



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

Fra Presidenten

What A Web We Weave

Have you taken advantage of internet access to Vonheim and Sons of Norway? Vonheim has a website at www.vonheim108.org and the Sons of Norway website is www.sofn.com. Our Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/vonheim108. There are many reasons to use the internet.

Timeliness: We make every effort to print our newsletter and get it mailed in time to reach our members before each monthly meeting, but there have been instances where newsletters arrived to promote a meeting that already occurred. In each case, our newsletter had been available online since the beginning of that month.

Exclusive content: The Saga newsletter is 4 pages of content. We simply can't put all content we would like in the Saga. Online you will find regular additions of **Recipes, Cultural** and **Travel** articles, and a special article with **English and Norwegian translations**.

Photo Gallery: We have been posting pictures from our meetings and activities on Facebook that would simply not be practical in print.

If you don't have a computer, an inexpensive touch tablet works great with free wifi at restaurants or libraries.

Tusen Takk,
Merle Tingelstad

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"



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. .

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, American Swedish Institute Sunday, March 15, 2015

The board met at 12:30pm before our social meeting. Our regular meeting place at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd will be undergoing renovation shortly. We have been told that they can accommodate our April and May meetings, but they did not want to have our Meatball Dinner in June due to facility issues. Mindekirken is available in June for our dinner and it looks like we will book their facility.

Gene Brandvold reported that we have \$2137 in our checking account.

There are several reports that are due to the home office. We need to focus on getting them completed.

Merle Tingelstad

Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes American Swedish Institute Sunday, March 15, 2015

Members enjoyed a half-hour of Bingo before our lodge meeting, organized by Dave Kompelien and Gregg Iverson. Prizes were Norwegian chocolate bars for game winners. Members requested we continue to offer game time in future meetings.

Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes (continued)

Erling Husby noted Phoebe Bergaas, Arlene Helgeson and Vivian Hoff passed away.

Dr. Laurence Moe spoke to 37 members about Carl Ben Eielson. Born in Hatton, ND to Norwegian-American parents in 1897, he was very gifted. He began Law school when WWI brought him to serve the country in what was a primitive Air Corps. His love for flying continued after the war and he invested in a plane for exhibition flights at fairs, Dr. Moe joked that the last flight with his first plane ended in Crisis, a crash in Crisis, MN about 70 miles from Hatton.

Carl's flying skills evolved and he ended up in Fairbanks Alaska. There were large parts of the Arctic regions that were unmapped and Amundson had just been to the North Pole a year earlier, when Carl flew a transcontinental route over unexplored Greenland and to Spitsbergen Norway,

Carl had been reported lost in this flight when he had to land on the ice to wait out a blizzard. There were several flights where Carl was presumed lost and reappeared after extended periods. Carl ultimately perished on a rescue mission off of Siberia at the age of 32.

During his life, Carl had established a reputation as Alaska's first bush pilot. During his research, Dr. Moe discovered more than 40 poems written about Eielson and published in many small town newspapers.

It was a good time and a most enjoyable presentation about a now obscure Norwegian-American, that had a reputation for fast living. We enjoyed snacks and coffee afterward with a green theme in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Merle Tingelstad

Bingo to Continue before Lodge Meetings

Vonheim early-birds at our March meeting enjoyed the opportunity to play some Norwegian Bingo preceding the lodge meeting. Dave Kompelien and Gregg Iverson coordinated the game time for those that arrived early. Come to play a game and then stay with us for our lodge social meeting.



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For more information contact

David Kompelien Your lodge

Financial Benefits Counselor at

651 454 6401

Norwegian American Historical Association

This year NAHA celebrates the 90th anniversary of its founding. It is a private membership organization dedicated to locating, collecting, preserving, and interpreting the Norwegian-American experience with accuracy, integrity and liveliness. NAHA was organized October 6, 1925, by a group of far-sighted Norwegian-Americans who sought to establish a national center for the collection and preservation of historical material. Theirs was a practical as well as thoroughly professional endeavor to provide funds for the publication of interesting books by talented scholars, who by careful research and interpretation would describe the American experience of an immigrant people then firmly rooted in the New World. The Association has enjoyed success and gained the recognition and respect of an international scholarly community. In fulfillment of its purpose, the Association has published nearly one hundred books of scholarly merit; promoted Norwegian-American historical material located on the St Olaf College campus.

If you are interested in joining NAHA or would like information about the special events planned for 2015 go to their website:

Www.naha.stolaf.edu or phone them at 507-786-3221.

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Member Report

We learned recently of 3 members that have passed away.

Arlene Helgeson died at age 85 on July 9, 2014. She is survived by husband Hartman.

Phoebe Bergass died at age 95 December 31, 2014. She was preceded by husband Sam.

Vivian Hoff died at age 89 February 15, 2015. She was preceded by husband Conrad.

Erling Husby

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www.Vonheim108.org

Celebrate Syttende Mai

**May 19th at 6:30PM
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
4800 France Ave South, Minneapolis, MN**

Join us for an interesting evening with the first-ever curator in Minnesota Twins baseball history, Clyde Doepner, who catalogs, maintains, and collects Twins memorabilia items for historical purposes. Mr. Doepner has extensive knowledge of the Twins organization and is also the owner of one of the largest Twins memorabilia collections in the world.

Collecting various items from an early age, Clyde Doepner became known as Clyde the Collector. He began collecting Minnesota Twins baseball memorabilia in 1981 when the Twins moved into the Metrodome. When the Twins hired Doepner as the team curator, he became known as Clyde the Curator.