



a newsletter for the Fort Worth Texas Lodge 1-654 of Sons of Norway

2803 Turnberry Drive #1222, Arlington, Texas 76006
JEberly@vlkarchitects.com 817-633-9610 (office) 817-633-9600 (fax)



UPCOMING EVENTS:

May Meeting

Thursday May 17th, 7:00 PM
Syttende Mai, Norwegian Dinner parade and lodge institution at St. Andrews Church.

June Meeting

Thursday June 14th, 7:00 PM St. Andrews Church.

Midsummer Event

Saturday June 23rd, 8:00 AM midsummer morning celebration in West Plano, with the other DFW Scandinavians groups. See inside for more information.

July 13-October 11, 2001 Smithsonian Exhibition on Vikings. Viking Tours in conjunction with Viking Fest has arraigned busses with day or overnight options. Prices range from \$75 for day trip to \$225 for overnight stay at the legendary Park Place Warwick Hotel on Main Street in Houston's Museum District. For more information check the website <http://www.vikingfest.com> Opening Weekend is July 14-15th!

July Meeting

Thursday July 19th, 7:00 PM Ol' South Pancake House. Note our summer location!

August Meeting

Thursday August 16th, 7:00 PM Ol' South Pancake House. Note our summer location!

September Meeting

Thursday September 20th, 7:00 PM St. Andrews Church. We are back at the regular meeting site.

October Meeting

Thursday October 18th, 7:00 PM St. Andrews Church.

Smithsonian Exhibition on Vikings



<http://www.mnh.si.edu/vikings/start.html>

The exhibit will be at the Houston Museum of Natural Science from July 13, 2001 to October 11, 2001. You can see the whole schedule at this web site.

<http://www.norway.org/vikings/>

Hvor Vesten Begynner Nyheter May 2001

a newsletter for the Fort Worth Lodge 1-654 of Sons of Norway

Velkommen to the 2001 Nyheter Volume Number 1; Issue Number 3

New Beginnings

REPRINTED FROM THE FIRST ISSUE:

Our name? What the heck is it? and how do you pronounce it?

Literally *hvor*=where, *vesten*= the west, *begynner*= begins/start. Fort Worth has long been considered "western" with the historic cattle industries and ranch life compared to its sister city to the East, Dallas. Also known as "Cowtown", Fort Worth's attitude is more laid back and relaxed in contrast to the hustle of big city life common in Dallas. Though high-tech and industrial today, Fort Worth remains a place where one enjoys their leisure life and is proud of its "Western heritage". Thus "Where the West Begins" was chosen for our lodge name. Members voted on the name on March 30, 1999 (some without being able to pronounce it, and almost everyone misspelling it for now) because we want to emphasize our culture and heritage. In the land where Spanish is so prevalent, we wanted to show our diversity and teach some of the local folk some Norsk!

Oh yeah, you pronounce it:

[vorr' ves'ten be-yen'-ner]

Lodge Website on the Internet:

http://members.nbci.com/jeberly/SoN/SoN_FW.html

Check the site out for the latest in lodge meetings and activities.

Lodge Meetings and Other Events

The lodge meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meetings are held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in downtown Fort Worth. Summer months we meet at

Ol' South Pancake House just South of I-30 on University Drive. (If the church door is locked, please ring door buzzer).

Come join us and become a charter member. Basic dues are \$29.00 for individual 12-month membership and \$22.00 for a spouse. Heritage Membership (under 12) is free. Gloden/Life Membership (over 65 with 30 years of membership in SofN) is \$18.00.

17 mai / May 17th

Syttende Mai falls on our meeting night and we have arraigned to finally become instituted by the home of-



fi. The big celebration of Syttende Mai and Institution Dinner will include traditional Syttende Mai fare including bunader (national dress) parade in downtown Fort Worth (around the church) and a Norwegian smorgasbord followed by our institution. Evening is to begin with traditional Syttende Mai parade around St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in downtown. Bring your flag and wear your bunad. Mange takk (many thanks) to all our visiting Sons of Norway dignitaries, other lodge members and special guests who will be joining us to celebrate the lodge's institution on this special day. See more information on page 11.

Midsummer Celebration 2001

On Saturday, June 23rd. the lodge will join with the Dallas Lodge (Nordtex) and ther Swedes (VASA lodge) and celebrate the Annual Midsummer Breakfast together with the other scandinavian clubs of DFW, the Finns (Tex-Finns) and the Danes at the Arbor Hills Nature Preserve in Plano. This Scandinavian tradition has been celebrated at least since the Viking times, and is an opportunity to interact with other Scandinavians from the Dallas area.

In recognition of Texas summer heat, however, the Midsummer celebration will be held from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon, beginning with a breakfast and followed by activities for all age groups. VASA and Sons of Norway will be cooking Swedish Pancakes and Norwegian waffles (*let's see who bakes the best*) and will provide coffee and other drinks. Admission is to bring a "potluck breakfast item to share", so we can have a delicious smorgasbord breakfast. After breakfast, events are being planned for different age groups which will include music, games, crafts, and a nature tour of the park.

Arbor Hills Nature Preserve is in far west Plano. There are beautiful covered pavilions built of cut stone, within a rolling natural landscape with wildflowers and other local plants and animals, and paved and unpaved trails for hiking, bicycling, rollerblading. etc. There is also a play area for small children.

The address is 6701 W. Parker Rd. in Plano, just past the #9 Plano Fire Station. The entrance to the park is on the North, about 1/2 mile West of the intersection of Parker Rd. and the Dallas North Tollway and past the four-way stop at Midway Rd. If coming via the Tollway, get off at the Parker Road Exit.

In order to help plan for this event, we ask you to please call Gus Stangeland phone: 972-231-1135 or gus@airmail.net and leave a message regarding approximately how many people may be attending.

Show your Viking roots, be part of Midsummer!

Scandinavian Association of Dallas/Fort Worth

<http://www.DFWscandinavians.org>

Preserving a Heritage/Insuring the Future

BENEFITS OF S of N MEMBERSHIP

1. Unites families of Norwegian descent in a common bond.
2. Sons of Norway is a true democratic society.
3. Extends "hand of fellowship" internationally (USA, Canada, and Norway).
4. Offers members financial security.
5. Provides opportunities for fellowship.
6. Promotes cultural activities.
7. Promotes heritage education.
8. Offers special travel programs
9. Provides opportunities to help others.
10. Sons of Norway is a non-profit organization
11. Sons of Norway members own the society.
12. Each member has a voice in its operation.
13. Members all belong to one of several hundred lodges.
14. Each member may: attend meetings, vote on all matters, hold office in the Lodge, and participate in any or all special events.
15. Members receive the Viking magazine each month.
16. Members are informed about subjects such as: society happenings and cultural events; news of Norway today; profiles of interesting people in Norway, Canada, & USA; announcements of travel programs; articles on genealogy; advertisements of products of special interest; and listing of lodge locations.
17. Special travel programs offered by districts include: charters & tours to Norway and 'Scandinavian cruises to interesting ports of call; and escorted tours to Norway and other places of interest.
18. Lodge visitation privilege to all US, Canadian, & Norwegian lodges.
19. Notification of heritage celebrations, such as Syttende Mai, Leif Erikson celebrations, Nordic fests, etc. to help plan your vacations.
20. Lodge social activities include activities such as: Foods, arts and crafts, sports, skiing, picnics, dances bus trips, talent shows, folk dancing, etc.
21. Norwegian Language Camps and classes for children and adults.
22. Services of International Headquarters in Minneapolis include: Information bank; book service; information on Norwegian crafts; membership; information internationally; film and slide programs on many sub-

jects; video programs for members use; and financial services

23. Preservation of Norwegian museums and landmarks.

24. Lodges become active in civic projects

25. Sons of Norway Foundation offers many additional programs.

25. Members may obtain insurance at special rates.

26. All insurance plans are available ONLY to members.

27. Plans available include: Life insurance; mortgage insurance; retirement insurance; annuities; health insurance and disability income, cancer insurance, medicare supplements; auto and home owners insurance.

28. Financial advice and planning assistance.

29. Inexpensive dues

30. Sons of Norway is true a Family organization.

A Little in English

The Fairy Tale of the Oil Has More Chapters

New calculations from Philips Petroleum indicate that Norway may pump oil from Ekofisk another fifty years. With that, the Norwegian fairy tale of the oil will last at least 20 years longer than expected so far.

In the original plans for the pioneering field Ekofisk, one calculated that the field would be empty as of today, 30 years after the start of the Norwegian oil production in 1971. Little by little, however, it became clear that this would not be the case, but during the later years the prospect for production at Ekofisk has been limited to a 20-year period. Prognosis after prognosis has warned that the oil age would be over within few decades.

The old prognoses have been far too pessimistic. Philips Petroleum announced, last week, the happy news that the fairy tale of the oil may continue for at least 50 years more. There is still as much oil left as one expected the field contained 30 years ago, states NRK (The Norwegian Broadcasting).

-Nytt fra Norge

The Month of May

There are many traditions around the month of May in Norway. It is the month when birds return, and flowers cover the forest floor like carpets. The singing of the cuckoo bird is welcomed as the true sign that spring has arrived, and summer will not be far behind. Superstitions around the cuckoo bird are many. If you first hear the cuckoo bird singing from the south, you will have a good harvest. If it sings from the north, someone will die. If it sings from west, your wishes will be fulfilled, and if it sings from the east, there will be a wedding and good fortune.

- From Hva dagene vet

Happy Syttende Mai Hurra for Syttende Mai

Litt på norsk

Ojjeeventyret har flere kapitler

Nye beregninger fra oljeselskapet Philips viser at Norge kan hente opp olje fra Ekofisk i femti år til. Dermed kan det norske oljeventyret vare minst 20 år lenger enn hittil antatt.

I de opprinnelige planene for pionerfeltet Ekofisk regnet man med at feltet ville være tomt per i dag, 30 år etter at den norske oljeproduksjonen startet i 1971. Det ble etterhvert klart at så ikke ville være tilfelle, men de senere år har utsiktene for fremtidig utvinning på Ekofisk vært begrenset til en 20 årsperiode. Prognose på prognose har varslet oljealderens slutt om få tiår.

Men de gamle prognosene har vært alt for pessimistiske. Philips Petroleum kunne i forrige uke slippe ut den glade nyhet at oljeventyret på feltet kan fortsette i minst 50 år til. Det er fortsatt like mye olje i den som det man trodde feltet inneholdt for tretti år siden, melder NRK.

-Nytt fra Norge

Frigjøringsdag 8 Mai 1945

May 8, 1945, Norway's Liberation Day

After five years under German occupation during World War II, Norway's long-awaited day of liberation came on May 8, 1945. At this time, Germany still had nearly 350,000 well-equipped and trained soldiers throughout Norway. But as the German army surrendered at several points on the European front, Norway at last received its liberation as well. Though Norway still feared that the German soldiers would not concede peacefully, hardly any incidents were reported during the liberation. Joy and gratitude swept through Norway and for several days the people celebrated. Never before had Syttende Mai been celebrated with such vigor as in 1945.

For a related topic, consider reading fellow Sons of Norway member Harald Revaa's fascinating book on survival after being torpedoed during World War II. The book is entitled *A Merchant Seaman's Story* and may be obtained from Cordillera Books, 8415 Granville Street, Box 46, Vancouver, BC V6P 4Z9.

Against Dieting

For the first time in Norway, a country-wide campaign will be launched to reduce eating disorders within sports. During the next four years, trainers, leaders, health personnel, active athletes and parents of young people will learn what they may do to counteract young girls' pre-occupation with having a low weight.

"In contrast to society in general, in sports we take the topic of eating disorders seriously," stated Dr. Jorunn Sundgot-Bergen, leader of the project.

- From *Nytt fra Norge*

Rock carving in Hundvåg

Two little girls, Alexandra Bore (8) and Marita Meling (9) in Hundvåg, Rogaland, have discovered rock carvings which date back to 1800 B.C. The rock carvings show people onboard a boat with a mast. Close by is a circular form. It might be a sign that the sun was worshiped, says archeologist Helge Sørheim. He describes the find as sensational and praises the two girls for notifying the right authorities.

- From *Nytt fra Norge*

The Month of June

With the light nights of June, even the trolls are out. You may hear the water spout shriek from deep forest ponds while the troll in the waterfall, fossegrimen, plays his violin and the elves dance in the grass. Female trolls may transform themselves into black cats. You might especially hear them meowing around the cemeteries. June is said to have only one day that is dangerous, June 6. People who leave to travel abroad on that day may not return. If you get married on that day, the marriage is doomed. Lucky days are June 1, 3, 11, 19, and 21. The flower of June is the rose, and the lucky gem is the agate.

- From *Hva dagene vet*

A Little in English

Ever More Ships Visit Bergen

Bergen was visited by cruise ships a total of 172 times in the year 2000, and with that beat Oslo. It is also a new record, states *Havneavisen* (newspaper).

Geiranger, too, had more ships calling than Oslo. Geiranger had 135, while Oslo had 112. Oslo was visited by the largest number of passengers, while Bergen had 109,000.

- From *SofN Newsletter service*

Litt på norsk

Stadig flere skip besøker Bergen

Bergen hadde besøk av cruiseskip hele 17 ganger i 2000, og slår dermed Oslo. Det er også ny rekord, melder *Havneavisen*. Også Geiranger hadde flere anløp enn Oslo. Geiranger hadde 135, mens Oslo hadde 112. Oslo hadde besøk av flest passasjerer, med 109.000, mens Bergen hadde 99.000.

God ferie!

(Have a nice vacation!)



We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all the people who have helped make the **Hvor Vesten Begynner Syttende Mai Dinner and Institution** a success.

Thanks to all the donors of the raffle items. They include: **Scandistyle** (<http://www.scandistyle.com>) for their Scandistyle package and art print; **Trollshop** (<http://www.trollshop.net>) for the Norway wall calenders they sent; **All Things Country** (6609 Lake Worth Blvd., Lake Worth) for their gift package; **Norwegian Trade Council** who graciously sent the book New Norway; **Charleston's Restaurant** (3020 S. Hulen, Ft. Worth) who gave us several certificates for free appetizers; **Texas Grill** (owners Tim and Veronica Young) who gave us a \$20 gift certificate for a meal; **Clare Cambell** sent us several of her Scandinavian Folk Tales Tapes; **Benbrook Bouquets & Gifts** (3532 Williams Rd., Benbrook) on their gift of a houseplant; **The Royal Norwegian Consulate** (of Houston) who graciously send us the Smithsonian exhibition book Vikings: the North Atlantic Saga; **GermanDeli.com Store** (Southlake <http://www.germandelie.com>) who gave us a \$50 gift certificate good for anything in their store or on-line; **The Norwegian Tourist Board** who graciously sent the book Wooden Hotels of Norway: Living Legends; **Ingebretsen's Scandinavian Gifts** who sent us a gift certificate; **The Palm Garden Tea Room** (located in the Benbrook Antique Mall) which provided a certificate for a free lunch with drink; **Benbrook Floral** (owner D' Andria Rosamond) on their \$25 gift certificate; **Outback SteakHouse** on their \$20 gift certificate; **Red, Hot & Blue Memphis Pit BBQ** (Arlington) on their dinner for two certificate; **Half Price Books** on their \$10 certificate and **Kellie Alexander** on donating a bottle of the Norwegian Linie Aquavit.

Mange tusen takk.

Thanks also to those who helped with the food. **The Wooden Spoon, Albertsons, Gilbert and Lucille Mjoen** with **Dick and Bev Lowe** (Lillehammer 1-633; Yankton, South Dakota). And the decorations: **The Party Warehouse** - Balloons, **John Grindvold** (from Nebraska) who made the Viking Ships centerpieces.

Thanks to all the people who organized, worked towards the successful lodge institution. Who include, but not limited to **Kellie Alexander, Herman Berg, Catheryne Dickinson, John Eberly, Jerry Grotta, Karin King, Barbara Murphy, J.C. White, David Williams** and our friends from the Plano Lodge especially **Norine Cherry** and **Gus Stangeland**. **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church** for allowing us the use of their kitchen and fellowship hall. Also a thank you to **John Sievertson** for working with us and our needs.

Mange tusen takk for our Syttende Mai Dinner and Institution sponsors: **The Wooden Spoon**; 1-800-2-NORDIC and **Jenn Gee**; Tupperware Executive Manager 817-658-1065.

From the president, who is unfortunately unable to attend due to her fathers medical condition, says "*I just want to thank everyone for all the hard work they put into making our Lodge Institution so special. Perseverance pays off. I'm looking forward to the rest of the year in building the Hvor Vesten Begynner Lodge 1-654 into an active Sons of Norway Lodge.*"

Sons of Norway
HVOR VESTEN BEGYNNER
Lodge 1-654 Fort Worth, Texas
 visit the Lodge's website accessible from either
<http://www.sofn.com>
<http://www.jeberly.com>
Cathy Dickinson 817-443-0259
John Eberly 871-633-9610

Dallas' Sons of Norway
Nordtex Lodge 1-594
<http://www.norskland.com/nordtex/>

HVOR VESTEN BEGYNNER #1-654

The Charter Members as of May 17th

David Alexander
Kellie Alexander
Herman Berg
Catheryne Dickinson
Richard Dickinson
John Eberly
Helen Eberly
Nicole Fenton
Richard Fenton
Nancy Friesen
Jenn Gee
Kevin Gee
Gerald Grotta
Alpha Grotta
Peter Hage
Paul Hanson
Margaret Hanson
Arvid Houglum
Clare Houglum
Andrew Johnson
James Johnson
Sherry Johnson
John King
Karin King
Ron Knudson
Mary Lambrecht
Ethal LeRoy
Jeff Lowe
Susan Lowe
Leslie Lykins
Jude Massey
Barbara Murphy
Madeline Olsen
Robyn Olson
Thomas Olson
Guy Pederson
Sarah Pitzer (*Heritage*)
Lauren Pitzer (*Heritage*)
Sandra Sharp
Scott Skurdalsvod
Greg Sparks
Michelle Sparks
J.C. White
Roy White
David Williams

Know your beneflits...

Scholarships

Sports Medal Program

Sons of Norway recognizes the importance of healthful activities not just to prolong life, but to improve the very quality of life. The Sports Medal Program, which originated in Norway, will improve your attitude as well as your physical well-being. No matter your age and no matter your present physical condition, the Sports Medal Program offers a fitness plan for you. With your doctor's advice, you can determine the appropriate level. You don't have to be an athlete-the only one you're really competing with is yourself.

As you reach each objective, you will be awarded different grades of sports medals. Begin in pursuit of the bronze, then work yourself up to silver, gold and eventually enamel. Set your own pace. Your goal may be to obtain one medal or all sixteen! For further details, contact your sports director or the Fraternal Department, SofN, 1455 W. Lake St. Minneapolis, MN 55408

Word Find

Look for the individual Norwegian words below. Remember they may be spelled forwards or backwards, or even diagonally or upside down.

E	I	F	E	S	Å	Ø	Æ	S
O	N	I	Q	S	N	O	R	O
I	D	V	E	T	U	R	F	M
L	G	L	Æ	M	R	V	O	M
H	J	E	Y	R	G	O	R	E
J	S	O	M	K	A	T	F	R
E	D	O	G	T	S	K	K	U
L	T	U	R	A	Y	N	K	K
P	E	T	A	K	K	O	N	Æ
Å	N	A	Å	K	E	G	T	U

Unnskyld! Excuse me/sony! *Hjelp!* = Help!
Vær seå god! = Please (as in "please help yourself")!
Takk for nå! = Thank you for this time together!
God sonuner! = Have a nice summer!
God tur! = Have a nice trip!!

If you would like to hear how these words and phrases sound, go to www.sofn.com, and click on Language Lesson 3; then click on the words you want to hear.

Who to Contact in the Lodge

If your name is not listed please consider which office would be of interest in any of the ones listed as vacant please express your interest to Cathy or John.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

President

Cathy Dickinson 817-443-0259

Vice President

John Eberly 817-633-9610

Financial Secretary

Barbara Murphy 817-306-9217

Secretary

VACANT

Treasurer

JC White 817-292-0099

Editor

John Eberly 817-633-9610

Publicity

Jerry Grotta 817-295-4674

Social Director

VACANT

Cultural Director

Kellie Alexander 817-490-9733

Youth Director

VACANT

Foundation Director

VACANT

Sports/Recreation Director

VACANT

Counselor

Karin King 817-439-3789

Trustee

John King 817-439-3789

To receive the Nyheter contact the editor at 817-633-9610 or email: JEberly@vlkarchitects.com

The Back Page

Advertisements, Listings & Classifieds

If you would like to advertise or have a listing please contact the editor.

SHOP PLANO'S OLDEST HOME

Built in 1867

The Wooden Spoon

Fine Scandinavian Gifts and Food

Call or write for free catalog or order on the Internet,
972-424-6867 or **1-800-2-NORDIC**

www.net5000.com/Nordic.htm

IF YOU LOVE
TUPPERWARE
Call Me! 817-658-1065
Jobs available! jkgee@asa.net
JENN GEE, EXECUTIVE MANAGER

★ U.P.S. ★ Fedex ★ U.S. Mail ★ Tex Pack
★ Mail Box Rental ★ Copier ★ FAX ★ Package Wrapping
★ Boxes ★ Gift Wrap ★ VISA/Passport Photo ★ Greeting Cards
★ Business Cards ★ Rubber Stamps ★ Notary ★ Key's
★ Laminating Etc. **COLOR COPIES.**

'POSTAL'

(Packing and Mailing Services)
9463 Hwy. 377 South
Benbrook, TX 76126

P. SAHA / OWNER

Ph. No. (817) 249-2911

FAX No. (817) 249-0740

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Sat. 10AM - 3:00 PM



Vernon R. Gatlin, LUTCF
Owner / Agent

Allstate Insurance Company
412 Mercedes, Ste. E
Benbrook, TX 76126-2558

Phone 817.249.4490

817.244.7336

Fax 817.249.5302

Mobile 817.996.4449

Se Habla Español