



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

Fra Presidenten

Falling Into Autumn!

State Fair time signals the closure of summer is coming soon. It always seems to go by faster than we like. For me, it means full days of driving school bus as classes resume. Fall also is when we go back to regular monthly meetings at our Sons of Norway chapter.

As I write this, I have just left Seattle-Tacoma, WA area where the International Convention is held. My summer plans conflicted with attending the convention as I had to return for work. So my vacation is taking place before convention, and passing through Spokane, where convention was held in the early 1990's while I was president of Vonheim the first time.

We are getting all our plans for the fall in place. I hope to see you at our meeting on September 20.

Tusen Takk
Merle Tingelstad

Don't miss this great program

September 20, 6:30 p.m. at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

BRIDGING CONTINENTS,
BRIDGING THE RIVER:
NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN
ENGINEERS AND THE
MISSISSIPPI IN THE TWIN CITIES

The Mississippi River bridges in Minneapolis and St. Paul have long been icons of the Twin Cities. Many were the work of Norwegian immigrant engineers, who came to America with valuable skills for building the nation's infrastructure.

Speaker: Dennis Gimmestad is recently retired from the Cultural Resources Unit of the Minnesota Department of Transportation and previously worked for the State Historic Preservation Office of the Minnesota Historical Society.



COMING EVENTS

Meetings are held at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave. So., Mpls. The meeting room is downstairs and wheelchair-accessible, including elevators).

September 20th Lodge meeting
October 18th Lodge meeting
November 15th Lodge meeting

Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes

Wabun Park, Minneapolis, MN

Tuesday, July 26, 2016

While not a formal lodge meeting, Vonheim and Oslo Lodge held a joint event, as we have for a number of years. This event is a BBQ picnic featuring ribs and chicken from Cap's restaurant. About 48 members and guests enjoyed the food and social time. The weather cooperated to give us a beautiful evening.

Thank you to Louise Bakken for organizing the picnic. Carolyn and Bob Hagen helped in putting this together getting beverages, bringing Bingo equipment and many prizes for Bingo winners.

Merle Tingelstad was recruited to call the Bingo games. Everyone had a good time, even if their Bingo cards didn't cooperate. If you missed the BBQ this year, hopefully you will get this on your calendar next year. It is a great value for our members.



President Tingelstad noted some current **Convention News**

As of the time of this writing, District 1 was preparing to bid to host the International Convention in 2 years. Assuming that this bid is accepted, it will mean that we will be involved in the preparation and hosting of a convention to likely be held in the Twin Cities metro area.

It is likely that there will be a convention committee formed to prepare for that major Sons of Norway event. I'm sure there will be opportunities for you to be involved. When the time comes, please give some thought on how you might be able to help. u!



Get Well wishes
to Dave Kompelien

Ole and Lena Humor

WHEN OLE came to America from Norway, he was extremely nervous when it came time to apply for citizenship. He approached the judge who gave the exam and confessed, "Yudge . . . I don't speak Englesk so purtly good . . . I am yust a poor uneducated Norwegian. I'm afraid about taking de citizen testing.

"Don't you vorry, Ole . . . we going make you a citizen of Junited States sure as my name is Yudge Bjorn Torvaldson."

OLE AND Lena's Sons of Norway chapter had a guest speaker who was a science professor at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. The professor told of advances in science that would enable an apartment owner to heat an entire apartment building for a whole year with just one lump of coal. Ole turned to Lena and snorted, "Who's he kidding. Our landlord has been doing that for years."

(Borrowed from the Ole & Lena website)

DNA hunters Open Viking Tomb in Normandy

Norwegian researchers have finally gotten to open the tomb of Viking leader Rollo's descendants. They want to find out whether Rollo was the same as Gange-Rolv from Møre. If so, the British royal family originated in Norway. A Norwegian-led delegation was in Normandy [in February] and opened the sarcophagus of two of Rollo's descendants. The aim is to put an end to a centuries-long debate: Was Rollo Danish or Norwegian? “We have been working to get this researched for about seven years, so to finally get collected material to test the DNA—it was big,” historian and project initiator Sturla Ellingvåg from Foundation Explico said to NTB [Norwegian News Agency].

Rollo was the founder of Normandy, Count of Rouen and the greatgreat-great-grandfather of William the Conqueror, who is an ancestor of the English royal house. While Norwegian-Icelandic history via Snorre's sagas argues that Rollo and Gange-Rolv are one and the same person, Danish historians believe that he came from Denmark. Gange-Rolv, son of Ragnvald Mørejarl was exiled from Norway and supposedly settled in France.

Pulling Teeth In January French authorities and the French church granted the Norwegian application to open the tomb of Rollo's grandson and great-grandson, Duke Richard the Fearless and son Duke Richard the Good. When they opened the grave [in February], researchers found among other things a lower jaw with eight teeth in the tomb of Richard the Good.

“The key is to find teeth, because the DNA can be good, even after so many years. Two forensic experts from Norway and Denmark snatched five teeth that are now being sent to the Institute of Forensic Medicine in both countries for analysis, says the Chairman of Samlerhuset (a Norwegian coin company) and The Norwegian Mint, Ole Bjørn Fausa. A result of the analysis will probably be available this fall and will be presented in cooperation with the French authorities. So it remains to be seen whether the answer indicates Denmark or Norway.

A Rare Event Fausa describes the atmosphere at the tomb as an unbelievable experience: “As far as we know this is only the second time since the war that a king's tomb has been opened in France. Just to be part of it, and find the skeletons in there, it was exciting, solemn and unreal at the same time.

If Rollo and Gange-Rolv prove to be the same person, here is the historical significance: “If the British royal family originates from the coast of Møre, it changes for example the notion that the Norwegian royal family is young, with origins from the British and Danish [royal families],” says Fausa.

Raw Potato Dumplings (Klubb)

This dish is well known all over Norway, and its names and recipes vary from district to district. The foundation of these dumplings is potatoes with variations achieved by adding different ingredients. In eastern Norway klubben is made from barley and pea flour and eaten with myssmordupp (a sauce of soft cheese made from whey). On the southern coast these dumplings are called kumpe, and further north they are known as ball. Ball is often served with fish. Generally this type of dumpling is large - about the size of a medium size

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September 2016

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www.Vonheim108.org

Men in the Church Ladies' Basement!!

The Plymouth Playhouse hosts their sixth production in the series. What happens when the roosters are allowed in the hen house? Join us on Sunday, September 25th at 3PM. The cost is \$38. Reservations required by *August 28th*. Happy Hour prices on food and beverages in the Green Mill all day. Call Louise at 763-545-4827 for tickets.