



**Ways to get involved:**

- Check out the various books from our Library.
- Attend a Cultural Meeting night.
- Volunteer to serve on a committee.
- Invite someone to a lodge meeting.

**OCTOBER 9 IS LEIF ERIKSON DAY**

Leif Erikson, the son of Greenland's first colonizer, continued the tradition of the Nordic seafarers by helping to expand mankind's knowledge of previously uncharted territory and by enhancing the European culture in the New World. The adventures of Leif Erikson gave rise to great medieval sagas, some of the finest literature of their period. To honor Leif Erikson, son of Iceland and grandson of Norway, and to celebrate our Nordic-American heritage, the United States Congress, by joint resolution (Public Law 88-566) and approved on September 2, 1964, authorized every President of the United States to proclaim **October 9th** of each year as "**Leif Erikson Day.**"

The mission of Sons of Norway is *to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.*



**Sons of Norway  
Trollheim Lodge 1-511  
P.O. Box 632  
St. Cloud, MN 56302**



*Sons of Norway Trollheim Lodge 1-511*

# The Troll

**Saint Cloud, Minnesota  
September - October 2022    Volume 42 Issue 3**



**THE TROLLHEIM LOGDE  
MONTHLY CULTURAL MEETINGS  
ARE HELD:**

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – Social Time  
7:00 p.m. – Program  
PLACE: The Great River Regional Library  
Mississippi Room  
1300 W. St. Germain St.  
St. Cloud, MN

**SEPTEMBER CULTURAL  
~ MEMBERSHIP NIGHT ~**

**Monday, September 19**

While our Trollheim lodge members have been enjoying a warm Minnesota summer, the lodge's board and culture committee have been busy planning activities for the upcoming year. The September meeting is for new members and anyone interested in learning more about Norway.

What better way to begin than with an exposure to the rich array of Norwegian folk crafts. Within our lodge, there is a group of talented individuals who will be displaying their work and answer questions. There will be exhibits of wood carving, which will include acanthus pieces, ale bowls, customized lefse sticks and flat plane carving. Examples of the various styles of rosemaling will be shown, plus there will be solje jewelry exhibited along with Sami bracelets will be on display. Opportunities for families will also be on display such as the annual barnelopet.

Of course, any introduction to Norway would not be complete without samples of Norway's unique food traditions such as waffles, lefse and rommegrot.

Please join us for what will be an exciting evening guaranteed to reach your Norwegian soul.

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**OCTOBER CULTURAL NIGHT:  
"Tracing Your Scandinavian Roots"**

**Monday, October 17**

Join us for this presentation by Rachel and Wayne Johnson of St. Cloud as they share how to begin to search for both your American and Scandinavian ancestors. This genealogy presentation will include information on many various websites, some of which can be used for free. Helpful websites for translating letters or documents from Scandinavian languages will be discussed as well as successful stories of finding relatives overseas. Rachel developed her own genealogy business several years ago. Now in her retirement years, she offers genealogy searches for those interested as a free service. Her passion in life has been to help others find lost family members. She has successfully found many adoptive parents for those seeking her services. Wayne's expertise in genealogy is working with the Swedish ancestry sites. They both have the belief that there is always something more to learn about genealogy researching. Handouts of ancestor charts and websites, too.

**CALLING ALL MEMBERS  
WITH SOLJE PINS**



The traditional jewelry of Norway are called **Solje**, (Sol-ya) meaning shiny, sunny. Antique pieces go back centuries. Through the years each area of Norway adopted a particular style. The various components of these pins have special meanings and are worn for weddings, holidays and dress occasions. All solje were considered heirlooms, and were passed down through generations. There will be a display of various solje, where they are from and the meaning of their design at the September cultural night.

If you have a solje pin(s), please come to our September meeting wearing your solje with pride. We would love to see the variety of pins from our membership.



Thanks to Shane Gordon & Minnesota Computer Systems for printing our newsletter. Contact him at [shane@mncopy.com](mailto:shane@mncopy.com) or 320-266-2402 for your copier needs.

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The Scandinavian Gift Shop in Alexandria is now next to the Traveler's Inn. When you need a unique gift, give them a visit.

Each year we seek sponsors from our members to help offset the cost of mailing our newsletter. The cost for individuals is \$15.00 and for businesses, \$25.00 for a business card sized ad. If you would like to contribute for **2022**, checks can be made out to Trollheim Lodge, or cash, and either sent or given to Karen Vollen: 1403 33rd Ave. N., Unit 29, St. Cloud, MN 56303

The following individuals have made contributions for **2022**:

- |                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Dana &amp; Al Amdahl</i>        | <i>Virginia &amp; Don Anderson</i> |
| <i>Debbie &amp; Dennis Backus</i>  | <i>Bob &amp; Sandy Burtness</i>    |
| <i>Vicky Clausen</i>               | <i>Mary &amp; Darryl Johnson</i>   |
| <i>Mary Loe</i>                    | <i>Monica &amp; Larry Oseid</i>    |
| <i>Rose Mary &amp; Frank Roehl</i> | <i>Arlie Norbie</i>                |
| <i>Stan Severson</i>               | <i>Eric Vollen Jon Vollen</i>      |
| <i>Karen &amp; Talleiv Vollen</i>  | <i>Jan West</i>                    |

### Velkommen medlemmer (Welcome new members)

New members are always welcome to our lodge. Please welcome the following new members:

Transferred Membership in May:

- Kyle and Natalie Ross from Rice, MN
- Patrick Severson from St. Cloud, MN

Transferred Membership in June:

- Kit, Lydia and Felicia Godfrey from Sauk Rapids, MN

The Trollheim Lodge currently has 140 members. Do you know someone who would enjoy our lodge? Please invite them to an upcoming event!

## 2022 Trollheim Board

### Board Officers:

- President – Vicky Clausen  
Vice President – Sally Marquette  
Counselor - Debbie Backus  
Secretary – Dan Halsey  
Treasurer - Sandy Hegwer  
Financial Secretary - Debbie Backus

### Program Directors:

- Cultural/Social Co-Directors - Nancy Watkins, – *Open position*  
Sports - Nicholas Snavelly  
Youth Director - *Open Position*

### Program Support:

- Hospitality - Marlys Johnson, Diane Williams  
Marshals (2)- Jim Johnson  
 - *Open position*  
Librarian - Carolyn Reta  
Web Page/Publicity - Frank Haynes  
Newsletter - Cathy Peterson  
Financial Benefits - Don Waage  
S/N Foundation Director - Talleiv Vollen

### Board Meetings for 2022:

First Monday of most months:

- There will be no Board meeting in September.
- **October 3, 7 p.m.** on Zoom

### Informert og tilkoblet (Informed and Connected)

Trollheim Lodge members can stay connected through our newsletter, our website at [www.stcloudtrollheim.org](http://www.stcloudtrollheim.org), our new Facebook page: Trollheim Lodge Sons of Norway St. Cloud, and by receiving the regular email blasts. This newsletter is also posted on our website for reference. If you are not currently receiving our email blasts, first check your SPAM folder. If you do not see it there, send a message with your email address to Frank Haynes at [Haynes@albanytel.com](mailto:Haynes@albanytel.com) to be added to the email list.

## DROUGHT IN NORWAY

The extreme drought and record temperatures in the U.S. is not the only part of the world impacted by climate change. Scorching summer heat has also put an unexpected strain on energy supplies, especially in Norway. A winter without much snow and an exceptionally dry spring, including the driest April in 122 years, has reduced Norway's water levels in lakes and rivers.

In recent months reservoirs have dwindled to 46% full, their lowest in 20 years. Rygene was so low that it was forced to temporarily close. The drought's most surprising impact can be found in Norway's usually drenched south, where sheep have gotten stuck in exposed mud banks and salmon have lacked enough water to migrate. Shallow waters in Mjosa, the country's largest lake, has kept its famed Skibladner paddle wheel boat tied up at port and prompted city officials in Oslo to send out text messages urging people to take shorter showers and avoid watering lawns.

Hydro power reservoir supplies--responsible for 90 percent of Norway's electricity as well as electricity exports to several of its neighbors--have sunk to the lowest point in 25 years causing shortages that have driven up electricity prices to record levels especially in the more heavily populated south. The summer's extreme heat and devastating drought, coming on top of Russia's weaponization of natural gas exports and European Union sanctions, have all combined to expose the vulnerability of Europe's energy system.

The "energy crisis," as Norwegian local media now call it, has caused a revisiting of electricity export deals with the European Union and Britain, or new subsidies for Norwegians to alleviate sky-rocketing prices. Sverre Eikeland, the chief operating officer of Agder Energi, has pointed to the urgent need for a wider energy transformation and the need for the addition of renewables such as wind and solar. "The drought shows that we are not ready for the big changes," he said, but also "that we will not accept the high prices."  
 ~ Excerpts for this article are from the New York Times August 18 issue.

## OUR LODGE NEEDS YOU!



Trollheim Lodge is in need of a Cultural/Social Director. This is a position on our board of directors and is also co-director position with Nancy Watkins. There are seven cultural nights each year with two of them already planned, Syttende Mai and Christmas Julebord. Programs and ideas are discussed at board meetings with ideas and input from the members. There are also numerous ideas on the Sons of Norway website. The job of the Social director is to coordinate the cultural event by securing a commitment from the entertainment chosen and confirm their participation on the given month. The programming is already planned for the rest of 2022. If you are interested in helping, please contact Vicky Clausen. ([vlcmaisel@gmail.com](mailto:vlcmaisel@gmail.com); or 320-230-6460) Thank you for your consideration!

## DISTRICT 1 CONVENTION REPORT

The Sons of Norway District 1 convention was held on June 2-4, 2022, at Cragun's Lodge in Brainerd. The convention was to be held in 2020, but had to be canceled due to the Covid virus. About 150 members attended from Texas to Minnesota. There were excursions and folk-art classes available for everyone's enjoyment. Frank Haynes gave a presentation about the folk schools in Norway, which his daughter, Anna, had attended. Banquets were held on Thursday and Friday evenings. A Nordic market was available, along with a silent auction and folk-art exhibit with judging. Business meetings were held on Saturday. The main order of business was electing delegates to the International Convention being held at the end of August 2022 via zoom. A new district president, Mark Haugen, was elected to succeed Dennis Rusinko, whose term had ended. Jan Osmonson will continue as our Zone 9 director.

~ Vicky Clausen, President

What do you call it when a Norwegian falls down a canyon? ~ *A fjordian slip*

Why do Norwegians put sugar on their pillows? ~ *To have sweet dreams!*