



North Carolina Vikings



March, 2016

Sons of Norway / Vol. 9, No. 3/ NC Vikings Lodge 3-675

Lodge Officers 2015-2016

President

Michael M. Tilder
mmtilder@twc.com
(919) 349-0102

Vice President

Asgeir (Andy) Kristofferson
AsgeirKristofferson@gmail.com

Treasurer

Kjell Ottesen
imnorsk@hotmail.com
(919) 848-9152

Secretary

John (Chris) Christiansen
jocmpc@att.net

Co-Social Directors

Kari Crenshaw
karcicren@yahoo.com
(919) 781-0302

Martha Arnum
(919) 326-7084

Membership Secretary

Frank Bell
fbell@nc.rr.com
(919) 787-7063

Newsletter Editor

Jennifer Axness
jenniferlaxness@gmail.com
(919) 802-8212

President's Message

Hei alle sammen!

Hope y'all are enjoying the weather – sure beats the heck out of the strange winter we had. Let's hope that it is a good harbinger for a lovely spring and our upcoming March lodge meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 26th from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. We will have Tim Boyce as our guest speaker – some of you may remember Tim from his presentation at our April 2012 lodge meeting. Since his retirement in 2014, Tim has been busy driving the republishing of Odd Nansen's WW II concentration camp diary, "From Day to Day". Tim has authored a new introduction and added new entries and sketches never previously available in English, as well as extensive annotations.

A reminder that the Third District Convention will be held in June in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina from June 8 – 12, 2016. This is a great opportunity for us in Zone 7 to showcase who we are! Our delegates to the convention will be Chris Christiansen and myself. There will be other opportunities to participate as well; more information will be forthcoming.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Fraternally,
Mike Tilder
Vice President, North Carolina Vikings 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 –

March 26 th	Lodge Meeting (Saturday)	3pm – 5pm
May 14 th	Syttende Mai Celebration (Saturday) St. Giles Presbyterian Church Featuring ScanDans and Spelmanslag	3pm – 5pm

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!

March Birthdays

Frank Bell	3/2	Kari Crenshaw	3/5
Chris Christiansen	3/8	Karl Svanberg	3/9
Cheryl Weathers	3/10	Roy Swensen	3/10
Ted Schmidt	3/11	Sandra Quammen	3/15
Per Syvertsen	3/16	Pat Tilder	3/17
Sandra Gaudier	3/20	Kathryn Hansen	3/23
Kjell Ottesen	3/28		

Gratulerer med dagen!



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.

64th Third District Meeting and Convention

The 2016 Third District's 64th Biennial Convention will be held in 3 months - June 8-12, 2016. The Convention will be at the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes in Myrtle Beach. This occasion gives members the opportunity to meet old friends, celebrate making new ones and conduct the business of Sons of Norway.

The theme of this Third District Meeting and Convention is "Promote Heritage / Preserve Culture." As mentioned in the President's letter, delegates from our lodge will be Mike Tilder and Chris Christiansen.

WHEN: June 8-12, 2016

WHERE: Marina Inn at Grande Dunes
8121 Amalfi Place
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Reservations: (877-403-7676) or (843-913-5799) (use group code SONS OF NORWAY) For GPS please enter 1499 Grande Dunes Blvd. Myrtle Beach, SC 29572 Google maps, mapquest, 8121 Amalfi Place, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

Norway Statistics

Borrowed from <http://www.nationmaster.com/country-info/profiles/Norway>

Recently I ran across an interesting website displaying various statistics of countries from around the world. Did you know, for instance, that an average McDonald's meal in Norway costs a whopping \$15.66? A pair of Levi's is around \$139, and to go to the movies you'll spend around \$18 per ticket....

- Rent per month for a 3-bedroom apartment averages \$2,859.22.
- Cheese consumption per capita per year: 17.4 Kg
- Quality of life index: Norway ranks 13 out of 69 countries surveyed (Switzerland was number 1 – the U.S. number 2)
- Literacy of the population as a whole: 100%
- Price paid for gasoline: Norway ranks no. 2 in the world, only after Turkey
- Motor vehicles per 1,000 people: 584 (ranked 18th out of 191 countries surveyed)
- Standard workweek: 37.5 hours
- Trade union membership: 57% (Norway is ranked 4th out of 18 in this category)
- Human Development Index (uses indicators such as quality of life, health/access to healthcare, water and sanitation, population living below poverty, GDP per capita, etc.): Norway is ranked no. 1 on this list out of 177 surveyed.
- Percentage of total population that is Christian: 85.6%
- Percentage of total population that is Moslem: 3%
- First human settlement: The oldest remnants of the so-called Fosna culture were found in Aukra in Møre og Romsdal, and date from this period.
- Arable land: 2.52%
- Suffrage (voting age): 18



The Norwegian Seamen's Church (Sjømannskirken)

About two years ago I had the opportunity to visit the Norwegian Seaman's Church in Davie, FL (just outside of Ft. Lauderdale) with a friend from Norway who was touring the south. Actually I was very surprised to find out about the church since I had recently lived within about 5 miles of the location and had never heard of it! It took someone from Norway to come to an area I thought I was so familiar with and show me this remarkable and beautiful complex of buildings and Norwegian culture in an otherwise very Hispanic part of the state.

The Norwegian Seamen's Church was created to serve Norwegians and other Scandinavians traveling abroad as a resource center. All in all, around 700,000 Norwegians are served in over 30 churches and 16 mobile services in 30 countries worldwide. It is a place for Norwegians to rest and relax (read Norwegian newspapers, buy Norwegian food, speak to other Norwegians) and even have a place to stay overnight in certain locations.

Sjomannskirken's main office is in Bergen, Norway; it is a fully charitable organization supported by the Church of Norway as well as the Norwegian government.

For those of you who speak Norwegian, check out the history of Sjomannskirke in Miami here.... <https://www.sjomannskirken.no/historien/kirke/miami/#miami>

And for those of us who do not, there are two additional websites that will shed some light on the focus of the organization as well as list all the locations of the remaining Sjomannskirken in the U.S. There are more than you might think!

<http://thornews.com/2012/08/12/the-norwegian-seamens-church-in-the-u-s/>
<http://www.sjomannskirken.no/english>



Davie, FL



Contemporary Norwegian Photography

<http://theculturetrip.com/europe/norway/articles/10-norwegian-photographers-you-should-know/>

Norwegian photographers are among the best in the world. Read the complete article (above) for a comprehensive look at some of this country's most well-known. Following is an excerpt....



“All the bets are on” / Sebastian Dahl

Sébastien Dahl

Hitch-hiking photographer Sebastian Dahl imbues his works with a sense of wanderlust and cultural awareness. His Beirut Hippodrome series represents a human refuge amidst conflict of religion. It occupies a site at the heart of Beirut where a green line once separated Muslims and Christians in the Lebanese civil war (1975 – 1990). It has always been a crossing point between the cultures. Today, all people gather there, regardless of religion, to embrace their common interest and look past their differences. Men stand side by side, a truce at the races, faces turned up in unison. Sebastian Dahl has a great sensitivity to his subject, the place and the people.



“Norwegian State Railway 06” / Øivind Haug

Øivind Haug

The “simple, natural and Scandinavian’ style of Øivind Haug is authentic and beguiling. *Norwegian State Railway* documents a journey with honesty and elegance. Each photo is a distillation of Norway – its landscape, its villages and its railway. From mountains drenched in mist to houses amongst pearlescent clouds, Haug shows the true and unaffected character of Norway from the windows of the state railway. Based in Oslo, he photographs across a range of subjects and disciplines

Lillehammer 2016 Youth Olympic Games

<http://www.lillehammer2016.com/sportresult/>



Check out the outstanding results (via the link above) of the Norwegian team who participated in the 2016 Lillehammer 2016 Youth Olympic Games, and read about some of these tremendous young athletes.



** The next Youth Olympic Games (Summer Olympics) will take place in Buenos Aires in 2018!

Message From the District 3 President, Mary Andersen



"If you want something you've never had, you must be willing to do something you've never done." - Attributed to Thomas Jefferson

When I think about the above quotation, I think about membership. If we want to attract new members and keep current members, we must constantly strive to think of new ways to do things. It may take a while (like the 3D Twitter and Facebook pages) to get going, but over time it will. Whatever new little things we are doing across the Order is paying off and I would like to share some good news with you.

Our CEO, Eivind Heiberg, reports:

"This past year we saw a lot of positive indicators for Sons of Norway in the areas of recruitment and retention. In 2015, 3,284 people joined the organization, which was a 2% increase over 2014. And of those, 2,298 were recruited by an existing member – that's 2,298 new connections within our network!

What's more, our organization is growing younger. Last year we recruited nearly 1,200 new members under the age of 55. That's more than a third of all new members belonging to a younger generation that is excited to explore its Norwegian roots.

But we aren't just doing a good job in bringing new members into the organization, we are also doing very well in keeping them. I'm pleased to report that for the fifth year in a row we have seen a reduction in the number of members leaving the organization, including a decrease by 3.1% from 2014 to 2015."

Good news to be sure!!

We have great news within the Third District. Congratulations to Scandia lodge! Keep up the good work, Pat and fellow lodge members.

The winners of the Norwegian Experience are:

<u>Dist.</u>	<u>Lodge</u>	<u>Lodge Name</u>	<u>Recruiting Member</u>	<u>Total Recruited</u>
1	17	Terje Viken	Ralph Edward Jacobson	15
2	1	Leif Erikson	Andrea J. Torland	24
2	17	Fritjov	Patricia Sandberg Lund	24
3	617	Scandia	Patricia A. Rush	8
4	25	Kringen	Doreen E. Grobe	14
5	314	Mandt	Darlene L. Ameson	8
6	118	Vesterheim	Cheryle K. Kapsak	9
7	76	Nordic	Ole E. Kristiansen	17
8	15	Terje Vigen	Helge Bjoern Skjulestad	3

It is the simple things.

I think Jann Dickson from Troll Lodge has an easy, simple, yet caring approach to membership. The following is an excerpt from their February newsletter.

Retaining our members is very important to keeping Troll Lodge active and ongoing. We need to keep our membership updated. If we haven't heard from a member in a while, maybe we should contact them so they feel we haven't abandoned them. I am especially interested in those who cannot get to our meeting for whatever reasons. We could call or drop them a note Email me if you would like their address or phone number. JANN.

Nice touch, Jann!

Business Matters

D-17s are due March 1 – do you know where you lodge's D-17 is??

Leif Erikson Citation Award nominations are due March 17, 2016 Lodge Achievement Forms are due March 1

Jeg ønsker dere alt godt., 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.

