



2017 Officers

President

Susan Morton
(715)341-7248
skaymorton@hotmail.com

Vice President

Lois Hagen
(715)344-7460
hagenozzl@gmail.com

Treasurer

Judy Pesanka
(715)344-0719
msbrewer2charter.net

Financial Secretary

Arno Morton
(715)341-7248
mrmorocks@yahoo.com

Secretary

Bea Berg
(715)544-4490
beaberg@charter.net

Program Director

Joyce Polson
(715)341-4545
fpolson@charter.net

Newsletter Editor

Marv Lang
(715)341-3201
cmlang@charter.net

Newsletter Distributor

Louise Lang

Sunshine Coordinator

Rachel Favor

Lodge Musician

Louise Lang

Lodge Librarian

Jane Gjevre

Lodge Historian

Lois Hagen

Language Specialist

Jan Flatoff

Cultural Skills Coord.

Karen Trzebiatowski

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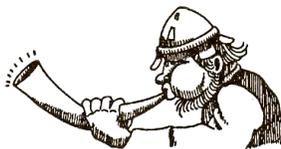
**Vennligfolk Lodge
meets the second
Sunday evening, 7:00 pm
September thru May
at Saint Paul's
United Methodist Church
600 Wilshire Blvd
Stevens Point Wisconsin**

Vennligblad

Friendly pages for the 'friendly people' of Vennligfolk and their friends
Sons of Norway Lodge #5-627 for Central Wisconsin,
Stevens Point, Whiting and Plover, Wisconsin

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 5 SEPTEMBER OG OKTOBER 2017

Fra
presidenten:



SONS OF
NORWAY

A few days ago Arno and I were traveling and saw our first tree whose leaves were beginning to change color. This "way too early" sign of autumn was a reminder of how quickly our Wisconsin summer is coming to a close. We have had a very active summer including a few Scandinavian touches. Let me just list a few:

Our Midtsommer Picnic on June 20th. Perfect weather, delicious food, beautiful setting on the grounds of the South New Hope Lutheran Church, fun games of Kubb, friendly conversations amongst our members and visitors . . . definitely a highlight of my summer!

A daylong outing with Arno to celebrate our wedding anniversary in June. On our road trip we discovered a new Scandinavian store in the Waupaca area. Of course I had to stop and shop!

A small family reunion with my Norwegian cousins in July. How fun to relive memories and see pictures of my Norwegian grandparents with my cousins! We had such a good time that we are planning another reunion next summer.

A road trip to Masse Moro Camp on July 18th. Six Vennligfolk members traveled to



Fall Creek (near Eau Claire) to tour the District 5 Norwegian youth camp called "Masse Moro." Cheryl Schlessor, our District 5 Youth Director, gave us a guided tour of the camp that had lots of campers eager to learn Norwegian culture. It was a fun trip that included lunch at the Norske Nook in Osseo, WI.

A week in Door County in August. Of course I had to stop at Al Johnson's Swedish Restaurant and Boutique! Yes, I took pictures of the goats on the roof.

A "redo" of our recent kitchen remodel. I can't believe it either! Our entire new kitchen had to be torn apart to fix water damage from a leak in the new dishwasher. Long story! It was a real "life lesson" reminder of how something very tiny can lead to huge problems. My "Humpty-Dumpty" kitchen is now put back together, for which I am very grateful.

My focus is now changing from summer to fall, and that means I'm gearing up for a new year of Vennligfolk Lodge meetings and activities. Besides our monthly meetings, we have a road trip planned for Saturday, October 7th to the Nelsonville area for the "Hidden Studios Tour." Last year was the first time I had participated in this yearly

Continued on page 3

In This Issue ...

p.2 "What's Happening at Vennligfolk"
p.3 S/N Dues and Benefits
p.4 Where are Greenland's Vikings?

p.5 Little in English / Litt på Norsk
p.6 Little in English / Litt på Norsk
p.7 Recipes & Queen Sonja
p.8 Cultural Skills



**Gratulerer
med
dagen**

September

- Wayne Schroeder- 1
- Birdie Granum- 5
- Nancy Schroeder- 25
- Francis Polson- 25
- Gordon Miller- 27
- Milo Harpstead- 28

October

- Bea Berg- 7
- Linda LeVasseur- 9



What's Happening at Vennligfolk???

REMEMBER: Vennligfolk Lodge meets the second Sunday evening, 7:00 pm September through May at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church, 600 Wilshire Blvd, Stevens Point, Wisconsin

September 10, 2017 (Sunday): "ROSEMALING" by Carol Bender.

Carol, a member of Elevedal Lodge Sons of Norway, will be speaking about the Gudbrandsdal style of Rosemaling. For the last two years, she has been studying with Pamela Rucinski, Vesterheim Gold medalist. Together, they were awarded a Folk Art Apprenticeship through the Wisconsin Arts Board. The Gudbrandsdal style of rosemaling from the valley of Gudbrands mimics acanthus carving giving it a 3-D appearance.



October 7, 2017 (Saturday): "The Hidden Studios Tour" with stops at the Red Mill and Judah's Studio in Nelsonville is a tentatively planned road trip. More information will be shared at the September 10, 2017 meeting.

October 8, 2017 (Sunday): "THE REFORMATION AND SCANDINAVIA"

In this brief program, we will see a short film about the key leaders of the Reformation in Europe, people who lived and pioneered the changes in the church 500 years ago. It will be followed by a discussion of how the Reformation made its way northward into the Scandinavian countries. The presentation will be by **Dr. Clay Schmit**, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church. He has worked for many years as a Lutheran scholar and professor and has also produced a number of films with Los Angeles film maker John Newcombe. The film we will view that evening is one of those collaborations.



November 12, 2017 (Sunday): "NORWEGIAN SWEATERS" by Judy Pesanka & Karen Trzebiatowski Come to the November meeting wearing your Norwegian sweater. Learn a little about the history of the sweaters, different styles and how they are knit. Maybe some of you even have a story to share about your sweater.

December 09, 2017 (Saturday): "JULEFEST" Plans are underway to celebrate Julefest with a Scandinavian smørgasbørd followed by a program. Watch for further details.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

At our meeting in May, a sign-up sheet entitled "Opportunities to Serve" was passed around soliciting names of those willing to serve refreshments at the 2017-2018 meetings and those willing to decorate the Scandinavian Table. There are a few openings yet to be filled in. Please let Susan Morton know of your willingness to help

September (10) Mortons & Judy Pesanka
Table - Lois Hagen

October (08) _____ and _____
Table - Rachel Favor

November (12) Hagens & _____
Table - Karen Trzebiatowski

January (14) Rasmussens & Jane Gjevre
Table - Susan Morton

February (11) Henslers & Harpsteads
Table - Charlotte Hensler

March (11) Polsons & Bea Berg
Table - Elaine Anderson

April (08) Langs & D. Johnsons
Table - Joyce & Francis Polson

May (13) Karen T. & Elaine Anderson
Table - _____

Note: Only four slots need to be filled; please consider volunteering now and letting Susan know of your willingness. Remember, too, that December will be a *Julefest*



Have Dues Questions? Find Answers with these Handy Resources

Sons of Norway's 2018 simplified dues structure goes into effect on January 1. Check out the following resources for more information.

Website – www.sonsofnorway.com The website is now updated with a detailed dues structure chart and dues information. More frequently asked questions and answers have also been added. The history of how the dues changes came about remains on the site, and online information will continue to be supplemented on an as-needed basis.

Publications – Watch for informative articles in our communication channels. The August issue of Viking contained the updated dues information, and our other member newsletters will provide more information as implementation gets closer.

Email – To make it even easier for members to get their questions answered, they may submit them 24/7 to a dedicated email address, 2018dues@sofn.com. Staff will respond to inquiries in a timely manner.

New Conveniences for Members Come with Dues Structure Changes

Here are a few items that are part of the changes coming with the simplified dues structure, beginning Jan. 1, 2018.

Automatic monthly withdrawal available – Effective with their 2018 dues renewal, members in U.S. lodges will have the option to pay their dues by automatic monthly withdrawal from their U.S. bank account. Annual payment of dues by check or credit card will continue to be available.

Local currency applies – No more confusion about adjusting dues based on the exchange rate for Canadian and Norwegian memberships. Beginning January 1, International dues for Canadian and Norwegian memberships are based on the local currency (Canadian dollars or Norwegian kroner), and hence will no longer be subject to exchange rate fluctuations. (Dues paid by credit card from a non-U.S. bank may be subject to an exchange rate and/or service fee set by the bank and/or credit card processor.)

Dues more easily explained to potential members – The new dues structure is simplified to maintain consistency throughout the U.S., making it easier for lodges to sign up new members and to discuss the dues with others outside of their lodges and districts.

Have questions on the above? Send an email to Sons of Norway

Continued from page 1

event, and I certainly encourage our members to be a part of this road trip. You will hear more about this at our September 10th lodge meeting.

A big “*Welcome*” to our new lodge members **John & Karen Clifford**, and “Welcome Back” to returning lodge members, **Tom & Rita Johnson**. It's always exciting to see our lodge growing in membership!

Included in this issue of the newsletter (page 2) is a reminder of our sign-ups for serving and doing the table displays. All of our members enjoy our time of fellowship after our meeting where we can visit over coffee and food. As you can see, we still have a few opportunities for you to sign up to serve. Let me thank all of our members who sign up to bring our refreshments and do the table displays each month. You are appreciated!

Many of our members have participated in the Cultural Skills classes that were taught this past spring and summer. Tusen Takk to Marv Lang for teaching the Genealogy Class and to Jan Flatoff for teaching the Norwegian Language class. Jan will continue her language class this fall. You can read all about it (page 8) in this issue of *Vennligblad*.

In closing, I just want to convey how much I have enjoyed being a part of **Vennligfolk Lodge** for over ten years, and in leading this fine group for almost three years. I look forward to being with all of you again as we start our monthly meetings and activities for our 2017-2018 year. Hope to see you all on September 10th.

Vennlig hilsen, Susan Morton

P.S. I received the following note from Lynn Rasmussen: “*After much thought, I would like our group to pursue the recipe sharing/exchange idea talked about this spring at one of our meetings. I would volunteer to organize this unless someone else has already stepped up. I would like a few people to meet with and share ideas of how we should proceed.*” At our Lodge meeting on Sunday, September 10th, let's talk about this.

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbor and his wife were told there would be a 45-minute wait for a table. "Young man, we're both 90 years old," the husband said. "We may not have 45 minutes." They were seated immediately.

Why Did Greenland's Vikings Vanish?

This question has plagued scholars for decades. Having discovered Greenland in a relatively warm period, the old narrative was that the Viking inhabitants abused the fragile environment. When the weather turned cool again – beginning about 1250AD as the result of a volcanic eruption on the Indonesian island of Lombok – their inability to adapt led to catastrophe.

Discoveries in the past decade have changed this view. Between 1409 and 1424, three letters were received from Greenland and recorded by Icelandic scribes. What archaeologists now emphasize is what is absent from these letters – any hint of hardship or imminent calamity. In fact, the marriage of Sigríð Björnsdattir and Thorstein Olafsson in 1408 is mentioned as just another event in the community.

Gardar was the heart of the Norse settlements in Greenland. It was the official residence of their bishop and the location of the cathedral, with stained glass and a heavy bronze bell. Though only foundation stones remain of the cathedral, many other ruins remain, including an enormous barn. There were two primary Viking outposts: one surrounding a fjord on the southwest coast; a second about 240 miles further north.



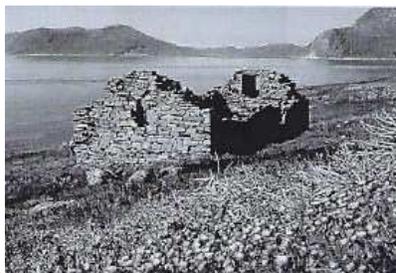
As with most archaeological digs, much of what is learned is comes from the trash people leave behind. For example, Greenland's Vikings very quickly adopted dietary changes - including eating seals, a drastic shift from the beef and dairy centric Scandinavian fare. As much as 50% of the bones found in these colonies are from seals. A study of 118 skeletal remains of individuals from the area demonstrates that a marine diet became increasingly important. In the earliest days, marine animals made up about 30% of the colonist's diet. By the end, about 80% of the diet was harvested from the sea.

The sea also provided an important element of livelihood for the Norse. Having hunted the walrus to extinction in Iceland, they no doubt sought other sources for the ivory producing animals. Monopolizing Northern Europe's ivory market, the Vikings found abundant resources near their Greenland outposts. Ivory fragments have been unearthed at nearly every site. How profitable was the ivory trade? Every six years, the Norse in Greenland and Iceland paid a tithe to the Norwegian king. A document from 1327, recording the shipment of a single boatload of tusks from 260 walrus to Bergen was worth more than all the woolen cloth sent to the king by nearly 4,000 Icelandic farms for that six-year period. Originally, it was thought that these colonists were primarily farmers. But now it appears they were hunters first, using farming only as a means to an end. Literally, ivory became their currency.

But that is not to say that farming did not play a critical role pushing the limit of farming in these northern extremes. Studying soil layers shows early on the impact: layers are thinner and have less organic matter. Within a generation, however, layers stabilized as farmwomen manured and improved their fields.

Everything changed in the 13th century. With the volcanic eruption in Indonesia, the weather cooled considerably. Sea ice increased. Sea storms did too. Ice cores from this period demonstrate an increase of salt deposited by sea winds.

If the colder weather had been the only calamity, the Norse probably could have survived it. Unfortunately, it was coupled with other factors. At about this same time, the Portuguese were opening trade with sub-Saharan Africa which brought the higher-quality elephant ivory to the European market. Demand for walrus ivory waned rapidly. Then, in the mid-1300s, the Black Death devastated Europe. Although there is no evidence that the plague ever touched Greenland, about half of Norway's population - Greenland's lifeline to the civilized world - perished. All three blows must have left them reeling. With nothing to exchange for European goods - and with fewer Europeans left - their way of life would have been impossible to maintain.



Based on a more accurate tally of farms and graves, the Norse Greenlanders likely never numbered more than 2500. With raising cattle becoming increasingly difficult, hunting seal

Continued on page 6

a little in English...

Bats Harming Church



Bat urine may destroy Norway's oldest stave church. Urnes Stavekirke is considered the oldest, preserved stave church in Norway. Now it's

facing a rather unique problem: Urine from bats may be destroying the church, writes newspaper *Bergens Tidende*. The church is from the 1100s. It is the only one in the country that is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The bats have sought shelter in the church for raising young. This is quite normal. But Urnes Stave Church is made of wood. The wood is neither painted nor protected in another way. The urine from the bats contains salt. It can break down and destroy the old woodwork.

“It happens slowly. But at worst, the staves that hold the different parts of the church together may lose their grip,” explains Kjersti Marie Ellewsen to the newspaper. She is a senior adviser and works at the Directorate for Cultural Heritage.

In other buildings it is common to replace damaged materials. The stave church does not wish to do this. They believe the original parts of the church are an important part of the cultural heritage.

Removing the bats is also not a solution. The reason is that the bat is protected. They should not be disturbed.

“We must either find a way to protect the wood. Or we have to set up breeding crates for the bats. Perhaps they would rather live there,” says Ellewsen.

Norway Embraces Rainforest Conservation

Earlier this year, the Norwegian Parliament officially guaranteed that the government’s public procurement policy will be deforestation-free. In a nutshell, this means that the Norwegian Government will no longer buy products linked with tropical deforestation or sign contracts with companies that destroy forests.

Forests and trees cover 31 percent of the earth’s land, and are vital to human and animal existence. Every second of the day they produce oxygen and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, essentially making up our planet’s lungs. Without them, survival is nearly impossible.

Norway funds forest conservation projects worldwide and has continued to support human rights programs for forest communities for years. With its commitment to a zero deforestation policy, Norway



litt på norsk...

Flaggermus skader kirke

Urin fra flaggermus kan ødelegge Norges eldste stavkirke. Urnes stavkirke regnes som den eldste bevarte stavkirken i Norge. Nå står de overfor et noe spesielt problem: Urin fra flaggermus kan ødelegge kirken, skriver avisa *Bergens Tidende*. Kirka er fra 1100-tallet. Den er den eneste i landet som står på Unescos verdensarvliste.

Flaggermusene har søkt ly i kirken for å yngle. Det er helt normalt. Men Urnes stavkirke er laget av tre. Treet er verken malt eller beskyttet på annen måte. Urinen fra flaggermusene inneholder salt. Den kan bryte ned og ødelegge det gamle treverket.

Det går sakte. Men i verste fall kan stavene som holder de forskjellige delene av kirken sammen, miste festet. Det forklarer Kjersti Marie Ellewsen til avisa. Hun er seniorrådgiver og jobber hos Riksantikvaren,

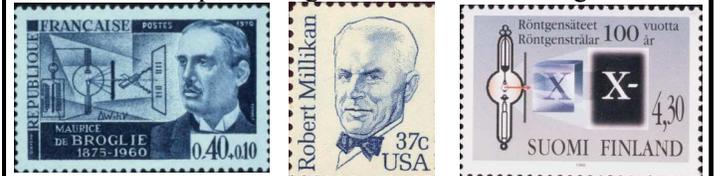
I andre bygg er det vanlig å skifte ut skadd materiale. Det ønsker ikke stavkirken å gjøre. De mener de originale delene av kirka er en viktig del av kulturminnet.

Å fjerne flaggermusene er heller ikke en løsning. Årsaken er at flaggermusen er fredet. De skal ikke forstyrres.

Enten må vi finne en måte å verne treverket på. Eller så må vi sette opp ynglekasser for flaggermusene. Kanskje vil de heller bo der, sier Ellewsen.

Tubfrim ...

Please remember to bring your used postage stamps to the next **Vennligfolk** meeting. Stamps are to be trimmed from the envelope leaving ¼” free around all edges.



Uff da ... we often yearn for days gone past; consider this one - Hans called Ole long distance and asked him for a loan of \$5. "I can't hear you, Hans," said Ole. "Dis line must be bad." The operator broke in to say, "I can hear him perfectly clear." "Vell," said Ole, "if you can hear him so good, why don't YOU lend him da five dollars."

a little in English...

We're Listening to Less Radio

Fewer people are listening to the radio after the FM network was turned off. The P1 channel has 123,000 fewer listeners each day.

A change in the radio network has had consequences. Not as many people are following radio to the new DAB (digital audio broadcasting) network, writes the newspaper VG.

The shutdown of the FM network has been noticed by the major channels. Every day, 1.517 million people listened to the channel P1 on NRK (Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation). Then the FM network got turned off. Now there are 1.394 million tuning in every day. This is a decline of 8 percent, numbers from Kantar TNS, (a London-based market research group) reveal.

"The transition from FM requires a lot from the user," said Ole Jan Larsen of NRK. He is the acting radio director. Larsen explains that they noticed that fewer people were listening after the FM network was turned off.

"But we also see that listeners come back eventually," he says.

Some counties have turned off the FM network for large channels. Thus, you must use DAB digital radio to listen to channels such as P1, P2, P3, P4 and Radio Norway.

Knut-Arne Futsæter is a research leader at Kantar TNS. He says that the decline is as expected.

"Also due to the number of radio stations. They get more listeners," he says.

Larsen also says that people have more channels to choose from on DAB. Thus, people listen to other channels.

Currently, the FM shutdown only applies to the national channels. Over 200 local radio channels may still broadcast online. They can do that through 2021, writes news agency NTB (Norwegian News Agency).

litt på norsk...

Vi lytter mindre på radio

Færre hører på radio etter at FM-nettet ble slukket. Kanalen P1 har 123.000 færre lyttere hver dag.

Endringen av radio-nettet får følger. Ikke like mange blir med over til radio til det nye DAB-nettet, skriver avisa VG.

Slukkingen av FM-nettet merkes godt hos de store kanalene. Hver dag lyttet 1,517 millioner mennesker til kanalen P1 på NRK. Så ble FM-nettet slukket. Nå er 1,394 millioner innom hver dag. Det er en nedgang på 8 prosent, viser radiotall fra Kantar TNS.

Overgangen fra FM krever mye av brukeren, sier Ole Jan Larsen i NRK. Han er fungerende radiosjef. Larsen forklarer at de merker at færre lytter der FM-nettet er slukket, like etter slukkingen.

Men vi ser også at lytterne kommer tilbake etter hvert, sier han.

En del fylker har stengt av FM-nettet for store kanaler. Dermed må du bruke DAB- digital radio for å lytte til kanaler som P1, P2, P3, P4 og Radio Norge.

Knut-Arne Futsæter er forskningsleder i Kantar TNS. Han sier at nedgangen er som ventet.

Også mye på grunn av de mange andre radiokanalerne. De får flere lyttere, sier han.

Også Larsen sier at folk har flere kanaler å velge mellom på DAB. Dermed hører folk på andre kanaler.

Foreløpig gjelder FM-slukkingen bare de nasjonale kanalene. Over 200 lokalradioer får fortsatt sende på nettet. Det kan de gjøre til og med 2021, skriver nyhetsbyrået NTB.

Source:

<http://www.klartale.no/kultur/vi-lytter-mindre-pa-radio-1.992640>



Continued from page 4

would become more critical and hazardous. It is probable that many of the men lost their lives at sea. With such a sparse population, any loss would have placed strain on those that remained. Some archaeologists suggest that there was a slow, but steady departure. The remains hint of orderly emigration. There is no evidence of conflict either among themselves or with the native Inuit. Aside from a gold ring on the finger of the bishop at Gardar, no items of any real value have been discovered. "What do you do when you emigrate?" asks one archaeologist, "You take all your valuables with you." Although the end of Greenland's Vikings is still unclear it is possible that their descendants are still living among us!

Reprinted from GLÅMA EKKO, Vol 35 Issue 3 (July 2017)

Norwegian Apple Pie (Eplepai)

The Great Scandinavian Baking Book

by Beatrice Ojakangas

Makes one 9-inch pie

Although this is called a "pie" in Norway, we would think of it as a cake. Incredibly simple to make, it's a perfect last-minute dessert when fresh apples are in season.

- 1 egg
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup all-purpose flour
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped almonds
- 3 medium-sized tart apples, pared, cored and diced

Topping

- 1 cup whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F. Butter a 9-inch pie pan generously. Stir all the pie ingredients together in a bowl until blended. Mixture will be stiff. Spoon into the pie pan. Bake 30 minutes or until browned. To serve, cut into wedges. Whip the cream with the powdered sugar to accompany the cake or serve with ice cream.



Pumpkin and Beef Casserole

Adapted from *www.apéritif.no*

- 2 lbs trimmed tender beef, diced
- 4 shallots, roughly chopped
- 2 large garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 2 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, cubed
- 1 tbsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp ground pepper
- 1 tsp tabasco
- 1 tsp sugar
- 12 dried apricots, cubed
- 3 large potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 cups white wine
- 3 cups beef stock, water or broth
- 3 large sweet potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 1 medium sized pumpkin (about 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs)
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup melted butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fino sherry
- 2 fresh cobs of corn
- fresh coriander



Heat oil in a large frying pan and brown beef. Add onion and garlic and saute until soft. Add remaining ingredients and bring to boil. Cover and simmer for 45 minutes.

Bring lightly salted water to a boil. Add corn and boil for 4 minutes. Remove from water and allow to cool. Cut kernels from the cob and set aside.

Remove the top of the pumpkin, creating an 8" or 9" opening. Remove strands and seeds. Brush the inside of the pumpkin with melted butter. Place pumpkin in a baking dish. Add sherry and corn to the heated meat mixture and pour into the pumpkin. Replace the pumpkin top and place in the oven on the lowest rack at 350° F. Bake for 1 hour. Serve directly from the pumpkin and include the tender flesh of the pumpkin

Artful Gifts for the Queen

Tuesday, July 4, 2017, was a busy day of celebration. Americans celebrated the country's Independence Day, and Canadians celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Canada's new federation. In Norway, the festivities for the royal family and all of Norway centered on Her Majesty Queen Sonja's 80th birthday.

The queen was delighted with visitors and gifts throughout the day, including a statue of the queen inside the Palace Park unveiled by her grandchildren. A gift from the Norwegian Trekking Association (DNT), the statue depicts the queen resting on a rock in her hiking clothes—a representation of her deep love for hiking and the great outdoors.

The queen then officially opened the "Queen Sonja's Art Stable." Now an arena for art, culture and history, the gift from King Harald was once a stable for the royal horses until 1940. The opening exhibition includes an installation of Queen Maud's photographs and a fine collection of Norwegian graphic prints – 164 pieces in total. Like Queen Sonja, Queen Maud (King Harald's grandmother) was a dedicated photographer and art enthusiast. Many of the prints were donated by Norwegian artists as birthday gifts for the queen, and the photo installation of was a gift from the Norwegian Government.

To conclude the birthday celebrations, Queen Sonja held a picnic for all inside the Queen's Park. In order to find their seats, guests participated in a fun, kid-friendly scavenger hunt and were treated to a delicious meal.





Vennligfolk Lodge #5-627
 Marv Lang, *Editor*
 3015 Cherry Street
 Stevens Point, WI 54481 U.S.A.

Sunday, September 10 2017
"ROSEMALING"
 by Carol Bender

Sunday, October 8, 2017
"THE REFORMATION AND SCANDINAVIA"
 By Clay Schmit



The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

Cultural Skills - Norwegian Class

Hei,

The Cultural Skills - Norwegian Class will continue to be held this fall - assuming there are at least 6 people signed up for it. We've been meeting since January, including several weeks this summer. We've learned much! New people are welcome to join - though it would be best if you already know some Norwegian. It would be very challenging - though not impossible - for those who don't know any Norwegian to join in. (If you know some German, though, that's a big plus.) We will continue to meet from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Purple Room at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Plover. Any new people interested in joining are encouraged to contact me as soon as possible, since I'll be on vacation during September. Our fall session will begin on September 26th.

Ha det bra,
 Jan Flatoff
 (715) 344-7935
 ernaj@charter.net

Language Լեզու Linguaggio Язык
 Γλώσσα Język لسان
 ቋንቋ השפה ភាសា Language ភាសា 言語
 भाषा ಭಾಷೆ ភាសា 言語
 Linguagem Wika اللغة
 Sprache 语言 ԼԻԴ Bahasa 언어

Vennligblad, the official newsletter of Sons of Norway's Vennligfolk Lodge (#5-627), is published at the beginning of the odd-numbered months of the year. If you have an item of interest to Vennligfolk members, please submit it to the Editor by the 15th of the even-numbered months. You may send it to Marv Lang at 3015 Cherry Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481 or by e-mail to cmlang@charter.net.

Mange Tusen Takk, Marv Lang, *Editor*



Archaeologists

After having dug to a depth of 10 meters last year, Scottish scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100 years and came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the Scots, in the weeks that followed, British scientists dug to a depth of 20 meters, and shortly after, headlines in the UK newspapers read: "British archaeologists have found traces of 200 year old copper wire and have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the Scots."

One week later, *The Klub*, a Fergus Falls, Minnesota newspaper reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30 meters in corn fields near Games Lake, Ole Johnson, a self taught archeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Ole has therefore concluded that 300 years ago Norwegians were already using wireless!"