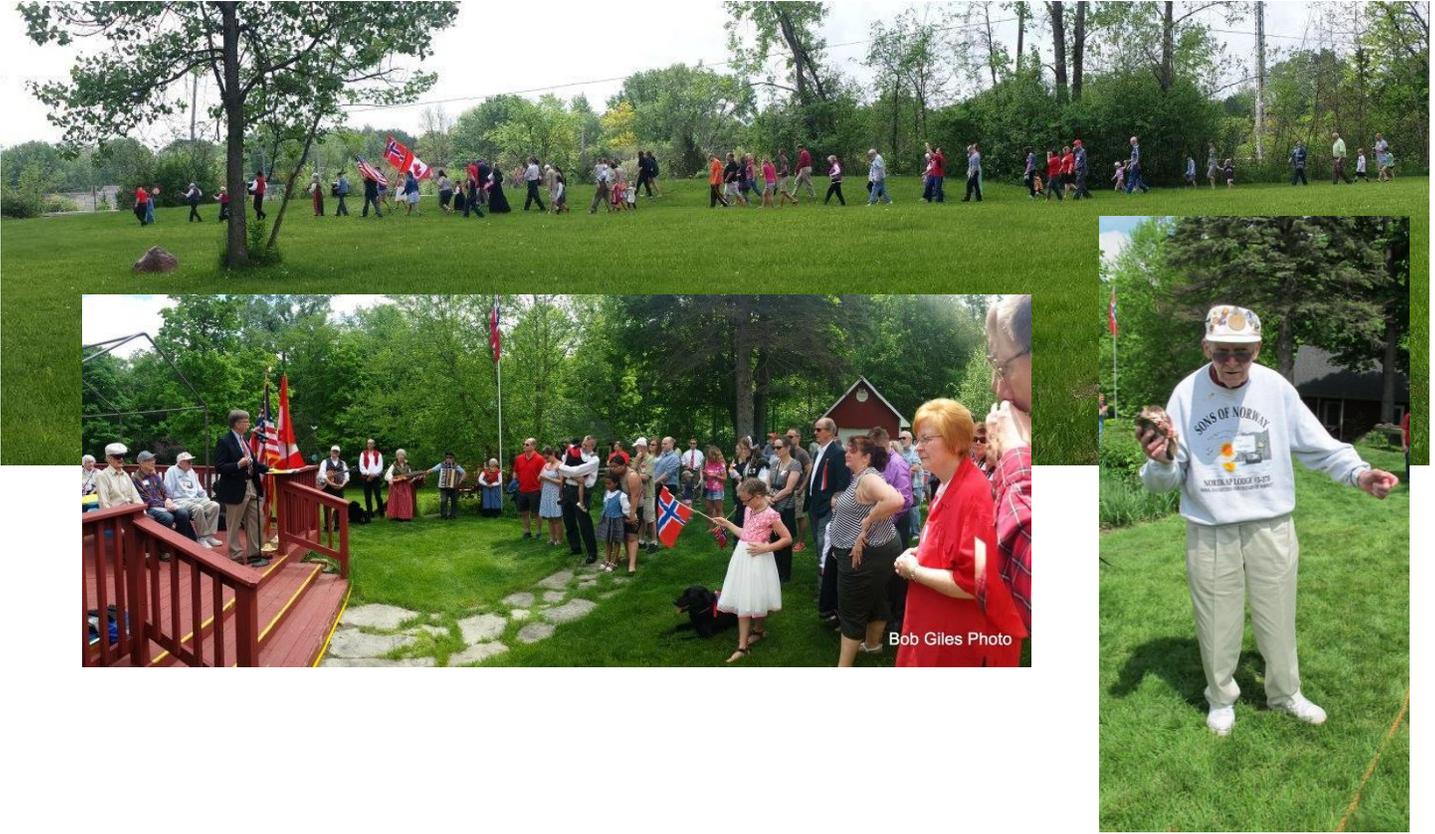
The Sons of Norway's Samhold Lodge, based in Pontiac, recently cancelled its plans for a dinner to celebrate the lodge's 50th anniversary. The event was to have been held on Sunday, June 14, in Waterford. The lodge is returning the checks of those who had registered.

Samhold President Gene Steensma said the cancellation was necessary due to "a less than expected registration for the anniversary banquet."



KEEP
CALM
OG
SNAKK
NORSK

MAY 17 – NORWAY'S NATIONAL DAY AT THE SWEDISH CLUB



NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

c/o Geir Gronstad
1782 Boulan Dr.
Troy, MI 48084

[Recipient Name]

[Street Address]

[City, ST ZIP Code]