



FÆRDER GLIMT

FÆRDER LODGE #109 SONS of NORWAY



February

Now in our 101st Year!

2012 Issue 2

**Established Jan. 6, 1911
Meets at 3 PM on the
2nd Sunday of the month
(except July and August) at
the Danish Athletic Club
735 - 65th St. Brooklyn, NY**

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Fra Presidenten,



Greetings - As we all sail into the new year I hope it will be as 'good as / better than' last year for us all.

As we are all aware there will be changes for the lodge that we can't control. I am sure we will all come together and make any new situation easy to accept and look at it as a new and fun beginning for the lodge.

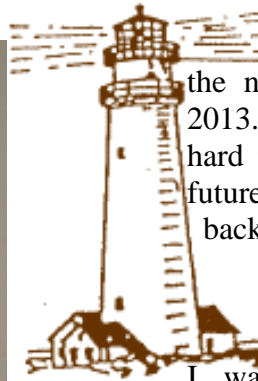
See you at our next meeting!

Barbara

AROUND the LODGE



Officers for 2012-2013



Else Liebermann congratulates all the newly installed officers for 2012 - 2013. She said: "I know you will work hard for the lodge to continue in to the future. It really feels strange to stay in the background without a position. But after 43 years it is time to retire and let younger people with fresh ideas take over.

I want to thank everyone for your friendship. Faerder Lodge has been my family, especially since Karl passed away in 1986. I am blessed with many good friends. I miss my friend Edith and our shopping trips to the mall. Happy New Year to all!"

Newly installed President Barbara Kristiansen would like to thank the members of our lodge for giving her the honor of being our President. She said that she hopes she can live up to the high standards set by the officers who preceded her.

Why is it that a year goes faster the older we get? We are "over the hill" as the saying goes, is that why? Down the hill we go, faster and faster, whatever happen to January? I get a shock every time I look on the calendar, even tried to put the brakes on, but you know what - they squeak. We had some plans to spend February in Florida to get away from the cold, planned to drive down. Well the plan fell apart as my better half got this thing called vertigo; in Norway they call it "Krystalsyken". I don't even like crystal and you have to have them in the ears, why not diamonds? I would drive any time if his ears were full of diamonds. We are in for 4 to 6 weeks of therapy and

another month in the cold. Antigua looks good in March, maybe.

Hope all our members are doing well, I know Solveig Birkeland is. She made the trip in to Brooklyn for New Years to celebrate her 90 birthday with her friend Reidunn Arntsen. Happy birthday and many more in the fast lane, way to go Solveig.

Eleanor Sagaard celebrated her 80th with a party with friends and family in December. On New Year's Eve, the big day, she danced the night away to the tunes of Guy Lombardo. Hey, was that this year or 30 years ago, I can't remember!!!

Johnny Petersen had a few trips to the hospital over the past 2 month, hopefully this is it and everything will be calm for awhile. Berit was "blessed" with a bad cold and shingles to top it off, all during the Holidays. It can only get better from now on, we pray.

We lost some dear members last year, Edith Rasmussen and Jorgen Karlsen. It is sad to see an empty chair around our tables and they will be missed. We do not want any sad news this year, we can only hope.

Congratulations to the new officers, we had a great time getting installed but was a little confused by this new short version. I don't want things to go to fast anymore, one step at the time. After all I only got to E-mail and Facebook in my late 60s. To everybody, write some news for me next time.

Until next time - let me know of any news happening in your lives, we will cry, pray and laugh with you. Whatever is happening we are in it together to support each other until Dovre falls. Stay well and see you all at our next meeting.
Gerd

A Century of Norwegian Independence

By Terje Leiren

During the 20th century, following its independence from Sweden, Norway changed from a poor, agricultural country to a model democracy possessing a vibrant

economy with an engaged if somewhat reluctant international presence.

AS THE 20TH CENTURY DAWNED FOR NORWAY, the population barely topped two million inhabitants. Life expectancy was at an all-time high at 48.7 years for men and 51.2 years for women. The lone university, the Royal Fredrik University in Kristiania (Oslo), had a faculty of 81, educating 1,400 students. Agriculture dominated the economy, yielding three times the amount of income brought in by shipping, fishing and timber. More than 800,000 Norwegians earned their living, directly or indirectly, from the country's agriculture, twice the number engaged in Norway's nascent industries. Roads were narrow and often primitive. Horses dominated transportation, which was tied together by 950 posting stations. On average, Norwegians in 1900 had more in common with their Viking ancestors than they would with their great-grandchildren 100 years later.

The Union with Sweden was arguably the issue that had most dominated Norwegian political life in the final decades of the 19th century. In 1905, it was the only issue. Following 10 years of sparring, negotiations with Sweden over a separate Norwegian consular service had collapsed in late 1904. When King Oscar II vetoed the Storting's (Norway's parliament) subsequent bill establishing a separate Norwegian consular service on May 27, 1905, the government of Christian Michelsen resigned. King Oscar refused to accept it's resignations, stating that he could "not now form a new government." The Storting, having assumed the authority of the king, requested that the Michelsen government remain in a caretaker capacity. In response to the royal veto, however, Michelsen formulated an ingenious response.

By claiming that King Oscar was unable to form a government, Michelsen insisted the king had failed in his constitutional obligation to provide Norway with a government. As a result, Michelsen claimed that King Oscar had, in fact, abdicated as king. Consequently, if there is no king, there is no Union. On June 7, 1905, the Union dissolved on a legal technicality. To demonstrate, however, that there were no hard feelings toward the Bernadotte royal family, and that Norway's action was not revolutionary, Michelsen formulated an offer to invite a younger member of the Bernadotte family

to assume the vacant throne. Sweden, in turn, protested that Norway's unilateral act was illegal and a violation of the Act of Union, an agreement between the two countries signed in 1815 that outlined the procedure for disputes between them.

Although tensions were initially high and armed conflict a possibility, voices against war were prominently raised in both countries. King Oscar spoke forcefully against an armed conflict with Norway and several leading Swedish intellectuals and politicians publicly supported a peaceful resolution. Before they were willing to negotiate with Norway, however, the Swedish government insisted on some evidence that would show how the Norwegian public felt about the abrupt dissolution of the Union. If Swedes believed that Norwegians preferred to remain in the Union, they were sorely disappointed when the plebiscite of August 13 resulted in an overwhelming majority in favor of the dissolution—368,208 vs. 184.

Negotiations on the formal terms of dissolution took place in September, and when accepted by the legislatures of both countries in October, Norway was officially independent. The future form of government, which had been a hot topic of debate since the June 7 dissolution announcement, remained the principal issue yet to be resolved as the Norwegian winter approached. Prime Minister Michelsen, insisting that the monarchical constitution remain in effect and concerned that the Bernadotte offer would be rejected, sent Fridtjof Nansen to Copenhagen for

By a majority of three to one, Prince Carl of Denmark was elected to be King Haakon VII.

secret negotiations with the Danish prince Carl in hopes that he would agree to accept the Norwegian throne. Michelsen managed adroitly to marginalize republican agitation as he outmaneuvered its supporters at nearly every turn. At the insistence of Prince Carl, a vote on his candidacy was held in early November. By a majority of three to one, Norwegians agreed with their Prime Minister and elected Prince Carl of Denmark to be King Haakon VII of an independent Norway. His entry into a snowy Kristiania on November 25 was the culmination of an eventful year and the patriotic beginning of a new political reality for Norway.

With the Union issue behind it, Norwegian politics after 1905 retained a nationalist edge, but had to face new challenges in what Christian Michelsen modestly called, "a new workday." In addition to building a new Foreign Service from the bottom up, Norway faced several social and economic challenges as well. The dominance of the Liberal Party continued for another 15 years, largely because it was able to articulate a national democratic platform that emphasized government control of capital to maintain national control of Norway's natural and economic resources. A law passed in 1888 restricted foreign ownership of Norwegian property. However, it was poorly enforced. Mines, timberland and several waterfalls had fallen into the hands of non-Norwegian owners, wholly or partially, usually due to the lack of Norwegian capital. In 1906, Michelsen instituted a temporary ban on the purchase of waterfalls, mines and forests by non-Norwegians. In 1909, the Concession Law was passed by the parliament, thereby establishing the State's right to reclaim control over resources after a period of 60 to 80 years. This nationalist economic policy in regard to the country's natural resources resurfaced in the 1960s with the discovery of oil in the North Sea. Subsequently, negotiations with foreign oil companies were built on the foundations of 1909 to ensure that the Norwegian State maintained ultimate control of the resource.

THE YEARS LEADING UP TO WORLD WAR I ALSO SAW THE beginnings of the growth of the Labor movement and trade unions. Early supporters for welfare state legislation included radical elements of the Liberal Party, as well as the growing Labor Party, as they instituted such measures as compulsory conciliation and arbitration. The events of the World War and Norway's proclamation of neutrality re-energized Norwegian national feelings and patriotic support for increased state control of the economy. Labor, too, fell largely in line although the collapse of the Russian empire at the end of the war and the emergence of a revolutionary Soviet Union radicalized them significantly. In 1918, the Norwegian Labor Party proclaimed itself a "revolutionary class-war party," an emphasis on the class struggle that saw it align itself with the Communist Third International (Comintern) in 1919. With directives issued from Moscow

alienating nationalist feelings that seemed to characterize Norwegian socialists as much as the Conservatives, a small group of moderates established an alternative Social Democratic Party. The split in Labor would cost them an effective role in the parliament for several years. However, by the time of the elections in the autumn of 1927, Labor re-emerged as a strong parliamentary force winning 59 seats. Labor became the largest party, a position it would hold for the next 45 years.

King Haakon VII made his first decisive foray into party politics in the wake of the 1927 election when he, to the surprise of everyone, invited Labor to form a government. Advised against it by the other parties, the king had been a long-time observer of the political scene, and stuck to strict parliamentary procedure by asking the largest party to take office. Although the Labor government led by Christopher Hornsrud only lasted 18 days, it gave party members a taste of power and a realization that the parliamentary system could actually work for them.

By the 1930s, Norway was experiencing the effects of the world economic crisis which had begun with the collapse of the American stock market in October 1929. The contraction of world trade severely affected Norwegian shipping and export. Employment fell and by the end of 1932, nearly one half of trade union members were out of work. Industrial conflicts, strikes and lockouts dominated labor relations, and politics remained as divisive as ever with a string of minority governments that included Agrarians and Liberals. In 1933, a new right-wing party was launched by former Minister of Defense Vidkun Quisling, who made vague promises to solve the economic crisis and to end political party strife with a new national unity.

Led by the cautious Johan Nygaardsvold, in 1935, the Labor Party, joined with the Agrarians to support a policy of increased state subsidies for farmers in return for support for large-scale public works. Taking their cue from the success of the Swedish Labor Party, "Work for All" became the slogan for the new Nygaardsvold government. Increased taxes raised the burden on business and middle class incomes, but industrial relations eased as workers and employers alike worked to reduce strife and increase production. Health insurance was extended to include fisherman, seaman serving abroad, the blind and the disabled. An eight-hour

workday was extended to include farm workers. A small old-age pension was established and a system of unemployment insurance was made available.

A new sense of Norwegian cultural solidarity developed with the expansion of radio communication in the interwar years. Radio broadcasting was first heard in Norway in 1923 and, in 1925, the first regional stations were authorized. In 1933, the NRK (Norwegian State Broadcasting) state monopoly was established. Radio brought the heretofore distant and unfamiliar world into Norwegian homes in a totally new way in the 1930s.

No one expected Scandinavia to become a battlefield in the European war in 1939.

News about political, social and cultural issues became a part of the everyday for Norwegians as radio reached into the most isolated villages and contributed to an increasing sense of identification with the nation and its culture.

Norway played an active role on the world stage as well in the years following the Great War. An active membership in the League of Nations, especially through the work of Fridtjof Nansen, renowned Arctic explorer and statesman, who, with his work for war-ravaged refugees, gained a reputation as the "Saint of the League of Nations." Nansen probably competed with Roald Amundsen, the polar explorer, as the most famous Norwegian in the interwar years. Other Norwegians in these years played prominent roles in the League of Nations as well, including Francis Hagerup, Christian Lange and C.J. Hambro. While Norway joined loyally in the League's economic sanctions against aggressive nations such as Italy, even at the cost of her own exports, Labor Party leaders remained skeptical when it came to agreeing to larger military expenditures. In 1936 and until the outbreak of the war, however, the Nygaardsvold government reluctantly agreed to additional defense spending and increased military training. Nevertheless, in September 1939, the training and quality of equipment of the Norwegian armed forces was probably inferior to what it had been in August 1914. Be that as it may, no one expected Scandinavia to become a battlefield in the European war in 1939. That Norway became involved at all

probably had as much to do with serendipity as long-range deliberate planning.

World War II came to Norway, to a great extent, because of her geographic position as well as Germany's desire to deny bases to Britain. The German navy, too, sought bases that would give them access to the Atlantic after having suffered from the British blockade in the last war when their surface ships were mostly confined to the Baltic Sea. It was the "Altmark incident" on February 16, 1940, that started the deadly chain of events.

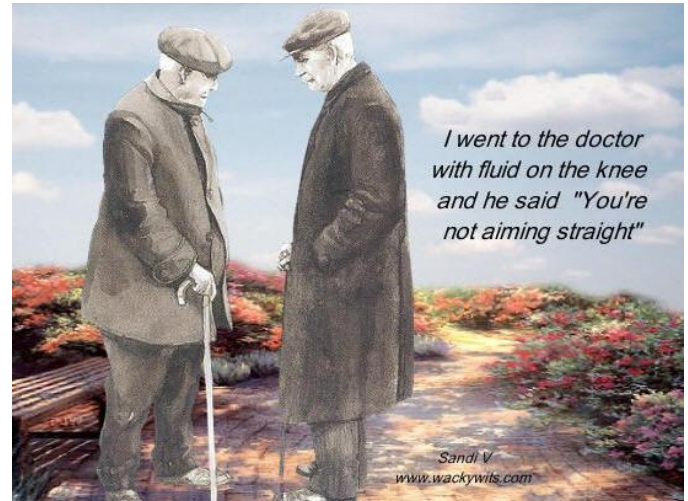
A former supply ship of the pocket battleship, *Graf Spee*, the *Altmark*, passed through neutral Norwegian waters on its way back to Germany with 299 British prisoners of war aboard. Norwegian authorities, fearing accusations of violating its neutral status, refused to search the ship when it stopped in Trondheim and Bergen. Before it could enter the Skagerrak on its way to Germany, however, British warships forced it into the narrow Jøssingfjord, boarded the ship and killed six German sailors in the process of freeing the British captives. Hitler was furious.

To be continued in the next issue of the Glimt.

Historian Terje Leiren is Professor and Chair of the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. He has written extensively on Norwegian history in the 19th and 20th centuries, including the dissolution of the Norwegian-Swedish Union in 1905.

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On the Light Side



The 57th Annual Miss Norway of Greater New York Contest

57th Annual Miss Norway of Greater New York Contest will take place on Saturday March 31, 2012, 2 PM at the Norwegian Home and Health Center, 1250 67 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Guests are advised that the doors will be open at 1:30 in order to make a more orderly reception into the Nilsen Auditorium. The cost of the luncheon is \$30 pp and tables of nine (9) can be reserved for \$240. Cost for children under age 12 is \$15.

Application forms are available online. Go to <http://niahistory.org>

With musical fanfare, the contestants will be escorted to the stage by cadets from Kings Point Military Academy. The Master of Ceremonies interviews the candidates asking about their ambitions and their interests. Most importantly, he will ask how a Norwegian heritage has shaped parts of their lives. Girls from 5 to 10 years of age are invited to be part of the Little Miss Norway Pageant. They will proceed to the stage and give their names. Each Little Miss is asked to say a word or phrase in Norwegian. Boys from 5 - 10 years of age are invited to be part of the celebration as Junior Cadets and likewise will be asked to say something on stage.

Finally the judges state their decisions. The new Miss Norway of Greater New York is crowned. The



next big event will be the 17th of May Parade along big event will be the 17th of May parade (Sunday May 20th) along 5th Avenue in Brooklyn, beginning at 1:30 and ending in Leif Ericsson Park. The newly elected Miss Norway and her court are followed by the Little Miss Norways and the Junior Cadets, who will ride on a float with parents and families parading after the float.

Gratulerer med dagen

February

- 7 Maya Larsen
- 14 Jenny Omland
- 15 Ragnhild Peterson
- 19 Per Sagaard
- 21 Sigfrid Ellingsen
- 22 Doris McHugh
- 22 Sonja Bolstad

March

- 2 Jan G. Henriksen
- 2 Helene Jarvis
- 3 Steve Olsen
- 6 Doris Svennevik
- 18 Amalia Tonnesen

THIRD DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hei alle sammen!
 Most of us have put our Christmas decorations away and hopefully we can remember which box we put them in so next year's decorating will be easier.

While some lodges have held installations there still are several more that will happen shortly. I hope that we have large turnouts for these most important events.

While our overall membership has shrunk over the past year, the number of allotted local lodge delegates only dropped by 6. While the total number has dropped we expect a larger delegate turnout at the upcoming convention due to commitments by several lodges who have not attended previous conventions to attend this convention.

The number of visitors to our web site <http://www.3dsofn.org/home.html> continues to grow. In December of 2011 we had 7,889 visitors compared to 5,865 in December 2010. That is a daily average of 258. The same sections continue to draw large crowds i.e. 3D today, the blog, LOV and the schedule of events. We need your help in providing new material to the site. We especially, your local lodge and Zone events to be posted

The District board could use a little help. If any of you are working with or are familiar with "cloud" storage of files would you please contact me. With one hundred years of files we are having a problem finding a home for all our District documents.

Speaking of being 100 years old there are over thirty 3D members listed as being over 100 years old. We may have a couple members in that group but not this many. If each lodge would check their lodge on the SON web site and correct these obvious errors it would help us out.


But one group that is 100 years old, District Three, is still going strong. We have added more information to the Convention section of the web site <http://www.3dsofn.org/convention/index.html>. In addition to the clothing currently on sale, your lodge should have received several of the convention pins that are for sale at the customary SON rate of \$5. I have to admit that they are among the nicer pins we have seen in a long time so look for them. I am wearing mine today. If you can't find the pin contact the convention chair.

We did make a slight comeback in membership the last quarter of 2011 as did the rest of the SON but we still need to see much more growth. Please take it upon yourself to sign up a member this year and sooner rather than later.

I will be looking forward to meeting you this spring on my travels through the District.

Fraternally
 Ralph Peterson

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**Norwegian American
May 17th Parade
Committee**

1st Annual FUNDRAISER



**SUNDAY, March 4th, 2012
SALTY DOG BAR & GRILL
7509 – 3rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY**

TIME: 2:00pm – 6:00pm

Cost: \$20 per person.

**Includes: Lite Buffet and Dessert
Raffles, Door Prizes, 50/50 and more
fun and games.**

**COME AND SUPPORT US
BRING YOUR FAMILY and
FRIENDS!**



For more information or questions:
www.May17ParadeNY.com
Tel: 718 748 1874



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2012

- February 12 3 pm** Business meeting and election of delegates, followed by “Valentine Party” and dinner.
- March 11 3 pm** Business meeting followed by “St. Patrick’s Day Party” and dinner.
- March 18 2 pm** Zone 1 bowling.
- April 15 3 pm** Business meeting. “Sisters’ Night” and dinner. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING DATE** due to Easter.
- TBD 4 pm** Zone 1 (Brooklyn and Manhattan) Memorial Service at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 8001 - 4th Ave, Brooklyn, NY
- May 6 3 pm** Business meeting. “Kentucky Derby” and dinner. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING DATE** due to Mother’s Day falling on our regular meeting day.
- May 6 4 pm** Zone1 (Long Island) Memorial Service.
- June 10 3 pm** Business meeting followed by dinner and Bingo.

NO MEETINGS DURING JULY AND AUGUST

- September 9 3 pm** Business meeting and “Welcome Back Party” and dinner.
- October 14 3 pm** Business meeting. “Leif Erikson Party” & October Fest and dinner.
- November 11 3 pm** Faerder Building Association Annual Meeting followed by lodge business meeting. “Brother’s Night” and dinner.
- November 28 6 pm** Officer’s Meeting.
- December 9 2 pm** Children’s Christmas Party 2 pm to 5 pm. Santa and gifts to children, grandchildren or great grandchildren 12 years and younger of Faerder members only. Reservation a **MUST** by November 19th
- December 15 7 pm** Faerder’s Christmas Party at the Danish Club. Cocktail hour, dinner and music.

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