



HARTFORD SAGA Lodge # 3-474

Www.sonsofnorwayhartfordlodge.com

Volume 51

June, July, August 2015

Number 6

Freedom, Fraternity & Progress

HARTFORD LODGE MEETS ON THE Third Sunday OF EVERY MONTH, EXCEPT
JULY & AUGUST, AT THE MASONIC HALL, 80 WALSH AVE.
NEWINGTON, CT. AT 2:00 PM.

President's Message

We had a nice 17th Mai celebration at our lodge. Many members and guests joined us for a short meeting followed by Hotdogs, Chips, Salad and Ice cream sandwiches. And thank you to our newest members, the Seadales who brought cupcakes and a big bowl of mixed fruit. Some serious discussions at a table or two and the rest of us just had a great time visiting and chatting.

And after a while, in the back of the hall, a Bingo game was going full steam for young and old. It is wonderful to have such enthusiastic very young members.

And if you have the time we have many things going on this summer.

*Friday, June 19th Garborg Lodge invites you to the 90th Anniversary
celebration meeting held at the American Legion Hall in Malverne. (more info in the Saga)*

**Our June 21 meeting at 2:00pm. "Sundaes on Sunday"
Our yearly Ice Cream Social. A kick-off to summer-come and enjoy!!!!**

Saturday, June 27th. Zone 2, Outing. Visit a Fjord Horse farm.

Blue Heron Farm in Charlemont, MA. (more info in the Saga)

Sunday, June 28th. We are going on a "A MYSTERY TRIP".

Meet at the lodge at 11:00 am. To where ??????? Our Social Directors have planned this outing for some time,
but not telling us where we are going.

Join us and find out.

Sunday, July 12th. 2015 at 2:00pm. Summer time Picnic;

At the home of Nancy and Art Thorsen, 419 Neill Drive, Watertown, CT

(860) 945-3494 E-mail: surfer.norse@yahoo.com

*Anne Hoff-Laliberté
President
Hartford Lodge # 3-474*

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Booster Club Members

Your donation of \$10 is for ten issues (one year). Please make checks payable to HARTFORD LODGE #474 and mail to Albert Donnestad, 1494 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT 06457 or see him at the meeting.

Elizabeth Schultz12-15
Mike & Bernice Mathisen11-15
Art & Nancy Thorsen11-15
Anne-Lise Hatcher10-16
Peter2-16
Gert Delin2-16
John Delin2-16
Claire Johnson2-16
John & Helen Hliviak2-16
Al & Linda Miller2-16
Reidar Nordal4-16
Tove Sobanski12-15
Winnie Swenhall2-16
Mona Nilsson12-15
Norman & Eldrid Arntzen5-16
Arne Solli.....11-15
Wendy Leonard4-16
Darlene Chiloyan.....4-16

If there is an **asterisk*** placed next
to your name, your booster
contribution is due...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



For all of you who have a birthday this month and over the summer - we say to you...

Gratulerer Med Dagen

Congratulations on the occasion of the day.
(Happy birthday)

June

Darlene Chiloyan6/5
Edward Hendela.....6/5
Michael Mathisen.....6/5
Poerre Laliberte.....6/11
Winifred Swenhall6/14
Amanda Delin6/15
Johnny Delin6/15
Bjorn Sune.....6/20
Arthur Thorsen.....6/22
Pamela Gorman6/25

July

Lech Kaminski.....7/6
Harold Hansen.....7/13
Violet Irish.....7/16
Alfred Miller.....7/16
Mona Nilsson.....7/17
Karin Arentzen Stahl7/19
Albert Donnestad7/22
Freya Naom Johnsen.....7/24
Hannah Arntzen.....7/25
Evelyn Carlson.....7/26

August

Anne Hoff-Laliberte.....8/4
Brynja Valdis Johnsen.....8/5
Richard Arvid Seadale.....8/8
Martin Francis.....8/10
Lillian Markulsen.....8/12
Sean Cook8/14
Wendy Leonard.....8/18

2015 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

KITCHEN SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP DUTY LIST

Your active participation in the lodge helps to make all our events better. Look for your name as “**Kitchen Helper**” next to the meeting information.



***Kitchen helpers – please arrive at least 45 minutes early to help set up the tables, make the coffee, put out the milk, sugar, tea, plates and cups and generally help where necessary. Your responsibilities also include staying afterward to help clean up, do the dishes and return items to our cabinets. If you cannot fulfill your obligation, please arrange to trade your month with someone else. If, at the last minute, you will not be coming, please call Rosemary at 860-347-0678 or Nancy Thorsen at 860-945-3494

2015

SUNDAY, JUNE 21- 2 P.M.



SUNDAES ON SUNDAY
ICE CREAM SOCIAL

A kick-off to summer – come and enjoy!!!!

Kitchen Helper: Darlene Chiloyan

SUNDAY, JUNE 28 – 11 A.M.

????????

A MYSTERY TRIP

Meet at the lodge at 11 – where will this lead you – who knows – why are we doing this – just for the fun of it!



PICNIC TIME

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015 – 2 P.M.
AT ART AND NANCY THORSEN’S,
419 NEILL DRIVE, WATERTOWN, CT

Hamburger, hot dogs and iced tea provided. Bring salads and desserts to share. Also, please bring a chair.

Call Nancy Thorsen at 860-945-3494 by July 1 to tell her how many are coming and what you are bringing. She will give you directions then.

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

Midsummer Fest in Norway

The Norwegians celebrate Midsummer Eve on June 23 or the Saturday closest to this date. The Midsummer fest originated in the ancient Norse society long before Christianity was introduced and has been observed ever since.

The Old Norse honored the sun with pagan ceremonies at summer solstice. The turning of the sun was believed to be a perilous event. If the sun failed to take the right course, mankind was doomed to perish. At this critical time, the world of the living was open to the beings of the nether world. Trolls, ghosts and other creatures roamed the earth.

When Christianity was introduced, the ancient sun festival was replaced by the celebration of the birthday of John the Baptist. The Church realized that a mere ban on the pagan fest would not dispel the deep-rooted folk beliefs connected with this day. So while the celebrations were given a new purpose, the customs and superstition surrounding Midsummer Eve existed hand in hand with the Christian tradition.

Fire has always played a significant role in the midsummer celebrations. The Old Norse kept blazing bonfires going to give renewed power to the sun. The bonfires were also believed to drive away the supernatural beings which threatened both man and beast at this time.



In our time, the bonfires still flame all over Norway on Midsummer Eve, but the celebration has taken on a new meaning. The superstitious beliefs seen in connection with the fest are half forgotten. Instead, Midsummer, or St. Hans ('Sahnkt 'HAHNS) as it is called, is a celebration of the blonde, Norwegian summer, the short, light summer nights and nature in general.

Along the coast, bonfires blaze on every islet and skerry. Boats filled with high-spirited and cheerful people gather together and form long processions which parade along the coast to the accompaniment of accordion music. There are evening picnics served in every little cove and on every rock shelf along the shoreline. Laughter and music drift through the summer night. In some places, people meet for a community celebration of midsummer, build a huge communal bonfire and have grand festivities with entertainment programs, good food and dancing.

Norwegians decorate with birch twigs at the midsummer festivities. This custom is of ancient origin. To the old Norse, the birch twigs symbolized the life force which awakened in Nature in the spring and early summer. Another ancient tradition which might have had some influence on the present tradition is the custom of using birch twigs as a symbol for peace and armistice at the places where people came to trade.

How to Celebrate a Norwegian Midsummer Fest

1

Decorate with plenty of flowers to celebrate the summer. Choose small, light-colored flowers if you can, to simulate the Alpine flowers that grow in Norway. No tropical hothouse blooms! You can also hang strings of small paper Norwegian flags, and use flags and/or flowers as centerpieces. Choose the Norwegian flag colors of red, white and blue for your table settings.

2

Boil up a huge batch of shrimp. Fresh-caught shrimp are traditional, and plentiful, in Norway at this time or year. They are typically served with mayonnaise, homemade, if you can, as it tastes much better than the commercial variety.

3

Set out a smorgasbord featuring smoked salmon, pickled herring, Jarslberg cheese, knekkebrod (flatbread), lefse and any other Norwegian specialties you can find in your local grocery. You'll have better luck if you live in a place such as Minnesota, Wisconsin, or Washington state (try shopping in Seattle's Ballard neighborhood), but if you don't, you can always stop by your nearest Ikea and "cheat" a bit by picking up some of their Swedish foods. Norwegian and Swedish food items are very similar, and Swedish products are widely available in neighboring Norway (and vice versa).

4

Make up a batch of vafler (Norwegian waffles) for dessert. If you can manage to do so, use a traditional vafler iron, one that makes four little heart-shaped waffles, so much the better. Even if you can't get hold of one, you can still serve up your waffles Norwegian-style, with jam or sugar (or even soft goat cheese, if you must). Fruit soup is another traditional Norwegian dessert, served with huge dollops of sweetened whipped cream.

5

Pour shots of Akevitt (Aquavit) for guests who would care to partake. You may also be able to find Norwegian potato vodka at a specialty liquor store and, if you can, try to pick up some Norwegian beer such as Mack or Ringnes. If you can't find any, then you may have to go with Danish beers. Tuborg or Carlsberg are fairly widely distributed. In a pinch, try German beers or even the Dutch Heineken; at least they're Northern European.

6

Brew up a pot or two (or more) of coffee, as true Norwegians drink it at all hours of the day throughout the year. Another nonalcoholic beverage that is traditional is tyttebær saft (lingonberry drink). You should be able to pick this up at, again, Ikea.

7

Light plenty of candles as the sun goes down. While no real Norwegian midsummer celebration would be complete without a bonfire, chances are your local fire department, neighbors, insurance company, spouse, etc. will not look kindly on your building one of these in your back yard, so you can just approximate the look of flickering firelight with smaller flames.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/how_4442975_celebrate-norwegian-midsummer.html

King Olav V

2 July 1903 to 17 January 1991.

Son of King Haakon VII and Queen Maud. Succeeded his father as king of Norway on 21 September 1957. Consecrated in Nidaros Cathedral on 22 June 1958. Children: King Harald, Princess Ragnhild and Princess Astrid. Buried in the Royal Mausoleum at Akershus Castle in Oslo.



ON A NASTY and cold winter night Lena woke up her Ole and said, "The baby's coming, Ole, you had better call the doctor."

The phone and electricity were out, so Ole saddled his horse and rode ten miles for the doctor. The doctor came back, examined Lena, and said, "Yes, she's in labor. Ole, make yourself useful. Light a kerosene lantern, hold it just right there, and I'll deliver the baby."

Ole held the lantern and pretty soon the doctor said, "Here it comes, Ole – you're the father of a baby boy! But wait, Ole, hold the lantern steady –" and a few minutes later, the doctor said, "It's twins, Ole, you're the father of twins! But hold the lantern steady, Ole – I think it's going to be triplets!"

Ole said, "Doctor, do you think it's the light that's attracting them?"



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Sons of Norway's New Website

Sons of Norway is proud to announce the official launch of its brand new website at www.sonsofnorway.com!

Take a few moments to visit the site today and see all the exciting updates we've made. If, after visiting the website, you have any

questions, don't hesitate to contact Sons of Norway at (800) 945-8851 and speak with one of our knowledgeable staff members

Norway's Compulsory Military Service Becomes Gender Neutral

Norway is preparing for a major change to its mandatory Armed Forces conscription policy. For the first time ever Norway is now requiring military service for women, which will see its first female recruits entering into service in 2016.

This stems from an historic bill that was passed by the Storting in late 2014 that extended mandatory military service to women. The bill, which passed with a majority of 96 votes, is part of a nation-wide plan to promote gender equality. This means Commander Per-Thomas Bøe of the Norwegian Armed Services will now be sending out conscription letters to all 17-year-old women in Norway and then navigating all the logistical challenges of welcoming this new population into mandatory service.



In other cases, it would probably be helpful if Norway could look to other countries and learn from their experiences, but this will be a first—not just for Norway, but for Europe and NATO as well. “The Scandinavian countries are very good at leading in gender equality, so it’s no surprise that Norway should pioneer female conscription,” says Joanne Machowski, a researcher at the London military think tank RUSI, who specializes in gender issues.



This move effectively doubles the pool of military conscripts from 32,000 to 63,000 and Norway looks at this as an opportunity to increase the overall competence of its military. But don’t expect to see these new recruits fighting on the front lines anytime soon—Machowski notes, “we’ll be waiting a while to see firstly how women and society respond to the changed policy, and secondly how many women make it from training out into combat,” she adds. Even if Norway participated in an international military mission, new conscripts would not be deployed.

100 years after Norway introduced full voting rights for women, the Norwegian Parliament voted to adopt compulsory conscription for women as well as men with an overwhelming majority. – This is an historic day for equality and for our armed forces, said Norway’s Defense Minister, Mrs. Anne-Grete Stroem-Erichsen, on the day of the vote.

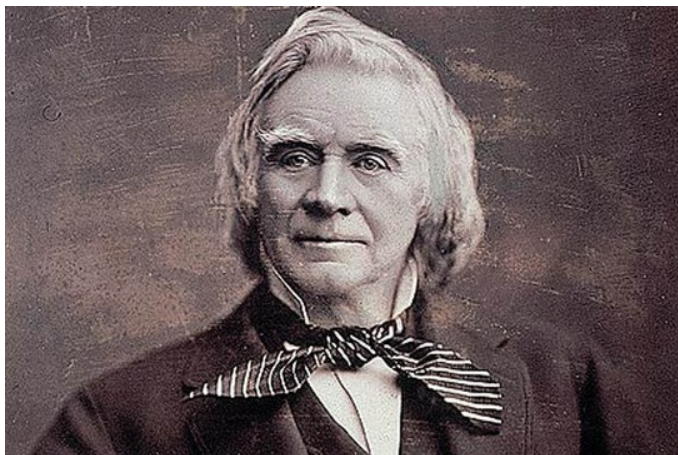
With the decision, seen as another major step towards equal rights, Norway will be the only European country and first peacetime NATO member practicing gender-neutral conscription.

This does not mean that all women must serve in the military. Women will, however, be subject to conscription on an equal basis with men, making them as likely to serve in the military as people of the opposite gender. Norway’s armed forces have an annual requirement for 8-10.000 conscripts out of a total of 60.000 men and women in the relevant age group. Recruitment is already high and increasing, and the number of applicants each year exceeds the needs of the Armed Forces.

- We do not adopt conscription for women because we need more soldiers, but because we need the best, no matter who they may be, says the Defense Minister, and adds: - High-tech equipment alone does not make for a modern military; we also need a modern and diverse organization with different people, skills and perspectives.

OLE BULL

When Norway became independent in 1814, Danish influence was very prevalent. Norway did not have its own literature, music or arts. Copenhagen was the center of Scandinavian culture; Norway merely a country cousin. The violinist Ole Bull helped change this. From Egypt to Italy to the United States, he traveled throughout the world, giving concerts and carrying abroad pride for his native land. As Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson ('Biuhrn'styar'neh 'Biuhrn'son) spoke at his grave in 1880: "Ole Bull became the first and greatest festival in this people's life: he gave us self-respect, the greatest gift possible at the time..."



In 1815, at the age of five, Ole Bull's uncle gave him a little violin. He had already shown a love for music and singing and astonished his uncle by playing simple tunes within minutes after receiving the gift. The young boy enjoyed playing his violin alone in the forest. People would often hear his magical notes and think the forest was full of trolls.

Ole's father, Johan Bull, wished to make a student of his first son and never encouraged the study of music. Nevertheless, Ole's desire drove him to play and compose. He loved Norway's scenes, and in his music he tried to express the beauty and grandeur of this land.

When Ole was 17, his father decided that he should begin studies as a pastor at the University of Oslo. Despite promises to his father that he would concentrate on his studies, Ole found that music was more rewarding than studies. He performed with the Oslo orchestra and totally failed his examinations.

Ole left Norway to begin a serious study of music. After unfulfilling periods in Germany and Paris, he went to Italy where he met with great success. The enthusiasm of the Italians inspired him and he returned to Paris, where he was invited to appear as a solo performer with the Paris Opera House—one of the most distinguished opera houses of the world. From there he toured Europe and also the United States.

Wherever he went, he brought with him an air of celebration. His playing was full of energy, charm, and emotion and he loved to astonish the audience with showy effects, moving his bow with lightning swiftness and playing all four strings at the same time. He was a great virtuoso and was said to be the equal of the legendary Italian violinist, Paganini. In addition to being a dazzling performer, he was also probably the best-looking man on any stage at that time. This, combined with a colorful personality and a strong sense of drama, made him a formidable performer and a very attractive and exciting person.

Ole Bull fulfilled a lifelong dream when he founded a Norwegian national theater in Bergen. From humble beginnings in an old, repainted theater building, Norwegian drama and music were cultivated and pride in the ability of Norwegian artists grew.

Another of Bull's dreams was not so successful. In 1852, he bought land in Pennsylvania and founded the colony of "Oleana" for Norwegian-Americans. Unfortunately, the colony failed just a year later. The idealistic Bull had no business sense and paid for a fraudulent deed. The Oleana colonists on their part relied a bit too much on Bull's generosity, the soil was poor and the wooded, hilly land hard to clear.

The Ole Bull State Park in Potter County, Pennsylvania was established at the site in 1920, and the Ole Bull Museum containing family heirlooms, musical instruments and costumes, is located near the park. It is open from July to September each year. In addition to this memorial there is also a statue of Ole Bull in Loring Park in Minneapolis.



NEW STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON VIKING ERA

The first known accounts of Viking raiding took place in the late eighth century in 793 at an English monastery in Lindisfarne. Yet, recently discovered evidence found in Denmark by archeologists from the University of Aarhus and the University of York definitively supports earlier activity among Viking seafarers prior to the Viking age for the purpose of trade, not plunder.

Uncovered in an archaeological dig in Ribe—the oldest known town and commercial marketplace in

Denmark—were antlers belonging to Norwegian reindeer dating to before 725 AD. An abundant and easily accessible waste product in Norway used to make combs, needles and small hand tools, deer antlers would have been a valuable commodity to a budding commercial center like Ribe, where the raw material would have been scarce. Archeologists believe early Norwegian Vikings likely capitalized on and prospered from this opportunity.

“We can now show that the famous Scandinavian sea voyages, which eventually lead to the discovery of Iceland and Greenland, have a history of commercial travel, not just raids. Previously we were inclined to say that yes, once you can sail across open water, you can also sail to commercial towns—now we can turn the equation around and say that trading towns may have been an important part of the drive behind developing new technologies,” says Professor Søren Sindbæk. “We can see for the first time why they started to invest in ships and develop the technology. It’s interesting that when we have two such significant developments and changes—urbanization and raids across open water—we can then say that they were in fact connected,” said Sindbæk.

While the research provides important context to the development of Viking seafaring culture and helps shed light on how the first Norwegian sailors might have gained the skills, knowledge and wherewithal to embark on extended sea voyages, not all researchers agree that trade was the precursor to the start of the Viking age. In a study from 2008 archeologist James Barrett from Cambridge University concluded that trade and urbanization of marketplaces like Ribe were not necessarily a decisive factor to the start of the Viking era. Barrett cautions that while the new research is exciting and does point to a Norwegian merchant network in Denmark, it would be shortsighted to only look at the societal impact from a trade perspective without also considering military matters of the time.

A Swede, a Norwegian and a Dane were arrested in France during the French revolution. They each got to choose which way they would die.

The Norwegian chose the guillotine, because he saw it as the latest fashion. His head went under, but the blade stopped 1 inch from his neck.

The French saw this as a sign from God or something and decided to let him go. The same thing happened to the Dane.

Then they asked the Swede how he wanted to die. "I tink I'll die by hanging, dat guillotine doesn't vork anyway," he said.



**Zone 2, Sons of Norway
Outing:**

**The Northeast Fjord Horse
Association's**



"Fjord Fun Farm Day"

Saturday, June 27th, 10 – 4

Blue Heron Farm - Charlemont, MA

Norwegian Fjord Horses are a very special breed – gentle, strong, multi-talented ... and beautiful. This is your chance to spend a day with a LOT of them – in a lovely location.

The horses and their people will participate in dressage, cross-country jumping, trail riding, and carriage driving. And you can explore beautiful Blue Heron Farm [BlueHeronFarm.com].

* * *

Cost per person (estimate) \$25, includes catered lunch, drink, and activities. Carpooling extends your social time!!! Optionally, make a weekend of it and stay AT the farm or nearby ...

Questions: [pkhan\\$shop@m\\$n.com](mailto:pkhan$shop@m$n.com)

INTERESTED?? Let Pete Hanson know ... [pkhan\\$shop@m\\$n.com](mailto:pkhan$shop@m$n.com) or 978-371-0349



VASA DAY—MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 28, 2015

*Connecticut Vasa Park & Scandinavian Heritage Center
358 Main Street
Meriden, CT*



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*Park Open—11:00
VasaFlag Raising—Noon
Parade—Raising Maypole
Booths & Children's Activities—12:30 to 3:00
Dinner—1:30—3:00
Scholarship Presentation—3:30
Raffle Drawing—4:00*



ENTERTAINMENT

Wivan and Birgitta

PRICES

*Parking—\$2.00 per person—children under 12 free
Dinner w/dessert & beverage—\$13.00
Hot dog and chips—\$3.00
Hamburger and chips—\$4.00
Cheeseburger and chips—\$5.00

Ice cream sandwiches—\$1.00
Dessert only—\$1.00
Soda, water, coffee, tea—\$1.00*

DINNER MENU *

*Pickled Herring
Swedish Meatballs with/without gravy
Boiled Potatoes
Beets ~ Green Beans ~ Carrots ~ Lingonberry
Limpa Bread*

** Includes Dessert and One Beverage*





NORUMBEGA LODGE #3-506,
SONS OF NORWAY, BOSTON,

invites you to its

45TH ANNIVERSARY FEST

SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

5:00 PM—9:00 PM

BANQUET WITH CASH BAR

MUSIC FEATURING OLE BULL & GRIEG

"TALE FOR DAGEN" at

LONGFELLOW'S **WAYSIDE INN—SUDBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01776**
EST.1716 A HISTORIC MASSACHUSETTS LANDMARK

45TH ANNIVERSARY RESERVATIONS

NAME(S) _____
ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL (Opt.) _____

Early Bird by Aug. 1 = \$38 per person—(Aug. 2–Sept. 1st deadline \$45 per person)

BEEF PRIME RIB AU JUS NUMBER OF GUESTS _____ SUBTOTAL _____

FILET OF SOLE, CRAB STUFFING NUMBER OF GUESTS _____ SUBTOTAL _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Send check, made out to Norumbega Lodge, #3-506, with "45th Anniversary" in memo line

c/o Vera Ryen Gregg, 113 Oakley Rd., Belmont, MA 02478, veryengregg@verizon.net

Receive acknowledgement by mail _____ to guest address or e-mail _____ (include above)

Land of the Vikings



*We are open on
June 26th*

*Don't lose out and sign up for your
weekend now.*

For reservations call:

*Roy Berntsen at: 516-791-3983 or
royb50@optonline.net*

Land of the Vikings

GARBORG LODGE No. 3-265

SONS OF NORWAY

**Meets at: American Legion Hall
1 Legion Place
Malverne, New York 11565**

**Garborg is celebrating its
90th Anniversary on June 19th
at the American Legion Hall (lodge hall).**

Dear Lodge President and Members:

It would be Garborg's pleasure to invite you to our **90th Anniversary** celebration meeting. It will be held on June 19th at the American Legion Hall in Malverne. **Doors will open at 7:00pm.**

Last month we sent a letter to tell you about our anniversary and we have had a good response. Remember we have limited room, especially to keep the center of the hall open, and we are still requiring the first sign-up basis as this will be a complimentary dinner from Garborg Lodge members.

"The Swedish Meatball" and the "VASA Woman of the Year in 2013" **Ellen Lindstrom is coming to play for us.** So put on your dancing shoes and join us for the fun.

Please call Roy at **516-791-3983** or royb50@optonline.net

Jimmy Sollitto at **516-825-3865** or solo584@optonline.net

Gil Deninger at **516-825-4219** or deninger@optonline.net

You will need to make a reservation for a buffet of Roast pork, chicken masala and all the trimmings dinner. Time is running short. We have a limited amount of seating. There will be no walk-ins at the door. The committee is organizing a wonderful evening. Members in good standing are complimentary as a thank you from Garborg Lodge and guests or non-members will be charged \$15.00 Keep tuned to the newsletter. **Deadline** to contact the committee is **June 1st.**

The Anniversary Committee

Organized January 30, 1925



Fra Presidenten, Mary B. Andersen, June, July & Aug

As you know, new member recruitment is one of the most important things everyone can do to support Sons of Norway and help the organization grow within our communities. It can be as simple as identifying friends, family, neighbors or colleagues who share an interest in Norwegian heritage, volunteerism, or financial protection. Then, when you do, invite them to participate in an upcoming event or attend a lodge meeting. A simple invitation is often the best and most effective way to recruit a new member.

Now, because Sons of Norway wants to encourage a strong recruitment effort, some exciting changes have been made to the Norwegian Experience Recruitment Contest. The 2015 program, which was created by Sons of Norway and our official travel partner, Borton Overseas, will recognize the efforts of members throughout the organization, rather than

just one recruiter.

This year Sons of Norway will award two plane tickets to Norway to the top recruiter in **each district**—that means you, or someone in your lodge may be winning a free trip to Norway! All you have to do is focus on recruiting new, dues-paying members into your lodge—something you are probably doing anyhow. All qualifying members recruited between January 1 and December 31, 2015 count towards the contest, so good luck!

If you have any questions about the program, be sure to contact headquarters at 612-821-4623.

Remember, this is a great contest because it's guaranteed that one of the winners is going to be from our district. What's more, the contest is sponsored by one of our organization's biggest supporters, and our official travel partner, Borton Overseas. They have a long history of helping make Sons of Norway members' dreams come true by planning amazing adventures to Norway. And don't forget—even if you don't win, Borton gives all members a 5% discount on travel booked through their offices. To learn more about this discount, call them at (612) 822-4640.

Good luck in your recruiting efforts! I can't wait to see who wins in our district!

Thank you for all your help and for all that you do for Sons of Norway!

Have a happy, healthy and safe summer!!

The Royal Regalia

The royal regalia are symbols of the king's power and majesty, and of the monarchy as a form of government. The word "regalia" is derived from the Latin "Rex" meaning "worthy of a king". The most important function of the regalia was associated with coronations, the formal investiture of the sovereign to his status as king. The first Norwegian king to be crowned was Magnus Erlingsson in 1163.

The original Norwegian regalia have been lost. They are mentioned in several sources including Sverre's Saga, but the trail of their whereabouts ends in 1537. Legend has it that Norway's last Roman Catholic archbishop, Olav Engelbrekston, took the King's crown and sword of state with him when he fled the country following the Reformation. He died shortly after, and it is not known what became of the regalia.

During Norway's union with Denmark, coronations of the Dano-Norwegian kings were held in Denmark. Consequently, when Carl Johan was preparing for his coronation in 1818 Norway did not have its own regalia. The king solved this problem by paying for the making of the essential items himself.

In 1908 the Storting amended the Constitution, abolishing the Article on coronation. Thus, the last king and queen to be crowned were King Haakon VII and Queen Maud. However, both the King's Crown and the Queen's Crown were placed on the high altar during the Service of Consecration and Blessing for King Harald and Queen Sonja in 1991.

The Norwegian royal regalia and other coronation objects are now on permanent display in the Archbishop's Palace in Trondheim. The Dano-Norwegian royal regalia from the 1600s are kept at Rosenborg Palace in Copenhagen.



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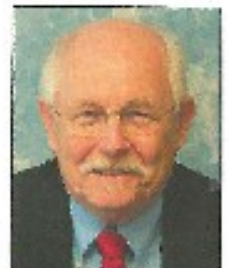
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