



Vonheim Saga  
Published Monthly by  
Vonheim Lodge #1-108  
Sons of Norway

## Fra Presidenten

### Volunteer Records

Did you know that Sons of Norway is a member of the American Fraternal Alliance (AFA)? Who are they and why should we care?

The AFA is an umbrella group for not-for-profit mutual aid organizations. There are 70 fraternal benefit society members who AFA represents to make a case for continued preferential tax treatment. The justification is that the tax savings are used to produce even greater benefit to society.

Part of our annual responsibility as a lodge is to report a record of member hours spent on the business of the lodge and in activities in the greater community. Sons of Norway gathers this information and makes it accessible to AFA for their lobbying efforts.

The Vonheim secretary is responsible for the reporting of our member hours to the home office. A new website has been set up at AFA for the purpose of making this record keeping simpler and timely. If you could provide me with your time spent on Vonheim activities, I will make sure this data gets filed. I'd appreciate emails to [mctingels@aol.com](mailto:mctingels@aol.com).

PS: Check out our website [vonheim108.org](http://vonheim108.org) and our Facebook page link.

Tusen Takk,  
Merle Tingelstad

## The Norwegian-American Lindbergh: Carl Ben Eielson

**Sunday, March 15, 2:00 p.m. at the  
American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park  
Avenue, Mpls.**

Carl Ben Eielson: The flight that brought recognition and fame to this native North Dakotan was the first non-stop transpolar intercontinental flight from Alaska to Spitsbergen, Norway. He was a contemporary of some famous pilots, and he was known as the Father of the Bush Pilots.

Dr. Lawrence Moe is Professor of English and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and has a reputation of being an engaging presenter. He holds a PhD in English from the University of Minnesota, where he also earned a BA with summa cum laude honors in two majors, English and philosophy. Dr. Moe's ancestors came from Norway, settling in northeastern ND.



### **Pre-Meeting Game Time! 1:30pm, Sunday March 15 at ASI**

Do you enjoy games! Vonheim early-birds at our March meeting will be greeted with the opportunity to play some Norwegian Bingo for the half-hour preceding the lodge meeting. Dave Kompelien and Gregg Iverson will be coordinating a half hour game time for those that arrive early to lodge meetings. Come to play a game and then stay with us for our lodge social meeting.

## COMING EVENTS

(Most meetings at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Mpls. The meeting room is downstairs and wheelchair-accessible, including elevators). Board meetings one hour prior. .

March 15—2pm Vonheim Meeting, American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis.

April 21—6:30pm Vonheim Meeting, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Minneapolis

May 19—6:30pm Vonheim Meeting, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Minneapolis

### **Vonheim Board Meeting Notes Paulson Hall, Am. Swedish Inst. Sunday, February 15, 2015**

The Vonheim board met at 12:30pm. January lefse/vaffler demonstration was very well received but only 30 people attended. Winter meetings at ASI have yet to produce numbers even though programs have been enjoyed.

Several positions remain to be filled on the board, particularly youth director, assistant secretary, auditor, pianist, webmaster, social committee, scholarship committee and membership committee.

### **Vonheim Planning Meeting Notes VFW Post 5555, Richfield, MN. Wednesday, February 18, 2015**

The Vonheim board met at 6:30pm to transition officer roles and discuss lodge plans. We agreed to have a Meatball Dinner in June with feature entertainment. We decided to have a pre-meeting game time for early attendees. We will start in March with Norwegian Bingo. We discussed meeting location with Norway House education center coming online in May. We will at least investigate the facility.

Merle Tingelstad

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### **Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes Our Mighty Mississippi at ASI. Sunday, February 15, 2015**

We had 24 members and guests attend our meeting. Steven Marking, our program presenter, led us in the national anthems of Norway and United States. There were 6 guests introduced, including two guests from Cambridge lodge and Hege Bakken from the University of Oslo, who will be attending our lodge functions as part of her research on how Norwegian-American organizations celebrate their heritage.

Announcements included scholarship committee schair, Dennis Sorheim is till accepting registration requests for Skogfjorden or Masse Moro. Gregg Iverson spoke about collecting our postage stamps for Tubfrim.

Steven Marking is a fan of nature photography and video, particularly along the Mississippi River. He has gone to great length to get the perfect shots of waterfowl, telling us about one night spent in frigid water with leaking hip waders so that he could catch several species of dick in the early sunrise. Steven is also a superb baritone singer and had several songs of the river that he performed while his video was playing. Steven and his wife have spent many years entertaining guests of the Mississippi Queen steamship carrying passengers along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

This was a fantastic program that we wish had been shared by more members.

Merle Tingelstad

**Spring arrives on March 20th**



## Lutefisk & Meatball

### Dinner

sponsored by the Norwegian Men's Glee Club

March 21st with seatings at 2PM, 4PM, & 6PM

Reservations required by March 13th for tickets—\$20—612-861-4793

Location: Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

## Tubfrim Winner Announced

Thursday, January 15, 2015 was a lucky day for Violet “Vi” Hills, a member of Jotunheimen 4-499 in Billing, MT. Vi was the winner of the Tubfrim drawing to give away a ticket to Norway, worth up to \$1,000. Her postcard was drawn from among 2,530 other cards. With one card for every pound sent to Norway that means that Sons of Norway sent at least 2,531 pounds of stamps to Tubfrim in 2014. This was a significant increase from 2013, when 1,216 pounds of stamps were sent. Gene Brandvold, Sons of Norway Tubfrim chairperson, conducted the drawing.

For the past 29 years, our members have been clipping canceled postage stamps and sending them to Tubfrim, who then sells them to dealers and collectors.

Originally the money raised went to help children afflicted by tuberculosis. Since tuberculosis is no longer the threat to health that it once was, today the proceeds from the resale of stamps helps improve the quality of life for children and youth with disabilities and special needs. .

## Win a Trip to Norway

Sons of Norway is proud to announce that it is continuing its partnership with Borton Overseas for the 2015 Norwegian Experience Recruitment Contest! This year, however, there are some new and exciting changes to the contest, in order to raise the stakes and recognize the great work being done by recruiters in every district.

Unlike the past, where one winner was drawn at random and given an all-expense paid trip to Norway, the 2015 contest will award two plane tickets to the top recruiter in every district! Sons of Norway feels this change better reflects the egalitarian nature of the organization and does a better job of rewarding members throughout the organization for their dedication to their lodge and district.

This is an exciting opportunity for recruiters because their efforts will not only help their local lodge grow, but it could also result in a trip of a lifetime to Norway.

As in past years, this year's contest is open to Sons of Norway members\* who recruit new, dues-paying members, so make sure your name is listed in the membership application's “Referred By” field. The eligible members in each district who have the highest recruitment numbers will be notified in January of 2016.

Sons of Norway members are the largest contributor outside of Norway to Tubfrim's efforts, sending nearly 30% of all stamps collected

## Save Stamps!

# Vonheim Saga

Sons of Norway Vonheim Lodge #1-108  
Mailer: Dennis Sorheim  
1491 Dodd Road  
Mendoata Heights, MN 55118



Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Twin Cities MN  
Permit No. 2101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Prompt Delivery Please

**March 2015**

## OFFICERS AND CONTACTS

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Erling Husby, Cheer Committee	651-484-5780

[www.Vonheim108.org](http://www.Vonheim108.org)

## POTLUCK IN THE SPRING

Bring your favorite recipe to share!

April 21, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at LCGS, 48th & France, Minneapolis.



Elaine Peik, Director of the Scandinavian Department at BORTON TRAVEL, will be presenting "The Norwegian Experience" and the benefits Borton offers to Sons of Norway members.

"Borton Overseas is passionate about assisting Sons Of Norway Members in discovering & maintaining their heritage; bringing families, friends and Lodges together; expanding their horizons; and to creating treasured memories through travel"