



SONS OF NORWAY DISTRICT 7 in BEAUTIFUL BRITISH COLUMBIA

Leiflette

October 1925

Next deadline November 5, 2025



Egil Lindquist, (pictured on right), of Rondane Lodge, celebrated his 95th Birthday with a yard full of well-wishers.



The photos 'say'
Summer but the
Calendar say's
October so...

Happy Thanksgiving!



Some of the Varden Lodge members at Heritage Camp. There were 24 Varden members who attended or visited the camp and several were teachers and/or volunteers).



Viking Ladies at Border Festival

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**SONS of
NORWAY**

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Trollheimen 157

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President's Message

For most Sons of Norway Lodge Members, WELCOME BACK to regular monthly meetings after the summer break. I hope the summer was a restful, family time and not too much smoke or fires in your neighbourhood. Our summer was pretty

warm and the fruit trees are producing well again.

As a means of keeping members interested in attending, a good agenda with some activity or event is always a good drawing card. There are many resourceful people in our lodges and communities that are willing to share their expertise so remember to ask them. One of the items I have taken part in is some online programs from the Versterheim Norwegian Museum. Some of the events are free and some have a fee while some are onsite at the museum but many are online streaming so check out their calendar and maybe schedule a group gathering to participate online. There are also many online language lessons available so maybe a coffee klatch of members would work to do the lesson and also practice together.

Year end is coming and I am hopeful that you are doing work on succession planning for your lodge boards. Make sure to ASK if there is a good prospect but they have not stepped forward to volunteer. It is important to have a person in each of the board positions as it makes the workload much easier – but does not exclude all of us from stepping up and offering to take on a project or two. The District 7 Convention will be held in Port Alberni May 2026 so begin looking at your delegates and nominations for elections. New people often brings new ideas and that in turns brings new life into all groups. I look forward to meeting many of you at the Convention. Check with your lodge officers on update information from the Host Committee. I have been advised the Committee is looking for prizes to hold a District-wide raffle so get in touch with them to let them know what you can donate and then help sell the tickets to family and friends once they are out.

If you have questions or need information, please contact me and I will provide what I can or direct you to someone who might have the answer. Our District Board is also a good resource for many matters so keep in touch. Have a wonderful fall and enjoy all the beautiful bounty of the harvests! Tomatoes grew very well so I am preparing lots of pasta sauce for the winter.

Fraternally, Gloria Benazic

Editor's Message

It looks like everyone enjoyed a good summer. All the photos are taken in the summer as were Heritage Camp photos, There was some extra space as a couple of lodges did not send a report for this issue so I put Heritage photos all together on page 8. I didn't have room for the names but it's easy to see everyone had a very good time.

It's hard to believe it's almost Thanksgiving! Summer always seems to go so fast. The wildfires didn't get too bad this summer although we all probably had a few smokey days.

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and of course, fun for the children who are looking forward to Halloween!

Check out: Sons of Norway www.sofn.com ; District 7 webpage www.sofn7.com ; Facebook "Sons of Norway District 7" and "Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group"

Unni Hadden, Editor

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The Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada accept tax deductible donations from Sons of Norway members and others living in Canada.

Please check out our new website:

www.sonfic.ca for more information including donation and application forms for bursaries and grants.

Please make cheques payable out to:

SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION IN CANADA
and mail to: 40 Brazeau Crescent SW, Calgary, AB
T2W 072 or see online donation info for e-transfers

Lodge Updates

Sleipner Lodge 8

Vancouver, B.C.

Hi everyone. It's been a busy summer for our park at Hatzic. Many improvements have been done. Now we can lie back and enjoy the fruits of our labor.

There is a wonderful new light at the entrance to the park as well as extensive electrical work has been done in the trailer area.



Flag raising at Heritage Camp

the ducks were moving faster this year.

Canada Day parade, Chili Cook-off was followed by Piper Down playing in the gazebo.

In August we hosted Heritage Camp again. All events were a big success. On Labor Day Saturday there was a potluck dinner followed by Valley Fyre playing in the gazebo.

On Sept 13 there was line dancing les-

sons at the park and on Sept 20 there was a western themed event at the park.

In July the Border Festival was held at Peace Arch Park. It was a lot of fun. I wish more of our members would show up for this important event. On a sad note Vaughn Hagen, the treasurer of the Border Festival Organizing Committee, passed away. A great loss for us that knew him.

Ollie, our park caretaker, thinks that the park's John Deere Gator could not outrun a bear if it became necessary!

Labor Day potluck dinner and dancing to Valley Fyre was a success.

Oct 17. Seterskveld Dinner.

Nov 02. Welcome to Norway.

Nov 20. Lodge meeting.

Dec 06. Christmas Dinner.

Your's truly, Larry.

Varden Lodge 18

New Westminster, B.C.

Greetings! I hope you had a wonderful summer. We at Varden Lodge certainly did, and it was busy too. Starting off there was the Mid-summer Festival. We manned a booth at the festival for Sons of Norway. People did stop by and



Rick & Tania Jacobsen playing Kubb at Border Festival

There is new sand in the beach volleyball court as well. The new sand seems to attract kids. They sit in it, roll in it, toss it at each other. What's with kids and sand?

In July we had Duck Races in the creek. the first one since the work was done on the creek. It seems that

Border Festival Royalty opening their envelopes



Susan Strang, Varden President, wearing her bunad at the Normanna Care Home Garden party.

looked at the beautiful display of crafts, maps and audio-visuals of Heritage Camp. Hopefully, we did a good job of promoting our organization and left people with a good feeling.

Then there was the Border Festival. We went to Peace Arch Park to have a picnic with our American counterparts. People played a few rousing games of Kubb, ate delicious deserts and generally had a good time. Personally, I was glad to see the Lind family and along with them cheer on Kristie Lind as our Lodge Queen. She did not become the Bor-



Members of Varden Lodge gathered for a picnic to celebrate the lodge's 114th Anniversary and to award membership pins and certificates.



der Festival Queen but we still think she did a lovely job of representing Varden Lodge.

Then a week later was our lodge's 114th Anniversary picnic. The weather was wonderful and we enjoyed ourselves. Additionally, we congratulated Helen Mosdell on the eightieth anniversary

Helen Mosdell with her Certificate for 80 years of membership in Varden Lodge. SofN Headquarters does not have an 80 year membership pin, so the certificate had to do.



of her joining Sons of Norway. She has been a member for so long that we had to make her a special certificate as Head Office does not have anything for such a membership that long.

Then in August there was Heritage Camp. Twenty-two of our members, whether young or old, attended. Special thanks to Karen Stainton, Susan Strang, Jayden Britt, Cian and Nerissa Beeby for teaching. Most of our members were in the Troll Clan which had the most points and the best flag. However, all the teams were good sportsman and fun was had by all. What a good way to finish off the summer.

Lastly, Varden's September meeting is on the ninth and our October meeting is on the fourteenth.

*Krista Solie,
Director & Publicity*

President Susan Strang awards Varden Lodge Youth Director, Karen Stainton, with 25 year membership pin and Certificate.

North Star Lodge 63 Nanaimo, B.C

Our "Welcome Back" lodge meeting was held on September 8 with our annual fall supper supplied by the lodge. Dinner started at 5:45 with a buffet of Chinese food.

After supper we had our usual business meeting discussing events and issues that happened over the summer as well as attending to the business of the lodge. Judy Hyslop was the event leader for September.

Liv Dahl and Linda Harvey presented a new program that will be implemented during the coming months. We call it "TEAM NORWAY". I had handouts for all describing the program. The intention is to have more members active, presenting Norwegian topics in a fun and interesting way. The topics consist of Modern Society, Geography and Ethnic History and Traditions. Of course, this will all pertain to Norway. The "Framework

handout” helped the members understand this endeavour and also provided ideas and information on each topic. Being a member of TEAM NORWAY contributes to the fun and the building of information for the betterment of the members of the lodge.

We continue to pass the bucket around in support of Fairview School’s breakfast and lunch program. Our contribution to that feeds children who regularly go to school hungry. Bringing toonies or paper to stuff the bucket helps feed hungry children! I highly recommend this project for all the Sons of Norway lodges. You would be surprised at how many children go hungry.

*Linda Harvey
Publicity*

Rondane Lodge 71 Prince George, B.C.

Our Summer activities began with our 17th Mai celebrations at President Anna’s Murch Lake Paradise. Over two dozen members and friends came out and enjoyed a pleasant day celebrating the Norwegian Constitution and sharing the ways we celebrate this date here in Canada and in Norway.

The program for the day included awarding 70 Year Pin to Elsa Aase and 60 Year Pins to Egil Lindquist and Edna Rouleau. All three, along with many others, have assisted our Lodge and our members very well – thank you all! This day could not be complete without an exceptional pot luck supper followed by some more visiting.

On Saturday June 21st, a

slightly larger group again gathered at Murch Lake to enjoy the longest daylight day of the year. While we could not use the traditional midsummer bonfire, due to dry forest conditions, we enjoyed visiting and sharing stories. This was also a great time to check out the flower and vegetable gardens that Anna and Brent had worked on since early spring.

At Anna and Brent’s invitation some participants stayed overnight by the Lake in their RV’s.

But our June celebrations were not quite complete! On Saturday, June 28, well over 100 people gathered at the Lindquist residence to celebrate Egil’s 95th Birthday. The ‘crowd’ included Egil’s family from near and far, former work mates in the construction industry, many of our Lodge members, a very interesting local Motorcycle group (who have developed a great interest in restoring Egil’s 1934 Harley-Davidson motorbike). This was such a memorable event for so many.

As plans were made for the celebrations, the family asked me to share my thoughts of the many years that I have known Egil: I am honored to have this opportunity to say a few words to a great friend who Gerry and I have shared many times with for well over half a century.

“Egil, in your own way, you have always shown your character through your Dedication, Generosity and Memories! My memories with you centre on Norway and our Nordic activities, and yes, happenings around



Summer Solstice June 21 / 25 L-R Anna Mytting, Joan Lemky & Kirsten Brawn



"The day concluded with our traditional midsummer bonfire as we enjoyed visiting and sharing stories with our friends."

Sons of Norway activities.

We have had social activities for all seasons, working together preparing for Smørgasbords, 17th of May celebrations, Midsummers at the Lake and other cultural and social events. Sometimes our Six Mile Lake lodge needed repair works, other times someone had to ‘man the broom’, then there was setting up tables and chairs followed by take-

downs. Many of us would take part in that, and you were always there, most often leading us on to success. For so many of us, those memorable get-togethers hosted by Bjørg and you, are not forgotten!

Then skiing comes to mind – from the early 70’s at our Six Mile Lake Lodge and on Tabor Mountain, and to our current local winter showcase of trails

and facilities, you showed us how to use them and enjoy them. We are all so thankful for that!

In consideration of your great nature, it is not hard to understand your solid relationship with your family and friends. While I speak of the close friendship we have with you, your close ties with others including former workers and more recently your motorcycle group remains very real."

Throughout the years, Gerry and I had so many visits with you and Bjørg, all joyful and memorable. These highlights include our visits with you in Isfjorden.

Thank you Egil for sharing your time and good nature with so many of us. It is such a pleasure to have this opportunity to celebrate this Milestone Birthday with you. While this is a good time to think about our past, we are also looking forward to many more handshakes, pats-on-the-back, hugs and great memories.

**Happy 95th Birthday,
Gratulerer Med Dagen
Egil. Most Sincerely,
Gerry and Tore.**

In August, nine of our Lodge Members took part in the 2025 D7 Heritage Camp. They were President Anna and Brent Horrocks and Granddaughter Adeline, and Pettersen families of Kevin, Jacqui, Kai, Max, Gerry and Tore. Four of the members, Gerry, Kevin, Kai and Max, took woodcarving, an activity they had all taken before and enjoy. All of us had a great time and took part in many activities, especially meeting and spending time with so many good friends.

As we read this, we will be well into our Fall Activity programs with Ladies Auxil-

iary and Lodge Meetings. We will also have had our Lutfisk Social – at Murch Lake. For some, we can now plan for good snow conditions and perhaps some skiing.

Hilsen,
Tore Pettersen

Dawson Creek Lodge 79

Dawson Creek, B.C.

Welcome back everyone. Summer is over and we are heading into Fall and another year of events. We had a nice break and enjoyed our summer. For us here in Dawson Creek and the area, it has been so dry. Wildfires have been all around us it seems, but so far we have been fortunate, there hasn't been any close by. Our summer was enjoyed by all. There were holidays, camping, picnics, family events, reunions,



Members enjoy a game of Crokinole at our June picnic

80th and 50th birthdays parties, graduations, and of course our Fall Fair and Rodeo.

We ended in June with our annual picnic and BBQ. As always it was a good turnout. At this event, we

drew the winning ticket for our annual raffle, this year we decided on a 50/50 draw ticket. I think it was a good decision.

Our winner was local, so that was very nice. This yearly raffle is a good



We have a winner! Shirley Grayston and President Randy Carlstad drawing the winning ticket and the winner was a local resident.

fundraiser for our lodge.

After a good summer we will be starting in September with our appreciation supper on September 8th at a local restaurant. This will be a catch up for all, after a busy summer. We are all looking forward to supper.

October will get us into the usual business of the lodge and plans for Christmas. This year has really flown by.

We hope all of you had a good summer and look forward to the coming events of your lodge. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the ones we have lost and their families.

School has begun again for the year and I found this cute little story.

What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree? If you cut classes, no one can call your parents.

Until Next Time;
Loretta Pratt, Publicity

Viking Lodge 81

Surrey, B.C.

On June 5, we held our members meeting at Tynehead Hall. Our theme was "Summertime". The hall was decorated accordingly and we were encouraged to play some games as a start to summer. We welcomed 21 members and had a delicious lunch of open faced sandwiches and desserts.

We decided the Lodge would provide a donation by way of raffle tickets to the Border Picnic which was held on July 13th. Unfortunately, because of concerns with regard to crossing the Border, no one from our Lodge attended but Susan Strang from Varden Lodge was kind enough to take our raffle ticket stubs to the event. "Subsequently, we



found that there were no winnings for our Lodge which seemed fitting, all things considered."

We hope that some of our members were able to take part in the Scandinavian Festival which was held on

June 21st and 22nd at the Scandinavian Centre.

During the summer, the SON under its Crossing 200 banner, has been involved in promoting the travels of the sailing ship, Restauration which set sail on July 4, 2025 from Stavanger, Norway for New York City. Some of our members have been watching its progress and will look forward to its arrival on October 9th.

Myrna Latval, our pianist and Cultural Director, provided us with pictures of the recent Garden Party held at Normanna. "Normanna" is a non-profit, 100 bed long-term care community in Burnaby, B.C. owned and operated by the Norwegian Old People's Home Association. Myrna is a Board member and the Ambassador. In the garden area, Normanna has just completed a lovely water feature including a bridge which adds a peaceful setting for the residents. There are photos with this article.

We were going to meet in September but due to the ageing of several of our members, who unfortunately are not well, it was decided to postpone that meeting and meet, instead, on Thursday, October 2nd about 11:30 am. Prior to our business meeting, we will hopefully have one or more of our members come forth and give a little talk on their family's emigration to North America.

Ha det bra!
Dolores Fossum,
Publicity





Heritage Camp fun 2025!

