



April 2017



Program:

Larry Korteum: Norwegian Path to America

April 8, 2017 ~ 5:30 pm

Heritage Room, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato

*The April and
May
programs
begin at 5:30.*

Sons of Norway Elvesvingen Board Members:

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*Please bring a canned good
item for the food shelf to
our April program. Thank
you!!!*

April Servers

Lois Annexstad
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Thelma Asleson
John & Jan Holte

Phyllis Olson
Jan Prehn
Marlin Spangrud
Kristi & Maria Stolen

Terry Sveine
Jodie Wallschlaeger
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Co-Chairs:

Bonnie Shult and
Karen Sandersfeld

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote, preserve, and cherish a lasting appreciation of the heritage and culture of Norway and other Nordic countries while growing soundly as a fraternal benefit society and offering maximum benefits to its members.

Sons of Norway ~ Elvsvingen Chapter 1-582

Hilsen Fra Presidenten, Karen Abbott

The Elvsvingen board has made a decision that we want to tell you about. Our current website, www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org, was built in 2003. Our current website requires specific software for editing and to upload the newsletter - this software, no longer available, uses Vista which is no longer supported with virus protection after April 11. It also requires specific software to send out the newsletter and that is no longer secure. After a lengthy discussion with our web master, Wendy Greiner, the board voted to purchase services in the amount of \$2,599.95 from Q InfoTek, Inc. to set up a new Elvsvingen website. This new website will have 2017 technology, will be updated almost weekly, will stay secure, will be easier to redesign in the future and will be mobile-friendly. They will design our new website to look as close to the current website as possible and they will transfer all content from the old site to the new site. This was a difficult decision to make but with the facts that were presented, the board felt that we needed a secure, up-to-date website that Elvsvingen could move forward with.

Due to painting in the Heritage Room at Bethlehem Lutheran, our March gathering moved to the Grounds for Joy room . I would like to thank the serving committee for their delicious lunch and Paul Lindfors who gave a very interesting and informative program on Newfoundland. On April 8th, our meeting time changes to 5:30 pm. We will be in the Heritage Room and the program will be The Norwegian Path to America by Larry Korteum. Please come and join us!

Thank you Marsha Natvig and Lynnell Pemble for volunteering to chair the Lefse Bake!!

Don't forget to bring your canned goods on April 8th for Elvsvingen's donation to the Echo Food Shelf. A couple members have volunteered to take the donations to Echo for us.

The International Festival is at MSU on April 9th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. We can use more help manning the Sons of Norway Elvsvingen table. Please contact me if you are interested.

Easter (Påske) is coming soon and on the website www.dgreetings.com/easter/easter-in-norway.html, it states "Easter celebrations in Norway begin on the day before Lent and the day is called 'vastelavnt' or 'Schrovetide'. Originally this is a church festival prior to Lent, when people celebrate the approach of spring and a new working year. Shrovetide usually lasts for three days beginning with Shrove Sunday, Monday referred to as Blåmandag Blue Monday and Tuesday as Fetetirsdag or fattening Tuesday. Special celebrations are held in schools where children dress up and play at "Slå katten av tønne" meaning knock the cat off the barrel where wooden barrel is filled with sweets and a toy black cat. A common Easter custom in Norway is the tradition of decorating Easter eggs and publishing of series of books as "Easter-Thrillers" or Påskekrimmen. Norwegians also decorate their houses with yellow chicken figurines as they consider it very auspicious. Some of the popular Easter holiday spots in Norway are the historic harbor city of Kristiansand, the capital city of Oslo with magnificent architectural landmarks is no less than a tourist's paradise and the commercial hub of Hammerfest with its unique fishing fleets is considered to be home to some of the best fish-processing industries of Northern Europe. Thus, Easter in Norway is a time of great jubilation."

Wherever you are this Easter, I hope you all have a very blessed celebration.



Happy Birthday!



April

James Borseth	1
Janice Ahlness	6
Mary Anderson Haugesag	8
Sharon Hanson	13
Gene Sellner	15
John Holte	16
Diane Lambrecht	18
Mary Anderson	20
Marian Qualset	23
Yevonne Flatgard	24

Thank you for the lefse chairs

Thank you once again to Kathy Bruss and Phyllis Olson for chairing the Lefse Bake. It is a huge benefit!!!

The new lefse chairs are Marsha Natvig and Lynnell Pemble. Thank you for stepping up to do this! It is much appreciated!!!

If you have any requests or suggestions for future programs for the 2017-2018 year, please let one of the board members know. We would like your opinion, and we need suggestions!



New Books for the Library

Norway's Delight: Dishes and Specialties

By Elise Sverdrup
Category 6-Recipes

Looking at Norway

The Country: Oslo, Norwegian festivals, Bergen, Winter Sports
By Gwenneth Ashby
Category 5-Travel

Getting to Know Scandinavia:

Denmark, Norway, Sweden
By Jim Witker
Category 7-History

Scandinavia

By Gavin Ortin
People of Scandinavia, farming and fishing, crafts and designs, the arts, customs and traditions
Category 5-Travel

Runestone (a novel of adventure)

The adventure of Nils Torsson and his fellow Norsemen on the uncharted continent of Vinland
By Don Coldsmith
Category 7-History

Pictures from our March Program



Lois Kitzmann received her Genealogy/family history cultural skills pin (Level one)



Festive St Patrick's Day centerpieces



Speaker Paul Lindfors spoke about Norwegians in Newfoundland



Phil Bachman brought his Rosemaling picnic basket that Marlys Heller Leiding painted

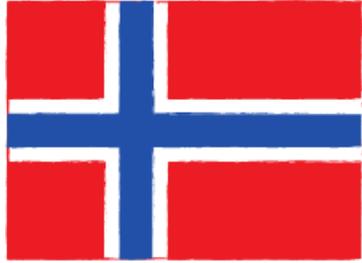
Humor Humor

Ole and Sven grabbed their poles and headed out to do some ice fishing. As they were auguring a hole in the ice they heard a loud voice from above say, "There are no fish under the ice."

Ole and Sven moved about 25 feet over and started to make another hole. The voice said a little stronger, " There are no fish under the ice."

They both looked around and then looked up. Ole said in a humble voice, "Are you God?"

The voice spoke back, "No! I'm the ice rink attendant."



Syttende Mai
Smorgåsbord

Norseland Lutheran Church

Saturday May 20th, 2017
4:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Meatballs, Potatoes, Ham, Cheese, Herring, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Lefse, Fresh Fruit, Dark Breads, Rømmegrøt, Rice Pudding, Yiftas, and Norwegian Cookies

Adults, \$13.00 | Children 6-12, \$3.00 | Under 5, free

 Find us on Facebook
facebook.com/norselandlutheran

Norseland Lutheran Church is handicap accessible and is located approximately 8 miles northwest of St. Peter on State Highway 22. 

“The Great Lutefisk Mystery”

We also learned why lutefisk is so important to Norwegian Americans. Most of the immigrants to America from Norway were from the inner valleys where fresh ocean fish was not easily available. For them re-hydrated stockfish (wind-dried cod) was a delicacy associated with Christmas feasting. Lutefisk was closely tied to happy times with a full stomach and family. When large quantities of stockfish became commercially available to Norwegian immigrants toward the end of the nineteenth century, many of them jumped at the chance to re-connect with their childhood memories and their beloved homeland through the eating of lutefisk, especially during the Christmas season.

You can read the full article here:

<https://www.norwegianamerican.com/featured/the-great-lutefisk-mystery-solved/>



The International Festival is April 9th! If you would like to help with our table, please contact Lois Kitzmann at 344-1684.

Sons of Norway ~ Elvesvingen Chapter 1-582

Sons of Norway
Elvesvingen Chapter 1-582
P.O. Box 1091
Mankato, MN 56002

Calendar of Events

Larry Korteum:

Norwegian Path to America

April 8, 2017 ~ 5:30pm

Heritage Room

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

International Festival

April 9, 2017 ~ 11-4

Minnesota State University-Mankato

Petter Moen's Dagbok

May 13, 2017 ~ 5:30pm

Heritage Room

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Check out the Information Table:

- Pick up information on area events, travel, or SON financial products
- Sign up for events/volunteer opportunities
- View a copy of recent Lodge Minutes/Treasurer's Report

www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org

www.sofn.com

www.facebook.com/mankatosonsofnorway