

Palm Desert www.solskinn.org Editor: Steinar Johansen January 2016



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The President 2016

Happy New Year to all our friends in Solskinn Lodge.

January is the “National Mentoring Month”.

2015 was a happy and exciting year for our Lodge and for me as President.

Just to mention a few things we did last year: we celebrated our 25th Anniversary; we had a pig wedding for the Foundation; we held Norwegian language classes; we had movies, Happy Hours, Lunch Bunches, Hardanger & hand work classes. We also had visits to other lodges, flag raising on 17th of May, Kretsstevne, food drive, book donation, Board meetings, and last but not least, our wonderful Christmas party with visitors from other Lodges members, and music by our own member - Steinar Johansen.

I feel our Lodge is a “Happy Place” and a place we can be proud of, and I know you are inviting people you meet to visit with us. It only takes a “what is your background” kind of question.



The board is working hard to come up with exciting things to do, so if you have any ideas, please let a board member know. So far, we are looking to adopt a school, and this June Sons of Norway District Six will have their biennial Convention in Colorado where I am sure we will be getting some new and exciting information.

We are also looking for a person to handle the Lunch Bunch, and a Financial Secretary to help Nancy. So if you find yourself with a little down time, please come and help.

There are several Cultural Skills Pins to be earned, and if you have children or grandchildren that are of college age, there are scholarships you can apply for; there is even one for a Summer School session in Norway.

And don't forget the Language and Heritage camps at Camp Norge in the summer.

Be sure to read the Event Calendar and call or email in your reservations.

*Fraternally,
Berit Reistad
President Solskinn Lodge*

Hear Ye Hear Ye

The Lodge is in need of a new Treasurer/Financial Secretary.

If you like to “play” with numbers, and would like to be an officer for the

**Lodge, please call Nancy.
760-343-0848**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION/TIME
Jan 2, Sat	Hardanger	11:00, Morongo Valley rsvp to Luella 760-363-7704
Jan 12, Tues	Business meeting	3:30 Nancy Madson's home call 760-343-0848
Jan 16, Sat	Social	10-2 Lefse demonstration and meatball contest, meatball lunch
Jan 18, Mon	Happy Hour	4:30 Stuff Pizza, Westfield Mall, PD. RSVP to David Lutes davidjlutes@yahoo.com or call 760-674-1933
Jan 21, Thurs	Hardanger	TBA
Jan 25, Mon	Luther College Concert	7-8:30 St Margaret's church, PD. Tickets \$20.00
Feb 11, Thurs	Hardanger	2:00 Phyllis Peterson RSVP to 760-200-1306
Feb 20, Sat	Social	Viking Program
Mar 19, Sat	Heritage Day	

Out of the Valley		
Feb 28, Sun	Son of The Vikings	Vic Lopez Auditorium, Shitter High School, Whitter, CA For information call 562-698-8626
June 19-22	District Six Convention	Loveland, CA

Meatball Contest

Please fill out the form that we have on our website under the newsletter link if you plan to participate.

January Birthdays

7	Schwankl Betty E
10	Bessaes Dorothy
10	Lingle Sammie Lee
12	Taylor Jeanie Peterine
19	Ness Chris
21	Norby Susan E
21	Wisler Lavonne M
30	Richardson Brandon

Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år! Ja, deg vil vi gratulere!
 Alle i ring omkring deg vi står, og se, nå vil vi marsjere.
 Bukke, nikke, neie, snu oss omkring, danse så for deg med hopp og sprett og spring, ønske deg av hjertet alle gode ting og si meg så, hva vil du mere?
 Gratulere!

“Every Member Get a Member”



Starting January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, District Six has a special membership recruitment program. For every new adult member that is referred by a Sons of Norway member, and that referring member's name is indicated on the membership form, that member will receive a \$5.00 gift card from the District. No limitation

on the number of members you may recruit.

For further information, contact District Six Vice President Luella Grangaard at 760-363-7704 or morongo2@verizon.net.

Coming January 2016

Mark Your Calendar for January 16

Meatball Contest and

Lefse Making demonstration

Bring your Friends.

You won't want to miss this

Obituary



Ardis Kathleen Willis

Ardis Kathleen Willis, a Coachella Valley resident since 1948, passed away peacefully of natural causes on November 30, 2015. She was 92. Ardis was born September 17, 1923 to Ahnfelt and Elise Rufsvold in Fort Ransom, North Dakota the youngest of nine children. After graduating from the [University of Minnesota](http://www.umn.edu) she ventured west to Los Angeles where she met and married the love of her life Everett Willis. They came to the Valley in 1948, built a home in Thousand Palms and started their family. Ardis continued her education taking courses over several summers and obtained her teaching credential. She taught kindergarten with Palm Springs Unified from 1965 to 1986. She enjoyed her summers at the family retreat overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Rosarito, Mexico. After Everett passed away she relocated to Portola Country Club in Palm Desert. She enjoyed singing with the community choir as well as the local chapter of Sweet Adelines. She was also an active member of The Sons of Norway. Ardis is preceded in death by eldest son Steven and husband Everett. She is survived by sons Lynn (Cherylann), Todd (Melissa), three grandchildren Jason, Eric, and Stephanie, and three great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers please send donations in Ardis's name to Lucy Curci Cancer Center.

*Obituary is a copy from
<http://mydesert.com>*

What is happening in Norway today.

Christmas is now over and we hope that everyone has had a calm and peaceful time with friends and family.

Not all of Norway had a white Christmas. There was a lack of snow in the South, but a lot of snow in the Northern areas. A fatal snow avalanche occurred in Svalbard with 2 fatalities, including many houses moved hundreds of yards and demolished in the aftermath.

In the Business chapter, the low price of oil has made a deep impact on the labor market in the oil business and in the value of the Nkr versus the US dollar. Consequently, this is the time for the US resident to take advantage of the price discrepancy to travel to Norway. The economy in Sweden is more stable, not being associated with the oil downturn. Recently, the Swedish Skr is about equivalent to the Nkr. So, even a visit to Sweden is recommended if living in the US

In the Political arena, Norway is trying to limit the intake of refugees due to the non-availability of jobs and housing. The volume of refugees coming to Sweden is much more than to Norway.

Sweden is one of the European countries taking in more of an influx per capita. Those who have arrived are staying in refugee areas located in abandoned old schools and hotels in various communities throughout the country. Because of the big cultural conflict, some regions are trying to educate the male refugees as to the local traditions and manner of life, especially as related to women. This is a common problem in the total regions of Scandinavia, and a negative side of the government idea to open the borders to refugees, requiring the teaching of thousands of foreign persons to assimilate into western cultural ideas.

Norway has the intention of treating the new arrivals in a proper way, but the authorities are finding this a burden due to the great numbers who are arriving.

Sports: It seems to be a good winter sports season this year. Our athletes are sweeping the podiums for medals...cross-country, alpine skiing and ski jumping. Both men and women are winning. We are waiting for the Swedish athletes to move on, that is the biggest threat for the Norwegians. It is like a love and hate relation, and competition between our countries. But in Ice hockey, Sweden is one of the best in the world, many players in the NHL. These are the old National sports, more-or-less, by tradition.

The women's handball World Championship in Denmark during December was won by the Norwegian team.

We are the champions!

*Submitted by
Ulf Lokke*

Foundation, Grants & Scholarships.

Sons of Norway Foundation Grant Funds available for lodges and members. What is your lodge or community planning where extra funding could enhance the experience? All grant applications are done online at www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation.

Local Lodge Partnership Grants - Due January 15, 2016 - for lodge events and Norwegian themed programming at the lodge level. Matching funds grants up to \$1,000.

General Heritage & Culture Grants - Due February 1, 2016 - for community-wide Norwegian themed events, musical & theatrical performances, Cross-cultural exchange groups, Nordic cultural fairs, etc. Funds up to \$1,500 for events happening within the 2016 calendar year.

Helping Hands to Children Grants - Due February 15, 2016 - For lodges helping in local schools with student mentoring, school supplies or Norwegian themed presentations, lodge events for children. matching funds up to \$500.

Sons of Norway Foundation Post High School Scholarships - Deadlines begin March 1, 2016

Did you know that the Sons of Norway Foundation offers college scholarships starting at \$1,000 for current members, children or grandchildren of current members? This is a great member benefit. Have the college students in your family check out www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation. We currently offer seven categories of scholarships for different areas of study. All scholarship applications are done online.

The Sons of Norway Foundation awards approximately \$100,000 in grants and scholarship annually.

Please advise your Social Directors, Cultural Directors, Youth Directors and members of these opportunities.

*Submitted by
Corrie Knudson,
Director, Sons of Norway Foundation*

Solskinn Lodge Members

Here is a wonderful opportunity for you, your kids or grandkids to get grants or scholarships. Take a look at the article above and pay attention to the different deadlines. It is a requirement that applicants are members of Sons of Norway. If they aren't, get them a membership as a gift and apply for available grants or scholarships.

*Submitted by
Steinar Johansen*

Foundation

A Happy New Year from Priscilla and Porky. They spent an enjoyable time during the holidays in Farmer Johnson 's barn- yard - the pig pen to be sure.

They were

most gratified that Mrs. Johnson decided to have turnkey for the holidays rather than ham. The couple, just back from their honeymoon, are safe for at least another year.

Three little piglets have come along during their honeymoon and Farmer Johnson will be caring for them as well as Priscilla and Porky. These little additions, of course, will cost Farmer

Johnson more in feed and maintenance.

While talking with Farmer Johnson about his eventful year - 2015 - we came up with the figure of \$1000 to support them and future piglets during 2016.

A memorial donation has been made to Solskinn Lodge's Foundation in the amount of \$50. A good start for the coming year.

Pig Note: If you have a little Pink that needs to be emptied, please bring it to our January 16th meeting.

*Thank you for all your support.
Dave Lutes
Foundation Director*

**Announcement:
A few gifts were left at the
Christmas party.
If you got home without yours,
please call me.**

Berit 760-485-1130

Spreading our Culture and Heritage

Several months ago your board voted to buy a book to be placed in every elementary library in the Desert Sands Unified School District. The book selected was "The Trouble with Trolls" that tells about a little girl who, with her dog, goes into the mountains to visit her aunt. Of course she encounters



trolls along the way who would like her dog. The story tells about how she outsmarts the trolls.

The above picture was taken when Nancy Madson, Ulf Lokke and I presented a copy of the book to the Board of Education. Another opportunity to let the public know we are in the valley.

Adopt A School

The International Office of the Sons of Norway has a program whereby lodges can adopt a school. A first step is to select a school and then determine what their needs are. Your Board is asking you to recommend a school that you feel might need a little extra help. That help may be in the form of bus passes, materials for the classrooms, perhaps attending a school function - social or athletic. So, please let me know if you have observed or worked in a school that needs a little extra help.

Contact: David Lutes
davidjlutes@yahoo.com or 1 760 674-1933

Name Badges Available

We all meet members or guests at our functions and we may have seen them but have no idea of their name.

If you didn't receive a name badge when you joined, please contact Bev Nabors to order one. The badge includes Sons of Norway at the top, your name, and our lodge name and city.

Those who have lost their badge may order one for \$8.50.

I have name badges for the following: Carl Lewke, Bob and Valerie Greding, Linda Lunstrum and Sven Lerche. These may be picked up at our next social/dinner meeting January 16th.

*Submitted by
David Lutes*

January Happy Hour

An effort is made each month to move our Happy Hour from one end of the valley to the other. However, at this time of year, the restaurants in the west end of the valley are very busy with winter visitors.

Several other suggestions have been checked out and the results showed the Smoke Tree BBQ in Palm Desert is too small and the Tilted Kilt is closed. An executive decision has been made to hold our January Happy Hour at: Stuff Pizza in the Westfield Shopping Mall in Palm Desert, Monday, January 18th at 4:30.

If you plan to attend, please call or email me ...

davidjlutes@yahoo.com or 1 760 674-1933.

Luther College to Perform

The Luther College Choir, located in Decorah, Iowa, will perform at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church on Monday, January 25th. The program begins at 7:00 PM and tickets are \$20. You may order your ticket on line at dfom.org or at the door the night of the performance,

The church is located at 47-535 Highway 74 in Palm Desert, CA.

Contact Vaughn Simon for more information.
vlsimon@jhu.edu

From Cultural Director

Info from the cultural department.

We would like to see more of the different cultural/sport pins on our members.

If you would like to take part in some of it, please indicate your interest in the following areas:

Literature, language (Norwegian), cooking, knitting, Hardanger, Rosemaling, even woodcarving and figure carving.

On the sportskills, everything could be adjusted to your own capacity or abilities, for instance, walking

Contact info:

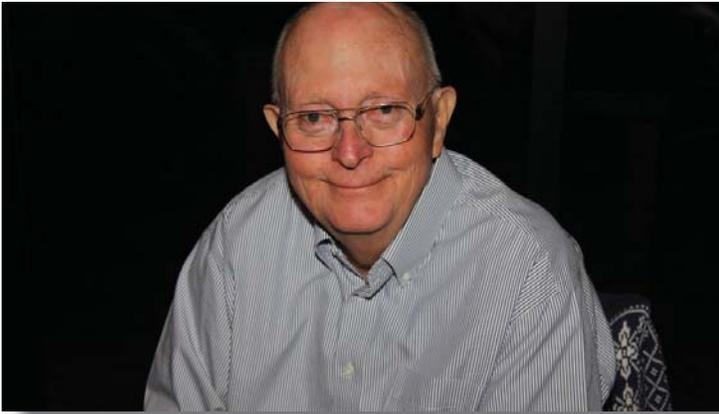
Ulf Lokke
760 - 834 - 8144
Ulflokke44@gmail.com



Byran Kaul & Chris Peoples



Sharon Lokke



Alan Jacobson



Margie Jacobson



Oranda & Darrel Sinclair



Luella Grangaard & Phyllis Peterson



Tone & Hal Chaplin



David Lutes

December Lunch Bunch

December Lunch Bunch at Miramonte Resort & Spa had a nice turnout. As usual, Dottie Bessares had put in a lot of energy to make this particular Lunch Bunch event as nice as possible.

The theme for the event was Christmas. She had decorated the table very professionally, as well as brought small Christmas things for those present. As a first timer at the Lunch Bunch, I was totally blown away how nice and cozy she made the event. And I was told that she always goes a few extra steps for those present. What a great quality that is.

As this was Dottie's last event as the responsible person for the Lunch Bunch group, I will take the opportunity to thank you for all the hard work you have done for the lodge and especially this event. I am sure that all participants are going to miss your leadership on this event. As you said, it is time for someone else to take over. I hope that we can find someone who will take upon this event because it is such a wonderful way to meet people with a similar interest.

Again Dottie, thank you for all the wonderful work you have done for the lodge and the Lunch Bunch Group.

*Submitted by
Steinar Johansen*



Solskinn Lodge Officers - 2015

President	Berit Reistad	485-1130
Vice President	David Lutes	674-1933
Secretary	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Treasurer	Nancy Madson	343-0848
Membership	Beverly Nabors	323-7179
Social Director	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Cultural Director	Sharon Lokke	834-8144
Editor:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
Publicity Director:	Berit Reistad	485-1130
Counselor:	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Sports Director	Ulf Lokke	834-8144
Sunshine Girl:	Charlotte Larsen	328-1791
	Linda Lathers	
Photographer:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
	Miriam Hendrix	320-9244
Foundation Director:	David Lutes	674-1933
Tubfrim Chairman:	Norm Larsen	328-1791
Tel. Tree Chairman:	Dottie Bessares	345-6586
Historian:	Lorna Albertsen	
Assist:		
Camp Norge:	David Lutes	674-1933
Happy Hour:	David Lutes	674-1933
Lunch Bunch:	Dottie Bessares	345-6586
Librarian:	Corrine Bjerke	360-5229
Auditors:	Norm Larsen	328-1791
	Debera Ellingboe	
	Richard Ellingboe	
	Bob Haagenson	
	Bob Hendrix	

Solskinn Lodge Lunch Social Saturday, Jan 16, 2016

Hope Lutheran Church Social Hall
45-900 Portola Avenue, in Palm Desert

10:00 Social

11:00 Lefse Demonstration

12:00 Meatball contest and lunch

Lunch: meatballs, coleslaw & dessert
With Reservation \$5.00 Member/\$7.00 non-member

With-out reservation \$7.00 member and non-member \$9.00

Program: Lefse demonstration by
Nancy Madson & Steinar Johansen
RSVP to David 760-674-1933

Save stamps
for tubfrim
cut 1/4 inch
around the stamp

PO-Box 2207
Palm Desert CA 92262

