



SONS OF NORWAY

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

June 2022 Newsletter

BLA FJELL LODGE SUPPORTS A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Newsletter is sent Saturday two weeks before a meeting. Input is due the Thurs before it goes out.

Administrative officers:

Co-President: Sharon Rohrback 540-774-0006; cell ph: 540-521-1384

Co-President: Cheri Johnson 540-556-3611 cell phone.

Vice President: vacant

Treasurer: Cheri Johnson 540-556-3611 cell phone.

Corresponding Sec'y: Kathy Clark 540-977-2349

Recording Sec'y: Marilyn Barrier -1-972-697-6096

Membership Sec'y: Joann Barfield 540-380-2926

Editor: Sharon Rohrback 540-774-0006

Blå Fjell's website: sonsofnorwayblafiell.org

Facebook group: <http://www.facebook.com/SonsOfNorwayBlåFjell>

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 (except when special events.)

Fourth Saturday of each month, 1:00-3:00 PM

at College Lutheran Church, 210 South College Avenue, Salem, VA

NEXT MEMBER MEETING: JUNE 25, 2022, 1-3 pm

Program: Identity Theft

AND we look forward to welcoming to our meeting Gabrielle "Brie" Olson, a Sons of Norway scholarship recipient from Forest, Virginia, who will be attending Anderson University in South Carolina in the Fall. It will be most interesting to hear details of the SON scholarship process but also about lodge membership from the perspective of a college student!

Snack and beverage provided by Helene DeVries.

Bring your saved stamps for SON Tubfrim **and** your canned goods for Salem Food Pantry.

Thank you to the Membership Committee calling team for phone call reminders before each mtg.

CLC means College Lutheran Church.

6/3 & 6/4/22: 8am-2pm: Yard Sale fundraiser at home of Cheri.

6/25/22 1-3 at CLC **Pgm: Identity Theft by Lucy Hochstein** **Snack&Bev'age: Helene**

7/23/22 3-5pm: Lodge Picnic at Joann Barfield's home. Food: all

August: month off

9/24/22 1-3 at CLC **Nordic auction/bake sale/yard sale** Snack Karen; Bev'age Sharon:

10/22/22 1-3 **Anniv (26th) mtg at restaurant:** Time/Place tbd Each pays own meal.

Announce Candidates for Nov election

11/19/22 1-3pm at CLC. Election of Officers for 2023-2024. Snack Cheri; Bev'age ???

12/10/22 1-3pm at CLC. **JULEFEST (full meal)** Food: all; St. Lucia procession

MEMBER NEWS

June Birthdays

Arne Olsen 6/9

Prayers

--Safe travel for Sharon as she flies out to visit Iowa family for two weeks. Sharon will miss this June meeting.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"If you love nature, you will find beauty everywhere."

Vincent Van Gogh

shared by a friend in Sharon's Blue Ridge Wildflower Society club

FOR DISTRICT 3 NEWS: www.3dsofn.org.

Open Menu tab. Select document from pull-down menu.

Third District TDT is sent Quarterly...President's Message Monthly;...Blog shows many interesting posts including our Bla Fjell lodge newsletter (we are trying to shorten length of our newsletters, so in most cases we will provide the links instead of printing the full articles. Sharon Rohrback, Editor)

Excerpt from 3D outgoing President Kathy Dollymore.

This will be my last District President's letter that I will be sending out monthly. At the 66th District Convention/Meeting in Jacksonville, FL in June, I will be stepping down as President of the Third District. I've been pleased to have served over 14 years in many offices on the District Board. I am fortunate to have been able to meet and get to know so many of our leaders and members over the years. Men and women who have the best thoughts for our Tremendous Third. As a board and as individuals you are all tremendously talented, and I feel lucky to have volunteered by your side these past years. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your Third District President. Support your new District Board. They are working hard for you all. Fraternally, Kathy Dollymore, Third District President

Excerpt from Dirk Hansen notice. Annual June "Longest Day" Alzheimer's fundraiser notice (Each member should have received an e-mail from Sharon with the entire message.)

Every June District 3 has a fundraising effort throughout our membership for "The Longest Day". Many lodges are now doing Walks and other events to go along with this. We have activated this same team again for 2022. Dirk Hansen requested that Sharon pass the below link along to our membership, whether our lodge will be doing an event or not.

http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=15144&pg=team&team_id=748673

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

--We had two special lodge events (May Local Colors and June Yard sale. Articles follow later in the newsletter. Thank you, Cheri, for being event chair for both.

--Third District Convention thank you: to Joann Barfield and Sharon Rohrback, voting delegates for Blå Fjell lodge, who virtually attended Saturday June 11 8am-4:30pm; and Sunday 8am-noon.

submitted by Cheri Johnson and Sharon Rohrback, co-Presidents

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*******NOMINATING COMMITTEE MESSAGE*******

We need candidates to fill the below positions for two-year term 2023 and 2024. Election will be at the November meeting. Please volunteer to take a leadership role. We want to give everyone an opportunity to participate.

Contact: Sharon Rohrback (email slrohrback@aol.com, cell phone 540-521-1384) or
Karen Rice (email kar13ster@gmail.com, phone 540-597-9807)

Anyone who wants to nominate themselves to a position or take themselves out of a position they don't want, or create a position not mentioned below should contact Sharon or Karen.

Positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Editor, Cultural Director, Foundation Director, Website Administrator, Facebook Administrator, Fraternal Gives database administrator, Director of Children's Activities.

Note: because of Sharon's plan to move to Iowa by Fall 2023, she will not be a candidate for any positions.
submitted by Sharon Rohrback and Karen Rice

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MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

In lieu of a May 2022 lodge meeting, we participated in Roanoke Local Colors event.
Marilyn Barrier, Recording Secretary

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MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY MESSAGE.

Based on recent fundraising activities, Blå Fjell Lodge appears to be in exceptionally good health! Not only were the May Local Colors and June Yard Sale very successful financially, but those events were especially good indications of the active participation of a large number of our members .. signs of a healthy organization! This is a quality worth mentioning when you talk with prospective lodge members about joining with us .. not only the immeasurable benefits of celebrating our heritage and culture together, but also the opportunities to activate the various talents and abilities of each of us, as we work together toward one goal!

Joann Barfield, Membership Secretary

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CULTURAL DIRECTOR MESSAGE

The program at the June meeting will be a presentation on identity theft by Lucy Hochstein. Come and learn how to be safer at home and online.

Lucy Hochstein and JoAnn Stephens-Forrest, co-directors

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DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES MESSAGE

In May the children participated in the Local Colors Festival by coming to our booth and writing their name in Runic and drawing Viking symbols on wood. They always enjoy this activity and little freebee Swedish fish were given upon completion. We brought many other activities, but most kids did not want to do them. Next year we will stick to the simple things they enjoy. No activities are planned for the summer months.

Cheri Johnson, Director of Children's Activities

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JUNE YARD SALE June 3 & 4, 2022 – very successful

From Cheri Johnson, Event Chair, June 6, 2022

Dear loyal friends of the Sons of Norway,

I am happy to report that we had a very successful summer yard sale last weekend. We received more donations from members and other friends than ever before. It took a lot of preparation ahead of time and a set of antique cameras were put in a lot on auction and brought in \$130.00! Our 2-day total was \$600.00, with a final total of \$730.00! That is more than we have ever made! Perhaps we won't have one

next year!! 😊

Special thanks to Sharon for putting in so many many hours both days and contributing 2 carloads! Special thanks to the workers who sorted and priced beforehand, and to those who ran the sale and convinced people to buy items like Marilyn, Becky, my husband Don, Joann Barfield, Jo Stephens-Forrest, and myself. I kept exiting because I didn't feel good, but I knew the show would go on and everyone kept it going. Contributors were Kathy, Joann, Jo, Marilyn, Cheri, Sharon, Robin (who moved to Tennessee), Larry and Marie, Helene, Karen and Scott Rice, Carolyn and Walter, and a good friend, Shari Taylor. A second hand of applause to the drivers who took the extras to Rescue Mission and Goodwill like Becky, Jo, and Don. This yard sale was quite the undertaking, and we need to simplify for our next fundraiser. 😞

Our last fundraiser will be at the end of September and that will be our Nordic Auction. I love to come home with new treasures and some baked goods! Once again, thanks for all your help pricing, sorting, selling, contributing and buying. We are a team! Let's keep up our hard work and support for our small lodge of 28 people! Mange Takk



A special " shout out" to my husband Don who always helps more than he should. He was an asset to the lodge! Love that man! ❤️

LOCAL COLORS MAY 21, 2021 - very successful
from Cheri Johnson, Event Chair

Dear Sons of Norway friends, We did it! We passed our goal at Local Colors and made \$574.00!!! Thank you to the "sewing committee "that made gnomes at my house and at home! Becky, Annita, Karen Rice, Robin, Diane a friend, and myself. We sold 30 out of 36! Thank you to the "Bakers" who made food, priced and bagged it, and even delivered it! Helene, Kathy, Joann, Marilyn, Becky, Annita, Robin, Sharon, Larry, Marie, Inga, and myself. Thank you, Jesus, for a beautiful day and the workers who marched in the parade and sold goods like Marie, Larry, Larry's nephew Kilby, Inga, Joann, Sharon, and myself. We only had 3 packages left and Don ate them! Thank you to Stephen who helped us all with heavy objects, loading and unloading, working with children! He is amazing and the people like him ! Thank you to Joann who was visibly tired from her journey but greeted people and had 14 people sign up to learn more about SON. Thank you to JoAnn Stephens-Forrest for donating money to the pot and money for Stephen. JoAnn was not able to attend. Finally, Big shout out to my husband, Don, who took all our stuff to the event and took all the stuff down with the help of Stephen. ❤️ Be proud of yourself! We worked together and were successful!

In addition to the GREAT funds raised, we had 14 folks sign up for more information on Sons of Norway. Joann has sent individual follow-up letters to each of these prospects, and we hope to see some of them at our upcoming events .. the June meeting, with the timely program on Identity Theft, and the July Lodge picnic at Joann Barfield's home.

Pictures follow on the next page.

PICTURES AT LOCAL COLORS 2022 - FROM CHERI JOHNSON FACEBOOK POSTINGS.

Blå Fjell Lodge booth from 10am-5pm.

14 member volunteers donated food and/or hand-made gnomes (Nisse and Tomte) to sell; free literature; and free craft material at Children's Table. 7 of them worked booth shifts in 90-degree weather.

Marie Pendleton, lodge's master baked goods seller. Others helped also.

Stephen helping kids at Children's table. All free.



Leif

Gudrun

Gnomes made from white socks. Nordic names Nisse and Tomte



Ukraine was Local Color's featured country, first in the Parade of Nations lineup. We made new friends and found ways to help the group right here in Roanoke



Vikings of the Valley members were on the lawn next to our booth
Jeffrey's daughter was near the parade lineup,
so, we welcomed her to join us.
beautiful music all afternoon.

Jeffrey Rigdon served as
Bla Fjell president for a couple
of years. It was nice to see him.



SHORT ARTICLES/LINKS of interest.

1. Remembering Col. Gail Halvorsen: "The Candy Bomber"

(shared by member Todd Solberg)

--Have a look at the youtube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MhqNb40911E>

--And this HTTPS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5iaWzIX4mp0>

It is with a heavy heart we share the news that 101-year-old the United States Air Force Col. [#GailHalvorsen](#), affectionately known as the "Berlin Candy Bomber," has passed. Read more about his

selfless actions during the Berlin airlift after World War II ended here  <http://spr.ly/6184KpA9G>
Berlin Wall

After increasing tensions between the **Soviets** and the Western powers during the first 15 years of the Cold War, the Soviet Union decided to build a physical barrier between East and West Berlin, thereby creating a real counterpoint to the symbolic "Iron Curtain" that had divided East and West since 1945. Until November 9, 1989.

2. [Why Greenland's Vikings Disappeared](#) -- an msn.com online article

(shared by Bla Fjell friend Elaine Becker Fischer. Right click on above link; specify Open Hyperlink.

The screens returned shows the news article and this link appears at top.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/why-greenland-s-vikings-disappeared/>)

Excerpt: A group of brave adventurers ventures forth into a wild, unforgiving environment, full of snow and ice. They prosper for a while but then, as suddenly as they descended upon the massive island, they disappear. Those who come after them find only silent homesteads devoid of life. Even centuries later, researchers can glean only small details from the remains left behind by the colonists. Where did these people go?

That's certainly how the narrative of the Greenland Vikings goes if you consult sources like Norwegian missionary Hans Egede. According to the World History Encyclopedia, he arrived in Greenland in 1721, the first known European to land there since the local Norse people went quiet in the 15th century. Egede meant to convert the descendants of the Vikings who had settled there many centuries ago, but he was surprised to learn that no one was home. There were only long-abandoned ruins of farms, homes, and churches. After traipsing about the island and finding no one of Scandinavian descent, Egede instead turned his attention to the local Inuit people (via Visit Greenland).

But where had the Vikings gone? And how could an entire group of people disappear? Egede, focused as he was on Christianity and colonization of his own design, didn't really find answers. Later researchers have attempted to tackle these questions. They've gotten closer to solving the mystery, though some of the details still remain out of reach.

3. Norwegian heritage: Norwegian Brooklyn

(shared by member Todd Solberg) Excerpt below from Sharon Rohrback

This article originally appeared in the July 10, 2015, issue of the Norwegian American Weekly.

NORWEGIAN BROOKLYN

<https://www.norwegianamerican.com/norwegian-brooklyn/>

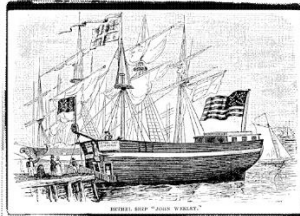


Photo courtesy of the Norwegian Immigration Association

*Before moving to a permanent building, **the Bethel Ship church** served Norwegian sailors.*

Lois Berseth

The Norwegian Immigration Association

Many of us know the history of the Norwegian colony in Bay Ridge. However, was this the first neighborhood Norwegian immigrants inhabited? Where was the first colony? And when did it start?

Many people consider that the beginning of Norwegian immigration to the U.S. took place on July 4, 1825, when the “sloop” *Restauration* left Stavanger, Norway, for the U.S. Most of those passengers continued on to Kendall, Orlean County, in upstate N.Y.

The second mass migration occurred in 1880. At the same time, there was a transition from sail to steam. Many of the young sailors who came on these ships “jumped ship” and stayed in New York. Brooklyn replaced Manhattan as the shipbuilding, ship repairing, and docking center.

By the 1870s, migrating to first Brooklyn settlement, “Old South Brooklyn,” near the shipping activity in Red Hook. **In early 1900s**, the third mass migration. Many of them settled in this first Norwegian community in Brooklyn. **The churches followed the people to Brooklyn. One of these churches was the Bethel Ship, which was actually a ship moored off a dock in Red Hook.** This church later moved to a regular building and became The Norwegian Seamen's Church. The peak of the Norwegian community in Bay Ridge lasted through the 1950s or 60s.

What is the current status of the Norwegian community in Brooklyn? In the 1980s, the Norwegian Seamen's Church relocated from “downtown Brooklyn” to Manhattan. They hold

church services in Norwegian every Sunday. Many other societies exist now. The Scandinavian East Coast Museum. The Leif Erikson Society of Brooklyn. The Scandinavian East Coast Museum . Two of the Sons of Norway Lodges established in Brooklyn are still active today: and meet regularly in Bay Ridge: Brooklyn Lodge and Færder Lodge. GjØa Sporting Club is still also active. The 17th of May Norwegian Constitution Day Parade is still held in Bay Ridge on the Sunday closest to May 17. There is a new group on Facebook called Brooklyn Norwegians. It consists of people who grew up in the Norwegian community of Brooklyn. They reminisce, trade recipes and old photos, and plan to march as a group in this year's parade.

To subscribe, visit **SUBSCRIBE** or call us at (206) 784-4617.

RECIPE from Kathy Clark

LEMON FLUFF PIE

Very easy to make.

1 - 3 oz package lemon flavored jello

1 - cup boiling water

1/2 cup cold water

1 - 8 oz carton lemon yogurt

1 - 8 oz container cool whip, thawed

1 - premade graham cracker crust

add 1 cup boiling water to jello. stir for 2 minutes. Add 1/2 cup cold water. Chill till it looks like egg whites. Fold in yogurt and cool whip. Pour into graham cracker crust and chill until firm.

HUMOR

From Sharon's cousin, Karla, in Colorado. If you are like me (Sharon) my head rolls with thoughts, especially in very busy times, and they interrupt each other. Some of my fellow lodge members know this well, when I can't remember where I laid something down or say "I'll see you at church tomorrow" when it is only Friday.

I don't have a train of thought I have
seven trains on 4 tracks that narrowly
avoid each other when the paths cross
and all the conductors are screaming

LINKS

TO SON International, THIRD DISTRICT, 3D ZONE7 LODGE's and INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

****For Sons of Norway International news: sonsofnorway@sofn.com (sofn.com)

****Third District President message: www.3dsofn.org

Third District Today news: www.3dsofn.org for all the news.

Third District Lite news: [expect this from e-mail message](#)

Third District Events Calendar:www.3dsofn.org/newsletter/index.html

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

3D (Third District) 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:
[//http://scandinaviancelebrationmb/](http://http://scandinaviancelebrationmb/)

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: (for free travel information, you now must retrieve the information online. Free packets are no longer provided. 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.comwww.visitfinland.com

www.inspiredbyiceland.comwww.visitnorway.com

www.visitsweden.com

PLAN TO ATTEND EACH AND EVERY LODGE MEETING AND ACTIVITY!

For the Love of Norway!!

