



Vonheim Saga
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Vonheim Lodge #1-108
Sons of Norway

Fra Presidenten

Our November 11 program meeting at Norway House featured an excellent photo travelogue with music and narration by Chris Falteisek, a multi-talented musician, photographer, and genealogist.

(Chris is a fellow member of the same Norwegian genealogy group of which I am also a member.) The visual and audio journey presented by Chris covered his 2016 trip visiting Norwegian relatives and friends, ancestral farms and towns as well as touring genealogical libraries and larger cities. In his travelogue, he focused on the Sami, an indigenous people in northern Norway, and their unique culture and music.

Our next event is the annual Julebord (Christmas Party) planned for Dec. 19, at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. This event is for adults and children with traditional food and a visit from Santa Claus. The Vonheim Lodge Board met after the program meeting and discussed the current Norway House capital campaign for a proposed Norway House Cultural Center. The Board voted to present to Lodge members for their approval at the Dec. 19 Julebord meeting the Board's unanimous recommendation for the Lodge to donate \$10,000 to Norway House this year (to be matched by funds from the State of Minnesota and a private donor). (See Vonheim Board Meeting Notes elsewhere in this Saga). Warmest Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Don Teigen
Vonheim Lodge President
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December Julebord

Tuesday, **December 19th**
Place: Lutheran Church of
the Good Shepherd, 48th
and France, Mpls
Time: **6:00 p.m.**

This is the time for families to enjoy delicious traditional Norwegian food like rommegrot, lefse, julekake, rice pudding, fruit soup, and more—all furnished.

To add to this we ask everyone to bring a favorite Norwegian pastry.

Santa will be here with a gift for each child. Call Marilyn, 763-420-9980, if you are bringing a child or grandchild.

A raffle will be held for donated items with the proceeds going to the Marie Sandvik Center.



COMING EVENTS

Meetings are held on **Saturday** at Norway House, 913 E. Franklin Avenue, adjacent to Mindekirken in Mpls. (Lillehaugen Room on the lower level)

Dec 19th Julebord at 6:00PM at Lutheran church of the Good Shepherd
 Jan 13th 1:00PM Eric Dregni will speak at Norway House
 Feb 10th 1:00PM Rosanne Bliss will speak at Norway House

Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes

Norway House, Minneapolis, MN
 Saturday, November 11, 2017

17 members and guests attended our potluck lunch and program with Chris Falteisek. As usual, we enjoyed some delicious entrees, soup, salad and desserts. We were able to utilize an adjacent room for our food service, leaving us plenty of space in our meeting room. Due to the need for our guest presenter to leave by 2:30, we had the program immediately after we filled our plates and returned to the room.

Chris is the Minister of Worship and an accompanist at churches in Woodbury, Hastings, and St. Paul Park, MN. He has recorded 15 CD's and has a passion for photography, doing sports photos for media in his hometown of Prescott, WI. He presented a photo travelogue of his trips to Scandinavia to explore his genealogy.

Chris began with his ancestral story. His Norwegian family first moved to the US in Stockholm, WI where they gained Czech and Swedish lineage. Chris was able to make a genealogical pilgrimage to Norway in 2016 and present several concerts. Being a serious photojournalist he took 24,000 photos of his experience.

It was clear that Chris gained an appreciation of the Sami people, the indigenous people of northernmost Norway, Sweden, Finland and part of Russia. We were shown a video including several of his photos set to music of the winner of 2014 Sweden's Got Talent, Jon Henrik Fjällgren. His song was a Sami language "joik" he had written in honor of a friend recently passed away.

Chris discussed the many genealogy resources in Norway that are not available online. He visited the National Library and National Archives and included photos where he was allowed to do so.

Chris plans to return to Norway in 2018 with a layover in Iceland.

After the program we had a few brief announcements. Our next meeting will be our Julebord on Tuesday, Dec 19 at LCGS. Vonheim will provide several traditional Nordic holiday treats. We ask those who are able to bring some of their favorite Nordic baked items. Our program in January will return to Norway House on Saturday, Jan 13 at 1pm. Eric Dregni, author of the book "Vikings in the Attic" will present.



Vonheim Board Meeting Notes

Norway House, Minneapolis, MN

Saturday, November 11, 2017

After completion of our regular meeting, we commenced with a board/planning meeting. Treasurer Gene Brandvold gave a report on the Torsk dinner. Between the dinner and raffle we raised about \$980 for scholarships. A discussion of the future of the scholarship fundraising dinner ensued. Our aging members can't continue preparing this dinner. It is not practical to cater this as it will not produce revenue. We could potentially raise funds through a raffle alone, but someone needs to coordinate that effort. Dennis Sorheim will not be scholarship chair another term. Dennis said he will take a few months to make a proposal on how to handle scholarships into the future.

Cultural Director Marilyn Boe has the annual Julebord (Christmas Party) planned for Tues., Dec. 19 at 6 PM at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. The Sat., January 13 at 1 PM meeting at Norway House will feature Eric Dregni, the author of a fascinating book, "Vikings in the Attic." The program for Sat., February 10 at 1 PM at Norway House will feature Rosanne Bliss who will speak on and show historic postcards.

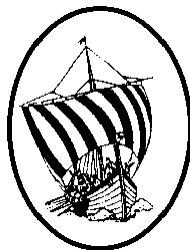
The Vonheim Lodge Board discussed the current Norway House capital campaign for a proposed Norway House Cultural Center which is planned to have meeting and banquet space and a research center. The Lodge already holds most of our monthly meetings at Norway House at a minimal cost. Donations made before the current year-end (December 31, 2017) will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a State of Minnesota grant and will be further matched dollar-for-dollar by a private donor. Therefore, a Vonheim Lodge donation of \$10,000 would result in a total donation of \$30,000 to Norway House. The Vonheim Board voted unanimously to recommend to Lodge members that the Lodge donate \$10,000 to Norway House this year. This proposal will be voted on at the Tues. December 19, Julebord meeting of the Lodge.

Photos from the November meeting showing President Teigen and the speaker, Chris Falteisek, and the Sami flag as part of his presentation (for more photos, see our Vonheim 108 page on Facebook)



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**Eric Dregni shares his stories from his book,
Vikings in the Attic,
at our January 13, 2018, lodge meeting
at Norway House, 1:00PM.**



Don't miss these interesting and amusing tales.