



**SONS of  
NORWAY**

*Kristiania Lodge 1-047*



# KRISTIANIA POSTEN

Rochester, Minnesota

Phone: (507)206-6262;

Web page: [www.Kristiania1-47.org](http://www.Kristiania1-47.org)

Facebook: @sonsofnorwaykristiania

**DECEMBER 2020**

Volume 2020, Number 11

**GLAD JUL! God nyttår!**

## .HILSEN FRA PRESIDENTEN

Between the second summer weather and the ongoing pandemic, this year will definitely be one to remember. As many of us have had our holiday plans changed due to the pandemic, I find myself thinking of holidays past, both as a child and adult.

There have been holidays in the past when I was unable to spend it with extended family due to living out-of-state. No matter what the circumstances I always had different family traditions that would continue, like baking Norwegian cookies. My *farmor* (grandma) told me we needed to have at least seven cookies for the holiday season. I was never sure why that was until I read an article on Norwegian Christmas traditions where the author mentioned this tradition of seven sorts of cookies (*syv slags kaker*) or seven cookies of Christmas (*syv slags julekaker*). I have seen it referred to in one of those two ways. In my family a Christmas cookie tray was not complete without *krumkake*, *spritz* green Christmas trees, *pepperkake*, *fattigmann*, and *hjortetakk*. Of course there were other desserts too, rice pudding with red sauce (*riskrem med rød saus*), *karamellpudding*, and fresh *lefse*.

The last few Julefests we have asked members to bring Scandinavian desserts, cookies, puddings, etc, to create a dessert bar. Since we haven't been meeting, I think it would be fun if you sent in photos of your holiday celebration to be printed in the *Posten*. It could be a photo of your dinner spread, cookie platter, or you and your family. Please send the photos to the *Posten* editor ([verlajeana@aol.com](mailto:verlajeana@aol.com)) for possible publication in the January 2021 issue.

I hope you and your family are staying healthy and safe during this holiday season.

*Erica Ward, Presidenten*



Kristiania's "Nordic Woodland Forest"

our contribution to Hiawatha Homes' 2020

Festival of Trees



Kristiania's "Nordic Woodland Forest" tree was displayed Nov. 27-29 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Rochester. Thanks go to **Renee Thoreson** and **Sue Blood**, who shopped for the ornaments and decorated the tree. Our return to the festival is an example of our lodge's community outreach.

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 to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

## Lefse Give-away



Kristiania members were treated to packages of lefse on Saturday, November 14, courtesy of the lodge. Board members distributed two packages to each household, some members came back to buy additional packages, and some received home delivery.



Orland and Maxine Thoresen received home delivery from the Fenton family.



Boxes of lefse await distribution in Rogelstads' van.



Dave Anderson, Kathy Rosedahl, and Carol and Wayne Rogelstad offered drive-up service

In addition to those pictured, Kristiania members who helped with the lefse give-away were **Erica and Victor Ward; Ann Romo; Lisa, Erik, Leah, and Laina Fenton; and VJ Anderson.** Kathy and Bob Rosedahl brought the lefse to Rochester from Blair, Wisconsin.

## Special Opportunity

Kristiania members who might normally participate in our annual Craft Sale call your attention to their projects:

**NORWEGIAN ROSEMALING and HARDANGER**  
Hand-painted woodenware: plates, bowls, signs, ornaments. Various colors and sizes. Hardanger. [dcvigeland@charter.net](mailto:dcvigeland@charter.net) or call 507-281-6879 for appointment. No shipping. Dean and Carol Vigeland, 2613 Viola Hts. Dr. NE, Rochester 55906  
Masks and social distancing required.



**Our Financial Benefits Counselor is—**

**Len Carlson, 651-254-1943**  
[len.carlson253@gmail.com](mailto:len.carlson253@gmail.com)

**In-Person Meetings Remain on Hold**



**SNOWBIRDS AND WINTER TRAVELERS!** Keep the *Posten* editor advised of your winter address and the effective dates! Bulk mail is not forwarded, and Kristiania is required to pay postage on the returned copies. *Takk!*

Please continue to watch for updates in lodge emails, on the website ([www.kristiania1-47.org](http://www.kristiania1-47.org)), or on the Facebook page (@sonsofnorwaykristiania). If you know fellow members who do not have access to electronic media, please pass information to them by phone. You may phone any of the lodge officers if you have questions. Their contact information can be found on pages 3-5 of your 2020 Kristiania yearbook.

## Open Board Positions:

If you are interested in a board position, please contact **Erica Ward** or one of the board members to find out additional information.

**Vice President:** Entails collaborating with the President and board to ensure lodge activities are completed. The Vice President, in the absence of the President, will preside over board and lodge meetings, and social gatherings.

**Publicity/Marketing Director:** Sends out the notices of lodge chapter meetings and social gatherings to the local media. This job is a very important position that helps bring awareness of our lodge for potential new members. Contact information has been developed by those who previously held this position.

**Librarian:** Maintains the lodge library, which focuses on Norwegian and Scandinavian literature as well as various other media. Previous knowledge is not required. Once the church is opened for our group to meet again, the library will be open again.

—Erica Ward, Presidenten



**The Young Flame** Rikard Nordraak, together with the poet Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, is responsible for all of us clearing our throats and belting out "and the saga night that lays, lays dreams upon our earth."

Nordraak was born on June 12, 1842, in Christiania. His family has a piano in the living room, and Rikard starts playing early. In 1850, his cousin Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, who is in town to study, moves in with his family. Bjørnson observes that the young boy has musical talent.

**Yes, We Love «Ja, Vi Elsker»** "Ja, Vi Elsker" extends over an abnormally wide tonal range to be a sing-along. It is overambitious. Many have probably experienced starting as deeply as they can, and still ending up with a squeaky voice at the end of the song. The lyrics are written by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson. When the poem is to be set to music for the Constitutional Jubilee in 1864, Bjørnson, of course, gives the assignment to his dear cousin.

The first official performance takes place at the constitutional jubilee, May 17, 1864. The men's choir conductor recounted about the first rehearsal that the song "was immediately beloved and that everyone felt: 'Now, this is our national anthem!'" The timing is perfect. As Bjørnson says, "Ja, Vi Elsker" inhales the breath of an entire people, a few decades prior to Norway becoming independent. "Ja, Vi Elsker" quickly becomes the national anthem by virtue of its popularity. At 21 years old, Rikard Nordraak has managed something incredible.

**On his deathbed** On November 1865 Nordraak contracts pneumonia. After five months of illness, surrounded by doctors and his landlord, Rikard Nordraak dies on March 20, 1866.

Although we can later read all the praise about Nordraak, his funeral goes unnoticed, and is a testament to a lonely young man. Two people show up at the funeral procession: his landlord and a friend.

**New relevance** Beyond the 20th century, Nordraak's ideas gained new relevance when Norway became independent. He is honored with memorials in Berlin, Copenhagen and Oslo, before his urn is moved to The Cemetery of Our Saviour in Oslo in 1925. In December 2019, "Ja, Vi Elsker" was officially voted Norway's national anthem by the *Storting*, after having been in use for over 150 years. —Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

## Are you on our email list?

You can join the lodge email list either through the option on our website, [www.kristiania1-47.org](http://www.kristiania1-47.org) or by emailing our Social Director, **Lisa Fenton** at

[lj.fenton789@gmail.com](mailto:lj.fenton789@gmail.com). Changes and announcements are often sent via our email list, in particular between *Posten* issues.

## TUBFRIM Stamps

A reminder to all to cut off your used postage stamps to send to Norway for the TUBFRIM program. Leave a ¼ to ½ -inch border around all sides. Please bring to a chapter meeting to deposit in our TUBFRIM container. The stamps are sold (to collectors), and the profits are used to help children and youth with disabilities, and children and youth with handicaps, in Norway and to finance the efforts to eradicate tuberculosis. —Ann Romo, Volunteer for TUBFRIM

## Check us out on Facebook



Lodge event photos, interesting articles, and meeting reminders are on Facebook! Our lodge page is public, which means **you don't have to have a Facebook account** to view our posts. Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/sonsofnorwaykristiania/>

Weather-related announcements will be communicated through Facebook. —Lisa Fenton, Webmaster

## You Have Mail!

Send us an Email!

We would like to update the Lodge Email and telephone contact list.

**Please send us an email at**

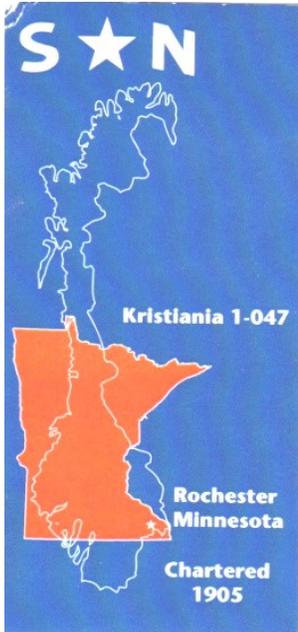
[info@kristiania1-47.org](mailto:info@kristiania1-47.org) and include your name and phone number. Please tell us if we can send text messages to that number. *Takk!*



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<p>Kristiania <i>Posten</i> is the newsletter of Kristiania 1-47 in Rochester, MN, and is published eleven times a year.        Redaktør: VJ Anderson, 44 County 16 Road SE, Rochester, MN 55904; 507-289-3794; verlajeana@aol.com.</p>	 <p>507-288-3772 <a href="http://pepsirochester.com">pepsirochester.com</a>        3393 Commercial Drive SW        Rochester, MN 55902</p>	 <p><b>SONS of NORWAY</b>        District 1</p>