



North Carolina Vikings

Founded in 2007

Sons of Norway / Vol. 15, No. 5 / May 2022

NC Vikings Lodge 3-675 Supports a Dementia Friendly Society



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2020-2021

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President's Message

Now that the coronavirus is largely lifted in North Carolina we can once again enjoy our Sons of Norway fellowship while continuing to remain diligent for the sake of our loved ones and the public at large.

Just last month we had Janet Oakley, author of *The Jossing Affair* and *The Quisling Factor*, speak to us about her research and writings about life in Norway during the German occupation

of World War II. We had a good turnout of lodge members as well as many who connected virtually via ZOOM from their remote locations. Upon conclusion of the presentation, we exchanged family histories that have been handed down from that time. As we are all aware, these histories are now the reality for millions of Ukrainians as wartime experiences unfold.

Syttende Mai (17th of May) will soon be upon us, a day for parades, speeches and remembrance of the Norwegian Constitution signed in 1814. While those activities were not possible for the last two years, they are this year. Whatever your plans are we can certainly do some flag flying to commemorate the day! The Ukrainian refugees who have just arrived in Norway have been invited to the parade and given the opportunity to bring their national flags. Together with Norwegian flags this reflects the colorful society that Norway has become.

See you all at our upcoming meeting on Saturday May 21st.

Med Vennlig Hilsen,
Asgeir (Andy) Kristoffersen
North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675

Upcoming Vikings Lodge Program and Lodge Meetings

Meetings in 2022 will be held at Underwood Hall at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27613) unless noted otherwise.

May 21, 2022

2:00 pm

Items for the Newsletter

If you've got an announcement, or just have something interesting to share with the group, please email Andy Kristoffersen at asgeirkristoffersen@gmail.com or Frank Bell at bellfrank2@gmail.com.

May, June Lodge Birthdays

May 14	Karen Chichester
May 26	Curtis Conover
May 31	Oliver Ropp
June 6	Alexander Christian Jones
June 9	Solveig Anderson
June 11	John Serumgard
June 15	Christian Haukas
June 15	Kristine Nickelson
June 17	Linda Lewis
June 17	Edith Syvertsen
June 30	Kate Schmidt



Help Plan a Meeting

Can you invite a professional, expert or overall fun person to help us with cultural programs at our lodge meetings? Call Andy Kristoffersen or Frank Bell to pick an activity you can line up for the lodge!

North Carolina Vikings Facebook Page

Join the NC Vikings Sons of Norway Lodge 675 Facebook page, set up and maintained by lodge member Terri Richards. Learn all about life in Norway, including Norwegian food, culture and history. It's a great way to keep up with the group between meetings.

Norway Prepares to Celebrate May 17 Without Corona Restrictions

<https://norwaytoday.info/news/norway-prepares-to-celebrate-may-17-without-corona-restrictions/>



After two years of corona restrictions, Norway is getting ready to celebrate May 17.

Most of the school children in first to third grade will, for the first time, be able to experience parades.

“Now, we can follow all the old traditions from our 175-year history of celebrating May 17. Now we will have a traditional celebration – like the one we had in 2019 – with a program from the early morning to the evening,” the leader of the May 17 Committee in Bergen, Liv Cecilie Lycke, told NTB.

Ukrainian Flag

In Bergen and several other places, it has been a tradition for years to allow other flags than the Norwegian one. In Nordland, Rana Mayor Geir Waage (AP) is issuing a clear invitation to residents from other countries to participate in the May 17 celebrations.

“The Ukrainian refugees who have just arrived in Rana have also been invited... There is also the opportunity to bring their national flags. Together with the Norwegian flags, this will reflect the colorful society we have become. Opening up for other national flags, Sami flags, and the like is something we have also done at previous celebrations,” Waage told Rana.no.

Children's Parade

In Oslo, the stage is again set for this spring's most beautiful event – 60,000 pupils from 130 primary schools will go up Karl Johan street, past the Storting, and up to a waving Royal Family on the castle balcony. The children's parade usually gathers around 100,000 spectators along the route, which ends at Rådhusplassen.

In Stavanger, the city's status as an international city will be reflected in the May 17 celebrations. Acting Mayor Dagny Sunnå Hausken emphasizes that everyone is welcome.

Test Your Syttende Mai Knowledge!

<https://www.sofn.com/blog/test-your-syttende-mai-knowledge/>

May 17 (*Syttende Mai*) is Norway's national day. The day marks the signing of the Norwegian Constitution in 1814, making Norway an independent country.



As you prepare for the holiday, check out the [May issue of Viking magazine](#) to test your knowledge with our fun and festive quiz. Here are some bonus questions.

- The Syttende Mai children's parade (barnetog) has always allowed both boys and girls to participate.*
 - True
 - False
- It's common to wear a Norwegian folk costume (bunad) to Syttende Mai celebrations. What is the primary function of a person's bunad?*
 - To look nice
 - To pay homage to your hometown
 - To show the world you are Norwegian
 - There's no real purpose to the bunad
- For over 140 years, participants in the Syttende Mai children's parade have sung the national anthem, "Ja, vi elsker dette landet," as they walk. What does this translate to in English?*
 - "Yes, we are a nation"
 - "Yeah, today is a celebration"
 - "Yes, we love this country"
 - "Yes, see our beautiful land"
- There were several years in the 1820s where the King banned the celebration of Syttende Mai. What was the name of the king who briefly prohibited the holiday?*
 - King Karl Johan
 - King Harald Halfdansson

- c. King Harald Haakon
- d. King Olav Tryggvason

5. *Food and drink are at the heart of Syttende Mai, and Norwegians often raise a cocktail made with aquavit in celebration. Aquavit is a signature Scandinavian spice-infused spirit distilled from what produce?*

- a. Barley and wheat
- b. Cane sugar and fruit
- c. Rye and corn
- d. Potatoes and grains

Answers

1. False. When the first children’s parades began in Oslo in 1869, only boys were allowed to participate. It wasn’t until 1899 that girls were allowed to join in the parade festivities. Today, thousands of children join local Norwegian parades to celebrate “The Children’s Day.”

2. B. While it’s true that the bunad is a symbol of Norwegian pride and heritage, bunad designs vary massively between regions. It’s customary to wear an outfit from an area to which you have a genetic or residential connection because a bunad’s designs and the colors should be a representation of your hometown or family’s region of Norway. It’s also a great way to connect with others from similar regions.

3. C. The National anthem (*nasjonalsangen*) is officially called *Ja, vi elsker dette landet*, but is often referred to simply as *Ja vi elsker*. The song has long been a Norwegian anthem of nationalism and protest and was performed in public for the first time on the 50th anniversary of Syttende Mai in 1864. Despite this history and deep connection to the country, the song wasn’t adopted as the official national anthem until December 2019.

4. A. At the time, Norway was in a union with Sweden and King Karl Johan was hesitant to allow celebrations. His banning of the holiday sparked public anger and even led to the Battle of the Square in 1829, where Norwegian demonstrators fought against forces from the United Kingdoms of Sweden and Norway. Eventually, King Charles XIV John lifted the ban on Syttende Mai celebrations, and the holiday became what it is today by 1864.

5. D. A drink similar to vodka or gin, aquavit is a distilled spirit that comes almost exclusively from Scandinavian countries. To be designated as “Norwegian aquavit,” the drink must be made with potato spirits distilled in Norway from a minimum 95% Norwegian potatoes, aged in oak barrels for at least six months and must contain caraway or dill seeds. Other Scandi countries also have their own specific spice flavoring and barreling traditions. The drink is intended to be shared with others as a social activity and cultural celebration so be sure to say “*skål!*” (cheers) before drinking!

Sons of Norway Book Club Update

Sons of Norway Book Club Selections | June – December 2022

All books available from Amazon.com (see descriptions on Amazon)

June 2022 Book Club Selection – Special Author/Editor Presentation

Main Read: ***From Day to Day: One Man's Diary of Survival in Nazi Concentration Camps***. The Editor, **Timothy Boyce**, will give a presentation and lead a discussion of his book at the monthly Book Club Zoom meeting.

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date: June 30



July 2022 Book Club Selections

Main Read: *The Naïve Super* by Erland Loe. Published: 1996 (Norwegian original)

Mystery Read: *Smilla's Sense of Snow* by Peter Hoeg. Published: 1992 (Danish original)

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: July 28 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time and 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mountain Time



August 2022 Book Club Selection

Main Read: *Between Rocks and Hard Places* by Ann Urness Gesme. Published: 2004. **This is a special book club evening with the author, Ann Urness Gesme, speaking about her book.**

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: August 25 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (no second meeting or mystery book this month due to this being an author talk).



September 2022 Book Club Selections

Main Read: *The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman* by Nancy Marie Brown. Published:

Mystery Read: *The Land of Dreams* (#1 in The Minnesota Trilogy) by Vidar Sundstol. Published: 2008 (Norwegian original)

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: September 29 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time and 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mountain Time



October 2022 Book Club Selections

Main Read: Madhouse at the End of the Earth by Julian Sancton. Published: 2021

Mystery Read: The Darkness (Detective Inspector Hulda Hermannsdóttir #1) by Ragnar Jonasson. Published: 2015 (Icelandic original)

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: October 27 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time and 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mountain Time



November 2022 Book Club Selections

Main Read: Giants in the Earth by Ole Edvart Rolvaag. Published: 1927

Mystery Read: My First Murder (Maria Kalio #1) by Leena Lehtolainen. Published: 1993 (Finnish original)

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: November 24 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time and 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mountain Time



December 2022 Book Club Selections

Main Read: For the Love of Cod by Eric Dregni. Published: 2021

Mystery Read: The Redbreast (Harry Hole #3) by Jo Nesbo. Published: 2000 (Norwegian original)

Zoom Meeting/Discussion Date & Time: December 29 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time and 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mountain Time

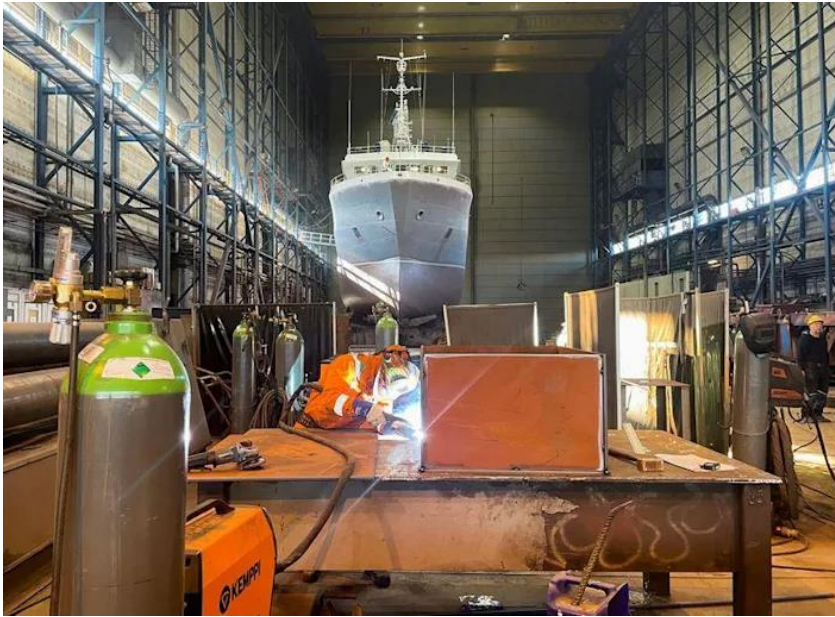


***To join the Sons of Norway Book Club,
send an email to SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com***



On Norway's Arctic Border with Russia, a Town Freezes Ties with its Eastern Neighbor

https://news.yahoo.com/norways-arctic-border-russia-town-104211810.html?fr=sycsrp_catchall



RKENES, Norway (Reuters) - Kirkenes, a Norwegian town a stone's throw from Russia, was for over three decades a symbol of cross-border harmony in the Arctic. That came to a crashing end when Russia invaded Ukraine. Since then people have been adapting to the new realities.

One is the prospect that neighbouring Finland could join Norway in NATO, with Finnish President Sauli Niinisto expected to say on Thursday it should apply to the military alliance.

Companies here are seeking to reduce their dependence on doing business with Russia even as Norway has made some exceptions to international sanctions.

Kirkenes residents can cross into Russia with a visa-free permit while Russians can come and work in the area. Out of the town's 3,500 residents, 400 are Russians. There are also about 30 Ukrainians.

After the Russian invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, "many have felt grief, anger, frustration," said Lene Norum Bergeng,

mayor of Soer-Varanger municipality which includes Kirkenes.

"It has been a surreal time. We have lived in peace for many years and now our neighbour is going to war with one of its neighbours. It has affected us all," she said from her office, on the same square as the Russian consulate.

From Kirkenes, the Russian border is a 15-minute drive away while Finland's is 50 minutes away. Both are closer than the neighbouring Norwegian municipality.

"It is up to Finland to decide whether they want to join NATO," said Norum Bergeng. "Should they want to, we should welcome them. I am very glad that Norway is part of NATO."

LIVING TOGETHER

Street signs in both Norwegian and Russian were put up decades ago to welcome Russians. A petition is now circulating to take them down, though there are as yet not enough signatures for the city council to discuss it, the mayor said.

Russian residents Reuters spoke to said they still felt as welcome as before the invasion.

"I have had no problems, no one has come up to me and said 'hey, you Russian'," said welder Gleb Karionov, 43, during a break in his shift at the Kimek shipyard.

Similarly, a Ukrainian refugee who arrived in Kirkenes in April said the Russians she had met had been "very kind" to her.

"They are not aggressive. And we try not to speak about politics and such provocative questions," said Katerina Bezruk, 27, a teacher who fled the eastern region of Luhansk with her two-year-old daughter Arena and now lives with her aunt.

Some are finding new meaning to their work. Evgeny Goman, a theatre director from Murmansk who has lived in Kirkenes since January, is working with Russian artists in exile to present different voices of Russia, away from the militaristic officialdom.

"With the start of the war, we really understood why we do art...why it is a powerful instrument," the 42-year-old said at the art gallery that houses a regional collective of curators and artists, Girls on the Bridge.

ECONOMIC HIT

At the Kimek shipyard, which last year derived 70% of its revenues from fitting Russian vessels, CEO Greger Mannsverk worries about restructuring the business without losing his 80 employees to other employers, 15 of whom are Russians.

While non-EU Norway has applied most international sanctions, it has not shut its ports to Russian fishing vessels, a lifeline for the ports of Arctic Norway like Kirkenes.

Mannsverk would have laid off half the shipyard's staff had Norway applied that particular sanction, he said. Kimek's facility in Murmansk continues to operate, independently from the main facility in Kirkenes.

"I am planning for a future when the Russian clients are not the major ones. The percentage today is 70%, maybe it should be 20%," he said at the cavernous yard where a Russian trawler was being readied.

Will cross-border cooperation resume to the full sometimes in the future? Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere is hopeful it will.

"There will be a day after, I don't know when," he said during a visit to the town. "I think the spirit of the people living in this municipality is that borders should be respected, but there should also be contacts. We have to live through it."



Norway to Ramp up Offshore Wind in Drive to Go Green

https://finance.yahoo.com/news/norway-ramp-offshore-wind-drive-080623455.html?fr=sycsrp_catchall



Norway unveiled plans on Wednesday for a major expansion in offshore wind energy by 2040, aiming to turn a country that has built its wealth on oil and gas into an exporter of renewable electricity.

The centre-left government, which has come under fire from environmentalists for continuing to support the oil and gas industry, set a target to develop 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind capacity by 2040.

"This would nearly double our power output," Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Stoere told a news conference.

Norway, which says the world still needs its oil in gas during the transition to a cleaner energy future, believes developing offshore wind will allow it to build on the know-how of its existing energy industry.

A wide range of utilities, oil and gas firms and engineering companies have lined up to develop offshore power projects in Norway, including Equinor, Shell, BP, Orsted and Eni.

Norway needs more power for domestic consumption, but the new plan far exceeds the expected demand from households and industry.

"A significant portion of the electricity will be exported to other countries," the government said in a statement.

To date, Norway has opened two North Sea areas for development of up to 4.5 GW of bottom-fixed and floating offshore wind, with a first tender for 1.5 GW expected later this year.

Licensing rounds for new acreage will be held at regular intervals from 2025 onwards, the government said.

Grid connections would be considered on a case by case basis and could feature hybrid cables, which connect to several markets at the same time, or direct cables to single destinations, so-called radial cables, to Europe and Norway.

Industry executives, labour unions and some opposition parties had also called for a longer-term target to help provide predictability for supply chain investments in Norway.

The domestic energy industry, which had criticized the government for moving too slowly, welcomed the government's ambition.

"This will lay the foundation for industrial ocean wind development," the Norwegian Oil and Gas Association said in a statement.

Norwegian Cucumber Salad (Agurksalat)

<https://www.food.com/recipe/norwegian-cucumber-salad-agurksalat-423204>



INGREDIENTS

- 1 Seedless European cucumber
- 1 Tablespoon parsley

DRESSING

- 2/3 cup white vinegar
- 2/3 cup cold water
- 3-1/2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

DIRECTIONS

Slice the cucumber thinly with a sharp knife.

Mix the dressing ingredients well and pour over cucumber slices in serving bowl.

Refrigerate for at least an hour. Sprinkle with the parsley and serve.

From the District 3 President, Kathy Dollymore



It's May and Mother Nature is doing what she usually does in Spring. Cool one day - warm the next... But I'm pleased to see the dogwoods and Japanese cherry trees coming out, I don't mind the spring rain, and I'm happy to be out and about. It's looking good after the 2 years we've had but I want to say our District has come through like troopers. YOU ALL are to be congratulated for keeping your membership active, making efforts to get to meetings – whether by Zoom or onsite - sending me emails to just talk about your lodges and what you're doing to move forward. As you've seen we can get together and see each other, talk and share, enjoy some good programming both online and in person.

There are dates in this month that we can celebrate. Time to fly the Norwegian Flag. May 8th Norwegian Liberation Day (known in Norwegian as Frigjøringsdagen) and International Viking Day, honor Mom on May 8th Mother's Day, Hurrah for May 17th. The 17th has many names (Syttende Mai (17th of May), Nasjonaldagen (The National Day) or Grunnlovsdagen (The Constitution Day) so what better time to fly your Norwegian Flag. As Norway's most celebrated holiday, Syttende Mai honors the anniversary of the signing of the country's constitution in 1814. Over time, the day and what it represents to the people of Norway has evolved greatly. Historically, May 17 was a day of politics marked by speeches and rallies; today it is filled with national pride, festivities and tradition. Each year, thousands of people in Norway—and around the world—take part in waving Norwegian flags, marching in city parades and professing their love of Norway. Many of today's festivities are centered on music, food, children and graduating high school students.

Memorial Day, May 30th, is a US federal holiday remembering the people who died while serving in the armed forces and marks the start of the unofficial summer vacation season. Let's fly the American Flag proudly.

Then in a short few weeks we will gather in Jacksonville for Tremendous Third's Meeting/Convention. Has your lodge sent in their journal ad?? How about the booster list, a welcome to all those who are there to guide the District?? Support your delegates as they are there for you, your lodge and the District. I'm excited about this convention, I hope you are too...

My great thanks to those delegates who have taken the responsibility of being on our meeting committees. Again, going above and beyond.

Hurra, Gratulerer med dagen, and Enjoy the summer.

Fraternally,

Kathy Dollymore, 3 D President

Find out more about Sons of Norway!

Sons of Norway Website	https://www.sofn.com/
Facebook	http://www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorway/
Twitter	http://twitter.com/#!/SonsofNorway
LinkedIn	http://www.linkedin.com/company/2080826

... and here are some informative Genealogy Websites!

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

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

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

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

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

List of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy

The National Library of Norway, including Norwegian newspapers / <http://www.nb.no>

The Norwegian Emigration and Genealogy Center / <http://www.emigrationcenter.com/index.cfm>

Norwegian National Archive. Includes the 1660, 1801, 1865 and 1900 censuses / <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/cgi-win/WebFront.exe?slag=vis&tekst=meldingar&spraak=e>

Search amongst 16,000 documents from Norway during the period 1050 – 1590 / http://www.dokpro.uio.no/dipl_norv/diplom_field_eng.html

And here are some interesting sites related to travel to Norway / Scandinavia –

Norway's Official Site	www.Norway.org
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Washington D.C.	http://www.norway.org/embassy/washington/
Royal Norwegian Consulate General New York	http://www.norway.org/News_and_events/CG-New-York/
Norway's Travel Requirements .html	https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/norway.html
Hurtigruten Voyages	http://www.hurtigruten.us
Viking River Cruises	http://www.vikingrivercruises.com
Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naseth Library	http://www.nagcnl.org
Vesterheim Museum	http://vesterheim.org/index.php