

The Posten

October 2019

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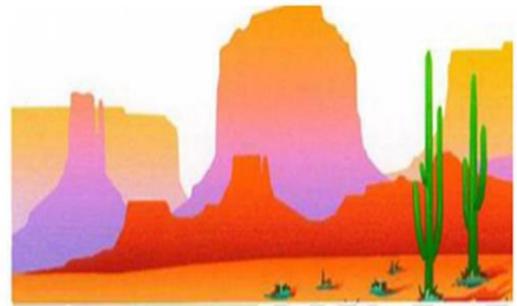
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Desert Fjord Lodge 6-133
P O Box 1716
Scottsdale, AZ 85252-1716



SONS OF NORWAY

Desert Fjord Lodge



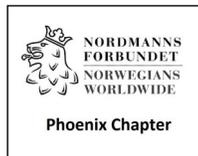
President's Column

There's a treat for you on page 6—you're being introduced to the very beautiful Hallingdal Valley that was home for the Bergo family before they emigrated to America in the mid 1800's. Thank you, Ed, for sharing about your ancestral home with us! I'm eager to learn from members where their ancestors came from in Norway. We can look forward to that in subsequent newsletters.



This month our program will feature Bruce Folken telling us about his family's ties to the famous Norwegian composer, Edvard Grieg. That should be most interesting indeed. Shannon will bring us a menu that was featured in the Viking magazine. Come for the meal. Come for the program. Bring a friend or a neighbor. We look forward to having you join us!

Some of us who came to our September meeting signed up to attend "A Scandinavian Tour" on October 19th, the North Valley Symphony concert. If you didn't hear about that and want to go, please find details on page 9.



Or you may prefer to attend the Viking Dinner on October 19 at 6 pm hosted by the local chapter of Nordmanns-Forbundet. For your ticket and details: <https://aznorseman.ticketspice.com/viking-dinner>

If you know of a member who is bereaved, ill or in the hospital, please get in touch with our Sunshine person, Dawn Walter. Her phone number is (480) 860-9192 ... it also appears in our Officers listing in each newsletter.

The Nominating Committee has been busy. We have much work yet to do! Please help support us in the very important task of identifying and enlisting candidates to serve our lodge. Take on a task, assume responsibility and maintain Desert Fjord lodge a thriving haven of Scandinavian goodness!

Velkommen

Business Meeting at 1 pm, Saturday, October 5th

Scottsdale United Methodist Church, 4140 North Miller Rd,
Scottsdale, AZ

Heritage and Cultural Meeting—October 13th at 2 PM

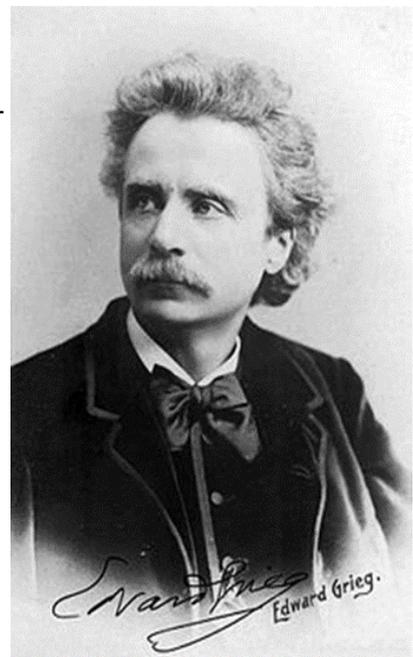
Masonic Lodge, 2531 N Scottsdale Rd, Scottsdale

Program: *Edvard Grieg and Bruce Folken*

by Bruce Folken



Bruce Folken is a native of Austin, MN—“home of Spam”. He and his wife have recently moved from Apple Valley, MN to Sun Lakes, AZ. Members of Norsota lodge in Apple Valley, they visited all AZ lodges in 2017 to share progress being made at the Norway House in Minneapolis.

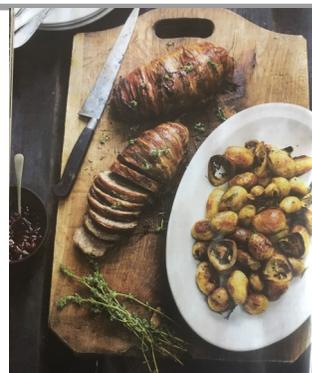


All four of Bruce’s ancestors’ families are from Norway. Both of his grandmothers came from Bergen and Ringebu; his grandfather’s parents came from Vestre Slidre and Hafslø.

He’ll share family stories but will focus on his family’s ties to Edvard Grieg and Trolldaugen.

Menu :

- **Meatloaf wrapped in bacon with lingonberries**
- **Small potatoes and peas**
- **Dessert**
- **Coffee, Tea and Water**



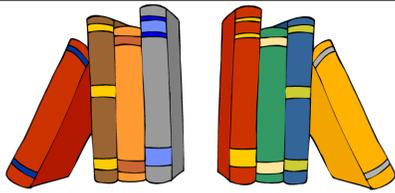
Price: Adults \$15.00; Children—\$7.50

Reservations: Via the link [online](#) (click “online”) or call Phyllis Bergo by October 11th!

(the online registration now offers a “no meal” option and you can pay \$5 to attend the meeting only)

(480) 812-9762

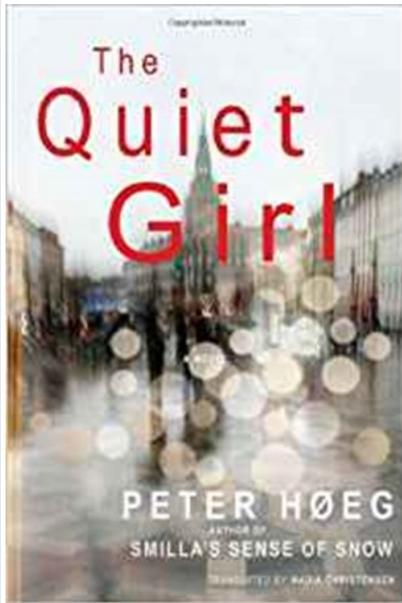
Make your check payable to Sons of Norway & mail to:
Phyllis Bergo, 2589 East Erie Ct, Gilbert AZ, 85295



LIBRARY CORNER

A Book Review by Janis Johnson

(highlighting one of the books available in our great Library)



Set in Denmark in the here and now, *The Quiet Girl* centers around Kaspar Krone, a world-renowned circus clown with a deep love for the music of Johan Sebastian Bach, and an even deeper gambling debt. Wanted for tax evasion and on the verge of extradition, Krone is drafted into the service of a mysterious order of nuns who promise him reprieve from the international authorities in return for his help safeguarding a group of children with mystical abilities—abilities that Krone also shares.

When one of the children goes missing, Krone sets off to find the young girl and bring her back, making a shocking series of discoveries along the way about her identity and the true intentions of his young wards.

The result is a fast-paced, philosophical thriller blending social realism with the literary fantastic and pitting art and spirituality against corporate interests and nothing less than the will to war by the industrialized world. *The Quiet Girl* is a masterful, inventive novel that marks the triumphant return of one of the great writers of the international literary world.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS by Sherrie Loomis, Membership Secretary



Fall is upon us and our new Desert Fjord program year is underway. Our program team works hard to develop monthly programs and activities that will appeal to cur-

rent, new and prospective members. Our social team works equally hard to develop a menu for the meeting that offers meals and desserts that often reflect our Scandinavian heritage. Invite your family and friends to experience the love you have for your heritage. Share your enthusiasm about our lodge and how you've learned more about your ancestry through our programs. Invite your guests to once again recall and experience the smell and taste of the food and desserts that their mother, grandmother and aunts prepared with love, especially around the holidays.

Desert Fjord will be celebrating our 35th year anniversary in November. This will also be an opportunity to enjoy a casual evening of conversation and celebration of what our lodge has accomplished and our plans for the future. We will be holding a drawing that day for two Ancestry DNA kits and the lucky winners will be able to apply scientific evidence that will help them learn more about their roots. Plans are already underway for another Scandinavian Viking Festival in Spring 2020 that promises to be even bigger and better than last year's event. This is another great opportunity for inviting friends to join and learn more about us. The

Sons of Norway is celebrating 125 years of service to its members in 2020. Perhaps one of your ancestors joined Sons of Norway after arriving in the United States in the late 1890's or early 1900's. If so, we invite you to share their story with our lodge in the coming months.

Finally, please consider giving a gift of membership to our lodge to a child or grandchild for their birthday or Christmas. As members, they are eligible for a variety of international and local Sons of Norway scholarships and grants to heritage camps, language camps, and colleges/universities (including those in Norway). It also sends a message to your family that their heritage and cultural traditions are important to you. The children are always welcome to attend our meetings and share their experiences with us. I've personally enjoyed watching my grandson (who attended his first Desert Fjord meeting at the age of 6 months, he'll be 13 in December!) enjoy his camping scholarship at our District's Camp Norge, where he learned to speak Norwegian, practiced rosemaling and honed his skills in making lefse and krumkake.

Share the joy of membership by inviting others to join us. If you have any questions about membership or how to apply, please contact Sherrie Loomis at 480.786.4232.

Remember, you can't
get life insurance
once you need it



Financial Benefits Counselor

Russell Luter

3250 S Arizona Ave, Apt #1098

Chandler AZ 85248

Cell 602-781-0557

rluter5150@gmail.com

Before I left home to go to college, my mother tried in the worst way to get me drinking coffee. She was of Norwegian descent, raised on a farm in SW Wisconsin, and couldn't remember when she hadn't drunk the beverage. I think she feared her son would go into the world a social misfit and it would reflect badly on her rearing.

Finally, I told her, "Give it up, Mom—I just don't like the taste of it."

A Coffee Story

by

An Anonymous Contributor

In the spring my freshman year I went to eastern Montana with college friends to meet up with another friend in Wolf Point. Sitting on a plow at the edge of town as the sun set, a couple of us didn't realize how cold we'd gotten till we got up

to move. We headed for the nearest lights and knocked on the door. They agreed for us to come in to warm up. We eagerly accepted their kind offer of a warm drink. What did they serve? You guessed it—they served us Norway's #1 beverage. Miraculously, it tasted just fine ... that evening I became a coffee drinker.

Mom needn't have feared—nature saw to it that I caught the habit.



Scandinavian Jul Bazaar

Saturday, November 9, 2019

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

1500 W. Maryland Avenue

Phoenix, Arizona

NW Corner of 15th and Maryland Avenues

FREE ADMISSION

The Nordic countries of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden invite you to their annual Jul Bazaar on Saturday, November 9th. Antiques and vintage treasures, collectibles, rosemaling, handcrafted arts, books, music and movies are among your shopping choices.

And while you shop, enjoy the many Scandinavian food booths offering yellow pea soup and rye bread, homemade frikadeller, lapskaus, lefse, waffles, cookies, pastries and more.



Sponsored by Valleywide Scandinavian Cultural Lodges and Clubs.

Where my Norwegian ancestors came from:

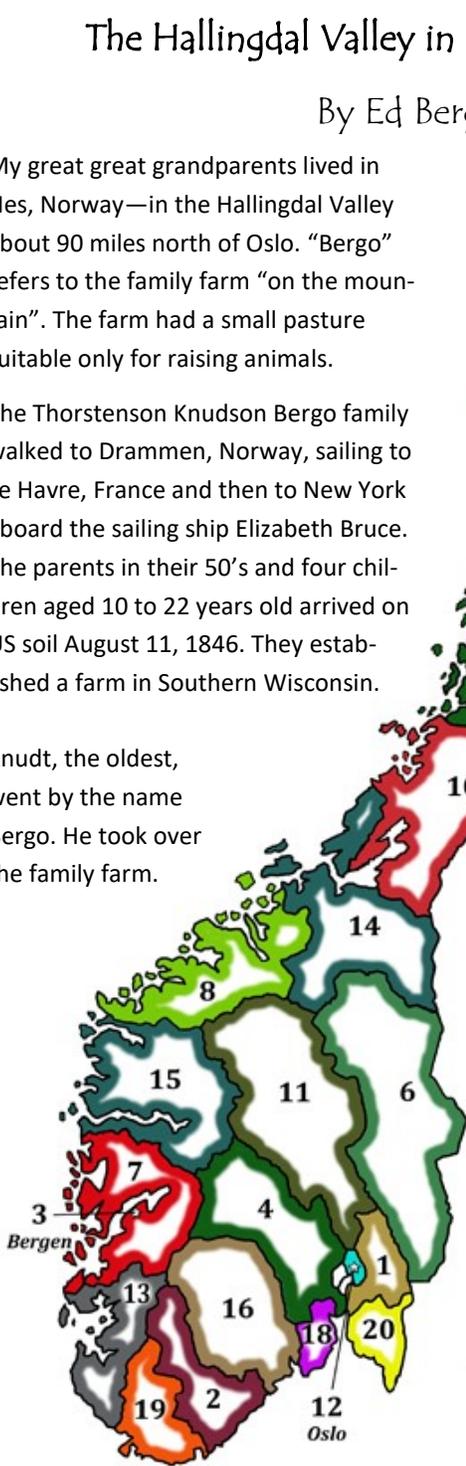
The Hallingdal Valley in Buskerud County

By Ed Bergo

My great great grandparents lived in Nes, Norway—in the Hallingdal Valley about 90 miles north of Oslo. “Bergo” refers to the family farm “on the mountain”. The farm had a small pasture suitable only for raising animals.

The Thorstenson Knudson Bergo family walked to Drammen, Norway, sailing to Le Havre, France and then to New York aboard the sailing ship Elizabeth Bruce. The parents in their 50’s and four children aged 10 to 22 years old arrived on US soil August 11, 1846. They established a farm in Southern Wisconsin.

Knudt, the oldest, went by the name Bergo. He took over the family farm.



A view of the beautiful Hallingdal Valley in Buskerud County

The rest of the family homesteaded in northern Iowa. My great grandparents were one of the earliest families to settle Worth County and to start Elk Creek Lutheran Church.

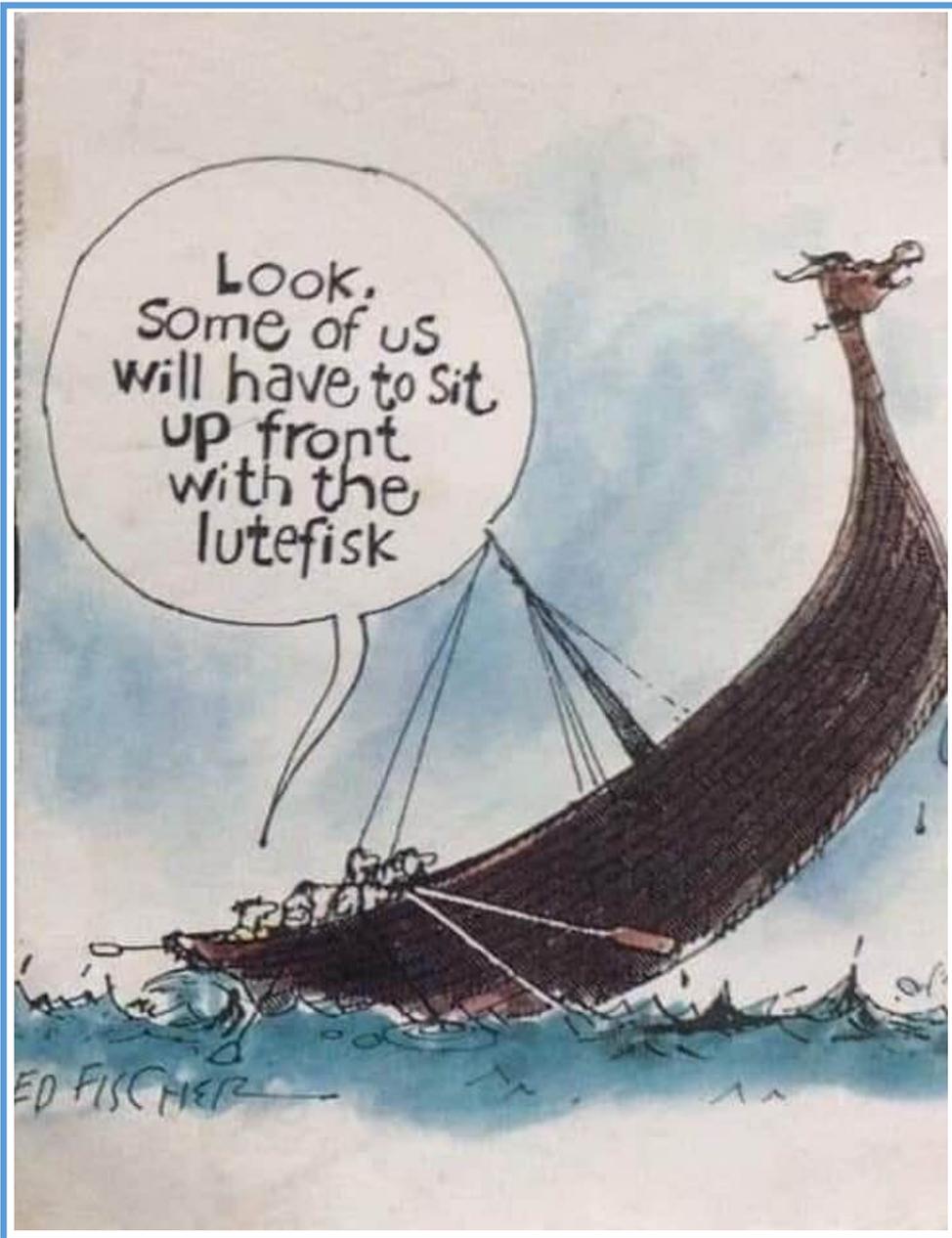
In 2010 Phyllis and I visited Nes. We met Bergo relatives who still live on family farms. They were interested to learn how we were related to them. Thankfully, we traveled with Knut Erik Jensen (the concert pianist) and his parents who helped interpret for us.

← Buskerud Fylke (county) -- #4

Home
is
Where
The Heart Is



Phyllis pictured here with some Bergo relatives when we visited Nes, Norway in 2010.



The
Desert Fjord Boutique
 Is Coming!

It will be open
 for business at
 our meeting in
 November!!

October Birthdays

Sada Reed 1st
 Marcia S Kuehl 2nd
 Mary J Gordon 3rd
 Kazuyo Cummings 7th
 Mike Opoien 11th



Kristin L Hanson 12th
 Barbara B Richey 19th
 Brian L Cummings 24th
 Richard G Erickson 24th
 Timothy S Leeland 28th

Gratulerer Med Dagen – Happy Birthday !!

**Desert Fjord Business Meeting
4140 N Miller Road, Scottsdale, AZ
September 7, 2019**

Meeting: The Desert Fjord business meeting was opened by Jonathan Walters at 1:10 PM.

Attendees: Janis Johnson, Jonathan Walters, Ed and Phyllis Bergo, and Berit Miltun.

Secretary's Report: The May Business Meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Ed, and seconded by Jonathan.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was given by Janis. Everything is all paid up. \$1500 in savings is set aside for the District Six convention in 2020. \$1357.69 is our balance in checking. In general \$100 in profit from our meetings goes into savings in order to pay for convention expenses. We are hoping to have \$2,000 by the time of the convention. Janis wants to send as many people as possible to the convention and cover their registration fees as far as our \$2,000 will allow.

Programming & Social: Berit will not be at either the October or the November meeting.

Cultural report:

- September 8: is AQUAQVIT: The Scandinavian Spirit by Don Johnson.
- October 13: speaker Bruce Folken on his family and Edvard Grieg
- November 10: Our 35th anniversary celebration with the Scandinavian dancers, Yul Bazaar and crafts. This will not be a dinner but a wine and cheese, cake and coffee event.
- December 8: Christmas program, to be determined: cookie exchange or a special Christmas dinner such as baked Salmon. The date has been cleared with the Masonic Lodge. The details will be worked out and announced later.

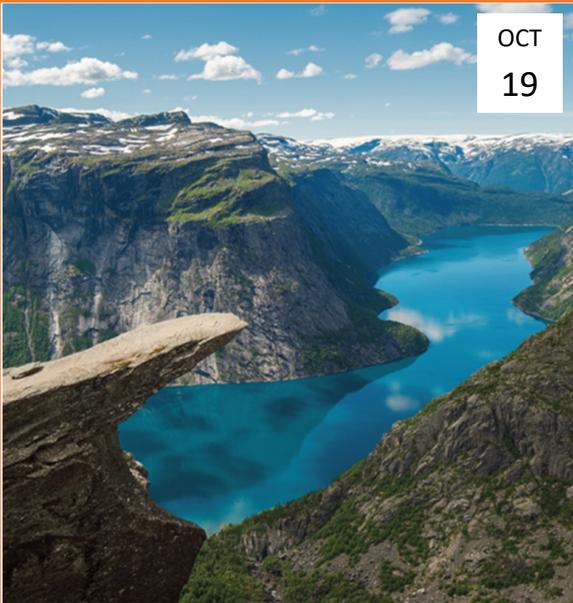
Membership: reports were emailed to our officers by Sherrie Loomis who could not attend our meeting.

New Business:

- The North Valley Symphony Orchestra (NVSO) of Phoenix will present music by Scandinavian composers. Sherrie and Jan Loomis will staff an informational table to promote our lodge. A flyer and sign-up sheet to assist at the table will be produced by Janis Johnson and passed around at our September 8th meeting.
- Ed and Phyllis Bergo and Jonathan Walters will serve on the Nominating Committee. They'll meet Monday September 9th to begin the process of creating a slate of officers to be presented at the October meeting. Voting will take place in November and the installation in January.
- January is the 125th anniversary of the Sons of Norway. Headquarters has asked the lodges to have a special recognition of this date.
- The Viking Scandinavian Fest will be in either March or April. We will be looking for another location other than our lodge as well as searching for a main attraction to draw people in. Janis will check on the availability and cost of using the United Methodist Church for this event and forward this information to Jan Loomis. Phyllis suggested using a grant that is available from Sons of Norway for a new member dinner. If we collect names of potential members at the Viking Fest we could have a new member dinner the following month.
- District 6 convention is to be held in Mesa on June 18- 21st. A donation of Norwegian cookies will be expected from each lodge in the district.

Ed moved and Janis second closing the meeting at 2:07. October Business meeting will take place on October 5th.

Submitted by Phyllis Bergo, Acting Secretary



North Valley Symphony Orchestra

presents a concert program:

"A Scandinavian Tour"

Embrace an evening of music that evokes the misty fjords, the rugged mountains and deep forests of Scandinavia ... including Grieg's famous Peer Gynt Suites

- 7:00—9:00 pm, Saturday, October 19th
- North Canyon High School, 1700 E Union Hills Drive, Phoenix, AZ
- Tickets—\$5.00

Desert Fjord Lodge has been invited to participate in this concert by coming to the event, wearing bunads (to be introduced on stage at intermission), and participating in an information table. Please save the date and time on your calendar!

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



Celebrate LEIF ERIKSON DAY—October 9th

AMERICA'S VIKING DAY



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, Nina Poe

Foundation Directors: Gordon Peterson, Paul Lindbloom

Greeters: Floyd Downs and Ross Berg

Historian:

Librarian:

Marshals: Knut Haldorsen and Peter Flanders

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

Posten Editor:

Publicity Director/Public Relations: Janis Johnson

Reservations: Phyllis Bergo

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

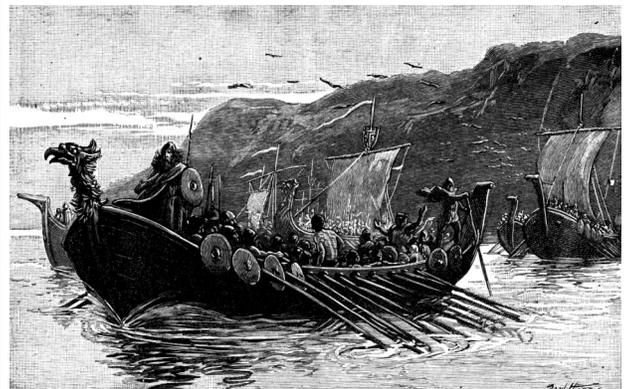
Sports:

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



“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:

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If not deliverable



Sons of Norway International Headquarters Website:

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

Tubfrim - 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>