



SONS OF NORWAY

3D

March 2010

Third District Today

Fra Presidenten Ralph Peterson

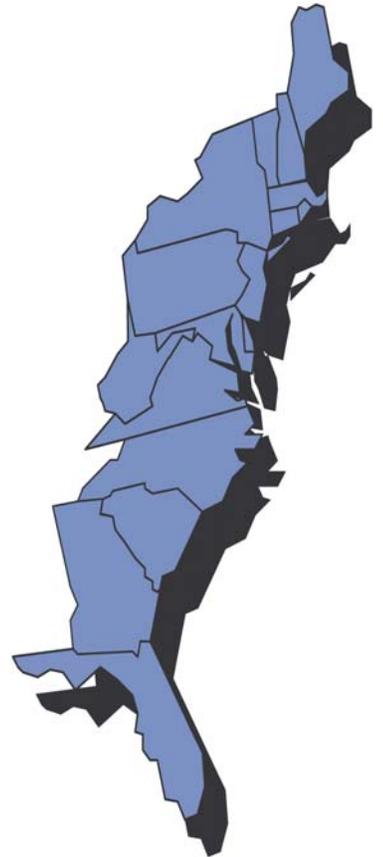
Hei alle sammen,

Well I guess that we have all tasted a bit of winter this year. Some of us (read the DC area) probably tasted a bit more. But then again we are **VIKINGS**. Having said that, even many Vikings looked to the South which is a practice still carried on here in the USA. It is a practice I will continue this March as AnneGrete and I make our annual pilgrimage to Florida. We will be there for the St. Augustine regatta.

If you haven't voted on your convention delegates I hope it's on your agenda for your next meeting. Our District Convention is one of our most important events of our two year cycle. We do have business to conduct and your lodge needs to have their voice heard and counted. In addition to the business, there will be great fraternal events and even some educational events so please make sure your lodge is represented. Perhaps the biggest event will be to meet old friends and make new ones. There is information about the convention on our [blog](#) and the [web site](#) and more is coming.

February 20th will see the 4th new lodge in District 3 that has been instituted in the past 4 years. In addition to New Bern, there is a new lodge starting in Estero, FL. They already have over 40 members without holding an organizational meeting and they are on line to be instituted in March of this year. These new lodges are something that District 3 can be very proud of. Let's keep the pattern going.

The number of daily visitors to our web site continues to grow. Since November we have had monthly daily averages of 97.7, 92.1, 134.2 and in mid February we are over 154. Many of you are visiting the new blog and the convention news. The "What's the Buzz" section also gets a lot of traffic and that is the section where you will find the latest District and LOV news. Thanks to all of you who are contributing information and posting to the site.





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We are a bit late in publishing our District goals for 2010 but here they are:

- Reduce the number of members leaving voluntary by 10% (845 to 760),
- Increase the number of benefit members by 75,
- Increase convention attendance by 5% (134-141) and
- Increase the number of local lodge membership committees to 55 % (17-27).

We can do it!!

For a couple of years our District 3 membership has been below 8,000. The new lodge in Estero just brought in over 40 new members to the District and pushed us back close to the 8,000 mark. I am told they have about 10 more applications ready to go. With those 10 and help from you we can get back over the 8,000 mark. **Let's make this a big membership month and get back over the 8,000 number!!!!!!!**

Fraternally

Ralph Peterson
President
District Three
Sons of Norway



Don't forget to:

PASS THE PIGGY!
Have you fed your piggy today?
All proceeds help fund grants and scholarships through Sons of Norway Foundation.

SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION
Celebrating culture. Expanding horizons.

For more information, visit www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation or call 1-800-945-8851



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Fra Vise Presidenten Gail Ekloff



March Membership Madness is here ----I can't wait to see how many lodges participated in this membership drive.

What was your lodge's program about and how many members did you get? Hope the ideas and pictures are posted on the 3D website for all the District lodges to see how creative every lodge can be. It will be interesting to see the Membership Activity Report for SON for the month on March.

An excellent resource to show off our Scandinavian lifestyle is Land of the Vikings (LOV) and your support is a vital key to its continued success. I hope all the lodges get to visit the facility in Sherman, PA. Supporters of LOV have seen many changes take place during its first 30+ years. We are concentrating on making it the "Cultural Center" for the Third District. Our hope for the future is to have it represent all that is "good and noble" in the Sons of Norway. Like to see what the place looks like? Visit the 3D website and click on to the LOV link. Be sure and check out the calendar of events.

Another way to get involved with the SON is the Annual Convention. All lodges should have elected their delegates for the convention and forwarded the names and resolutions to Sister Marci Larson so she can start putting together the Resolution Book. June will be here before you know it! Be nice to see if we have more lodges represented than at the 2008 convention...Brother Ralph will keep me informed of this, he loves to do statistics.

Also, in March, our Irish friends celebrate Saint Patrick's Day—a culture intertwined with Norway. The largest find of Viking ships were uncovered in Ireland! And after all, we did give you your national dish— Lutefisk!!! Erin go braugh!!!

Alt for denne gangen,

Gail



REMEMBER THE 2 A'S TO GET NEW MEMBERS--- ASK AND ADVERTISE
AND, TO KEEP MEMBERS, THE 2 M'S -----MENTOR AND MINGLE

*March 2010
Medlemskap scorer bord**

LODGE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL
Hartford # 474						1				
Nansen # 410	1		x							
Washington # 428	1		x			1				
Oslo #438		1	x							
Hampton Rd. #522		1	x							
Norumbega #506			x	1						
Gateway to Fl. #541			x		1					
Dovre # 232			x			1				
Skagum #468						1				

*number of 999 members that transfer to a lodge- source activity report /Minneapolis

Financial

By Ann Krause, FIC, LUTCF, SofN Financial Benefits Counselor

“The Taxman Cometh”

Now that you are very aware of your tax situation this is a great time to consider future options. Did you suffer losses on stock market accounts last year? Sons of Norway can give you peace of mind with the guaranteed returns of our Nordic Annuity. Have you changed jobs or retired this past year? When you leave an employer, don't leave your retirement funds there, take them with you. Sons of Norway can make rolling these funds over an easy task. Don't like taking the required minimum distribution from your IRA after age 70½? Take advantage of Uncle Sam's allowance to change to a Roth IRA this year and take two years to spread out the taxes. Sounds like too much work? Call your Financial Benefits Counselor with Sons of Norway and leave the work to us. We are here to help you make the most of what you have.



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Sports

By Phil Nelsen, District 3 Sports Director

Don't forget THE ZONE SPORTS MEDAL CHALLENGE

Here's how it works:

1. Each zone in the 3rd district will compete against each other.
2. The object is for each member of each lodge to start the sports medal program.... NOW!
3. This annual program will be from June 1st 2008 - May 31st 2009 and also June 1st 2009-May 31st 2010 and the winning zone for each year will be announced at the 2010 convention in June.
4. The awards for each zone will be on a per capita basis...in other words number of medals divided by the number of members in the zone (based on the most recent 3-D directory) . In other words if there are 27 medals earned in a zone of 550 members (27 divided by 550=.049 or 4.9%). The highest percentage wins.
5. The awards will be provided by the third district and have not yet been determined. Just start moving now.

Remember, this is by ZONE and possibly it will bring zones together and work and/or socialize with each other giving strength and comradery to the district....use your imagination. The Zone director will get the award and distribute within the zone as he or she sees fit.

Zone directors have enough work to do so I will not ask them to police it but I am asking them to announce and introduce it to the presidents and/or sports directors of each lodge in your zone and have them send the medal forms to Phil Nelsen, 3D Sports Director, not the zone director.

They can fax it, e-mail it or snail mail it. Fax number is the same as my home phone, 727-461-7746.

Speaking of Sports

Interesting [article](#) in the Wall Street Journal regarding Norway and the Olympics titled The Mystery of Norway - Tiny Country's Athletes Rack Up Medals, but Skeptics Dismiss Them; 'Probably Born on Skis'



An Olympic excerpt from a lodge newsletter

Taken from the May 2009 edition of The Strand, the newsletter of Southern Star, Dirk Hansen, editor

NORWEGIAN AMERICAN: *BABE DIDRIKSON*



The first to prove a girl could be a stud athlete, Babe Didrikson began as a muscular phenom who mastered many sports and ended as a brilliant golfer. An exuberant tomboy whose life was athletics, she was accomplished in just about every sport - basketball, track, golf, baseball, tennis, swimming, diving, boxing, volleyball, handball, bowling, billiards, skating and cycling. When asked if there was anything she didn't play, she said, "Yeah, dolls."

As a teenager she knew her life's ambition. "My goal was to be the greatest athlete who ever lived," she said. Didrikson said that she was nicknamed Babe early in her teens by boys awed at her long-distance homers. The Associated Press voted her the Greatest Female Athlete of the first half of the 20th century. The wire service also voted her Female Athlete of the Year six times - once for her track dominance and five times for her golfing prowess.

People were enthralled by the 5-foot-5 Babe, who was muscular but never heavy. "She is beyond all belief until you see her perform," famed sports-writer Grantland Rice wrote. "Then you finally understand that you are looking at the most flawless section of muscle harmony, of complete mental and physical coordination, the world of sport has ever seen."

Babe was swept off her feet when she was paired with George Zaharis at the 1938 Los Angeles Open. Zaharis was a gregarious man, a 235-pound wrestler who as a stock villain was making a fortune as the Weeping Greek from Cripple Creek. They married 11 months later and Babe would change her name to Babe Didrikson Zaharias. He would become her manager and advisor.

As an amateur golfer, Babe won an amazing 13 consecutive tournaments during 1946. The next year, she was the first American to win the British Amateur. Among her 55 tournament victories were three U.S. Women's Opens. With Zaharias, Patty Berg and Fred Corcoran, she founded the Ladies Professional Golf Association in 1949.

At birth in Port Arthur, Texas, she was Mildred Ella Didriksen (she would later change the spelling of her name). Though Babe wrote in her autobiography that she was born on June 26, 1914, it seems as if the correct year is 1911, which is what it says on her tombstone and on a baptismal certificate. Her parents, emigrants from Norway, moved the family 17 miles inland to Beaumont in 1914 after a hurricane destroyed their Port Arthur surroundings. (It also killed 275 people.)



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While playing basketball for Beaumont High School in 1930, Babe was offered \$75 a month to work for Employers Casualty Company of Dallas to play for its team. Actually, she was paid to be a secretary because she would have lost her amateur status had she been paid to play. Because she had not yet graduated high school, her parents hesitated before allowing her to go. Babe single-handedly won the 1932 AAU championships, which served as Olympic qualifying, on July 16 in Evanston, Ill. The sole representative of Employers Casualty, she scored 30 points, eight more than the runner-up team, which had 22 athletes. In a span of three hours, she competed in eight of 10 events, winning five outright and tying for first in the high jump. She set world records in the javelin, 80-meter hurdles, high jump and baseball throw.

While she qualified for five Olympic events in Los Angeles, women were allowed to compete in only three. She won the first women's Olympic javelin (143 feet, 4 inches) and set a world re-cord in winning the first Olympic 80-meter hurdles (11.7 seconds). In the high jump, she and Jean Smiley both broke the world record at 5-foot-5+, but Smiley received the gold and Babe the silver when Babe was disqualified on a dubious ruling.

Looking for another challenge, in 1933 she turned to golf. When asked how she could regularly drive the ball some 250 yards though she didn't weigh more than 145 pounds, she said, "You've got to loosen your girdle and let it rip." She ripped it far and straight enough, and putted well enough, that not only did she dominate women's golf, but for three straight years (1945-47) AP named her the Female Athlete of the Year. She turned pro in the summer of 1947 after winning 17 of 18 tournaments.

In 1948, Babe won her first U.S. Women's Open, the World Championship and the All-American Open. She continued her impressive performance on the LPGA Tour for the next several years. Shortly after winning the inaugural Babe Zaharias Open in Beaumont in April 1953, Babe learned she had cancer. Fourteen weeks later, she played in a tournament. By the next year she had completed an incredible golf comeback, winning her third U.S. Women's Open - by an incredible 12 strokes - on the way to five titles and her sixth AP Female Athlete of the Year award. Pain in her lower spine, caused by cancer, became unbearable in 1955. On Sept. 27, 1956, Babe died of the disease in Galveston, Texas. She was 45. Condensed from an article by *Larry Schwartz-ESPN.com Janis Joplin and Babe Didrikson share the same home town Port Arthur, Texas.*



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Publicity

by Mary Andersen, 3D Publicity Director

What's the Buzz?

As reported last month, we have added a new feature to the 3D website to enable you to get the latest news on events and happenings around the District. Click on [What's the Buzz?](#) on the 3D website home page.

If you want your lodge news posted in What's the Buzz?, you must be a regular contributor to the 3D Calendar of Events and the length of your post must be 140 characters or less! Send your posts to publicity@sofn3d.org ; we will retrieve emails on a weekly basis. Remember you must post your lodge events on the 3D Calendar of Events to be eligible to have you lodge news appear in What's the Buzz?

If you haven't checked our website lately, here is what you missed!

- Welcome to Drammen our newest and 52nd active lodge
- Gateway to Florida Lodge's Spring Viking Regatta
- District Three Lodges qualify for 2009 Founder days awards.
- And another new 3rd District lodge to open soon!
- Fall Membership Contest--We have a winner and they're part of the Thundering Third!

Our Website

Don't forget to post your events to the 3D Events Calendar. The Events Calendar and LOV are the most frequently visited pages; you are missing an opportunity to inform your members and prospective members of your activities.

I know I sound like a broken record, but look at the events listed in the TDT; did you post your events to the events calendar?

We have added the [3D Charitable Contribution Form](#) to the [Forms and Downloads](#) page.

Lodge newsletter news!

Congratulations to Gulfstream Lodge for reinstating their newsletter the [Gulfstream Current](#)!

Please send me your newsletters electronically; it makes it easier to share! Send your newsletters to publicity@sofn3d.org



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Our Harrisburg Convention



March 25th deadline for submitting
a Journal Ad!!!



40% of our lodges are already supporting our Journal! The Deadline is approaching. Don't be left out!

Website page dedicated to Convention News

There is a [new page on our website](#) dedicated to information regarding the 2010 Convention; visit it frequently as we will be adding more information regarding the Convention.

We have added the [booster list](#) to the Convention page! Prices are reduced if more than 10 members sign the list!

Vendor and advertising opportunities

As I read the lodge newsletters I am in awe of all our talented members!! Please seriously consider joining forces and sponsor a lodge vendor table at the convention.

Many of our lodges have lodge newsletter advertisers, please remember to ask them to advertise in the convention journal; it is a great way for your advertisers to touch a larger audience at very reasonable prices!

Finally, a great big thank you to our lodges that took advantage of the early bird special and sponsored an ad in the 2010 Convention Journal! *The deadline for submitting ads is March 25th*; please support your 3D Convention. Finally, please don't wait until the last minute; it makes it difficult for all who take time from their jobs and other commitments to volunteer for this effort if ads are submitted at the last minute and not in electronic format.

Questions about the Convention?

Visit the [3D website](#) and blog about it!!



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Cultural Corner

Greater New York Annual Miss Norway Contest

Kris Rasmussen, Zone 1 Director

If you know of any lovely 17 - 24 year old young ladies with at least one Norwegian grandparent, please encourage them to enter the 55th Annual Miss Norway of Greater New York Contest. In addition to the traditional Miss Norway contest, the Norwegian Immigration Association also sponsors a Little Miss Norway Pageant. The Little (future) Miss Norway contestants must be girls between the ages of 4 and 10 with at least one Norwegian grandparent.

In addition to Miss Norway, one other lucky lady is selected as Miss Norwegian Heritage. Prizes include trips to Norway and other prizes. All participants for the Little Miss Norway contest will march in the 17 May parade in Brooklyn with Miss Norway and Miss Norwegian Heritage.

The contest for Miss Norway will be held Saturday March 27th at 2:00 PM at the Norwegian Christian Home located at 1270-67th Street in Brooklyn. The Little Miss Norway Pageant is held at the same time as the contest for the older young ladies.

Full details and applications can be found on the Norwegian Immigration Association web site at:

<http://www.niahistory.org/>





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“In the Zone”

Did you know you can find out what is going on in other lodges by clicking on About Us and then lodges on the 3D website? This will take you to the Sons of Norway page which contains all of our lodges. Lodge names highlighted in blue means they have their own website; check out what they are doing and if you are travelling in the area, drop in and say hello!!

District Three Lodges qualify for 2009 Founder days awards!

Sons of Norway lodges with a membership growth of 3% or more during 2009 will be awarded a Founders Award certificate along with a cash bonus at their district convention. Those growing 3% to 19% will receive \$50 and those above 19% will receive a check for \$100

The Oslo and Gateway to Florida lodges will receive checks for the third year in a row. Bondelandet, Dovre and Maine Nordmenn are winners two years in a row. Congratulations to them all!!!

3-438 Oslo	33%
3-232 Dovre	25%
3-541 Gateway to Florida	17%
3-630 Southern Star	3%
3-433 Scandavian Heritage	6%
3-664 Maine Nordmenn	5%
3-410 Nansen	3%
3-612 Bondelandet	3%
3-643 Norsemen Harbour	3%

Welcome to our newest lodge – Drammen!!!

By Ralph Peterson, District Three President

Drammen Lodge 3-682 celebrated its institution on 20 February 2010 with a festive party that included over 90 SON members coming from 9 District Three lodges. District Three President Ralph Peterson was the Installing officer. Assisting in the ceremonies were International Secretary Audun Gythfeldt, District 3 Vice President Gail Ekloff and District 3 Secretary Marci Larson.

Greetings were read from International President Dan Rude, District Four International Director Elaine Nelson and Nørrona President Solvig Hellstrom

The sponsoring lodge, Southern Star was represented by a large contingent including Past President Karen Mc Ilrath, who presented the Drammen lodge with an engraved gavel.

The lodge, with 51 adult members, has brought 39 new members into the Sons of Norway.

Drammen Lodge is located in New Bern NC. They have a very active program and have already acquired a “Viking Boat” that they hope to start sailing shortly.



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The lodge took 13 months from the start to the Institution. That was a very short time. President Arthur Ellison is a past member of the Nørrona Lodge. Drammen Lodge is the 52nd active lodge in District Three.



Arthur and Christine Ellison

Drammen Installation!





Installations

Pictures are presented in no particular order; congratulations to all our officers; you are what make the Sons of Norway great!!!

Nansen



Outgoing President (Left) Paul Kornbrekke
Incoming President Brian Olsen.

Bondelandet



Færder





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Southern Star



Gateway to Florida





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Upcoming Events

March

- 1st Sarasota - Lodge meeting
- 7th Gulfstream - corned beef & cabbage
- 7th Henrik Ibsen- bowling
- 7th Norumbega - learn about Leif's sister-in-law
- 8th Nor-bu - folk dancing
- 12th Troll - Installation of Officers
- 12th Sun Viking - Vikings in Ireland
- 13th Zone 6 Memorial Service
- 13th Blåfjell - St. Patrick's Day Parade
- 13th Southern Star - St. Patrick's Day Parade
- 13th Hudson Valley - meeting at Maennerchor
- 16th Suncoast - Social Meeting
- 17th Suncoast - Bowling
- 19th-20th Gateway to Florida - [Viking Boat Regatta](#)
- 19th Henrik Ibsen - Brothers night
- 19th Norrøna - St. Patrick's Day
- 19th Noreg - corned beef dinner
- 19th Suncoast - Spaghetti dinner
- 20th Nor-bu -St. Patrick's Day Dinner
- 20th Bernt Balchen - Fisherman's flea market
- 21st Noreg - Music Sunday
- 21st Færder - Bowling followed by lapskaus dinner
- 21st Hartford - author David Faxon discusses his book re the murder of two Norwegian immigrants
- 22nd Nor-bu - folk dancing
- 27th Nansen - Viking Auction
- 27th Lauderdale - St. Patty's Day Social
- 28th Noreg - Culture Sunday

April

- 5th Sarasota - Lodge meeting
- 9th Sun Viking - Easter Bonnet Parade
- 9th Norumbega - potluck supper
- 10th Sun Viking - Picnic at Crews Lake Park
- 10th Hudson Valley - Yutes night at Maennerchor
- 11th Færder - Sisters Night
- 11th Gulfstream - Norske & Svenske meatballs
- 15th Bernt Balchen - Crazy hats night
- 16th Norrøna -Argentine Tango dancers
- 17th Nor-bu - Brother's Night
- 17th Suncoast - Bowling
- 18th Zone 1 (Brooklyn) Memorial Service
- 18th Hartford - Ham Dinner
- 18th Zone 3 Scholarship Dinner at Noreg
- 20th Noreg - ladies auxiliary
- 24th Zone 4 Scholarship Dinner at LOV

- 24th Blåfjell - Nordic Immigration
- 25th Lauderdale - Spring Picnic
- 28th Noreg - Culture Sunday
- 30th-May2nd [LOV Golf Outing](#)

May

- 30th-May2nd [LOV Golf Outing](#)
- 2nd Færder - Kentucky Derby Dinner
- 2nd Gulfstream - Ham Dinner
- 2nd Zone 1 (Long Island) Memorial Service
- 14th Nansen - [Syttende Mai dinner dance](#)
- 14th Sun Viking - Syttende Mai celebration
- 15th Nansen - Syttende Mai picnic
- 15th Nor-bu - Syttende Mai dinner
- 16th [Syttende Mai parade in Brooklyn](#)
- 16th Lauderdale - Social in Miami
- 18th Noreg - ladies auxiliary
- 20th Bernt Balchen - Ole & Lena's wedding
- 21st Henrik Ibsen - May 17 culture presentation
- 21st Norrøna - membership drive dinner
- 25th Noreg - Culture Sunday

June

- 5th Bernt Balchen - Viking Dinner
- 6th Gulfstream - Picnic
- 9th-13th Third District Convention
- 12th Noreg - St. Hans Picnic
- 11th Sun Viking - mid-summer festival
- 13th Færder - business and bingo
- 15th Noreg - Ladies auxiliary
- 18th Henrik Ibsen - Strawberry Festival
- 19th Henrik Ibsen - yard sale
- 20th Hartford - Ice cream social
- 20th Noreg - Music Sunday
- 23rd Nor-bu - St. Hans Bonfire
- 26th Nansen - St. Hans Bonfire
- 26th Norrøna -St. Hans Dag picnic
- 27th Noreg - Cultural Sunday

Remember to post your events to the Events Calendar on our 3d website
<http://www.3dsofn.org/eventscalendar/>
Get the word out and remember one of our Vice President's "A's" - ADVERTISE

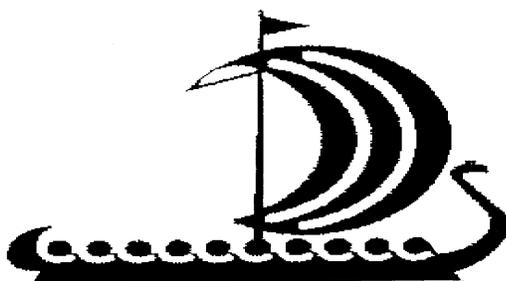


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SONS of NORWAY
61st Third District Convention
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
June 9 -13, 2010

Explore Your Heritage



WHEN: June 9-13 2010

WHERE: [Harrisburg Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center](#)
148 Sheraton Drive,
New Cumberland, Pa 17070
1-717-774-2721 (use group code SON)

COST: Rooms: \$101.00 (+ taxes) standard room
(Hotel will honor rate 3 days pre / post)

PACKAGES: \$285.00 Delegates / \$200.00 Non-delegates

Packages include at this time:

Registration Fee, Wednesday President's Reception, Thursday luncheon, Friday luncheon, Saturday Banquet and Dancing, Meet and Great with Dignitaries, Live Musical Entertainment, Cultural Displays, Viking Presentation, five (5) coffee breaks, including 25 tickets for the Viking Auction. Transportation from airport, bus or train station or parking for your auto.

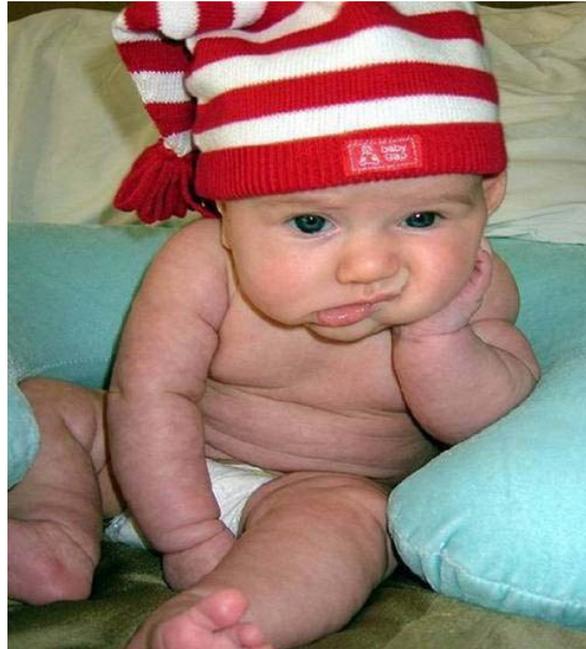
WEBSITE: <http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/mdtcc/hoteldetail#Hotel-Information>



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Parting Shot



This picture was taken from the March edition of Henrik Ibsen's courier with the caption "when the heck is spring coming?? If you live in the northern part of our District, you will understand this little one's expression just about sums it up! Think Spring!"

Some will say that the Irish can thank the Vikings for their red hair!! Happy St. Patrick's Day!!





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3D Officers

President, Ralph Peterson
Vice President, Gail Ekloff
Secretary, Marci Larson
Treasurer, John Gregg
Counselor, Louis Olsen
Youth Director, Evelyn Karpack
Sports/Recreation Director - Phil Nelsen
Publicity Director, Mary Andersen
Cultural Director, Karen Doty
Adopt A School Coordinators, The Olson's

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Zone 2 Director, Judith Mack
Zone 3 Director, Joan McKillop
Zone 4 Director, Arnold Johnsen
Zone 5 Director, Carol Anderson
Zone 6 Director, Kathy Dollymore

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