

The Posten

April 2019

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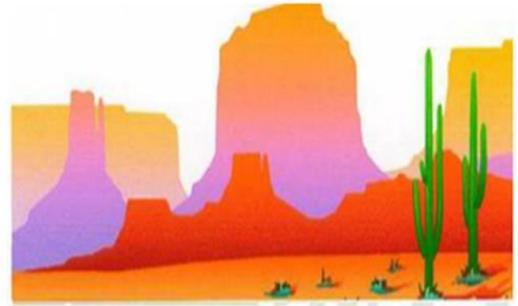
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Desert Fjord Lodge 6-133
P O Box 1716
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-1716



SONS OF NORWAY

Desert Fjord Lodge



President's Column

The Scandinavian Viking Festival hosted by our lodge was a huge success, thanks to all the planning, preparations and participation by our members. A huge thank you to all! And kudos to our Vice President, Jan Loomis, who master-minded, organized and coordinated the event. **(please see his Page 5 article)** We made our presence known in the Phoenix Metro area through this event. Many, many new faces of all ages came and had a memorable experience. Many thanks to Robert Poe, husband of one of our members, who took most of the pictures you find on the following pages; they capture, in part, what took place at our Festival. Enjoy!



Already there is talk of our Scandinavian Viking Festival next year! It's a very healthy thing to put on an event like this as a lodge. When you work with other lodge members you get to know them better. And participating in such a worthy endeavor makes you feel more like you belong, like you have a stake in this.

This month we have a chance to find out about Easter traditions in Norway. Nina Poe will bring us a program about that. We have a great menu planned as well. Invite a friend to come along. Browse our library and check out a book. Let's get better in touch with our Viking roots!

Velkommen

Thor and his counterpart (Vice President Jan Loomis and his grandson Chase) at the recent **Scandinavian Viking Festival** hosted by our lodge. (See more pictures from the event on pages 3 and following.)



Heritage and Cultural Meeting—April 14th at 2 PM
Masonic Lodge, 2531 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale

Program: *Easter Traditions in Norway*



Presented by Nina Poe, a
Desert Fjord member who
is from Norway

Menu:

- Ham with Apple Sauce
- Kålrabistappe (mashed rutabagas)
- Buttered Green Peas
- Dessert
- Coffee, Tea and Water

Price: Adults \$15.00; Children—\$7.50

Reservations: Via the link [online](#) (click "online") or call Phyllis Bergo by April 12th!
(the online registration now offers a "no meal" option and you can pay \$5 to attend the meeting only) (480) 812-9762



Make your check payable to Sons of Norway & mail to:
Phyllis Bergo, 2589 East Erie Ct, Gilbert AZ, 85295

Business Meeting at 1:00 pm, Saturday, April 7th
Scottsdale United Methodist Church, 4140 North Miller Rd, Scottsdale, AZ

Scandinavian Viking Festival 2019, Scottsdale, AZ



Stoughton, WI High School Norwegian Folk Dancers (with Thor)



Blacksmith from Apache Junction, AZ



Viking Crafts—Heather & Olivia Loomis



Sherrie Loomis with grandson Chase



Berit Miltun posing in her beautiful bunad by Desert Fjord's Boutique



1



2



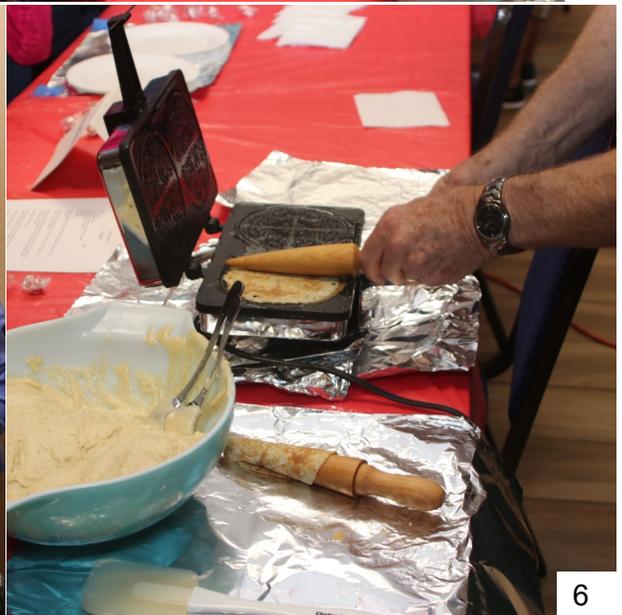
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5



6

(1) Wood Carving; (2) Jana Peterson shows her art works; (3) Shannon and Barb demonstrate lefse making; (4) Dirk and Dawn show how krumkake is made; (5) Marilyn Hanson shows her fine rosmaling work; (6) more about making krumkake.

Scandinavian Viking Festival Success

By Jan Loomis, Vice President

Almost a year ago the leadership of our lodge discussed options on how we may be able to reach out to the community, build interest in Sons of Norway, appeal to a younger demographic, and increase our membership. We quickly decided a well-publicized festival that featured one or more popular performers and exhibitors would be our best option. To minimize our financial risk, we decided to utilize our regular meeting facility and limit the festival to a 3-hour "open house" format. We considered a variety of dates but decided on March 24th when we were able to book the Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers for two performances during their spring tour of Arizona and Nevada.

To appeal to a younger demographic, we decided to specifically focus on the popularity of Viking lore. Just the mention of "Viking" on our Facebook page garnered considerable interest and even more interest when we added a blacksmith to our list of exhibitors. Facebook became our primary means for reaching the public and the results were tremendous. We only spent \$150 in advertising and more than doubled the number of people following our page. Every few weeks we would highlight another event on our page that could be experienced at our festival - blacksmith, genealogist, Ancestry DNA Kit giveaway, Viking folklore author, dancers, etc. Each of those event posts resulted in more people expressing interest in the festival, sharing the information with friends or commitment to "going". By March 23rd over 250 people indicated they were coming to the festival and another 2,000 people had indicated they were interested.

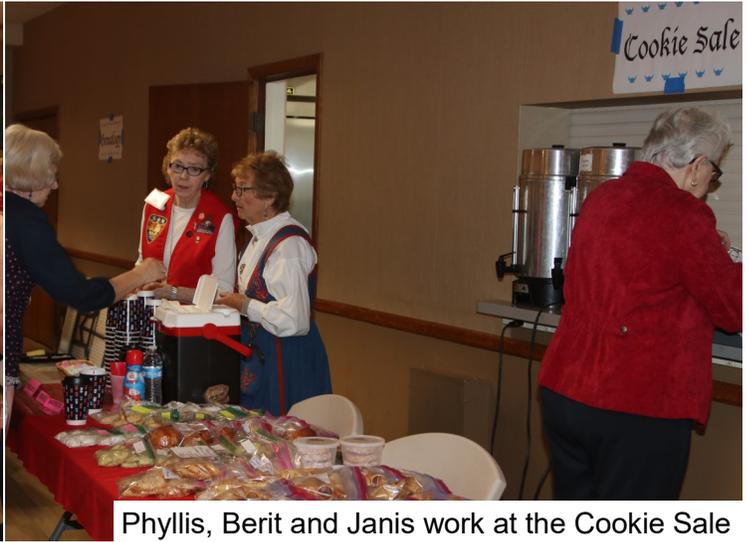
I awaited our festival opening on March 24th with a lot of anxiety. Would people really show up? Would we have a traffic jam on Scottsdale Rd? Would people come and walk away when they couldn't find parking? Would the police show up and shut us down? Having taken some precautions to avoid the worst-case scenarios, we experienced an opening crowd of several hundred people anxious to see the first dance performance, sample cookies and visit exhibitors. Over 120 people sat in on the first dance performance and almost 100 more saw the second performance. In total, we estimate between 300 and 400 people came through the festival doors. We sold out our cookies within the first 30 minutes. Dirk had a constant line of people waiting for a taste of krumkake. Over 50 children completed a crafts project with Heather. Our Festival Viking greeted the crowds and posed frequently for pictures with kids and adults. People had fun and the exhibitors were all pleased with the outcome.

With a successful festival now behind us, we need to focus on securing the lodge renewal results we had hoped for. The increase in followers on our Facebook page has given us quick access to a larger group of people who are interested in the kinds of things our lodge does. We need to create programs and regularly promote them to these people, encouraging them to come to our meetings and potentially join SON. These new "followers" are younger in age (25 to 45 years old) and 70% are female, so we need to plan accordingly. I'm also pleased to announce that we handed out over 20 membership applications at the festival and three people completed applications to join that day. We had over 100 entries for our DNA Kit giveaway; several of these people also indicated an interest in joining our lodge. Finally, we had over 30 new people subscribe to our web site and we are in conversation with several them who asked about membership.

Thank you to everyone for making our festival a success. Special thanks to the lodge leadership for taking a leap of faith and committing the funds for the event. A big thanks to those who helped set up, tear down, bake cookies, take pictures, man a table and assist with crowd control. Please let me know if you have suggestions for another festival and your insights on what worked or didn't work this time. I can be reached via email at jan@jloomis.com.



Genealogist



Phyllis, Berit and Janis work at the Cookie Sale



Icelanders—Mother and Daughter



Kate Martinson, Vesterheim Museum, Decorah, IA



Wood Carver



Viking Warriar with Thor



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS by Sherrie Loomis, Membership Secretary



We're starting 2019 off right. We would like to welcome four new members since January 1, 2019. The new members are

Dedi J. Hanson and Nancy Zine; Marilyn Olson is a reinstated member; and Sada Reed is transferring into our Lodge. When you see them at our monthly meetings, please introduce yourself and get to know them. Another member, Allan Solheim, is a new *Golden Member* (65 years of age or older with 30 years of membership). He'll receive a *Certificate of Appreciation for Long and Faithful Service*; a pin will be presented to him at our next Heritage and Cultural meeting.

The Sons of Norway *#Growing to 2020* recruitment campaign is off and running for

2019. Each year, lodges have from January 1 to December 16 to bring in new members. Goals are set and, if met, the lodge is recognized with a special 2019 prize package sent to the lodge. Our goal in 2018 was 12; however, we brought in only 9 new members. Please consider inviting at least one new friend, neighbor or co-worker to our next lodge meeting or event. Then we can celebrate our successes as we grow toward the *125th Anniversary of Sons of Norway in 2020!*

Notice of death: William Jacobson died recently at the age of 90. Even though he couldn't attend our monthly socials, he loved getting reminder calls every month. He was always anxious to hear the latest news from Desert Fjord Lodge. RIP William.

April Birthdays

Ross Berg	1st
Chase Loomis *	2nd
Paul Lindbloom	4th
Priscilla Johnson	10th
Elizabeth Lenci-Downs	12th
Heather T M Loomis	13th



Reidar Gabrielson	14th
Marjorie A Mafi	15th
Jean Harney	23rd
Savanna L Isaacson *	23rd
Astrid Hanson	27th
Ed Bergo	29th

* Heritage Member

Gratulerer Med Dagen – Happy Birthday !!



SONS OF NORWAY Newsbrief

Number: 18-04

Date: 3/01/19

CHANGE IN INTEREST RATES for FPDA and SPDA Effective March 1, 2019

Effective March 1, 2019, Sons of Norway will increase the credited interest rates on deferred annuity certificates issued March 1st and later as follows:

ANNUITY RATES

FLEXIBLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY

	New Interest Rate	1 st Year Interest Bonus	Total 1 st Year Return
\$ 500 - 1,999	1.45%	0.00%	1.45%
\$ 2,000 - 9,999	* 2.05%	0.00%	2.05%
\$ 10,000 - 24,999	* 2.40%	1.00%	3.40%
\$ 25,000 - 49,999	* 2.65%	1.00%	3.65%
\$ 50,000 - 99,999	* 2.75%	1.00%	3.75%
\$100,000 and over	* 2.85%	1.00%	3.85%

* Denotes Interest Rate Change

SINGLE PREMIUM DEFERRED ANNUITY

	New Interest Rate	1 st Year Interest Bonus	Total 1 st Year Return
\$ 10,000 - 24,999	* 2.35%	1.00%	3.35%
\$ 25,000 - 49,999	* 2.60%	1.00%	3.60%
\$ 50,000 - 99,999	* 2.70%	1.00%	3.70%
\$100,000 and over	* 2.75%	1.00%	3.75%

* Denotes Interest Rate Change

Initial premium of \$10,000 and over receive a First Year Interest Rate Bonus of 1.00%, (Oregon SPDA Bonus 0.50%)

The Minimum Guaranteed Interest Rate is 1.45% for new issues (effective 1/1/2019).



Russ and his wife Donna, a member of our lodge, had a Sons of Norway insurance information table at our Scandinavian Viking Festival.



SONS OF NORWAY



Financial Benefits Counselor

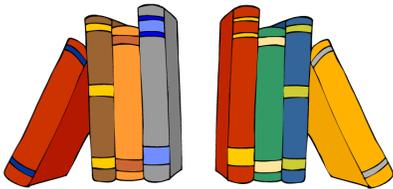
Russell Luter

3250 S Arizona Ave, Apt #1098

Chandler AZ 85248

Cell 602-781-0557

rluter5150@gmail.com



LIBRARY CORNER

By Arlys Medicott

Librarian

Desert Fjord lodge has a wonderfully extensive library. It's remarkable to me how few titles get checked out by members. Maybe it would help if I highlight some of the categories covered by our library. In the Bookshelf (decorated with Rosemaling):

- Heritage & sagas of Norway
- Biography
- E Rolvaag
- Trygve Gulbrandsen
- Sigrid Undset
- Moe and Asbjornsen: Norwegian folk tales
- Knut Hamsun
- Expeditions
- Language Materials
- Very Large Books

In addition, the library consists of ten boxes containing books in the following categories:

- Box 1 – Art, Drama & Poetry
- Box 2 - Rare books and Christmas
- Box 3 - Hand Skills
- Box 4 - Humor
- Box 5 - Immigration to America
- Box 6 - Norway's History: Kings - WWII
- Box 7 - Way of Life in Norway & Folklore
- Box 8 - Vikings
- Box 9 - Youth & Older
- Box 10 - Norwegian America

If requested, I'd be glad to list titles in any of the above categories. Our library is a great resource ... please take advantage of this benefit of membership in our lodge!

Desert Fjord Business Meeting

4140 N Miller Road, Scottsdale, AZ

March 2, 2019

Meeting: The business meeting was held at the Scottsdale Methodist Church and was opened by Jonathan Walters at 1:15 PM.

Attendees: Jonathan Walters, Janis Johnson, Arlys Medicott, Sherrie and Jan Loomis, Jana Peterson, Nina Poe, Berit Miltun, Ed and Phyllis Bergo and Ross Berg.

Secretary's Report: Jan moved to accept the minutes of the January meeting. Ed seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Janis gave a treasurer's report. \$1100 is now set aside for the District Six convention in 2020. Our balance of \$2,150.97 is available in checking. Ali spent \$185.00 for boutique inventory. \$50.00 has been sent to the foundation in memory of Sharon Clunk and Roger Espeland.

Social Report: Berit did not have a report since the Viking Festival occurs in place of our March meeting. April food will be decided later.

Programming: Nina reported that Bruce Folken from Minneapolis Norway House will present the program in April

Membership: Sherrie reported that William Jacobson passed away. Jonathan reported that the lodge achievement forms were completed and sent in on time. Nina made a number of suggestions about successfully recruiting new member and potential member dinners as well as joint meetings with Norwegians Worldwide (which we do at Syttende Mai) and shared websites.

Library: Arlys reported that most books except recent mysteries aren't being checked out.

New Business – Survey: Ed gave a brief report of the survey results: Forty members responded to the survey. A snapshot of where we are as a lodge shows that quality programming is the greatest incentive for attendance. More emphasis on cultural skills was mentioned as well as a suggestion to not repeat the same programs. 75% say the cost of the meals are acceptable with 25% reporting they are too expensive. We need to formally welcome new members and visitors at each meeting and lodge members are encouraged to be welcoming and not clannish.

Viking Festival: Jan gave an update on the plans for the March 24th Viking Festival. Five DNA kits were purchased, three of which will be used at the Viking Festival in a drawing and the other two used at our 35th anniversary this fall. Table assignments and locations for the cultural skills are in place. Flood lights have been purchased for the Blue Room as well as traffic cones and caution tape. Directing traffic is a concern. Members are asked to park in the shopping center south of the Masonic Lodge. The Stoughton Dancers will go to Payson to overnight following our event. Jonathan will contact the Sunday church group to determine how early we can get into the Masonic Lodge building that Sunday. Jan indicated that the Facebook announcement of this event is creating substantial visibility.

Ross will use the International Sons of Norway paperwork to apply for a foundation grant to help cover some of the costs of this event.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Sherrie and seconded by Ed

Respectfully submitted,
Phyllis Bergo, Acting Secretary



We had some Sons of Norway leadership personnel come to the Valley to attend the Memorial Service held for Roger Espeland in February. Above are pictured Mary Beth Ingvoldstad (District 6 International Director) and Ronald Stubbings (the Sons of Norway

International President) with Phyllis Bergo. It was great to have them with us! Pictured on the left is Ed Bergo at the airport with Ronald; the Bergos provided airport shuttle service for the visitors.

District Six President: Luella Grangaard

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 am, St Peter Lutheran Church,

1844 E Dana Ave, Mesa, AZ

Sola 6-168 - 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm,

Faith Lutheran Church,

2215 S. 8th Ave., Yuma, AZ

Sol Byer 6-134 - 3rd 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: Phyllis Bergo

Treasurer: Janis Johnson— janisjoan41@gmail.com

Auditors: Dirk Walter and Floyd Downs

Box Tops for Education:

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:

Librarians: A Medicott— (602) 284-8523, Elizabeth Lenci-Downs

Marshals: Knut Haldorsen and Peter Flanders

Membership Secretary: Sherrie Loomis—(480) 786-4232

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

Publicity Director/Public Relations: Janis Johnson

Reservations: Phyllis Bergo (480) 812-9762

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

Flood Damage on the Home Front

Due to flood damage to her home, our Editor is caught up in the midst of repairs.

We're sorry to hear of your trouble, Laura, and wish you all the best ... that before long your life will return to normal!

Happy Easter to you and to all our readers!

- Assistant Editor Jonathan



"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

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Sons of Norway International Headquarters Website:

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

Tubfrim - Tubfrim is a Norwegian program that collects and sells cancelled postage stamps to raise funds to aid individuals who are handicapped. Just bring to any of our regular meetings; put your name on the bag or box so your name gets put into the drawing.



<http://www.boxtops4education.com/participating-products>