

June – August message – District President Kathy Dollymore

I hope everyone had an excellent 17<sup>th</sup> of May Day. Did you celebrate with family and friends, did you decide to have a quiet day flying your Norwegian flag and playing music, did you march in parades, did you feast on lutefisk, kumla, lefse, or Fårikål, maybe hot dogs and hamburgers? Whatever you did I hope it was fun. I was in Brooklyn for the parade there. It was a beautiful day of sunshine, marching bands, bunads and good wishes and flags flying from the sidelines. Wonderful to see the Norwegian Spirit still alive and well at “Lapskaus Boulevard” We were honored to have SON International President Ron Stubbings, as Honorary Marshall, and wife Riitta showing off their dancing skills as we marched along.

I've just returned from the District President's Advisory Council meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota and I am proud to announce to all of District Three that we are number one in the whole order in Retention and Recruitment. Congratulations to you all for doing what you're doing, bringing new friends into our lodges to share our heritage and celebrations.

We were busy going over what works and what needs doing in each District. You can be proud of the way D3 shows itself. Between the programs presented, the LLST(local lodge support team), the outreach to communities, and making each member important we are doing something right. On the visits I have made so far to the lodges I am so impressed with the dedication I have seen of all our members. I will be trying to visit all our lodges and I have no doubt that dedication will be seen in those lodges too.

Now that summer is just around the corner and we have just a year to the D3 Convention, I hope your lodges are finding ways to help send delegates to the meeting. From what I was able to see in Jacksonville, when I visited the event facility, the hotel is exceptional, right on the St. John's river. More information will be forthcoming from the committee, they are a great group doing a first-rate job for us.

The mornings are a wonderful time for a walk or a swim, think about the sports medal program and getting an award. Talk to your Lodge Sports Director for more information. Take care with sun exposure, keep yourself safe swimming, boating and other summer activities. I enjoy my gardening while listening to my books-on-tape but so far there is no medal for that so it's off to walk around the block for me.

If your lodge is one of those taking the summer months off, remember to take a “Join Now” membership application with you as you enjoy the summer, you never know who you'll meet on travels. Let's all get one new member for our lodge between now and September.

**Vi skal ikkje sova bort sumarnatta, Ho er for ljøs til det.**

**We should not sleep away the summer night, It is too light for that.**



Have a happy, healthy and safe summer and don't forget to send in your pictures

Fraternally, Kathy