

# The Posten

May 2017

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Desert Fjord Lodge 6-133

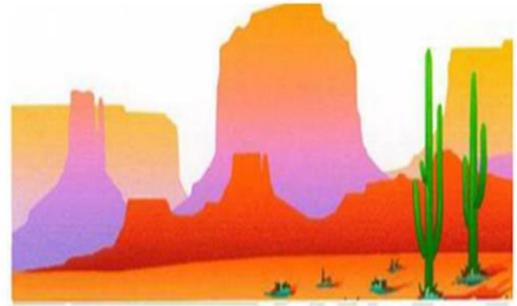
P O Box 1716

Scottsdale, AZ 85252-1716



## SONS OF NORWAY

### Desert Fjord Lodge



### President's Column

If you peruse beyond the front page, you'll note healthy signs of activity here at Desert Fjord Lodge. This is the second year the Viking Book and Wine Club has been meeting. I speak from attending that this has helped me get into some fine Scandinavian literature, books that I wouldn't ordinarily pick off the shelf and read. To spend time with an author in a different place achieves so much more than a TV program. It stimulates the mind and, in the case of the titles we read, awakens a cultural awareness. More of our lodge members should come along and meet with us! (all are welcome)



Along the same subject, we're blessed with a librarian who encourages us to check out books from our magnificent library – to read! Arlys has been doing a fine job trying to spark members' interest in our books. Also, she comes to the lodge Business Meetings to give input there, too. Thank you, Arlys!

There's a good deal about immigration and genealogy here (*pages 4 & 5*). A special Genealogy Meeting this month will host Kristian Ekenes, who designed and developed a remarkable genealogical research tool: **NorwayParishes.com**. Join us there even if you don't come to our meetings and have no interest in genealogy. But be careful – you might catch the genealogy bug!

This month we join Nordmanns-Forbundet again in celebrating Syttende Mai at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. We expect a great turnout. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided; everyone is invited to bring a dish to share. There will be games for children and a parade as we remember the signing of the Norwegian Constitution. (The adults can drink coffee and eat and join in the parade.) Fun for everyone!

As an added attraction, you can explore the fascinating railroad museum at the park. Of special note is the Roald Amundsen Pullman Car: built in 1928 by Pullman Company (for \$205,000), it was a gift to the park from Mr and Mrs Franz Talley. Named for the famous Norwegian polar explorer, it was used by U.S. presidents Hoover, Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower. If miniature trains are your thing, there's a building where several clubs have trains running. And more! It's very worthwhile to take time after our Syttende Mai festivities to see the park's exhibits.

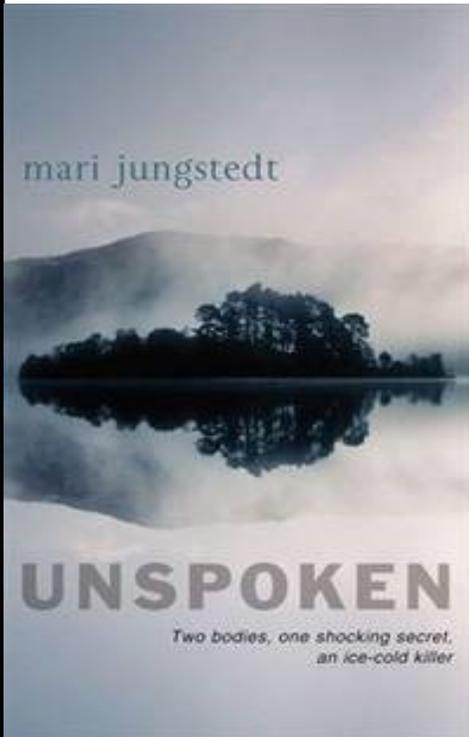
*Velkommen*

# VIKING BOOK AND WINE CLUB

MEETING Saturday, May 20th, at 2:30 PM

Join us at Jana's house. RSVP **480-326-2927**

Bring Viking nibbles and libations.



This month we're reading *Unspoken* by Swedish author Mari Jungstedt. This is her second book in the Anders Knutas series. In Norway they typically observe Easter season by heading to the mountains to ski and read crime fiction. We're keeping that tradition in part! Over the summer we'll be reading a great book about Norwegian immigration: *Across the Deep Blue Sea* by Odd S Lovoll.

### Synopsis:

It is winter on Gotland, and fourteen-year-old Fanny is missing. She had no friends to speak of other than the horses she took care of at the local racing stable, and seems to have been an unhappy and isolated teenager, the daughter of an absent Jamaican musician and an unstable Swedish mother. Is her disappearance somehow connected to the recent brutal murder of alcoholic photographer Henry Dahlström, who had won a large sum of money at the racetrack right before his death? Inspector Anders Knutas and his team investigate under pressure from the media.

Intrepid TV journalist Johan Berg, sent from Stockholm to cover the two deaths, pushes the investigation one decisive step ahead while still trying to resolve his relationship with Emma, which has been simmering since they first met during the investigation into a series of murders on Gotland this past summer.

All evidence points to one of Fanny's coworkers at the stable, an American who has left the country for a short vacation. As Knutas and his team wait for his return to make the arrest, the inspector takes a well-deserved weekend off with an old friend, and at the lonely cottage in the woods, the pieces finally fit together. But this time, Knutas has gotten too close. . . .

## Business Meeting

May 6th at 1:00 pm

Granite Reef Senior Center

1700 N Granite Reef Road, Scottsdale, AZ

## Genealogy

Our May meeting will be on May 25th at the Methodist church (**see page 4**). Contact Ross Berg at [laznorski@cox.net](mailto:laznorski@cox.net) or call him at 480-678-2507. (*Leave me an email address and I will put you on the distribution list for future notices.*)

# SYTTENDE MAI 2017

Commemorating the 1814 signing of Norway's Constitution

**Saturday, May 13th**  
**9:00 AM – 12 NOON**



**McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park**  
7301 E. Indian Bend Rd., Scottsdale, AZ  
Rotary Ramada (west of playground)



Admission: FREE

Show your Nordic spirit and join our local Norwegian clubs as we all come together to celebrate *Syttende Mai* or 17<sup>th</sup> of May! This annual potluck brunch event in honor of Norwegian Constitution Day will be full of food, fun, *bunader*, children's games - and of course the traditional 17<sup>th</sup> of May parade! Bring your Norwegian flags, your good spirits, and a dish to share.

\*The clubs will provide coffee, lemonade, and cups/plates/plastic ware

## Program:

- 9:00 Welcome
- 9:30 17<sup>th</sup> of May Parade with Norwegian music and flag-waving
- 10:00 Food is served
- 10:30 *Tale for Dagen* (Speech of the Day)
- 11:00 Traditional Norwegian children's games – with ice cream rewards!
- 11:30 Explore the park and enjoy table games

Co-hosted by Norwegians Worldwide Phoenix Chapter & Desert Fjord and Overtro Fjell Sons of Norway Lodges  
[www.aznorseman.org](http://www.aznorseman.org) | [www.facebook.com/NWWphx](http://www.facebook.com/NWWphx) | [www.desertfjord.org](http://www.desertfjord.org) | [www.facebook.com/563052183744742](http://www.facebook.com/563052183744742) |  
<https://www.facebook.com/Sonsofnorwaymesa>



Picture taken of Bunads at Syttende Mai 2016 held at Sahuaro Ranch Park in Glendale, AZ

## **GENEALOGY MEETING: 10:30 am—12:30 pm, Thursday, May 25th**

**METHODIST CHURCH**

**4140 N MILLER ROAD, SCOTTSDALE**

### **Guest Speaker—Kristian Ekenes**

**Designer and Developer of Genealogical Research Tool: NorwayParishes.com**

At our next Norwegian Genealogy meeting Kristian Ekenes will tell the story behind NorwayParishes.com. He will tell us about the future and potential of the website, as well as the many problems involved with researching geography in the context of genealogical research.

Kristian is a product engineer at ESRI (the Environmental Systems Research Institute) in Redlands, CA. He completed his master's degree in Geographic Information Systems at Arizona State University in 2014. As part of his master's degree research, he created NorwayParishes.com, an interactive web application intended for spatially organizing genealogical resources in Norway, and allowing others to search farm and property names within selected parish boundaries. He still works on plans to improve NorwayParishes.com on his spare time. Kristian is a second generation Norwegian-American and is married with three children.

*(Please remember the location of this meeting as well as the day of the week.)*

Please leave a message at [1aznorski@cox.net](mailto:1aznorski@cox.net) if you plan to attend.

Ross H Berg



At the bottom of the next page please see an image of this website with a brief explanation how it's used for genealogical research.

### **Norwegian Immigration—Arlene Camp and Ross Berg**

*Here is a glimpse of Norwegian immigration to the United States. How many of you might have had family on this ship or the ones that would follow? It is a small world indeed.*

On August 2, 1862, the Norwegian brig Sleipner tied up at the Galena railroad dock in the Chicago river harbor. The only earlier ship to arrive directly in Chicago from the ocean had been the Madeira Pet on July 14, 1857, which had left Liverpool, England, some eighty days earlier. It was welcomed with much fanfare. The Sleipner stirred no less interest. "Possibly an arrival from the moon might have created more astonishment than the Norwegian built craft, with Norwegian captain and crew speaking a strange language, and crowded with light-haired Scandinavian farmers, their bouncing wives and children" reported the Chicago Tribune reported. Dr. Gerhard S.C.H. Paoli, as a distinguished citizen of Norwegian birth, led the welcoming ceremony, but as the Tribune noted, "Chicago citizenry of all nationalities were on hand to welcome the newcomers." There was even an eight-gun salute.

The Sleipner had left Bergen on May 23, 1862, with 150 emigrants, forty of whom debarked in Detroit, and a cargo of salted herring, .....



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS by Floyd Downs, Membership Secretary



I recently learned that Desert Fjord member Amy Fujimoto passed away at age 81. At first I didn't believe that she

had been a Sons of Norway member, but older members will remember her. Amy joined Desert Fjord in 1985, within 1 year of the Lodge's beginning. She remained a paid member until 2012, though apparently not active much after 2000. Consequently I never knew her since I joined Desert Fjord in 2002. This now provides a tribute to Amy's life in SON, and notice of her passing to all who knew her.

No one should doubt the importance of the internet, and email, in maintaining communication amongst SON members. But recently there appears to be a devilish elf, likely non-Scandinavian, who has accessed Desert Fjord members' accounts somewhere in the nether depository that holds email messages. This elf has apparently marked certain members' email exchanges to be intercepted and not completed. For example, my message exchanges with our

worthy President and our *Posten* editor seem to not go through at times. If you've read this far you'll know that the elf was not fully attentive this month. But if you've tried to send me an email and didn't get an answer, please know that it is the elf's fault, not mine!

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 others who wish to unite with us. We hope you will personally extend many invitations to them to join our monthly Heritage and Cultural meetings.

As keeping our own databases current is an ongoing challenge, especially when members do not report changes directly to us or if some of their incoming email messages may be deleted or allocated to spam. A similar reminder pertains to postal addresses. Please let us know if you are not receiving timely notices.

I can be contacted in person during a Desert Fjord meeting, by by phone at 480-816-3875 or email at [lenci.downs@cox.net](mailto:lenci.downs@cox.net).

### Norway's Parishes

**NorwayParishes.com** *The primary goal of NorwayParishes.com is to provide genealogical researchers with interactive, accurate, and precise maps of Norway's parish boundaries while providing links to the best online genealogical research tools available, filtered by geographic jurisdiction (parishes and counties). Because farms and other properties play a unique role in Norwegian genealogical research, this site also provides a farm*

Tools

**Parish Search**

County:

Municipality:

Parish:

**Property/Farm Search**

Search farm/property name...

Filter by selected geographic region

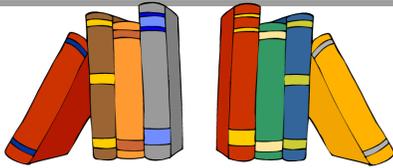
search tool that allows anyone to search the exact location of farms or other properties by their name along with information about the parish in which the property resided.



## LIBRARY CORNER

By Arlys Medicott

Librarian



Good to have several books checked out last month – progress!

I've read the following and here I give a brief review:

- **IN COD WE TRUST** - Graduate American student and his family adjust to life in Norway
- **ACROSS THE DEEP BLUE SEA** - Norwegian emigrants arrived in America via Montreal and Toronto, Quebec ... most enroute to the Midwest
- **PUC- Gray Dog of Norway** - tale of the Norwegian Elkhound between the Norwegian owners and the Sami rescuers
- **FROM DAY TO DAY** - Odd Hansen's life in the concentration camps of Norway and Germany and his view of the Nazi's
- **CLENG PEERSON** volume 1 & 2 - How immigration to New York, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Texas was encouraged
- **GIANTS IN THE EARTH – PEDER VICTORIOUS – THEIR FATHER'S GOD:** Several titles by O E Rolvaag who tells how the Norwegian immigrants adapted to life in America with its different nationalities and beliefs. Each generation would marry into different religions and political beliefs.
- **BOAT OF LONGING** – life in urban America

In the fall I'll continue to read and review other books in the library.

***Please let me know if you're interested in additional Lauraine Snelling novels for our library.***

## May Birthdays

Kathleen G Rice	3rd
Roxane McLaughlin	7th
Lynn J Eide	10th
Jodi K Levell	10th
Laura J Riddle	13th
Janis S Johnson	15th
Emily McLaughlin	17th
Karsten Sellers	19th



Knut Haldorsen	20th
Jonathan Walters	20th
Janice E Haldorsen	25th
Marissa F Boyles	26th
Susan W. McClinton	27th
Shannon Prondzinski	28th
Jimmy D Rice	29th
Kaare Jewel Sellers	30th

Gratulerer Med Dagen

**Business Meeting Minutes – April 1, 2017  
Granite Reef Senior Center, Scottsdale, AZ**

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

- In attendance: Berit Miltun, Arlys Medicott, Ed Bergo, Elizabeth Lenci-Downs, Floyd Downs, Janis Johnson, Jonathan Walters, and Anita Thompson
- Was the Quorum (4+) met? Yes

1. PRIOR MONTH'S MINUTES: Ed Bergo made a motion to accept the March 2017 Business Meeting minutes as published in the April Posten. Motion seconded by Janis Johnson; motion passed.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT – Janis reported the checking account balance as of 3/31/2017 is \$1,418.42

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Cultural/Program**

- **April 9** – Travelogue: *Norway West, Fjords, Mountains, and Bergen* – movie with Rick Steves
- **May 13** – Syttende Mai Parade – McCormick-Stillman RR Park in Scottsdale
- **June** – Ice cream social & movie

**Genealogy Meetings**

- **April 22** at Granite Reef Senior Center– discuss research progress, where your immigrant ancestors settled and how they got there. We will review the most frequent immigrant routes to the Midwest from New York and Quebec/Halifax.
- **May 25** Thursday: Guest speaker Kristian Ekenes, architect of the [www.Norwayparishes.com](http://www.Norwayparishes.com) website

**Library** – Arlys M, our librarian, will start to have a library minute during the monthly Heritage and Cultural meeting to talk about an available book

**Membership** – See details in the Posten on membership activity from Floyd Downs

**Publicity** – Janis mailed out 13 Postens

4. OLD BUSINESS

- Recruiting of Lodge officers – VP position is open
- There is \$600 available in grant funds: application deadline is 90 days before the event; one grant request was withdrawn
- A Scholarship Foundation of Merit for \$1,000 was approved for Alexander Gokan, attending Purdue University. Applicant is requested to give the lodge a report at the end of the school year.
- Request made by Janis Johnson to begin work on the 2018 budget in December 2017

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Boutique 2017 spending limit is \$450; managed by Ali Berg Anderson; currently inventory is \$700
- Searching for alternate location for business meetings; June meeting will be at Denny's in Scottsdale
- Syttende Mai 2017 celebration will be on **May 13 from 9-12**; a potluck lunch at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, 7301 E Indian Bend Rd, Scottsdale; will invite the Norwegian Air Force, stationed at Luke Air Force base, to attend

Motion made by Ed Bergo and seconded by Elizabeth Lenci-Downs to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

**May 6** - next Business Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Anita Thompson – Desert Fjord Secretary on 04/22/2017.

## IRA's and Taxes

Most people hate to take Required Minimum Distributions from their IRA once they reach age 70½. If you're going to leave all or some of your IRA to your heirs, thus having them pay the taxes on their "windfall", here is an idea. Cash in your IRA now, pay the tax, and put the net amount in a Single Premium Whole Life (SPWL) insurance certificate or Excess Premium Universal Life.

Example: 65-Year-Old Male — \$50,000 IRA

- Cash it out and pay the 20% tax of \$10,000
- Take the remaining \$40,000 and buy a SPWL for \$67,734

Results: Your heirs receive \$67,734 income tax free instead of \$40,000 after taxes.

There is nothing wrong with this picture!

Reminder: Someone has to pay the taxes. I really believe that if you want to leave the maximum amount to your loved ones, you should see that ***Life Insurance is the solution!***

**This is a different way of thinking about IRAs.** Dealing with IRAs is like participating in a football game — you have 2 halves. The 1<sup>st</sup> Half you are accumulating money, tax-deferred; a great thing until you enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> Half — distribution of monies that are taxed.

So, if you don't need the IRA(s) to live on, this idea and example makes perfect sense. Contact your Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor to see how this can work for you.

### **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](mailto:jwalters.sofn@gmail.com) ■ [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://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](http://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** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Family

Resource Ctr., Flagstaff, AZ

**Overtro Fjell 6-153** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday,

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

303 S. Recker Rd., Mesa, AZ

**Sola 6-168** - 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.,

Faith Lutheran Church,

2215 S. 8th Ave., Yuma, AZ

**Sol Byer 6-134** - 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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

**Desert Fjord Boutique:** Ali Berg-Anderson

**Distribution:** Janis Johnson

**Education and Scholarships:** Elizabeth Lenci-Downs, Ross Berg, Nina Poe

**Foundation Directors:** Gordon Peterson, Paul Lindbloom

**Greeters:** Floyd Downs and Ross Berg

**Historian:** Roger Espeland

**Librarians:** A Medlicott, P Flanders, Elizabeth Lenci-Downs

**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:**

**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:

Can you believe it's already May?

Summertime is just around the corner. If you're staying in Arizona for it, buy aloe, stock up on water, don't forget Gatorade, and remember to always use sunscreen since Norwegians are known for being a fair bunch of folks!

It seems like not too long ago we were making New Year's resolutions. Have you stuck to them? Even if you haven't, there's something that you can do.

Enjoy life in the moment but prepare for your future, too. The year is almost halfway through and there are many more years ahead. Enjoy the little things and always remember that each day is a gift!

Laura Kuegemann



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

Control+ Left Click on this link:

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

## 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.

**FROM:**

Desert Fjord Lodge, Sons of Norway

P.O. Box 1716

Scottsdale AZ 85252-1716

STAMP

TO:

Please return to sender

If not deliverable

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Sons of Norway International Headquarters Website:

<https://www.sofn.com/>