

# Nyhetsbrev District 1 Newsletter February 2022

## **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2022**

| February                 | Applications for Charliander, Massa Massa and Massacratic Fall 111 1 C. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.   |
|--------------------------|--|
| 28                       | Applications for Skogfjorden, Massa Moro and Norwegian Folk High School are due to the District.   |
| <u>March</u>             |  |
| 1                        | LAF Reports are due to Sons of Norway  |
| 1                        | Extended Deadline for Scholarships that support international Travel (extended from January 15th)  |
| 1                        | Domestic Scholarship applications due to Sons of Norway Foundation (Check www.SOFN.com/foundation website for scholarship details)   |
| 15                       | Lodge Achievement and Family Lodge of the Year (deadline extended)   |
| 15                       | D17 financial forms due to SON HQ  |
| 15                       | Community and Fraternal activies and hour totals due to SON HQ (AFA Year-end form or online reporting  |
| 15                       | Fraternal Funds packet sent to district treasurers   |
| 20                       | Delegate and Alternate Delegate names and contact information to District Secretary  |
| 31                       | District 1 Convention Registration Deadline (https://craguns.formstack.com/forms/norway21)   |
|                          | (after 3/31 - unreserved rooms will be released to the public)   |
| <u>April</u>             |  |
| <del></del>              | Start sending Lodge Scholarship Check & blue invoice to Concordia Language Village & Masse Moro  |
| 1                        | Mikal Kartvedt Scholarship for Financial Assistance applications due to District Scholarship Coordinator   |
| 1                        | Norwegian Folk High School Scholarship application due to District Scholarship Coordinator   |
| 7-9                      | District 1 Board meeting - Hilton Garden Inn - Eden Prairie, Minnesota   |
| 15                       | Print Ready District 1 Convention Advertising due to Sagatun Lodge (refer convention packet)   |
| <u>May</u>               | ,  |
| 1                        | District 1 Convention Folk Art registration forms due  |
| 15                       | D18 property association financial for due to SON HQ   |
| 15                       | Fraternal Funds Report due to SON HQ   |
| 15                       | IRS Form 990 Must be submitted.  |
| 17                       | Deadline to send Lodge Scholarship checks & blue invoices to Concordia Language Village & Masse Moro   |
| 17                       | Copy of all Summer Camp Blue Invoices to District Scholarship Coordinator  |
| <u>June</u>              |  |
| 2 - 4                    | District 1 Convention at Cragun's Resort - Brainerd, Minnesota   |
| August                   | Signal Leaving and Signal Charles at Signal Char |
| 8/30 - 9/2               | International Convention at Omni Viking Lakes Hotel - Eagan, Minnesota (Information packets will be provided to elected international delegates at District 1 Convention)  |
| October                  |  |
| 15                       | Community Partnership Grant Application opens  |
| 15                       | Lodge Culture and Heritage Grant Application opens   |
| 15                       | Lodge Vitality Grant Application opens   |
| 15                       | Helping Hands to Children Grant Application opens  |
| <u>December</u>          | Transpired to a march of an a special special  |
| 13 (est)                 | New member enrollments must be submitted to SON HQ for inclusion in current year recruitment contest   |
| 31                       | Lodge Office Update/D63 information due to SON HQ Membership Services  |
| 31                       | Community Partnership Grant/Helping Hands to Children Application due  |
| 31                       | Lodge Culture and Heritage/Lodge Vitality Grant Application due  |
| ਤੂਹ<br><u>Year Round</u> | Louge Culture and Heritage/Louge Vitality Orant Application due  |
| rear Round               |  |

Questions? Concerns? Refer to www.SOFN.com for details, or your zone director if you are unable to find answers.



## Sons of Norway Headquarters

1455 West Lake Street Minneapolis MN 55408-2666 Phone: (612) 827-3611 Toll Free: (800) 945-8851 Website: www.sofn.com

#### District 1 Website:

http://sofn-1.org OR sofn-1.com [either address will bring you to the website]

## Like our Facebook page: Sons of Norway District 1

Sons of Norway Mission Statement

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

## Contact Information for Officers 2018—2022

## **Executive Officers**

President, Dennis Rusinko Vice President, Mark Haugen Secretary, Diane Halvorson Treasurer, Claudia Bomier

dennisrusinko@aol.com mhaugen architect@msn.com dshanokason@gmail.com cebomier@gmail.com

### **Directors**

Sports/Rec Director, Ronald Stow Social/Culture Director, Karen Aakre kaakre@hotmail.com Publicity Director, Gina Pockrandt

stowronald@gmail.com gigipockrandt@msn.com

## **Zone Directors**

Zone 1, Paula Leland Garnett paula.s.leland@gmail.com Zone 2 OPEN Zone 3, Jim Strandlie iimstrandlie@mncable.net Zone 4, Jerry Wright wrightsj@charter.net Zone 5, Gloria Coulter gcoulter6367@gmail.com Zone 6, Sherry Stilley stillnord@mitchelltelecom.net Zone 7, Keith Jorgensen kiorgensen@cfu.net Zone 8 **OPEN** Zone 9, Jan Osmonson iosmonson@comcast.net Zone 10, Norm Carlson norsknorm@aol.com



# Fra Presidenten

There a lot of things happening at the beginning of the new year, and I encourage all lodge officers to pay close attention to all deadlines that need to be met, as well as procedures that need to be followed.

If you are a new officer in your position and are not sure what needs to be done contact your Zone Director or any district Officer for assistance. If they cannot help you, they will direct you to a person to contact at Sons of Norway Headquarters.

Make sure all lodges get their delegates and alternates elected and sent into the District Secretary by March 20th.

Also, you will need to register your delegates with Cragun's Resort before March 31, 2022.

Tusen Takk. Dennis Rusinko



# Vice President

Greetings -

Zones:

I am only hearing from a couple of Zone Directors and only from a couple of lodges directly. PLEASE send me your newsletters, copy me on your lodge mailings, and let me know what your lodge is up to, and more importantly, what we at the District leadership can do to help you.

I am currently the "active" Zone 2 Director. Zone 2 and Zone 8 are in need of a Zone Director. Please reach out if there is a way you can fill these important positions. You will not be alone and will have as much assistance as you need.

#### **Membership:**

We are growing.

Our District, District Lodge 1, is responsible for Lodge 1-000, as well as the numerous lodges in District 1.

District 1 Membership = 11,176 members, a 27.2% increase over 2020 end of year. Lodge 999 (new members) and Lodge 1-000 ("internet" members) = 5,474 members

Total Sons of Norway membership = 52,747, a 25.8% increase over 2020 end of year.

Lodge officers receive notices when new members join or inquire about joining in the lodge area associated with that member's address. PLEASE reach out to them and invite them to be an active member in your lodge.

Congratulations to all of the lodges who met their recruitment goal!

#### **Tubfrim:**

Your cut stamps are greatly appreciated and make a difference to the program. Messages have been sent to the membership and our website explains the correct way to cut the stamps, how to package, where to send them, and who to contact for information and questions. Please follow the instructions.

#### Sons of Norway, Vice Presidents' Report:

A virtual meeting was held with the International Vice Presidents. A copy of that meeting's minutes is available through me if you'd like a copy.

Fraternally Yours, Mark A. Haugen



## **Congratulations to Craig Folkedahl**

Craig's qualified entry was randomly selected as the winner of the "Find the Nisse" Contest from the last Nyhetsbrev issue. He is a member of Snorre Lodge #1-70 who meet in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Craig won a \$20 Mystery Gift Card. Thank you to all who participated.



# Things are happening at Cragun's Resort!

# Secretary

2020 – Sons of Norway was all set to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. That did not happen then, but it will happen now in 2022. 125 + 2 still something to celebrate! Conventions in all eight Districts as well as the International Convention in Minneapolis Area are scheduled.

But closer to home, some important information and dates:

- April 7 & 8, 2022 The Spring Board Meeting for all Officers and Directors. Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Eden Prairie, MN. Reports are due from the Board by April 1st.
- All lodges should be electing their delegates & alternates before March 20th. It is also important for each delegate
  to register with Cragun's as well as for the Lodge to inform me. The Host Lodge, Sagatun in Brainerd, gets a copy of
  the registrations in order to make name tags, etc.
- The District secretary registers the District Board Officers and Directors only.
- All Delegates should be aware of the deadline for making reservation is March 31, 2022. All reservations will be made online at: <a href="https://cragunsformstack.com/forms/norway21">https://cragunsformstack.com/forms/norway21</a>. The Convention will be held at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd, June 2-5, 2022. Our convention will be early and in a very family friendly location. Let's have a full contingent of delegates. Each lodge that sends delegates receives \$125, plus each first time delegate receives (personally) \$125 from the District. Lots of new activities & cultural classes are being offered this Convention. You don't want to miss it as we make plans for our future. Need more information? Contact me or the Host Committee: sagatunlodge@gmail.com.
- Also, your lodge will want to support the Host Lodge and the District by purchasing an Ad in the Convention Souvenir Book. The D-1 website will have Convention information too. http://sofn-1.org
- The deadline for accepting applications for a district Officer Position is fast approaching too. All positions on the D-1 Board are open for application. Obtain Application: https://www.sofn.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Candidate-Leadership-Application-DISTRICT-effective-6-21-2019.pdf. Submit to District President Dennis at <a href="mailto:dennisrusinko@aol.com">dennisrusinko@aol.com</a> OR Bernice Oellien <a href="mailto:oelmal@farmertel.net">oelmal@farmertel.net</a> OR Dawn Shafer <a href="mailto:deshafer@gmail.com">deshafer@gmail.com</a>. The District Policy and Procedure Manual has the Board Job Descriptions for your review. Or, contact the Nominating Committee or the District Secretary.
- Does your Lodge want to host the 2024 Convention? You can. I will be sending a Convention Bid Form to each Lodge President. Consider it. It brings attention and camaraderie into your Lodge and area.

Due to the continuing COVID-19 concerns and its' variants, we will be encouraging wearing of Masks at the Convention and also the District Meeting in April. During this Pandemic we have certainly come to realize that we need to stay connected with our friends in our many lodges. Keeping in touch helps all of us weather the storms of life, whether it is by newsletter, phone and email blasts, and even the occasional in-person meeting.

We can show we care about one another in all times of life.

Hope to see everyone in Brainerd.....

Kínd regards, Díane Halvorson dshanokason@gmail.com

# Let's meet at Cragun's Resort - the more the merrier!

Sagatun Lodge, the Host Lodge, has sent information packets to all lodges inviting everyone to attend the 2022 District 1 Convention. They have many fun and interesting things planned for attendees and Cragun's Resort will also have many planned activities and events. This is sure to be a fun event and we hope to see everyone there—Delegates, non-delegates and families are all welcome. If you have not received an information packet, send an email to Sagatunlodge@gmail.com to request a packet as soon as possible. Notify the District Secretary no later than March 20th that you (and your roommates) are attending and make sure to register with Cragun's Resort no later than March 31st. Come and join us! The District 1 Officers and Directors are looking forward to reconnecting with old friends and making new ones.





## Treasurer

## Happy New Year!

As we enter 2022 the treasury is still healthy. Our \$ 500 grants for 2022 just started at the beginning of the year and we have already had 7 lodges apply. The grant is to be used to strengthen your lodge or help your community.

It is an easy 2 step application:

- 1. Email the treasurer, Claudia Bomier at cebomier@gmail.com
- 2. Tell us how you plan to use the grant

THAT IS IT! You will receive the \$ 500 to help your lodge during these strange times. I know that many lodges have not been able to hold fundraisers during the pandemic so these funds can help with that or have a special program for your lodge and/or community. Each lodge will know the most impactful use.

Language camps are back in person this year and the District supports youth going to Concordia Language Villages or attending Masse Moro heritage camp offered by District 5. The District awards \$ 200 per qualified week per lodge. If a family could use financial assistance and are attending Skogfjorden, the Mikal Kartvedt scholarships are also available. We encourage youth to attend and think they will find it an extremely rewarding and fun experience.

We look forward to seeing old and new delegates at the District Convention where we will also be celebrating our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It is now 125 + 2 Anniversary. All members are encouraged to come and be part of the festivities.

~ Claudía Bomier, Treasurer

# Sports/Rec Director

District One members earn sports medals. Friluftsliv activity promotion.

Members of the District One Central Lodge have been busy earning sports medals. Will Martin and Kris Johansen, both from Boone, Iowa do not belong to a specific lodge, so they have received sports medals through District One. Will earned all four levels of cycling medals. Kris participated in skiing, walking and sports fitness activities where she earned bronze medals. Congratulations, Will and Kris. (Check out their pictures on page 11.)



District One members are encouraged to keep track of their times and distances and to submit their records to their local lodge Sports and Recreation Director. Sons of Norway members in the Central Lodge should submit their records to Ron Stow, District One Sports and Recreation Director at <a href="mailto:stow-normalize-stow-normaliz

Friluftsliv, the Norwegian joy of outdoor living, is being promoted by Sons of Norway during the month of February. Members are encouraged to get outside for activities during at least 14 days in February. These can be winter sports such as skiing, skating or kick sledding, but can also include other winter activities such as shoveling snow, chopping wood, or making a snow sculpture. Please share photos of these friluftsliv activities to me at the above email address.

Three District One lodges sponsored the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Barnelopet on January 23, 2022, at Riverside Park in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Trollheim of St. Cloud, Syttende Mai of Minneapolis, and Vennekretsen of Anoka, with the aid of a District One sports grant, put on a successful cross-country ski event for kids ages 3-13, who earned 73 medals.

Ron Stow, Sports and Recreation Director



## Social/Culture Director

There are many things to explore as your whole group or as individual. If your a knitter Arne and Carlos have a weekly link on you tube. As a reader do a search thru the library for new title to broaden your Norwegian knowledge. For foods break out Norwegian cookbooks, for music listening to Grieg or many other composers. Start carving figures or chip carving try kohlrosing, Norwegians loved their wood pieces maybe try to rosmale some. Pick up hardanger, sprang or finger weaving this is how we grow and learn. We have trouble finding

speakers for our lodges then change how we present and learn, share the culture language and event in a new way. Bring us together stronger and better than ever.

Tusen Takk, Karen Aakre

# **Publicity Director**

One of the things I enjoy seeing is how individual members of Sons of Norway embrace their Nordic Heritage. As COVID shut down meetings and gatherings, some members took the time to teach themselves a new craft, a new skill, cook a new Nordic dish or bake a new treat. Some found opportunities to work on Sports Medals or Cultural skills Pins. Others embraced Hygge in the cold heart of winter or enjoyed Friluftsliv, the Nordic joy of outdoor living. However way they chose to embrace it, they sent a photo along.



Lodge Presidents, I encourage you to ask your members to take pictures of themselves as they participate in the various Nordic activities and to send it to the District 1 Publicity Director via email (gigipockrandt@msn.com). They should also send them to your lodge newsletter editor for inclusion in your own lodge newsletter. Featuring members in lodge newsletters is a wonderful way to help members feel engaged. As lodges gather together, make sure to have someone in your lodge take pictures and to send a photo or two. Each district can send up to 5 photos to Sons of Norway for inclusion in the Viking magazine or other Sons of Norway communication venues. It is important to showcase ALL the lodges in Sons of Norway—every lodge should be sending a picture or two to their District Publicity Director. (Just a reminder that all photos require a submission form to be submitted along with it.)

Some lodges are beginning the year with new lodge leadership, all new officers should make it a point to go to the Sons of Norway website and review the materials pertaining to their positions. After logging into www.SOFN.com, click on the Member Resources box, then select Lodge Leadership Resources, then select Administrative Resources, lastly select Leadership Roles and Guidelines and go to the appropriate position.

As the District 1 Publicity Director, I'd like to point out some things. The publicity director is responsible for developing internal and external messaging to promote lodge events, activities and programs, as well as Sons of Norway, to lodge members and the public. Publicity Directors should also review the Communications Tool Kit which can also be found under Administrative Resources. Make sure to take time to go over the District Happenings Photo guide and share it with any members who will be tasked with taking photos for the lodge. If you are a Publicity Director for your lodge and you have any questions or concerns that cannot be answered by the materials provided to you on the Sons of Norway website, please feel free to drop me an email and I will be happy to help you (gigipockrandt@msn.com). Thank you to all the Publicity Directors past and present for what you do—many of you have increased visibility of Sons of Norway to your local communities and have taken advantage of the many traditional and modern forms of social media to promote Sons of Norway.

Mange Takk, Gina Pockrandt

Did you know that you do not need to be a delegate in order to attend the District 1 Convention? Cragun's Resort has many activities, events and entertainment available for adults of all ages and children. There will also be many Sons of Norway activities that you can participate in. Send an email to Sagatunlodge@gmail.com to request information. You will need to register with Cragun's Resort no later than March 31st and notify the District Secretary no later than March 20th. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

# Scholarship Coordinator

## Scholarship 2022 update:

The District 1 scholarship information has been mailed to all lodge Presidents and Secretaries. It contains registration information about Concordia Language Villages (CLV) in Bemidji (specifically Skogfjorden), Masse Moro in Wisconsin, how much your lodge qualifies for in District 1 scholarship money, and deadlines for turning in paperwork. The major changes this year are that Skogfjorden will hold more residential camps this year, for a wider variety of dates, more in keeping with what they have done pre-Covid19, and both CLV and Masse Moro will include vaccination policies. Also, lodges are eligible for \$200 per week depending on lodge membership; up from \$150 per week last year. If you have not received your lodge packet, check with your 2021 officers, or go online to <a href="https://district1scholarship.weebly.com">https://district1scholarship.weebly.com</a> where the forms are available for download. Or, contact me for help or with questions! Thank you to all of the lodges who support our youth in growing in their heritage, culture and language through awarding lodge and district scholarships!

Sending children and grandchildren to Language camp is a great way to keep our Nordic Culture and Heritage alive § well. Carolyn J. Townsend
District 1 Scholarship Coordinator
#763-434-5650
citownsend@comcast.net

# Zone 1 Director

## Winter Wonder Greetings from All Lodge Friends in Zone One!

Yes, winter wonders...wondering when we will escape the below zero windchill temperatures...wondering when (if?) Spring will ever return to the Northland...wondering when COVID and its variants will be just a faded memory... wondering when all our wonderful lodges will be able to return to experiencing each other's huge in person smiles, hugs, andshakes...we wonder a lot these days, don't we? At least we don't need to wonder about what members are or have been doing; even COVID can't deter them. Whether by Zoom or in person, when possible, they keep forging ahead, as resilient as always!

Here are several succinct Scandinavian snippets:

- The 12 Days of Christmas, Scandinavian Style or...1 Julenisse under the tree, 2 Rommegrot Lovers, 3 Julebukers, 4
  Fattigman, 5 Viking Ships, 6 Jenter Dancing, 7 Skiers Sushing, 8 Potatoes Boiling, 9 Ole and Lena jokes, 10 Trolls a
  Trippin,' 11 Lut'fisk Lickers, and 12 Flags a Waving; tremendously creative!
- Lunch with Lil: Past memories of emigration to Duluth from Oslo, Norway by 104 years young Lil Haldorsen; what an amazing experience for both the speaker and listeners!
- Service projects abound: the Salvation Army Red Kettle Project; an auction being hosted with proceeds donated to
  the Sons of Norway Foundation; scholarships awarded; Ski for Light annual donations, where sighted skiers assist
  visually impaired of handicapped skiers participate; favorite recipes shared in the "Cooks Corner," where we know
  magic ALWAYS happens and no one is EVER disappointed! No good plate remains empty!
- Reading groups with time invested in more Norwegian notable and prizewinning authors like Liv Arnesen, Roy Jacobsen, Tarjei Vesaas, and Per Petterson; worlds of wandering wonders...
- Bake sales and fundraisers: one dedicated crew made over 100 packages of lefse! These lefse lovers are truly in a
  "Lefse Lovers League of Their Own!" Wow!
- Growing excitement regarding the District One Convention at Cragun's Resort; is it June yet??

Tusen Tukk!! Paula Leland Garnett

# **Zone 3 Director**

Snorre Lodge has been active with in person meetings going back to November. We used to do crafts with children, this year we did "book night" and invited children to come and listen to stories, and take a book home. In December, we did our annual Christmas party with a delicious meal, "white elephant gifts," and live entertainment. We normally don't have a meeting in January, but we did have a committee meeting to discuss plans for our annual Nordic Fest centered around Syttende Mai. It is a festival of all things Scandinavian and is a week of speakers, movies, crafts and fun.



Bemidji Lodge is active as well. In December, they had a zoom board meeting and a Christmas program lodge meeting with food provided by the board. The local Swedish Institute club was invited. In January, they had a zoom board meeting and will have a lodge meeting on 1/30 with a genealogy program.

Granlund Lodge of Fosston indicates that nothing is shaking there. They elected to not meet in Jan & Feb. They will be having an officers meeting to clean up any 2021 Items and address any pressing 2022 items. They feel it is just too iffy out there right now.

Nordlys Lodge in Roseau met in October, November, December, and January. Their attendance has been poor, but those attending have had a good time, so they plan to keep meeting. They are hoping when Covid cools down and the weather is nicer, they can do something (?) to attract more people and hopefully increase attendance and membership.

Detroit Lakes Vikingland Lodge 1-495 is also very active. At their December meeting they had 65 in attendance in person and on Zoom. That was a great turnout. Their January meeting featured Dotz Johnson. She shared some folklore about Norwegian trolls, and a folktale "The Troll With no Heart in His Body". In February, their presenter will be Dawn Morgan, Executive Director of Spirit Room in downtown Fargo. Areas of focus at the Spirit Room are visual arts, literary arts, publications, music, dance, religion, and philosophy.

Morgensol Lodge in Crookston reports that they had a Christmas party in December, and the January meeting was cancelled.

I feel that Zone 3 is up and running.

Regards, Jim Strandlie



# **Zone 4 Director**

Most Lodges in the Zone have had successful membership gatherings this past fall and are now busy announcing their winter programs for in-person gatherings. Mjøsen Lodge 1-175 from Glenwood, MN had to relocate to a new facility because of COVID restrictions at their longtime Retirement Home location. A couple lodges held their traditional Christmas

gatherings in December while others postponed until after the New Year. Mjøsen Lodge men made Rommegrøt for their new year party. It all went during the gathering.

Most Lodges have installed their 2022 officers and a couple lodges got a new vice president and one lodge a new president. Lodges are currently seeking nominations for their delegates to 2022 District Convention. Most Lodges have had some membership reduction but also some lodges have also gotten new members in the past 4 months.

Many lodges are continuing to hold separate gatherings for their business meetings and then focusing solely on cultural programs for their monthly membership and guest events.

I have truly enjoyed being Zone Director and interacting with each of the 9 lodges officers and members for almost the past 6 years and am looking forward to assisting the new Zone Director.

Tusen Takk, Jerry Wright



## Zone 5 Director

Greetings on a very cold day in January. I'm happy to report that most of the lodges in Zone #5 have elected their new officers for 2022. I was able to install officers for the Nortonna Lodge 1-638 at their January meeting. They have changed their location to the VFW in Owatonna for the New Year.

I've heard from seven of the eleven lodges through newsletters. These lodges are meeting in person and have had interesting programs. Nor-Win #505 celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 26. It was delayed a year because of Covid. Many lutefisk dinners were also cancelled which was understood, but disappointing.

The Normanna Lodge #52 in Albert Lea does a great job of celebrating Leif Erikson Day. They installed their new officers in November as many of their members are "snowbirds".

Kristiania Lodge 1-047 in Rochester did a "Lefse Drive-thru giveaway to member households in November. They also had Laurann Gilbertson, chief curator of the Vesterheim Museum, giving a presentation titled "All Tradition is Change."

Several lodges have either met together using Zoom or put their meetings on hold. The important thing is that we stay connected!

Till the Next Time, Gloria Coulter



# Zone 6 Director

Most lodges have been slowed down by this pandemic but are beginning to revive.

Looking forward, the big thing is the District Convention in June at Cragun's Resort in Minnesota, followed shortly by the International Convention in August, also in Minnesota. Hopefully we will be able to send lots of folks from SD to these fun and informative conventions.

'Til then, be cozy and well Sherry Stilley

# Zone 7 Director

Things are very quiet in Zone 7. Solglimt Lodge, my home lodge, is back to monthly meetings for now. Restauration Lodge is once again meeting by ZOOM due to the covid situation. I have not had responses from any other lodge in the zone.

Yours, Keith Jorgensen

We encourage all lodges to stay in contact with their Zone Directors and keep them in the loop with what's happening with your lodge. Make sure to include your Zone Director on your email distribution lists for lodge happenings and newsletters. Share your newsletters with District 1 Officers and Directors as they enjoy seeing what all of the District 1 lodges are up to.

# Zone 9 Director

## Greetings to all!

As we start the new year I am hoping it will bring a renewed feeling of HOPE...this year more then ever after two years of COVID 19. There will be a lot of exciting events happening in Sons of Norway this summer with the two conventions occurring.



Some lodges in Zone 9 will continue to meet by zoom for their monthly meetings this winter, but a few lodges have started holding their meetings in person. Everyone misses their Sons of Norway friends.

District 1 will award first time delegates a personal stipend of \$125.00 to attend the District 1 Convention —as well as give all Lodges a \$125.00 stipend when a lodge sends a delegate to the District Convention. Lodges must indicate if the delegate is attending their first convention.

The Sons of Norway District 1 Convention will be at Cragun's Resort on Gull Lake in Brainerd, MN on June  $2-4^{th}$ . Sagatun Lodge in Brainerd is hosting the convention and they have wonderful and fun events planned for all the delegates and non-delegates that attend. You won't want to miss this event.

Sons of Norway "2022" International Convention will be held at the Omni Viking Lakes Hotel in Eagan. MN on August 30 – September 1<sup>st</sup>. Details will be coming to the lodges in the near future about the conventions ... as the plans evolve.

Starting January 1, 2022 – Sons of Norway District 1 Board is offering a "Special Events Grant" of \$500.00 to all District 1 Lodges. It is at the discretion of the lodges on how they would like to use this grant. For details contact District 1 Treasurer Claudia Bomier.

Congratulations to Nidaros, Synnove-Nordkap, Trollheim, Syttende Mai, and Vennkretsen lodges for attaining the Sons of Norway "2021" New Membership Goal. It is always important for lodges to be working on recruiting new members.

I recognize this past year has been one of the most challenging years most of us have ever encountered. Please stay healthy, safe and thanks for all you do for your lodges. We have great lodges in Zone 9.

Tusen Takk, Jan Osmonson

# Zone 10 Director

The pandemic has limited in-person activities for many lodges. Fortunately we have the option to meet virtually using Zoom and other virtual tools. After a period of no in-person meetings, it was fun seeing the excitement in their faces when they could see and talk to their friends using Zoom.

Some lodges are beginning to have in-person meetings again, using social distancing and wearing their masks. Good programming plays an important part in lodge activities, whether meeting virtually or in-person.

As a Zone Director I have been very limited in attending recent in-person meetings. I look forward to attending more virtual and in-person lodge meetings in Zone 10. I have found that while the pandemic creates much stress for many people, they appreciate some good humor. Brush up on your "Ole and Lena" humor and spread the joy!

Ha det bra, Norm Carlson



The Best Method of Promoting Sons of Norway Is by Word of Mouth.

# Foundation News

On behalf of the Sons of Norway Foundation Board of Governors, I want to thank our District 1 lodges and members for their financial support during the 'Together We Are The Future' fundraiser.

You will recall that the first 'Together We Are The Future' fundraiser was in 2020 and the goal was to raise \$100,000 for the Foundation between October 2020 (Foundation Month) and January 15, 2021. The total raised was \$137,000. Why January 15? To allow for IRA distributions.

Our 'Together . . . ' 2021 goal was to raise \$150,000. Again, our lodges and members exceeded the goal. As of January 19, the accounting shows that our lodges and members donated \$158,276 between October 2021 and January 15, 2022.

A total of 137 lodges in Districts 1 through 6 donated \$68,657. In District 1, 28 lodges donated \$9,100.

When the final report is completed, we'll be sharing more information.

So, thanks to all who joined in making the 2021 'Together . . . ' campaign another success.

Also, scholarship applications are due on March 1. Please check the Sons of Norway website under Foundation for more details.

In addition, check out the Humanitarian Fund Grants for Disaster and Medical Relief. These grants are up to \$5,000 for members who have experienced financial loss due to property loss as a result of natural disasters or due to extreme illness or injury. Applications are open all year. Again, check out the SON website under Foundation.

Tusen Takk Karl Hella District 1 Foundation Director



Will Martin earns Sports Medal

If your lodge has been struggling lately, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Zone Director who will gladly engage any District Officer or Director that may be able to assist you. We are here to help. Do not wait—the earliest we can get in to help you, the better chance we have to get your lodge back on its feet.

Sincerely Yours, District 1 Officers and Directors

# Looking forward to seeing friends old and new at District 1 Convention



Your District 1 Officers and Directors

(The District Board as installed at 2018 Convention)