

## **Newsletter from Solskinn Lodge**



## Ord fra Presidenten



How are you all doing? We are now approaching the Fall and hopefully we can get some cooler weather.

What about the Covid 19 stage in the Valley? it seems like we are getting lifted some of the restriction we have had for a while, possibility to meet friends in person and go to the restaurants or movie theater.

But so far, we are trying out a social on Zoom. (this word from the President was written before Sept. 26) and it seems like we were going to have a good turnout.

This is also an election year for the Lodge. We re selecting members to the board for the period 2021-2023. I guess the committee for the election has made calls to some potential members so we finally could put together a new board. The 30 years anniversary which we hopefully can have later in the fall is still a little uncertain, because we do not know what the Church's deciding about opening up. But we are still optimistic about the possibility to have it live.

Ulf

## **October Social on ZOOM**

Saturday October 24th on ZOOM, 5:00pm Social Program: Leif Erikson

Please RSVP to Luella <u>morongo2@verizon.net</u> or call 760-363-7704 to get the ZOOM link to the event. Short discussion following the program. We hope to see you there.



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Some articles are from the English or Norwegian versions of Wikipedia and edited.

## Foundation month is October

Sons of Norway Foundation provides grants for lodges, scholarships of education, Humanitarian Funds for our members and now a new medical fund. WE hope to send a check this year for the Foundation.

Piggy Round Up in October for Foundation month. We can drive by your house at a designated day time to receive the contents of your piggy bank. You can even drop off. Make a call to one of the board members.

Since we have been "Shelter in Place" and not had any opportunity to raise funds for the foundation. Let's try doing it mail. If you remember I shared a Christmas Gnome quilt in February. *See Newsletter for September.* 

For every dollar you donate to the foundation your name will be put in to owe this Christmas lap quilt.

To support the Sons of Norway Foundation either send a check made out to "Solskinn Lodge" for the amount you wish to contribute to Nancy Madson, 28351 Via La Palmas, Thousand Palms, CA 92276. Just make a donation in the amount for the cost of one meal out to a restaurant, which most of us haven't done for over 6 months.





## Social on ZOOM



# Northern Light





Editor for Solskinn Nyheter Terje "TJ" Berger 760.799.6660 Send pictures, ideas, articles to solskinn150@gmail.com

Sons of Norway Website: sofn.org Facebook: Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group

Solskinn LodgeWebsite:solskinn.sofn6.orgFacebook:Solskinn Lodge, Sons of Norway 6-150Email:Solskinn150@gmail.com



Northern Light from Bodø Saturday night September 26. Tone Chaplin's hometown.



Seventeen members attended the lodge Zoom meeting on September 26. The program was a short video, The Northern Lights - A Magic Experience. The video starts out with the myths and folklore of the northern lights by various people in the northern aurora ring area. Then we heard about the scientific advances and discoveries bringing us to the current understanding of the aurora. We watched amazing video segments of the sun and solar flares, depictions of magnetic fields and the aurora ring.

Kristian Birkeland, (1867-1917) was a Norwegian physicist who studied magnetism and electricity.

Birkeland became a professor of physics in Kristiania in 1898. Among other things, he succeeded in producing artificial northern lights in his laboratory at the University of present-day Oslo. Kristian Birkeland also designed the terella, a magnetized sphere that acts as a model of the earth with its magnetic field.

Together with the Norwegian engineer Sam Eyde, he invented the socalled Birkeland-Eyde method for producing nitrogen from air, a basis for producing artificial nitrates. The invention eventually became the basis for the formation of the Norwegian company Norsk Hydro.

He is pictured on the Norwegian 200 kronor banknote.





Spring Grove Resident Darrell Sinclair Proof that "Life is a Verb"

After I sent Darrell (93) a birthday card from Solskinn Lodge, I received a thank you and the front page of the Fillmore County Journal with Darrell's picture and an interview a reporter had with him. This information is taken from that. No grass ever grew under his feet. Following I have listed many jobs Darrell has held.

Beginning in high school he worked at a gas station, the local drug store and as a projectionist at the local theater. He graduated from high school in 1944 and joined the Navy. He was the unit secretary while in Boot Camp. Then he went to electrical school in Mississippi. He served on the USS Astoria in the shop. Then was sent to Guam to maintain generators.

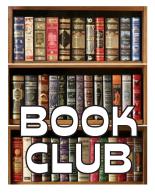
Back to the states in 1946 he went to Washington DC for interior communications school. A year later he and his wife headed for Long Beach, CA where he served on the USS Iowa. He was one of the last electricians that stayed on board until it was "put in mothballs". He had served five years in the Navy and never imagined that 23 years later at the age of 46 he would join the Navy Reserves.

He used the GI Bill and went back to school for electronics and took a job with Bell Aircrafts. He spent time in Roswell, NM and Topeka, KS responsible for a missile silo during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He worked a year on the F106 program and Engineering 4 in San Diego until he retired.

He learned to golf at age 47. Then went to school to learn the rules and became a rules official for New Mexico's Sun Country. He was an official when Tiger Woods won his first tournament as a college player.

What a Role Model! Darrell truly is proof that "Life is a Verb!

Submitted by Charlotte Larsen



## **October Book**

ZOOM Meeting Thursday, October 15 at 4PM *We love to see you!* 

September the book group met by ZOOM. The group discussed the book "The Reckoning" by Yrsa Sigurdarottier. Like many of the books the group reads we had no idea what this book was about. It was a murder mystery. The book took place in Iceland. It was about a girl who went missing and then a threat found in a time capsule with a list of initials of some people who were going to be murdered in 2016. After about 50 pages I had the list of initials on a piece a paper at hand so I could figure out what was going to happen to who. It was a good book and at the end I couldn't put it down. I hope to read other books by this author. There are two other book in this series.

**Octobers Book** is the 39<sup>th</sup> book we will be reading. The book is "Hunger" by Knut Hamsum. This book came up in an earlier reading this year the "Half Brother". So we are reading it to find out what the book is about.

A bit about this famous Norwegian author. **Knut Hamsun** (August 4, 1859 – February 19, 1952) was a Norwegian writer who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1920. Hamsun is considered to be "one of the most influential and innovative literary stylists of the past hundred years" (*ca.* 1890–1990). He pioneered psychological literature with techniques of stream of consciousness and interior monologue, and influenced authors such as Thomas Mann, Franz Kafka, Maxim Gorky, Stefan Zweig, Henry Miller, Hermann Hesse, John Fante and Ernest Hemingway. Isaac Bashevis Singer called Hamsun "the father of the modern school of literature in his every aspect—his subjectiveness, his fragmentariness, his use of flashbacks, his lyricism. The whole modern school of fiction in the twentieth century stems from Hamsun". (Wikipedia) He also supported and admired Hitler, which after the war resulted in being detained by the police and fined.

We are working on our list for 2021; any suggestions are welcome. We take on the challenge to try new authors and seem to find something good we like in every book we read. Come join us!!!!!

### Submitted by Luella Grangaard

Hamsun was born Knut Pedersen at Garmo-træet in Lom, Oppland county. His father ran a small farm while traveling as a tailor.

His father came from small circumstances with many wandering village craftsmen in the family. The men had a reputation for being restless, and Hamsun may have inherited his "wanderer blood" from his father's family. Like his father, his mother also came from an old set of Gudbrandsdalen, which had previously been among the richest and most powerful in the valley.

But the economy was tight, and in the summer of 1862 the family moved to Hamarøy in Salten, where his father took over as tenant of the small farm Hamsund while he continued as a tailor. The owner of the farm was the mother's older brother, Hans Olsen.

Left picture taken in Chicago where he worked as tram conductor.



### Gratulerer med dagen!

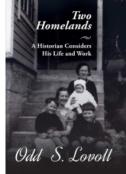
### Fødsler i November/October

October 5	Berit Daly-Reistad
October 7	Ann Linda Dew
October 10	Carole Faye Olson
October 16	Donald H. Waldeland
October 21	Terje Berger
October 23	Laura J. Picking
October 29	Sharon Lokke
November 7	Gro M. Kleitsch
November 20	Diane Elaine Farber
November 29	Kathy Regner



November Book

Searching for Nora by Wendy Swallow



December Book

Two Homelands, by Odd S. Lovoll





## Famous Norwegians

### Stein Eriksen and his famous family



Stein Eriksen was an alpine ski racer and Olympic gold medalist from Norway. Following his racing career, he was a ski school director and ambassador at various resorts in the United States.

Eriksen was born 11 December 1927, in Oslo. His parents were Marius Eriksen (1886–1950), Norwegian gymnast (Olympic bronze, team gymnastics 1912) and Birgit Heien (1900–1996). His brother, Marius Eriksen, Jr. (1922–2009), was an alpine skier and during World War II became a fighter ace in the Royal Norwegian Air Force.

Eriksen won the gold medal in the giant slalom at the 1952 Winter Olympics, which was held in Oslo, Norway. He also won a silver medal in the slalom. Eriksen was the first male alpine ski racer from outside the Alps to win an Olympic gold medal. He also won three gold medals at the 1954 World Championships in Åre, Sweden.

Other accomplishments included being credited with devising "aerials", a freestyle skiing event, and helping revolutionize the world of alpine skiing in the United States, where he served as a ski instructor at many different ski schools. At Sugarbush Resort in Vermont, each Sunday afternoon, combining his gymnastics background and his skiing, Stein would demonstrate a flip on skis.

It is said that Eriksen was skiing's "first superstar", since he was handsome, stylish and charismatic. Despite his fame, he maintained a very down-to-Earth personality. For example, he is quoted as saying, "Be tough, be confident. But you will

never be a whole and happy person if you aren't humble".

Shortly after his success in the 1952 Ólympics, Eriksen moved to the United States where he lived until his death. While ski racing for Norway, he was a ski instructor at Sun Valley in Idaho. Following his racing career, he was the ski school director at various resorts, such as Boyne Mountain and Pine Knob, both in Michigan, Sugarbush in Vermont, Heavenly Valley in South Lake Tahoe, California, Snowmass and Aspen in Colorado, and Park City in Utah. At the time of his death he was the director of skiing at the Deer Valley Resort in Utah, and also served as host of the Stein Eriksen Lodge, a ski lodge in Deer Valley (not owned by Eriksen, but named in his honor).

In 1997, Eriksen was honored by the King of Norway. He was knighted with the Royal

Norwegian Order of Merit for his contribution to Norway, the highest honor that the Norwegian government can give to people living outside Norway.

Eriksen died on 27 December 2015, in his Park City, Utah home.



### Stein Eriksen's mother

Birgit "Bitten" Eriksen (1900-1996) was a Norwegian designer of knitting patterns.

She designed a variety of knitting patterns from the late 1920s. She got a job as a pattern designer for Dale Yarn and Knitwear. She knitted sweaters based on the Setesdal pattern where she left out the lice. She knitted the first sweater for her son Marius, which she started in 1943 and gave to him when he returned home in 1945 as a war hero. Eriksen's pattern «Cortina II» (model no. 307) was sold

from 1960, called Marius sweater.



The family of Patrick and Kristina Berger, with Marius sweaters. Photo by Briga's Photography (used with permission) Patrick is nephew of the editor.



### Stein Eriksen's brother Marius

Marius Eriksen (1922 - 2009) was a Norwegian skier, fighter pilot, model and actor.

Following the outbreak of World War II, Eriksen fled Norway, leaving on 5 November 1940 via Ålesund. After arriving in Scotland, he made his way to Canada, where he underwent flying training at Little Norway, the Norwegian Army Air Service flight training school.

On his return to the United Kingdom, Eriksen served with No. 331 (Norwegian) Squadron RAF and then No. 332 (Norwegian) Squadron RAF as a fighter pilot flying Spitfires. He achieved nine kills, making him one of Norway's aces, before he was shot down off the coast of the Netherlands attempting a head-on attack against a Focke-Wulf Fw 190. Eriksen survived and after being captured on 2 May 1943, he was held as a prisoner of war at Stalag Luft III in Poland until 1945.

In recognition of his wartime service, Eriksen was awarded the War Cross with Sword, the American Silver Star, and several others.

# Leif Erikson Day - October 9

Leif Erikson Day is an American anniversary that occurs on October 9 every year. The day is named after the Norse seafarer Leiv Eiriksson who is considered to have led an expedition with the first Europeans who settled in North America in the 1000s in what they called Vinland. The purpose of the day is to draw attention to Americans of Nordic descent and the Nordic influence in American culture and development.

The date October 9 was made to Leif Erikson Day after a decision in Congress in 1964. The date was chosen after that date in 1825 when the ship "Restauration" from Stavanger called at New York City with 52 Norwegian immigrants, which is described as the first organized Norwegian emigration to North America. Before the day was considered a national anniversary, Leif Erikson Day had been introduced in the states of Wisconsin and Minnesota as early as the 1930s. Both states have a large proportion of inhabitants of Nordic origin.



Leif erikson U.S. Dostage 6¢

Duluth, Minnesota (1956)

1968

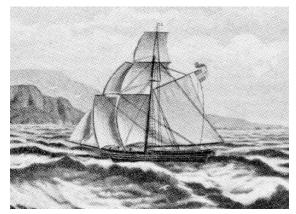


Brattahlíð (Brattahlid, Brattalid) was Eirik Raude's farm by the Eriksfjord in Greenland. The settlement is located in the current Greenlandic town of Qassiarsuk.

The Norwegian-Icelandic Viking Eirik Raude settled around Brattahlidsletten around 985 by the South Greenlandic fjord that was later named after him, and established Brattahlid in Austerbygd here. Others sailed further northwest and founded Vesterbygd by Godthåbsfjorden as the first Nordic settlement in Greenland.

The farm was excavated in the 1920s under the leadership of the Danish archaeologists Poul Nørlund and Aage Roussell, and Tjodhildkirken (Tjodhild Church) which belonged to the farm was excavated in the 1960s. The church was modest 2 x 3.5 m (6.5 x 11.5 ft). In the year 2000, on the occasion of the 1000th anniversary celebrations, Tjodhildkirken was rebuilt, a little beyond where it originally stood.

## Restauration



Restauration was a sloop built in 1801, in Hardanger, Norway. It became a symbol of Norwegian American immigration. Historical sources may contain several variations on the name of the sloop, including Restauration, Restoration, Restaurasjonen, and Restorasjon. It has been nicknamed the "Norse Mayflower".

On what is considered the first organized emigration from Norway to the United States, Restauration set sail from Stavanger on July 4, 1825, with 52 people aboard, many of them Norwegian Quakers. Probably many of this group belonged to a similar local movement, the Haugeans, a Lutheran sect which derived its name from Hans Nielsen Hauge. The group, led by Cleng Peerson, landed in New York City on October 9, 1825, after a three-month voyage. The voyage is described in Ole Rynning's Amerika-boka (The America Book, 1838).

For a vessel of her size Restauration had far more passengers on board than were allowed by American law. This resulted in a severe fine, confiscation of the ship and the arrest of the captain, L. O. Helland. The situation was solved when President John Quincy Adams pardoned the captain on 15 November, released him and the ship, and rescinded the fine. The people who made this voyage, who are sometimes referred to as the "Sloopers," moved onward to their first settlement in Kendall, Orleans County, New York.



The statue of Leifur Eiríksson outside Hallgrims Church was a gift from the United States to Iceland to commemorate the 1000 year anniversary of Alþingi, the parliament of Iceland and the world's oldest functioning parliament. Alþingi was first convened at Þingvellir in the year 930 AD.

Hallgrímskirkja (church of Hallgrímur) is a Lutheran (Church of Iceland) parish church in Reykjavík, Iceland. At 74.5 metres (244 ft) high, it is the largest church in Iceland and among the tallest structures in the country. The church is named after the Icelandic poet and clergyman Hallgrímur Pétursson (1614–1674), author of the Passion Hymns.

# Leif Erikson

Leif Erikson (Leiv Eiriksson or Leif Ericson) (c. 970 - c. 1020) was a Norse explorer from Iceland. He is thought to have been the first known European to have set foot on continental North America (excluding Greenland), approximately half a millennium before Christopher Columbus. According to the sagas of Icelanders, he established a Norse settlement at Vinland, which is usually interpreted as being coastal North America. There is ongoing speculation that the settlement made by Leif and his crew corresponds to the remains of a Norse settlement found in Newfoundland, Canada, called L'Anse aux Meadows and which was occupied c. 1000. Later archaeological evidence suggests that Vinland may have been the areas around the Gulf of St. Lawrence and that the L'Anse aux Meadows site was a ship repair station.

Leif was the son of Erik the Red (Erik Raude) and his wife Thjodhild, and the grandson of Thorvald Ásvaldsson, and distant relative of Naddodd, who discovered Iceland, the founder of the first Norse settlement in Greenland . His place of birth is not known, but he is assumed to have been born in Iceland, which had recently been colonized by Norsemen mainly from Norway. He grew up in the family estate Brattahlíð (Brattalid) in the Eastern Settlement in Greenland. Leif had two known sons: Thorgils, born to noblewoman Thorgunna in the Hebrides; and Thorkell, who succeeded him as chieftain of the Greenland settlement. Thorvald Asvaldsson was banished from Norway for manslaughter and went into exile in Iceland accompanied by young Erik. When Erik was banished from Iceland, he travelled further west to an area he named Greenland, where he established the first permanent settlement in 986. Tyrker, one of Erik's thralls, had been specially trusted to keep in charge of Erik's children, as Leif later referred to him as his "foster father".

The Saga of Erik the Red and the Saga of the Greenlanders, both thought to have been written around 1200, contain different accounts of the voyages to Vinland. The only two known strictly historical mentions of Vinland are found in the work of Adam of Bremen c. 1075 and in the Book of Icelanders compiled c. 1122 by Ari the Wise. According to the Saga of Erik the Red, Leif apparently saw Vinland for the first time after being blown off course on his way to introduce Christianity to Greenland.

According to the Icelandic sagas, while in Vinland, Leif and his crew came into contact with "Red Indians" (as distinguished from the Inuit), whom they referred to as *skrælingi*, an archaic term for "wretches." According to these sagas, the encounters with the indigenous people were initially friendly with a strong trade relationship. Tensions rose when Leif's brother, Thorvald, was struck by an arrow in a fight with the *skrælingi*. He is famously known for pulling the arrow out, and poetically reciting the phrase, "This is a rich country we have found; there is plenty of fat

around my entrails", upon which he dies.

According to a literal interpretation of Einar Haugen's translation of the two sagas in the book Voyages to Vinland, Leif was not the first European to discover America: he had heard the story of merchant Bjarni Herjólfsson who claimed to have sighted land to the west of Greenland after having been blown off course. Bjarni reportedly never made landfall there, however. Later, when travelling from Norway to Greenland, Leif was also blown off course, to a land that he did not expect to see, where he found "self-sown wheat fields and grapevines". He next rescued two men who were shipwrecked in this country and went back to Greenland and Christianised the people there. Consequently, if this is to be trusted, Bjarni Herjólfsson was the first European to see America beyond Greenland, and the two unnamed shipwrecked men were the first people known to Europeans to have made landfall there.

Leif then approached Bjarni, purchased his ship, gathered a crew of thirty-five men, and mounted an expedition towards the land Bjarni had described. His father Erik was set to join him but dropped out after he fell from his horse on his way to set sail, an incident he interpreted as a bad omen. Leif followed Bjarni's route in reverse and landed first in a rocky and desolate place he named Helluland (Flat-Rock Land; possibly Baffin Island). After venturing further by sea, he landed the second time in a forested place he named Markland (Forest Land; possibly near Cape Porcupine, Labrador). After two more days at sea, he landed on an island to the north (possibly Belle Isle), and then returned to the mainland, going past a cape on the north side (perhaps Cape Bauld). They sailed to the west of this and landed in a verdant area with a mild climate and plentiful supplies of salmon. As winter approached, he decided to encamp there and sent out parties to explore the country. During one of these explorations, Tyrker discovered that the land was full of vines and grapes. Leif therefore named the land Vinland ('Wineland'). There, he and his crew built a small settlement, which was called Leifsbudir (Leif's Booths) by later visitors from Greenland.

After having wintered over in Vinland, Leif returned to Greenland in the spring with a cargo of grapes and timber. On the return voyage, he rescued an Icelandic castaway and his crew, earning him the nickname "Leif the Lucky".

Research done in the early 1960s by Norwegian explorer Helge Ingstad and his wife, archaeologist Anne Stine Ingstad, identified a Norse site located at the northern tip of Newfoundland. It has been suggested that this site, known as L'Anse aux

#### Boston (1887)

Statue sculpted by Anne Whitney, erected by the efforts of Norwegian violinist Ole Bull, among others. Located on Commonwealth Avenue at Charlesgate East, it became a symbolic bond between America and Scandinavia.

Meadows, is Leifsbúðir. The Ingstads demonstrated that Norsemen had reached America about 500 years before Christopher Columbus. Later archaeological evidence suggests that Vinland may have been the areas around the Gulf of St. Lawrence and that the L'Anse aux Meadows site was a ship repair station and waypoint for voyages there. That does not necessarily contradict the identification of L'Anse aux Meadows with Leifsbúðir since the two sagas appear to describe Vinland as a wider region which included several settlements. The Saga of Erik the Red mentions two other settlements in Vinland: a settlement called Straumfjorðr, which lay beyond Kjalarnes promontory and the Wonderstrands, and one called Hóp, which was located even farther south.

Leif was described as a wise, considerate, and strong man of striking appearance. During his stay in the Hebrides, he fell in love with a noblewoman, Thorgunna, who gave birth to their son Thorgils. Thorgils was later sent to Leif in Greenland, but he did not become popular.

After Leif's first trip to Vinland, he returned to the family estate of Brattahlíð in Greenland, and started preaching Christianity to the native population. His father Erik reacted coldly to the suggestion that he should abandon his religion, while his mother Thjóðhildr quickly became a Christian and built a church called Thjóðhild's Church. Leif is last mentioned alive in 1019, and by 1025 he had passed on his chieftaincy of Eiríksfjorð to another son, Thorkell. Nothing is mentioned about his death in the sagas—he probably died in Greenland some time between these dates. Nothing further is known about his family beyond the succession of Thorkell as chieftain.

### **October Social on ZOOM**

Saturday October 24th on ZOOM, 5:00pm Social Program: Leif Erikson

Please RSVP to Luella morongo2@verizon.net or call 760-363-7704 to get the ZOOM link



## Norwegian Language

Norwegian is a North Germanic language spoken mainly in Norway, where it is an official language. Along with Swedish and Danish, Norwegian forms a dialect continuum of more or less mutually intelligible local and regional varieties; some Norwegian and Swedish dialects, in particular, are very close. These Scandinavian languages, together with Faroese and Icelandic as well as some extinct languages, constitute the North Germanic languages. Faroese and Icelandic are not mutually intelligible with Norwegian in their spoken form because continental Scandinavian has diverged from them. Norwegian is a descendant of Old Norse, the common language of the Germanic peoples living in Scandinavia during the Viking Era.

### **NORWEGIAN DIALECTS**

The most common criteria for the division of the dialects are the law of balance, tonal differences and thick l.

The law of balance means that words that in Norse had different lengths at the root of two-syllable words have different forms in East Norwegian and Trøndelag dialects. Among other things, this has led to Eastern Norwegian splitting the infinitive; one says, for example, to be and to write (Trøndelag: spring raw and write). In Western Norwegian, either a-infinitive (to do) or e-infinitive (to do) is used. In northern Norwegian, either the suffix -e is used in all infinitives or apocope in all: å værr, å skriv.

In addition to the tonal differences, differences in the tone layer (word tone) constitute an important dividing line between Eastern Norwegian and Western Norwegian dialects (northern Norwegian follows western Norwegian). It applies to words like the sun, the book and the door. In such words, Western Norwegian has a high tone first in the word, and the tone then falls towards the end of the word (called high-tone dialects). Eastern Norwegian has a low tone first in the word, and the tone rises towards the end of the word (called low-tone dialects).

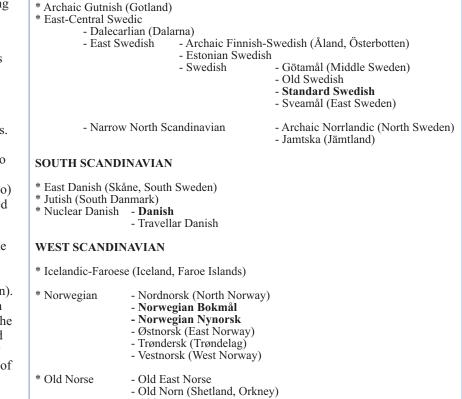
From Wikipedia, Store Norske Leksikon and Glottolog

The Germanic language is divided into East Germanic (Crimean Gothic and Gothic), West Germanic (German, Dutch, North Sea Germanic which includes English), and North Germanic.

North Germanic is the Scandinavian languages.



### NORTH SCANDINAVIAN



- Old West Norse

## Solskinn Lodge Officers 2019-2020

### **Board of Directors**

President Vice President Counselor Secretary Treasurer Membership Secretary

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Social Director Co. Social Director Cultural Director Sunshine Co. Sunshine

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Tone Chaplin 760-773-2360 Nancy Madson 760-343-0848 Luella Grangaard 760-363-7704 Charlotte Larsen 760-328-1791 Berit Reistad 760-485-1130

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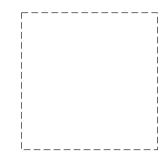
Ulf Lokke

Corinne Bjerke

Cell: 760-276-5529 Office: 760-440-9905 jdonovaninsure@gmail.com Sons of Norway Solskinn Lodge, #6-150 P.O. Box 2207 Palm Desert, CA 92260



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### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members