



**FJELL-LJOM.. (MOUNTAIN ECHOES).. BLÅ FJELL LODGE 3-646
May 2020**

President: Sharon Rohrback 540-774-0006
Vice President: Joann Barfield 540-380-2926
Secretary: Kathy Clark 540-977-2349
Treasurer: Cheri Johnson 540-989-6330
Editor: vacant (Sharon Rohrback, acting)

Blå Fjell's website: sonsofnorwayblafjell.org
 Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/SonsOfNorwayBlaFjell>

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Sons of Norway is to preserve and cherish a lasting appreciation of the heritage and culture of Norway and the other Nordic countries.

Regularly scheduled meetings:

Fourth Saturday of each month, **1:00 PM**,
 College Lutheran Church, 210 South College Avenue, Salem
 (Except for special events)

NEXT MEETING --- SAVE THE DATE!!!
HOPEFULLY, JUNE 27 IF RESTRICTIONS STOP

SUNSHINE CARDS: Sharon Rohrback for May

Save your stamps until we meet again. The Salem Food Pantry is not allowed to take donations at this time due to Corona virus.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BLÅ FJELL LODGE

Hopefully the Corona restrictions will be cancelled, so we can have the

Jun 27, 2020 Meeting at CLC 1-3pm. Movie month: Frozen II

JULY 11, 2020 new date: Local Colors Festival, 11am-5pm (setup at Bla Fjell tent 9am)

Sharon will need volunteers to work at the booth and provide baked goods.

July 25, 2020 Picnic at Smith Mountain Lake home of Larry Norman

Aug 22, 2020 Usually our month off, but board to decide whether to have mtg to catch up on programs.

Aug ??, 2020: date to be confirmed for Yard Sale Fundraiser at the home of Cheri Johnson

Sep 26, 2020 Meeting at CLC 1-3pm Program: Viking Auction

Oct 9, Faith Christian School (Leif Eriksson Day pgm by Cheri only)

Oct 24, 2020 SON 125th Anniversary Gala and BlaFjell 24th Anniv at CLC 1-3 pm.

Nov 6, 2020 Viking Day at Faith Christian School (pgm by Cheri & 6 other members.

Nov 21, 2020 Meeting at CLC 1-3pm. Program: Heritage. Vote on new officers for 2021-2022.

Dec 11, 2020 St. Lucia Concert at St. Andrew Catholic Church

Dec 12, 2020 Julefest Nordic Feast at CLC 1-3pm.

THIRD DISTRICT AND/OR ZONE 7 LODGE EVENTS

Land of the Vikings closed immediately. See article on page 11.

MEMBER NEWS

May Birthdays: Kathy Clark 5/3 Gracelynn Clark 5/4 Annita Nelson 5/13

LODGE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

USE SON softn.com site is valuable for current and historical information. Use it often!

One item I retrieved from it for this newsletter was important information in its 125years for March, April and May. See later article.

May 8 [1945]: Liberation Day, marks the end of Norway's occupation during World War.

Liberation Day, known in Norwegian as **Frigjøringsdagen**, is marked every year in Norway on May 8.

May 17 [1845]: a special Constitution Day celebration annually in Norway, and for those with Norwegian heritage. See article in the Culture section of this newsletter.

Sharon Rohrback, President

VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR MESSAGE

We trust that this Pandemic is not causing you any undue stress or difficulty; it is a strange situation, but we can be thankful that the number of cases in SW VA is relatively small. We are missing you all and HOPE that we may be back to normal soon!

Sharon has kept Blafjell Lodge OPEN FOR BUSINESS during these months, as you see from her President's Message and various items of business. And, she has kept in contact with our membership to know that all are well.

Our Online Book Study is off to a good, albeit slow, start .. but, if you should be interested in joining us, it's not too late, and we'd love to have you. Contact Kathy or Joann by e-mail or telephone, addresses above.

By now you have all of your closets cleaned and are ready to go on to more exciting activities! There is light at the end of the tunnel, and we eagerly look forward to gathering together again and continuing with our mission to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and the other Nordic countries! In the meantime, stay safe!

Joann Barfield, Vice President/Membership Director

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APRIL 2020 MEETING MINUTES

April meeting was cancelled because Corona Virus restrictions were extended through June 11.

Joann Barfield, Secretary Pro-Tem

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CULTURAL DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Cheri Johnson, Cultural Director

GOOD MORNING SPRING!

It is Spring and a beautiful time to get outside and enjoy the sun, call up an old friend, reflect on your abundant life, and thank God for another day.

Yard sale in August. It is also a time to clean out your house of all the unnecessary items that just gather dust. So just start a box for the Sons of Norway Blå Fjell yard sale.

By that time, we should be able to be together.

Here are some guidelines for marking your "stuff." Generally, items are cheap so they will sell.

- Use stickers or masking tape with the price in permanent magic marker.
- Prices are usually25c....50c....\$1.00..... \$2.00..... \$3.00.....bigger items can be marked as you wish.
- Use a safety pin to put socks/gloves/mittens together or put 2 small items in a zip lock bag with one price.
- Clothes and shoes are generally \$1.00 or \$2.00... they do sell at that price
- Put all your items in a container you do not wish to have back

Our yard sale committee will come pick up your items or you can bring them to Cheri's house:

Cheri Johnson2239 Pommel DriveRoanoke, VA.....24018; (540)-556-3611

HAVE FUN CLEANING OUT AND GIVING TO THE SONS OF NORWAY FOR OUR LODGE!
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

You are welcome to write a half-page article if you joined Blå Fjell lodge in the last two or three years, or have not submitted an article like this before. We would like to get to know you better.

Share your heritage, where you lived, and what your family is now doing...whatever you wish to share.

Sharon Rohrback, Editor

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MEMBER MEMORIES
From Gail Ofte-Atha

(how the cholera plague in Norway affected her great-grandmother, Bente).

(Insert from Sharon: Bente Marie is Gail's great-grandmother; Bente's sister died from the cholera with rest of the family. Martha Malene Asphaug is Gail's grandmother. Ingeborg Asphaug Ofte is Gail's mother.)

In 1848, a Dutch schooner arrived at the port in Bergen, Norway. The watchman's wife (he was protector of the port) is said to have washed the crew's clothing. Thus, began the pandemic of cholera that ended 605 lives.

Among those who were lost were all my great grandmother's family except for Bente Marie Bakke who was seventeen years old at that time. A visit from her sister's boyfriend brought cholera into the family. Bente's uncle claimed Bente's inheritance for himself and he placed Bente alone on an island to tend sheep.

Before being taken to the island, Bente hid her Lutheran catechism in the bosom of her dress. Not being permitted to attend her family funeral, she watched as their caskets were taken by boat to Bergen to be buried. It has been told that faith in God and her catechism sustained Bente during that lonely time.

Finally, Bente married and sadly her husband and oldest son died in a storm at the sea. As a widow, her sheep gave her the means to provide for her children. When her barn burned, her neighbors helped her rebuild. At her loom, she dyed and wove material to be sold. My aunt Hermina (Bente's grand daughter) said one was likely to hear the clacking of her loom all night long.

Like her daughter, my grand-mother Martha Malene Asphaug helped at the birth of the babies. When infants were in distress, they baptized them. Needless to say, the minister was displeased with this practice. Bente Marie and Martha Malene did not hesitate to criticize ministers' sermons. My cousin, Annamor recalled that when a minister came for his periodic home visit, one heard Martha Malene's voice (not that of the minister) as she loudly expounded on the Bible she knew so well.

Some persons feared Bente as she seemed to have power over animals, i.e. commanding them to sleep etc. Before Bente died at the age of 91, she said her legacy would be that her descendants would have faith in God -- and so we do.

Though Martha Malene was bedfast in later years she said her purpose in life was to pray for others. Annamor said to me "oh how our Bestemor (grandmother) could pray. She died was she was 91 years old.

My cousins and I have noted that women in this family are strong-willed, outspoken, and they endure in difficult times as their faith in God assures them a firm foundation throughout their lives.

So, faith in God and the wisdom of our forebears can sustain us as we endure today's pandemic, COVID 19.

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WHAT I LIKE ABOUT SONS OF NORWAY (SON) INTERNATIONAL

(Various members can volunteer to put their own statement in our monthly newsletters

From Bob Rohrback

There are several things I like about my membership in the Sons of Norway.

First of all, in a time when Sharon and I have so many different things going on in our lives/schedules which separate us for hours at a time, our membership in the Sons of Norway allows us to participate jointly in thus activity. I enjoy being able to attend and participate in our monthly lodge meetings and lodge activities, such as Local Colors.

I also enjoy the company of the many friends we have made since we moved to the Roanoke area and joined the lodge in 2005. We have made some close friendships since we have moved here, and making these friendships has certainly helped us, especially Sharon who had never lived in this area before, acclimate to the area.

I also enjoy the tremendous foods that are served at our lodge activities. I am no stranger to lefse since my late mother-in-law made this terrific dish for us. However, I have discovered additional great Scandinavian foods, including cheeses, cookies, cakes, and other foods that are regularly served at our lodge functions.

Finally, although I am of mostly German heritage, I enjoy learning about the different Scandinavian cultures and the history of the Scandinavian countries and peoples. I now have a much greater appreciation for how difficult it must have been for the Norwegians and other Scandinavians to pack up, leave their native countries, and move to what is now the United States. I am impressed by their courage and spunk.

Bob Rohrbach

BLA FJELL BOOK STUDY

The Book Study group is reading "**From Scandinavian Shores- Immigrant Culture and Stories From Our Nordic Family Histories**" by **J.B. Hove**. This is an attempt to explain how ancient and more recent immigration periods formed our unique Scandinavian culture. This book is written from the perspective of ordinary men and women who were not part of the upper class. I might add that this book touches on the painful hardships that the immigrants endured in order to come to The New World, whereas other writers (Moberg and Rolvaag) have described the **incredible** sacrifices in greater details .. again, we should be ever mindful of the gift given to us by our forefathers! The chapters go through page 214, are in large print, and each chapter is about 15 pages long. Footnotes are explained following the last chapter. I (Sharon) am finding this book very interesting, and not overwhelming. Kathy Clark provides questions two chapters at a time. We use Reply All to share our answers and any other comments with each other. Chapter titles are: A New World, Melding, Egalitarian, Nordic Roots, Plundering, Dark Ages, Plague, The Wolf, Soldiers, Frey and Witches, Worship and Reading, Women, Courting, Rigid Classes, Self-Sufficient. Submitted by Sharon Rohrbach, Book Study member.

NORWAY'S SYTTENDE MAI CELEBRATION: MAY 17 Constitution Day

This year, Norway's celebration has been cancelled because of COVID-19 virus. Small celebrations may be celebrated elsewhere.

1. From the "Scandinavian News" Magazine. This excerpt was also posted in the April newsletter. Norway is the Nordic country with the earliest National Day. This is the 115th celebration. The Norwegian Constitution, separating Norway from Sweden, was signed at Eidsvoll on May 17, 1814. But the union with Sweden did not end until 1905 - marking the beginning of a truly independent Norway.

2. Information from Sons of Norway Mini Presentation #312

Syttende Mai! The name sounds like a fanfare. The celebration is associated with flags, parades and marching bands—hoorays, ice-cream and balloons—salutes, parties, fireworks and patriotism. This description brings to mind the 4th of July celebration in the U.S., but most of these parade participants are children, the hoorays sound more like hurrahs, and people in the crowd wear colorful folk costumes. The scene is Norway, the date May 17, and the event: the Norwegian Constitution Day.

The Norwegians have reason to celebrate. For more than 400 years their country was the weaker partner in a union with Denmark. Norway became an insignificant state on the European map, exploited by autocratic Danish kings. Then came "The Year of Miracles"—1813—when the outcome of the Napoleonic wars broke up the established power structure in Europe

The Danish king, who had sided with Napoleon, was forced to cede Norway to Sweden. No one asked the Norwegians, who were outraged at the thought of their country being given away like a piece of Danish property. Equally outraged was the heir to the Danish throne, who at that time was governor of Norway. He sided with Norwegian leaders and a constituent assembly was called.

With the constitution establishing Norway as a sovereign state, European politicians would have to be more respectful in their dealings with the country. The constituent assembly met at Eidsvoll (Ides-vohl) in April–May 1814. It was a young crowd—most of the leaders were in their thirties. Conservatives or liberals, they were all nationalists, well-informed about the ideals of the revolutionary French and American constitutions. It took the assembly of 112 one month to give Norway a constitution.

The country was establishing as a sovereign state and a constitutional monarchy ruled by the principles of liberty and democracy. It was the most liberal constitution in Europe at that time and was clearly inspired by the ideals which were defended in America.

The document was signed on May 17—Syttende Mai—1814, and Norway finally had the fundamental law that later would carry the nation safely through all times of crisis. The outcome of the swift Norwegian action early in 1814 was that Norway entered a union with Sweden in the fall of the same year—but not as a piece of land given away by the Danish king.

Thanks to the constitution, Norway had now become a sovereign state and an equal partner in the union. When this union was dissolved in 1905, Norway was well on the way to being re-established on the European scene. The Constitution of 1814 is the foundation of the growth of a society which today has one of the highest standards of living in the world. Syttende Mai is certainly worth celebrating!

CULTURAL ARTICLES

MYRKUR'S NEW TRADITIONAL SOUND ON FACEBOOK.

(Hampton Roads Lodge posting on Facebook)

Are you looking for some new music to listen to during quarantine?

Myrkur's new album "Folkesange" has many traditional Scandinavian sounds.

Myrkur (Amelie Bruun) - Danish composer, singer and songwriter, steers away from her usual dark metal to more soothing folk sounds in this album

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c277UL4iAC0> 🎵

DID YOU KNOW RICK STEVES HAS NORWEGIAN ROOTS?

(From Washington Lodge 3-428 Capital Viking April 2020)

Rick is definitely America's favorite travel expert. How did he become who he is today? When he was 14, he traveled to Norway with his family, and this memorable trip sparked his interest in travel. Read his story in a very interesting article in the Norwegian American newspaper. Access it online at www.norwegianamerican.com/keep-on-travelin-with-rick-steves

Trollveggen, the Troll Wall. What a sight

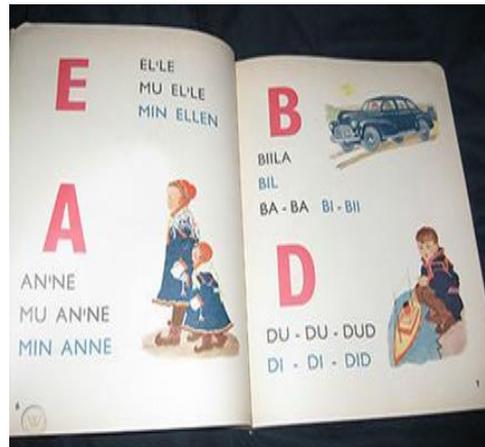
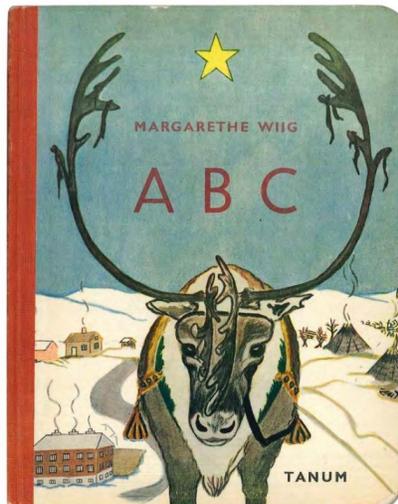
(Facebook "I Love My Norwegian Heritage" posting 4/7/2020)

One person commented: The Alnes farm from which the Lars Ahlness family got its name is in this valley-the Alps of Norway. The Alnes family had a 90 year lease on the Trollstigen top where they sold their carvings.



HONORING AUTHOR MARGARETHE WIIG (1903-2002).

(From Facebook 3/24/20 posting by Sons of Norway District 1 Norwegian Heritage and Culture)



Margarethe Wiig is most famous for creating and publishing a 160-page book full of colored and B&W illustrated Sami-Norwegian ABC's in 1951. A children's book of fairy tales, folk tales, nursery rhymes, poems and pictures. Margarethe Wiig (born April 9, 1903 in Bergen, died March 28, 2002 in Tromsø) was an educator and amateur photographer.

The ABC book for Northern Sami started in 1939, the goal was to make an ABC book in Northern Sami, based on the children's own culture. Plans for such an ABC book had already been laid in Karasjok (East Finnmark) in 1925, and many of the illustrations in the book were also made by children in Karasjok. For her work on the Sami language, in 1951, when the book was published after twelve years of work, she was appointed knight of the first class by the Order of St. Olav. She was also an active amateur photographer, and between 1924 and 1960 took several pictures in Finnmark which are preserved, among other things, in the Sami collections.

According to Norwegian Wikipedia: The ABC book as the most important book in Sami textbook history. The book also became part of the big political game in the Nordic countries. On page 41 of the ABC book, there was a drawing that showed a map of the Northern Calotte, which showed that it covered the same in both Norway, Sweden and Finland. In the Cold War, this was controversial, and Wiig was called in for a meeting with the Ministry of Church and Education and the Ministry of Defense. The problem was that the map showed that the Sami were also present in Finland, a fact that the authorities would not include in the book. Initially, there was resistance to using the book in schools. The ABC book was still in use in many schools and many Sami and Sami-Americans have fond memories of the book as they grew up.

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SURSTROMMING IS STINKIEST FOOD ON THE PLANET

(Use the link to Youtube to watch the humorous film)

This article was copied from the Hampton Roads Lodge Facebook page. Thank you, Robin Lambert, for helping me by finding and providing the Youtube link to copy into this).

Set your cursor on the link, right click the mouse and choose Open hyperlink.

Not easy to watch the family reactions, but he passed the challenge. He had to be on camera to prove he took the challenge. Sharon

Stinky Fish Challenge - Surstromming - Joe McCloskey Jr - Colorado Springs)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-qflm0APTk>



Surströmming (pronounced [ˈsʉ̌ː ˌʂtʁœmːɪŋ]; Swedish for "sour herring") is a lightly-salted fermented Baltic Sea herring traditional to Swedish cuisine since at least the 16th century.

The Baltic herring, known as strömming in Swedish, is smaller than the Atlantic herring, found in the North Sea. Traditionally, the definition of strömming is "herring fished in the brackish waters of the Baltic north of the Kalmar Strait". The herring used for surströmming are caught just prior to spawning in April and May.

During the production of surströmming, just enough salt is used to prevent the raw herring from rotting while allowing it to ferment. A fermentation process of at least six months gives the fish its characteristic strong smell and somewhat acidic taste. According to a Japanese study, a newly opened can of surströmming has one of the most putrid food smells in the world, even stronger than similarly fermented fish dishes such as the Korean hongeohoe or Japanese kusaya.

At the end of the 1940s, surströmming producers in Sweden lobbied for a royal ordinance (Swedish: förordning) that would prevent incompletely fermented fish from being sold. The decree that was issued forbade sales of the current year's production in Sweden prior to the third Thursday in August. While the ordinance is no longer on the books, retailers still maintain the date for the "premiere" of that year's catch.

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NORWEGIAN RECIPE- from Cheri Johnson

HAVREFRES Oatmeal Cookies)  Simple easy recipe 

Ingredients

1 stick of butter, less 1 T.

2/3 c. sugar

1 1/3 c. oats

Instructions

Cream butter and sugar

Pour in oatmeal and stir well

Use 2 teaspoons to form cookies

Place dough 3" apart on ungreased cookie sheets/parchment paper

Bake at 375 for 10 - 12 minutes

Let cool on cookie sheet before removing

HUMOR (posted by Sharon Rohrback's cousin on Facebook)

*Did you know that
people who take care
of chickens
are literally*



Chicken Tenders?

SONS OF NORWAY INTERNATIONAL (SON) HISTORY FOR 125 YEARS 1895-2020

Entries copied from sofn.com Front Page Tab "125 Years" 1895-2020

The text for March, April, and May

Sorted by month, descending day within that month--so event years shown will vary)

March 14, 1856: Founding member Knute Rasmussen was born in Trondheim. Later he became a member of the **original Nidaros Lodge No. 1**, a member of the first board of directors and served as the financial secretary of the Nidaros Lodge.

March 17, 1901: The sixth legislative session finalized the constitutional and legal structure of SON. Luncheon bill for all 33 delegates was \$6.60.

March 31, 1897: Daughters of Norway of the Midwest, an independent sister organization SON, was established in Minneapolis.

April 24, 1900: The Third SON Lodge, Dovre 3, was established in Northeast Minneapolis.

April 25, 1903: An independent group operating in Seattle established itself as a SON lodge modeled after the Midwest organization. Although the two groups were not yet officially linked, it marked an important first step toward bridging the gap between the communities between the Midwest and the Pacific Northwest.

April 27, 1940: Leaders from SON and other prominent figures in the Norwegian-American community formed Norwegian Relief, Inc. to provide assistance to Norway following its invasion and occupation by German forces in WWII.

May 27, 1939: Crown Prince Olav of Norway visited Minneapolis to dedicate a monument erected by SON in honor of Martin Zakarias Toftezen, an early Norwegian pioneer in the United States.

May 26, 1966: The SON Foundation was established as a separate non-profit corporate entity to support the organization's charitable and educational causes.

May 29, 1900: The first SON convention took place. It was followed by several additional legislative sessions throughout the remainder of the year to formalize the organization vision and objectives.

THE VIKINGS CLOSING IMMEDIATELY AND PERMANENTLY

(This was posted April 8, 2020 on Facebook.)

(LOV=Land of the Vikings Third District conference and retreat center in Pennsylvania)

It is with deep sadness that I inform you that Land of Vikings, despite all our efforts, will be closing permanently and immediately. You may direct any questions or concerns to the Sons of Norway Third District Board. Thank you to all of you who have supported us through the uphill battle, and we will always hold the memories of LOV dear to our hearts.

Sincerely, Maureen Cooper

THIRD DISTRICT PRESIDENT MAY 2020 MESSAGE

Hello District, 3 Members. Peace and strength in the days ahead.



During these unprecedented times, I worry about my loved ones, hoping my children and grandchildren remain healthy and safe. I worry about my daughter who risks contracting COVID-19 while working long hours as a health care professional in an effort to help as many residents, neighbors and strangers as possible.

I also worry about my friends and neighbors who have been laid off. My granddaughter as a small business owner. My son who teaches and his worry over his students. My second son who is in an essential business and is out in the public daily. I worry about my lodge members knowing the age of most of

our membership and how older adults may be particularly susceptible to the respiratory illness.

If we continue to shelter in place and stay at home, we can help lessen the spread of this terrible virus.

It's not easy, but I'm trying hard to remember patience is a virtue. I try to remind myself, these days filled with uncertainty and stress, will eventually pass. In the coming weeks or months, life will return to normal

We'll not forget these times, but better days will return. We'll have regular lodge meetings again, we'll have special programs again, we'll meet with each other outside our meetings for lunch or events, we'll remember those who were the frontline hero's keeping us safe. And we won't forget any whom we've lost.

The 8th of May is Liberation Day, marking the end of Norway's occupation during World War II. Liberation Day, known in Norwegian as **Frigjøringsdagen**, is marked every year in Norway on the 8th of May. It is known in some other European countries including the United Kingdom as Victory in Europe Day, or VE Day. It marks the anniversary of the day when Nazi Germany forces withdrew from Norway and the war came to an end. The occupation had begun on 9 April 1940, so Norway had

been occupied for more than five years. Think of that 5 years!! On that day in 1945, the people of Norway took to the streets to celebrate their long-awaited freedom. In the following days, soldiers and POWs returned home, and the celebrations continued. The celebrations reached their peak when King Haakon returned home to Oslo on the 7th of June.

Can we learn from our forefathers about resilience, those inner strengths of mind and character— both inborn and developed— that enable us to respond well to adversity, including the capacities to prevent stress- related conditions, such as depression or anxiety, or their recurrence; recover faster and more completely from stress and stress- related conditions; and optimize mental fitness and functioning in the various areas of life. It's just as important to care for your emotional needs as the physical ones! Can we see the blessings that we have in light of the hardships we've been dealing with?

My fervent hope is that we can. Take nothing for granted. Take care of each other. And Take care of yourself – physically, emotionally, and even spiritually. Fraternaly, Kathy

LINKS TO THIRD DISTRICT, 3D ZONE7 LODGES, and INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

For 3D President's letter, see the Third District Events Calendar:
www.3dsofn.org/newsletter/index.html

For District 3 events: www.3dsofn.org/calendar

For Sons of Norway E-Post: sonsofnorway@sofn.com

THIRD (3D) ZONE 7 LODGES

Blå Fjell Lodge 3-646 meets in Salem, VA: Website www.sonsofnorwayblafjell.org
 or Facebook www.facebook.com/SonsOfNorwayBlafjell

Hampton Roads Lodge 3-522 meets in Virginia Beach, VA: Website www.hrson.org
 or Facebook www.Facebook.com/hrsons

Norsk Carolina Lodge 3-679 meets in Charlotte, NC: Website www.norskcarolina.org
 or Facebook www.Facebook.com/NorskCarolina

Norskevenner Lodge 3-678 meets in Roswell, GA: email sofnvennekretsen@gmail.com
 or Facebook www.facebook.com/Sons-of-Norway-Roswell-Georgia-NorskeVenner-Lodge-3-678

North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675 meets in Raleigh, NC:
 Website www.northcarolinavikings.org. There is no Facebook site.

Southern Star Lodge 3-360 meets in Myrtle Beach, SC. Facebook: Scandinavian Celebration Southern Star Lodge.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS links:

For Royal Norwegian Embassy in Washington: emb.washington@mfa.no

For Nordic News from the Icelandic Embassy: <http://www.iceland.is/us>

For NEWEST NEWS: New newspaper ... Welcome to Norway Today: www.norwaytoday.info

For FULL LISTING OF EVENTS around the U.S.: www.norway.org/calendar

TRAVEL INFORMATION FOR NORDIC COUNTRIES: (until about three years ago, we used to be able to contact a country's embassy and would receive a few free travel informational packets to hand out at Local Colors festival. Now the information is online. Thank you, Larry, for the link names.

I verified I could successfully open the below links. Once open, each link had its own method to get at the various information. Sharon Rohrback

www.visitdenmark.com

www.visitfinland.com

www.inspiredbyiceland.com

www.visitnorway.com

www.visitsweden.com

PLAN TO ATTEND EACH AND EVERY LODGE MEETING AND ACTIVITY!

For the Love of Norway!!

