

Solglimt Posten
Volume XLV, No. 12
December, 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'd all be busy making Holiday cookies and pastries to share with each other. But you can make them anyway, eat them yourselves, or share them with neighbors, family, and/or friends!



We would have enjoyed a program by Joel and Linda Haack—they were planning to share Norwegian Christmas music with us. Guess we'll just have to sing ourselves. Or listen to recordings of Christmas music!

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

Fra Presidenten

Season's Greetings!

Some of us are still finding creative ways to use leftover Thanksgiving turkey, and now we are preparing for another holiday.

December has arrived and we realize that we are coming to the end of a year filled with surprises, uncertainties and startling adjustments. 2020 is a year that will not be forgotten—not so much in what we DID as a lodge, but what we COULDN'T DO. But we



still have hope and the memories of past Christmases! Let us relive some memories of those *Solglimt* Lodge holiday gatherings.

(Pretend you are being led by a Charles Dickens-type character to our usual meeting site.)

You arrive a bit early at the Cedar Falls Woman's Club so you can park in a prime spot. You enter the building, hang up your coat and saunter down the hallway where you are greeted by the smiling lodge treasurer, **Jim Miller**, seated at a table to your left. After paying for your dinner and pinning on your name badge, you are greeted by members dressed in Scandinavian sweaters or holiday attire.

Keith Jorgensen wanders in with his warm smile and welcoming manner while **Duane Lindberg** tries to find a table for his guests/prospective members. **Jon Tehven** is busy with audio-visual equipment while **Gloria** chats with the guest speaker or program director. **Eunice Becker** makes sure her writing pad is handy as she picks a spot near the stage.

You also seek a choice seat with a good view of the speakers and then examine the desserts on the table. Hopefully your table won't be the last served! We are led in the singing of the national anthems of Norway, Canada, and U.S.A. and then the table prayer. You are passed a plateful of *lefse* which you lather with real butter and over which you sprinkle cinnamon and sugar.

Here come the servers with plates of tempting food! As you eat you manage to visit with the others at your table. Dessert consists of tasty Norwegian pastries provided by members.

(Fra Presidenten continues on next page.)

(*Fra Presidenten*, continued)

Before long **Keith Jorgensen** gets our attention and regales us with some humorous Norwegian tales. The speaker and performers are introduced and we sit back to enjoy the program. (Is there one in the past that was your favorite?)

Dottie Haugebak fondly remembers dancing around the Christmas tree at a December gathering years ago.)



After the program ends some members linger to purchase packages of **Carol Schultz's** homemade *lefse* for a special treat or holiday meal.

Even though we won't have this year's Christmas gathering with Norwegian music for our program, we can remember the joys of those in the past, make the best of what we have, and look forward with hope for the one in 2021!

We will miss our friend and fellow member **Howard Braden** who always enjoyed being with us at lodge events. Thank you, **Helen Rostad**, for your kindness and willingness to provide him with transportation to our meetings.

Wishing you good health and happiness (also *God Jul og Gott Nytt Ar*).

Clare Palmer, President

(*Mele Kalikimaka and Haudi Makahiki Hou*)

Secretary's Notes, November 10, 2020 Business Meeting

Solglimt's monthly business meeting was called to order by **President Clare Palmer** on Tuesday, November 10, at New Aldaya in Cedar Falls. Attending were **Jim Miller, Jon Tehven, Gloria Tehven, and Eunice Becker.**



The secretary's Minutes of the October meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer Jim Miller's report showing a balance of \$4,574.60 with receipts of \$135.40 and no disbursements was accepted and placed on file.

Jon Tehven reviewed the October Lodge Membership Activity Report and noted membership now stands at 89. A donation will be sent to the 1st District Scholarship Trust Fund in memory of **Cecil Maureen Johnson** who passed away in September.

Editor Gloria Tehven requested reports and news items for the next issue of the POSTEN by December 1.

Jon shared samples of possible logo designs. No action taken at present.

Officers were encouraged to keep in touch with members by phone or cards in order to remain connected. **Clare** intends to mail Christmas greetings to those not receiving the POSTEN online.

Jon Tehven reported that the Sons of Norway Foundation fund raising campaign had reached \$150,000 as of date. (Ed. note—see article elsewhere in the POSTEN.)

The willingness of current officers to extend their terms of office for another year is still being determined. Deadline for reporting 2021 Lodge officers is December 31.

Next year's schedule of business and Lodge meeting dates has been established and will appear in the Yearbook without any program listings due to pandemic uncertainties.

A review of local Lodge By-laws and Policies and Procedures has been tabled until Lodge meetings are resumed.

Treasurer Miller's revised budget was reviewed and approved.

Due to COVID concerns, no December Lodge meeting is planned.

The next business meeting will be held at New Aldaya on Tuesday, December 15, (note change of date); lunch at 11:30 am, meeting at noon.

As there was no further business, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, **Eunice Becker, Secretary**

Lodge Member News

Our condolences to the family of long-time Golden Member **Cecil Maureen Johnson**, 80, who passed away on September 12, in Stillwater, MN. Although she and her husband, Pastor Milton Johnson, had served in nine churches in throughout the Midwest, she maintained her membership in *Solglimt* Lodge until her death. **Cecil** received her teaching degree from St. Olaf and was a missionary prior to her marriage.



Private services were held for **Howard Braden**, 100, who died at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home on Friday, November 13. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. **Howard** served in the U.S. Army Air Force during WW II and in his retirement was noted for his over 2000 hours of volunteer work at the Marshalltown Veterans Home. Our sincere condolences to his family and *Solglimt* friends.



Past International President Jim Olson died Monday, November 30, 2020 at his home in Edina, MN. He was receiving hospice care due to cancer, and he died peacefully in his sleep. Jim was born Jan. 27, 1927 and was 93 years old.



Jim had been a member of Sons of Norway for 65 years (since 1955). He held many positions at Sons of Norway, most notably International President from 2002-2006. His most recent role was serving on the Foundation Board of Governors.

The picture above is from 2001. **Jim and Phyllis** stayed with **Jon and Gloria Tehven** on Friday night and on Saturday attended our lodge meeting and Jim installed our officers. Then they headed to Florida for the winter.

Former member **Dottie Herring** passed away on Nov. 26 at age 93.



2021 Solglimt Lodge Officers

The Solglimt Lodge Executive Committee is asking that all officers and directors remain in place for 2021. If there is anyone who feels they cannot remain in their position, please contact President Clare.

Together We Are The Future

At the November 10 Solglimt Business Meeting, **Jon Tehven** reported the Together We Are The Future Foundation fundraiser had raised \$150,000.

As of December 3 we have raised \$109,809 from 503 members and 66 lodges.

In addition, we received a donation to the Jensen Memorial Scholarship fund in the amount of **\$53,000**. This donation was unexpected and is greatly appreciated.



A Little Humor Contributed by Dottie Roiseland

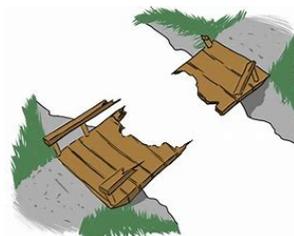
Reverend Ole was the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church, and Pastor Sven was the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road. I saw them yesterday standing by the road, pounding a sign into the ground, that reads:

“Da End iss Near!
Turn yourself Aroundt Now!
Before It’s Too Late!”

As a car sped past them, the driver leaned out his window and yelled, “Leave us alone, you religious nuts!”

From the curve we heard screeching tires and a big splash...

Rev. Ole turned to Pastor Sven and asks, “Do ya tink maybe da sign should just say ‘Da Bridge is Out?’ “



My Norwegian Story by Keith Jorgensen



My Norwegian story begins with only a vague memory of my Norwegian grandfather, Jorgen Jorgensen, who immigrated to the United States in the early 1900's.

He passed away from cancer when I was about 9 or 10 years old. I really only knew him as a sick old man. He met and married my grandmother, Jensina Krogh, a Danish immigrant from the same time period in western Iowa. They lived there their entire lives, my grandmother passing when I was a senior in high school.

We gathered at my grandmother's house nearly every Sunday afternoon. "We" being the six boys, my father and his five brothers that is, and their families. I was lucky to know and play with my many cousins. It was life in a small town. My grandmother was a great baker, especially her Danish pastries, even our dog loved going to her house.

Unfortunately, there was little talk of the "old country" at these gathers, thus I grew up knowing little of their history. There had been no contact since before WWII. It was surmised my grandfather had cut off any contact because of the constant request for money from the Norwegian relatives.

In 1975 two of my uncles began to search for possible relatives still alive in Norway. They felt sure an aunt was still living. They placed a "blind" newspaper advertisement in the town they know my grandfather had lived as a young man, Kragero, Norway. It was a coastal city southwest of Oslo. The editor of the newspaper was a cousin! They connected and made a trip to Norway to discover and meet the living aunt and several cousins.

In 2005, supplied with the information gathered in 1975, Karla and I made the trip to Norway to investigate for ourselves. A son of the older editor still worked at the newspaper. He graciously took time to show us the city, including the house where my grandfather was born. We spent three days in Kragero. Although it was early June, it was cool and often rainy, but we enjoyed our visit.

That's my Norwegian story.

St. Lucia Day, December 13th

Editor's Note: This was written by the Editor of "German Life", Mary Beth Strickler, but it's about a Scandinavian holiday event.

There are so many priceless holiday memories that I have. But the resonating one is the year I served as the St. Lucia maiden on a snowy and cold December night. This Scandinavian tradition was an annual event for the party host and it was an honor to be asked to serve as St. Lucia.

While balancing a candlelit wreath on my head (for a brief time) and sharing an overloaded sweets tray with guests was memorable, the most illuminating memory is the experience my friend and I shared helping the hostess measure, stir, beat, drop, roll, cut, bake and create all those delicious cookies and sweet treats in the days leading up to the festivity



This memory, much like the celebration of St. Lucia Day on December 13th, is a gentle reminder of how meaningful moments with people we love enhance our lives.

May your days leading up to Christmas and the New year be illuminated with priceless memories of shared experiences with the ones you love.

News from Down South, from Ole and Lena (Alias: Ron and Sharon Lance)

(Editor's note: This is an edited document, sharing news from two "epistles" written in October and November. I hope Ole doesn't mind my "editing"---)

October 15: We're leaving [for Texas] at the end of October for the Valley. I don't know what it will be like for SON meetings this season as they still have plenty of Covid down there, however, there is none that we know of in our RV park. It's 100° down there right now, so hope it will be a little cooler by the end of this month.

Sharon and I become Great Grandparents last August 27th when our oldest granddaughter and husband had a baby boy, Damian James Terrell (shouldn't that last name have another "T" in it, as there are two letters of everything else?)

(Continued on next page)

We'll be back at the end of April next year if things go as planned. We have our youngest granddaughter graduating from UNI in May so we're expected to be there.

November 11: We're doing very well here in Texas! We drove up to Helotes, Texas yesterday and picked up our new travel trailer. It is made by Braxton Creek and has the same stuff as our old one, with a nice wardrobe closet, and nice outside storage.

As far as we are aware of there is no Covid 19 inside of Fiesta Village. We celebrated Veteran's Day with raising all of the flags by our parking lot and had a Chili Dog lunch—**Sharon** and I like Chili Dogs and get them at the DQ once in a while with a Blizzard. (Editor's note: Glad you can have a Blizzard in Texas!!!)

We're 89° right now and it's unusual but it's also humid somewhat today as it has been the last three days so we actually sweat when we're outside working!

You folks take care!

Ole and Lena

Christmas on Main

Waverly did not celebrate Christmas on Main this year; however, Solglint Lodge is celebrating. Thanks to **Joel and Chris Johnson**, our tree is on display in the window of a law firm on East Bremer Avenue.



From Hovey

Hovey Brom tells us that he is doing well. Staying in his room and meals delivered. He says it's good for Covid, but bad for everything else.



He keeps busy working two hours a day, checking emails for the architecture firm he has spent so many years with. We'll call him *creatively unemployed!*

Then . . . October 2019



Now . . . When We Meet Again



Kalendar

- Dec. 13: St. Lucia Day
- Dec. 15: Lodge Business Meeting
- Dec. 25: Merry Christmas!
- Jan. 1: Happy New Year
- Jan. 5: Lodge Business Meeting (tentative)
- Jan. 23: Lodge Meeting
Kris Meyer, Story Telling
(tentative)

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

Treasurer's Report
11/1/2020-11/30/2020
Jim Miller

- 1. Checking/Savings Accounts
 Balance on 11/1/2020.....\$4574.60
 Receipts.....(+)135.40
 Sub Total.....\$4710.00
 Disbursements.....(-)207.24
 Balance on 11/30/2020....\$4502.76
- 2. Certificates of Deposit
 4 \$1000 Certificates.....\$4000.00
- 3, Savings Bonds (none)
- 4. Cash on Hand.....\$50.00
- Total Assets 11/30/2020..\$8552.76

Editor's Note: News & reports due by January 1 for the next POSTEN! Thanks!

Solglimt POSTEN
Gloria Tehven, Editor
1507 Hickory Heights Drive
Waverly IA 50677

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

