



Kristiania Lodge 1-047

KRISTIANIA POSTEN

2124 Viola Road NE
Rochester, Minnesota

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

MARCH 2026

Volume 2026 Number 3



COMING KRISTIANIA EVENTS

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

Thurs., March 12	Board meeting	5:15 pm
Sat., March 21	Soup and Pie Lunch. Soup donations from members; pie donated by board members. Program: Lauluaika: Finnish Folk Music Ensemble Please RSVP to Sue Walch at 507-273-4025, voicemail or text. VOLUNTEER TO BRING SOUP by contacting Sue also.	noon
Thurs., April 9	Board meeting	5:15 pm
Thurs., April 9	Chapter meeting Program: <i>Kransekake</i> : The Crown of Norwegian Desserts. Speaker: Darlene Fossum Martin.	6:30 pm

Hilsen fra Presidenten

Greetings! In 1974, I traveled to Norway with my parents. We visited relatives from both my mother’s side (near Voss) and from my father’s side (near Kongsberg). I have always treasured the opportunity to see where “my people” came from and the place they left behind in order to start a new life. This June, 52 years later, my husband and I will travel there again, but this time with our children and grandchildren. Whether or not you have had the opportunity to visit “the old country” in your life, I’m sure you agree that our Scandinavian heritage is something to celebrate.

—**Carol Lucido**, President

Program, March 21: Lauluaika

Lauluaika—meaning “Song Time” in Finnish—is a vibrant folk music ensemble from the Twin Cities dedicated to preserving and sharing the rich tradition of Finnish and Finnish-American music. Their lively repertoire features waltzes, polkas, hump-pa, jenkka, and other couple and group dances, blending traditional Finnish tunes with American and Nordic folk influences. With instruments like the mandolin, button accordion, violin, guitar, bass, harmonium, and kantele, Lauluaika creates an authentic and joyful sound that invites both listening and dancing. Performing throughout the Upper Midwest—and even in Canada and Finland—the group brings communities together through music that celebrates heritage, rhythm, and connection.

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!

Welcome to new member **Sheri Brandvold** of Rochester! We hope to meet you at our next meeting, and we encourage you to become active in our lodge.



2026 Scholarships

Our lodge will be awarding \$1,000–scholarships to public school seniors in Olmsted County and/or **children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of current lodge members regardless of where they live.** To be eligible, a student must be a graduating senior who will be attending a college, university, or technical school in the fall of 2026. **Application deadline is March 31,** Additional information and the application form can be found at our website: www.kristiania1-47.org.

—**Carol Lucido**, Scholarship Chairperson



COMEBACK STORY

The Olympics are rich with moving tales of overcoming the odds, and setbacks that make athletes better in the end.

You many recall the loud pants that the Norwegian men’s curling team rolled out at the Vancouver Olympics in 2010. The story goes that the official Team Norway pants had not arrived in time, so one of the curlers ran out and bought red, white and blue pants, to match their jerseys.

That year, Team Norway landed an Olympic silver medal.

Spectators took note, and the wacky pants even inspired a fan site on Facebook. As long as the team was together under team skip Thomas Ulsrud, they donned all kinds of wild patterns—zigzags, Norwegian flags, argyle, hearts and more.

In 2019 Team Ulsrud disbanded at the end of the season, and the pants tradition went with them. The president of the World Curling Federation called the team “huge ambassadors for the sport,” thanks to the visibility the players brought to curling.

Shortly after the 2022 Beijing Olympics, Ulsrud passed away from cancer. At the 2026 Games in Milan, the Norwegian men’s curling team broke out the funky pants for one more game, to pay tribute to Thomas Ulsrud’s legacy.

—SON Newsletter Service

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

Kristiania Posten is the newsletter of Kristiania Lodge 1-47 in Rochester, MN, and is published eleven times a year. Redaktør: VJ Anderson, 507-254-0454, verlajjeana@aol.com

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.

Sons of Norway Kristiania lodge February 12 meeting: Summary

Thirty-seven members gathered for a lively February meeting. **Lars and Helga** entertained the group with stories, including a memorable tale of relatives attempting to ice-fish on an Olympic rink in Italy—without catching a fish or winning a medal.

Our *nisse* team—**Julie Tiedeman, Diane Renaas, and Judy Davis**—treated everyone to open-faced sandwiches, a cheese tray waffles with jam, syrup *snipper*, and other goodies. Members sang Happy Birthday to **Judy Davis** and again for **Harold Dison**. Harold turned 97 on February 13.

Announcements included several open board positions: secretary, membership coordinator, publicity, and sports. With nearby lodges dissolving, volunteers remain essential to keeping our lodge strong and active. **Julie Tiedeman** also shared a recent Luther College alumni magazine featuring the Crown Prince's visit and heritage topics of interest.

The evening program featured **James Miller** presenting on Nordic figure carving. He highlighted the history of the craft and influential carvers, including Minnesota's own Harley Refsal. James shared his personal carving journey—from middle-school inspiration to mentorship in local carving groups, showing pieces at Vesterheim, and eventually attending Luther College. James displayed many wonderful and varied items that he had carved. His presentation was warmly received and rich with photos.

—**Lisa Fenton**

Photos: Lori Conklin and Arnie Fredriksen admire James Miller's carvings.



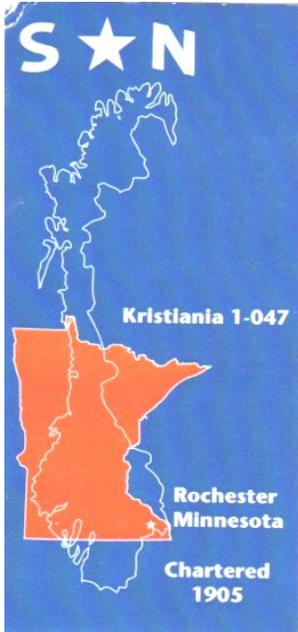
Pop Tabs—

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



From our Financial Benefits Counselor, Len Carlson

Investing in peace of mind.

Why should I consider Sons of Norway life insurance and annuity products as part of my overall portfolio of retirement assets? If you are a risk-averse investor and don't like the ups and downs of the stock market, consider following those investors who prioritize capital preservation to prevent loss in your portfolio. Tax-deferred investments offer several advantages for long-term financial growth, such as the following:

- Tax-deferred growth
- Protection from market risk
- Guaranteed interest rate
- Access to free withdrawals

As you consider your options when investing your hard-earned money as a risk-averse investor, examine how Sons of Norway's tax-deferred products (fixed annuities and cash value life insurance) may work within your overall portfolio.

Please contact me for information about Sons of Norway's annuity products. We are currently paying 5% in the first year on our Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity product

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