

Solglimt Posten
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October, 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 our members.

Lodge Meeting

October 27, 2020

Our October Meeting is tentatively scheduled. Mark your calendar and save the date! You will be notified by email and/or telephone if the meeting is scheduled and what the program, food, etc. will be.

Our Viking Ship sponsors for October are **Chris and Joel Johnson**. Send your \$35 to our treasurer, **Jim Miller, 1727 Four Winds Drive, Cedar Falls IA 50613**. The sponsor for November is **Eunice Becker**. All the months through next spring are filled, except for April and May. If you want to volunteer for either of those months, contact **Gloria Tehven**. The response to provide “lodging” for our Viking Ship has been excellent! Thank-you!

Fra Presidenten



Greetings!

Just when we are lulled by the sameness of the summer days, nature brilliantly reminds us of the arrival of a new season. For *Solglimt* Lodge fall is the gathering time for members at the Cedar Falls Woman’s Club—a time for dining, socializing, discussing Lodge business and enjoying interesting/informative programs.

The coronavirus, however, has caused major changes to our scheduled meetings. The status for the one on October 27th is uncertain, pending the health risk at that time and the results of the membership survey.

In spite of the changes and challenges we are experiencing as a Lodge, some things remain constant and dominant—those ideas reflected in the mission statement of Sons of Norway. They can be summarized using the first three letters of our alphabet:

- A**—Association/Associations
- B**—Benefits/Benevolence
- C**—Culture/Heritage

The months of October through December will place specific emphasis on the benefits/benevolence component of our organization with specific examples described in an article by **Jon Tehven**, our Lodge’s Sons of Norway Foundation Director and SON Foundation Secretary. He challenges us to contribute generously to the Sons of Norway Foundation. Please contribute!

Together we can support individuals, lodges, and organizations in this country and beyond our borders and in doing so “promote and preserve Norwegian culture and heritage”.

As your current “paper president” (my term), you are encouraged to “hang in there” (*hold ut*) and keep hopeful (*ikke gi opp haget!*) Let us continue to stay in touch with each other in these extraordinary times. Keep on cooking/baking Norwegian pastries, reading, walking, raking, singing, working on projects, and enjoying the beautiful fall days!

Clare Palmer, President

Secretary's Notes, September 15, 2020 Business Meeting

Solglimt's monthly business meeting was called to order by **President Clare Palmer** on Tuesday, September 15, at New Aldaya in Cedar Falls, with **Jon Tehven, Keith Jorgensen, Jim Miller** and **Eunice Becker** attending.

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

A combined July/August Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$4,962.35 in the Lodge operating account as of August 31, with receipts of \$670 and disbursements of \$445.72. **Treasurer Jim Miller's** report accepted.

Jon Tehven gave a progress report on the Lodge logo design project.

Further discussion of revisions to the Lodge By-laws, Policies and Procedures, and Goals was placed on hold until full meetings of the Lodge resume.

Clare reported on her findings regarding the suggested use of Sundet family memorial funds. Further discussion followed on the use of monies provided to aid Lodges during the pandemic. Follow-ups will be made.

Connecting with members via phone will continue.

Jon reported on Lodge Activity; membership stands at 90 as of the end of August.

Before plans to resume Lodge meetings continue, members will be asked about their willingness to attend. An article will appear in the POSTEN and callers will be asked to contact members by phone.

As **Lodge Foundation Director, Jon** shared information on a Sons of Norway foundation fund-raising campaign beginning Oct. 1-- Foundation Month—to help continue its grants to provide Humanitarian Relief and Educational Scholarships and to promote and preserve Norwegian Heritage and Culture. The Board approved a motion (**Keith/Jon**) to donate \$500 to this cause on behalf of the Lodge. Individual members may also become a part of this effort. (See articles in the next issues of both the POSTEN and the Viking.)

Information had been received from **Joel Johnson** regarding Waverly's Christmas on Main event. Following discussion, it was decided not to participate this year due to COVID concerns. **Jon/Keith** (Note: Waverly event was later canceled.)

As a delegate to the Sons of Norway Convention, **Jon** reported that due to the difficulty in carrying out Lodge business when they are unable to meet in person to vote on important issues, a referendum to allow local lodges to vote electronically or by postal mail has been proposed. (Note: Delegates later voted to approve new referendum.)

The Lodge budget review will take place at the October business meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, at New Aldaya. Lunch at 11:30; meeting at noon.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, **Eunice Becker, Secretary**

Lodge Member News

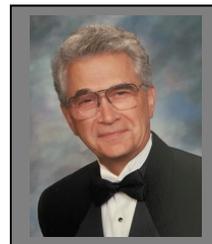
Congratulations to **Don** and **Kris Meyer** on the birth of their first grandchild on August 12 in Seattle.



Arve Dean Meyer's parents are Andy and Lily Sharp Meyer. *Solglimt* members will remember Andy from his January 2017 program on his experiences as a Fulbright roving Teacher in Norway. He currently serves as an Assistant Editor of the Norwegian American.

Condolences

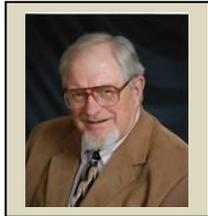
Our sincere condolences to the family of former member Alan Hagen, 85, who passed away on September 21 in Waverly. Both Alan and his wife Patricia had been music educators and were Lodge



members for several years. Pat, who survives her husband, served as Lodge accompanist for many of those years. A Celebration of Life will be held in Waverly at a later date.

Condolences (continued)

Former Solglint member **Fred Hallberg** graduated from the University of Minnesota with a B.A., M.A. and a Ph.D. in Philosophy. He later returned to Iowa State University for his masters in psychology.



He spent several years serving his country with the United States Army after graduating from U of M.

In 1967 Fred teaching philosophy and humanities at the University of Northern Iowa. He retired after 31 years of sharing his knowledge and wisdom with thousands of students.

Jon and Gloria Tehven had a tour of the new office for the International Sons of Norway in Minneapolis on their way home from a Minnesota visit of family. The office has returned to the new building at the same location the SofN had for many years. It is a very nice office!



Calendars

Norwegian and Swedish Calendars are available for purchase. Considering that we may not be meeting prior to the end of the year, there may be a small charge for mailing them to you. Price: \$12.00 each + \$1.00/calendar for mailing them to you. Still a bargain!

Call or email **Keith Jorgensen** with your order prior to November 15th. Phone #: 319-277-1537. Email: kjorgensen@cfu.net. You can leave a voice message if you miss **Keith** calling by phone. You may send him a check (made out to "Sons of Norway") or cash to his mailing address: 3801 Alexis Blvd., Cedar Falls, 50613.

The supply of Calendars is limited, so hurry up, and order early!!!

A Message from Beverly Haugen



A few restrictions have eased here at Western Home Communities, independent living. We may enjoy two adult masked visitors per resident in our apartments. Children are not welcome in the building, we visit outdoors.

We miss the group gathering for entertainment and social times. Bible studies are beginning this week, social distancing, of course. The same with dinner in dining room, distancing with four shifts 4-6 pm. It works, not the same enjoyment of a full buzzing with chatter and laughter dining room. We also miss our wonderful salad bar!

Life is good, safe and DULL here at Windcove. Miss you all!!

A Message from Linda and Percy Slattenow

We are becoming comfortable in this "lock down", spending our time reading, watching TV (*We both talk to the TV at "certain times of the day"*).

We also spend a lot of time laughing, reminiscing, and trying to remember who people are. The good thing is...we are both OK! Linda runs the errands, trying not to go out more than 2 or 3 times a week. We are comforted by our 14-year old rescue cat, Tigger, who has been diabetic since 2016. He was 4 1/2 when we got him, *actually, he chose us.*



Hope all of you are well, keeping safe, and finding ways to enjoy every day!



**Someday soon . . . we hope!
October 9 – Leif Erikson Day
Remembering Our American Story
By Duane Lindberg**

Leif Erikson Day has been designated by the US Congress (in 1964) and is proclaimed annually by the President to recognize the first European recorded to have visited and explored the mainland of North America. Leif Erikson was the son of Erik the Red, the founder of the Norwegian settlements in Greenland. Leif was born in Iceland and grew to manhood in Greenland.



In ca. A.D. 994 Leif decided to explore the land which Norse sailors had reported to the west of Greenland. He and his crew sighted land, explored the coasts and established a settlement in what today is Newfoundland. The remains of a Norse settlement, believed to be Leif's, has been discovered and documented by archaeologists in northeast Newfoundland at L'Anse aux Meadows. Thus, this is the oldest verified European settlement in America and predates Columbus by nearly 500 years.

Leif named the land he had discovered, "Vinland the Good" because, it is alleged, he found an abundance of wild grapes and bountiful forests.

On October 9 we remember Leif Erikson and open a chapter in our North American Story. This chapter begins in A.D. 986 when Erik the Red led a fleet of 25 shiploads of his fellow Icelanders who were eager for their own piece of free land in an inviting place which Erik named, "Greenland". The name may seem inappropriate today, but at the end of the 10th century this name was not just a realtor's ruse, but was an accurate description of the land Erik had discovered.

Greenland was colonized during one of the Earth's warming cycles – the 9th-13th centuries. The remains of more than 400 farms in the Eastern and Western settlements indicate a climate suitable for

agriculture. The Norse settlements in Greenland lasted for @400 years until the Earth's cooling made it impossible to support agriculture.

Today, travelers to Greenland can view many significant ruins and remains from the 400 years of Norse settlement. These include ruins of the Cathedral at Gardar in the Eastern settlement as well as remains of two Bishop's sees, two monasteries, a convent, 20 churches, numerous chapels, and more than 400 farms.

At Brathild (Erik the Red's farm) and at Gardar (Igaliku) (the Bishop's farm) one can see ruins of barns accommodating 200 cows and assembly halls for several hundred people. Stone churches still standing after 800 years testify to the faith of the Norsemen who built them.

The Greenland colonies were the first European settlements in North America. They were self-governing until A.D. 1263 when they became an official part of the Norwegian Kingdom.



It is also significant that the Norsemen did not take land from an indigenous people. The Inuit did not enter northern Greenland until ca. A.D. 1200, well after the Norsemen had settled in southern and western Greenland.

Perhaps due to the Earth's cooling climate (Little Ice Age, 13th century) the Norse settlements were gradually weakened. The Western settlement mysteriously vanished in the 1340's, while the Eastern settlement lasted until ca. 1450. One of the last written records of the Eastern settlement was the account of a wedding in September 1408 at the Hvalsey Church. And church records from 1448 report of pirates attacking the Eastern settlement, burning homes and churches.

The Norse colonies in North America thrived for more than 400 years and left a significant footprint of European civilization on the North American continent. The circumstances of their final disappearance are clouded in mystery, but one thing is probable – the cooling climate was likely a major factor in their demise.

Leif Erikson Day reminds us of this mysterious chapter in our own American story.

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**Treasurer's Report
 9/1/2020-9/30/2020
 Jim Miller**

1. Checking/Savings Accounts
 Balance on 9/1/2020.....\$4962.35
 Receipts.....(+)100.40
 Sub Total.....\$5062.75
 Disbursements.....(-)644.00
 Balance on 9/30/2020.....\$4418.75

2. Certificates of Deposit
 4 \$1000 Certificates.....\$4000.00

3. Savings Bonda (none)

4. Cash on Hand.....\$50.00
 Total Assets 9/30/2020...\$8468.75

**A Tale of Boats and Goats
 By Linda Slattnow**

For those of you who went on the Lodge trip to Norway in 1988, you may recall that Percy, Skipp and I stayed two weeks later to visit family in and around Stavanger. From there we went to Bergen and rented a car and our goal was to see Urnes Stavkirke, which we did with a great deal of pleading.

Upon arriving at the dock, there was a sign indicating that the taxi boat was not going out any more that day. *But* there was a phone on the dock, so we called and reached the boatman's wife who told us he was done for the day. After explaining that we couldn't come back another day, and after considerable conversation between wife and husband, she finally said, "You vate der and he come".

So we did, and eventually we heard the chug chug of a boat. We boarded the boat and he said, "*You got 20 minutes ven ve get der, den I leave.*" It was a steep climb up to the church, but we made it and it was still open so we could see inside. Then we heard the boat whistle and we scurried down the hill! I think we settled on a fee of 500 Kr.

After that we toiled along back south and came across a herd of goats milling about our tunnel entrance. While Perc was taking pictures of the tunnel, I made friends with the goats. They were so curious that I tolled down the window and "talked to them". Of course, as goats will be, they were looking for food. I had a bag of nuts along, so I put some in my hand and, voila, they were "hooked", as was I, until Perc returned from taking pictures and reminded me that those nuts were our only supper. So we said our farewell to the goats and headed back to Bergen.

By this time, it was late and we couldn't remember how to get to our hotel (The Neptune). Skipp always knows where he is and how to get to where we're going, but he was fast asleep in the back seat. We hailed a cab and asked the driver for directions, which he gave us. However, he hovered in the background to see if we went the right way; shortly he pulled up alongside us and waved us to follow him. We were so glad to see the Neptune and for that very kind cabbie!

Somewhere along the way, we came upon Hopperstad Stavkirke in Vik, Sognifjord.

The next day, we bought fishing boat excursion tickets on a bus that would take us to Marsteinon Hotel, Sternisland, on the island of Sotra. It was a long ride and we finally asked the driver how much further it was as the boat would leave at a certain time. He pulled over and pointed to the right. So we got out and walked...*forever*, seeing only sheep. Finally a car came along going the other way and we hailed him and asked how far it was to the Marsteinon. "*It's just over the hill!*"

As we started up the hill, we heard the boat blowing its horn; we told Skipp to run ahead and let them know we were coming. By the time we got to the top of the hill, Skipp had the boat returning to the dock. While we got on board, everyone clapped.

The three of us fished awhile and pulled in about 30 fish, then headed back to the lock. On the way back, I smelled the aroma of coffee and we all enjoyed some of our fish, a crispy bread and drank that good, strong Norske coffee. Back on the bus, there was a group of tourists from Chili who fished with us.

They had with them a large garbage bag full of fish (*they were staying at a campground*). Suddenly that bag skittered away from them, and there were fish cascading all over the bus. Only the Chilians laughed! *What a smell! (We were hoping our driver was the same one that dropped us off in the middle of nowhere, rather than taking us to the boat as he was supposed to do!)*

Kalender

Oct. 9: Leif Erikson Day

Oct. 13: Lodge Business Meeting

Oct. 27: Lodge Meeting (maybe)

Oct. 31: Happy Halloween!!

(Order Scandinavian Calendars from **Keith Jorgensen** before November 15th---sooner, if possible!!)

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

Editor's Note: Thanks to the folks who sent news for this month's POSTEN. All of you are encouraged to send news about your activities during this pandemic, your Norwegian stories and/or humor for the November POSTEN by November 1. Contributors will be entered in a drawing for a rosemaled nativity picture in

December. Address above right, or send it to:

gtehven@live.com

Solglimt POSTEN

Gloria Tehven, Editor

**1507 Hickory Heights Drive
Waverly, Iowa 50677**



October is Foundation Month, a time for Sons of Norway members to think about the benefits the Foundation has provided over the years.

In just the past five years, the Foundation has granted more than \$730,000 to lodges, members, students and organizations around the world to promote and preserve Norwegian culture and provide higher education and humanitarian aid.

"Together We Are The Future" is the theme for our fund raising campaign, with a goal of raising \$100,000 by year's end. In September the Foundation raised \$50,000 as a 'match' incentive for our members to contribute another \$50,000.

Over the years, Solglimt Lodge and its members have received benefits from the Foundation: property damage grants to two members, Christmas with Wartburg display materials, and a college scholarship. And, although she is not a member, a Wartburg student has received a four-year scholarship.

Here at Solglimt Lodge, we already have donations/pledges of up to \$4,000. So, I am asking you, on behalf of the SON Foundation, to

consider joining us by making your gift. You can use the envelope found in the October *Viking Magazine* or go online at the SON website under Foundation. Or contact me at tehven@msn.com

A word about the Foundation. It is a separate 501(c)(3) organization from SON International. Although the Foundation does receive some operating expenses from International, International does not provide any other funds for scholarships, etc.

Jon Tehven, Solglimt Lodge
Foundation Director
Sons of Norway Foundation,
Secretary