



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 SofN Lodge in Michigan
<http://www.detroitnorwegians.com>



September 2015

Volume 85 Issue 7

2015 NORDKAP EVENTS

September 12 – Youth Day,
2pm-“a little bit late”

September 13 – Corn & Steak,
9:30am for setup/12:30pm
for the event

September 30 – Norwegian
language class, 7:00 – 8:30
pm, the first of 8 weekly
sessions at the Swedish Club

October 25 – Lodge Meeting,
4pm

November 14 – Scandinavian
Bazaar

November 22 – Lodge
Meeting

December 13 – Christmas
Party

*Photo credits to Bob Giles,
Louise Giles, Dennis
Flessland.*

*Graphics credit to Geir
Gronstad.*

YOUTH DAY – SEPTEMBER 12

A heritage club consists of a bunch of old people who gather to drink coffee and talk about the old days! “There is nobody my age there – just great-grandma and others like her!”

WRONG!!!

The Nordkap Lodge and the Swedish Club have hosted a Youth Day where the purpose is to show the more contemporary side of Scandinavian culture to the members and their friends. This year will be the fourth. The activities are “youthful” but still appropriate for any young Viking between the ages of 5 and 95.

We will play LOUD current Scandinavian music, announce scholarship winners, watch recent movies (outdoor PG-13 rated and indoor G), play Kubb, do a Rune Viking language treasure hunt, start a huge bonfire and see how the Scandinavians did in the Eurovision Song Contest, but new this year and maybe most important of all – the battle between Norway and Sweden in miniature golf.

The Putt-putt battle starts at 2PM at Sport-n-Fun, 30749 Grand River Avenue and will include pizza (\$5)

Bring friends, relatives, class mates, colleagues, but IT IS ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL that you RSVP to Geir Gronstad (datsnorg@gmail.com) that you will be there so we can ensure there is enough food and to create putt-putt teams (Reds vs Blue-Yellows).

When the Swedes are beaten, we’ll eat and then reconvene at Swedish Club by 5PM. There, snacks and soda will be provided and the grill is available for latecomers who can bring their own hot dogs, burgers, lutefisk...

The day ends when the outdoor movie is over.





GRATULERER MED DAGEN

July

Gladys Baldwin, Monica Dowhan, Arnold Hagen, Benjamin Lanham, Wendy Marko, Judith Rutkowski, Ana Gjesdal Skidmore, Jeannine Sturgeon, Erik Vingsness

August

Derrick Aardal, Louis Amundsen, Karin Arneson, Tove Bruning, Peggy Gjerpen, Geir Gronstad, Margit Hansen, Øystein Gjertsen Hekneby, Lynn Herche, Richard Hole, Marina Kozlova, Georgia Roed, Kristen Schotts, Margaret Sorensen, Halee Spalmack, Lori Renee Tavigian

September

Eileen Hanson, Connie Hart, John James Mills, Karen Schmidt, Eli Anita Steyskal, Haley Vingsness, Heather Vingsness

October

Michael Anda, Gerald Bayer, Simon Hubert Bryhn, Bob Giles, Kaitlyn Hatteberg, Katherine Hildre, Carol Jehle, Hans Jorgensen, John Mueller, Daniel Rutkowski, Diane Stanard, Oddny Viik

NORDKAP HOSTS: SEPTEMBER 13 - STEAK AND CORN ROAST

Enjoy the sweet fruits of an autumn harvest on Sunday, September 13, when Nordkap's Sons of Norway members again prepare and serve an excellent steak and corn roast as part of the Swedish Club's monthly brunch program.

This special meal features a cooked-to-order New York strip steak, freshly-cooked corn on the cob, salads, garlic bread, dessert, and beverage. This great feast costs only \$15 with a special children's price (12 and under) of \$7.50.

Diners start gathering at the Swedish Club (22398 Ruth Street, Farmington Hills) beginning at 12:30 p.m., and food service is offered between 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Only a limited number of meals are available, and this hot ticket sells out every year. If you're coming just to eat, plan to arrive in time to purchase your tickets and be seated by 1:00 p.m. We cannot guarantee meals for latecomers.



But, if you want to don a red Nordkap apron and join your fellow members who are putting on this fabulous feast, please come prepared to help, beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. You can be part of Dennis Flessland's steak grilling team on the spiffy new

Nordkap grill or say, "Aw shucks," and join the group shucking the dozens of ears of corn we will serve.

Or there are other activities you can undertake as a volunteer, such as setting and clearing tables, servicing and replenishing the buffet table, serving coffee and desserts, or helping to clean up. Come on out and help—it's really fun working together and getting to know your fellow Sons of Norway members.

Nordkap hosts this event each year to show our appreciation to the Swedish Club for allowing us to use their beautiful facility.

Can you spend some time to volunteer for this event? We gather at the Swedish Club to cook, serve and clean up beginning at 9:30 a.m. and wrap up by 3:30 p.m. If you can participate for even a few hours, please call Bob Giles at 248 302-2222.

Note: This event--and our Youth Day on September 12--replace Nordkap's regular September meeting



SUNSHINE UPDATES

Natalie and Andy Vaal's baby Olivia Grace, arrived August 11. She may be on Norwegian time as she sleeps all day and is awake all night.

2015 Officers

President:

Louise Giles

Vice President: Elsa Jorgensen

Secretary: Open

Financial &

Membership Secretary:

Carol Jehle

Treasurer:

Marge Sorensen

Editor:

Geir Gronstad

Foundation Director:

Natalie Flessland Vaal

Counselor:

Bob Giles

Sunshine Chairperson:

Sylvia Lindemann

Contact us:

nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - TRIP TO VIKINGS EXHIBIT IN CHICAGO DRAWS 47 ADVENTURERS

A Viking we did go!

Maybe it wasn't an adventure akin to a group of Vikings off on a plunder. But it did feel very daring as Nordkap launched its first official "road trip" in recent memory.



Forty-seven of us pulled ourselves out of bed super early on a Saturday morning to board a chartered luxury bus bound for Chicago five hours away—and an eye-opening look at the world of the Vikings, circa 750–1100 A.D.

Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History was our target. There the "Vikings"—a touring exhibit organized by the Swedish History Museum in Sweden—promised to show us who the Vikings really were.

Far from just the ruthless warriors and merciless invaders romanticized in history, the Vikings led lives far more complex. They were also farmers and craftspeople, traders and merchants. They were caring families and had their own religion that soon merged with and was succeeded by Christianity.

As we made our way through the exhibit, past nearly 500 ancient artifacts—many never before seen outside of Scandinavia—a new appreciation for the Vikings emerged.



“I didn’t realize the fine quality of their craftsmanship,” a number of us exclaimed. We saw exquisitely wrought jewelry—golden “box” brooches and silver pendants to die for! We also admired Viking Age swords and other weapons, displaying the Vikings’ exceptional metal-working technologies. The exhibit even offered us the opportunity to try hefting one replica metal sword. It proved to be far heavier than expected. “How did they fight with these things?” we asked.

We were humbled to see the prized metal tools the Vikings made to strike sparks to light a fire. I’ll never take the kitchen match or propane lighters for granted again!



Other exhibit highlights included the oldest known Scandinavian crucifix and the Krampmacken, a replica Viking ship from Sweden based on historical and archaeological sources. One ingenious display consisted of a series of metal rivets hanging from wires. Together the rivets traced the shape of a Viking ship—and showed just how it would have been held together.



Some actual Vikings made an appearance, in a way. We saw human bones and skulls in display cases, helping us to understand the early medical practices of these ancestors, the ruggedness of their lives, and their burial practices, before and after Christianity.

At the end of the exhibit, we were able to purchase some Viking “plunder” of our own—at a special museum shop devoted to the Vikings and their age. More than one person in our group made off with a Thor’s hammer pendant, I’m sure!



Many of us enjoyed a refreshing lunch at the museum’s delightful Field Bistro before we entered the exhibit. And on the way home, our Bianco bus drivers (yes, we had two!) stopped at a Cracker Barrel restaurant we had selected in Stevensville, Mich. We arrived back home, at the Swedish Club, just after 11 p.m. It was a long day—but perhaps a good way to quench that thirst for adventure and discovery.

Just 13 people associated with Nordkap Lodge made the trip. The vast majority of our 47 passengers came from members and friends of the Swedish Club. We even drew three people associated with the St. Andrew’s Society of Detroit, a Scottish-American group. The trip was wholeheartedly supported by the Nordkap Board and organized by Marge Sorensen and

Louise Giles. If you would like to see a nice photo album of the journey, please see Bob Giles’s posting on the Norwegians in Michigan Facebook page.

Should we venture outings of this type in the future? Please let me know your thoughts.

Louise Giles
Nordkap President

NORDKAP PAYS RESPECTS TO TWO HONOREES IN FARMINGTON PARADE

“I really don’t know what to say,” he confided quietly to a friend, his voice cracking just a bit.

Howard Skovlund was visibly taken aback as people along the parade route rushed up to shake his hand and thank him for his service.

“Well you can thank them in return,” the friend advised.

Howard is a longstanding Nordkap Lodge member who served the country as an Army staff sergeant in Europe during World War II. To honor his service and the contributions of the thinning number of WWII veterans, Nordkap asked him to ride as a guest of honor as our lodge again marched with the Swedes in July in the Farmington Founders Day Festival Parade. The theme for this year’s parade was “There’s No Place Like Home, USA” -- and surely no one knows that better than our veterans.



Howard rode shotgun in a 2015 retro-looking Fiat 500 Cabriolet provided by Fiat Chrysler and driven by Bob Giles. The signs on the car read simply, “World War II Army Veteran Howard Skovlund.”

Nordkap was also pleased to have as a guest of honor Nordkap member Dennis Flessland, who serves as Norway’s honorary consul to Michigan. Dennis rode in a 2015 Corvette Stingray provided by Chevrolet and driven by Geir Gronstad. Sonja Gronstad, A.K.A., a Norwegian troll for the day, rode on the back of the Corvette.



Also participating were Jan Flessland and Louise Giles, who together carried Nordkap’s new banner, DetroitNorwegians.com, and Swedish Club President Dan Nelson as a fierce-looking, but friendly Viking warrior.

Behind Nordkap’s group was the Swedish Club’s giant Viking helmet float and a full contingent of Swedish Club members and grandchildren riding or walking with the float. Together the Swedes and Norwegians made a great Scandinavian unit!



SCANDINAVIAN YOUTH DAY

FOR YOUNG VIKINGS
BETWEEN THE AGES
OF 5-95

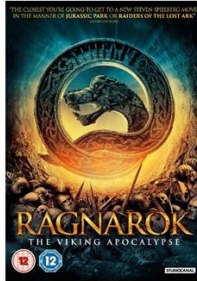
WHEN
September 12th, 2015
2pm – a little bit late

WHERE
Sport-n-Fun & Swedish Club,
Farmington Hills
30749 Grand River Ave & 22398 Ruth Street
(at Freedom Road)

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE
Putt-Putt Challenge • Pizza • Kubh Viking Game •
Bonfire • Current & LOUD Scandinavian Music •
Eurovision Song Contest • Movies Indoors &
Outdoors • Rune Treasure Hunt • and more...

HOSTED BY:
Metro Detroit Scandinavian Heritage Clubs

IN-THE-DARK OUTDOOR MOVIE (PG13)



INDOOR MOVIE (PG)



QUESTIONS?
datsnorg@gmail.com

Snakker du norsk? (Part 5)

Learn basic Norwegian at the
Sons of Norway - Nordkap Lodge



8 weekly sessions
on Wednesdays
Starting Sept 30
7:00 – 8:30 PM

Swedish Club
Farmington Hills
22398 Ruth Street
(at Freedom Road)

The class will refresh grammar and
pronunciation from previous part 1-4

Members and friends of Nordkap Lodge: \$80

For more details/to sign up:
nordkap@detroitnorwegians.com

NORDKAP LODGE 5-378

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