



North Carolina Vikings

December 2009

<http://www.northcarolinavikings.org>



Sons of Norway

Vol. 3, No. 4

NC Vikings Lodge 3-675

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2009-2010

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President's Message

Well, November & early December have been busy times for us. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, on November 5th a number of our members got together to make julekurv for us to sell at the Scandinavian Christmas Fair, This was followed by the November lodge meeting which featured a presentation and discussion led by Signe Marwede and Don Kloe. Then we had preparation work for the Scandinavian Christmas Fair followed by the lodge member's participation in the fair. This year the lodge had Norwegian food, Norwegian jewelry (form Nordic Designs) and, of course, julekurv for sale. Even though the attendance at the fair was down from previous years, we experienced good financial results. My appreciation goes out to those members who participated in those activities:

- Julekurv - Kari Crenshaw, Signe Marwede, Martha Arnum, Mardell Barret and Barbara Marshall
- Lodge meeting – Don Kloe, Signe Marwede, Kari Crenshaw and other members who provided the delicious food
- Scandinavian Christmas Fair – Signe Marwede, Kari Crenshaw, Martha & Mal Arnum, Don Kloe, Frank Bell, Norman Miller

Remember, that we will celebrate the holiday with a night of food, festivities and friendship on December 17th. This will be a special event and I really hope you will bring all your family. It will begin with dinner at 7:00 PM and afterward we will gather around the Jultre to sing, dance and perhaps have a special visit from Julenissen if there are children and grandchildren in attendance.

We will have the entrees catered and ask that the members bring either an appetizer or a dessert. Please let Kari Crenshaw know what you can bring to the dinner – either via e-mail

(karicren@yahoo.com) or telephone (919-781-0302).

I am still looking for people to participate in a genealogy workshop (tentative plans are now for 1st Quarter 2010). I only have a few people who have signed up and need an

additional 10 people to justify the expense of outside workshop leaders. Please send me an e-mail (mmtilder@bellsouth.net) or call me (919-460-9214).

We will have lodge officers elections in January and the nomination committee is still seeking candidates. If you have any interest in serving in a specific lodge officer position, please contact either Norm Miller (919-787-7063) or me (919-460-9214). Please help us help you by being active participants in our lodge's activities and promote the Sons of Norway membership to friends and associates. Involvement in the lodge will certainly be worthwhile for you and your families but it is truly all about what "we make of it for us and each other".

Takk!

Mike Tilder
President, North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675

Upcoming Lodge Events

Please join us for the last meeting of 2009, and plan to attend the first meetings of 2010!



December 17th Lodge Meeting

Our last meeting of the year will be a holiday dinner. Main dishes will be catered; please bring an appetizer or dessert to share! Items from the Scandinavian Christmas Fair, including food and jewelry, will be available for purchase, as well.

If you've not already done so, please RSVP to Mike, and don't forget to contact Kari to sign up to bring a dish.

January 21st Lodge Meeting

At our January lodge meeting, we'll be electing new lodge members. If you've ever thought about taking a more active role in your Sons of Norway lodge by accepting a position on the board, please contact Mike or Norm to express your interest!

We'll wrap up our evening with a fun lodge fundraiser, a **one-pound auction**. Please bring a wrapped item weighing one pound to auction off. Use your imagination and come prepared to bid on some great mystery items! As always, please contact Kari if you can bring something to share at the coffee social to follow the lodge meeting.

February 18th Lodge Meeting

At the February meeting, District Three officers will join us to install our new lodge officers, and we'll enjoy the chance to get acquainted with these guests over coffee and treats following the installation. Please contact Kari if you can bring something to share.

Additional Lodge Events

Genealogy workshop

Contact Mike if interested in attending a genealogy workshop during the very first part of 2010. A few people have already expressed an interest, but in order to make the workshop cost-effective, we'll need at least 10 additional members to express their interest. Contact Mike soon to let him know if you'd like to attend!

Have a great idea for a lodge event, a cultural presentation, or a Norwegian-related activity? Please share your ideas with a lodge officer or, better yet, consider serving as a lodge board member! Contact Mike or Norm for more information!

Upcoming Area Events

Our area abounds in Scandinavian-related holiday events, both this month and into the New Year!

St. Lucia Pageant

Sunday, December 13th

St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Raleigh 4:00 pm

The Friends of Scandinavia will celebrate the season with their annual St. Lucia pageant. Children and grandchildren of members will participate in the processional, and the event will be followed by a potluck. See their website (<http://www.ncnordic.org>) for more details; if you have children or grandchildren who would like to participate in the processional, please make sure to contact Margareta Thompson to express your interest.

Julotta Service

Friday, December 25th

Grace Lutheran Church, Raleigh 7:00 am

Another Friends of Scandinavia event, this early morning Scandinavian Christmas service will be followed by a potluck coffee social. Please plan to bring baked goods to share after celebrating the season with friends.

Friends of Scandinavia Lutefisk Dinner

Saturday, January 16th

St. Giles Presbyterian Church, Raleigh 6:15 pm

The Friends of Scandinavia lutefisk dinner is an annual tradition, and attendees enjoy lutefisk, lufse, and other traditional treats. Tickets for adult members of FOS are \$9.00; tickets for non-members are \$11.00 and \$3.00 for ages 6-11 (children under 6 are free).

The deadline to RSVP is January 10th, though reserve early, as space is limited and tickets go fast! Consult the FOS website for more information and for RSVP details (<http://www.ncnordic.org>)

From the District 3 President



Well after several months of slow new member sign up D3 had a great month with 62 new members. Our hats are off to Maine Nordmenn who signed up **18 new members** last month. Many of those were out of state members so don't think that your next new member has to be living next door to you. Thirty two of our lodges still have a requirement to vote in new members. In some lodges there is a reason for that but in many lodges a bylaw change could eliminate that requirement thus allowing new members to join on line. In one study we had 15 notices of prospective members going on line telling headquarters that they wanted to join a specific lodge. Headquarters notified the lodges however only 2 of the 15 became members within 3 months. We need to do better with this group of prospective members. With all the bazaars and fairs our lodges will be holding this fall I have high hopes that we will be signing up many more new members in the next few weeks; don't forget to put your events on our website.

I have some great news for all of us in the race to convert 999/000 members to local lodges. Local lodge officers now have access to the 999/000 data base located in the members only section of the SON web site. Vice President Gail will continue to send information on new 999/000 members to those local lodges in the area of the new members. I will continue to send the 999/000 members a link to our TDT after it has been posted to our website.

Our web site continues to attract more viewers. The site <http://www.3dsofn.org/home.html> averaged almost 80 viewers a day and that is a 7% increase over the last 4 months.

D3 has arranged with Hurtigruten Inc to provide special rates on MS Midnatsol which departs Bergen, Norway on 17 July 2010. The trip will be a fund raiser for D3

as the District will receive part of the commission normally received by the travel agent. You can get more info on our web site (shortly) or you can call Jensen Beach Travel (772-334-1300) for more information on the trip. You can book a one way trip or a round trip. The amount of spaces allocated to District 3 is limited so call quickly.

The Norsk Carolina lodge will receive their charter on 21 November 11, 2009 in Charlotte NC and congratulations to the Drammen Lodge in New Bern NC as they are now up to 47 members including 6 in October. We are working on an installation date.

We want to welcome Oslo member Ron Dunagan to Mary Andersen's Publicity team. Ron is going to take over as our webmaster and I know he will do a great job. Thank you Ron!

At the past two District Board meetings each board member was asked to provide a statement on how to improve the Sons of Norway. The leading choices were having an active membership committee and a membership mentoring program. Very good advice!!!!

Let's push to get those new members and hold on to those we have.

If AnneGrete and I don't see you before the end of the year we would like to wish you all a most happy and joyful Christmas and a most prosperous New Year!

Fraternally,

Ralph Peterson
President
District Three
Sons of Norway

Christmas in Norway

Interested in learning a bit more about holiday traditions in Norway and across Scandinavia? Check out these links:

Rick Steve's Christmas in Norway

<http://www.ricksteves.com/plan/destinations/scan/norwayxmas04.htm>

The renowned travel guide writer gives a good, detailed description of a variety of St. Lucia and Christmas traditions in Norway.

A Norwegian "Country Christmas"

<http://www.julenissen.no/story.html>

This site gives a detailed description – in English – of what a traditional “country Christmas” might have been like in Norway. A great place to check out the evolution of Christmas traditions in Norway and the intermingling of other European traditions into the festivities in Norway.

The Yule Log

<http://www.thehistoryofchristmas.com/traditions/norway.htm>

A cute little site with a short description of the Norwegian origins of the Yule log (as well as links to other countries, where you can read about other Christmas traditions in addition to Norway's).

Stavanger-web's Christmas information

<http://www.stavanger-web.com/jul/christma.htm>

A few Christmas-related recipes and how-to instructions for making your own Christmas baskets (*julekurv*).

Norwegian Christmas recipes

<http://www.european-schoolprojects.net/festivals/Norway/christmas.htm>

A great list of recipes for the traditional seven types of Christmas cookies, as well as other Christmas main dishes and desserts.

Do you have an article you'd like to have published in the newsletter? Or ideas for the kinds of information you'd like to see here? Please send your articles, announcements, links, or ideas to Sandra (slvq15@gmail.com). The deadline is the end of the month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Thanks!