

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

Fra Presidenten

Spring is in the Air!

The arrival of March means that the spring season is near. Vonheim will have completed several housekeeping items.

We have elected our delegates for this year's District One Convention in Rochester. Representing Vonheim in June will be Don Teigen, Carolyn Hagen, Merle Tingelstad, Dennis Sorheim and Gregg Iverson.

Our financial audits and required forms have been submitted to home office so Sons of Norway. Vonheim is financially strong. We can thank the leadership back in the days of charter flights to Norway for their foresight in setting up funds to support our lodge operations, scholarships and other charitable giving.

We have also seen the domination of the Winter Olympics by the Norwegians. It is amazing that a country similar in population to Minnesota can win more than twice the medal count of the USA.

Snowbirds are beginning to return to Minnesota. We extend a warm welcome home and invite you to join us for our next program on March 10

Tusen Takk,
Merle Tingelstad

March Lodge Meeting

—3/10—

at 1 PM at Norway House

Lefse and Lutefisk: Three Lessons

Gary Legwold is known as the Lefse King. He is the author of *The Lefse-Lutefisk Trilogy: The Last Word on Lefse, The Last Word on Lutefisk, & The Last Toast to Lutefisk!*

His newest book, which was published last August, is *Keep On Rolling! Life on the Lefse Trail & Learning to Get a Round.*



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)

Mar 10th 1:00PM lodge mtg at Norway House

April 14th 1:00PM lodge mtg at Norway House

May 12th 1:00PM lodge mtg at Norway House

Vonheim Lodge Meeting Notes

Norway House, Minneapolis, MN
Saturday, February 10, 2018

24 members and guests attended our February meeting at Norway House. Vice President Merle Tingelstad opened the meeting at 1 pm. President Don Teigen was in Arizona. Election of delegates to the District 1 convention to be held in June in Rochester MN was completed. Representing Vonheim will be Don Teigen, Carolyn Hagen, Merle Tingelstad, Dennis Sorheim and Gregg Iverson.

Vonheim was given a thank you basket of Norwegian chocolate bars and Valentine hearts gummy candy by Norway House. This was given along with a card of appreciation for our generous donation to their building project. Gregg Iverson reminded people to continue collecting their used postage stamps for Tubfrim. Marilyn Boe provided information about our March meeting.

Our program featured Roseanne Bliss speaking about the memories of her grandmother Annie, who immigrated to the USA in 1905 at the age of 17. Annie had left a collection of over 350 postcards which told a lot about her life as she came from Norway to Flora, North Dakota, then joining her sister Lena in Leeds, ND where she worked as a housekeeper in the Leeds Hotel.

Passage to the USA was paid for by Lena, and began in Oslo taking a ship to London England, followed by a train to Liverpool on the west coast and taking a steamship to Boston, MA.

Roseanne pointed out how vulnerable Annie was as an attractive woman of age 17 traveling alone and not able to speak English. Her arrival in the USA almost met with an unsavory fate as a white slave if she had followed the instructions of one man. She was fortunate to have a Norwegian intervene and direct her safely on her way.

There were hardships as Roseanne talked about family that had 12 children, with only 5 of them reaching adulthood.

Lena married a coworker at the Leeds Hotel. Annie thought her eventual husband was a rich banker but learned that he was a postal worker on the mail train. He was able to provide a comfortable living but was hardly rich. Annie made several moves westward in North Dakota as a result of her husbands rail job.

Postcards were a common method of communication back in the early 1900's, much like the phone and email might be today. We were shown many examples of postcards used to keep in touch. Photo cards were a popular way to provide updates with family portraits, pictures of buildings and townscapes. Cards were sent just to say I was thinking of you and haven't heard from you in a while. Cards were used in courting a potential spouse, to celebrate holidays like Easter, Christmas and the New Year.

Thank you Roseanne for an interesting glimpse into your family tree.

Did you know Floyd K. Stone who passed in 2008 or his father, Ingvald M Stone who passed in May 1974? If so, contact Merle.

Hurtiguten Update



The famed Norwegian coastal line, Hurtigruten, is upgrading their fleet in 2018-2019. They will introduce 2 hybrid ships to their line. The first ship, the MS Roald Amundsen, was dedicated and launched from the shipyard in Ulsteinvik, Norway on Feb. 17, but is not scheduled for regular service until August. This is a 530 passenger ship that is capable of running silently from battery power when in environmentally sensitive areas.

Fun Facts:

1. We should really wear blue since St Patrick's blue, a light shade, was his color. The color green became associated with March 17th after it was linked to the Irish Independence movement in the late 18th century.
2. St Patrick was British although he is known for introducing Christianity to Ireland in the year 432. He was born to Roman Parents in Scotland or Wales in the late fourth century.
3. The Irish celebrate March 17th in all of Ireland. It is a major holiday.
4. Since 1762 New Yorkers hold one of the world's largest parades on March 17th. Chicago dumps green dye into the Chicago River in addition to their parade.
5. For most of the 20th century St Patrick's Day was considered a strictly religious holiday in Ireland, which meant that the nation's pubs were closed. In 1970, the day was converted to a national holiday and the stout began flowing.
6. The Irish village of Dripsey claimed that it hosted the shortest parade in the world, 26 yards from one pub to another.
7. According to Irish legend, St Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to represent the Holy Trinity when he was introducing Christianity to Ireland.
8. St Patrick gets credit for driving all the snakes out of Ireland. According to the fossil record, there have never been any snakes in Ireland. Ireland was too cold for any reptiles.
9. Although corned beef and cabbage are a traditional St Patrick's Day staple, corned beef does not have anything to do with the grain corn. The large grains of salt used to cure the beef were also called "corns".
10. All of the St Patrick's Day revelry around the world is great news for brewers. A 2012 estimate of \$245 million dollars was spent on beer.
11. St Patrick was originally named at birth, Maewyn Succat. He became Patricius when becoming a priest.
12. In traditional Irish folklore, all leprechauns are male.
13. Another little known fact is that Leprechauns earned their gold by making and mending shoes every day.
14. The phrase "Erin go Bragh" is a corruption of the *Irish Eirinn go Brach* which roughly means "Ireland Forever."

St. Patrick's Day

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Sons of Norway Vonheim Lodge #1-108
Mailer: Merle Tingelstad
12895 Kerry St NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448



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OFFICERS AND CONTACTS	
Don Teigen, President	952-922-6282
Merle Tingelstad, Vice President	763-422-0202
Marilyn Boe, Social/Cultural	763-420-9980
Louise Bakken, Editor	763-545-4827
Adele Davis, Cheer Person	612-822-7663
Ray Brau, Fin Benefits Counselor	952-994-5762

www.Vonheim108.org
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**Mark your calendar for April 14th at Norway House
1:00 PM**