



**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

**MAY 2020**

Volume 2020, Number 5

## HILSEN FRA PRESIDENTEN

I hope this *Posten* finds you feeling healthy and safe and able to enjoy the nice spring weather we have been blessed with recently. As my family finds reasons to spend time outside and enjoy the sunshine, we also chat with our neighbors and those passing by, of course maintaining social distance. We miss our social circles, like our Sons of Norway lodge, and look forward to when we will be able to get together again.

The COVID-19 pandemic upset the well-planned 2020 program for our lodge. Hopefully, the Social Committee will be able to reschedule at least some of the programs for another year. Since the stay-at-home order remains in effect until May 3, and the church has not lifted their closure, all May lodge events have been cancelled. Normally, the Rochester Keyboard Club competition, sponsored by our lodge, is held in May, and the winners, along with several others, perform in a concert at the lodge's May social meeting. Due to the COVID-19, the competition and concert are canceled.

Our lodge generously provides scholarships for high school seniors looking to start their college education in the fall. Typically we review the scholarship applications in April, but we have had to delay our review due to COVID-19 restrictions. Our Scholarship Committee Chair **Curt Mortenson** has notified the applicants of the delay.

As we continue to work through this trying time, I look forward to when we can start meeting again, when we can hear about the latest developments in our lodge and new events coming up, the scheduled program, and of course, the food. Until then I will keep buying lots and lots of art supplies to help keep my kids busy when they are not outside or doing schoolwork. And continue connection with people online, through email, or on the phone.

If you know someone from the lodge who is not receiving the *Posten* by email, please let them know about the option. Please let any of the board members know if you would like to join the board or volunteer to help out.

—Erica Ward, President

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. There will be no print edition of *Posten* in May.

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.

## News

- ◆ Kristiania member **Maxine Thoreson** was featured in a Rochester *Post-Bulletin* article on Thursday, April 23 (page A7). There she reminisced about the six months she and her family were quarantined in 1934, when her older sister had diphtheria. Maxine was four years old at the time, but remembers the experience vividly.
- ◆ **Judy Davis** and **Ann Romo** have been busy making facemasks, and they are offering them to members who need them. They are free! Contact Judy at 507-259-9806, and she will make arrangements for dropping them off in Rochester at an agreed-upon location.



Photo: Judy Davis

### From our Financial Benefits Counselor, Len Carlson

I hope all of you are doing well during these challenging times that we all are experiencing. We all have to stay positive and believe life will return to normal. This might be the time to look at your insurance and investment needs, as things do change! There is a lot of volatility in the investment world: perhaps a conservative approach should be looked at. In the last *Posten* Sons of Norway's annuity rates were listed—very competitive rates.

Please contact me, either at 1-651-253-1943 or email [len.carlson253@gmail.com](mailto:len.carlson253@gmail.com) to address any financial concerns you may have. Stay safe. Len.

## 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. Since the District One convention is cancelled for 2020, we have lots of time to collect!

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

## Setesdal Named to UNESCO Intangible Heritage List

After a seven-year campaign, the folk music and dance traditions from Setesdal in Agder County (southern Norway) have been added to the UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) regards intangible cultural heritage as the traditions passed between ancestors and descendants. A few examples are traditional storytelling, performing arts, rituals, festivals and craft skills.

In a practice woven into Setesdal life since the 1700s, the singing of *stev* (four-line a cappella storytelling songs) is interspersed with tunes played on a *Hardingfele* (Hardanger fiddle) or *munnharpe* (mouth harp) to accompany a traditional couple's dance, *gangar*. *Stev* are meant to be shared in social settings and are typically learned through family members or local musicians. The *gangar* fiddle tunes are marked with loud, rhythmic foot padding. International recognition of these cultural expressions not only promotes preservation, but also increases tourism. The rugged and remote valley of Setesdal may soon receive new visitors, as recordings of this art form can never compare to the transporting experience of live performance.

—SON Newsletter Service

### 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

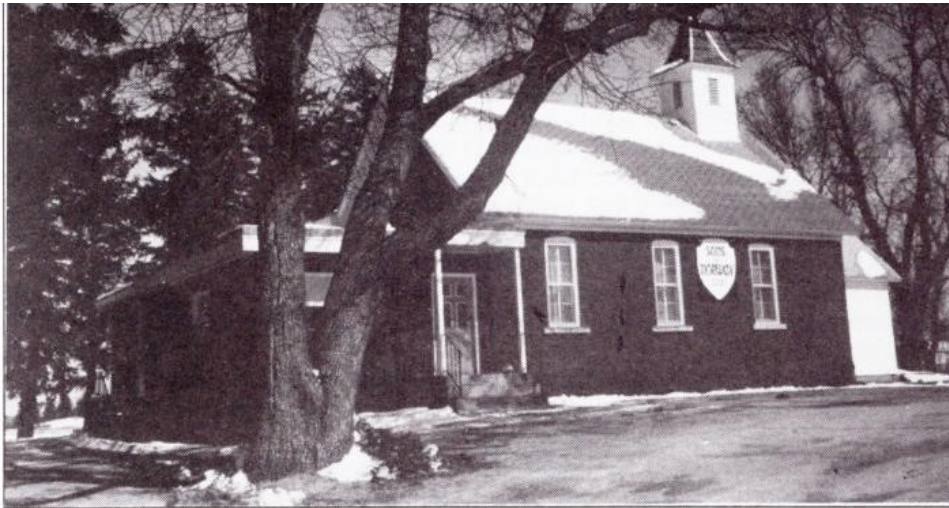
[info@kristiania1-47.org](mailto:info@kristiania1-47.org) and include your name and phone number. Please tell us if we can send text messages to that number. *Takk!*

## Coronavirus in Norway and Sweden

The first reported case of Coronavirus in Norway was in Tromsø, 2/26/20, which was quickly quarantined. Then Oslo had the next outbreak. The hardest hit areas are Oslo and the surrounding Viken county, but all counties have had more than 100 cases. On 3/12/20 Norway invoked emergency powers to stop the spread of the virus, which was extended until 4/12/20, on Easter. The krone, the stock market, and businesses have suffered. The Hurtigruten suspended service for one month. Following Easter, Norway's Minister of Health and Care announced a relaxed Coronavirus restriction, but the event ban continues until June 15. Schools and businesses were allowed to reopen 4/20/20, and the cabin restriction was lifted. There are strict penalties for violation of quarantines. Air travel is restricted, and border closures are still in place. Prime Minister Erna Solberg says "the contagion curve has flattened out, emergency measures have worked, but we can't let down our guard..." Testing, better detection, and rapid isolation is said to be important in the next phase to reopen society. As of 4/22/20 Norway has had 7,241 coronavirus cases with 182 deaths. Norway attributes their lower death rate to their high quality health care and emergency measures that were put in place. Source: "Coronavirus in Norway: The Latest News on Covid-19" on website [www.lifeinnorway](http://www.lifeinnorway).

"Sweden has nearly 10 times the number of Covid-19 related deaths than its Nordic neighbors." Even though Sweden's population is larger, their lack of lockdowns other than a ban on gathering of 50 or more has caused the disease to be widespread. Sweden has had 15,322 Covid-19 cases and 1,765 deaths. Finland has had 4,014 cases and 141 deaths. Source (undated): [Businessinsider.com](http://Businessinsider.com)

Thanks to **Judy Davis** for supplying these references.



Kristiania #47 Lodge, Rochester, Minnesota

### 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

### We're 115 years old!

Long-time Kristiania members will remember the former meeting place, the Stone Corner School, once located along US 52. This picture is from "A History of District 1 Sons of Norway Centennial Edition 1895-1995." The article about Kristiania notes that the lodge was chartered on May 30, 1905, but activities ceased in 1919. The lodge was reactivated in 1934. The school was purchased in 1969 and used until highway 52 was rebuilt. —Contributed by Mike Wick, Nor-sota lodge 1-602, Twin Cities.

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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>