



North Carolina Vikings

JUNE 2011

<http://www.northcarolinavikings.org>



Sons of Norway

Vol. 5, No. 5

NC Vikings Lodge 3-675

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lodge Officers 2011-2012

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Cultural Director

Open – we're looking for someone to fill this position

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Wow! The Syttende Mai celebration at Apex Community Park was absolutely wonderful! There were 50+ attendees gathered to celebrate this important day in Norwegian history. It was very gratifying to see so many sharing the day, friendships, and fellowship. The guest speaker, Dr. Martin Soroos, captured everyone's attention with his discussion of his family's ties to Norway and detailed accounts of the explorations of two famous Norwegians, Roald Amundsen and Fridtjof Nansen, the people enjoyed marching in the parade and we certainly enjoyed the music played by Spelmanslag. I would like to personally thank everyone who made the Syttende Mai event as great as it was. From the attendees to the Friends of Scandinavia to the guest speaker – everyone played a part in making this a huge success.

For our last meeting for the season, Thursday June 23rd, we will have the opportunity to learn about an American stave church in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Thanks for your membership and participation! Please share your commitment and presence at these meetings as you are what make the North Carolina Vikings Lodge! Never forget to promote the Sons of Norway membership to friends and associates.

I hope that you have a safe and wonderful summer! See you on September 22nd.

Fraternally,

Mike Tilder, President
North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675

PHOTOS FROM THE SYTTENDE MAI CELEBRATION



UPCOMING VIKINGS LODGE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Please join us as we celebrate the culture of Norway and meet with others who share an interest in all things Norwegian. A coffee and dessert social follows each meeting, so please bring a small snack to share!

June 23rd

Lodge Meeting – 7:00 PM, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Underwood Hall

GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

June Birthdays

6/2 Christian Haukaas
6/9 Fred Pepoon
6/15 Kristine Nickelson
6/17 Edith Syvertsen

6/17 Solveig Svanberg
6/26 John Hansen, Jr.
6/30 Kate Schmidt



July Birthdays

7/15 Lilliean Ekker

August Birthdays

8/23 Kristin Wu
8/29 Peter Helgesen

HELP PLAN A MEETING

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

THE MOORHEAD STAVE CHURCH



From the back of the DVD

Building a Dream: The Moorhead Stave Church is a DVD that tells how Guy Paulson came to build a fullscale replica of the Hopperstad Stavkirke, a 12th century Norwegian stave church, on the grounds of the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, Minnesota.

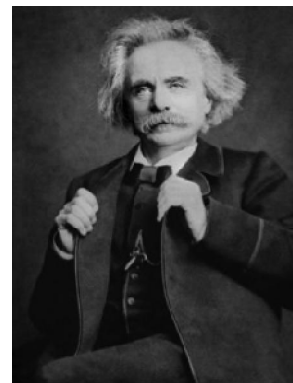
This is a documentary about dreams, and how extraordinary effort can make them come true. “I think people in general can do a lot more than they think they can, if they have the right attitude,” Guy Paulson says. In this program, we discover how one man’s woodcarving passion, Norwegian roots, and love for his community inspired him to create a monument to a region’s cultural and religious heritage.

OSLO GRIEG FESTIVAL: JUNE 9TH – AUGUST 7TH

From The Norway Post

The Oslo Grieg Festival is one of the Oslo Grieg Society's most important initiatives. The Oslo Grieg Festival 2011 is the tenth in the series, arranged in close cooperation with the National Museum in Oslo.

In 2011, the emphasis will be on Grieg's relation to the Norwegian capital, where he stayed long periods of his life and where he wrote many of his most important pieces. The festival is supported by Arts Council Norway.



FLOOD DAMAGE IN SOUTHERN NORWAY RUN MORE THAN NOK 200 MILLION

From The Norway Post

Finance Norway (FNO) the trade organization for banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions, believes the flooding in Southern Norway will be one of the costliest natural disasters in Norway since the major flooding in 1995.

According to FNO, 400 claims for damage worth altogether NOK 100 million have been filed so far this week. However, it is expected that the total claims will reach NOK 200 million, says FNO communications director Leif Osland.

This does not include the costs to cover the repairs on roads and rails, water and sewage systems and other public facilities.

Minister of Transport and Communications, Magnhild Meltveit Kleppa said Sunday that funds will not be lacking in the efforts to repair roads, rails and other communications damaged by the severe flooding in Southern Norway.

Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, who on Sunday toured the disaster area together with Justice Minister Knut Storberget, also promised funds.

The money needed to repair roads, rails and public infrastructure will be available, Stoltenberg said.

Highway 6 in the Gudbrandsdalen Valley was still closed Monday morning, and so was the main railway line between Lillehammer and Dombås.

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT

Fra Presidenten Ralph Peterson –

This is the second time I have written to you from Norway but the first from Bergen. I have attended a lot of Syttende Mai parades but none like yesterday. Looking out of our hotel room window at 8am the streets were already full of bunad clad peoples going somewhere. At 10 am we had found a place along the street and started people watching while the parade formed up in front of us. At 10:30 the streets were lined up 8 deep on both sides of the street and the cannons started blasting signaling the beginning of the 2 hour parade. It was a great parade. We actually saw two people we knew but we were so surprised that they were gone before we could yell to them. After the parade we had lunch about one of Norway's "tall ships", the Statraad Lehmkuhl. This is a ship that annually calls Norfolk so we did know a few folks onboard including the Captain who was kind enough to have us as his guests. The evening was topped off with a visit to one of the NATO couples we had met during their tour in Norfolk. The rommegrout, fenalor, aquavit, Hansa ol and great company as we sat high on a mountain overlooking the city was a great finish to the day and a great start on our trip.



I want to thank all the lodges that completed and forwarded their Lodge Achievement Forms. Not only is it important that each lodge be recognized for their work but the information collected is very important to the SON in maintaining our tax position with the government. I hope we can have more lodges complete the form next year and if for some reason you don't want to give recognition to your lodge at least fill out the first section of the form as that information is used to help justify our tax status. One thing that is very important to each of us and to the order is our insurance business. While we have shown some growth in past years we need to expand the number of members holding certificates. Not only is it good for our member's individual financial futures but each lodge receives a financial return based on insurance participation. This year my lodge got a significant check. We need to make sure our Financial Benefit Counselors get to our lodges and get the information out on the various products we have available and those products coming.

We (D3 and the entire order) are having significant problems with our membership. Our numbers, both in recruitment and in retention, are significantly below last year's numbers which were not good. We do have some lodges that are doing well so we know it is not impossible. We need to talk to those members who are not regularly in attendance, call those who are about to be removed from our rolls or have recently been removed, increase our recruiting efforts and keep those members in the order who are thinking of leaving. If we each brought in just one member next month it would be phenomenal and

it is not that hard to do. I am going to sign up at least one new member in June and I challenge you to do the same. If each of us do this we will not only slow the runaway train down but we will turn it around. Let's do it. We may have to sign up a family member (I am) to meet this goal but that is fine. Perhaps I will find a new member while heading North on the Hurtigruten. Your new greeting to another D3 member in June should be something like this, "how many new members did you sign up this month"? Just one new member from each of us and we will shortly be in tall cotton!!!!!!!!!!

Have a great summer.

Fraternally,

Ralph Peterson
President
District Three
Sons of Norway

