SONS of NORWAY DISTRICT 7 in BEAUTIFUL BRITISH COLUMBIA

leiflette

October2023 Next deadline October 10, 2023

Happy Thanksgiving!

Let's be thankful that we can celebrate together this year!



Loretta Pratt of **Dawson Creek Lodge**, with her **1st great grand-child**, a girl named **Paytyn.**



Anna & **Brent Horrocks** hosted **Rondane's Lodge Lutefisk Dinner** at their historic property & home.



North Star Lodge egg race at **May 17 Celebration** with **Jen & Liv.**



Bruce Strang with his son **Michael Strang** & grandson **Spencer Strang** gathered with a group of family & friends at a **BC Lions game** to celebrate **Bruce's 75 Birthday.**

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Gloria Benazic
Zone 3 Director
Rondane 71 Dawson Creek 79
Skjonne Dal 142

Lori Barsi
Zone 4 Director
Nordic 76, Hardanger 109, Heimdal 141

Editor's Message

We are glad that the fires are abating. It must have been a difficult time for many.

There were 2 less lodge reports this month and a couple of reports were shorter then usual. That meant that some of the pictures were made quite large. Like I said before, it's like a box of chocolates.

The weather lately has been quite nice so hopefully we can all get out and enjoy the fall colours. I hope the kids get a good weather evening for Halloween! Have a happy Thanksgiving everyone. We still have to be a little cautious but getting together with family & friends will be nice!

Check out: Sons of Norway www.sofn.com ; District 7 webpage www.sofn7.com ; Facebook "Sons of Norway District 7" and "Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group"

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President's Message

Greetings!

September is a busy time for the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada with the approval of grants for Lodges and individuals, as well as assessing the applicants for students working toward certification or degrees. I am not aware of any member seeking assistance from the Humanitarian Fund this year and in light of all the wildfires this summer, that is good news.

October is "Foundation Month" and hopefully you and your Lodge are raising funds for the Foundation in Canada. Stamps are no longer being gathered as we have not found a new 'buyer' but let the Foundation Directors know if you have a connection that would be willing to buy the stamps and donate the funds to the Foundation. Check out their site at www.sonfic.ca Year round, donations to the Foundation are often used to recognize the passing of a member or beloved family or friend, exampled by Hardanger Lodge who send a $50 donation for each passing member. All these wonderful gifts help to sustain the Foundations' ability to provide on-going support through grants and aid. Make sure to include your Lodge information, the name of the passed person, and include a name and address of a family member as the Foundation will advise them of the gift made in the memory of their loved one. All donations should be sent to the Foundation Treasurer, Erik Brochmann.

Genealogy – a study of our ancestorial past – is an area of great interest for a number of Sons of Norway members. Part of our summer activities in Croatia was to update the family tree as we visited the graveyards of Cal's ancestors. Most small communities have their own graveyard and, as land is limited, there are lots of 'family tombs' where many members of that family are laid to rest in the same plot. This makes tracing lineage much easier as you may have several generations on the same headstone. The Istrian tradition from the last century has been to include a photo of the person beside their name so it is also a visual experience. Around the perimeter of the chapels in the graveyard stood a number of very old headstones that had fallen down or were displaced. Many were not easily readable as weather and time has reduced the letters engraved in the stone but as you search your memory-bank for Roman numerals, you realize you are looking at stones that are hundreds of years old. Maybe it is time for you to update your family tree. There are several resources available to access church records in Norway. Or, maybe this could be a future Lodge meeting where everyone brings their family tree for sharing.

Many Lodges will be looking to their members to stand for election for the upcoming new year and please consider stepping forward. The more hands available, the less duties for everyone. A Lodge does not survive on the backs of a couple people so bring your ideas forward to make the meetings interesting and then take an active role in putting those ideas into actual activities. Remain open to new suggestions: maybe something didn't work twenty years ago but maybe it is worth trying again so don't automatically veto something until it is given serious consideration.

Ha det bra, Gloria

Lodge Updates



The creek at Hatzic is undergoing a makeover

Sleipner Lodge 8

Vancouver, B.C.

Hi everyone. This last month has been pretty quiet in the Lodge and around the park at Hatzic.

The band Valley Fyre played in the Gazebo on August 19th. It was a wonderful evening. We managed to break even. To be honest there was a lot happening in the park this summer and it's not unlikely that a lot of people were suffering from too many activities. Maybe next year we'll have the band play earlier in the season. There has been some work done in the park. Arne and Wendy Bird got a nice new trailer. Wendy's brother brought his excavator to the park and not only helped move some trailers around but also cleaned up the compost area at the bottom of the park.

The floors in the upper and lower washrooms have been upgraded. They look great.

The work on the creek is supposed to have started at this writing. I can't wait to see how it turns out. The Park is again looking for new caretakers/managers.

Contact VP Colin Thomson.
vp@sleipnerlodge.ca.

The Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada accept tax deductible donations from Sons of Norway members and others living in Canada.

Please check out our new website:
www.sonfic.ca for more information including donation and application forms for bursaries and grants.

Pease make cheques payable out to:
SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION IN CANADA
and mail to C/O 32412 Ptarmigan Drive
Mission, B.C. V2V 5R5

Upcoming events.

*** Board Meeting. Oct 12 via Zoom.**
*** Seterskveld Oct 20 at SCC.**
***Fall Leaseholders Meeting Oct. 28 at Hatzic.**
*** Welcome to Norway Nov. 05 at SC**
*** Hatzic Clean-up Weekend, Nov. 11**

Yours truly,
Larry Brawn,



Connor works on his bird-house

Varden Lodge 19

New Westminster, B.C.

I remember I promised I would write about this year's Heritage Camp. Well now I am. I did not personally attend the camp but I have it on good authority that it was a resounding success.

There were 25 Varden members who attended. Five members were under the age of sixteen. Two of our youngest members attended, Ellie Zaharoff who visited and Penelope Schilbach who was the youngest registered participant. The first day it rained then the temperature went up to thirty and the pool became a popular place. However, Varden members were not there just to swim. We participated in several classes. Shauna Britt and Karen Schilbach did rosemaling, while Kristie and Kassie Lind did felting, while Cas Strang, Riitta Huttenun and Enid Britt did wood carving.

We also taught classes and organized events as well. Susan Strang taught a Lefse making class, while Jayden Britt, her friend, Andy



Varden Lodge members, Heritage members & friends at Heritage Camp: Riley Tan, Jayden Britt (with Max), Spencer Strang, Nerissa Beeby, (with Connor) & Cian Beeby.



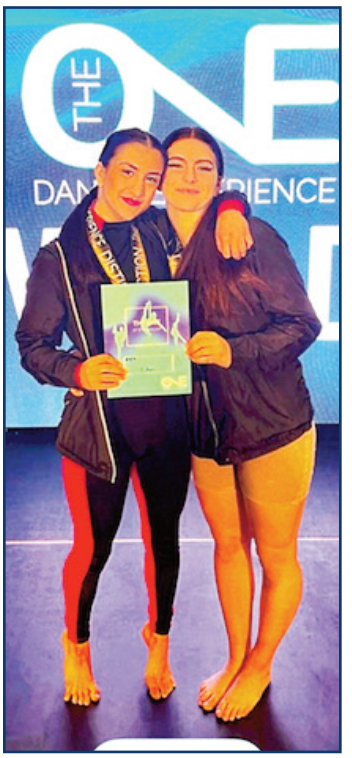
Connor Schilbach of Varden Lodge & Daliah Breivik of North Star Lodge raise the Norwegian flag at Heritage Camp

Carr, and Nerissa Beeby were teacher supports and helped in guiding activities for the younger members. Shauna Britt organize the soccer and volleyball games. While both Ron Stubbings and Bruce Strang helped with the raising of the flags. The Jarrid Mosdell Memorial Soccer Game was popular and drew a large crowd.

Cian Beeby and his friend Riley Tan did well in Archery competition. Riley actually won! Thank you to Tania Jacobsen and her committee for organizing such a wonderful event.

And now, with summer almost over, Varden Lodge will have it's September meeting on the 12th.

Krista Solie, Editor



Nadia Delicato of Varden Lodge & her partner Ava, celebrate win in the One Dance Experience



Congratulations to Varden member Shauna Britt (pictured with her son Wesley) on being chosen as a flight attendant for the Edmonton Oilers



Folks arriving for North Star's May 17th Celebration

North Star Lodge 63 Nanaimo, B.C.

Fall is in the air! B.C. has had quite a summer with all the wildfires and smoke. Some continue and others have stopped. Know that our thoughts are with all those affected by the fires.

This is a later report on our 17th May party. We had a grand time visiting, playing games and eating! Potential new members attended, and they were welcomed warmly to the lodge. Children as well as adults played the egg game. It was a race carrying an egg on a spoon. One had to laugh when a horrified









North Star Lodge had table (s) with all kinds of good food & desserts for their May 17th party

egg dropped to the floor! No one knew that the eggs were hard boiled!! We were serenaded by an accordion player during the party. I think that all Norwegians love the sound of an accordion!

On September 5th, we had our annual kickoff to celebrate a new year of social and cultural enjoyment. We usually supply a full meal or have food brought in. This year, we decided to make smørbrød for the get together. Everyone enjoyed the ekte Norsk meal along with dessert brought by the members. After a short business meeting, we had a "show and tell" session about articles from Norway. It is always fun to see and hear about family heirlooms or purchases made in Norway. For example, a 100 year old coffee grinder, a Telemark spoon, a Valdres broach, wooden shoes, a Sami bracelet, a kitchen witch, a fabric bird, a wooden tine and a Norwegian sister visiting one of our members!

Keep smiling and start collecting pine cones for some Jul crafts.

Linda Harvey,
Publicity

Rondane Lodge 71

Prince George,B.C.

The first activity of Rondane Lodge for the fall season was the Lutefisk supper. It was held on Saturday, September 9 at the home of our new President, Anna Mytting Horrocks and husband, Brent, who have their home on a big property at Murch Lake, a few miles North West of Prince George.



Lutefisk



Karin Smale in the summer kitchen & below is her brother, Tore Pettersen - Chief Lutefisk Chef



The 30 people who attended, not only enjoyed the excellent food but also the beautiful weather. Five parties stayed overnight, one person in one of their cabins, and the rest of them itheir own trailers and campers.

The dinner was held in a large building right next to the lake, where the diners could go out on the deck afterward and enjoy the evening breeze. A very successful party!

The next event, will be the Women`s Auxiliary, September meeting which is held at one of our local restaurants. This year it's held at Than Vu, at noon.

Hilsen,
Elsa Aase,
Publicity



This pretty young lady, Cora, is Unni Madsen's, (of Rondane Lodge), great granddaughter



Elsa Aase, celebrated her 89th birthday on August 18. with Ladies from Auxilliary



Rondane Ladies Auxilliary enjoy lunch at Sept.14 /23 meeting

Dawson Creek Lodge 79

Dawson Creek ,B.C.

Hello from the North. We are busy here getting things tucked under for the upcoming winter months. Fall is the most beautiful time of the year, but it is short lived it seems. Our summer here has been very dry, crops show the results, as well as the hay fields. It is worrisome for hay supply for the animals over winter. The wild fire situation has been so devastating as well. Our thoughts and prayers do truly go out to those that had to evacuate and also those that returned to devastation. We are so thankful we live where we do.

We are busy with preparations for our upcoming 60th anniversary of our Lodge celebration. We have set the date for September 23. This will include some of our history, a delicious sup-



A workshop class years ago Dawson Creek Lodge #79. All members at the time but I have no names.

per and fellowship evening.. Our regular monthly meeting will be tomorrow September 12,. to put on the finishing touches.

We have recently lost a good faithful member and today we attended the memorial service for Gunda Napen. We think of all the members we have lost and pray for all the families. It is so hard to lose a loved one and friend.

My husband and I became great grandparents in May. This is so special and rewarding. We often laugh at the thought of how we got this old.

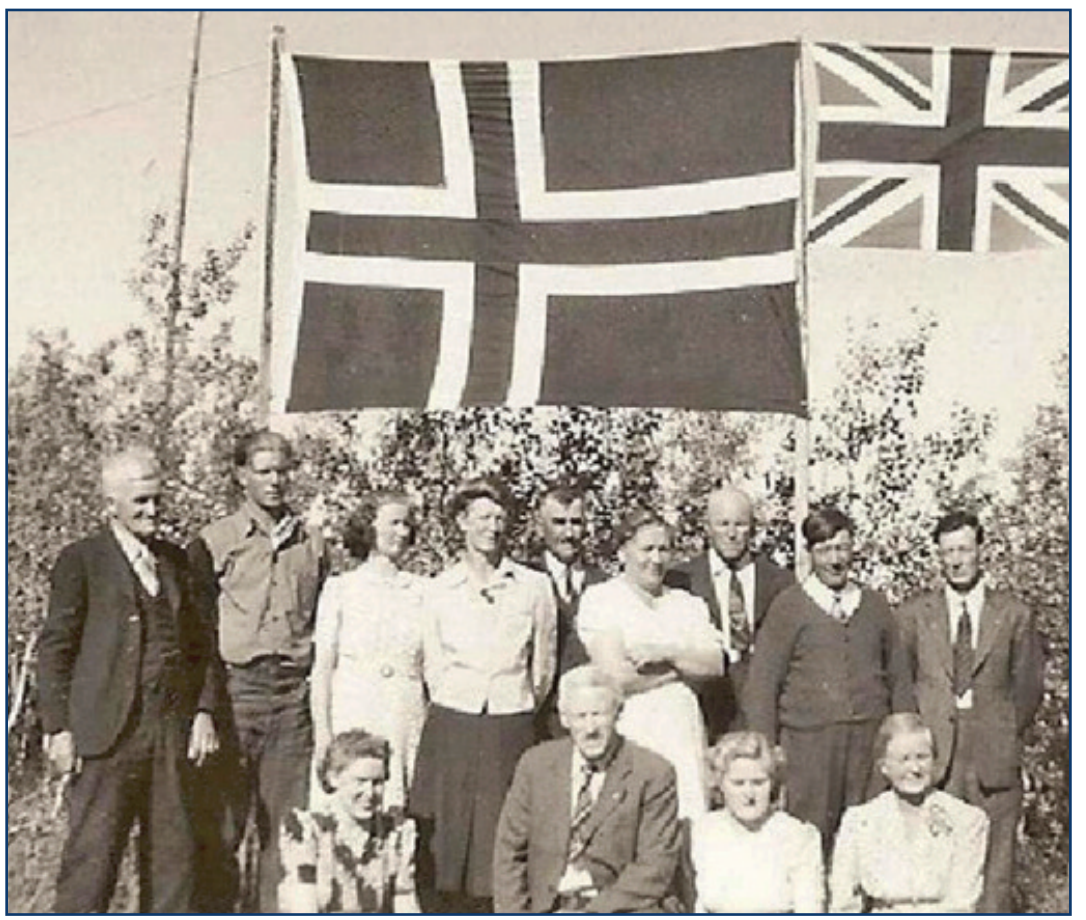
Our Lodge has not been very active this past couple months, I think summer and relaxation has taken over.

A couple laughs

Lena came running into the store and said to her husband Ole, "Hey, Ole, somebody yust stole our pickup truck from the parking lot!" Ole replies, :Did yew see who it vas?" Lena answered, "I couldn't tell, but I got da license plate number!"

Ole was trying to prove —to his wife, Lena, that women talk more than men. He showed her a study which said that men use about 10,000 words per day while women use 20,000 per day. Lena thought about this for a while. "Dat's because women have to repeat everything dey say to men."Ole responded,"vhat did yew say?"

Until Next Time,
Loretta Pratt, publicity



From the archives--group picture from 1940 in Rolla BC Rolla is about 10 KMs from Dawson Creek and was there before Dawson Creek. I have no names.



Viking Lodge 81

Surrey, B.C.

Summer is sadly over, however we have moved on and held our Members Meeting on September 7, 2023. There were 20 in attendance: 16 members together with guests, Ron Stubbings, International Board Chair of Sons of Norway, Catherine & Bengt Bjorsvik and Jakob Tengs. A delicious lunch of sandwiches & desserts followed the meeting – please see the picture in this issue to prove it!



Karin Nilse, left & Marg Kirsebom, right & other Viking members and guests enjoy sandwiches & desserts at meeting.

During the summer some of our Lodge members took an excursion to the Border Festival, which was, by the way, a good opportunity to fellowship with some of our American SON fellow Lodge members. Even though some of our members could not attend, they bought Raffle Tickets but unfortunately no one from our Lodge won anything.



Dolores Fossum with International President, Ron Stubbings

Two of our members, Andy Anderson and Ted Severud have been experiencing some health issues and we wish them well. Please remember to think of your fellow members, and please take the time to keep in touch with them.

As many of the Lodges have been experiencing a loss in membership; for many reasons, we thought it might be a good idea to have Ron Stubbings come and join us at one of our meetings to discuss the issues generally of what we can do to encourage new members. Ron gave us his view of what a SON Lodge should encompass today, including the positive side of membership.

Most of us are probably part of a SON Lodge because of the 3F's: Food, Fun and Fellowship (I am quoting Ron on this phrase). I, for one, will be thinking about newer and better ways of communicating this message to prospective new members.

We hope the following members had very Happy Birthdays on the following dates in September: Magnar Bjorsvik 6th ; Randi Newsome 7th , Else Bardsnes 14 th and Marg Kirsebom 24th .

The writer will be in Norway in September and also a trip to Ireland to visit some places where I'm sure Viking history will be evident. Hopefully, I will bring back something interesting to write about in the next issue of the "Leiflette".

Dolores Fossum,
Publicity

