



**SONS of  
NORWAY**

*Kristiania Lodge 1-047*

# KRISTIANIA *POSTEN*

2124 Viola Road NE  
Rochester, Minnesota

Web page: [www.Kristiania1-47.org](http://www.Kristiania1-47.org)  
Facebook: [@sonsofnorwaykristiania.org](https://www.facebook.com/sonsofnorwaykristiania.org)  
2026 Number 6  
JUNE 2026



## COMING KRISTIANIA EVENTS

(All events held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church unless otherwise noted.)

Thurs., June 11	Board meeting	5:15 pm
Thurs., June 11	Ice Cream Social / Bingo / Library Night Get ready for a fun-filled evening—with prizes and treats!	6:30 pm
Thurs., Aug. 13	Board meeting	5:15 pm
Thurs., Aug. 13	Chapter meeting. Program: "In Trunks, Hands, and Hearts: What Norwegian Immigrants brought to the US" with Jennifer Kovarik from Vesterheim.	6:30 pm

### ***Hilsen fra Presidenten—***

"There once was a puffin, just the shape of a muffin..." This is the start of a poem (by Florence Page Jaques) that I read to my children and grandchildren many, many times. Little did I know that Norway actually celebrates **Lundkommer's Day** every April 14. It's "The Puffins are Coming Day" according to *Viking* magazine. Crowds of people come to see the 200,000-300,000 puffins returning for mating season. My family will be traveling to Scandinavia in June, and my grandchildren are most excited to go on a Puffin tour! I admit that I

am quite excited about it also. What a joy to share our heritage (and birds) with them!

—**Carol Lucido, President**



### **Bingo Night and Ice Cream Social at SON**

Join us for a fun evening of bingo, sweet treats, and community at Sons of Norway on Thursday, June 11 at 6:30 pm. Guests can enjoy an exciting night of bingo, with numbers both called aloud and displayed on a screen for easy viewing. Bingo cards are just \$1 per card, and each card can be used repeatedly throughout the evening, giving everyone plenty of chances to win. The lodge will provide gifts for winners.

In addition to bingo, attendees will be treated to an ice cream social, making it a perfect summer gathering for friends and family.

As a special feature, we will also offer a tour of our library, giving members an opportunity to explore and learn more about the resources and history available at Sons of Norway, —**Lisa Fenton, Cultural Director**

The mission of Sons of Norway is to provide quality insurance and financial products to our members, promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, and celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries. (Updated mission statement, 2025).

## Velkommen!

We welcome two new members to Kristiania Lodge:

**Ronald Richardson** and **Barb Milburn**, both of Rochester. Barb has agreed to serve as a delegate, with her husband **Steve**, to the District 1 SON convention in June.

## Til Minne

**Janet Margery (Westland) Thorson**  
(March 20-1936-May 13, 2026), a Golden Member and a member since 1971.

## District One Convention News

- The District One Sons of Norway Convention is June 24—26 in Wilmar, MN, and there is always a silent auction for the Foundation. Any Scandinavian item is welcomed. Some ideas may be Norwegian sweaters, children's *bunads*, wooden toys, dishes, etc. Our member, **Dean Vigeland**, is creating a special wooden piece with rosemaling, sponsored by Kristiania, which will be a big hit. Bring any items for donation to our June 11 meeting, or call **Betty Danielson** for pick-up.
- If a member would like to enter the Fine Arts competition at the convention, just let us know. Two years ago we had the Grand Champion winner, **Renee Thoreson**.
- Also, anyone is welcome to attend the convention. You do not need to be a delegate. Feel free to consider driving north, even if it's just for one day or a few hours. Volunteers are welcome, too.

—**Betty Danielson, Zone 5 and Foundation**

## Nordic Fest—July 25-27—Decorah, IA

We will continue to work with the Cedar Rapids lodge to have a booth and Sons of Norway display on Saturday afternoon at Nordic Fest. The big parade is in the morning. Mark your calendars for July 25-27. Friday is another uniquely wonderful day to observe the culture.

—**Betty Danielson**

## Tusen Takk...

...to all the *nisser* (gnomes) who have willingly answered my call to help with treats for the fellowship gatherings after the chapter programs for so many years. I have enjoyed being in charge of hospitality starting at the little red schoolhouse off Highway 52 so many years ago. It is now time to let someone else have this fun experience. I will miss chatting with our wonderful members as I called.

June is Bingo Night, and ice cream treats are furnished by the lodge for the 6:30 bingo time. Treats and servers (usually three) will be needed for the August 13 meeting. Please let the new Hospitality Coordinator know if you wish to serve. Whoever takes this volunteer position will find it as fun and rewarding as I have.

—**Kathy Rosedahl, 507-259-7789**

*If you are interested in volunteering as Kathy's successor, please talk to a board member. Tusen, tusen, takk to Kathy for a superb job over the years!*

**Luke Fenton honored**—Our wonderful friend, chef, and lodge member, Luke Fenton, was recently honored by the Minnesota School Nutrition Association as its "2026 Hero." We are blessed that he regularly shares his skills with our lodge. —BD



**Postage stamps**—We are still collecting cancelled postage stamps, which are collected on the district level and sent to Norway to help raise funds for humanitarian causes. Look for a box for depositing or bring to the board room/library.—**Ann Romo, trustee**

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NOTE—Please notify **Kristi Simmons (ssimmons10@aol.com)** or **Lisa Fenton (lj.fenton789@gmail.com)** if you know of a Kristiania member who should receive a get-well or sympathy card with greetings from the lodge.

**Syttende Mai event featured scholarship winners, meatballs, and talented musicians.**

**Scholarships awarded**

For the past 18 years our lodge has been awarding scholarships to qualifying high school seniors. To date, 133 scholarships have been given. The 2026 winners were invited to join us on May 9 for our *Syttende Mai* meeting. Four of them were able to attend, and three others were represented by their parents. This year's recipients were:

- Abigail Armstrong (John Marshall)
- Audra Byrne (Stewartville)
- Jayda Davis (Dover-Eyota)
- Joshua Estrem (Kenyon-Wanamingo, grandson of Nancy Ellison)
- Julia Goldsmith (Chatfield)
- Ingrid Haaland (Highland Park, granddaughter of Dale and Beth Haaland)
- Jonas Hanse (Stewartville)
- Trygve Nelson (Mayo)
- Kate Powell (John Marshall)
- Otto Ward (Century, son of Erica and Victor Ward, current member)
- Christopher Watters (Stewartville)
- Matthew Watters (Stewartville)



Josh , Trygve , Ingrid , Pres. Carol Lucido

Kristiania Lodge celebrated *Syttende Mai* on May 9 with a delicious meal of meatballs and all the accompaniments. Several members wore their *bunads*, and we were delighted to enjoy the last portion of Darlene Fossum-Martin's *Kransekake*. Four of the scholarship winners joined us for our celebration. Heidi and Phil Dybing entertained us with a historic presentation of Edvard Grieg's life, including Heidi's beautiful piano performance of some of his compositions, followed by a sing-along of Norwegian folk songs.—**Sue Walch**, Social Director



Sue Walch, Kari Richards, Renee Thoreson, Judy Stevens, Erik Fenton, Jean Mortenson, Leah Fenton, Laina Fenton



Phil and Heidi Dybing, Lanesboro, MN, presented a program based on Edvard Grieg's life and compositions, including Heidi's piano performance of several Grieg compositions,



**Pop Tabs—**

Kristiania lodge will continue to collect aluminum can tabs for our local Ronald McDonald House. A marked collection box will be available at each lodge meeting on the table located on the side wall.—**Monica VanKirk**

Sons of Norway  
2124 Viola Road NE  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



***Tusen takk, Bob!*** The Rochester Sons of Norway Kristiania Lodge thanks **Robert “Bob” Rosedahl** for his many years of service as he retires from his role as Trustee. Bob has served on the board for decades, dating back to our time at the old schoolhouse location, and has played an important role in the lodge’s growth and success over the years.

In addition to his board service, Bob has also contributed for many years on the college scholarship committee. He has also been a source of fun and entertainment for members through his Lars character, often performing alongside cousin Helga and his “other brother” Lars.

Thank you, Bob, for your years of service, leadership, and involvement in Kristiania Lodge. We appreciate all you have contributed to our organization.

*-Lisa Fenton*