



# Nordkapen

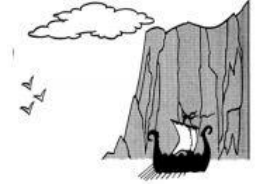
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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 Sons of Norway Lodge in Michigan

<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>



October 2021

Volume 91 Issue 6

## NORDKAP CALENDAR

**October 16–Cider Mill visit,  
10 a.m. – noon,  
Plymouth Orchards & Cider Mill,  
10685 Warren Rd, Plymouth, MI**

**Nov. 13 – Scandinavian Market,  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Finnish Center**

**Saturday, Dec. 11 – **NEW DATE!**  
Christmas Party,  
Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center,  
Plymouth, MI – details TBD**

### Nordkap 2020 Officers

**President:** Erik Duus

**Vice President:** Haley Vingsness

**Treasurer & Scholarship Chair:**  
Carmen Collins

**Secretary:** Mary Morehead

**Membership Secretary**

**& Sports Director:** Carol Jehle

**Cultural Director:** Karen Herche

**Social Director:** Connie Hart

**Foundation Director:**

Derrick Hendricks

**Store Director:** Natalie Vaal

**Editor & Publicity Director:**

Louise Giles

**Counselor:** Bob Giles

### **Contact us:**

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**Photos by Bob Giles,  
unless otherwise indicated**

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Norwegians in Michigan  
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/  
104416144749/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/104416144749/)

Call and leave a message at:  
248-919-8355

Visit our website at:  
<http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com>

## ***Family Fall Event at Plymouth Cider Mill***

Plans for our October gathering are now in place! You're invited to Nordkap's celebration of fall at Plymouth Orchards & Cider Mill on Saturday, October 16, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

**Our lodge will be providing donuts and glasses of cider** for members and guests to enjoy. Look for our lodge officers and Norwegian flags to locate our group. There are picnic tables outside and inside, so adverse weather should not be a deterrent. Additional cider to take home can be purchased at \$13 per gallon and donuts are available at \$9.25 a dozen.

As indicated in our last newsletter, Nordkap wanted to offer something more active, more outside than our usual get-togethers. We wanted to go beyond Zoom and actually bring people together, but to do so with social distancing and precautions required by these pandemic times. We also hoped to make the most of fall in Michigan.

The Plymouth Orchards & Cider Mill should help us do that. The facility at 10685 Warren Rd, Plymouth, MI, is a family-friendly organic farm with activities that even the



*(Plymouth Orchards Photo)*

youngest family members can enjoy. You can visit the farm animals. There are hay bales for younger members to climb plus a U-pick pumpkin patch to walk through. Fresh apples and freshly baked pies are also available for purchase.

**There is no fee to enter or park at the facility.** Bring your own canopy, chairs, and picnic lunch, and stay as long as you like. The facility is open until 7 p.m.



### Sunshine Updates

Nordkap Life Member **Peggy Gjerpen** recently celebrated her 97th birthday. We look forward to enjoying Peggy's presence at lodge events for many more years to come. (*Louise Giles photo*)



**Bill and Kathie Injerd's** first grandbaby Moses Robinson Injerd was born August 12. He weighed in at 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21-inches long. The happy, but sleep-deprived, parents are Ivik and his wife Michelle. (*Injerd photo*)  
**(Column continued next page)**

**GRATULERER MED DAGEN!**



### October Birthdays:

Gerald Bayer, Simon Bryhn, Bob Giles, Kaitlyn Hattenberg, Eric Hetland, Katherine Hildre, Kristen Injerd, Carol Jehle, Cathy Johnson, Hans Jorgensen, Roy Marvel, Colin Miller, Christopher Nilsen, Erik Scharf, Diane Stanard

## Save December 11 for Nordkap's Christmas Party

**Christmas is coming!** And Nordkap is working hard to resume the kind of festive Christmas party we've held for many years—except last year.

Due to pandemic precautions and closures, we were not able to hold the party in 2020. But things are now looking up, and Nordkap's Christmas Party Committee is developing plans to return to Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth for our traditional Norwegian-style celebration.



*Fox Classic facility at Fox Hills*

**There will be more news** of this special event in our November newsletter. Meanwhile please save the afternoon of Saturday, December 11, for the Nordkap party. This is a day earlier than indicated on the calendar of upcoming events in last month's newsletter, but the date of December 11 is now final.

**Our planners hope to include the silent auction** as part of the festivities but will need the help of volunteers in order to run it successfully. Christmas Party Chairperson Carmen Collins is calling for those of you who can help to let her know now so she can firm up auction plans.

**If you plan to attend the party and can help** with the auction during the event, please contact Carmen as soon as possible at [skicarmen@att.net](mailto:skicarmen@att.net) or 248-528-1147.

Our thanks to Carmen and the other members of the Christmas Party Committee—Mary Morehead and Connie Hart—for their work to bring back this much-loved celebration.

### **Uff da—Correction!**

The September 2021 issue of Nordkapen included an article about our Midsummer celebration with a photo of Olivia Vaal, with her grandfather Dennis Flessland, throwing a paper witch into the bonfire. Omitted was a photo credit for **Coco Bruning**, who took that shot, just catching the paper witch in the air.

**Sunshine Report** (column continued from previous page)

**PJ Smith** attended the marriage of her cousin Deb Haaland to longtime partner Skip Sayre outside Albuquerque New Mexico on Aug 28<sup>th</sup>. Haaland, a member of the Laguna Pueblo tribe and formerly a U.S. Congresswoman, is the country’s first indigenous U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Sayre heads sales and marketing at Laguna Pueblo Development, the Laguna Pueblo’s economic development arm.

The wedding incorporated elements honoring Haaland’s Native American ancestry, including Native buffalo dancers. PJ reports that it spectacularly ended with the appearance of a double rainbow, shown at right (*PJ’s photo*).



Meanwhile, **PJ Smith** had an unfortunate accident a week ago when she fell down a flight of stairs at a friend’s house and broke her dominant upper right arm in five places. When we last spoke, she was facing surgery to repair it.

Former Nordkap member (and former Nordkap Norwegian language teacher) **Adrienne Shepard** and her family are happily back in their home in South Lake Tahoe, California. The Shepards were evacuated for three-and-a-half weeks while firefighters successfully kept the rapidly advancing Caldor Fire from burning into South Lake Tahoe, a resort city in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. All the houses were saved. Adrienne with children Teddy and Clara are shown at the right (*Adrienne’s photo*).



Over the past year, Nordkap member **Elsa Jorgenson**, shown at the left (*Elsa’s photo*), has been serving as a Deacon at her church, the First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak.

**Heather Vingsness**, our terrific host of Nordkap’s Zoom gatherings, recently posted the following on her Facebook page:

“Big life update: I have made the heartbreaking choice to take a break from high school teaching. I love science, I love the students and my coworkers, but the stress of teaching during the pandemic was not good for my mental health. (I’m still coaching robotics, though.)

“I am currently exploring the world of corporate training. I have just started at ZingTrain (part of the Zingermans Deli community of businesses) as the new concierge. I’ve now been to my first business meeting; had my first water cooler conversation; and decorated my first cubicle. There is a lot to learn, and I’m enjoying it so far.” Heather is shown to the right (*Heather’s photo*).



## ***Sons of Norway Foundation Month Calls for Your Help***

*--By Nordkap Foundation Director Derrick Hendricks*

**Hello everyone! Foundation Month is here!**

Yes, the Sons of Norway is a wonderful group of people, with lodges all over the U.S., Canada, and (of course) Norway. We all enjoy the fun of going to lodge events, chatting with our fellow Sons of Norway members, and learning and sharing our knowledge of the Norwegian heritage and the people that keep that heritage alive. But, there's more to the Sons of Norway than just bonfires, singing Norwegian songs, and sharing good company with our fellow lodge members. And, I'd like to take a few moments of your time to talk about another part of the Sons of Norway. That being, the Sons of Norway Foundation.



***Derrick Hendricks***

**Every October, we dedicate a little time** to remind our members of what the Sons of Norway Foundations does, and what you can do to help make its mission successful. World events have prevented us from meeting in person again this year. But, that doesn't mean that the Foundation has taken time off from their stated goals: to share and preserve Nordic heritage, to positively affect our members' lives, and to make Sons of Norway communities better places to live. The Foundation has been active during this time. And, in 2020 alone, the Foundation awarded over \$144,000 in grants and scholarships. Also, in 2020, the Foundation opened up another humanitarian grant, that being the "Helping Hands to Members – Medical Relief" grant, which is designed to provide assistance to members experiencing severe financial hardship due to extreme illness and injury. So, during a time of hardship in the world, the Foundation finds another way to give assistance to the people in need.

**In 2020, the Sons of Norway Foundation** among other awards, has given nearly \$100,000 in scholarships to students, over \$20,000 in grants for Nordic culture and heritage programs, and almost \$4,000 in humanitarian aid to members and children in need. Our own lodge has received grants from the Sons of Norway in the past. In fact, one of the first things I did as a Sons of Norway member was helping to figure out what computer to purchase with the grant money that we received from the Foundation. And, I know that many of our members' families have also been recipients of grants and scholarships. So, the foundation is a resource for our membership too.

**So, how can you help** to make the Foundation's mission a success? Well, first of all, apply for those grants and scholarships! The Foundation has to know who and what to award money to, in order to be successful. And, they can't know who needs the grants and scholarships, if we don't tell them. Secondly, you can help by donating what you can to the Sons of Norway Foundation. No amount is too small or too large. It's through the generous contributions of our members that the Foundation can help those in need of assistance.

**To donate**, go to <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/donate/> and click on *DONATE NOW*.

### ***A Letter to Nordkap***

Treasurer Carmen Collins recently received the following addressed to her and Nordkap Lodge:

"We would like to thank you for the kind gesture of making a donation to the scholarship fund in our father's name. He would have loved that idea. With many thanks, the Clarence Mount family."

## ***In Memoriam: Judith Engelsen***

We sadly report that **Judith Engelsen** of Novi passed away on September 23 at the age of 89. Judith was born in Norway in 1932 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1955.

Judith was the wife of the retired honorary consul of Norway to Michigan, Norval Engelsen, who died in 2012. She was the mother of three children (Elin, Anita, and Norman), four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Services for Judith are being held privately.



*Judith Engelsen  
(family photo)*

## ***2022 Elections Are Coming Up: Can You Help Lead Nordkap Lodge?***

**If you enjoy the fellowship** of other Norwegian-Americans and if you like belonging to an organization that brings you all together, please think about your role in the upcoming Nordkap Lodge elections. Nordkap will soon hold its election for officers for 2022. Right now a nominating committee is developing a slate of candidates—and more than one person can run for any office.

**If you are not already an officer, this could be the chance for you** to bring your ideas and vision to our lodge. New ideas help keep an organization viable, help keep it growing, and that's what we need. Please consider running for office.

The Nordkap nominating committee of Carol Jehle, Louise Giles, and Haley Vingsness wants to hear from you. If you would like to run, contact [nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com](mailto:nordkap@DetroitNorwegians.com) or call 248-919-8355 and leave a message.

**The positions and candidates identified so far are listed below.** But remember that all positions are open to more than one candidate, so the door is wide open.

**President:** Erik Duus

**Vice President:** Eli Viik Steyskal

**Secretary:** Mary Morehead

**Treasurer:** Carmen Collins

**Membership Secretary:** Carol Jehle

**Social Director:** open

**Co-Cultural Directors:** Karen Herche and Magda Pescenye

**Sports and Recreation Director:** open

**Co-Youth Directors:** Yana and David Thompson

**Foundation Director:** Derrick Hendricks

**Co-Store Directors:** Natalie Vaal and Dennis Flessland

**Sunshine Director:** Carol Jehle

**Greeters:** open

**Editor/Publicity Director:** Louise Giles

**Counselor:** Bob Giles

## ***Nordkap Elections: Positions for You to Consider***

**For your reference, here is a brief description of the officers' duties at Nordkap Lodge:**

**President:** The highest-ranking lodge office, responsible for ensuring lodge compliance with the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitution while overseeing and guiding all lodge activities.

**Vice President:** Leads lodge recruitment efforts and strategies while helping develop programming that encourages member retention.

**Secretary:** Responsible for writing and maintaining the minutes of the lodge. If requested, assist with any other correspondence and reports required of the lodge.

**Membership Secretary:** Handles membership records and many of the business matters for the lodge.

**Treasurer:** Oversees all lodge finances.

**Social Director:** Plans social activities and quality programs to enhance the sense of enjoyment, excitement, commitment, and community within the lodge.

**Cultural Director:** Plans activities to help members and community develop a lasting appreciation for the culture of Norway.

**Sports & Recreation Director:** Plans and supervises a well-rounded activity program that interests all members and enhances their well-being.

**Youth Director:** Leads the mission to engage young people in the activities of the lodge.

**Foundation Director:** Increases members' awareness of the Foundation and its value while promoting the Foundation to members and the community and helping it grow financially.

**Store Director:** Plans and orders supplies of Norwegian foods and other items of interest to sell at lodge events.

**Sunshine Director:** Brings greetings, cheer, and comfort to lodge members who are suffering from illness, loss of loved ones, or who are celebrating a joyous occasion.

**Greeters:** Welcome members, visitors, and guests to our lodge. Distribute name tags when people come into the lodge. Advise the president of guests or other needs.

**Editor/Publicity Director:** Publishes the lodge newsletter, assists with Facebook page, and works with lodge President and other officers on publicizing lodge events.

**Counselor:**

Aids, assists, and counsels the other officers in the performance of their duties. This is normally a past lodge President or person with leadership experience.

## ***A Letter from President Erik Duus***

***“Fall is in the air, and I must confess to you, I LOVE it! To me, and many a Norwegian, the summer of ~~2020~~ 2021 was hotter than we wanted”***

Except for replacing the year with 2021, that was the first sentence in my column in last October’s newsletter. In other words, we Michiganders experienced another veldig/very hot (and wet!) summer didn’t we? But it was a hot summer in Norway, too, with record-setting heat even in Northern Norway, where it reached 34C (93.2F) in Saltdal (north of the Arctic Circle).

**Thankfully, “fall” is in the air, and so is “change”...good**

**change.** Last fall, Nordkap Lodge was pretty much locked down due to COVID-19. Although we tried our best to keep in touch over social media, and we gathered together either remotely (via Zoom) or outdoors – i.e. Bill Injerd’s Nordic News “Sloopers” presentation, Kensington Metropark Nature Hike, Drive-up Import Store, Virtual Happy Hour, etc. – there’s nothing like gathering together in person.

**What a difference a year makes!** As you can already tell from this month’s *Nordkapen*, we have several events “carved in stone” (there, I said it!) on our Nordkap Calendar: Fall Gather Plymouth Orchards & Cider Mill, Scandinavian Market, and our wonderfully beloved Nordkap Christmas Party. So what’s on *your* fall calendar? Hopefully you and your family are penciling in some fun!

**On a personal and exciting note,** I just received a Norwegian Helle knife in the mail this past week! I had been keeping my eye out for a deal on the Les Stroud-designed “Wabakimi” (a leather-sheathed laminated stainless steel fixed blade with a beautiful curly birch wood handle), and I lucked out finding a brand new one at a pre-owned price. 😊

**As you know, the mission of Sons of Norway and Nordkap Lodge is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway.** Ever since I was given my first Helle knife by dear family friend in Norway in the late 70s, I have both discovered and experienced firsthand the culture and heritage of Norway through the craftsmanship and outdoor uses of Helle knives. In my humble opinion, autumn is a perfect time to enjoy the outdoors with a Norwegian-crafted knife. Take a minute and check out [www.helle.com](http://www.helle.com) which will show you what I mean much better than I could ever say (or write).

**Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards),**

**Erik Duus**

PS—Here is an Associated Press headline from last week (9/26): “*Rowdy Celebrations Erupt in Norway as COVID Restrictions End.*” Can you even believe it? How “rowdy” could those celebrations in Norway have been? LOL!





**SCANDINAVIAN MARKET**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021**  
**10 AM – 4 PM**

at

**Finnish Center Association**

35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48335

248-478-6939 or 734-834-6085

**Public Welcome**

\$2 donation at the door

***Masks and other covid safety protocols to be followed***

**Featuring:**

Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Icelandic and Finnish Imports and Crafts, Baked Goods, Pasties, Food, Hand woven Rugs,  
Decorative Arts, Pottery, Lavender soaps and lotions, Crafts and more.....

You can also enjoy good Scandinavian food and listen to music by Finnfolk.

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**NORDKAP LODGE 5-378**

**c/o Louise Giles**

**Box 1198**

**Royal Oak, MI 48068**