

SynNor Brevet

Published monthly by

Synnøve-Nordkap

Lodge #1-008

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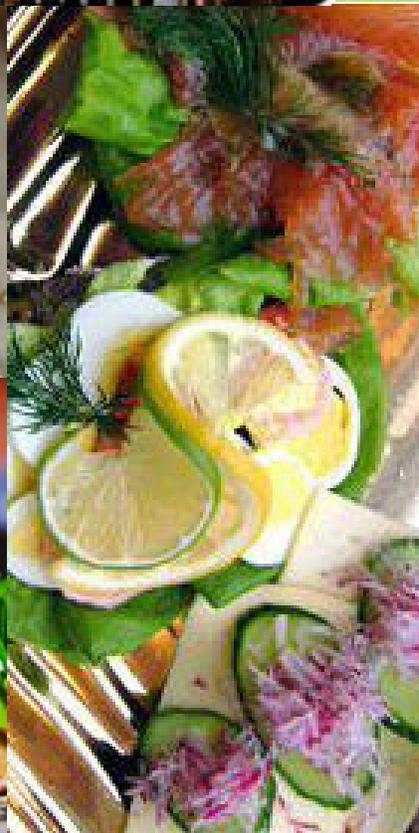


District 1 Family Lodge
of the Year 2006, 2008

March 2011

Number 11:3

Voice Messages: 651-762-7872



Join us on Tuesday, March 8 for a cooking demonstration by Nancy Petersen of Ingebretsen's Scandinavian Gifts and Meat Market. The topic will be Scandinavian Appetizers, which should be of interest to all!

Scandinavian Culture and News

A VOYAGE LIKE NO OTHER - THE HURTIGRUTEN HISTORY

Right to the heart of Norway and its people, the Norwegian Coastal Voyage or Hurtigruten, as it's known locally, carries passengers, mail and supplies to over 30 ports along the Norwegian Coastline, most never visited by commercial cruise liners. With daily departures, the Hurtigruten journey begins in Bergen and travels north across the Arctic Circle and beyond as it meanders through the dramatic splendors of the coast. As you weave in and out of narrow inlets, you will sail along some of the world's most beautiful coastline, nearly always in sight of land, and discover what makes this voyage unique.

Many of the ports of call are tranquil hamlets on tiny islands whose inhabitants depend for their very existence on the Hurtigruten ships to bring the communities essential supplies and reunite families and friends. Each Hurtigruten ship has a distinct style and character and no two journeys will ever be the same as the changing seasons, climate, flora and fauna, local people you meet and the friendly English speaking crew, make each Hurtigruten voyage a different experience.

THE HURTIGRUTEN STORY

When seasoned Norwegian Sea Captain Richard With came up with the idea of starting a year-round steam ship service to link northern and southern Norway, the local Governor asked his associates, "Is this captain a dreamer, or can it be done?"

It was the late nineteenth century, and though the Industrial Revolution had brought all kinds of comforts and technologies to Oslo and the ports of the south, the region beyond Bergen was still seen as a remote wilderness hemmed in by dramatic landscapes. Richard With's proposal for a service in daylight hours, from Trondheim to Hammerfest on a weekly basis, bringing mail, passengers and cargo was audacious enough, but he went further, claiming that in time, he would be able to sail this distance both day and night, both summer and winter. This was unheard of as the first complete map of the Norwegian coast had yet to be made and no pilot could possibly know all the topographical challenges.

The rugged landscape north of Bergen had for centuries only been accessible from the sea. From before the time of the Vikings, ships had sailed along the coast, exploiting the channels and harbors - kept free of ice by the Gulf Stream - in search of the best fishing grounds.

The route became a lively trading channel, as boats burdened first with dried fish and later flour, syrup and sugar provided isolated communities with commerce and provisions. The delivery of mail was the initial reason for the establishment of what was then known as the Coastal Express.

For ninety years, the Coastal Express was the most important communication link between north and south. It is from these times that the name Hurtigruten dates, translated as 'fast route', this was quite literally the quickest route to north Norway. Each ship had its own post office, its own stamp and its own post officer on board - indeed it was only in 1983 that mail delivery was transferred to planes and vehicles. Up until then, the Coastal Express was simply the most reliable of the alternatives, known for arriving on time all year round, regardless of weather conditions.

This symbiosis between the ships and the people may well account for the affection many Norwegians have for the route. Ask a coastal resident to tell you about Hurtigruten and they sometimes become emotional. The history and tradition of the route, and the epic endeavor of the captains and crews who have helped steer so many coastal communities into the modern age, have never been regarded with anything but admiration.

From: CoastalCruises.No kv

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

Hilsen på kjære medlemmer av Synnøve-Nordkap!

During the past days, the sun has been rising just north of the telephone on the south side of our garage. Spring is close at hand. Flowers will soon be bursting forth and it will also be time to welcome new members to our lodge.

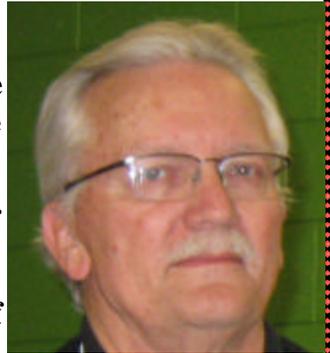
A conservative goal of adding 20 new members during 2011 has been set. During the next month, you, dear members, are being asked to seek out prospective members and bring them to the April membership dinner. You are also asked to inform them of lodge activities, telling them why you are a member of Synnøve-Nordkap. The lodge brochure is an excellent reference, as is the Brevet, both the hardcopy and the online versions. Invite a friend or acquaintance or co-worker to come share the fun of our lodge!

My apologies for the technical difficulties with the film at the last lodge meeting. As Grandpa Ole would have said, "Så går det her i Amerika!" There did seem to be a lot of laughter from the audience as we viewed the story of the Norwegian bachelor farmer.

We will still be in the kitchen in March as our program will be live from Ingebretsen's when we learn how to produce and consume artfully arranged, visually appealing and savory Scandinavian treats.

And please think about doing one or more of the Cultural Skills activities sponsored by Sons of Norway.

Ha det bra! Ron



We extend our sympathy to lodge member **Suzan Hurlbut** and her family on the death of her husband, Robert, on February 6. He was a Lutheran pastor and pastoral counselor for many years.

Meet the Member

Rod Hale filled out a slip at the USA Soccer Cup for a drawing and won a year's membership in Sons of Norway. That was the start of a symbiotic relationship between Rod and Synnøve-Nordkap lodge. He has made acquaintances and friendships with fellow members, who enjoy his understated sense of humor.

Along with the fellowship, Rod benefits from the interesting programs presented by the lodge. In fact, he contributed one of the most popular programs when he came up with the idea of having members present biographies of a Norwegian ancestor.

On our board of directors, Rod has stepped up to fill in as director of scholarships, as well as foundations, where he helps raise support for the Sons of Norway Foundation programs, which makes funding available for lodge projects. He also organizes the lodge's scholarship program which gives financial aid to college students and to language camp attendees.

Rod's interest in sports lends itself well to his position as our lodge's Director of Sports. We have enjoyed the walks through Swede Hollow and around Lake Como. Rod hopes that more members will participate in upcoming events, such as bowling, golf, orienteering, Nordic walking and shoe-shoeing.

Thank you, Rod, for your excellent example of contribution to the success of Synnøve-Nordkap.



Lodge News

Board Meeting Minutes, February 1, 2011

Attendees: Ron Stow, Sharon Amann, Patty Carlson, Rod Hale, Sue Halvorson, Trudi Johnson-Richards, Sharon Kalmes, Mary Beth and David Mutchler, Jeane Pearson, Kathy Stevens, and Susan Stow.

Old Business

Rod Hale reported on the walk around Lake Como. Susan Stow gave a report on the Junior Lodge's participation in the St. Paul Winter Carnival Parade.

New Business

Ron Stow, Kathy Stevens and Jeane Pearson will be attending the Zone 2 Officer's Workshop. Logistics for the February lodge meeting were discussed. Rod Hale reported that there were 2 applications for language camp scholarships. Jeane Pearson gave an update on future lodge programs.

The board formulated the following goals for the lodge in 2011:

1. **Increase new members by 20 in 2011.**
2. **Retain current members by staying in contact with them through phone calls or postcards to encourage meeting attendance.**
3. **Promote Norwegian culture in our community through media and existing museums.**
4. **Focus on inventive Norwegian programming to appeal to all ages.**
5. **Promote and expand member participation in the Sons of Norway cultural skills units.**
6. **As a board or lodge, solve the newsletter editorial staff problem.**

Submitted by: Sue Halvorson, Secretary

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 1 at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W. side of Maplewood Mall) in the community program room.

Lodge Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2011

54 lodge members and guests attended the February lodge meeting.

The lodge welcomed guests John McGuire and Ben-Richard McGuire.

The minutes were approved as printed in the January Brevet. Mary Beth Mutchler gave the treasurer's report. Greg Hovland gave a brief talk about scheduling financial reviews.

Ron Stow thanked Sharon Amann for her service to the lodge for the past two years as president.

Ron stated that the lodge's 2011 goals will have a focus on bringing in new members and retaining current members.

Lisa Mutchler, Mary Beth Mutchler and Bob Barduson are celebrating birthdays in February. Millie Hartleben is celebrating her 58th anniversary. Frank Sherman won the door prize.

The lodge enjoyed watching the DVD Kitchen Stories, a humorous story about bachelor Norwegian farmers.

The board members provided popcorn, candy and pop as movie snacks.

Submitted by Sue Halvorson, Secretary

Genealogy Group Meeting Minutes, Saturday February 5, 2011 at Roseville Library

We had 14 members attend, showing clear interest in the Cultural Skills Unit on Genealogy as set forth by the Sons of Norway. However, Joanne Nordale's presentation on this unit soon caused many questions to be raised about how out of date it seems to be. As written, few of us have interest in pursuing the genealogy medals. In fact, we decided to send a letter or email to the appropriate people with our observations and an offer to help modernize this unit. Susan Stow has a candidate letter for our next meeting, which will again be at the Roseville Library on March 5 at 10:00. We'll discuss our cultural skills unit email as well as some good things to see when traveling to Norway. Optional lunch follows.

Everyone is welcome to attend our meetings, which will be announced in the Brevet. Interested members should contact Cathie Reasoner at 651-646-8483 or harrie1030@netzero.com for more information.

Calendar of Coming Events

Saturday Feb. 26	<u>"Genealogy for Beginners"</u> Mount Olive Lutheran Church See box in lower right corner for more info.	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday Mar. 1	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting</u> Maplewood Library conference room; 3025 South-lawn Dr. (W side Maplewood Mall)	7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Saturday Mar. 5	<u>Genealogy Group Meeting at Roseville Library</u> in the Community Meeting room just inside main door. Agenda is on previous page bottom.	10:00 AM to Noon
Tuesday Mar. 8	<u>Synnove-Nordkap Social Event</u> Ingebretson's Cooking Demonstration Appetizers - See cover page for more info.	7:00 PM
Saturday March 19	<u>Lodge Walk</u> Downtown St. Paul: Landmark Center, Central Library and Mickey's Diner	10:00 AM
Tuesday April 5	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting</u> Maplewood Library conference room; 3025 South-lawn Dr. (W side Maplewood Mall)	7:00 PM To 9:00 PM
Tuesday April 12	<u>Synnove-Nordkap Social Event</u> Lodge Membership Dinner with Entertainment Reservations are a must! Catered by Magnolias - see next page for info.	6:30 PM
Thur. May 5 - Sun. May 8	<u>Festival of Nations</u> We will again have the Norwegian booth. See announcement on change in parking at lower right of this page.	

March Lodge Walk

March 19th 10:00 AM for a walk around downtown St. Paul, including stops at the Landmark Center, Central Library and Mickey's Diner. We should carpool to minimize parking expense, so call me if you're going. We'll start out at the Science Museum.
- Rod Hale, 651-636-4284

Norwegian Language Classes

- (1) "Norwegian In Five Minutes A Month" series. Class 6:30-7:00 PM Tuesdays before lodge meetings. March 8: Lessons 20-21. Future date: May 10.
 - (2) "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" Class 6:30-8:00 PM Thursdays, 1/month. Sun Ray Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., between McKnight Rd. & Ruth St. Date: March. 10: Chapter 20, p. 340. Future dates: Apr. 14 and May 12
- 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.

Mindekirken Events::

924 E. 21st St.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
(612) 874-0716

March 6 - 1:00 PM

Concert by Cantus, one of Norway's leading ensembles. The ensemble was founded in 1986 and resides in Trondheim. Cantus consists of 30 female singers between the ages of 20 and 40. Suggested donation is \$10.00.

March 25 7:00 PM

Film, "The Bothersome Man", free

April 16 9:00 -1:00 PM

Norwegian Genealogy: Working with Census and Immigration Records", \$25

Tuesday Open House

Mar. 1: Bill Halverson: Leland Sateren
Mar.15: Betty Kinsey: Postcards
Mar. 29: Jim Pederson: Hans Nielsen Hauge

Ingebretsen's Events:

1601 East Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(612) 729-9333

March 19: Saami Friendship Bracelet-Making 10-5, \$110
Mar. 10, 17, 24 and 31: Intermediate Hardanger, 9:30-11:30 \$45
Mar. 19 & 26, Apr. 2: Drop-spindle Spinning, 11-1, \$30

Minnesota Orienteering Club

Apr. 3: Tamarack Nature Center, White Bear Lake, noon
Apr. 30: Lake Elmo Park, Reserve, Lake Elmo, noon.

Festival of Nations Parking

There is a change in Parking because of construction on the Lafayette Bridge. They have offered parking at River Center Parking Lot Directly across on Kellogg Blvd for \$5.

The \$5 tickets need to be ordered in advance and paid for in one lump sum by the lodge. There will be no refunds on the parking ticket.

Lodge News & Upcoming Events

Don't Miss Art Bjornjeld and Char Bostrom at our April Membership Dinner

What does Sons of Norway and Synnove-Nordkap lodge in particular have to offer you or a prospective member? Our Membership Dinner on Tuesday, April 12 at 6:30 PM will answer that question.

Magnolia's Restaurant will again cater this event. The menu will feature chicken Kiev with wild rice, tossed salad, green beans, rolls and butter, dessert and beverage, all for only \$9.00. And, as in past years, if you bring a prospective member, both of your dinners will be free. Reservations are a must, and should be made by calling the lodge phone number at 651-762-7872 by Friday, April 8. Payment and reservations can be made at our March meeting also. More information will follow in our April newsletter.

Art Bjornjeld grew up in a family with all the aunt, uncles, and cousins playing Scandinavian and country music at every family gathering. Art began performing Scandinavian music in 1980 with Dick Rees. Since 1992 he has been playing with LeRoy Larson's Minnesota Scandinavian Ensemble and Ole Olsons Oldtime Orkestra. Art plays fiddle, accordion, and guitar, sings and tells some mighty funny jokes. Char began playing Scandinavian fiddle in 1981, meeting Art at Dick Rees' Sunday Scandinavian social dances at the Good Templar Hall in Minneapolis. She specializes in playing tunes for the many styles of dances from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland and plays for dance groups and workshops. She also plays with Ole Olson's Oldtime Orkestra.



NEWSFLASH!!

Our lodge membership directory has recently been updated. It will be available at the March meeting and thereafter. We are not mailing it out to save postage costs. You may have one copy per household. The new directory will also be available on our web site, and will be password protected for reasons of privacy. You will be notified by e-mail of the password and future updates.

Our lodge college scholarship form has been updated for 2011 and is out on our web site. The application form is due to Rod Hale by May 15, so this would be a good time to begin to work on it.

February Junior Lodge Update

What better way to get our St. Paul Sons of Norway Lodge name out in the community than being part of the 125th Winter Carnival King Boreas Grande Day Parade. The Pioneer Press estimated that in excess of 27,500 hearty souls braved the weather to see part of “The Coolest Celebration on Earth”. Who knows how many checked out the televised version on SPNN? It is one of our lodge goals to have a more visual presence in the community.

Preliminary work involved designing and ordering the new lodge banners used on each side. Thanks to Dave Mutchler, the colorful flag design and our lodge name attracted attention. The float was borrowed from Vennekretsen Lodge in Anoka in exchange for a program to be given by the Peer Gynt Dancers on April 11th. Ron Stow attached four of the children’s Viking kick sleds on to the float deck for kids to hold on or sit, which fit in with the Norwegian stabbur on the back.

Parade organizers gave us line-up number 49 off 7th and Kittson. When we checked in to the line-up, we had been moved to number 75. Driving over to that 75th slot, we were amazed to find that we had been preempted by a gigantic baked potato float in our spot! Next we were directed to a side street between the blaring Vulcan fire truck, and the KDWB radio station blast. It was difficult to decorate on the right side of the float because of the huge restless Percheron horses tied to their wagon perilously close to us.

Our dancers and parents met at Galtier Plaza as a designate warming house. We ran through the two dances Tre Klappdans and Klappdans that we would do when there was a pause in the parade. Those kids who danced most of the way were: Emma Steinmetz, Sydney Spreck, Celeste and Carl Tomlinson, Leigh Boettner-Johnson, Mae Hovland, Collin and Claudia Stow. On the float waving Norwegian flags were: Soren and Sten Hoiien, Nora Steinmetz, Emily Fjestad, Nola Hovland, and Charlotte Stow. Thanks especially to parents and grandparents who walked the parade route and handed out our lodge brochures: Kimberly Johnson, Trudi Johnson-Richards, Jenn and Peter Hovland, Nancy Fjestad, Kari Hoiien, Jennifer and Susan Stow. Special thanks to our sound technician Dave Mutchler and our float driver Ron Stow.

Godt Nytt År !

-Susan Stow



Editor’s note: There are many more pictures of our float and our dancers on our web site, including a short movie of the float and dancers. See the Activities link at the bottom of the green box.



Approachability – A key to making our lodge joinable

Ideas from the International Sons of Norway Convention

What do you see when you see people? What is your best practice for approaching potential lodge members in a non-threatening way? Some of the break-out sessions at the International Convention of Sons of Norway offered good advice to all lodges. Many of the tips were ones already in place at Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge.

A smile is always welcome, for sure, but even more than that, really listening is essential. Showing interest in another person's activities can indicate to them that we really care about them. Making a person feel essential to the group is really key.

At lodge we have talked about having hosts sit with guests or new members to acclimate them to our activities, or to answer questions they might have and introduce them to others at the meeting. We have very welcoming greeters in Joanne and John Nordale, but we need some other host volunteers to step into this additional important role. The host volunteers could be different people each month.

If you introduce a guest or a member to each other, add a quirky tidbit that will get conversation going. Maybe you know someone in the lodge with a common interest so you could facilitate that connection between the guest, a new member or a long-time member.

Scott Ginsberg, a keynote speaker at the International Sons of Norway Convention, suggested that we GUSH when introducing people in lodge. My immediate reaction was that gushing is a totally un-Norwegian attribute. Naturally, I didn't raise my hand to point this out to him, not wanting to call attention to myself, a typical Norwegian response. Let's work on this in our own quiet way!

One approachability suggestion I thought was absolutely great, was to make time at the end of the meeting for "Good News" or "Brag Time". Members could prearrange to make a brief announcement at the microphone about happy family news, an accomplishment at work, news from relatives in Norway, or something upbeat to share. It was even suggested that the person making the announcement pay \$1 for the privilege, which could be set aside for the Sons of Norway Foundation.

When Rod Hale started the biography of your Norwegian ancestor project at lodge, who knew it would turn out to be such fun? This was a new way to get acquainted with our members. It added spice to many discussions after some of the biographies were shared at our meetings and made individuals more approachable.

Synnøve-Nordkap needs to work on a three-year plan of membership recruitment and retention. The invitation comes first. Invite neighbors, church friends and those you know are of Norwegian heritage. Invite people of all ages. Invite others who might enjoy a specific lodge program we have. Invite those with children ages 7 – 18 to our junior lodge meetings. Invite people who belong to other Norwegian groups, because they are already receptive to keeping Norwegian traditions. Secondly, caring about new members is important. Show your caring by offering a ride, sitting with them at lodge meetings, call or send a note, or e-mail about upcoming events they might like. Show your caring by becoming acquainted with their Norwegian roots, even suggest our language lessons before lodge or our monthly genealogy group. Thirdly, we need to engage our new members in all our activities. There is always room for new ideas in an organization. Engage new members in working at Festival of Nations, planning a program, or serving refreshments with others at our lodge meetings.

Our St. Paul Sons of Norway lodge has a lot to offer! Synnøve-Nordkap has an approachable membership with interesting activities. Let's market our great program to the city and surrounding suburbs. Get the word out!

Invite – Care – Engage!

- Susan Stow

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 Gene Hanson (Reviews added by Trudi Johnson-Richards)

Many people have read Per Petterson's first book **Out Stealing Horses** written in 2007. The New York Times named this book one of the ten best of the year. Now, a report states his new award winning novel **I Curse the River of Time** is also very good.

In **I Curse the River of Time** set in 1989, Petterson portrays 37 year old Arvid Jansen in the middle of a divorce. At the same time, Arvid's mother is diagnosed with cancer. Over the course of a few days, Arvid tries to find a new footing in life, while all the patterns are changing with staggering speed.

Some have asked if Arvid Jansen is his stand-in. Petterson states "Arvid is my emotional stuntman; he is not my alter-ego; some pages could relate to myself".

To quote from page 56 of the book, Arvid Jansen relates to one of Mao's poems: "Fragile images of departure, the village back then I curse the river of time; thirty-two years have passed."

Petterson draws from historical figures, writes and within the struggle of his personal and family life for this novel.

Reviews: "Petterson's atmospheric prose — melancholy, tempered, and terse — is the real force keeping the various plots in orbit." - The New Yorker.

"Per Petterson is a master at writing the spaces between people." - Susan Salter Reynolds, The Los Angeles Times.

"It sounds bleak, but instead it's rather dreamy and tenuous, like the thoughts one has in the brief moment between sleeping and waking. Clean sentence after clean sentence, Petterson conveys both the melancholy and the demi-pleasurable sensation of being fundamentally untethered. Petterson's canny use of narrative leverage is one of the ways he achieves this quality." - Stacey D'Erasmus, The New York Times Review.

**SAVE USED POSTAGE STAMPS
FOR TUBFRIM**

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



Benefit News

Capitalize on the New Tax Law

Take advantage of low rates while they last.

President Obama and Congress have approved a two year extension to all the Bush-era tax cuts. This means that the **2011 federal IRS tax rates** will be the same as 2010 rates

Lower payroll tax – On incomes up to \$106,800, there is a 2% reduction (from 6.2% to 4.2%) on an employee's share of the Social Security portion of the FICA tax. For someone who makes \$60,000, they could take home an additional \$1,200 a year in 2011.

Now that you know your paychecks will be a little fatter this year and that your tax rates won't increase for at least two years, it's a good time to decide what to do with the extra cash and to figure out how to make the most of your tax-saving opportunities.

For more information on the new tax laws and how to benefit from them, schedule a complementary Sons of Norway financial review.

Greg Hovland

**Financial Benefits Counselor
651-429-2304**

**ltcfinancial@msn.com
www.LtcFinancialServices.com**

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



Upcoming Activities

**Ingebretsens Cooking Demonstration - Tues. Mar. 8
Lodge Walk Downtown St. Paul - Sat. March 19
Membership Dinner - Tues. April 12**

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.