

THE NAVIGATOR

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48
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"Excellence in Creative Journalism"



WE HOPE YOU ARE ABOUT TO ENJOY, OR DID ENJOY, OUR
NATIONAL HOLIDAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY

Notes before the Fourth from President Norm:

This one will be memorable. How do we celebrate our one true national holiday without the fireworks, the backyard barbeque, the gathering of family and friends, the parades? Hopefully this will be the only Fourth notable for the absence of what we have taken for granted.

I refer to Independence Day as our one true national holiday for the following reasons. If you're non-religious, Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving are meaningless, good for food and gifts only. Don't know any vets? Memorial Day is a three-day weekend. The reason for Labor Day has been forgotten. The combining of Presidential Birthdays has given us another three-day weekend. Martin Luther King's Birthday is a recently acquired three-day holiday.

July Fourth is unique because it marks the beginning of a noble experiment in government. It celebrates the birth of an idea of a government that can change, adapt, and survive its excesses and its shortcomings. The Fourth celebrates a nation of immigrants with divergent heritages bound together by a common ideal.

Between approximately 1875 to 1925 nearly a quarter of Norway's population emigrated from Norway, a large portion settling in Canada and America. They endured the prejudice and economic privation endured by all first-generation emigres and yet prospered in their new lands.

We are the benefactors of these hardy and industrious folk. We celebrate our own unique heritage by participation in our lodge and the comradeship of our members. We have descended from stern immigrant stock, we will get through this, and we will thrive once again. Take care, Norm

THE MISSION OF SONS OF NORWAY is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.

TILLIE BALDWIN, VIKING BRONC RIDER

By Michael Amundsen



In the second decade of the early 1900's there were few cowgirls competing in professional rodeo who were greater than **Tillie Baldwin**. Tall and blond, she became a dominant competitor in trick riding, bronc riding, fancy roping and Roman racing. She was the first woman bulldogger, leaping from her horse onto a running steer, grabbing that steer by the horns and dragging it to the ground.

Most cowgirls at the time were ranch-raised western women. They learned their craft growing up on the ranches in the west and southwest. But Tillie was born in Norway as **Anna Matilda Winger**.

Immigrating to America around 1909, she lived with her aunt in New York City, barely spoke any English and became a hairdresser. An accomplished skier and skater back in the old country, Tillie came upon some female stunt riders in Staten Island and found her new calling.

Tillie had never ridden a horse before but learned riding the bridal paths in Central Park. She developed her trick riding and roping skills quickly enough to be hired by the famous 101 Wild West Show of Oklahoma, sharing the spotlight with **Tom Mix and Bill Pickett**.

Her first rodeo was the first Los Angeles Rodeo held at Santa Anita Raceway, where she won the relay and trick riding titles. In 1913 she beat two well-known rodeo cowboys at the Roman Racing competing at the Winnipeg Stampede.

In 1916 Tillie competed back east in what was then the biggest rodeo on the east coast. Taking place at Sheepshead Bay Speedway it offered a total of \$50,000 in award money, which was a huge sum at the time.



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(Tillie...Continued from page 2)

Legendary rodeo announcer **Foghorn Clancy** described the event in the October 1947 issue of "Rodeo Romances," a popular pulp magazine. He recalls Tillie was unknown in that part of the country and had a lot going against her. First, she was not ranch-raised and second, she wasn't even American.*

Even worse, she entered the slick bronc riding competition. There were two categories open for women bronc riders then: slick and hobbled. When hobbled, women had a rope tied to one boot that stretched under the horse to the other boot. All they had to worry about then was staying on.

Slick riders rode without the hobble and in doing so were required to do the same spurring and kicking in tune with the bucking horse that the men were required to do. Considered a lot more difficult, only the best women bronc riders competed "slick." So when the unknown foreigner Tillie entered that contest, she was met with admiration by little hope of success.

Foghorn Clancy describes her championship-winning ride, "On the last day, she drew a horse called 'Cyclone.' This was a cayuse to scare even the men. Not half the cowboys at the event could have ridden that whirling dervish. Nobody believed that Tillie had a chance. It was a foregone conclusion. And of course, if she were bucked off Cyclone, she would win nothing of the final purse."

"Tillie fooled them again. She rode Cyclone to a hair-raising, wild, screaming, final finish. And when that ride was over, there was not a soul in the arena who was not ready to take off his or her sombrero and admit that Tillie Baldwin was one of the greatest of all time. She had won the World's Championship in the Girls' Slick Riding Contest..." Pretty good for a Norwegian immigrant who one day just decided to be a cowgirl.

Four years later, the legendary cow girl married and retired to a horse ranch in Connecticut where she raised horses and taught riding up until her death in 1950 at the age of 70. *(Editor's notes: Other accounts report that she lived until age 90... Reprinted with author's permission. Appeared previously in Nansen News, Fridtjof Nansen Lodge 6 -009, Long Beach. Very slightly altered from the original.)*

** Sound familiar? - Ed.*



SIDEBARS WITH THE EDITOR...

EDITOR THANKS MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONCERN

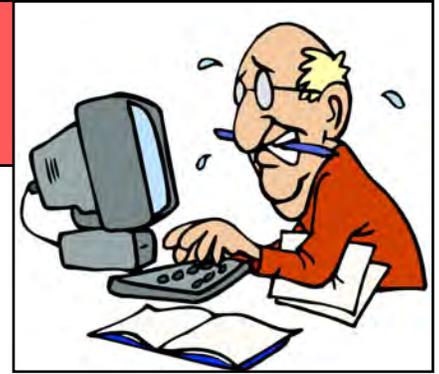
Sadly, I will report here that my wife, Celia, passed away on June 11th after being ill for some time. She used to be able to attend lodge events with me and a number of the members knew her. I sincerely thank those of you who have expressed their consolation in cards, in person, and in other ways. I also thank the lodge in general for the bereavement card that I received through the Sunshine Committee.

NEW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING A REALITY

The headquarters staff recently moved into their new 15,000 square-foot headquarters space (that floor area is subject to additional confirmation) at 1455 Lake Street in Minneapolis. The headquarters now occupies space in the front tower of what is actually a mixed use building that includes apartments and commercial space. There are additional build-



ings in the development as well. A rendering of the front tower and the adjacent wings is displayed below, left.



CULTURAL SKILLS PROGRAM

Many cultural skills opportunities can be found on the Sons of Norway website. Check in as a member and go to Members' Resources. Skills that can be developed include baking Norwegian cookies, collecting Norwegian stamps, Pillaging Viking Style, Studying the Norwegian Language, North Sea Oil Exploration, Rosemaling basic strokes for both left and right handers, and many others.—*from lodge Minister of Culture.*

ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE RECOGNITION

Our lodge received an award for meeting or exceeding its 2019 New Member target. And recently it received a Silver Award for its communication efforts including its newsletter, website and YouTube site.

SO LONG FBCs, HELLO IPs

The title "Financial Benefit Counselors" is being retired in favor of "Insurance Professionals." Additional IPs are being hired in

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(SIDEBARS, Continued from page 4)

order to increase marketing efforts of the Sons of Norway products.

2020 NCK CANCELLED

The Northern California Kretsstevne (NCK 2020) at Camp Norge over Labor Day weekend has been “postponed” until 2021 by decision of the 2020 Committee.

But there is good news—The annual Kretsstevne pin is being designed and produced again this year by **Penny Joseph Knudsen**. They will be available for purchase in August by contacting **Mary Beth Ingvaldstad**. Details later.

The Committee urges everyone interested to watch for news from the Recreation Center Board regarding the opening of Camp Norge for general member use.

LODGE EVENTS PRESUMABLY CANCELLED

The Masonic Lodge remains closed. One should conclude that all remaining 2020 Roald Amundsen Lodge events are cancelled unless things improve significantly and you are advised otherwise in a future Navigator.



CAMP OLDFELL CANCELLED

Camp Oldfell, for old people, has been cancelled. It was scheduled to start September 19th. No one in our lodge was old enough to attend, anyway.

TAXES NOT CANCELLED

Tax returns and payments due July 15th. **Send it all in! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

TUBFRIM DOWN THE TUBES

We read in the Bjornson Lodge SAGA that our District 6 will no longer be supporting this stamp recovery program. The Norwegian Seaman’s churches in San Francisco and San Pedro are not longer accepting stamps. Apparently there are very few Norwegian ships entering our harbors these days, and the few that do will not take boxes of stamps back to Norway.



SIDEBARS (Continued from page 5)

ANOTHER HEADS UP FROM THE SAGA

The Lake Street Post Office in Minneapolis was looted and burned during the riots of May 28 and May 30. If you sent any mail to Sons of Norway International that may have arrived at their PO box during this time, your mail may have been lost. If you paid your dues by check and it has not been cashed, contact the membership desk at the home office. You can call toll free at 1-800-945-8851.

VIKING HISTORY

Apparently the editor of the Vegas Viking newsletter is quite an historian. His latest 28 page newsletter is full of interesting Viking history. Try accessing it at <http://sofn6.org/lists/dada/mail.cgi/archive/Editors/20200701195635/>

CAMP NORGE

Roald Amundsen Lodge made a significant monetary contribution to this endeavor (see below). The camp is scheduled to reopen July 31st, but your editor is skeptical.

MANGE TAKK

The Camp Norge Roof is finished and ready for next season.

Thanks to all who helped!



A FRATERNAL BENEFIT SOCIETY IN 2020

Below is the web address for a 7 minute YouTube presentation from the headquarters office on the composition of Sons of Norway. <https://youtu.be/xXvRjBmu2u8>

MEMBER KRISTY UPDEGRAFF'S PHOTO IN VIKING MAGAZINE!

We hope you all saw it!



EDITOR EMBARRASSED FOR HIS HOMETOWN

On June 22nd “protesters” toppled the statue of **Hans Christian Heg** that stood in front of the state capitol in Madison, Wisconsin. Heg was a Norwegian immigrant (born 1829) who served as a Colonel in the Wisconsin infantry in the Civil War.

“Since ‘freedom, equality and brotherhood’ were the very life of the simple pioneer of (Wisconsin), slavery was abhorrent to Hans Heg,” a University of Wisconsin publication says. Heg became an anti-slavery activist and helped a militia who fought slave catchers.



He was injured in the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863 and died one day later. In a letter to his wife during the war, Heg said, “You may become a widow, but you will never be the widow of a coward.”

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SIDEBARS (Continued from page 6)**SUMMER CAMPS**

Camp Trollfjell and Trollfjell Folkehøgskule are now in session for our youth, but in a “virtual” way due to the virus restrictions. **Bruce Fihe**, Vice President of District 6, obviously went to a lot of effort to set these up. Bravo Zulu.

NAVIGATOR BY MAIL

The mailed version of this issue has two fewer pages so as to make it more easily printed. If virus conditions worsen, the editor may no longer be willing to venture to the printers to get the hardcopy printed. So, if you have an email address that we don't seem to have, it would be helpful if you apprised us of what it is.

A NOTE FROM LODGE SOCIAL DIRECTOR AND DISTRICT ZONE ONE DIRECTOR

Our Lodge lost a very good friend. **Celia Rosenthal**, **Steve Rosenthal's** wife, passed away on June 11th, 2020. She was not a member of our lodge but opened her house for our lodge on several occasions. We all enjoyed several summer picnics in the Rosenthals' back yard. She always had a smile for everyone, thank you so much, we will miss you.....Tove-Lise.

**ZONE 1 DIRECTOR GREETING**

Hello, all Sons of Norway members and friends. This is certainly not where we wanted all our activities to end up.....in the garbage can. I miss you all. I know everyone had plans for the summer. I, for one, had planned a trip to Norway since I have not been able to see my sister and brother for a while.

The District 6 Board had worked so hard for the Convention in Mesa, and all the delegates were looking forward to meeting again. Well like I said, it went in thegarbage.

The kids were looking forward to camp at Camp Norge. Well, at least they did get a substitute activity; the Virtual Camp is in full swing for Trollfjell Folkehøgskule. We only have 5 students, but they are eager to learn some Norwegian, several crafts, genealogy and life of the Vikings. We even have a language instructor that connects with the students from

(SIDEBARS Continued from page 7)

Norway. When their camp is over, Camp Trollfjell will begin. We currently have 20 kids signed up for that camp so that will be a challenge. Our District 6 Vice President, **Bruce Fihe**, is doing an outstanding job organizing both camps on ZOOM.

Thank you to everyone who is lending a helping hand with the kids. That includes the parents, many of whom are working from home in addition to keeping their kids occupied.

Just don't forget that the Sons of Norway organization is not closed! The home office personnel have moved into their new building in Minneapolis and are, as am I, happy and willing to help and sign up new members.

Hope we can all meet again soon and enjoy our Norwegian heritage and FOOD.
Hilsen Tove-Lise

2020 CALENDAR OF NO EVENTS**ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE**

(As of who knows?)

*******2020*******

July, Date TBD	Family Picnic, CANCELLED
July	Children and Youth Virtual Camps (in process)
August	No monthly meeting scheduled
Saturday, 5-7 September	Northern California Kretsstevne, CANCELLED
Sunday, 6 September	BBQ Meeting, CANCELLED
Saturday, 19-22 Sept.	Camp Oldfjell, CANCELLED
Friday, 9 –11 October	Central California Kretsstevne, DOUBTFUL
Tuesday, 13 October	Monthly meeting with Cultural Program DOUBTFUL
Saturday, 18 October	Lutefisk Dinner DOUBTFUL
Tuesday, 10 November	Monthly meeting with Cultural Program DOUBTFUL
Saturday, 5 December	Julebord TBD
December, TBD	Family Christmas Party TBD

All events at the Harding San Juan Masonic Lodge, Citrus Heights, unless otherwise indicated. Schedule always subject to change. Changes will be announced in **The Navigator**. **At this point, all events scheduled from July forward to year-end must be considered as TENTATIVE AT BEST.**

All previously scheduled in-person book club meetings have been cancelled.

All birthdays have been cancelled. For instance, if you are 64 and thought you were going to be 65 this year, by federal edict you shall remain 64 for another year, and cannot apply for Social Security benefits until 2021.



Congratulations to Steve Rosenthal, Terje Miller, Arlene Kozub and DeAnn Smeltzer for 2018-2019 Communications Award.

Artwork on the 2020 Virtual Camp T-shirt!





**SONS of
NORWAY**

District Six

California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Hawaii



District Six ZOOM “Show and Tell”

On Sunday, July 26th, at 1:00 District Six is going to hold a District wide "Show and Tell". This will be your opportunity to show what Norwegian and Scandinavian heritage crafts you have completed doing your COVID induced vacation. Please RSVP by July 23nd.

You will need a high quality photo of your project to show on the ZOOM meeting. We will assist you with showing your photo. Please use good photography guidelines as submitting a photo to the Viking Magazine. Five members from the district will have their photo with their completed project on the District Six Page of the Viking Magazine.

The spaces for the “Show and Tell” are limited to 100 participants. If we have more people that would like to participate, we will open another session.

RSVP to president@sofn6.org

HOW TO SUBMIT A PHOTO FOR VIKING MAGAZINE

Select a digital photo that is the original photo taken by your phone or other device, that has:

The highest resolution possible (300 dpi - dots per inch - or greater)

Sons of Norway members as the focus of the photo, not inanimate objects.

Visual interest, crisp and clear images, and good lighting 4) With NO editing Save it to your computer, “save as” (a jpeg, or img or other PICTURE file) with the name of your Lodge and the date.

Now, complete a submission form: Download a blank “Fill-in and sign” Submission Form into your Document file. Save it with this name, “BLANK-VMSF”, - (Blank - Viking Magazine Submission Form). Then whenever you want to submit a photo: 1) Open the Blank-VMSF. (It is a “fill-in and sign” document, so you can just put your cursor on a blank line and start typing in your information, right on your computer). 2) Complete every item on the form – add as much detail as possible – then, save this document “save as” with the same name as the photo file (name of your lodge and date).

Compose an email message to the District PRO. Explain what you are sending. Then Attach both the photo file and the submission form to this email and send it to your District publicity person.

NEVER put either the photo or the form information in the body of the email. You must attach both items to the email, because I have to send them as attachments to the VIKING magazine staff.

kw
Revised
6/14/2020