



the ASKELADDEN NEWS



January

Sons of Norway • Askeladden Lodge 5-610 • Kalamazoo, Michigan

A Congenial Society of Sons, Daughters, and Friends of Norway

www.norwayinkalamazoo.net

No. 1-12

Meetings:

Monthly, most 2nd Sundays, 4 pm
Portage Senior Center
320 Library Lane
Portage, MI 49002

Officers:

President: Joyce Hare
healingmoments@charter.net

Membership: Christine Sitkins
269-345-4215
cszoo@sitkins.org

Vice-President: Holly Jensen
269-385-3693
hollyjensen@yahoo.com

Secretary: Sandra Shaffer
269-637-4621
ejayintl@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Louise Adams
269-381-6767
dicklaa@charter.net

Editor: Joan O'Bryan
507 Clinton Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
269-383-6802
joan.obryan@wmich.edu

Publishers:
Dennis & Jean Darling
158 Bulkley Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269-382-2340

Affiliation:
Sons of Norway International
1455 West Lake St.
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Burton Bittner
District 5 Vice President
317-842-4042
burtonbittner@att.net

Benefits Counselor:
Greg Ragan
1-800-442-4146
gregragan@aol.com

Norwegian Sports

4 p.m. Sunday

January 8

We are looking forward to our first meeting of 2012 this Sunday. Svein Thoen, our lodge's Sports/Recreation Director, will give a program on "Norwegian Sports." Please bring non-disposable tableware and a dish-to-pass for our potluck dinner following the business meeting and program.

Hei allesammen! Hi everybody!

Join us at the piano with Margery at 3:45. We'll practice the Norwegian birthday song *Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!* (Hurray for Your Birthday!). Then, if there's time, we'll choose a few songs to sing from our Mike & Else's Norwegian Songbooks.

Hei unge venner! Hi young friends and children of Askeladden!

Lets meet at the piano at 3:45 to learn the Norwegian birthday song *Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år!* (Hurray for Your Birthday!). As usual, we'll have some interesting Norwegian stuff out on our activity table for you to enjoy during the meeting.

Mange takk!
Karen

Norske ordtak for Nyttår

Bak skyen er himmelen alltid blå.

Behind the clouds the sky is always blue.

Norwegian Proverbs for the New Year

Borte bra hjemme best.

Away all right, at home best.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

January • januar

A Little in English...

Ten New Cabins Wait for You

In the span of the past year, the Tourist Association has opened ten new cabins in the cabin net, which now consists of more than 480 cabins from north to south.

Among the new cabins are romantic small cabins perfect for couples who like to be cozy next to the fireplace and large cabins for those who like to be surrounded by more people when in the mountains. The cabins are very spread out: Indre Syltevik is the northernmost new cabin and lies on the northeastern tip of the Varanger Peninsula – actually farther east than Istanbul.

In beautiful Lofoten you now have the chance to visit Nøkksetra, northwest of Svolvær. Berit Rødstøl, DNT's communication advisor, characterized the cabin as the most romantic newly opened cabin of the year.

In Okstindene in Nordland, Hemnes Association is in the process of building Rabothytta at an altitude of 1200 meters, which will eventually be Northern Norway's highest tourist cabin. In addition to the fantastic view, the building will have modern architecture and will get its electricity from the sun and wind. This specific cabin will not be finished until 2013 but Hemnes Association has already allowed hikers to use the cabin.

Happy New Year • Godt Nyttår

Joan Renaas O'Bryan

In our family, Dagmar is a very special name. Dagmar was my father's godmother and we've always been enchanted by the name. Sitting here today, putting together this month's newsletter, listening to the relentless, loud, and powerful winds this New Year's Day, I can't help but think of what our Norwegian friends and relatives experienced just one week ago on Christmas night.

I hear from my facebook acquaintances that some roads are just re-opening from the rock slides near **Sogn og Fjordane**. I know some families - a week later - are still without power or phone service in this brutally cold time of year. And unstableness from the last week's storm is the probable cause of more landslides even now: 50 people were evacuated from just outside Trondheim on New Year's Eve. I hope all in Norway recover fully from the impact of one of the most powerful storms to sweep Norway in recent times, the devastating **Christmas hurricane they named Dagmar**.

I invite any of our Norwegian readers affected by the storm to share their experiences with us. We would like to hear from you.

Christmas issues of *Viking* wanted

If you are willing to part with your December 2011 *Viking*, which contained a picture of many of our younger lodge members from last year's Luciafest, please bring it to any future meeting. I'm sure any one of these youngsters would appreciate the keepsake and your generosity.

Litt på norsk...

Ti nye hytter venter på deg

I løpet av året har Turistforeningen åpnet ni nye hytter i sitt hyttenett, som nå inneholder mer enn 480 hytter fra sør til nord.

Blant nyhetene er romantiske små hytter perfekte for peiskos og par, og større hytter for deg som liker å omgi deg med litt mer folk når du er på fjellet. Hyttene ligger godt spredt: Indre Syltevik er den nordligste nye hytta og ligger på nordøst-spissen av Varanger-halvøya - faktisk lenger øst enn Istanbul.

I vakre Lofoten har du nå sjansen til å besøke Nøkksetra, nordvest for Svolvær. Hytta karakteriseres av DNTs kommunikasjonsrådgiver, Berit Rødstøl, som den mest romantiske nyåpningen i år.

Ved Okstindene i Nordland er Hemnes Turistforening i gang med å sette opp Rabothytta i 1200 meters høyde, det som etterhvert skal bli Nord-Norges høyestliggende turishytte. I tillegg til fantastisk utsikt vil bygget ha en svært moderne arkitektur og skal få energi fra sol og vind. Selve hytta er ikke ferdig før i 2013 men det er allerede satt opp ei arbeidsbu som fjellvandrere kan bruke etter avtale med Hemnes Turistforening.

**Taken from VG Nett, <http://www.vg.no/reise/artikkel.php?artid=10023304>*

First 2012 Executive Board meeting announced

All executive board members are invited to the first board meeting of 2012 to be held at the home of Joyce Hare on Thursday, January 5 at 7 p.m. While board meetings are open to all lodge members, participation and actions such as motions and voting are limited to the executive board members. Joyce lives at 6909 Towhee Court in Portage.

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

January Birthdays

4	Brett Jensen	26	Thor Erik Selden
17	Karn Erlandson	28	Magnus A Selden
21	Scott Erickson		

District 5 2012 Convention announced

The 5th District Convention will be held June 20 - 24, 2012, in Appleton, Wisconsin. Lodges will be electing delegates to the convention in February. Norse Valley, Gronnvik and HR Holand lodges are working together with the 5th District Board to provide an experience of information, fun and fellowship.

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Christmas Program

Once again this year, we were treated to a very special Christmas program - a Juletreffest enjoyed by adults and children alike. It's not hard to see why this is one of our most popular programs, year after year. Many people - not all named here - were instrumental in making the Christmas celebration a success for the 40 members and guests in attendance.

We began with Christmas carols played by Margery Selden on the piano, and songs led by Karen Kunze, and then enjoyed a unique program prepared by Jean Darling about the Christmas tree and the meaning behind the important symbols of Christmas we sometimes take for granted. We also were treated to some special Christmas hymns, sung beautifully by Ashli Niles.

Of course, the children danced around the specially decorated tree and Karen prepared Christmas presents and had them waiting under the tree for each child. Jean provided flettehjerter (woven paper heart baskets) filled with Norwegian Christmas cookies for all the children. And everyone went home with a Norwegian straw Christmas ornament.

There are two major themes to any gathering of Norwegians. Music is the first aspect and food, of course, is the second. We were treated to some wonderful dishes again this year, as is the tradition at Christmas. I enjoyed multiple huge servings of authentic medisterkaker - thank you, Henrik! - and we were also treated to a beautiful kranssekake for dessert as well.

Our lodge sends a big Thank You to Holly Jensen for our Christmas table decorations and for setting up and decorating the Christmas tree. We also thank Jean and Dennis Darling for providing their special dishes and for ordering and giving us the special Norwegian ornaments from our place settings that we all got to take home. Many other people helped make this program a success and we thank them all.

St. Olaf Choir 2012 Winter Tour

Curtis A. Cleveland

The St. Olaf Choir will give two concerts in Michigan on their 2012 Winter Tour. Sunday, January 29, 3 PM, the Choir will perform at the Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, Michigan State University, East Lansing. The second Michigan concert will be in the evening on Wednesday, February 8, 7:30 PM, at Calvin College Performing Arts Center, Grand Rapids.

Ticket information can be obtained by telephone at (800) 363-5487 or online at www.stolaftickets.com

Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarships for Askeladden Lodge

Joyce Hare

Applications for the 2012 Askeladden Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarships are due on March 15, 2012. The application forms and all related information are available online at www.norwayinkalamazoo.net

Students must have a recent transcript and two letters of recommendation. Applications must be turned into Joyce Hare. We look forward to receiving your children's and grandchildren's applications.

District 5 Offers Several Scholarships

Once again, District 5 is offering several scholarships that may be of interest. Each has its own requirements, but all share the same application deadline, which for the 2012 Scholarships is March 15, 2012. Requirements for each of the scholarships listed below can be found at

<http://www.sonsofnorway5.com>

- * **\$300 Book Scholarships** District Lodge 5 is pleased to announce that it is offering two \$300 Book Scholarships for 2012. The Cyrilk K. Wittrock and Olav J. Eide Scholarships are awarded in memory of two long time leaders of District Lodge 5, and are funded by their respective lodges Skjold 100 and Fosselyngen 82.
- * **Norwegian Folk High School Scholarship** District Lodge 5 will once again offer one \$500 Scholarship toward Norwegian Folk High School for 2012.
- * **International Summer School Scholarship** District Lodge 5 is making available a \$1000 Scholarship for an attendee of the 2012 International Summer School in Oslo, Norway.

New Year's in Norway

Have you ever wondered how New Year's Eve is celebrated in Norway? The answer is fireworks! Americans lucky enough to experience Norway's New Year's fireworks displays are known to say they are even better than ours on 4th of July. Here are 85 reader-supplied magnificent photos from Tromso for you to enjoy:

www.itromso.no/bilder/article512527.ece?imageIndex=0#pageTop

Clip this handy schedule and post it on your refrigerator, clip it to your wall calendar, or slide it into your pocket calendar

2012 Program Schedule – first quarter

Dates	Time	Location	Program Topic
January 8	4 p.m.	Portage Senior Center	Norwegian Sports by Svein Thoen
February 12	4 p.m.	Portage Senior Center	Queen Maud, part 2 by Dr. Margery Selden
March 11	4 p.m.	Portage Senior Center	Norway Trip program by Mary Sue Dawsey
April 8	4 p.m.	Portage Senior Center	Norwegian Sami People by Inger Thoen

ASKELOADDEN LODGE 5•610
SONS OF NORWAY
158 Bulkley Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49006



SONS OF
NORWAY

www.sonsofnorway.com

JANUAR KALENDER



- Januar 1 - Nyttårsdag - New Year's Day
- Januar 6 - Helligtrekongersdag - Epiphany
- **Januar 8** - **Askeladden Lodge Meeting and program followed by potluck dinner**
3:45 p.m. Singing Practice
4:00 p.m. Portage Senior Center
- Januar 8 - VASA meeting at Trinity Lutheran (moved from first Sunday due to holiday)



- Januar 16 - Sons of Norway founded, 1895
- Januar 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Januar 21 - H.R.H. Princess Ingrid Alexandra 2004
- Februar 2 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles



The mission of 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.