

SynNor Brevet

Published monthly by

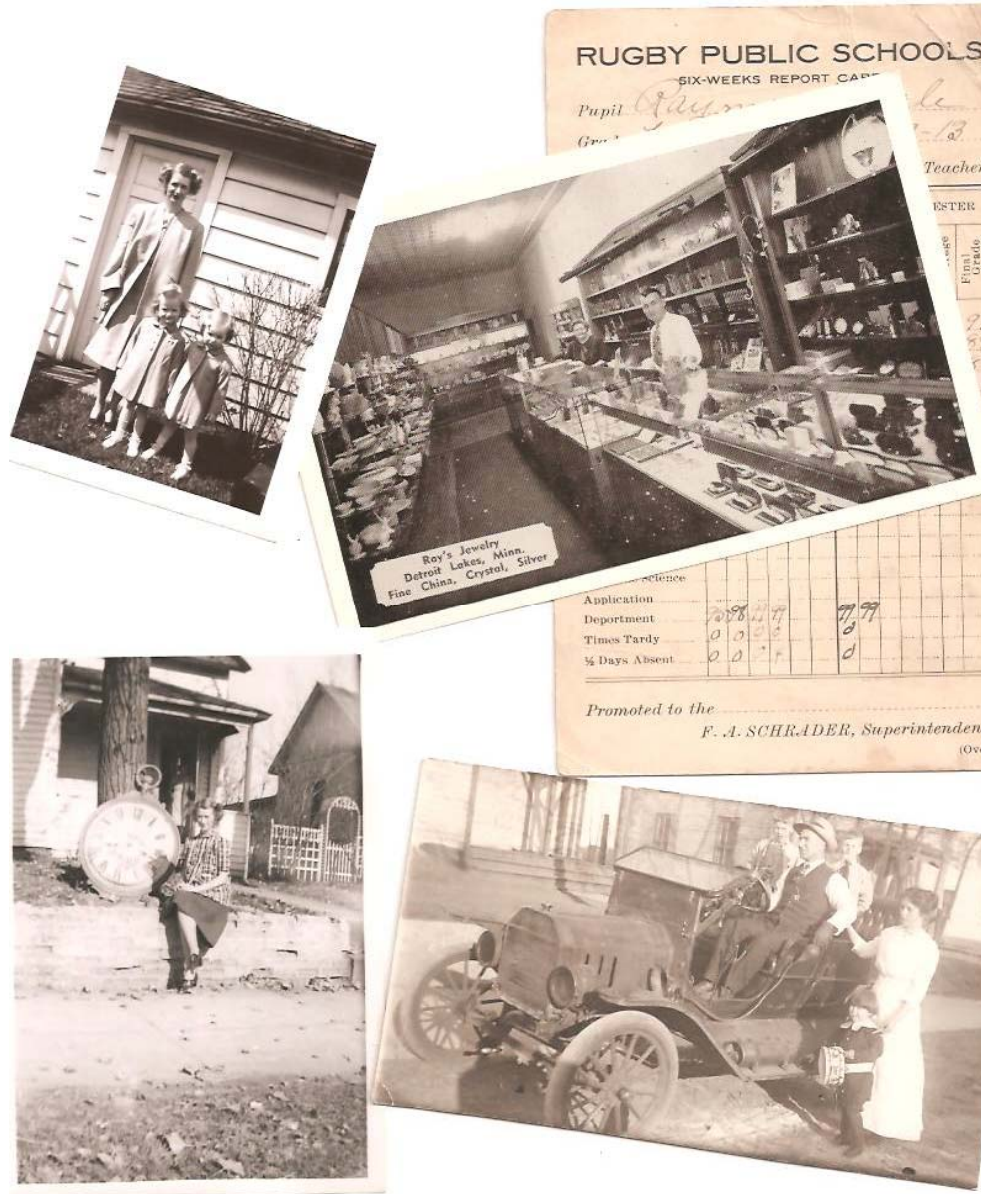
Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1-008



October 2009
Number 9:9

WEB SITE: <http://synnove1.com>

Voice Messages: 651-762-7872



Join us for our October 13 meeting for Part 2 of our Lodge Biography Project presentations. We did Part 1 at the March meeting earlier this year, and it was a big hit. This one should be as well.

Scandinavian Culture and News

Norway's Geography and Topography

Located in northern Europe, Norway occupies the western and northern portions of the Scandinavian peninsula. It is bordered to the north by the Barents Sea, to the north-east by Finland and Russia, to the east by Sweden, to the south by the Skagerrak Strait and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean, known as the Norwegian Sea. More than three times larger than Iceland, Norway covers a total land mass of 323,900 square kilometres. This includes the volcanic island of Jan Mayen to the north east of Iceland, and a portion of Antarctica lying between longitude 20° west and 45° east, known as Queen Maud Land. Also included is Svalbard, an archipelago which lies between Greenland and the Barents Sea.

Norway is a mountainous country, with nearly one-third of the country lying north of the Arctic Circle. From the inland mountains and mountain plateaus, the landscape falls sharply towards a coastline dotted with innumerable islands. The country has traditionally been divided into five principal regions – Nord Norge (North Norway), Trøndelag/Midt-Norge (Trondheim Region/Mid-Norway), Vestlandet (West Country), Østlandet (East Country) and Sørlandet (South Country).

From: *News of Norway* 2009

Norway and the EU

Norway has twice held a referendum on joining the EU, in 1972 and 1994, and both times a majority of the population voted against membership. However, today Norway co-operates closely with the EU in most areas. Although opinions are divided, there is general agreement at political level that Norway should be an active and constructive co-operating partner.

Norway's most important form of association with the EU is the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA), which entered into force in 1994. Under this Agreement Norway and the other EEA countries are part of the EU internal market. This means that Norwegian businesses and nationals are entitled to the same treatment as businesses and nationals of EU states throughout the EEA in areas covered by the Agreement. It also means that Norway participates in the drafting of EU legislation in areas relevant to the internal market, such as transport and the environment, and is bound by such legislation. Norway also participates in EU programs in a large number of areas, such as culture, research, regional policy co-operation and education.

From: *News of Norway* 2009

National Elections in Norway

National elections are held every four years in Norway for the purpose of electing representatives to the Storting (Parliament). Numerous political parties vie for votes during a relatively short campaign. Elections were held this year in mid-September and 76% of the people who were eligible voted.

The Arbeiderparti (Worker's Party), which is headed by Jens Stoltenberg the current Prime Minister, received the largest number of votes of any of the political parties. However, since they did not receive a majority of the seats in Parliament, they will have to work with other political parties to form a coalition government.

It is very likely that the Arbeiderparti will again form a government with the help of the Sosialistisk Venstreparti (Socialist Left Party) and the Senerparti (Center Party). Also, Jens Stoltenberg is very likely to be reelected by the Storting to continue to serve as Prime Minister of Norway.

Two other political parties which received relatively large numbers of votes during the September election were the Fremskrittsparti (Progressive Party) and Høyre (Conservative Party).

Info taken from Aftenposten.no
and translated by N.V.

Sending Gifts to Norway

What is the value limit for sending a gift to Norway without having to pay a tariff?

Gifts which do not exceed the value of 1000,-NOK and which are for the recipient's use or to be used by the recipient's family are tariff free. Spirits, wine and tobacco products, or packages sent to multiple addresses in Norway are not tariff free. Your local post office will advise you on postal charges and procedures for sending packages to Norway.

From: Norway.com

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge normally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM At First Lutheran Church
463 Maria Avenue (at 8th Street East, 2 Blocks North of Metro State University)
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 Voice messages: 651-762-7872 (See back cover for officers)
Web Page: <<http://synnove1.com>>
Sons of Norway International: <<http://www.sofn.com>>

Lodge News

Fra presidenten

Dear Members,

The October meeting will literally be “One for the Books.” It will be Part II of members sharing about their families. Sports Director, Rod Hale, conceived this idea and will produce a booklet that will have these stories as well as those of others who have not verbally shared their stories.

This is a NOT-TO-MISS PROGRAM, especially for those of us that had the pleasure of hearing or participating in Part I. Be certain to come and bring others to experience the fun.

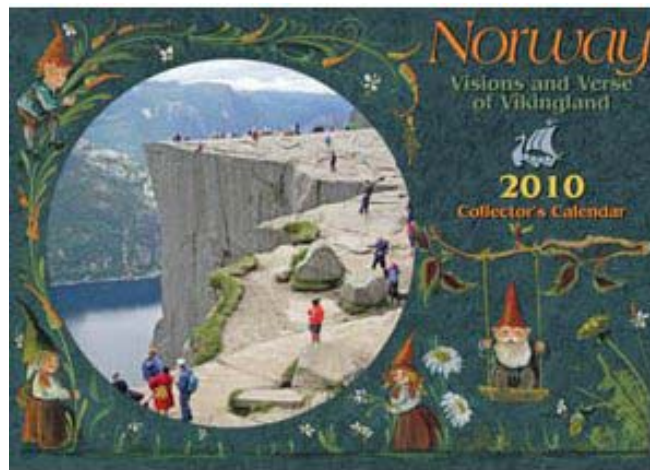
FUN & FELLOWSHIP—two words that echo in my mind when I think of our Lodge, and two events that underscore the theme of Fun and Fellowship are just around the corner. Our Torsk & Meatball dinner will be on Saturday, October 24, and the Julebord will be on December 8. Please make your reservations at the meeting.

Blessings,
Sharon

Our thoughts and prayers are with fellow members Joann Berndt, who is recovering from surgery, and with John Nordale, who is recovering from a heart attack and bypass surgery.

Order Your 2010 Norwegian Calendar

These calendars are the same as those sold by Ingebretsens and other Scandinavian gift shops. Order yours for \$12.95 during the next two months. They make great Christmas gifts, too!



The deadline to submit items to the Brevet for the coming month is normally the 20th of the previous month. Please keep this time frame in mind, and keep those news items coming!

Thanks,

-Dave

dmutchler@q.com or 651-484-8872

Lodge News

Board Meeting Minutes, September 1, 2009

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Patty Carlson, Ruth Gibson, Rod Hale, Sue Halvorson, Clay Keller, Clayton Lance, Mary Beth and Dave Mutchler, Ron and Susan Stow, and Harry Thomsen.

Old Business:

Plans for the October meeting were finalized. The planning meeting for the Torsk and Meatball Dinner was discussed. It was noted that the church has purchased new tables and made improvements to the kitchen. A silent auction will be held at the dinner this year. Tentative plans for the November and December meetings were discussed. Sharon Kalmes has agreed to chair the committee for the Julebord.

New Business:

Openings for lodge officers in 2010 were discussed. Suggestions for lodge programs in 2010 were made and discussed.

Submitted by: Sue Halvorson, Secretary

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 6 at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr. (west side of Maplewood Mall) in the large conference room.

Lodge Meeting Minutes, September 8, 2009

56 members attended the September lodge meeting. There were no visitors.

Sharon Amann opened the meeting by pointing out the new tables purchased by the church and several updates that they had made to the kitchen. The minutes were approved as printed in the Brevet. Clayton Lance gave the treasurer's report. Rod Hale stated that he needs 8 to 10 people to present a biography of one of their ancestors at the October lodge meeting. He also stated that he was leading an orienteering group on September 12.

The price of the Torsk and Meatball Dinner in October has been lowered to \$15. There will be one seating at 5 pm and there will be a silent auction. Contact Mary Beth Mutchler if you have a donation. Signup sheets were available for prep day and working at the dinner.

Susan Stow spoke about the Junior Lodge. They danced at Lindstrom during the summer and she will be using the story of Peer Gynt as the theme for the meetings. The Children will be presenting the November lodge meeting. There will be a game like "Are You Smarter Than a Fifth-Grader?" based on knowledge of Norway. The Junior Lodge is open to 7 to 18 year olds.

Sharon Kalmes will be chairing the December Julebord.

Ron Stow spoke about the incentives being offered to lodge members and lodges by the Sons of Norway for recruitment of new members. He stated that he needs volunteers to "shepherd" or mentor new members so that they will feel welcome at their first lodge meeting.

The lodge will again be selling calendars for \$12.95. They are the same as those sold by Ingebretsen's, etc. You need to order a calendar if you would like one.

LaRee Opdahl spoke about the hardanger embroidery class that she and Susan Stow are taking. She also talked about the Bygdelag she attended in Albert Lea and an upcoming one in October at Alexandria.

Susan Stow taught us the Happy Birthday Song in Norwegian so we could sing it to the lodge members celebrating birthdays. August and September birthdays were celebrated by Andy Urness, Maf Berg, Dorothy Hanson, Gary Hanson Gary Wunrow, Rosanna Wunrow, Patty Carlson, Taffy Storck, Charles Beardshear, LaRee Opdahl, Joanne Englund, Anne Beardshear, and JoAnn Hogenson.

August and September anniversaries were celebrated by Linda Holmstrom, Dave and Mary Beth Mutchler, Clay Keller, Sharon Kalmes and Ron Kvass.

Joanne Englund won the door prize.

Marv and Louise Lang presented an interesting program detailing the exploits of Marv's ancestor Peter Wessel Tordenskiold.

We thank Sharon Amann and Patty Carlson for providing the delicious kransekaka and lefse rollups.

Submitted by Sue Halvorson, Secretary

Calendar of Coming Events

Tuesday October 6	Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting Maplewood Library conference room; 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W. side Maplewood Mall)	7:00 PM To 9:00 PM
Tuesday October 13	Synnove-Nordkap Lodge & Social Event Lodge Biography Presentations Contact Rod Hale to reserve your spot	7:00 PM ----->
Saturday October 24	Lodge Torsk & Meatball Dinner + Silent Auction A great fundraiser for our lodge! *** Items needed for Silent Auction ***	5:00 PM
Saturday October 31	Genealogy Group Meeting and Tour of Minnesota Genealogical Library See page 7 for more information	10:00 AM To 12 Noon
Tuesday November 3	Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting Sue & Don Halvorsen's house, 170 Skillman Ave. E, Maplewood 55117; it's W. of 35E & N. of Roselawn between Jackson & Adolphus Sts.	7:00 PM To 9:00 PM
Tuesday Nov. 10	Synnove-Nordkap Lodge & Social Event Jr./Sr. Lodge Challenge!! Who can answer the most questions about Norway?	7:00 PM
Saturday Dec. 5	Salvation Army Bell Ringing Byerly's off 94 between Ruth and White Bear	9:00 AM To 5:00 PM
Tuesday Dec. 8	Synnove-Nordkap Lodge & Social Event Julebord	6:00 PM
Sunday December 27	Joint Lodges "Away in a Basement: A Church Basement Ladies Christmas" at Plymouth Playhouse	2:00 PM

Area Lutefisk Dinners

If you are looking for lutefisk dinners this fall, check website:

Lutefiskloverslifeline.com

(Be sure to check dates are 2009)

83rd Concordia

Christmas Concert
Orchestra Hall, Mpls, Dec. 10,
6:00 and 8:30 PM.
Tickets 1-800-292-4141

Norwegian Language Classes

- (1) "Norwegian In Five Minutes A Month" series. Class 6:30-7:00 PM Tuesdays before lodge meetings October, November. For October 13: Lessons 3 & 4.
- (2) "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" text. Class 6:30-8:00 PM Thursdays October 22 & 29, November 12, December 17. Sun Ray Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., between McKnight Rd. & Ruth St. For October 22: Chapter 17, page 270; for October 29: Chapter 18, page 283.

For information, contact class co-facilitators: Sheryl Hove 651-738-4908 or Crystal Bloecher 651-774-8545. New participants are invited to join the classes.

Ingebretsen's Events:

1601 E. Lake St., Minneapolis-612-279-9333

Fall Sale: October 3-10, 15% off gift store

Classes: Kransekake-Oct. 24 - 10 - 12 am

Lefse- Nov. 10 & 24 - 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Memoir writing- Wed., Oct. 28 - Dec. 9

9:30 - 11:30 am

Knit Advent Calendar- Oct 16 - 30, 1-3pm

Drop in Hardanger- Oct. 22, Nov. 12,

Dec. 10 - 5:30 - 7:30 pm

More on website: ingebretsens.com

Kransekake

Lorraine Jasinski teaches how to make kransekake, the spectacular "crown cake" that appears at all truly special occasions in Norway. Lorraine teaches how to make the flour from ground almonds, how to get "a feel" for the dough (this is hands on, so bring an apron), and how to put the dough into ring molds. She also shares tips on baking, decorating, and storing your cake. There will be plenty of coffee and kransekake samples throughout the class. \$35, Saturday, October 24, 2009 10-noon.

Mindekirken

The Norwegian American Church

924 E. 21st St., Mpls

For information call: 612-874-0716

Leiv Eriksson International Festival

September 26 to October 13

View entire program on website:

Mindekirken.org

Annual Treasure Chest Sale

Saturday, November 7

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Silent auction, new gift items, knit & hardanger items and baked goods.

Lunch available at 11:00 AM

Norsk Høstfest '08

Minot, North Dakota

September 30, October 1-5

North America's Largest

Scandinavian Festival.

Enjoy world class entertainment, shop in International Marketplace, see Nordic artists and craftspeople, enjoy culinary creations by renowned Scandinavian chefs

For information, call: 701-852-2368

Or check: www.hostfest.com

Upcoming Lodge Activities

This page is intentionally blank, and is meant to be replaced with the PDF file containing the Torsk & Meatball flyer.

More Lodge Events

More Items Needed for Silent Auction in October

At our Torsk and Meatball Dinner on Saturday, October 24, we plan to have a silent auction as a fundraiser. We already have a number of items donated by members, including a Norwegian sweater, a solje, a kicksled, the book "Out Stealing Horses," 2 T-shirts with a Nordic-inspired design, a pewter candle holder, a Costal Voyage book, antique linens, a Norwegian needlepoint kit, sterling silver, a crystal bracelet, a kransekake, two copies of the book "Their Own Saga: Letters from the Norwegian Global Migration," by Frederick Hale, "Norsk" magnetic letters for learning Norwegian, cross stitch Christmas troller ornaments, a Norwegian ship model, two Hardanger - Gudbrandsdal bunads and kits plus apron, the book "Painting by Minnesotans of Norwegian Background 1870-1970" by Marion John Nelson, an antique Norwegian cup, etc. We would like an assortment of goods, gift certificates, and services in many price ranges.

There will be a link to pictures of many of the auction items available on our lodge website soon.

We are asking each of you to consider donating items or services for this occasion. By "services," we are thinking of items like help translating Norwegian documents, two hours of genealogical help, a dinner, a gift card, etc. Use your imaginations, and let's see what we can raise for a good cause!

We have Tax Deductible forms, as your donations to the lodge are tax deductible.

Contact Mary Beth or Dave Mutchler with your ideas and items at 651-484-8872 or mbe43@q.com or dmutchler@q.com.

Synnøve-Nordkap Sons of Norway Genealogy Group

Minnesota Genealogical Society Library Tour (new members are always welcome!)

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2009

Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Location: Minnesota Genealogical Society, 1185 Concord Street North, Suite 218, South St. Paul, MN 55075-1187.

Directions: From Highway 52, south of Lafayette Bridge, take Concord exit south past Butler Street. MGS will be on the west side. The building looks like a huge colored Rubik's Cube. Free parking lots are available next to the building. Take the elevator up to Suite 218. If you're a PC user, here is a link to directions from First Lutheran:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?1c=Saint+Paul&1s=MN&1a=463+Maria+Ave&1z=55106>

Room: Suite 218 to MGS Library and adjoining classroom

Phone Number: 651-455-9057

Web Site: www.mnngs.org

Tour Guide: John Schade

E-mail address: johnschade@comcast.net

Schedule:

General tour of Library

Policies (copy machines, etc.)

Explanation of Norwegian Book Section and Resources

Research work in adjoining classroom

Computer Use: Bring your PC, MGS has wireless access.

Possible ideas for Lunch: Burger King and Subway, about 1 mile south on Concord.

Our thanks to Sheryl Hove for setting up this day!

The Local Scene

Nordic Lights Film Festival – Twin Cities

We are pleased to introduce a premier 2009 event for the Minneapolis/St. Paul community, the Nordic Lights Film Festival – Twin Cities. A program of the American Scandinavian Foundation, the Nordic Lights Film Festival will attract film goers of all ages, and will reaffirm our community's connection to its Nordic heritage. It will also foster a new appreciation for contemporary Nordic culture. Hosted at the Parkway Theater in Minneapolis November 20 – 22, 2009, the festival will include a variety of feature-length and short films representing each Nordic country. The festival will also provide film goers with the opportunity to mingle and interact, helping to expand our local Nordic community. Visit www.scandinavianfilmfest.com/twincities for more information.

Date(s): 11/20/2009, 6:00 PM - 11/22/2009, 10:00 PM

Location: Parkway Theater

4814 Chicago Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55417 USA

Email: nordiclightsfilmfest@gmail.com

Web Site: www.scandinavianfilmfest.com/twincities

Why not consider an ad in our newsletter?
The cost is \$10 / issue, or \$100 / year.
Contact synnovel1@q.com .



Benefit News The Truth About Debt

Myth: Debt is a tool and should be used to help create prosperity.

Truth: Debt isn't used by wealthy people nearly as much as we are led to believe.

According to a recent *USA Today* article about debt, 78% of Baby Boomers have mortgage debt, 59% have credit card debt, and 56% have car payments. It takes a lot of **will, discipline, courage** and **help** to slay the debt monster. *But it can be done.* Imagine how much you could put toward retirement if you just didn't have a car payment? The best way to build wealth is to *become and stay debt-free*. This is how the wealthy really build their wealth.

According to **Proverbs 22:7**, "Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender." (NLT).

There is no shortcut to any place worth going.

A Sons of Norway financial review is the first step. We will ask the right questions, come up with a financial plan and make recommendations to improve your financial situation.

Greg Hovland
Financial Benefits Counselor
651-429-2304
lfcfinancial@msn.com

4493 Evergreen Drive St. Paul, MN 55127		SONS OF NORWAY
Greg Hovland Financial Benefits Counselor MN Lic. #46818	Business: (651) 429-2304 Fax: (651) 429-2365 E-mail: lfcfinancial@msn.com	
www.sonsofnorway.com		

This and That

(We are always interested in members submitting articles on books they have read or movies or plays they have seen.)

THE CORNER LIBRARY -By Trudi Johnson-Richards

Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World by Mark Kurlansky is a fascinating, well-researched natural history of the Atlantic cod, *Gadus morhua*, and a discussion of how over the course of 1,000 years it came to be one of the most important international food commodities. **Cod** is a delightful romp through history and is the biography of a single species of fish.

Cod, as it turns out, is the reason Europeans set sail across the Atlantic, and it is the only reason they could. What did the Vikings eat in icy Greenland and the five expeditions to America? Cod—frozen and dried in the frosty air, then broken into pieces and eaten like hardtack. What was the staple of the medieval diet? Cod again, sold salted by the Basques. Salt cod became a staple of the European diet; it was plentiful, long-lasting, and easily stored. The fish were so numerous that the supply seemed inexhaustible.

Cod spans a thousand years and four continents. From the Vikings, who pursued the codfish across the Atlantic, and the Basques, who first commercialized it in medieval times, to Bartholomew Gosnold, who named Cape Code in 1602, and Clarence Birdseye, who founded an industry on frozen cod in the 1930's. Mark Kurlansky introduces the explorers, merchants, writers, chefs, and of course the fishermen, whose lives have interwoven with this prolific fish.

Wars have been fought over the codfish; revolutions have been spurred by it, national diets have been based on it, economics and livelihoods have depended on it, and the settlement of North America was driven by it. Codfish has been a treasure more precious than gold. Indeed, the codfish has played a fascinating and crucial role in world history. Who knew that a history of the Atlantic cod fishery could be so entertaining?

Mark Kurlansky combines history, modern conservation efforts, recipes and trivia to illustrate how the lowly cod fish played a significant role in the creation of the world we know. The book is concisely written, the narrative micro history is rich in detail. Mark Kurlansky has written articles for the *New York Times* magazine, *Harper's* and is the author of two books.

Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World is available at the Shoreview Public Library and other libraries in Ramsey County. The Shoreview Library is located at 4570 Victoria Street, telephone 651-486-2300.

On August 18, 2009, Karen Vinnes donated a notebook of *SynNor Brevet* newsletters 2003-2008 to the Synnove-Nordkap Library.

Asylum for the Verbally Insane Author unknown

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes,
But the plural of ox becomes oxen, not oxes.
One fowl is a goose, but two are called geese,
Yet the plural of moose should never be meese.
You may find a lone mouse or a nest full of mice,
Yet the plural of house is houses, not hice.
If the plural of man is always called men,
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called pen?
If I speak of my foot and show you my feet
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beet?
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,
Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called beeth?
Then one may be that, and three would be those,
Yet hat in the plural would never be hose,
And the plural of cat is cats, not cose.
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,
But though we say mother, we never say methren.
Then the masculine pronouns are he, his and him,
But imagine the feminine: she, shis and shim!
Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in
eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
English muffins weren't invented in England.
We take English for granted, but if we explore its paradoxes, we find
that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square, and a
guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't
groce and hammers don't ham.
Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend.
If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of
them, what do you call it?
If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught?
If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
Sometimes I think all the folks who grew up speaking English
should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane.
In what other language do people recite at a play and play at a
recital? We ship by truck but send cargo by ship. We have noses that
run and feet that smell. We park in a driveway and drive in a parkway.
And how can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a
wise man and a wise guy are opposites?
You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which
your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form
by filling it out, and in which an alarm goes off by going on.
So if Father is Pop, how come Mother isn't Mop?



Planning to move?
Overwhelmed by "stuff"?

NEED HELP? Call seniormovesSM

FREE IN-HOME Visit with Estimate
Call Lorene Roste at 651-646-5785
Cell: 651-247-0720; EMail: roste@visi.com

SORT - SIMPLIFY - SETTLE IN!

**Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008
Sons of Norway
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Shoreview, Minnesota 55126-8005**



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(* All area codes are 651 unless otherwise specified).

**SYNNØVE-NORDKAP
SONS OF NORWAY
LODGE #1-008
First Lutheran Church
463 Maria Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55106
651-762-7872**



Upcoming Activities

**Lodge Biographies, Part 2 - Tues. Oct. 15
T&M Dinner + Silent Auction - Sat. Oct. 24
Genealogical Society Tour - Sat. Oct. 31**

More Info Inside

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 to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members. Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge welcomes visitors and new members.