

Solglimt Posten
Volume XLV, No.11
November, 2020

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The mission of the Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

Lodge Meeting
No Meeting this Month

If we had a meeting this month, we would have learned a lot about traditional Norwegian cooking from Darlene Fossum-Martin, who recently retired as the folk art specialist overseeing Vesterheim's Folk Art School. We probably would have gotten some good ideas for Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings! As you get ready for these holidays, be sure to make some traditional goodies---and share them if possible!!!

Also, you could have done some Christmas shopping at our traditional November silent auction. Sorry that this opportunity will not be available this year. Next year---hopefully!!!!

Our November Viking ship sponsor is **Eunice Becker**. Send your \$35 to our treasurer, **Jim Miller, 1727 Four Winds Drive, Cedar Falls IA 50613**. The sponsor for December is **Keith Jorgensen**. Thanks to the members who are providing a home for our Viking Ship!

Fra Presidenten

Greetings!

November has arrived. It is a month not only of family gatherings centered around a sumptuous traditional meal, but also a time of acknowledgement and appreciation. We reflect on our blessings (individually and collectively) and strive to maintain an attitude of gratitude.



As members of *Solglimt* Lodge we can be thankful for the following:

- (1) Being a part of an international organization that not only preserves and promotes the Norwegian culture, but also provides for the needs of its members and lodges in the form of financial support, quality insurance and other financial products.
- (2) The dedicated lodge leaders who through the years have tirelessly and generously given of their time and talents.
- (3) The loyalty, generosity and support of individual members.
- (4) A meeting place that allows us to dine, conduct our meetings and have enlightening and entertaining programs.
- (5) The friendships that have developed as we met, planned and worked together; the fun and humor we've shared.
- (6) The guidance and support we've received from our international, district and zone officers.

(These are just six reasons; you probably can add to this list!)

As we reflect on our past, let us not forget those who have worked to help us become a thriving lodge. Thank you for maintaining your membership and for not panicking in this pandemic!

Gratefully, **Clare Palmer, President**

Secretary's Notes, October 13, 2020 Business Meeting

President Clare Palmer called *Solglimt's* monthly business meeting to order on Tuesday, October 13, at New Aldaya in Cedar Falls. Present were **Gloria Tehven, Jon Tehven, Keith Jorgensen, Jim Miller,** and **Eunice Becker.**

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as written (**Jon/Keith**).

Treasurer Jim Miller reported a balance of \$4,418.75 in the Lodge operating account as of 9/30/20 with receipts of \$100.40 and disbursements of \$644. Treasurer's report accepted.

Keith Jorgensen noted that the contract with the Cedar Falls Woman's Club had been renewed for another year.

Jon Tehven reported on Lodge activity in September; membership remains at 90.

Editor Gloria Tehven requested reports and news items for the next issue of the POSTEN by November 1. She also invites all to send news of their activities during these uncertain times.

Discussion followed on redesign of the Lodge logo and banner. **Jon** will follow up and provide examples of the different suggestions at the next meeting. He also reported a good initial response to the Sons of Norway Foundation fund-raising campaign.

As a result of the recent survey it was moved and seconded (**Jon/Keith**) to suspend both the October and November Lodge meetings. Motion carried. The matter will be taken up again in December.

The Lodge budget review remains ongoing.

Present officers will be contacted to determine their willingness to extend their term of office for another year.

The next business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, same time/place: 11:30 lunch, noon meeting at New Aldaya.

As there was no further business, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, **Eunice Becker, Secretary**

Calendars

Norwegian and Swedish Calendars are still available for purchase. Price: \$12 each plus \$1 for mailing them to you. Call or email **Keith Jorgensen** with your order by November 15. Phone: 319-277-1537. Email: kjorgensen@cfu.net. Leave a voice message if you miss **Keith** when calling by phone. Send a check (made out to Sons of Norway) or cash to him at 3801 Alexis Blvd. Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

The Lodge Christmas Trees

Chris and **Joel Johnson** report that Waverly will not be having their usual Christmas Greetings on Main in early December.

However, we do have permission from Correll, Sheerer Law Office to put a tree up in their office in downtown Waverly on Monday, November 23. This will be the 7th year we have had a tree in the law office. Also, Wartburg College is not having the Festival of Trees due to Covid-19.



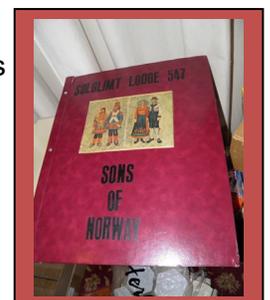
Checking Our Storage Cabinet

On Monday, Oct. 19, **Keith Jorgensen** and **Jon Tehven** met at the Woman's Club to go through our Lodge's storage cabinet. The result is that there is now considerable storage space because several boxes of old SON recruiting materials and publications were taken to recycling.



However, hidden away in boxes and on top of the cabinet were *Solglimt* treasures:

- A scrapbook beginning in 1975 with pictures and hand written lodge information.
- 1991-1996 scrapbook with pictures
- A box of Lodge awards and trophies.



Next time we get together, we'll have them on display!

A Message from Don Meyer Through the Wildfire---Our Trip Home

On Aug. 12, **Kris** and I became grandparents when our first grandson, Arve (a good Norwegian name!) was born. We gave Andy and Lily a couple of weeks of "settling in" time with their new son before driving out to Seattle.

After two weeks of quarantining, we left Waverly, picked up our daughter Maria in Mason City, and headed for Seattle. The trip out on I-90 went smooth as silk. Beautiful scenery.



And a beautiful grandson!

The trip home was anticipated to be just as smooth, taking the same route. It was not to be---

We left Seattle on Labor Day and headed east for home. Two thirds of the way across Washington we



ran into heavy smoke from the wildfires in the eastern third of the state. At times the smoke was so heavy it was like a winter whiteout.

Then we found out I-90 was closed ahead of us—too many accidents, poor visibility and a 30-mile back-up on the interstate. We pulled off the interstate as soon as we could, heading south and east, hoping to escape the smoke. It followed us for several hours. Not only was it smoky, but the wind was also blowing 50 mph! Eastern Washington is very desolate so plenty of dust was blowing in addition to the smoke.

We finally made it to Lewiston, Idaho, where the smoke was finally behind us. Once in Lewiston, we discovered we were closer to I-80 than we were to I-90, so we kept heading southeast the next day and made it to Ogden, Utah the next day. While there, we discovered that I-80 was closed---due to snowstorms. We waited until late morning to leave Ogden, hoping I-80 would be clear enough for us to navigate. It was! The roadway was clear but there were 5 inches of snow along the side of the road.

Halfway across Wyoming we ran into snow. The radar showed there was a small band of snow about 3 miles wide and 50 miles long that parked itself right over I-80. Just our luck! Fortunately, the snow did not accumulate and the road surface was only wet and not icy. As we were driving through the snow we ran across one of the digital signs with

messages that span the roadway. The message said, "Did You Know That It Can Snow Any Time Of The Year In Wyoming?" God knew we needed some humor at that point! It was interesting to note that Southern Wyoming is at an elevation of 6000-7000 feet across the state. No wonder it can snow any time of the year!

We were never so glad to see Nebraska. We made it home safely in four days instead of three. All in all, we drove an extra 600 miles in order to get around the wildfire smoke and Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana. We drove through a total of 10 states. Because of the detour we saw country we had never seen before. Many times it took our breath away. The mountains are so majestic.

It all paled in comparison, though, to the overwhelming amount of joy and love we felt when we held and cuddled our brand new grandson, Arve, for the very first time!

Together We Are The Future

October 2020 was Foundation Month and the Foundation launch SON-wide fundraising campaign to raise \$100,000. Actually, the Together campaign began in Sept and the Foundation raised \$50,000 as a matching incentive for our members. **Solglimt Lodge** donated \$500 and many **Solglimt Lodge** members also responded to the matching incentive.



The Foundation provides scholarships and grants to support our members and families. Solglimt Lodge members have received college scholarships and disaster relief grants. Our Christmas display is the result of a Foundation grant.

Although the final tally will not be available until early next year, the response by our members and lodges has been amazing.

There is still time to donate: the campaign will run through the end of the year. You can use the envelope that was in the October *Viking Magazine*, go online at www.sofn.com and go to Foundation, or send a check to SON Foundation, 1455 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55409.

If you have any questions, **contact Jon Tehven** at 352-6094 or tehoven@msn.com

From Betty Jacobson Butler

A Short History of my Paternal Grandfather's Norwegian Family

My Great Grandfather John Jacobsen was born in 1870 in Norway. He was married to Christina Monsen on January 14, 1890, in Egersund, Norway. Their son George Severen, my paternal grandfather, was born on December 31, 1890. Three daughters were born later.

In 1892, the John Jacobsen family left Norway for the U.S. and Chicago, IL. He was employed by the Simmons Bed Co., working as a brass polisher. The children started school in Chicago, but in a few years' time the family returned to Egersund, Norway. John farmed two farms, his own and his father's, in addition to his small shipping business. He hauled dishes to Oslo, through the North Sea, and brought lumber back on his return trip. (As I write this, I wonder if it was the other way around – hauling lumber to Oslo???)

George's father would frequently take George along and let him steer the ship. My Grandfather reminisced about the time spent on the ship with his father and how frightening it was to be in a storm at sea. When he was only fourteen years old, his father somehow was knocked unconscious during a storm and George had to steer the ship until his father recovered.



In 1906, the family once more made the journey to America and Chicago where the father returned to his former employment with the Simmons Co. It was during this period that he officially changed the spelling of the family name from Jacobsen to Jacobson, after his paycheck had been given to another John Jacobsen.

George worked in a garage in Chicago until he went to Elmore, MN where he farmed. On Sept. 23, 1914 he was married to Jenny Anderson (also a Norwegian immigrant) in Ledyard, MN. They began their married life on a farm near Elmore, where their three children were born, my father being the youngest.

Grandpa George had various moves and occupations during his life, farming and working as a butter-maker were the most frequent. It wasn't until WWII that they got their citizenship papers. They moved to Bremerton, WA during WWII and worked on a Navy base, Grandma working in the Canteen. They returned to Ledyard eventually, George working as a butter-maker. This is where he lived at the time of his death in 1967.

I remember Grandpa as being a fairly quiet man, always with a cigarette in one hand and a cup of coffee in the other. He was somewhat gruff, but very patient when it came to helping Grandma make her *lefse*; she rolled them thin and he cooked them, turning them very carefully.



He was not a man to show a lot of affection, but in almost every photo I have of Grandma and Grandpa they are holding hands!

Editor's Note: Thank-you very much, **Betty** and **Don** for your stories. Everyone—any story about your adventures and/or coping during this pandemic, or about your Norwegian heritage—will be greatly appreciated for our December POSTEN. Send them to me by December 1.

Anyone who has/had a story in the POSTEN in September-December will have their name in a drawing for a Rosemaled nativity picture—and six others will be drawn for a decorative item that can be hung on your Christmas tree, or displayed however you want!

Send reports and items for the December POSTEN to me by December 1. Thank-you!

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**Treasurer's Report
10/1/2020-10/31/2020
Jim Miller**

1. Checking/Savings Accounts
Balance on 10/1/2020.....\$4418.75
Receipts.....(+) 135.40
Interest.....(+) 20.45
Sub Total.....\$4574.60
Disbursements..... 0.00
Balance on 10/31/2020...\$4574.60
2. Certificates of Deposit
4 \$1000 Certificates.....\$4000.00
3. Savings Bonds (none)
4. Cash on Hand.....\$50.00
Total Assets 10/31/2020.\$8624.60

Veteran's Day

November 11 is Veteran's Day, and honoring all who have and are serving in our military, we share this poem with you.

IT IS THE SOLDIER

It is the soldier, not the minister
Who has given us freedom of the religion.

It is the Soldier, not the reporter
Who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Soldier, not the poet
Who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer
Who has given us freedom to protest.

It is the Soldier, not the lawyer
Who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the Soldier, not the politician
Who has given us the right to vote.

It is the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,

And whose coffin is draped by the flag,
Who allows the protester to burn the flag.

Charles M. Province



Kalendar

- Nov. 10: Lodge Business Meeting
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day
- Nov. 17: Lodge Meeting (Cancelled)
- Nov. 26: Thanksgiving
- Dec. 1: POSTEN news due
- Dec. 8: Lodge Business Meeting
- Dec. 13: St. Lucia Day
- Dec. 15: Lodge Meeting (Maybe)
- Dec. 21: First Day of Winter
- Dec. 25: Merry Christmas!

A Little Sunshine

If you know of anyone who could use a little sunshine, contact:

Beverly Haugen
Western Home Communities
5300 Main Street #5
Cedar Falls IA 50613
bhaugen@cfu.net
319-266-2269

Solglimt POSTEN
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2021 Foundation Scholarships

The Sons of Norway Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for 2021.

Go to www.sofn.com and click on Foundation and then click on Scholarships.

Most, but not all, scholarships require that a parent or grandparent be a member of Sons of Norway. Each scholarship provides applicant requirements.

Applications for eight (8) scholarships are due by March 31, 2021 and four (4) due by January 15, 2021.

The four (4) due by January 15, 2021 allow for attending school abroad; however, applicants are advised to check on travel restrictions as well as college acceptance of international students.

