



# Nordkapen

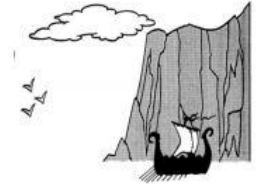
Nordkap Lodge 5-378 - Sons of Norway

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>



April-May 2017

Volume 87 Issue 3

## NORDKAP CALENDAR

**April 23 – Lodge meeting, 4 p.m. at the Swedish Club**

**May 13 – Norwegian Constitution Day celebration, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Swedish Club**

**June 23 – St. Hans Eve/Midsummer celebration, 6 p.m. at Farmington Hills Heritage Park**

**June 24 – Midsummer celebration at Finn Camp in Wixom**

**September 10 – Steak and Corn Roast, 1 p.m. at the Swedish Club**

**October 22 – Lodge meeting, 4 p.m. at the Swedish Club**

**November 11 – Scandinavian Market, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Finnish Center**

**December 10 – Christmas Party, 2 p.m., Western Golf & Country Club**

### 2017 Officers

**President:** Louise Giles

**Vice President:** Mark Eelnurme

**Treasurer:** Marge Sorensen

**Secretary:** Mary Morehead

### **Financial &**

**Membership Secretary:**

Carol Jehle

**Editor:** Bob Giles

**Foundation Director:**

Natalie Flessland Vaal

**Cultural Director:**

Carmen Collins

**Youth Director:**

Heather Vingsness

**Sports and Recreation Director:**

Merete Stenersen

**Counselor:** Geir Gronstad

**Contact us:**

[nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com](mailto:nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com)

## ENJOY NORWEGIAN FOOD AND CULTURE IN APRIL

Our April gathering will feature another authentic Norwegian meal plus two informative presentations about customs in modern Norway. Importantly, our presenters will speak from first-hand experience, since they've lived in Norway and experienced the practices.



*Fiskegrateng*

Dinner will be the traditional hot Norwegian dish, Fiskegrateng

(fish and macaroni in white sauce). The meal will be prepared by our talented chef, Dennis Flessland, with assistance from Mary Morehead, who will make a fresh green salad.

Our cultural program after dinner will be a talk about a phenomenon seen around the 17th of May in Norway. It's called "Russefeiring," the traditional--and sometimes crazy--celebration for Norwegian high school students in their final spring semester. Our speaker will be Nordkap Secretary Mary Morehead, who participated in Russefeiring as a foreign exchange student in Norway.

We will also hear about another Norwegian tradition called "Friluftsliv" or outdoor recreation, so highly prized in Norway. Our speaker will be Nordkap Sports and Recreation Director Merete Stenersen, who lived the Friluftsliv life, growing up in Norway.

Please come early:

- Social time at 4 p.m.
- Dinner at 4:30 at The Swedish Club  
22398 Ruth Street  
Farmington Hills



## SUNSHINE UPDATES

We offer best wishes for healing and improved health to the following members:

- Sheryl Dalton, recovering from a broken foot
- Sylvia Lindemann, after surgery for carpal tunnel syndrome in her right hand
- Thad Aardal, following angioplasty and stent implants in the heart
- Norm Kirsch, after a recent bout with pneumonia



## GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

### April Birthdays:

Thad Aardal, Annette Lundberg, Clarence "Doc" Myrold, Constance Pike, Emma Elizabeth Skidmore, Riley Kate Skidmore, Howard Skovlund, Erik Sorensen, Ian Sorensen, Wade Tornquist, Eunice Turnbull

### May Birthdays:

Arne Borgnes, Charlotte Duus, Myrtle Ebert, Olive Engman, Norman Kirsch, Kathleen Hanlon-Lundberg, Zachary Marko, Ralph Pedersen, Gail Ritchie, Finn Roed, Laura Roed, Susan Schotts, Patricia Smith, Jennifer Vingsness

## IN MAY, CELEBRATE NORWAY'S CONSTITUTION DAY!

### SATURDAY, MAY 13—SAVE THE DATE!

That's the day you're invited to join Nordkap Lodge in celebrating one of the world's greatest democracies and the birth of its constitution 203 years ago.

We will gather at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth Street in Farmington Hills, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to commemorate this historic event. Give us just those four hours and we will give you Norway—or as close to it as we can come in suburban Detroit. We will fly the Norwegian flag, sing the Norwegian national anthem, turn out in "bunads"—Norway's national dress—and enjoy Scandinavian music and games (including the infamous "cod toss").

Be sure to bring your kids, noisemakers, and Norwegian flags (or buy flags at our general store) for the parade around the beautiful Swedish Club grounds.



*Spirits ran high at last year's Syttende Mai parade.*

The general store will also offer imported cheeses, lefse, herring, candy, books, and other gift items for sale. At lunchtime, there will be pølse (hot dogs), Norwegian waffles, and other treats available for sale. In mid-afternoon, a buffet of Norwegian desserts and coffee will be served.

It's a great time for the whole family. Here's the rundown of events:

11 a.m: Swedish Club opens with Norwegian food imports and gift items for sale

11:30 a.m: Parade for all attendees begins

12 noon: Greetings from Nordkap and Norway's honorary consul to Michigan, Dennis Flessland

12:30 p.m: Picnic-style foods and Norwegian waffles available for purchase

1 p.m: Special activities and games for the children, including the "cod toss" for kids and adults

2 p.m: Norwegian dessert buffet opens

3 p.m: Event concludes

## **DID YOU MISS OUR FEBRUARY MEETING? IF SO, YOU MISSED SOME GREAT CHILI AND A RIVETING STORY ABOUT NORWAY'S 'HEAVY WATER WAR'**

How many ways can you make chili? Our lodge sampled at least seven different varieties in its first-ever Chili Cook-Off held at the Swedish Club in February.

Seven contestants exhibited their culinary skills by offering pots of their individual chilies for all to try. Samples of each were delivered in numbered bowls with no chef identified, and voting for a winner was by secret ballot.

Ballots were counted by Nordkap Sports and Recreation Director Merete Stenersen, who ran the contest with the help of her husband and Nordkap Vice President Mark Eelnurme.

The winning chili number was then announced: Number 2! Only then was the champion chef identified: Mary Morehead. See Mary's winning recipe on [www.DetroitNorwegians.com](http://www.DetroitNorwegians.com).



*Mary Morehead with her winning chili*

Mary won a Sons of Norway tote bag and will have her name and photo displayed on the website of the 5th District of the Sons of Norway, since our contest was part of a district-wide competition. Winners at each participating lodge in the district will receive this honor, as well as a blue ribbon and a certificate.

Seven people entered the contest. Besides Mary Morehead, they included Sven Hahr, Finn Roed, Bob Giles, Heather Vingsness, Haley Vingsness, and Janet Nordmoe. Many comments were heard about all the chilies being so good it was difficult to pick a winner.

After the chili dinner, we enjoyed a discussion about life during WWII at the site where Norway was ordered to make and send its heavy water production to Germany to produce plutonium needed in the production of the atomic bomb. If

you saw the 1965 Kirk Douglas movie "Heroes of Telemark," it's that story. For those of you who subscribe to Netflix and its streaming service, you should also look at the excellent six-part Norwegian TV series, "The Heavy Water War."

Geir Gronstad provided important historical background for Nordkap's discussion. But as Geir put it, we owe "tusen takk"—a thousand thanks—to Inger and Harald Ehrenfeld for presenting how life was in the Norwegian town of Rjukan during WWII.

Inger was a young girl during the days of heavy water production at the Vemork power plant in Rjukan where her father was working. She was in Rjukan when the sabotage at the plant happened and also during the air raids a few months later. Inger spoke about those days, while Harald showed artifacts and shared stories from his grandfather's participation in the home resistance movement.

*Inger Ehrenfeld and son Harald display a photo of Inger's father, Ragnar Holt, as Geir Gronstad looks on, behind.*



## **NORDKAP SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE NEARS ITS GOAL; SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 30**

You may have received a letter recently from Nordkap Scholarship Chair Natalie Vaal, suggesting that you consider giving to the Nordkap Scholarship Program. Natalie reports that the response so far has been gratifying, and we are most grateful to those who have already given. However, the fund is still short of what we feel we will need to provide assistance to this year's applicants.

If you have not already contributed, we ask you to consider making a gift. Please make it payable to Nordkap Lodge Scholarship Fund and mail to Natalie Vaal, 25718 Skye Court, Farmington Hills, MI 48336.

Scholarship applications are due June 30 and are available at <http://www.detroitnorwegians.com/scholarship.html> or by contacting Natalie at [nordkap.scholarships@gmail.com](mailto:nordkap.scholarships@gmail.com). Applicants must:

- Be a lodge member or child/grandchild of a member for minimum 1 year prior to scholarship submission
- Be 17-23 years of age
- Be working towards a bachelor's or associate's degree from an accredited educational institution
- Be in good standing at school, with a Grade Point Average of 2.0 or better

## **HOST A NORWEGIAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT!**

*By Merete Stenersen*

Would any of my Michigan friends be interested in hosting a Norwegian Foreign Exchange Student?

They are all high school kids, and they come with their own personal money for things they need and their own health insurance.

Families provide meals, transportation to school, and reasonable activities and family environment. School activities costs are covered by the students.

The program is offered through EF Education First, the world's largest private educational institution.

Founded in 1965, EF offers a range of educational programs, from language training and educational travel to academic degrees and cultural exchange. With more than 450 offices in 50 countries and a mission to break down barriers in language, culture, and geography, EF has helped millions of people of all ages and nationalities become citizens of the world.

We have both Norwegian girls and boys that need placement.

Let me know if you are interested—and please help me spread this message!!

Merete Stenersen  
734-778-1204  
[meretestenersen@outlook.com](mailto:meretestenersen@outlook.com)

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

With so many interesting things going on at Nordkap Lodge, I hope you are taking part and enjoying them as much as I am:

- Our **engaging Chili Cook-Off** in February
- Our **smashing bowling tournament** and fundraiser in March
- Many traditional and **delicious Norwegian meals** served at lodge meetings
- **Fascinating cultural presentations**
- Our weekly **Norwegian language lessons**, where comradery continues to grow
- And--soon to come--our all-out celebration of **Syttende Mai, midsummer**, and our annual **outing to a Tigers baseball game**

Speaking of Syttende Mai, Nordkap Lodge has just been awarded a \$300 Local Lodge Partnership Grant by the Sons of Norway to help us publicize our celebration of this important Norwegian Constitution Day.

All of this is the product of your hard-working Executive Board of officers, which plans the events and works hard to make sure they are successful. Our Board this year has grown with the installation of five new officers, filling some positions that have long been vacant, and we are so grateful for their input and support, along with that of our longstanding officers and Honorary Norwegian Consul Dennis Flessland, who also attends.



*Nordkap Board meeting at IKEA cafeteria*

Even our Board meetings have a fun element, since we often meet at a Board member's home with refreshments or at a restaurant. Our last meeting at the cafeteria of the IKEA store in Canton included enjoying breakfast together and ended with many of us shopping for needed Scandinavian goods.

One of the items your Board considered at its last meeting was plans initiated by the Finnish Center to expand and promote the annual holiday bazaar it hosts in November. The bazaar is being re-branded as

the Scandinavian Market. That was the outgrowth of several meetings hosted by the Finnish Center earlier this year. Those meetings were attended by leaders of the various Scandinavian clubs in the area, who all agreed on the need for more collaboration and support among the clubs. Two additional actions will result:

- The Scandinavian clubs together will be staffing a booth at the annual Scottish Highland Games presented by the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit at Greenmead Historical Village in Livonia on August 5. We will be looking for your support to help staff this booth and promote our clubs!
- The clubs will also have a presence at Finn Camp, the Detroit Finnish Cooperative Summer Camp Association in Wixom, at its annual midsummer celebration on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Please know that this event is open to all, and you would be most welcome. If you have never heard of Finn Camp or just want to know more about it, visit its website at <http://www.finncamp.org>.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at these and other outstanding events yet to come!

Med vennlig hilsen (with best regards),

Louise Giles

**FROM THE ARCHIVES: by Geir Gronstad**

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *With this column, Nordkap Counselor Geir Gronstad begins a series of occasional articles based on content from Nordkap's long history. This first column is a series of excerpts from the first Nordkapen newsletters.*

Highlights from Nordkapen, Early 1980:

**GOD DAG!** Here comes Nordkap's new newsletter. With luck, we will have one each month.

**WELCOME** to the new Honorary Royal Norwegian Consul for this district. On Sunday, April 27, you can meet and congratulate the new Consul, Norval Engelsen, at a reception in Holy Cross Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. The event is sponsored by the Norwegian Club of Detroit, and the time is 2 to 6 p.m.

**OUR REPRESENTATIVES** at the Fifth District Convention in Rockford, Illinois, June 12-15 are Leif Ericksen and Arnold Haugsby. When the Convention Agenda is available, study it and let these spokesmen know your opinions to take to the meeting. Hazel Ericksen and Mary Haugsby are the alternate delegates.

**ST. HALVARD BOYS CHOIR CONCERT** July 16. 20 boys under 15 years of age, 14 young adults, and the conductor of the Choir will be our guests from July 15 to July 17. If you can provide accommodations for two or more, call Rigmor Cuolahan. Two boys at a time is the usual arrangement. Lots more information about the Choir and their music will be available later.

**NORDKAP MONTHLY MEETING.** Friday April 4, 1980 at Metropolitan Club, 3224 Greenfield (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads). Time: Social hour at 7 p.m. Meeting at 8. Hot coffee, refreshments, and entertainment after the meeting.

**RIGMOR'S LANGUAGE CLASS** is again meeting at 7:30 p.m. for a short half hour session before the meeting. One language book is available and more will be ordered as needed.

**SCANDINAVIAN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE MEETING.** 3/27/80 at the Danish Club of Detroit. Time: 8 p.m. Who attends? All of us. No need to be appointed "member of the committee". Just by being part of the Festival, working in a booth, selling tickets, etc., you are a member of the Festival Committee, and your vote is important. The decisions we make at these meetings will be felt down at

the Festival this summer. The meetings last until about 10 p.m., and coffee and rolls are served gratis.

**SYTTENDE MAI CELEBRATION.** Saturday, May 17, 1980. Fellowship Hall of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 West Six Mile Road. Hospitality hour at 7 p.m. Dinner at 8 p.m. \$12.50 each person. Food, friends, music. Call Arnold Haugsby or Rigmor Cuolahan for reservations or more information.

**A FIRST FOR NORDKAP LODGE.** On Sunday, November 16, at Diamond Lodge Hall, 18050 Lahser (near Grand River), we will have a bazaar, the first one the Lodge has had. This will be something all of us can be involved in... handcrafts, a greenery booth, bake sale, white elephant booth, Christmas items, hot foods and open face sandwiches as well. What's your specialty? Use your talents to help the Lodge make a success of this event. Call Betty Jesky or Anita Skovlund for suggestions. They would like to hear your ideas too. We must begin planning now!

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**FROM NORSE CIVIC NEWS, APRIL 1965:**

**NORWEGIAN NATIONAL LEAGUE NEWS**

On February 22, the Norwegian National League held its Annual meeting at the home of President Ingvald Orheim on Ridge Road. It was decided to have the 17de Mai [Syttende Mai] celebration and President Orheim appointed the following on the committee: Wallace Nielsen (President, Norwegian Club); Arthur Sivertsen (President, Nordkap Lodge); Granville McMains (President, Midnight Sun).

The committee met March 22nd and decided to sponsor a Smorgasbord this year for the 17de Mai celebration. This will be held at Geisz's Hall, 13303 Gratiot Avenue.

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## **NORDKAP BOWLERS BENEFIT 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIPS**

Six bowling lanes, 24 bowlers, 7 “Viking cheerleaders,” and 3 “angels” were the winning ingredients last month in raising wall-to-wall smiles at the Luxury Lanes Bowling Alley in Ferndale—and, as of this date, \$225 for the scholarship fund of the 5<sup>th</sup> District of the Sons of Norway.



*Evie Cantrell and Lolly Duus show off their competitive style.*

Nordkap sponsored the family event, and each bowler and cheerleader contributed \$5 toward the scholarship fund. Bowlers received rented bowling shoes, bowling balls, and three complete games of bowling. Pizza and pop were enjoyed by all. The “angels” (those who couldn’t be present) generously sent in donations.

The top bowlers for the day were Roy Marvel, in the male adult category, with a score of 464 and Sandy Bliss, female adult, with a score of 420. The winners were awarded seasonal daffodil plants and will have their names and scores sent to the 5<sup>th</sup> District to determine winners in the district-wide tournament.

Also bowling: Trevor Dalton, Marge Sorensen, Russ Simms, Carmen Collins, Paul Wiekierak, Jan Capler, Geir Gronstad, Dennis and Jan Flessland, Ernie Halvorson, Marina Kozlova, Louise Giles, Pat and Sue Schotts, Dan Nelson, Stacy Torgerson, Holly Dalton, Dee Marvel, Evie Cantrell, and Erik, Lolly, and Kristen Duus.

The Viking cheerleaders included Thad Aardal, Robin Aardal, Sheryl Dalton, Debbie Simms, Carol Jehle, Bob Giles, and Sylvia and Mike Lindeman. Our angels: Cathy Johnson, Heather Vingsness, and Harald Ehrenfeld.

## **TIGERS BASEBALL OUTING SET FOR JUNE 4**

Back by popular demand, Nordkap’s fourth annual group outing to a Detroit Tigers baseball game has been set for Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, when the Tigers play the Chicago White Sox at Detroit’s Comerica Park at 1:10 p.m.



*Nordkap joined in cheering the Tigers to a win over the Houston Astros at last year's game.*

Just 34 tickets at \$30/each have been reserved for this event, with most already claimed by members and guests. If you wish to purchase one of the few remaining tickets or have your name placed on a waiting list in case of cancellations, please contact Bob Giles, at [borgiles@newcarnews.tv](mailto:borgiles@newcarnews.tv) or 248-302-2222.

Nordkap members taking part in the outing are encouraged to wear sunscreen, hats, and their red Detroit Norwegians T-shirts and to bring their competitive Viking spirit to the game!

## **NORDKAP INITIATES NINE MEMBERS AT FEBRUARY LODGE MEETING**



*President Louise Giles, rt., welcomes, lt. to rt. Harald Ehrenfeld, Carmen Collins, Stacy Togerson, Jan Caplan, Haley Vingsness, Mary Morehead, Paul Wiekierak, Erik Vingsness, and Eileen Shea.*

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**NORDKAP LODGE 5-378**

**c/o Bob Giles**

**Box 1198**

**Royal Oak, MI 48068**