



North Carolina Vikings



April, 2015

Lodge Officers 2015-2016

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President's Message

Hei alle sammen!

For those of you who missed the February meeting, Dirk Hansen, Zone 7 Director, installed our 2015 lodge officers:

- President Mike Tilder
- Vice President Andy Kristofferson
- Treasurer Kjell Ottesen
- Secretary Chris Christiansen
- Membership Secretary Frank Bell
- Social Chairpersons Martha Arnum, Kari Crenshaw
- Editor Jennifer Axness

We also watched the 2nd part of the 99th Infantry Battalion (separate) video. The 99th infantry Battalion (Separate) was activated at Camp Ripley, Minnesota on July 19th 1942 as per written instructions by the War Department. This unique elite unit was to consist only of Norwegians and Americans with direct Norwegian descent. If you would like to view the DVD at home, contact me at mmtilder@twc.com or call me at 919-460-9214.

Our next meeting will be held on May 16th to celebrate Syttende Mai. More information will be available at a later date.

Please share your commitment and presence at these meetings as you are what make the North Carolina Vikings Lodge! Never forget to 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".

Mange takk

Mike Tilder, President

North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675

Upcoming Vikings Lodge Programs and Lodge Meetings

Meetings will be held Underwood Hall at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27613) unless noted otherwise.

Upcoming Events –

May 16 (Saturday)

11:00 AM

Syttende Mai Celebration

** More information to follow.

Help Plan a Meeting

Can you invite a professional or line up an expert or even fun person to help us with cultural programs at our lodge meetings? Call Mike Tilder at 919-460-9214 to pick a month or activity you can line up for the lodge!

Items for the Newsletter

Don't forget – if you've got an announcement, would like to pass on some information or just something interesting to share with the group, please email Mike Tilder at mmtilder@twc.com.

April Birthdays

Michael Tilder	4/10
Norman Miller	4/12
Sonja Striplin	4/17
Jennifer Axness	4/18
Jacqueline Sheffield	4/20

Land of the Vikings Youth Camp

Camp is just around the corner, and District 3 is pleased to announce that camp will be held at LOV again this summer. The older group: 12-15 years of age will attend camp during the week of June 5th to July 11th. The younger group: 8-11 years of age will attend camp from July 12th to 18th. For all the campers who would have aged and missed your last year, when camp had to be canceled, you are invited to attend this summer.

For an application, please send your name, address, age, email address to Evelyn Karpack at either farmorkar@yahoo.com or PO Box 318, Hibernia, NJ 07842. Evelyn will then mail all the information each camper will need before they attend camp.

The price for camp is \$300.00 per camper whose parent is a member or \$350.00 for non-members. You may be eligible to earn a scholarship from the Third District or a Draxton Fund Award from the Sons of Norway.

Save the Norwegian American Weekly

This has been a time of change for the Norwegian American Weekly. You may have noticed (we hope!) that you haven't received this newsletter lately. Did you miss us?

Things have been rocky there. Earlier this year they were told that they would have to shut down the newspaper for financial reasons. They dodged the bullet, but one casualty of their cost-cutting was the Norwegian American Weekly. Did you know they charged for it? They charged a lot more than they could justify, so it was decided to discontinue it. They are sorry that they didn't say goodbye.

However, they have temporarily resurrected the newsletter list to bring you a very exciting announcement: they aren't dead! All the content you hopefully love is still available at www.na-weekly.com.

They aren't dead, but they we aren't out of the woods either. They appear to be close to making ends meet, but to close the final gap they are running an Indiegogo campaign: www.indiegogo.com/projects/save-the-norwegian-american-weekly.

They are offering some very exciting perks including subscriptions and advertising along with nisse merchandise (for an intro to their nisse mascot Nils Anders Wik, see www.na-weekly.com/featured/naws-new-friend), the extremely limited edition "final" issue of NAW, postcards, and "busserull" shirts that Hovden Formal Farmwear has generously given them at cost (see www.na-weekly.com/featured/return-of-the-busserull for more on the shirts-they're pretty cool).

They really appreciate your support! The Norwegian American Weekly is part of a 125-year tradition of Norwegian newspapers in America, and with a little help from their friends they will keep it alive.

Introduction to Påske Traditions in Norway

Borrowed from The Nordic Page, 3/30/15

<http://www.tnp.no/norway/exclusive/2836-introduction-to-paske-traditions-in-norway>



Easter is an important holiday in Norway, giving Norwegians a chance to celebrate the arrival of spring after the long, dark winter. Despite being a predominantly secular country, this holiday is eagerly welcomed by the people of Norway as a chance to celebrate the arrival of spring and to spend time with friends and family over a lengthy break from work and school.

The Norwegian word for Easter is Påske, a name derived from the Hebrew word "Pesach/Pasah" or Passover. In Norway, however, Easter does not pass over very quickly. Norway has the world's longest Easter holiday. Traditionally, Norwegian shops and work places are closed over *skjærtorsdag* (Maundy Thursday), *langfredag* (Good Friday) and the Monday following Easter Sunday, known as *andre påskedag*, or the Second Easter Day. Schools are usually closed for the entire week preceding Easter.

Evolving Traditions

Easter is basically a religious holiday that is marked with a number of holy days, religious practices and symbols. In addition, Norwegians have plenty of other nonreligious things to do with all of these days off. It applies to everything from ancient traditions such as the use of Easter eggs, the Easter bunny and yellow Easter chicks, to more recent traditions like the Easter Crime Genre (*påskekrim*), Easter nuts and the Paganorigin Easter tree.

Of course no holiday in Norway is complete with out a large celebratory family meal. Because the Easter season includes several national holidays, Easter holiday for many becomes a time for family gatherings. The traditional Norwegian Easter lunch consists of boiled potato and vegetables with lamb meat, accompanied by Easter beer. The meal is followed by a selection of cakes and desserts as well as the everpresent Easter eggs. The lunch table is decorated with daffodils and other Easter decorations.

Mountain Trip and Skiing

Churches are naturally open for service through the Easter holiday for special services and enjoy higher attendance rates than on a normal Sunday. Many Norwegians choose Easter as one of their designated biannual visits to church. Another Easter tradition unique to Norway is the mountain trip, where Easter is celebrated up in the mountains enjoying the sunshine, skiing, and eating oranges and Kvikklunsj, a famous chocolate bar consisting of crunchy wafer covered with milk chocolate. The brown skin tone one gets after long outdoor days and sunbathing in the mountain air and snowrich environments, are often called "Easter brown" (Påskesol), while the increased traffic from the mountain in the first and last days of the holiday is called "Easter traffic". Also "Easter Lead" is a term usually used for skiing at Easter, when the snow is often old, rough and grainy, wet during the daytime and crisp in the evenings.

More Domestic Celebration Styles

The settled image of Easter in a cabin up in the mountains, however, fades away year by year. The recent statistics on Norway's itinerary for the Easter holidays shows that Easter turns into a gathering celebrated at home. According to Statistics Bureau's (SSB) latest data, only one out of ten Norwegians set on a journey. However, "Easter at home" does not mean that they do not go anywhere. There are more locally arranged events at Easter from local Easter skiing to Easter Parade in Oslo, which began as a public walk in the middle of the 1800s. Mountain trip habit is not the only evolving Easter tradition in the country. The celebration of the "quiet week" and the holy days of Easter has diversified with a number of folk traditions. For example, Good Friday, which used to be marked by serious, quiet contemplation and compassion for the suffering Jesus on the cross, now has turned into a regular festive day. Another example is Maundy Thursday, which is a holiday in Norway, but not in Sweden. For many Norwegians, it has developed into a holiday associated with gardening and shopping. More specifically with shopping, the so-called "*harrytur*" or "*Sverigedag*" is now a common practice especially during Easter where Norwegians drive into Sweden and shop at the cheaper Swedish shopping centers near the Norwegian border, particularly in Strömstad.

Påskekrim: Why Crime Story on Easter!

Reading crime stories and detective novels during Easter is a national trait in Norway. Each year, nearly every TV and radio channel produces a crime series for Easter. The milk company prints crime stories on their cartons. In order to cash in on this national pastime, publishers churn out series of books known as "Easter Thrillers" or Påskekrim. Nobody quite knows why, but for some reason, Easter is a high time for reading crime stories and detective novels in Norway, where many say that Easter and the crime genre simply work well together. It is believed that the tradition of påskekrim began with an ad of Gyldendal's publisher Harald Grieg during the Easter of 1923.

The ad, like a regular news article, appeared on the front page of Norwegian daily, Aftenposten, entitled "Bergen train looted in the night".

The text was advertising the new crime book of Nordahl Grieg and Nils Lie. The book was a success and it was clear that people liked the idea of påskekrim. In the following year, the publishing house Aschehoug began to focus on crime during Easter time. Since then, Easter has been incorporated as the peak season for the crime genre.

A Delicious National Pride for Easter

A Sweet Easter tradition, Kvikklunser is a confection created by the Norwegian chocolate brand Freia in 1937. It consists of a thick bar, composed of wafer covered with milk chocolate, and divided into four fingers. In shape and composition, Kvikklunser is almost identical to Kit Kat, which was introduced two years earlier, in 1935. An average Norwegian eats approximately nine Kvikklunser every year, three of them at Easter. Kvikklunser is for many Norwegians a symbol of national pride, therefore the producer Freia got to feel the wrath of the people when they changed the wrapping of the chocolate a couple of years ago. Several Facebook groups were established to show that the opposition of this reckless change stood strong among the Norwegian people. For some it was incomprehensible that Freia could remove a piece of Norwegians Cultural Heritage just to save a little bit of money.

EGGERØRE

www.arcticgrub.wordpress.com



Serves 2

4 eggs

4 tbsp water

1 tsp salt

2 tbsp fresh chives, chopped finely

1 tbsp butter

Whisk the eggs, water, salt and chives together (for a more luxurious version, substitute water for heavy cream). Heat the butter in a saute pan over medium-low heat, add the eggs. Stir lightly, lift up the sides and let the liquid run under as the eggs start to curdle/cook. The eggs shouldn't be completely dry, but still be somewhat soft. Garnish with extra chives and salt if necessary. Let it cool a bit before serving (many eat it cold as well).

You can put *eggerøre* on pieces of toast with some smoked salmon and sliced cucumber, or have it with cured meats like our *fenalår* (cured leg of mutton) or even prosciutto, salami or other charcuterie.

Message From the District 3 President, Mary Andersen



What's next?

Do you remember why you joined the Sons of Norway?. Perhaps your parents or grandparents joined and brought you to meetings and events. Perhaps you have friends who are members and they invited you to a meeting and you were hooked. Perhaps someone passed and you realized how much you didn't know about your heritage and it was time to reconnect. Whatever your reason, what counts is that you are here. So, what's next?

Many people find that they get the most out of being a member by taking an active role in lodge activities. Sometimes the role is large and sometimes the role is small. One way to start is to volunteer to your comfort level. Once you get "comfortable", expand your comfort zone and once your comfort zone has expanded, step out of it!!! It's not easy but it will be rewarding.

Does your lodge have a comfort zone? I am very encouraged by lodges beginning to expand their comfort zones and trying something different. It could be as simple as changing winter meeting times from night meetings to day meetings. Do something different! Add a new program. It may work; it may not but try it!

Our Zones are breaking out of their comfort zones and trying new things. You have heard about the Zone One joint lodge meetings. Zone 6 recently sponsored a cruise for Zone 6 members and invited members from across the Order. It was a rough ride back but a shared experience which will bond them forever.

Do we as a District have a comfort zone? We probably do but we make little changes all the time. We have a face book page; we use email more than ever. We have developed leadership vignettes which you will be seeing soon. We are in the process of refreshing our website. We have held Board meetings at local lodges. We are talking to other Districts to learn what they do and determine if it will work for us. We recently connected with delegates at the last District convention as well as lodge leadership. We hope to continue that.

So, what's next? YOU are what is next!! What you do or don't do will shape the future of your lodge and of our organization. Get involved; keep our great big Viking ship moving forward. You will be glad you did and so will we all!!

Jeg ønsker dere alt godt, God Påske! Mary

Find out more about Sons of Norway!

Sons of Norway Website:

<http://www.sofn.com/home/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorway/>

Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/#!/SonsofNorway>

LinkedIn:

<http://www.linkedin.com/company/2080826>

Sons of Norway Blog:

<http://www.sonsofnorwayblog.blogspot.com>

... and here are some informative Genealogy Websites!

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~norway/>

A comprehensive list of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy.

<http://www.nndata.no/home/jborgos/register.htm>

Oldest church registers in Norwegian Parishes. Shows the year in which different parishes began keeping church records.

<http://www.cyndislist.com/norway/>

List of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy

<http://www.nb.no>

The National Library of Norway, including Norwegian newspapers.

<http://www.emigrationcenter.com/index.cfm>

The Norwegian Emigration and Genealogy Center

<http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/cgi-win/WebFront.exe?slag=vis&tekst=meldingar&spraak=e>

Norwegian National Archive. Includes the 1660, 1801, 1865 and 1900 censuses.

<http://home.online.no/~cfscheel/index.htm>

List of Norwegian local histories, dictionary, calendar, and more

http://www.dokpro.uio.no/dipl_norv/diplom_field_eng.html

Search amongst 16,000 documents from Norway during the period 1050 – 1590.

