



North Carolina Vikings



MAY 2011

<http://www.northcarolinavikings.org>

Sons of Norway

Vol. 5, No. 4

NC Vikings Lodge 3-675

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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

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Although I missed the April lodge meeting, I received wonderful feedback on our guest speaker, John Felicione, a “retired” Physicians Assistant, who shared a lot of very pertinent information about different types of foods and their nutritional value.

Spring is here, so it must be time to celebrate Syttende Mai. Remember, that for this month’s lodge meeting, we will join the Friends of Scandinavia for the traditional Syttende Mai celebration on May 14th (see enclosed article). The celebration begins at 11:00 AM with a parade so please be in costume (bunads) if possible or wear the colors of the Norwegian and American flags.

I would like to take this time to express my gratitude to Cory Quammen for the fantastic newsletter he creates on a monthly basis. I know as well as anyone how hard he works to publish it in such an informative and timely manner. Please join me in thanking him.

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. Involvement in the lodge will certainly be worthwhile for you and your families but it is truly all about what “we make of it for us and each other”.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the Syttende Mai celebration.

Fraternally,

Mike Tilder, President
North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675

SYTTENDE MAI CELEBRATION

Please join us Saturday, May 14th, as we celebrate Syttende Mai with the Friends of Scandinavia. Everyone will begin to assemble at 11:00 am in the Apex Community Park to celebrate Syttende Mai, the date that commemorates the anniversary of Norway's newly adopted constitution in 1813. There will be time for socializing and enjoying the folk music by the Spelmanslag as we organize for the parade. Then the flag bearers and fiddlers will lead everyone along the lake and back as we all join in. Keep in mind the Syttende Mai parade should include the children, so bring them all along. To add to the festivities please remember to bring your own Norwegian flags and wear your national costumes. We'll have flags for the children. If you don't have a costume, we encourage you to include the colors red, white and blue in what you choose to wear.

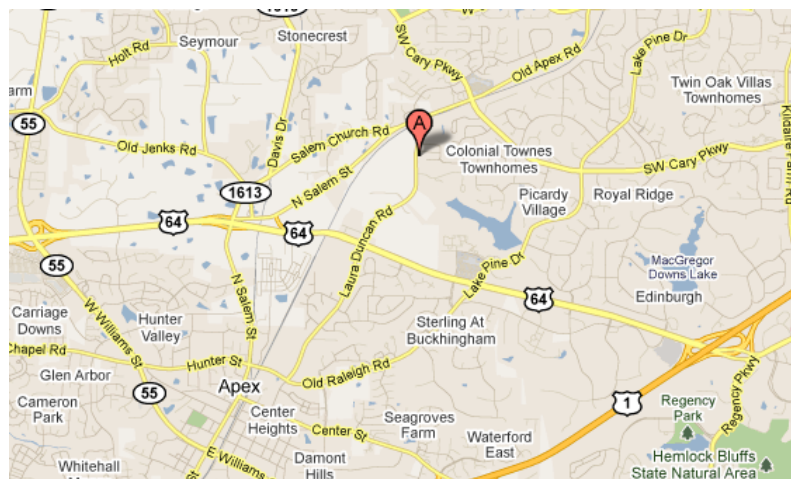


Flag bearers at the 2010 Syttende Mai celebration.

Following the parade and the singing of our national anthems we'll enjoy a picnic lunch together. Please bring two dishes: a main dish and a salad or dessert. If you are coming along, one dish will be plenty. If you have them, please bring flowers from your back yard to help decorate the tables. Friends of Scandinavia will provide a sliced ham as well as plates, flatware and beverages. Please remember to bring a generous amount of food, since we've invited the musicians and dancers as our guests.

Following the picnic lunch we will hear from guest speaker Marv Soroos. Marv was the Head of the Political Science Department when he retired from NCSU. He will be speaking about "The Year of Nansen and Amundsen" which is celebrated around the world.

The address of Apex Community Park is 2200 Laura Duncan Rd, Cary. To get there, take US 64 to Laura Duncan Road and turn right if coming from the east, left if coming from the west. The entrance to the park is about ½ mile north of US 64 on the right.



IN OUR THOUGHTS

For those of you who are not aware, Mal Arnum is fighting Merkel Cell Carcinoma (cancer). He has been taking chemotherapy and radiation treatments but has stopped after 16 treatments. He was at Duke-Raleigh for 11 days and is now at Sunnybrook Rehab in Raleigh. Martha says that he is doing well with physical therapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy. He is still planning to do the Hurtigruten cruise in June.

Please keep Mal in your thoughts and prayers and, if you can, reach out to provide Martha some support.

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!

May 14th (note the date change)

Friends of Scandinavia Syttende Mai Celebration– 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Apex Community Park, 2200 Laura Duncan Rd. Apex, NC 27523.

June 23rd

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

GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

5/30 Signe Marwede

5/31 Robert Hoff



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!

NORWEGIAN FOREST CAT

From Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norwegian_Forest_Cat



The Norwegian Forest Cat is a breed of domestic cat native to Northern Europe, and adapted to a very cold climate, with top coat of glossy, long, water-shedding hairs, and a woolly undercoat for insulation. The breed was natural selected to survive Norway's cold weather. Its ancestors may include black and white shorthair cats brought to Norway from Great Britain sometime after 1000 AD by the Vikings and longhaired cats brought to Norway by Crusaders. These cats would reproduce with farm and feral stock and would eventually evolve into the modern-day Norwegian Forest Cat. The Siberian and the Turkish Angora, longhaired cats from Russia and Turkey, respectively, are also possible ancestors of the breed. Norse legends refer to the Skogkatt as a "mountain-dwelling fairy cat with an ability to climb sheer rock faces that other cats could not manage." Since

the Norwegian Forest Cat is the most adept climber, author Claire Bessant believes that the Skogkatt could be about the Norwegian Forest Cat.

Many people believe that the ancestors of the Norwegian Forest Cat served as mousers on Viking ships. They lived in the Norwegian forests for many centuries, but were later prized for their hunting skills and were used on Norwegian farms. Norwegian Forest Cats would continue acting as mousers at Norwegian farms until they were discovered in the early twentieth century by cat enthusiasts.

In 1938, the first Norwegian Forest Cat Club was formed. The club's movement to preserve the breed was interrupted by World War II (WWII). Due to cross-breeding with free-ranging domestic cats during WWII, the Norwegian Forest Cat became endangered and nearly extinct until the Norwegian Forest Cat Club helped the breed make a comeback by developing an official breeding program. Since the cat did not leave Norway until the 1970s, it was not registered as a breed in the Fédération Internationale Féline, a European federation of cat registries, until Carl-Fredrik Nordane, a local cat fancier, took notice of the breed, and made efforts to register it. The breed was registered in Europe by the 1970s, but was not recognized by the American Cat Fanciers Association until 1994. In 1978, it was recognized in Sweden, and in 1989, they were accepted as a breed in the United Kingdom. The Norwegian Forest Cat is very popular in Norway and Sweden. It is the fifth most popular breed in France since 2003, where there are about 400 to 500 births per year.

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 3 PRESIDENT

Fra Presidenten Ralph Peterson –

We can probably all agree that Spring is finally here and not too soon. North Dakota got 11 inches of snow on 14 April. A late and cruel April Fool's Day trick that I was happy to miss.



Culture seems to be bursting out all over the District. I know of 3 rosemaking classes held or will be held at LOV , <http://www.3dsofn.org/eventscalendar/lovdefault.aspx> we had a rosemaking class in Florida, a “bunad” making class sponsored by NORSK Carolina, at least 3 Genealogy workshops led by Blaine Hedberg were held by Restauration, North Carolina Vikings and Washington lodges and a workshop is set up for LOV this fall plus LOV has a Norwegian cooking class scheduled for this fall (if I missed your lodge I'm sorry). These events are in addition to normal cultural events going on at our lodges. Please remember to fill out the forms and get your cultural medals. The new rules for rosemaking seem to involve less writing than before. Some of these medals are designed specifically for our heritage members so let's get them involved now!!

When it comes to Norwegian culture in the USA, Vesterheim and the North American Genealogic Center and Naeseth Library are among the leaders. We are honored that both of these excellent institutions are coming east to provide D3 members opportunities to study with them, a lot closer to home. Check our links page to find their web sites (<http://www.3dsofn.org/blog/?p=746>). Both institutions have great membership programs and you may find something they offer that interests you. On the genealogy scene the 1910 Norwegian census is on-line (<http://www.digitalarkivet.no/cgi-win/WebFront.exe?slag=vis&tekst=meldingar&spraak=e>). I thought there was more information in the 1865 census but there is enough in the 1910 product that it will keep you up later than you want.

April has been designated as Charitable Trust month for District Three. This year the trust is 40 years old. The trust has helped hundreds of members over the 40 years. It is a wonderful program and I salute those far thinkers who 40 years ago developed the idea and brought it to life. You will be getting a letter in the near future with more information on how you can contribute to the project. It is a wonderful cause. If your lodge has not provided the District Counselor with the name of your lodge's Charitable Trust representative please do so quickly.

A big pat on the back for Drammen Lodge 682 who raised \$450 for campers attending the youth camps this year. One of our new lodges shining brightly. Tusen Takk Drammen. Remember to get those campers signed up now

<http://www.3dsofn.org/aboutus/youthcamp.html>).

We have had some of the 23 rooms available to D3 members for the 2011 Høst Fest already taken. The telephone number for AB Tours is 701 852 8144 or 800 440 2690. Don't wait if this event is of interest to you. Anyone wishing to take advantage of the District 3 Host Fest offer has to place their order by May 4. The telephone number for AB Tours is 701 852 8144 or 800 440 2690. Several D3 members have booked but they have 60 on their waiting list and they can't hold the rooms much longer.

<http://3dsofn.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/Hostfest2011Version2FlyIn.pdf>).

I'm sorry to report that we are still losing too many of our members. We are signing up members at a great pace but too many members are walking out the front door. I hope that our membership committees and the membership secretaries are following up on our folks with late dues and are planning programs that will interest everybody. We need everybody's help in this area.

The web site continues to get a lot of traffic. In May we averaged 232 daily visitors with the high day being 288 and the low 186. The blog seems to be the favorite section with the events pages next. Our Hurtigruten raffle is going good but you still have time to get your ticket. This is the Districts only big fund-raiser and the winnings will be substantial so take a chance. AnneGrete and I will embark 19 May on the M/V Trollfjord going North and I will post some greetings on the web probably on the 21st (around Trondheim) so take a peek at the blog. Wherever you are on the SYTENDE MAI have a great day!!

Fraternally,

Ralph Peterson
President
District Three
Sons of Norway

