



the Askeladden News



April

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

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

4-18

www.norwayinkalamazoo.com

facebook.com/AskeladdenLodge

Meetings:

Sept - April: 2nd Sundays, 2 p.m.

May only: 3rd Sunday, 2 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Vidar & Randy Norwegian/Irish Folk Concert

2 p.m. Sunday, April 8

Trinity Lutheran Church

Please join us Sunday, April 8, for a joint meeting of the Sons of Norway and VASA Lodges at Trinity Lutheran Church, downtown Kalamazoo. The Askeladden Lodge meeting will start at 2 p.m.

At 3 p.m., a concert of Norwegian Folk Music, the Vidar and Randy show, will begin in the sanctuary of the Church. Vidar Skrede and Randy Gosa are coming to Kalamazoo to perform melodies of Norwegian folk music combined with rhythmic Irish accompaniment. The duo performs a collection of Vidar's original compositions, traditional Norwegian folk music, and a few Irish and Celtic-influenced and traditional tunes.

Vidar (from Haugesund, Norway) is a freelance Nordic folk musician on guitar, Harding fiddle, fiddle and Greek bouzouki. He has a background in the traditional music from Rogaland (Southwest part of Norway), and has a master degree in Nordic folk music at the Royal Academy of Music in Stockholm. Vidar has appeared on national television in Norway and Iceland, and has been heard on radio across the Nordic countries and throughout the USA.

Randy (USA) plays guitar and bouzouki. A professional in the Irish music scene since 1999, his bands include the Milwaukee-based Celtic trio Ce, Myserk, The Lost Forty duo with Brian Miller, and is an active Irish ceili/set dance musician in Milwaukee. Randy also teaches at the Irish Fest School of Music.

After the concert, we will have a reception for the musicians in Fellowship Hall in the lower level of the church. Light refreshments and food will be served.

The Social Committee will provide cheeses, vegetables, and cold meat cuts. Members are encouraged to bring desserts, fruits, rolls, and relishes. This will be a ColdBord buffet, no warm food.

The concert and reception are family-friendly and are open to the public.

ASKELOADDEN NEWS

Fra Presidenten

This month our Lodge is sponsoring the Norwegian folk music due "Vidar and Randy," inviting the general public to the event.

For the past 30 years, since Askeladden Lodge was chartered in 1988, our Lodge has sponsored several concerts, lectures, and receptions that have been open to the public.

In this column, based on our historical archives and newsletters, I'm listing the events that we have sponsored.

In August 1997, the Lodge sponsored a lecture by Douglas Rossman on "Norse Mythology" at the Portage Senior Center.

On April 26, 1998, the Lodge sponsored the reception for the Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes, the Gilmore Artist of 1998, at Chenery Auditorium. The Lodge paid \$3,000 to the Gilmore Keyboard Festival to be the sponsor of the reception.

In November 1998, the Lodge sponsored a presentation by Laurann Gilbertson, Curator of Textiles, Vesterheim Museum, on "Norwegian Folk Costumes" at the Portage Senior Center.

In September 1999, the Lodge sponsored a lecture by Judith Simundson on "Norwegian Folktales" at the Kalamazoo Public Library.

In July 2001, the Lodge sponsored a Norwegian music concert by the Norway Habbestrød Ensemble at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Portage.

In 2004, the Lodge sponsored a group of Norwegian high school students, the "Norwegian Folk Musicians" for a concert at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Askeladden Lodge members provided housing for the nine musicians and their adult sponsors.

As we approach our Lodge's 30th Anniversary, we can be proud of the public cultural events we have sponsored.

Curtis Cleveland, Lodge President

Fra Sportsdirektøren

Well, its finally here. Spring has replaced winter. We can now shake off the winter blues. Its time to get out and become active.

In case you didn't know, Sons of Norway has a sports medal program that encourages all members to become physically active, and award you recognition for your efforts. It's designed to accommodate all ages, and all levels of fitness.

There are medals for participating in the following activities:

- Idrettsmerke (General Fitness)
- Skimerke (Skiing)
- Svømmerke (Swimming)
- Sykkelmerke (Cycling)
- Gangmerke (Walking)

Information and activity cards can be found on the Sons of Norway website: www.sonsofnorway.com. Information and activity cards can also be obtained by calling the Sons of Norway Sports Program Director at (800) 945-8851. Or, see me, your Lodge Sports Director, at the next Askeladden meeting. I have activity cards and program brochures.

Earn your sports (ACTIVITY) medal in three steps:

1. Select the activity you want to participate in and obtain the record card for it.
2. Find your age group on the activity record card, set your goals, and begin to record your activity. After each recorded activity, have someone initial your card for verification. This could be your walking partner, or cycling mate. If you use a Fitbit for example, the initials could be FB. This would hold true for a Smart/iPhone app, Misfit, or Garmin.
3. When the card is complete, submit it to me. I will order your free pins from SofN. The pins will be presented to you at a lodge meeting.

Godt friluftsliv

Curt Osborn



Teri Koretsky received a Sports award from Sports director Curt Osborn.

Masse Moro Heritage Camp July 15-28: District 5 Matching Grants

Masse Moro is a Norwegian Heritage children's camp run by Sons of Norway District 5 near Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

In District 5, we are fortunate that both the lodges and the District provide a matching grant of \$150 to campers. Here is how it works: After completing the camper application forms, Askeladden members apply to the lodge for a grant of \$150 for their children or grandchildren attending Masse Moro by filling out the top half of a simple one-page form. Once the lodge approves the grant, the lodge completes the remaining fields on the form and it is sent with the \$150 check from the lodge to District 5, where the grant is automatically matched for \$150 at the District level. Thus the first \$300 of the \$800 camp fee is covered, making the camp experience much more affordable for the families. Submit your completed matching grant application form directly to Lodge Treasurer Earnie Best as soon as possible.

Other scholarships are also available for Masse Moro. Visit the District 5 web page for complete information on these scholarships as well as all application forms: http://sonsofnorway5.com/programs/masse_moro_heritage_camp.php

ASKELADDEN NEWS

Greater Kalamazoo Skating Association

Dear Askeladden Lodge,

Thank you for supporting Greater Kalamazoo Skating Association (GKSA). GKSA is home to many skating disciplines, including Synchronized Skating. Synchronized Skating was born right here in Michigan, and is under consideration as a new Olympic sport in the next Winter Olympics. Both boys and girls participate in synchronized skating, as do adults and children of all ages. The 2017-2018 synchro season has recently been concluded and each team has significantly improved. The GKSA fielded five teams this year – Skills 1, Skills 2, Skills 3, Juvenile, and Intermediate. I was on the Skills 2 team this year and my sister, Alice, was on the Juvenile team.

Unfortunately, none of our teams took home a first place medal this season. It was a year of growth for the skaters. Between the Kick-Off Classic here in Kalamazoo and Mid-America, our teams improved by an average of 2 and ½ places and the International Judging System (IJS - the system used in the Olympics) teams – Intermediate and Juvenile – improved by an average of 4.605 points. Between that and the Tri-State Championship, our teams improved by an average of another 2.5 places, and IJS teams improved by an average of exactly 7.5 points.

In the 2018-19 season, we will be hosting the Midwestern/Pacific Coast Synchronized Skating Sectional Competition here in Kalamazoo at Wings Event Center. Thousands of skaters from across the United States will gather to compete from January 30 - February 3, 2019. This will offer an excellent opportunity for national visibility for all the GKSA sponsors! Be sure to mark those dates on your calendar so you can attend. Our next upcoming event is the Kalamazoo Kick-Off Classic from November 16-18, 2018, also at Wings Event Center. The “Kick-Off” launches the synchronized skating season for the entire Midwest. If you have never seen synchronized skating, you should definitely treat yourself to a rink-side seat. Thank you so much for your support, which we hope you will continue in the upcoming season!

Sincerely,

James Kraatz, GKSA Member

Preliminary Level Skater, United States Figure Skating Association

March meeting and program recap

Curtis A. Cleveland

Brett Jensen informed and entertained members and guests at the March 11 Lodge Meeting, showing YouTube videos from Norway, including a 15-minute refresher course of the Viking Age.

Before Brett's program, we enjoyed a smorgasbord meal, complete with meat balls and gravy, ham and turkey cold cuts, salads, vegetables, breads, herring, and a first: fried chicken prepared by the Colonel (KFC). The meal had another first: No desserts, except for Holly's popcorn.

Holly decorated the tables in a clever “Night at the Movies” theme, complete with welcome bowls of popcorn for everyone.

During the business session, the Lodge approved a Resolution to be considered by the June 27-30, 2018, District 5 Convention. The Resolution advocates for the reinstatement of the Golden Membership Category.

Sports Director Curt Osborn presented a pin to Teri Koretsky for her achievements while participating in the Sports Medal Program.

Fourteen (14) members and 5 guests attended this meeting.



Askeladden Lodge was a sponsor at a GKSA event in Kalamazoo last fall. Lodge member James Kraatz is first on the left in this display for the event. His sister, Alice, is also a GKSA member.



The GKSA event was the first time our new Sons of Norway Lodge logo was ever used.
photos courtesy of Elizabeth Kraatz

Quarterly Board meeting announced

President Curtis Cleveland has announced the Board of Directors Meeting (originally scheduled for March) will be held Tuesday, April 24, at the residence of Earnie Best at 7 p.m. Interested lodge members are welcome to attend.



SONS of NORWAY

Askeladden Lodge 5-610

5749 Stadium Drive # 245
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

APRIL KALENDER



- april 1 - *Påskedag* - Easter Sunday
- april 8 - **Askeladden Lodge/VASA Joint Meeting**
2 p.m. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
3 p.m. **Vidar & Randy Folk Concert** in Sanctuary
4 p.m. Reception in lower level Fellowship Hall
- april 24 - Board of Directors meeting 7 p.m. Earnie Best residence
- april 30 - last day to submit *Askeladden News* articles

Gratulerer med dagen!

Fødselsdag Hilsener

April Birthdays

Lyra Fugett	Nathan Gunnar Varga
Jamie Lynn Stafne	Roger Drong
Dennis Darling	Leif H. Selden

Askeladden Lodge Library

www.librarything.com/catalog/Sonsofnorway

Contact Roger Drong with questions or to reserve resources.



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.