

The Posten

February 2017

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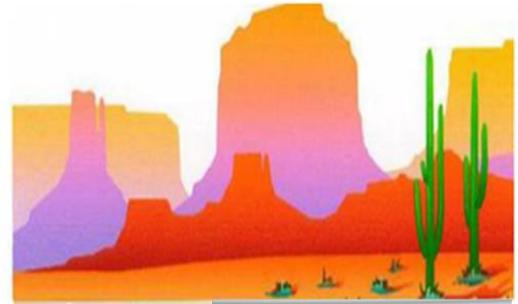
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Desert Fjord Lodge 6-133
P O Box 1716
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SONS OF NORWAY

Desert Fjord Lodge



President's Column

by Jonathan Walters, President

What do we do at Desert Fjord when the holidays have past? Our February Heritage and Cultural meeting features one of our most popular events – the annual Torsk Dinner. We expect a great turnout from members, visitors and area Sons of Norway lodges.

For the February program we'll be watching the compelling documentary "Finding Thea" about a woman whose life and work made her a pioneer archetype for women in the first half of the twentieth century.

In 1889, the year Washington achieved statehood, Norwegian immigrant Thea Christiansen Foss arrived in Tacoma on the newly opened Northern Pacific Railroad.

With transportation limited to train, horse-drawn buggies and boats, Thea quickly recognized a business opportunity in the growing demand for water travel. Beginning with an initial \$5 purchase of a rowboat, the marine transport business she and her husband Andrew founded on the Tacoma waterfront has grown over more than a century into the largest, most modern fleet of tugs on the West Coast.

I have good news ... to report some progress in finding officers to fill vacancies at our lodge. Nina Poe has agreed to serve on the Education Committee, reviewing scholarship and grant applications. She and Laurie Peterson will both assist Jana Peterson, our Cultural Director, with programming at Desert Fjord. Gordon Peterson and Paul Lindbloom have accepted the invitation to serve together as Co-Foundation Directors, overseeing and encouraging scholarship and grant opportunities through our own Agnes Stieler Education Fund, District 6 scholarship offerings and various offerings through Sons of Norway in Minneapolis. Finally, Norm Jenson and Peter Flanders have become Desert Fjord trustees, helping to keep a current record of the status of lodge equipment. A big welcome to each of you as you bring your time, energy, talents and insights to benefit Desert Fjord Lodge!

As we move through the winter months and into the spring, Desert Fjord will give us many chances to celebrate our Scandinavian roots. Come join with us! Get in touch with your past through our intentional menu and program choices.



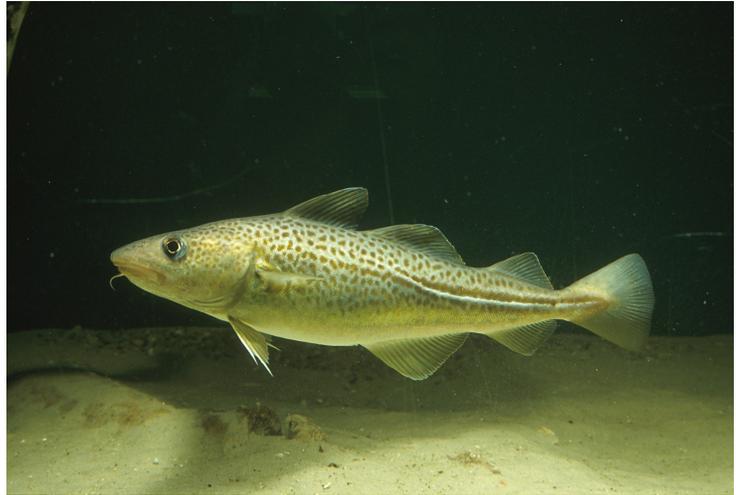
Velkommen

**Heritage and Cultural Meeting—February 12th at 2 PM
Masonic Lodge, 2531 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale**

May the Torsk Be with You!

**You are invited to Desert Fjord's Annual Torsk Dinner
and Fundraiser.**

We will be watching the movie "Finding Thea"



Menu: Codfish or
Meatballs & lingonberries
Roasted potatoes
Glazed carrots
Dessert & Beverage
(State your preference when you
make your reservation!)

Price: \$18.00 adult, \$9.00 child

Reservations :
Register online (click "online")
Or
Call Phyllis Bergo (480)812-9762

**Make check to Sons of Norway
and mail to Phyllis Bergo:
2589 E Erie Ct, Gilbert AZ, 85295**

Reserve your place by Feb 9th

Business Meeting

February 4th at 1:00 pm

Granite Reef Senior Center,

1700 N Granite Reef Road, Scottsdale, AZ

* * *

Genealogy Meeting

10:30 am on February 4th at **The Egg I Am**

10155 E Via Linda, Scottsdale, AZ



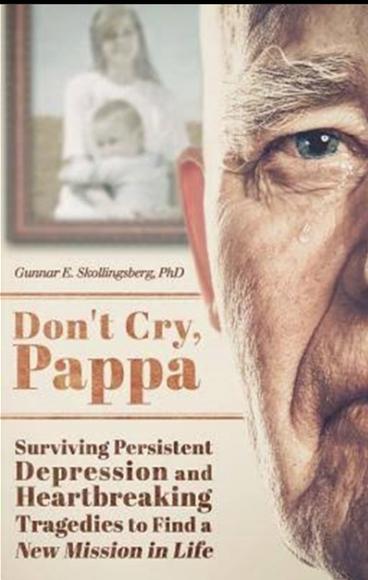
Simply Recipes

Viking Book and Wine Club

will meet at 3 pm February 4th

at 5848 E Hummingbird Lane, Paradise Valley

RSVP Jana (480) 326-2927



Over this holiday season we are reading “Don’t Cry, Pappa” by Gunnar Skollingsberg.

The youngest child of a Norwegian immigrant family to the United States, Gunnar grew up with feelings of alienation and loneliness. He later developed a persistent, profound depression which was only alleviated upon the birth of his first child. This little baby boy

became the joy and purpose of Gunnar's life.

Parents live in perpetual, subconscious fear of losing a child. For this author, this ultimate nightmare has come true not once, but twice; a tragic car accident took the life of his two year-old son, and - many years later - his 15 year-old daughter drowned while on a camping trip.

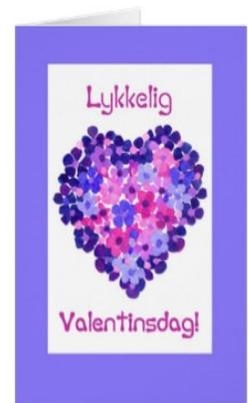
In his moving, new memoir, *Don't Cry, Pappa*, Gunnar Skollingsberg chronicles his journey from devastating, suicidal depression to tentative, fragile healing. Fortunately, he was able recover the drive to live beyond his children's deaths. He eventually refocused his life's purpose to bring moments of happiness and laughter to other children.

Valentine's Day in Norway

While flowers, chocolate, and time with loved ones is the same as anywhere else, Norway has its own charm on 'a day of love'.

Norwegians call it 'Valentinsdagen' and celebrate it as 'the day of love'. Though Norwegians celebrate this festival with vigor and joy, their celebrations are not influenced so much by the American style of Valentine's Day festivals. Norway is a place for snowboarding and skiing and people come here in February on Valentine's Day for a romantic adventure. There are hotels and resorts that offer attractive packages to the lovers who come for a skiing adventure in the mountains of Norway. Small lakes such as Vatn attract locals and tourists alike.

People used to wander around these lakes on Valentine's Day. These lakes and the beautiful picturesque mountains of Norway attract umpteen number of tourists every year.



Library News!

Donations, Missing Books and More

Someone donated two white binders filled with much information about Vikings. It appears to have been prepared for school children. If anyone is interested in viewing these binders please advise.

Annie Hauser donated several books that are in Norwegian. If you are interested in checking out any of these books, please see the librarian at our February meeting.

* * *

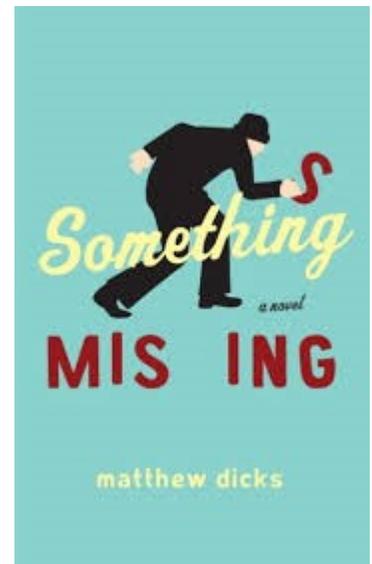
Several of the missing books have been located and returned to the proper places in the library. But many are still missing—particularly all the woodworking publications. Please check if any members might have these or know someone who has this interest. The list of the remaining errant books will be available at the February meeting. Once again please check where these might be. There were no check out cards so they cannot be traced.

Any help will be much appreciated!

Items Missing from Desert Fjord Library in 2016 (Some still missing in 2017)

(some of these are quite valuable – please help us bring back all our missing items)

- Beginning Woodcarving (Complete How to Guide DVD) by Everett Ellenwood
- The Book of Wood Carving (Advanced) by Bostz
- Chip Carving (Techniques for Beginners) by Hunter
- Norwegian Rose Painting (Intermediate) by Nils Ellingsgard
- Viking Designs (historic woodcarving on Stave churches) by Smith
- An American Saga (Sons of Norway Across America) by SON
- Bergstaden Roros, Norway by Harald Kallestad
- Cod, a Biography of the Fish that Changed the World by Mark Kurlansky
- In Cod We Trust by Heather Atwood
- Norwegians in America, Records – Emigration by Langeland
- Norwegian Touches: History, Recipes, Folk Arts by Joan Bourret and Louise Roalson
- Off the Beaten Track – travel guide
- Popular Tales from the Norse – pre-1923 history by George Webbe Dasent
- Puc, Gray Dog of Norway – Sami family culture by Nina P Ross
- Scandinavia: Common Heritage – 5 countries; history
- The Norwegian Heritage: Volume II – history
- Valdres – Diversity & Enchantment ... Valdres area, Norway



On Bumblebees

Sons of Norway's Camp Norge in Alta, California posted an article on the nature of bumblebees—how they were better than people at working together and solving their problems.



In the scenario, scientists observed a bumblebee mentoring other bumblebees by showing the work that needed to be done in order to get discs of sugar from an artificial flower. Bees from a lab couldn't figure it out, but bees in the wild when working together were rewarded with the sweets.

The same scenario works for people. As a recent college graduate you can put many of my recently graduated peers in a new situation and see failure, but when given a mentor in over half the time you'll find success.

Working together, bees and people have incredible potential and we can do the same here at the Desert Fjord Lodge of Scottsdale. Work with your fellow lodge members in making this year one to remember!

-Laura

February Birthdays

Amelia L Berger	3
Gil E Witsoe	12
Hiro Liev Cummings	15
Lois J Sakkas	18



Rhonda Hotop	22
Chloe Medder	22
Dieter H Clunk	24
Solomon A Isaacson	26

Gratulerer Med Dagen

Mission Statement:

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 for our members.

Membership Matters

by Floyd Downs, Membership Secretary

Recently Elizabeth and I visited with Clarence and Joanne Nelson at their apartment in Mesa. We reminisced over the early years of the Desert Fjord library that Clarence instituted and fostered for many years, and in which Elizabeth assisted, then took over and organized via computer listing, now available on the Lodge website. Just this year she turned the library over to Arlys Medicott, our current librarian.

Although Clarence's health is rather fragile now (uses a cane and travels in a wheelchair) both he and Joanne maintain good spirits and our visit was most enjoyable and beneficial. Since they no longer feel able to travel to our Lodge meetings, Clarence has let his membership lapse. I mention this only because it leads me to discuss our Membership Retention Fund (MRF).

Some time ago a few Lodge members, concerned about losing members unable to continue to pay dues, set up the MRF with volunteered monies to assist such members by paying their dues requirement. Let me be clear: monies in the MRF, while controlled by our Treasurer, are not a part of the budgeted funds that support Lodge functions. Any member wishing to contribute to the MRF should give money to Janis Johnson, our treasurer. Checks can be made out to Sons of Norway, with special notation to the MRF.

To end this discussion, I should tell you that I informed Clarence that his membership would be reinstated by dues payment from the MRF. We believe that is the least we can do for someone who gave so much of his time and his talents to the early years of Desert Fjord Lodge, Sons of Norway. Now he will receive the Viking magazine again.

Please keep spreading the news of the benefits of Sons of Norway via Desert Fjord membership to all those of Scandinavian heritage. Yes, we accept the Swedes, the Finns, and any other friendly folk who wish to join with us.

As I've noted previously, keeping our databases current is an ongoing challenge, especially when members do not report changes to us or if their incoming email messages are deleted or allocated to spam. This includes changes to telephone numbers. I've heard that some currently listed phone numbers in the SON membership roster are no longer valid. A similar situation affects postal addresses. Please let us know of any changes so that we can maintain effective communication with you.

I can be contacted in person at a Desert Fjord lodge meeting, by phone at (480) 816-3875 or by e-mail at lenci.downs@cox.net.

Business Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2017
Granite Reef Senior Center, Scottsdale, AZ

Meeting called to order by Jonathan Walters at 1:00 PM.

In attendance: Anita Thompson, Arlys Medicott, Ed Bergo, Elizabeth Lenci-Downs, Floyd Downs, Jana Peterson, Jonathan Walters, and Roger Espeland.

Quorum (4+) was met: Yes

1. Prior month's **Minutes:** Floyd Downs made a motion to accept the **November 2016** business meeting minutes as published in the Posten. Motion seconded by Roger E, the motion passed. There was no December board meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report – Janis Johnson – Checking account balance as of 12/31/16 is \$1,108.81-.
3. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Cultural/Program – Jana Peterson

- **February** – Torsk Dinner, Movie - *Finding Thea*
- **March 12**– Scandinavian Folkdancers
- **April 9**– Nina Poe, Laurie Peterson;
Norway in a Nutshell
- **May 13** – Syttende Mai *McCormick Stillman RR Park, Scottsdale*
- **June** – Ice cream social & movie
- **July** – Potluck picnic in Payson

Library – Arlys will have a list of possible books to purchase at the next business meeting. Four of the 20 missing books have been found.

Membership – Floyd gave a report on membership. Membership pins were given at the January 8, 2017 Cultural and Heritage meeting.

Scholarship Committee

- There is \$1600 available in the scholarship fund. Announcements in the Posten will state when scholarships and/or grants are awarded.

OLD BUSINESS

Agnes Stieler Fund update – Moved \$48K funds on Dec 9, 2016 to a SON Foundation capital account in Minneapolis. Desert Fjord still controls the money & disbursement of the earnings

MIM event – Nina Poe was greeting and talking with many persons. Ed & Phyllis Bergo, Floyd Downs, Jana Peterson, Sharon Peterson and Jonathan Walters also helped at our table. No new members were signed up; museum attendance was down this year.

Recruiting of Lodge officers – looking for Vice President

Trustees: Peter Flanders and Norm Jenson

4. NEW BUSINESS

- **District 6 Leadership Conference** – Feb 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Granite Reef Senior Center
- **Need to create a Budget Committee**
- **Open House booths planned for Sept 2017 in the "Blue Room"** – a booth displaying available SON insurance products (*"If 50 % of members bought an insurance product there would be no need for dues"*); also, a booth on cooking, the book club, folk dancers, and scholarships.
- Ed Bergo will be on the nominating committee for District 6 for the **2018 Convention**
- **Annual volunteer hours** – need to be submitted by Feb 1
- **Masonic Lodge rent** has increased from \$125 to \$135 only when it is used

Motion made by Floyd D and seconded by Ed B, to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 2.

Next business meeting on Feb 4 at 2 pm after the leadership conference.

Respectfully submitted by Anita Thompson – Desert Fjord Secretary on 01/29/2017.

Be Mine, Valentine

Love is in the air and Valentine's Day is our annual opportunity to express that sentiment. We provide for our loved ones from day one by giving food, shelter and affection—basic human instincts in the early years with our own children. As time goes on we seek to clothe, educate and further provide the pursuit of happiness. The number of people we want to nurture in this way tends to multiply with additional generations of family.

How can you continue the "I love you" when you are gone?

Life Insurance! Big or small, your estate supplies funds to your loved ones to continue to provide for them. It can pay off debt, a mortgage or replace lost income. It can educate the next generation. It can keep a family business solvent. It can evenly distribute inheritance among siblings without splitting up a business or farm. It can pay estate taxes. It can bring the family together for a memorial service and cover all costs. It can be one more display of your love and give you peace of mind long before it's ever needed.

Call your Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor to help you establish the ultimate Valentine.

Jonathan Walters, *Licensed Insurance Agent*
Financial Benefits Counselor

Term Life | Whole Life | Universal Life | Annuities | Viking Voyager

Serving Arizona: Flagstaff, Mesa, Scottsdale, Sun City and Yuma
P 480.788.7623
jwalters.sofn@gmail.com ; www.sonsofnorway.com



District Six President: Mary Beth Ingvaldstad

District Six is made up of the following states:

Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Hawaii
- Website: www.sofn6.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/377019032437840/>

Zone Seven Director: Benny Jo Hinchey

Zone Seven is made up of lodges in the following states:

Arizona: Scottsdale #133-Desert Fjord; Sun City #134-Sol Byer; Mesa #153-Overtro Fjell; Flagstaff #167- Nordic Pines; and Yuma #168-Sola

Utah: Salt Lake City #83-Leif Erikson

OTHER SONS OF NORWAY LODGES IN ARIZONA

Nordic Pines 6-167 - 3rd Sunday, Family

Resource Ctr., Flagstaff, AZ

Overtro Fjell 6-153 - 3rd Saturday,

at 11:00 a.m., Fountain East Clubhouse,

303 S. Recker Rd., Mesa, AZ

Sola 6-168 - 3rd. Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.,

Faith Lutheran Church,

2215 S. 8th Ave., Yuma, AZ

Sol Byer 6-134 - 3rd. Saturday, at

11:00 a.m., Elks Lodge, 10760 Union

Hills Dr., Sun City, AZ

LODGES IN OTHER STATES

Go to: <https://members.sofn.com/lodgeDirectory/>

Most post their monthly newsletter

on their lodge website.

OTHER CONTACTS

Honorary Norwegian Consul:

Alex Boemark



Officers of Desert Fjord Lodge

President: Jonathan Walters
Vice-President:
Secretary: Anita Thompson
Treasurer: Janis Johnson
Auditors: Dirk Walter and Floyd Downs
Box Tops for Education: Sharon Clunk
Counselor: Ed Bergo
Cultural Directors: Jana Peterson, Nina Poe, Laurie Peterson
Database and Reference Manual: Roger Espeland
Desert Fjord Boutique: Ali Berg-Anderson
Distribution: Tyler Soine
Education and Scholarships: Elizabeth Lenci-Downs, Nina Poe
Foundation Directors: Gordon Peterson, Paul Lindbloom
Greeters: Floyd Downs and Ross Berg
Historian: Roger Espeland
Librarians: S Clunk, P Flanders and A Medicott
Marshals: Knut Haldorsen and Peter Flanders
Membership/Financial Secretary: Floyd Downs
Posten Editor: Laura Kuegemann
Publicity Director/Public Relations: Janis Johnson
Reservations: Phyllis Bergo
Social Directors: Berit Miltun and Nellie Lokken
Sports: Tyler Soine
Sunshine: Dawn Walter
Trustees: (1yr) Knut Haldorsen; (2yr) Peter Flanders; (3yr) Norm Jenson
Tubfrim: Lois Ripley and Lois Saakas
Webmaster: Jan Loomis

Editor's Column:

Happy Valentine's Season from me to you! I look forward to seeing you all in February at our Torsk Dinner and fundraiser, even though I'll be opting for the lingonberries and meatball option!

As we are in the second month of the new year it's time to get over the newness that is the new year and focus on making 2017 great for our members and guests.

I look forward to working with all of you to meet that endeavor and more importantly; I hope you all enjoy working with each other! Like bumblebees, members of a lodge learn and grow from the shared experience of everyone in the room. It's never too late to be a life-long learner.

Now, since it's Valentine's, I'll leave with the hope that you all enjoy the love of either a special someone, family, or friends this special time of year.

I'll be enjoying a fancy date of tacos and Disney movies with my new boyfriend, who while not Norwegian is still nice ... love isn't about how much you spend, but how much you care.

Laura Kuegemann



"Like" us on Facebook to receive interesting Desert Fjord Lodge and Sons of Norway, District Six newsfeeds.

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<https://www.facebook.com/Desert-Fjord-Lodge-6-133-Sons-of-Norway-563052183744742/>

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