

# The Posten

May 2018

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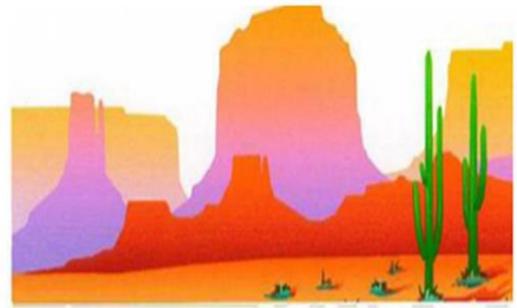
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Desert Fjord Lodge 6-133  
P O Box 1716  
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-1716



## SONS OF NORWAY

### Desert Fjord Lodge



## President's Column

For our May monthly meeting we're joining other Sons of Norway lodges and Norwegians Worldwide at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale to celebrate Syttende Mai, Norway's Constitution Day. It's a free event, so there's no need to make a reservation, but please bring a dish to share. This is a festive event for all ages—the food and fanfare are wonderful to behold. [See full details on the next page.](#)



It's official: Jan Loomis is now Desert Fjord's new Vice President. Congratulations, Jan, and welcome aboard this Viking ship!! Already Jan has been busy, convening the lodge's Revitalization Task Force ([see page 3](#)) and recreating our website. Please go to [desertfjord.org](http://desertfjord.org) and see what he's been up to. You'll come away proud of your lodge and your Scandinavian heritage. Perhaps you might catch a vision of some way you can contribute to the mission of Sons of Norway! Thank you, Jan, for all you bring to Desert Fjord Lodge—I'm looking forward to working with you!

Our Secretary, Anita Thompson, has resigned. Thank you, Anita, for your service as our lodge Secretary! We need someone to take her place, so please give this your attention. Let me know if you'd like to know more, if you're interested. Ross Berg is forming a nomination committee to identify and approach lodge members to fill any officer vacancies in our lodge. If you hear from Ross or someone else from the Nomination Committee, please hear them out and be prepared to sign up! Thank you!

There are no other meetings planned for May; any necessary lodge business will be conducted by phone or email. You might do well to mark your calendars now for our June meeting—it's being planned for the first Sunday of the month, **June 3rd**, due to the biennial SON District Six Convention. I hope many of you will be able to join us for the annual Syttende Mai celebration!

*Velkommen*

# SYTTENDE MAI 2018

Commemorating the 1814 signing of Norway's Constitution

Saturday, May 12th  
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.

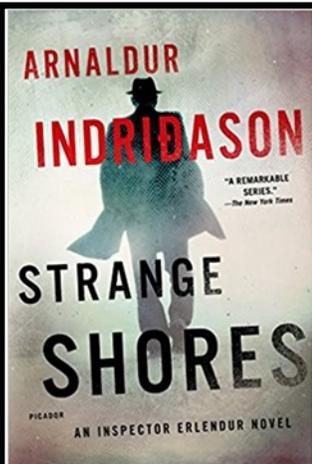
\*The clubs will provide coffee, lemonade, and cups/plates/plastic ware

## 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)  
Speaker - Honorary Consul of Norway Alex Boemark
- 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](https://www.facebook.com/NWWphx) | [www.desertfjord.org](http://www.desertfjord.org) | [www.facebook.com/563052183744742](https://www.facebook.com/563052183744742) |  
<https://www.facebook.com/Sonsofnorwaymesa>





## VIKING BOOK & WINE CLUB

June Reading Suggestion: STRANGE SHORES

by Icelandic author Arnaldur Indridason

"Arnaldur Indridason is already an international literary phenom-and it's easy to see why. His novels are gripping, authentic, haunting, and lyrical. I can't wait for the next."-Harlan Coben

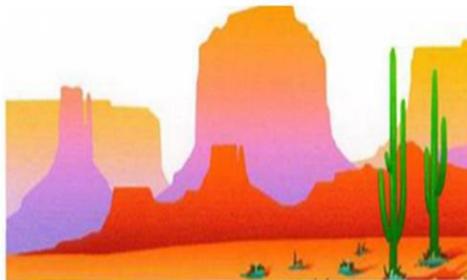
In this latest puzzle, Inspector Erlendur learns of the baffling story of Matthildur, a local woman who went missing years earlier on the night of a violent storm. Erlendur has spent his whole life searching for his brother Beggi, who was lost in a snowstorm when they were both children. As he starts to ask questions about the fateful evening when Matthildur disappeared, Erlendur also begins to suspect what may have befallen his long-lost brother.

Can Erlendur possibly solve the disappearances of Matthildur and Beggi after all these decades? Or are the forces that want him to stop investigating stronger than he is?



SONS OF  
NORWAY

Desert Fjord Lodge



## Renewal

Ten members participated in our initial planning meeting for an "All Lodge" event to be held in late Fall 2018. Initial thoughts are to host a half-day Scandinavian Heritage

Festival. The event would include food, music, genealogy information, dancing, bunads, cookies, face painting, performers, exhibits and more. It would be open to the public free of charge, with a nominal charge for a "sampler ticket" that would be used to obtain a bottle of water and limited samples of various cookies, desserts, foods, lefse, etc.

Our intent is to publicize this event to the greater Phoenix area using posters, mailings, email and social media; appealing to anyone who may have an interest in their Norwegian roots and/or Scandinavian heritage. Due to the limited availability of parking and time at the Masonic Lodge for setting up or tearing down, we are exploring other local venues, so we can comfortably be open from 1 to 5 PM.

We'll be applying to the SON Foundation for a Culture and Heritage Grant to cover some of our expenses. We'll be gathering information from visitors and will conduct a campaign to encourage them to join as members. This event will be in lieu of a regular monthly meeting, so we're asking everyone to attend and participate in some manner. As always, we welcome everyone to join our "Renewal Task Force". You can contact Jan Loomis [jan@jloomis.com](mailto:jan@jloomis.com) for information or to volunteer.



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS by Floyd Downs, Membership Secretary

Having passed April we now move on to May. May! May! The merry, merry month of May! With no new news of Desert Fjord Lodge or its members to crow about, let's reflect a bit on our personal past years. I can recall – and perhaps you can, too – that as a youth in elementary school (in New England) we greeted May by dancing about the May Pole. Being unfamiliar with customs in Norway, I don't know whether Norwegians greeted May in similar fashion. If you know, perhaps you'll enlighten me at our next social meeting.



At any rate, I'm sure Scandinavians must've welcomed May as a time to say "No more snow!" Unless, of course, they happened to live in the far northern regions close to the North Pole. No one dances around the North Pole as they do about the May Pole!!!

Keep spreading the news of the benefits of Sons of Norway membership via Desert Fjord 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 own databases current is an ongoing challenge, especially when members do not report changes directly to us or if some of their incoming e-mail messages may be deleted or allocated to spam. This includes telephone number changes. I've heard that some phone numbers as currently listed in the SON membership roster are no longer valid. A similar reminder pertains to postal addresses. Please let us know of any changes so that we can maintain effective communication with you.

I can be contacted in person during our monthly meetings, by phone at (480) 816-3875 and by email at [lenci.downs@cox.net](mailto:lenci.downs@cox.net).

## May Birthdays

Kathleen G Rice	3rd
Roxane McLaughlin	7th
Vernon H Dahlke	7th
Lynn J Eide	10th
Jodi K Levell	10th
Kenneth M Westby	11th
Laura J Riddle	13th
Janis S Johnson	15th
Emily McLaughlin	17th



Karsten Sellers	19th
Knut Haldorsen	20th
Jonathan D Walters	20th
Janice E Haldorsen	25th
* Marissa F Boyles	26th
Susan W McClinton	27th
Shannon S Prondzinski	28th
Jimmy D Rice	29th

\* Heritage Member

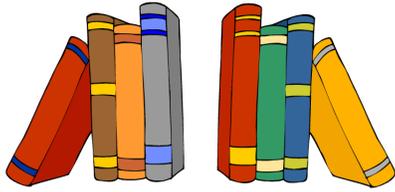
*Gratulerer Med Dagen – Happy Birthday !!!*

**Business Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2018**  
**United Methodist Church, 4140 N Miller Rd, Scottsdale, AZ**

1. **MEETING** – Called to order by Jonathan Walters at 1:01 PM.  
**In attendance:** Anita Thompson, Arlys Medicott, Ed Bergo, Elizabeth Lenci Downs, Floyd Downs, Janis Johnson, Jonathan Walters, Jan Loomis, and Ross Berg. A Quorum (4+) was met: Yes
2. **MARCH MINUTES:** Floyd made a motion to accept the March 2018 Business Meeting minutes as published in the April Posten. Motion seconded by Janis Johnson and passed
3. **TREASURER’S REPORT** – Janis Johnson
  - Treasurer provided a statement of income and expenses to date for the lodge. The group discussed the possibility of having a raffle at some of the social meetings to raise additional money.
  - Checking balance is \$3,632.89 as of 4/13/2018
4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - **Cultural & Heritage Programs** announced
    - May – Syttende Mai – May 12<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am – 12 Noon McCormick – Stillman Railroad Park
    - June – social event
    - July – no meeting
    - August – Picnic in the Pines in Payson, AZ at the home of Jan and Sherrie Loomis
    - September – PowerPoint presentation by Jana Peterson – Viking Museum
  - **Library** – Arlys Medicott is trying to find contemporary literature
  - **Membership** – Additional details in the Posten from Floyd
  - **Publicity** – Posten: Starting to promote our lodge and information about the Jul Bazaar to Lutheran churches
5. **Renewal and Revitalization Task Force:** Met before the April Heritage & Culture meeting to discuss a promotional meeting for November 10 or 11. The purpose of this event is to increase the awareness of Desert Fjord Lodge and its benefits to members and guests. A time-line was presented by Chairman Jan Loomis
6. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - Still need officers for our lodge
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - Motion was made to accept Jan Loomis as our new Vice President, seconded by Ross Berg, passed
  - Jan Loomis has been working on giving members access to the Desert Fjord Facebook page – press **Ctrl** and click on this link <https://www.facebook.com/Desert-Fjord-Lodge-6-133-Sons-of-Norway-563052183744742/>.
  - Jan is also working to update our lodge’s website. A motion was made and seconded to spend some money at Go Daddy to get website enhancements
  - Ross Berg made a motion and it was seconded for Ed Bergo to research and purchase a new PA system for up to \$200.
  - Next year’s budget will include \$500 to purchase a new projector
  - Ross Berg will form a nominating committee

Motion to adjourn was made by Ed Bergo and seconded by another Board member; we adjourned at 2 pm

Respectfully submitted by Anita Thompson – Desert Fjord Secretary on April 25, 2018.



## LIBRARY CORNER

By Arlys Medicott

Librarian

I've done some research on Syttende Mai; I hope it will be of interest along with a list of several books that celebrate the Norwegian Constitution signed on May 17, 1814. Norway became an independent kingdom to avoid becoming part of Sweden after the Denmark-Norway defeat in the Napoleonic wars.

Children's parades are the norm in Norway. There's music including singing of the Norwegian national anthem, carrying the Norwegian flag of red, white and blue, and the wearing of these colors. People dress up for the event, rain or shine. Bunads are worn ... most have them. Singing and cheering with rattles and whistles are part of the celebration.

Many celebrations are held in the immigrant communities of the U.S. – Bay Ridge Settlement in New York City; Petersburg, AK; Stoughton, WI; Decorah, IA; Ballard neighborhood of Seattle, WA; Poulsbo, WA; and many other small communities. And finally in Phoenix, AZ the Sons of Norway lodges along with Norwegians Worldwide celebrate on the Saturday before May 17: food, music, parade, children's games and catching up with those only seen at the annual Syttende Mai. And it is usually a warm day so bunads are changed for more seasonal Arizona clothing.

There are two books in the library about Norwegian history:

- **The History of Norway** by Larsen
- **A Brief History of Norway** by I. Midgaard

Three additional books about Syttende Mai (Not in library):

- **Poulsbo** - earliest Scandinavian community on the Olympic Peninsula; was largest supplier of cod on the Pacific coast.
- **The Best Words Ever** - Olaf to give speech on May 17 but had a problem - stuttering.
- **A Syttende Mai Son** - Son of divorced parents proved himself despite his stepfather's hatred

### 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 am, Fountain East Clubhouse,

303 S. Recker Rd., Mesa, AZ

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

Faith Lutheran Church,

2215 S. 8th Ave., Yuma, AZ

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

11:00 am, 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— (347) 801-3345

**Vice-President:** Jan Loomis— (602) 617-7542

**Secretary:**

**Treasurer:** Janis Johnson— janisjoan41@gmail.com

**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— (602) 284-8523, Elizabeth Lenci-Downs

**Marshals:** Knut Haldorsen and Peter Flanders

**Membership/Financial Sec'y:** Floyd Downs— (480) 816-3875

**Posten Editor:** Laura K. Ontiveros— (602) 694-0532

**Publicity Director/Public Relations:** Janis Johnson

**Reservations:** Phyllis Bergo

**Social Directors:** Berit Miltun— (480) 966-2009, Nellie Lokken

**Sports:**

**Sunshine:** Dawn Walter— (480) 860-9192

**Trustees:** (1yr) K Haldorsen; (2yr) P Flanders; (3yr) Norm Jenson

**Tubfrim:** Lois Ripley and Lois Saakas

**Webmaster:** Jan Loomis

Hello my faithful readers!

I always leave a few words for those of you who read to the end of the Posten, a little bit of writing that Jonathan doesn't read before hitting the "publish" button!

A happy May to my Norwegian friends!

Historically, it's when Norwegians celebrate freedom both politically and when finally the icy grips of winter stop being so strong.

In the case of us Scandinavian-Arizonans, it's the time of year we review our energy plans to make sure we're not paying too much for our air-conditioning with SRP.

In this heat, stay cool, take advantage of our indoor activities, and for those of you braving the Syttende Mai event, bring sunscreen!

This summer I plan on using Ancestry's DNA kit to figure out how Norwegian (if any) I am so stay tuned for that drama!

Love always, Editor Laura



"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/>