



North Carolina Vikings



October 2020

Sons of Norway / Vol. 13, No. 5 / NC Vikings Lodge 3-675

Lodge Officers

2019-2020

President

Frank Bell
bellfrank2@gmail.com
(919) 787-7063

Vice President

Asgeir (Andy) Kristoffersen
asgeirkristoffersen@gmail.com
(919) 345-2164

Counselor

Michael Tilder
Mike70Tilder@gmail.com
(919) 349-0102

Treasurer

Kjell Ottesen
imnorsk@hotmail.com
(919) 848-9152

Secretary

John (Chris) Christiansen
jocmpc@att.net
(919) 676-3370

Social Director

OPEN

Membership Secretary

OPEN

Webmaster

OPEN

Newsletter Editor

Jennifer Axness
jenniferlaxness@gmail.com
(919) 802-8212

President's Message

Welcome SONS OF NORWAY, North Carolina Vikings lodge and crew members to our October newsletter. The frost is not on the pumpkins on our NC shore, but that is only weeks away until we enjoy the beautiful change of season. Hopefully the cold weather will help kill the Covid-19 virus for us, so we can return to normal life.

Our NC Vikings virtual long boat is still safely anchored in safe waters. To my knowledge, none of our crew has tested positive for Covid-19. We are still not going ashore for face to face meetings for October and November. We are, however, tentatively considering having our December Jultrefest Christmas luncheon party celebration live at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Creedmoor Road in Raleigh if we are able to meet ALL safety requirements for Covid-19 gatherings.

Our winter and spring meeting schedule as well as places of those meetings will be looked at next, taking into consideration the Covid-19 pandemic situation.

Until we meet face to face again soon, y'all be safe and healthy.

MVH,

Frank Bell, President
North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675



Upcoming Vikings Lodge Programs and Lodge Meetings

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

Future Lodge meetings are as follows. Please mark your calendars!

December 19

Christmas Meeting

North Carolina Vikings Potluck Dinner & Juletrefest



Lodge Birthdays

October Birthdays

Sarah Haukas	October 8
Richard Herschel	October 21
Tanya Parise	October 30

November Birthdays

Karen Kvam	November 4
Diane Mickelson	November 12
Michael Cruise	November 15
John Myhre	November 23
Judy Vanhoozier	November 25

Help Plan a Meeting

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

Items for the Newsletter

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

Viking Magazine Available Online

https://www.sofn.com/resource_blog/web-tip-viking-magazine-available-online/

One of the many benefits of Viking membership is the ability to access the digital archive of the award-winning *Viking* magazine, 24/7! Just log in at sofn.com/viking and enjoy.

Log in with your S.O.N. credentials. Not sure what your credentials are?
Contact webmaster@sofn.com.



Return of the Vikings

By Asgeir Kristoffersen

Once again, the Vikings are seafaring America's waters with their flame-spitting ships and ambitious pursuits, only in this modern era, sights are set on a paved inland route to a new home port nestled in beautiful Lake Minnewaska, Minnesota. While horned helmets may have proved to be a historical fallacy of Viking history, the intricate and seaworthy design of traditional Viking ships have endured the test of time. The Viking longboat pictured below is a 20-foot, scaled-down replica of a 60' longboat built by master craftsman and boat builder Victor Fasolino of Beaufort, North Carolina. Victor is a dedicated builder of beautifully-crafted wooden boats who mastered the intricacies of a traditional Viking ship. His inspiration came from a trip to Iceland.

Victor describes his process, "I found a line drawing for this boat during a Google images search. It had no dimensions and could have been for a 60' boat or a 20 boat." Vic added, "I was able to add substantially more upward sweep in the bow and stern, built a scale model and proceeded to build the boat." While the materials used were not available during the Viking age, there are no fasteners holding the planks and only hand tools were used in the construction.



(Above: The Viking ship going for a "test row" in Beaufort, NC.)

After Vic completed the scale model, he next drew upon his studies of Norse lore and created the oars, shields and sail along with an actual flame spitting serpent.

Vic also expected that today's Viking Warriors would get tired rowing across Lake Minnewaska and would need a modern means of propulsion, so he hid an 85lb thrust electric motor under the boat. As you can see from these pictures the ship is finely built.



(Above: Wooden detail of a flame-spitting serpent)

Bil and Lorna Pederson of Mauston, Wisconsin and Starbuck, Minnesota took delivery of the ship in Beaufort and transported it on a trailer to Mauston. They created quite a stir on the highways and even had someone follow them off a highway exit, curious about the ship.

Asgeir (Andy) Kristoffersen (NC Vikings SON) introduced Bil to the Beaufort boat builder after a sea trial of the ship. It's fitting that the ship will be berthed in Starbuck, where both young and old can take part in a tradition that traces back to their Nordic roots, inspiring a deeper connection to their Viking heritage.

Norway Rich List: Meet the Wealthiest Norwegians in 2020

rb.gy/6bd3qk



Who are Norway's wealthiest people? Discover the top 10 Norwegian billionaires thanks to the very latest 'rich list' published by Norwegian business magazine Kapital.

It's that time of the year again! Each year, Norwegian business magazine Kapital publishes its annual list of the 400 wealthiest people in Norway. The list does not consider income, but the value of total assets held.

The big news this year was the Viking Cruises founder and chair Torstein Hagen dropping from 2nd to 10th place in the rankings. The impact of the global pandemic on the cruise industry was and continues to be significant, wiping 66% off the value of Hagen's assets.

Read the entire list here - rb.gy/6bd3qk



60% of Cars Sold in Norway Last Month Were Electric

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/10/norway-electric-cars-majority-sales/>



- Almost two-thirds of new cars sold in Norway in September were electric.
- When hybrids are included, the total jumps up to 89%.
- **Norway leads the world in the percentage of electric and hybrid cars on its roads.**
- But now the government is reducing the tax breaks that have fueled the electric boom.
- Some say it's time electric cars paid their fair share of the cost of the roads.

Norway's electric car market is powering ahead, with most new cars registered in September either fully electric or hybrids. Electric cars accounted for 61.5% of the 15,552 cars registered that month in the country. When hybrids are included, the total jumps up to 89%. The new Volkswagen ID.3 was the bestselling car, with 12.8% of sales, followed by the Tesla Model 3 and the Polestar 2.

Jolt to the market

It's a trend that looks set to continue. The latest data from OFV, the Norwegian Road Traffic Council, shows that by mid-October fully electric cars had already accounted for almost 65% of sales.

Norway has long been hailed as a leader in the race to adopt electric cars, and it provides many incentives and benefits – including big reductions in purchase and road tax – for those who buy and drive them. Electric cars also enjoy cuts of at least 50% to parking, toll road and ferry charges.

Globally, too, we could be on track for an electric car breakthrough as battery technology gets less expensive. The cost of a lithium-ion battery pack for an electric car fell 87% from 2010 to 2019, according to research by Bloomberg NEF.

The road ahead

Norway's goal is for all new cars sold in the country after 2025 to be electric. And as its plan continues to pick up speed, it says the incentives driving the boom will be brought more into line with what other road users pay.

From next year, it will increase the road tax rate for electric vehicles – which currently benefit from discounts of up to 90% – to \$229 a year, the same as for motorcycles.

Although this rate will still be only 70% of that internal combustion cars pay, Øyvind Solberg Thorsen, CEO of OFV, says electric cars should start to bear a larger share of the cost of Norway's road network as their numbers increase.

“Electric cars make about as much noise as other cars at speeds above 50 km/h, they whirl up road dust, struggle just as much on the road and take up as much space as other cars,” he says. “This is a step in the right direction, especially because the share of electric cars in new car sales is now about 50%, and is expected to increase in the coming years.”

Cost-competitive

Even with the slightly higher taxes, electric vehicles will still be cheaper to own than fossil-fuel cars, Thorsen says. And that argument is borne out by new data from car-leasing company LeasePlan.

Analysis of the monthly cost of owning a car, averaged over a four-year period, shows that in Norway a mid-sized electric car would cost \$883 a month, against \$1,002 for petrol and \$1,075 for diesel. The figures include fuel, depreciation, taxes, insurance and maintenance.

The data also shows that running a mid-sized electric car is now cost-competitive with fossil-fuel vehicles in 14 European countries including France, Germany, Spain and the UK.

Norway's Finest Poem

<http://norwaypost.no/culture/31115-norway-s-finest-poem>

Norwegian state broadcaster NRK recently asked its listeners/viewers to select "Norway's finest poem through the ages". The winner was the poem "Det er den draumen" ("It was a dream") by the poet Olav H. Hauge (1908-1994). Here follows a translation into English of the poem, which was first published in 1966.

It was a dream
We all carry with us this dream:
that something wonderful will happen,
that it must happen -
that time will open,
that the heart will open,
that doors will open,
that cliffs will be opened,
that springs will well forth,
that the dream will be opened,
- that we one peaceful morning will glide in -
onto a bay we had not been aware of.

(Author Olav H. Hauge) / Translated for The Norway Post by Rolleiv Solholm, Chief Editor

Nordic Roasted Cauliflower Soup (Blomkålsuppe) with Brown Butter and Cardamom

<https://outside-oslo.com/nordic-roasted-cauliflower-soup/>



1 head cauliflower, leaves attached
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1 teaspoon dried juniper berries
½ teaspoon cardamom seeds
1 tablespoon canola or rapeseed oil
20 ounces chicken broth or stock
3 tablespoons butter
1/3 cup sour cream
Ground white pepper, to taste



Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit.

Rinse the cauliflower thoroughly, then snap off the thick outer leaves, leaving the small, tender ones attached. Using a sharp knife, cut off the stem, leaving a flat base on which the cauliflower can rest. Place the cauliflower on a baking sheet. Pour the oil over the cauliflower, using your hand to rub it in.

Using a mortar and pestle, smash together the salt, juniper, and cardamom, thoroughly crushing the herbs. Sprinkle it over the cauliflower in a generous, even layer (you may not need it all).

Slide the tray into the oven and roast for about 40 minutes, until a knife easily pierces the stem. (After 40 minutes, if the cauliflower is not tender yet, the original recipe suggests turning down the heat to 340 degrees to finish roasting—this took me an additional 15 minutes.) At this point, the cauliflower will be deep golden and richly fragrant, almost nutty.

When the cauliflower is still warm but cool enough to handle, cut it into rough florets, reserving the leaves, and place in a blender. Blend, gradually adding chicken broth, until as smooth as can be. You only want to add as much broth as necessary to make it a luscious, spoonable soup—it took me 15 ounces.

In a medium pot, melt butter over medium heat. Continue heating until the butter starts to brown. It will crackle and release an intoxicating aroma into the air. Carefully swirl the pan until the milk solids separate and the butter is golden brown. Promptly remove the pot to a cool burner to stop cooking, then pour the pureed cauliflower in, taking care as it will sputter dramatically when the cauliflower hits the hot butter. Stir in the sour cream. Taste and season with additional salt and white pepper if necessary.

Return the pot to medium heat and cook, continuing to stir occasionally, until the soup is heated through. Serve, garnishing with the leaves, which are now curled, warmly colored, and almost translucent. Serves 4.



In Memoriam: Knut Utstein Kloster - Pioneer of Modern Cruising

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/in-memoriam-knut-ulstein-kloster-pioneer-of-modern-cruising>



Knut Utstein Kloster, one of the true pioneers of the modern cruise industry, passed away on September 20, 2020 at the age of 91.

In the 1960s, he built a deluxe ferry called the *Sunward* and took a chance on converting his family's shipping company into passenger shipping. With that small ship he would modernize cruising from the port of Miami and launch the modern cruise industry. His efforts became Norwegian Caribbean Lines (today's Norwegian Cruise Line) and they would pioneer many elements of modern cruising, including the industry's first private island, the first mega cruise ship, the *ss Norway*, and the first weekly cruises to the Western Caribbean. Later he would pursue his vision of world unity proposing a 250,000 cruise ship called the *World City*. While it was never built, concepts included in the design would appear in many of the cruise ships that would follow, including Royal Caribbean International's mega ship the *Oasis of the Seas*. Kloster continued to dream of building the *World City* to the end of his life.

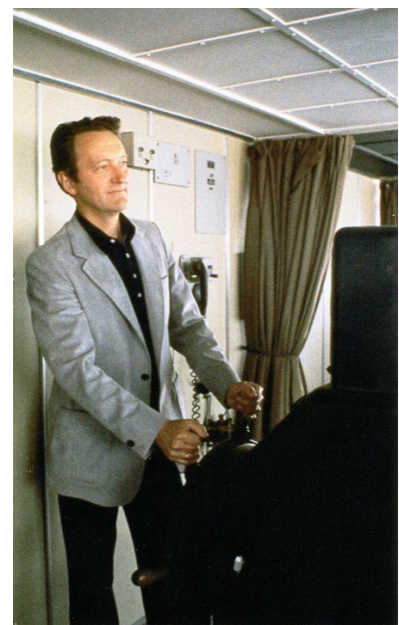
Celebrating a 50-year vision of innovation and change by the man who helped start it all.

Fifty years ago the cruise industry was in its infancy when Knut Utstein Kloster, a third-generation Norwegian shipping executive, made the auspicious decision to diversify his family business. In doing so he would lay the foundation for the modern cruise industry with the establishment of Norwegian Caribbean Lines, later renamed Norwegian Cruise Line, and introducing many firsts. With his strong humanist beliefs, Kloster also saw the potential for the industry to go far beyond just creating carefree holidays.

Barely 30 when his father died, Knut Utstein Kloster, an engineering graduate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, suddenly found himself a Managing Director of his family's 55-year-old Norwegian shipping firm, Klosters Rederi A/S, which operated bulk cargo ships and tankers. Shortly thereafter he leaped at the opportunity to launch a first-of-its-kind weekly passenger/car ferry service between England, Spain and Gibraltar. It was a risky investment, but Kloster believed there was enormous untapped potential in vacation travel.

Commissioned in June 1966, the *Sunward* was a revolutionary 8,666-gross-ton ship. Designed for long-haul ferry service, she featured a new level of luxury including accommodations for 558 passengers in cabins with private baths, restaurants, bars, a nightclub, theater and shopping arcade as well as an air-conditioning system able to handle the tropics.

She was a “happy ship” due in part to Kloster’s emerging business philosophy. He would become known for the good working environment on his ships, which on the *Sunward* included thirty female crew members with twelve of them married and working alongside their husbands. The *Sunward*’s success, however, was short-lived as that fall Britain imposed currency restrictions on foreign travel while in a geopolitical dispute Spain closed its border with Gibraltar. With an uncertain future, the *Sunward* returned to Norway for guaranty work before planned winter trips from England to Casablanca and Gibraltar.



Kloster's first cruise ship the pioneering Sunward seen in Miami in 1970

Building the Pioneering “White Ships”

It was then that possibly one of the most fortuitous events in the nascent industry took place. A shipping agent named Ted Arison, desperate after losing the Israeli car ferry he was marketing on cruises to the Bahamas, made a now famous pitch call suggesting that the *Sunward* come to Miami. “My first impressions of Miami and the port were reassuring,” recalls Kloster, “I was impressed with Port Director Admiral Stevens and his plans for development. The timing was right. *Sunward* should come.”

In a matter of days, a deal was struck, and the agreement between the Arison Shipping Company and Klosters Rederi set the stage for cooperation between American sales and marketing and Norwegian ship operation. In time, it would be replicated by other cruise pioneers...

[Read More here - https://maritime-executive.com/article/in-memoriam-knut-ulstein-kloster-pioneer-of-modern-cruising](https://maritime-executive.com/article/in-memoriam-knut-ulstein-kloster-pioneer-of-modern-cruising)



Ancient Fishing Artifacts Found on Norwegian Farm

<https://www.sofn.com/blog/ancient-fishing-artifacts-found-on-norwegian-farm/>

In the 1930's, a farmer in southern Norway wanted to cultivate new land, so he set about draining a wetland near his farm. During the process, he discovered several strange items on the wetland: fish hooks and harpoons carved from bone, as well as killer whale bones and bluefin tuna bones. These discoveries eventually ended up in a couple of key museums in Norway. At the time, researchers were unable to piece together any theories related to the items.

In 2017, the story of the discovery sparked the interest of Svein Vatsvåg Nielsen, a PhD candidate from the University of Oslo's Museum of Cultural History. He began studying the artifacts as part of his doctoral work and was able to date the items, as well as explain how they ended up in the wetland. This was all possible because the artifacts had been extremely well preserved in the soil.

Nielsen believes the objects were all from the same general time period: between 3700 and 2500 years BC. During that era, the sea level was higher than it is today, which gave merit to Nielsen's theory that the farmer's wetland field was in fact a lagoon where people from nearby settlements fished. If his theory was true, Nielsen believed there would be additional telling items buried in the wetland. Thus, he proposed an excavation of the site. In 2018, he and his fellow colleagues began to dig.

A slow start

At first, the excavation was not providing the exciting discoveries he had hoped for, turning up only an arrowhead. However, after digging more than a meter into the ground, piles of bone appeared before them. The main finds included mostly bones from bluefin tuna, and more harpoons and fish hooks. Nielsen and his colleagues deduced that the tuna would follow smaller fish into the lagoon and fishermen would hunt them from boats.

These archaeological finds prove very important to Nielsen as he believes they give insight into the daily lives of the people that lived during that era. He states, "Usually we only see what people did on land, and just right around where they lived. We typically do excavations of a hundred square metres around homes. But as soon as people leave their residences, we have no idea what they are doing. They disappear into in the fog for us."

Time is of the essence

Because of the risky nature of hunting bluefin tuna from a boat with a harpoon, Nielsen believes there may be additional artifacts waiting to be found. For example, perhaps they will find a skull from an unlucky fisherman or an entire boat. Although they have not discovered findings like these yet, he knows that time is of the essence if they hope to; the drainage of the wetland changed the conditions, and they are no longer ideal for preservation. As a result, the items found in the 1930's are actually much better preserved than items found more recently. Nevertheless, the researchers hope to take on a more thorough excavation of the site in the future to see what other unique items still lie undiscovered.



From the District 3 President, Kathy Dollymore



Here's a great quote concerning a new skill: "Do one thing every day that scares you." Quotation assigned to Eleanor Roosevelt. Lodges are gearing up with their nominating committees for officer elections coming up and maybe that can be a little scary... "Can I do it? Will I get help? What if I make a mistake? I'm not ready."

With national baseball taking place (yea, Phillies), even if it isn't the way we had hoped to see it, these are thoughts for you: don't hide from the fear -- lean into it, take a swing, or let it hit you and take your free base. We're all here cheering you on and waiting for our turn to step up to the plate! Meaning, try a position in your lodge as an officer or part of a committee. We'll get back to our lodges, our meetings, our programs, our friends in the new normal but we won't hide from the fear but will take on the new day. Sons of Norway members are resilient, and we are all in this together and we will persevere. So, when asked to step up to the plate, think about that quote.

I am learning to use my Zoom, something I never thought was on my agenda. And yes, a little scary but still trying to learn more each day.

Some of our lodges have started meeting with a safe-distancing, masked, in-person meeting and some lodges have done virtual meetings with members who have been unable to attend in a while but through the virtual world here they are with the group. So, we will find ways to get together. Programs shared from other lodges and members of other lodges visiting in the virtual world make this something we had not envisioned, but it's something that's working.

October is also the month we recognize as FOUNDATION MONTH. A donation to the Sons of Norway Foundation is a contribution to the positive impact we make through community, youth, educational, and cultural projects. With every contribution, there is an impact. The Sons of Norway Foundation is proud to announce the brand-new Helping Hands to Members Medical Relief Grant. This grant assists current members with unreimbursed medical claims resulting from extreme illness or injury. Awards of up to \$5,000 are available to help members who are uninsured, underinsured or denied coverage for major medical expenses. Grants are made from the Foundation's Humanitarian Fund.

Everything the Sons of Norway Foundation accomplishes is the result of the support of our donors: the people who contribute time, talent and resources to further our mission in member communities. Every contribution matters and you can be sure that we're using your donations responsibly and effectively. Our 3D Foundation Director, Dirk Hansen, has information on how the Foundation can work for YOUR lodge. Email him at hansenoaks@lowcountry.com.

Kathy Dollymore, 3D President

Find out more about Sons of Norway!

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

... and here are some informative Genealogy Websites!

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

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

Oldest church registers in Norwegian Parishes. Shows the year in which different parishes began keeping church records.
<http://www.nndata.no/home/jborgos/register.htm>

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

List of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy

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

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

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

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

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

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

