



March Lodge Meeting

A Tour of Traditional Arts

Saturday, March 17,
Potluck at 5 PM followed by presentation
Norway House
3846 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA
www.norwaydc.org / [directions](#)

Phil and Else Odden of Barronette, WI, are not only gold medal wood carvers, but also creative tour organizers. By developing contacts with rural artisans and traditional hospitality venues, their tours open unique doors to our rich Norwegian heritage.

Last summer two of our members, Tina Keune and her cousin, Bernice Duvall, were on the Odden's trip from Oslo to Bergen. *En route* they visited musicians, silversmiths, log and Viking ship workshops, a Fjord Horse center, and more. They enjoyed daily stops at historic family farms, sampling their homemade refreshments.

Join us as Tina, a prize-winning artist herself, shares the exceptional opportunities offered by this tour. Come see Norway through the eyes of an artist.

Children's activities can be offered during the presentation, but please give us a heads-up. Send an email to hospitality@norwaydc.org if



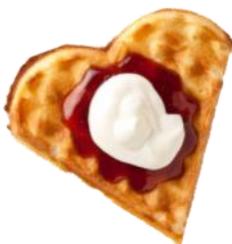
you plan to bring children. Send questions about the program to programs@norwaydc.org.

Membership pins will be awarded to Lavaughn Bennett (40 years), Harold Hultman (30 years), and Saunders Jacobsen, Harold Nelson, and Evelyn Wierenga (20 years each). Congratulations and tusen takk for your many years of support! Andy Parks will receive yet another a Sports Award — this time for General Exercise. See page 8 for how the Sports Medal Program can benefit you.

Lodge Contacts — page 20

Join our Lodge — page 7

New Member Brunch, April 14



Join us for a delicious brunch and open house at the Lodge as we welcome new members on Saturday, April 14, 10 AM to 12 noon. This event will take the place of our monthly meeting.

May Events

Syttende Mai Gala May 17 &
Syttende Mai Family Picnic May
20 — page 3

Manassas Viking Festival May 12
— page 4



Lodge Calendar

www.norwaydc.org/events

Lodge Contacts: See page 20.

Activities are open to non-members and are at Norway House unless otherwise noted. Directions: page 20 and www.norwaydc.org/directions.

March Board Meeting

Sun., March 11, 6 to 8 PM
SON members may attend, make suggestions, and learn how Lodge decisions are made.

March Lodge Meeting

Sat., March 17, 5 PM
A Tour of Traditional Arts
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April Lodge Meeting: New Member Brunch/Open House

Sat., April 14, 10 AM to 12 Noon
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Reading Circle

Tuesday, April 24, 7:30 to 9 PM
The Ice Palace by Tarjei Vesaas
RSVP to reading@norwaydc.org in case time/location changes. Page 10

Norw. Language & Conversation

Every Wednesday
Beginner 6 PM, Interm. 7 PM, Adv. 8 PM
www.norwaydc.org/language Page 19

Lakselaget Monthly Meeting

Sat., Mar. 3, 11:30 AM
Seasons 52 Grill,
7863 Tyson's Corner Center, McLean, VA
Networking Opportunities, \$35 members, \$40 nonmembers. RSVP to lisaba785@gmail.com.
Visit www.lakselagetdc.org/calendar

Norwegian Church Service

Sunday, March 11, 3 PM
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7730 Bradley Blvd. Bethesda, MD
Palm Sunday Service. Sunday School in Norwegian for children during church, coffee hour following church service. All are welcome. <https://nosokirken.org/kirken/events-kirken/>

American-Scand.Assoc. (ASA)

Mon., March 19, 8 PM
St. John's Church
6701 Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase, MD
"Gender Equality and Iceland's 100 Years of Sovereignty" presented by Inga Jona Thoardardottir, former Reykjavik City Council member and wife of Icelandic Ambassador Haarde.
<http://scandinavian-dc.org/events>.

Noura

Through March 11
Lansburgh Theatre
450 7th Street NW. Washington, DC
An Arab-American play inspired by Ibsen's *A Doll's House* www.shakespearetheatre.org/events/noura-17-18.

Norwegian Embassy Website

<https://www.norway.no/en/usa/norway-usa/news-and-events/>



SON Wash. Lodge on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorwayDC

Norw. Embassy on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NorwegianEmbassyinWashington/>

NOTE: You don't need a Facebook account to access these sites. Try clicking the links.

Other local events

Scandinavian Dance groups: See page 19 for information on the Nordic Dancers, Mid-Atlantic Norwegian Dancers, and Scandia DC.

Welcome New Members, Velkommen!

Lauren Deason, Washington, DC
David Farrar, Falls Church, VA



Syttende Mai — Norwegian Constitution Day Area Celebrations

Two celebrations for May 17, Norwegian Constitution Day, are traditionally held in the DC area. Both are hosted by a consortium of Norwegian affiliated organizations including our Lodge, the Norwegian Society, the Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Norwegian Church Service, and others.

This year the gala dinner will be held on May 17 at the Capital View in Washington, DC. The Family Picnic will be on Sunday, May 20, at Carderock Park in Washington, DC. RSVP's are requested for the picnic, so that a more accurate food order can be made. The April newsletter will have more info, including how to RSVP.

Scholarship Deadlines Approaching

The Sons of Norway Foundation offers several academic and trade school scholarships starting at \$1,000 for members and children or grandchildren of members. This is a great SON benefit. The Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship Fund deadline is April 1, 2018. Additional scholarships are offered. For more information and eligibility requirements visit www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/ or call (800) 945-8851.

The Mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.



Syttende Mai celebration in Oslo, 2010. Wikipedia

Language Class Fee Reduced for Lodge Members

For the Norwegian language classes that meet at the Lodge Wednesday nights, the "lodge use" fee of \$5 per class is now waived for Lodge members. It was brought to the Board's attention that since members already pay dues to the Lodge, they should not be charged extra for using our building. The fee still applies to non-members. Do the math — if you attend classes regularly, you may come out ahead by joining Sons of Norway. For how to join, see page 7. For information on the language classes, see page 19.

Thank You, Doris

Tusen takk, Doris Goodlett, for leading our Lodge so ably as President for the last two years — and for serving as Vice President before that.

At right, newly installed President Dave Brown presents a beautifully rosemaled plate to Doris in appreciation of her leadership.

Doris continues to support the Lodge as Counselor and is on several committees, including the 75th Anniversary Committee and Hospitality.



Manassas Viking Festival — May 12

Our lodge and the Icelandic Association of Washington DC are organizing the first of what we hope will become a pan-Scandinavian annual event — an outdoor Viking Festival in the heart of Manassas Virginia.

The Festival takes place Saturday, May 12, from 10-5 in Old Town Manassas at the Harris Pavilion and on the Manassas Museum lawn. [Directions](#).

This will be a cultural and educational outdoor event. Viking reenactment groups will set up camp on the Manassas Museum front lawn and demonstrate daily life during the Viking era. We'll also have a representative from the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia give a talk about falcons. Icelandic sheep from Three Bags Wool Farm, a Fjord horse and hopefully Icelandic horses from Frida Icelandic Riding Club will also be located by the lawn. The Nordic Dancers of Washington D.C and folk dancers from Iceland will be performing at the pavilion. Rosemaling artist Tine Keune and fiber artist Karen Richardson will be among the participating artisans. Watch for more information in the next newsletter. Follow developments on Facebook: "Manassas Viking Festival" www.facebook.com/manassasvikingfest.

Email Susie Fosaaen at hospitality@norwaydc.org if you have questions or would like to help with the Festival.

Youth activities

Activities for children can be planned during the presentation portions of our monthly meetings. Email hospitality@norwaydc.org prior to the meeting if you plan to bring children, to ensure we have enough materials.



Plans Underway for Washington Lodge 75th Anniversary

Washington Lodge was formally chartered on September 19, 1943, with 73 members. Today, we have 337 members, including Heritage, spread across the globe. In keeping with Sons of Norway tradition, we will celebrate our upcoming 75th Anniversary in style. A gala dinner is planned for late September or early October. We are currently researching venues, and are collecting memories, photos, and documents to illustrate our history. Details will be forthcoming. If you would like to help plan this event, please send an email to Bill DeRoche or Doris Goodlett at programs@norwaydc.org.



75th Anniversary Commemorative Cookbook Send Us Your Recipes!

To commemorate Washington Lodge's 75th Anniversary, we will publish a *75th Anniversary Lodge Cookbook* which will incorporate recipes from past and present members. Please support this effort by sharing your favorites — both Norwegian and non-Norwegian recipes that you are “known for” at meetings or at our Festival. Don't be shy about sharing!

There are several ways to submit. You can bring a printed copy to the March or April Lodge meetings or put them in the body of an email and send them to Denise Bowden at recipes@norwaydc.org. If you wish, you may download a fillable PDF form which you can then fill out, print and bring to a meeting, or email the form to Denise. Follow this link to the form: [Recipe Form](#).

Submission deadline is May 10, 2018.

Simple instructions:

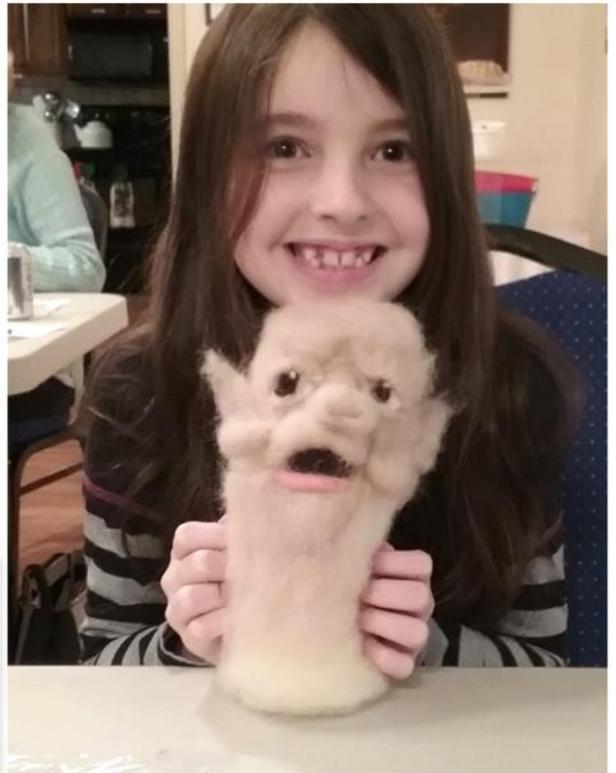
- State the recipe name and category (Appetizers/Beverages, Soups/Salads, Vegetables, Main Dishes, Breads/Rolls, Desserts, Beverages, or Miscellaneous). Be sure to include any special notes, e.g., “Bestemor's Sunday Cake.”
- Please use the following ingredient abbreviations: C; tsp; Tbsp; Pkg; Qt; pt; oz; lb.
- After listing the ingredients, please provide clear cooking/baking directions. AND, at the end, list your name as the “Contributor.”
- It is essential that you include your contact information, which will not be published in the cookbook, but may be used by the recipe committee in case clarifications are needed.

Feel free to enter as many as you like, although we may not be able to use all submissions due to space limitations and duplicate recipes. Send questions to Denise Bowden at recipes@norwaydc.org. We look forward to sharing your special recipes!



The Troll Gallery

Last month we hosted our second felted wool workshop at Norway House, led by fiber artist Karen Richardson. We were at maximum capacity, with 18 participants. All of our trolls started with the same amount and color of wool, but each evolved with unique faces, clothes, and personalities. Many thanks to Denise Bowden for organizing the day, and to Karen Richardson for her creativity, patience, and teaching skill. For more photos, see www.flickr.com/photos/norwaydc/albums/72157692906517624



Meet Kari Sprecher, New Foundation Director and Sunshine Chair

Kari Sprecher has stepped forward to fill two important jobs for the Lodge. As Foundation Director, she organizes our annual contributions to local charities and SON benefit funds such as the Third District Charitable Trust. As Sunshine Committee Chair, she is responsible for keeping the sun out... oops, no, for keeping in touch with members who may need a bit of extra care due to health or other issues.

We asked Kari to share a little about herself and her Norwegian connection. Here's her reply:

"My Norwegian connection is through my father, Howard Christian Hansen, the first of five children, who was born in New London, CT in 1911. Both of his parents emigrated separately from Norway in the early 1900's. My grandfather, Christian Hansen, emigrated from the Oslo area while my grandmother, Signe Nilsen, emigrated from Halden, Norway, a small town on the Swedish border. They met and married in New Lon-

don, CT, after entrance to the U.S. through Ellis Island.

"My husband, Bill, and I moved to Leesburg after I retired as a mathematics teacher in Fairfax County Public Schools. I joined the Sons of Norway in the summer of 2016.

It's been a treat to meet and learn from others who share my heritage."



We thank Ardis Morton for the many years she served as Foundation Director (among many other roles), and Shelley Berg Mitchell, who was recently "promoted" from Sunshine Chair to Lodge Vice President.

Please keep Kari informed if you know someone who needs a little extra care. Contact her at care@norwaydc.org. Email your ideas about worthy local charities to the same address.

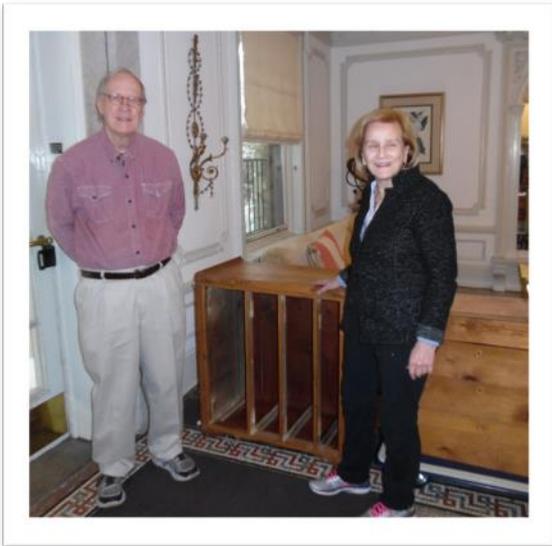
Join Sons of Norway, Renew a Membership, Give a Membership

- ⇒ **To join as a new member** email Shelley Berg Mitchell at vp@norwaydc.org, call SON headquarters in Minneapolis (800-945-8851) or sign up online here: www.norwaydc.org/membership.
- ⇒ **If you need your membership number** or if your membership has lapsed, call 800-945-8851 or email database@norwaydc.org.
- ⇒ **Children 15 years of age or under** whose parent or grandparent is a SON member may sign up for a free Heritage Membership.
- ⇒ Dues—paid monthly or annually
- ⇒ Individual annual dues \$60
- ⇒ Family annual dues \$95 (all members reside at the same mailing address)
- ⇒ Your dues will be allocated between Washington Lodge, Sons of Norway Third District, and the international Sons of Norway organization.



Antique Norwegian Chest Donated to Norway House

The Lodge thanks Richard and Julia Moe for their generous donation of an antique Norwegian hand-carved chest of drawers. Richard, a Minnesotan of Norwegian heritage, came to Washington decades ago to join the staff of MN Senator Walter Mondale. When Mondale became Vice President under Jimmy Carter, Moe followed him to the White House as Mondale's Chief of Staff.



The handsome chest was a wedding present from Julia Moe's mother, who was not of Norwegian descent but had an eye for antiques, and knew the young couple would appreciate the link to Norway. The chest still bears the shipping label of "Den Norske Amerikanline," indicating it left the port of Bergen over 100 years ago. Now downsizing, the Moe's correctly guessed our Lodge would appreciate this special piece.



Richard and Julia Moe with the disassembled chest of drawers.

Go for the Gold!



The Sons of Norway's Sports Medal Program offers recognition to its members for pursuing fitness activities as part of SON's cultural programming. By keeping a day-by-day record of your fitness activities, you can qualify for awards in five different areas: cross-country skiing (Skimerke), swimming (Svømmemerke), biking (Sykkelmerke), walking (Gangmerke), and general fitness (Idrettsmerke).

Awards begin with bronze pins, and work upward through silver, gold, and enamel pins; each new level is more challenging than the last. The requirements for medals depend on the member's age.

You can find more information on the Sports Medal Program and official fitness logs at https://www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/sports_medal_program/.

If you haven't registered on the Sons of Norway website yet, it's easy and free, and offers a number of other benefits. Paper copies of the fitness logs are available at Norway House.

When you have accumulated enough hours/miles/points to qualify for a pin, give the activity record to our Lodge Sports Director, Greg Ovrebo, by either bringing it to a meeting or emailing it to sports@norwaydc.org. The medals are free and will be awarded to you at the next monthly meeting.

Submitted by Greg Ovrebo, Sports Director

Our Man in Oslo — Finding the Northern Lights

Richard Phillips left the DC area nine months ago for his posting at the U.S. Embassy in Oslo. We've enjoyed his observations about life in Norway ever since. Here's his latest update.

My Norwegian adventure continues with two distinctly Norwegian activities that dominate the winter months: chasing the northern lights and cross country skiing. Both were new activities for me, and both were worth the wait.

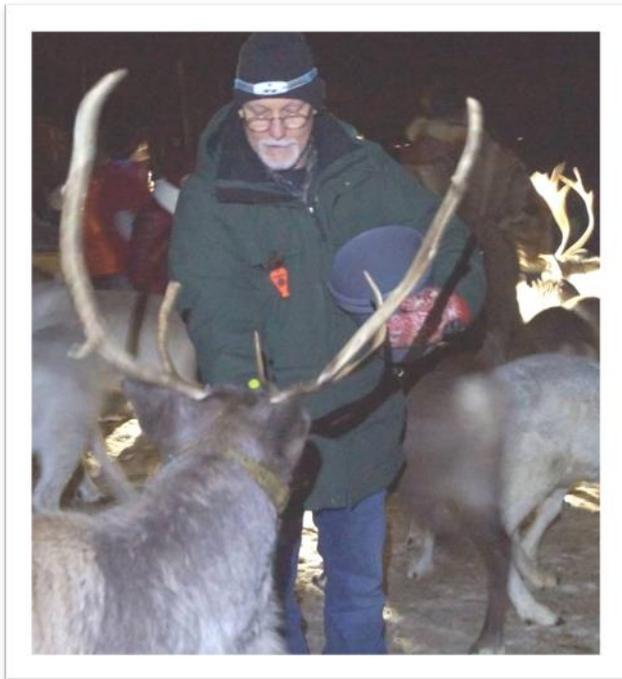
This month I'll tell you about our northern lights experience. Next month, skiing.

My wife Joyce and I decided Tromsø would be a good place to start our search for the Aurora Borealis. Before leaving, we did lots of research on how best to guarantee we'd see them on only a brief visit. And, of course, we found there is no guarantee you'll see them on any given night.

You can, however, increase your chances significantly with some research and planning. We discovered many tour options, but most can be grouped into two different camps: the "chase" and the "experience."

Tour companies that offer the "chase" use everything from cars to SUVs to boats, and even airplanes. They study predicted

appearances of the lights on any given tour night, and then take you to the spot with the highest probability of success.



Richard opted for the calmer "Northern Lights Experience" in Tromsø, which included a very personal visit with a herd of Sami reindeer.

By contrast, the northern lights "experience" takes you to a dark place, away from city lights, where there is a high probability of seeing the lights if they happen to come out that night, at that location.

The "experience" is calmer than the "chase," and often involves dinner and other activities that would make the

evening memorable even if the lights did not appear. It typically includes traditional Sami food and cultural performances, always with a warm place to relax and fun activities for all ages. You can enjoy these offerings while your friendly guides watch the skies for the first appearance of the northern lights.

We opted for a northern lights experience, so we traveled to a Sami reindeer camp outside Tromsø where we fed the reindeer, ate a traditional Sami meal, and learned about Sami culture, all in the warmth of a traditional lavvu.

When the lights appeared we all rushed outside, where we stood in awe of the dancing, changing colors. Some in our group were well prepared, with cameras and tripods. The rest struggled with iPhones, or just stood and watched in wonder as the lights appeared and disappeared, changed and danced.

Meanwhile, our guides enter-
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tained us with stories of the sky lit from horizon to horizon — tales of beautiful nights herding reindeer under the blazing lights.

The Northern Lights aren't unique to Norway, but Norway is the perfect place to experience their beauty. All you need is a dark night, a clear sky, and a little luck. Give it a try on your next winter visit to Norway!



Tourists viewing the Northern Lights outside a Sami lavvu. Some tours include overnighting in these nomadic shelters. Photo: Hurtigruten

April Reading Circle Selection



The Ice Palace by the great Norwegian writer Tarjei Vesaas is the Reading Circle's April selection. Everyone is welcome to join us at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, April 24. The location will probably be Norway House in Fairfax but, if you plan to attend, please RSVP Christine Meloni at reading@norwaydc.org for confirmation.

Vesaas is widely considered to be the most outstanding Norwegian writer of the 20th century. He wrote more than 25 novels as well as books of poetry, plays, and short stories. He received the Nordic Council Prize, Scandinavia's most prestigious literary award, for this novel, considered his masterpiece. It is the story of two 11-year-old girls, Unn and Siss, who become friends.

Unn dies while going off alone to explore an ice palace and Siss must come to grips with her loss.

Reading Circle members and friends attended Noura at the Lansburgh Theatre last month. There was much to discuss about this play, written by an Iraqi-American and inspired by Ibsen's *A Doll's House*. The Portrait Gallery courtyard was the perfect setting. The play runs through March 11.



From Lodge President Dave Brown

Hei,

We had an excellent meeting in February despite the snow. Around 35 members were undeterred by the weather, and were treated to an outstanding talk by Bob Benson on his experiences wintering over in Antarctica.

I was pleased that so many of you pitched in to clean up after the meeting. Starting in March, there will be a sign up sheet at the Lodge for coming to the meetings a little early to help set up the tables and organize the serving area. You'll also be able to sign up to help clean up after the meal. If you help just a couple of times a year, the burden on just a few will be greatly reduced.

The 75th Anniversary committee is reviewing venues and food selections. It was decided to get as much outside help as possible to allow everyone to be free to enjoy the celebration without having to "work."

Look for information on the Viking Festival on page 4 and on the May 17th celebrations on page 3 of this newsletter. More details will be coming

in future issues. Your help with these events will be appreciated, and is guaranteed to be rewarding.

Five Delegates to the June Third District Convention on Long Island were approved at the February lodge meeting. The delegates are Susie Fosaaen, Burt Koske, Andy Parks, Kari Sprecher, and yours truly. We will be representing you at the convention, but you may attend as non-voting members. For more information check the Third District website <http://3dsofn.org/convention/>.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next Lodge meeting, on March 17th.

hilsen,
Dave



The Audit Committee conducted the annual financial review last month. Outgoing Treasurer Bill DeRoche, on phone, looks happy with the findings. Also shown, from left, are committee members Greg Ovrebo, Henry Hansen, and Dave Brown.

Why Did the Norse Vanish from Greenland?

By Editor Marie Hansen

Most of us are familiar with the early Norse settlement of Greenland, but fewer may know about their mysterious disappearance 400 years later. Why did they vanish? New findings have debunked old theories, and helped formulate new ones.

A Quick History

As a child, Erik Thorvaldson (AKA Erik the Red) left his home in Norway with his father, who had been banished to Iceland for manslaughter. Around 982, Erik himself was exiled from Iceland for murder. Sailing northwest, he found a new and promising land. Erik's enticing descriptions of the "green land" drew settlers from Iceland and, to a lesser extent, from Norway.

Greenland's climate and terrain posed challenges for the settlers, but the population grew for centuries, and is estimated to have peaked between 3,000 and 5,000. The Norse built farms and churches, and exported fur, fish, and ivory (walrus and narwhal tusks) to Norway, Iceland, and other European lands. In addition to trade, the clergy, frequently imported from Norway, strengthened ties to the outside world.

These settlers were not the first humans to inhabit Greenland, of course. The Inuit are thought to have arrived around 3000 to 2500 BCE. While the Norse may have learned a few survival skills from the Inuit, the cultures rarely mixed, and much interaction was unfriendly, at best.



This church at Havlsey was mentioned in the last Norse letter from Greenland, written between 1409 and 1424. After 300 years of silence, a Norwegian missionary finally ventured to Greenland in search of Norse descendants, but found only their abandoned buildings.

The Climate Factor

The Norse settlement coincided with an era of warming temperatures in the North Atlantic region. This well-documented "Medieval Warm Period" lasted from around 950 to 1250, and allowed the earliest settlers to hunt, fish, and farm much as they had in Iceland and Norway.

Centuries passed. Europe's "Little Ice Age" followed the warm period. The Plague ravaged Europe, including Norway. Contact between Greenland and the outside world became sporadic, and eventually ceased. The last known communication was a letter sent from Havlsey, in Greenland's Eastern Settlement. It arrived in Iceland in 1424, but the date that the letter was written can only be placed sometime after 1408, based on the letter's contents.

None of the final letters or reports from Greenland held clues about the settlers' end.

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Attention Members — Record Your Volunteer Hours

The Lodge collects information on the time you spend supporting Sons of Norway activities. These include activities like officer duties, Tubfrim, planning and preparing for a meeting or event, ordering and pricing merchandise, etc. Please follow this link to record your individual hours: [Volunteer Hours Form](#). Hours spent at a meeting should not be included in this tally. Send questions to Burt Koske at historian@norwaydc.org.

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For Europeans, Greenland fell off the map for 300 years. Finally, in 1721, a Norwegian missionary made the journey, but the only traces of the Norse were their abandoned stone buildings.

Theories of Collapse

The fate of the settlers has been debated ever since that disappointing trip. Early theories included massacre by Inuit or even Barbary pirates.

By the 1980's, the most widely accepted scenario was that the stubborn Norse, believing in their own superiority, refused to adopt the Arctic survival skills of the Inuit when confronted by the cooling climate. Rather than eating more whale and seal meat, they struggled to maintain livestock, a symbol of prosperity back in Norway and Iceland. Refusing to change their way of farming, they ruined the soil and squandered the increasingly scarce timber.

Jared Diamond, author of *Guns, Germs, and Steel*, popularized this view as recently as 2005 in his bestseller *Collapse*. Unable to find nourishment, Diamond posits, the Norse succumbed to feuding, disease, and starvation.

A different scenario is emerging, however, based on new excavations and research techniques. For example, excavated human bones show that, over time, the Norse diet contained more and more marine protein. The whale and seal bones found in the settlements raise the possibility of a diet more like that of the Inuit by the time of their disappearance.

Soil and pollen analyses show that farming prac-

tices changed over the centuries, too, with increased fertilization and irrigation as the climate deteriorated. New research also shows that fields were allowed to recover for longer periods than had previously been thought.

Perhaps the Norse were better adapters than they'd been given credit for.

Attention is now turning to the impact of cooling temperatures on sea ice and storm activity. Glacier core analysis shows saltier ice in the 1400's, which climatologists link to stormier seas. Other new studies show that ice may have clogged the sea routes further south than previously thought, and for longer periods. The Inuit, it is believed, fished in the calmer waters of Greenland's fjords. But the Norse, dependent on the open sea for trade and food, were at increasing risk.

Eli Kintisch, summarizing the latest theories in his article "Why did Greenland's Vikings disappear?" (*Science*, Nov. 10, 2016), suggests a slow dwindling of population through out-migration. According to Kintisch, "the challenge for the average Greenlander to survive drove a constant emigration back to Iceland and Europe."

It is clear that the population declined to the vanishing point, but rather than meeting an end through violence or stubbornness, the Norse may have simply, and quietly, returned to more hospitable lands.

For further reading, see:

- www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/11/why-did-greenland-s-vikings-disappear and
- www.smithsonianmag.com/history/why-greenland-vikings-vanished-180962119/.

a little in English...

Here's Where to View Old Norse Texts Online

SON Newsletter Service

Norwegian archivists have found hidden treasures in medieval accounting protocols, including a slightly different version of the saga of St. Olaf.

In the 16th and 17th century there was limited access to parchment, and those who recorded the accounting protocols may have considered it a great idea to use old manuscripts to reinforce their binding.

Parchment was made from animal skins, most often from calves or sheep. If you needed large pieces of parchment, you might want to slaughter a sheep for each page. It was expensive to make new ones.

Around 1850, when historian P.A. Munch learned from the national antiquary of the day that there were several parchment manuscript scraps "hidden" in accounting protocols from the 15th and 16th century, he must have been quite elated. The manuscripts were in Latin and Old Norse, but it was the Old Norse that Munch was interested in, especially the pieces from saga manuscripts.

He had known of many preserved saga scripts prior to this, but all those pieces that now came to light indicated that in the 1600s there were probably a great many copies of the sagas all around Norway.

And saga literature about the old Vikings must have still been popular.

Tor Weidling, senior archivist at the National Archives in Oslo, is one of the people who have worked with around 550 pieces of Old Norse manuscripts that have been collected over time. They are now are posted online and can be viewed at Norway's Digitalarkivet.



A Norwegian legal manuscript from around 1300. Archivists believe this document incorporates "recycled" parchment that, 200 years earlier, recorded the achievements of St. Olav. Source: Digitalarkivet.no.

One example is a parchment manuscript scrap which tells the story of St. Olaf. This manuscript is from the last part of the 1100s, and you can find multiple pages here: <https://media.digitalarkivet.no/view/58518/65?indexing=>.

litt på norsk...

Her kan du se norrøne tekster på nett

Norske arkivarer har funnet skjulte skatter i regnskapsprotokoller fra middelalderen, blant annet en litt annerledes versjon av sagaen om Olav den hellige

På 1500- og 1600-tallet var det begrenset tilgang på pergament, og de som lagde regnskapsprotokollene, kan ha sett det som en svært god idé å bruke gamle manuskripter til å forsterke innbindingen av dem

Pergament ble nemlig laget fra dyreskinn, som

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oftest fra kalv eller sau. Trengte man store pergamenter, måtte man gjerne slakte en sau for hver side. Det var dyrt å lage nytt .

Da historikeren P.A. Munch rundt 1850 fikk vite av den daværende riksantikvaren at det var en ganske betydelig mengde biter av gamle manuskripter på pergament «skjult» i regnskapsprotokoller fra 15- og 1600-tallet, skal han ha blitt svært opprømt .

Manuskriptene var på latin og norrønt, men de var de norrøne Munch ble interessert i og spesielt bitene fra sagamanuskripter. Han hadde jo kjent en del bevarte sagamanuskripter fra før, men alle disse bitene som nå kom tilbake i lyset, tydet på at det fremdeles på 1600-tallet må ha

vært en stor mengde sagaer rundt omkring i Norge, mente han.

Og at sagalitteraturen om gamle vikinger fremdeles måtte ha vært populær .

Førstearkivar ved Riksarkivet i Oslo, Tor Weidling er en av dem som nå har jobbet med de rundt 550 bitene av norrøne manuskripter som etter hvert ble samlet inn.

Nå er de lagt ut på nett og du se dem på digitalarkivet.no. Et eksempel er en del av et manuskript på pergament, som forteller sagaen om Olav den hellige. Dette manuskriptet er fra siste del av 1100-tallet, og du kan finne flere sider her: <https://media.digitalarkivet.no/view/58518/32>.

Happy March Birthdays! Gratulerer Med Dagen!



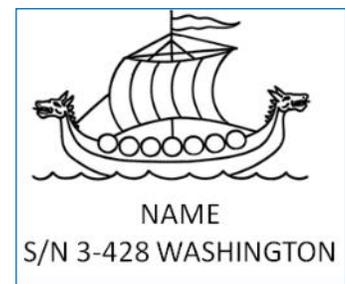
*Robert Beatrez
Paul Beddoe
John Bennett
David Carlson*

*Joy Cox
Lauren Deason
Bernice Duvall
Theodore Erickson
Al Freeman
Dorothy Grotos
Emma Hart
Nora Howard
Kirk Ingvoldstad
Dean Jacobson
Morgan Jensen
Nadine Jones*

*Lynn Juhl
Olivia Lane
Toril Mazzuchi
Evan McCaslin
Shelley Berg Mitchell
Sandra Morseth
Barbara Myklebust
Erna Pomrenke
Pat Schleicher
Katherine Simenson
Gail Evertsen Smith*

Name Badges — don't go to meetings incognito!

Washington Lodge Name Badges are available with either a magnetic holder or with a pin on the back. Personalized badges may be ordered from Burt Koske for \$10. (Pin or Magnet). Contact Burt at any Lodge event, or send an email to him at kobur@cox.net.



February Meeting

Bob Bensen gave an excellent presentation on his winter expedition at the South Pole. Marguerite Kause received her 40-year membership pin. See all meeting photos here: www.flickr.com/photos/norwaydc/albums



More from February



Our Members Recommend...

Archeologists Identify Viking "Heathen Army" bones in England
www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-42918121

New US Ambassador to Norway Is Settling In
<http://www.newsinenglish.no/2018/02/16/new-us-ambassador-settles-in/>

Thirteen New Norwegian Films this Spring
www.nfi.no/eng/news/2018/norwegian-films-spring-2018?

The Ski Pole that Norway Will Never Forget
www.nytimes.com/2018/02/12/sports/olympics



3D President's Message:

fra Presidenten, Mary B. Andersen

"....all you red headed Irish can thank the Vikings!" ~ Nalda Olson, former Bondelandet charter member



Did you ever notice the similarity between Celtic and Viking art? This is a photo I purchased from Shutterstock and it is labeled as medieval Celtic Viking symbol! I am partial to both; could be because my mother was an Irish red head and my father was Norwegian. I have discovered that was not an uncommon combination, especially in Brooklyn! Think about it, two sets of immigrants coming to a new land; it is only logical that they would connect as they strived to survive away from the familiar.

Connect, that is what we do. We are connected by our lodge, by our Zone, by our District, by the entire Sons of Norway organization. Did you notice that there are no breaks in the artwork?

One of the things I am so proud of when I read your newsletters and visit your lodges is that you all focus on what binds us together. Our love of culture and history and our Norwegian roots. It's not easy being part of a volunteer organization

where people have different views yet we all work together toward a common goal. It is a wonderful feeling.

How do we share that "feeling"? You do it in your newsletters; the community events you support; the way we treat each other as a very large extended family. You all "pull it off" with the ease and grace of an Olympic ice dancer.

Like the medieval Celtic Viking symbol, we are all connected and I am proud to be connected with you!!! Keep up the great work!

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

Sláinte

All the best,

Mary



Vesterheim Offers Rosemaling Class in MA

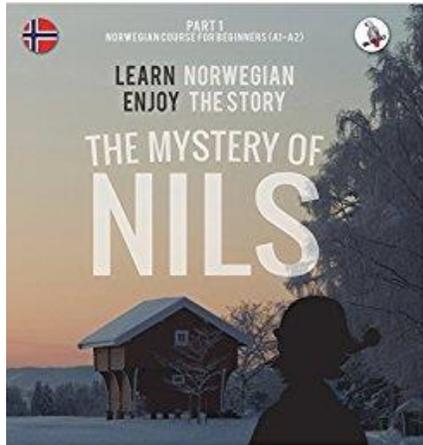
Vesterheim, the National Norwegian-American Museum, is offering a Rosemaling class in the Telemark Style in West Newton, MA, April 13 — 15. The class will be taught by Linda Miller, seen at left. Visit folkartschool.vesterheim.org/class/2018-04-13-rosemaling-in-the-telemark-style for more information.

For rosemaling closer to home, consult Lodge member Tina Keune, who offers classes at her studio in Arlington, VA. At the moment she is busy preparing for several events, but keep her in mind for the future. Visit <https://rosemalingbychristina.com> to see her studio and examples of her work.

Norwegian Language Classes Every Wednesday at Norway House

Beginners 6-7 PM ♦ Intermediate 7-8 PM ♦ Advanced 8-9 PM

The textbooks for beginning and Intermediate classes are cleverly disguised as mysteries: *The Mystery of Nils — Part 1* for beginners, and *Mysteriet om Nils — Part 2* for intermediate. Both



books are readily available from online sources. See www.norwaydc.org/language

Cost is a bargain \$10 per week to the Instructor. Students who are **not** Lodge members pay an additional \$5 per week to SON Lodge. If you skip a week you don't have to pay for it. The Lodge provides coffee and other beverages.

Contact the instructor, Nina Brambani Smith, at language@norwayDC.org for more information. Classes meet at Norway House, 3846 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA. [directions](#).

Local Folk Dance in March

Nordic Dancers of Washington, DC

Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
Highland View Elem. School
9010 Providence Ave., Silver Spring, MD

Nordic Dancers meet every Wednesday at 7:30 until June, with the exception of the week of Thanksgiving and December 20 and 27. Learn traditional dances. Newcomers welcome; no experience necessary. Contact Chris Kalke at 301-864-1596 or ckalke@verizon.net, or <https://sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc/>.

Mid-Atlantic Norwegian Dancers

Sun., Mar. 11, Potluck at noon, dancing 1:30 PM

Live music. Beginners, watchers, singles/couples welcome. Locations vary but usually are in the Silver Spring / Tacoma Park area. Call (301) 270-4925 or visit <http://MAND.fanitull.org> for this month's meeting address.



Scandia DC Dancing

Sat, Mar. 17, 7 pm
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Rd., Greenbelt, MD

Recreational Scandinavian dance group. No partner needed. Live music. Fiddler Loretta Kelley. \$10. www.scandiadc.ino/scandia-dc-events. Contact Linda Brooks or Ross Schipper at linda@scandiadc.org or 202-333-2826.

Directions to Norway House

3846 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030
www.norwaydc.org/directions

On weekdays, a residential parking permit is required to park on Meredith Dr. You may park in the Christ Lutheran Church parking lot (entrance directly across the street from the Norway House).



From Beltway or I-66: From the Beltway, go West on I-66. Exit I-66 onto Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.) south toward Fairfax (Exit 60). Go about a half mile. Turn right on Rt. 50 west (also Rt. 29, Lee Highway, and Fairfax Blvd.). Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (between a Merchants Tire store and a Mobil gas station). Norway House is on the right.

From Rt. 50/29: Go west from the Beltway about 5.33 miles. After crossing Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.), stay in the right lane. Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (which is between a Merchants Tire store and a Mobil gas station). Norway House is on the right.

From far western suburbs: From I-66 East, take Exit 52, Rt. 50, east, toward city of Fairfax. Go about one mile. Turn left at Fairfax Blvd., which is where Rt. 29 joins Rt. 50 (which itself angles left). Turn left after a Mobil station onto Meredith Dr. Norway House is on the right.

Metro & bus: From the Dunn Loring/Merrifield Metro station (on the Orange Line), go to Bus Bay E. Take bus 1C toward West Ox Rd. and Alliance Dr. The bus will go down Lee Highway/Fairfax Blvd. (Rt. 50/29). Get off about 30 min. later at Meredith Drive (after Warwick Ave.).

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About Capital Viking

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Did your email address, mailing address, or other information change? Please notify database manager Marie Hansen at database@norwaydc.org.

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