

The Fabulous Fourth Footnotes

Montana • North Dakota • Alberta • Saskatchewan



April 2023



President's Message

Hilsen alle sammen –

The familiarity of our district allows us to talk about the weather and we all understand. It was a



long,
long
winter!
With
days
up but
central
DOWN!

partial melting on sunny the prairie is opening no water is running in North Dakota. It's going

After an extended drought we hope for a wet cycle to replenish and nourish our land. Maybe that's how we can view our organization, Sons of Norway. It may also go in cycles and we'll recognize the awakening of our lodges with excitement and renewal. That is how I am envisioning the next year in this office. But how do we make it rain members? Lodges in communities with declining population are going to feel the effects first.

The zone directors are reaching out to select lodges with a survey and will report at the May spring board meeting in Calgary. From that discussion we will work on supporting lodges that want help in the coming years. This project will likely extend beyond my 2 year term as president.

In the coming months we will be formulating a plan for our booth at the 2023 Norsk Høstfest in Minot. This large gathering of people genuinely interested in Scandinavian heritage and ethnic food and cultural skills are a fertile field for all of District IV, as well as our neighboring District I within Sons of Norway.

My hobby farm and its livestock are also keeping me busy. Palm Sunday was the first day of new

lambs and now I must mix up more milk and head to the barn....I can hear number 5 and the twins with 14 painted on their shoulders, FEED ME!

Jerry Saude- President, District IV



New Member Recruitment Events

The District Board agreed to maintain the Membership Recruitment Events program as a District Budget item.

Your Zone Director must be notified and approve your event, so start planning early. Your lodge must adhere to the guidelines on the form and your lodge can request up to \$300 for hosting an event and an additional fee for renting a location (if necessary).

Plan, give yourselves time to advertise and ask members to invite one or more friends to the event. The guidelines are on the updated form on the District IV website or by emailing the secretary at dhuyvtr@yahoo.com or president at grammas@bektel.com . Mail the completed form and required receipt(s) to

Betty Dhuyvetter
District IV Secretary
9950 County Road 6
Columbus, ND 58727-9585

Sons of Norway's Mission

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

www.sofn-district4.com



Lodge Calendar and Other Deadlines 2023

May

May 15 IRS 990 forms due for Lodge and Lodge Corporations

June

June 10 Solglyt Lodge 100th Anniversary

June 15 Interlodge Event hosted by Kringen and Sverdrup Lodges

June 8-11 Trollfjorden Camp

June 10-17 Scandia Camp Mendocino CA

August

August 13-19 Trollhaugen Camp

October

October is Foundation Month – consider a donation directly to the Foundation or plan a fundraiser for the Foundation.

October 15 – Foundation portal is available for lodges and individuals to apply for grants and scholarships.

November

Election of Lodge Officers

December

December 1 - District Fraternal Grant Evaluation from previous year due

December 31

- District Fraternal Grant Application due
- D63 Report on Election of Officers due to Home Office
- International Foundation Grants due
 - Helping Hands to Children Grant
 - Lodge Culture and Heritage Grant
 - Lodge Vitality Grant
 - International Foundation Grants Community Partnership due to Home Office

Model By-laws and Sons of Norway Constitution Changes

The reorganization of International Sons of Norway lends itself to updating the International, District and Local Lodge sections of our handbooks. The board will familiarize ourselves with these changes at the spring board meeting and the zone directors will be able to assist your lodges as needed.

Summer Activities for Lodges

Kringen Lodge from Fargo is planning a day bus trip to Bismarck on June 15. They have extended an invitation to all current lodge members in District IV to attend and help fill the Lewis & Clark Riverboat for an excursion up and down the Missouri River that afternoon.



The group will all meet at the Eagles Club in Bismarck at noon for lunch, followed by a stop at the expansive North Dakota Heritage Center before setting sail at 4 PM for the boat ride.

After the voyage ends all parties are on their own for travel home or to points unknown. Kringen lodge members will return by bus to Fargo with an evening meal stop in Jamestown. Check your calendar and contact Kringen Lodge or Sverdrup Lodge in Bismarck if you want to reserve a seat on the boat.

Solglyt Lodge in Edmonton Alberta is celebrating its 110th Anniversary on Saturday June 10th.

Check out the camps in June and August. It's almost time to get the applications in for some of these. Go to the District IV website for forms and information.



Greetings from the District IV Secretary!



Happy Easter to all and best wishes for a warm and wet spring with no more serious issues such as late blizzards and/or flooding. It's time to watch the flowers bloom and get those crops in the ground.

For District IV business, we received updates from most lodges regarding their new slates of officers. We had to nudge a few others to get them in, but eventually most were updated. Then I fumbled my way through typing up a new directory for the Fab Four and rushed to get them in the mail by the last weekend in March. Some were mailed to U.S. destinations from Powers Lake, ND, and the Canadian directories were mailed from Estevan, Saskatchewan, to try to expedite delivery. Each lodge should have received two directories—one for the president and one for the secretary. Zone directors should also have received their own copies. There are a few copies remaining, so please contact me if you have not received yours.

In other business, Connie O'Brien from headquarters is working on the D17's from all the lodges. At the last check, District IV had about six lodges that had not yet turned in their reports. I know that some lodges were having difficulty getting their financial statements audited, which caused their delay. If you have not yet submitted your D17, please get it mailed or emailed to headquarters as soon as possible.

Thank you to those who have sent in Grant Reports. Also, please send in your reports following your New Member Events so I can get them forwarded to the treasurer for payment.

I've enjoyed reading the newsletters some of you have sent. Please send more! Also please contact me if you have any issues, or if you notice mistakes in the directory that need correcting.

We are looking forward to our spring board meeting in Calgary, AB, at the beginning of May. Some of us will be driving to Winnipeg or Regina and catching flights from there. It should be a fun adventure to our friendly neighbors' stomping grounds.

Ha det bra!
Betty Dhuyvetter

Almond Bars by Bethany

Almond bars are simple to put together, but with their sparkly sugar tops, they'll stand out among the widest spread of desserts. Trust me, you'll want to make these again.

4 eggs, beaten
2 cups granulated sugar, plus a few more tablespoons for sprinkling
Pinch of salt
2 cups flour
1 cup melted butter
2 tsp almond extract
¼ cup sliced or slivered almonds

Beat together eggs and sugar until well combined. Mix in the butter, flour, salt, and almond flavoring until just combined. Pour into a greased 9×13 pan and sprinkle the top with almonds and more granulated sugar. Bake at 350° for 25-30 minutes, or until there is a light golden brown crust on top and a toothpick comes out clean. Do not overbake.

Note: Bethany was a cook at Metigoshe Ministries where Trollfjorden Camp is held each summer. She shared this simple, but delicious recipe with us--maybe at a quilting retreat rather than Trollfjorden so give it a try. Flo K.





District IV Director Cultture and Publicity

It's been a long 2023 for me. I'll get the whining over first and then I'll look for some good stuff to talk about. I was diagnosed in December with an odd cancer in my lung. It is the slow-growing kind, so it seems like we have been dragging our feet at getting it out of there. I am now planning to start radiation treatments in about ten days. I know. Many people have it a lot worse than I do. That is so so true. Notice that I didn't complain about snow.

I have been able to have lunch at the Kringen Lodge in Fargo a time or two during my many visits to Fargo for cancer care. They have a wonderful menu and daily specials. I missed their most recent lutefisk dinner. I'll keep my eye out for the next one.

I was able to participate in our own lodge's Adopt a School project. We had a day called "Passport to Norway." All of the school children Pre-K to Grade 12 were allowed to come down to our tour of Norway. They got to dabble in crafts, cultural displays, beginning language, and they were able to roll out and eat their own lefse.

I have offered to be the District IV Adopt A School chairperson, but I have not been able to find out who the lodge chair people are. It would be so great to get together by Zoom and discuss what projects are being done and to answer questions. Please—**lodge presidents—text me at 701-341-0822. Just tell me the name of your lodge, name of Adopt a School Chairman and that person's phone number and email address.** If you don't have a chairman, get one, or volunteer to do so yourself. Let's set May 1 as the deadline for getting this done.

A shout out for the culture and language camps coming up this summer. The information about them is on the District IV website and the deadlines for sending in applications are drawing near. If you haven't noticed, the URL for the District IV website is at the bottom of the first page of this newsletter.

Just one other thing I'd like to talk about are the cultural classes and activities. Seven lodge members from Mollargutten have been taking Beginning Norwegian along with the Sverdrup Lodge. They had a teacher and we didn't so they cordially allowed us to join in their class via Zoom. This is our second year.

Are there classes you'd like to offer in your lodge only to find out you have no one who is willing or able to teach it? We need to update, but we still have the Experts Database on the District IV website. If you need a teacher, look there and see what you can find. Help us out by offering anyone's name who would be willing to be an "Expert." If you need a teacher and can't find one, ask me and I amcfccc willing to help find one.

Here's to a lovely spring and summer.

Flo Kallenbach

Våren

*Enno ein Gong fekk eg Vetren at sjå,
for Våren at røma;
Heggen med Tre som der Blomar var på,
eg atter såg bløma.
Enno ein Gong fekk eg Isen at sjå,
frå Landet at fljota,
Snjoen at bråna, og Fossen i Å,
at fyssa og brjota.
Graset det grønne eg enno ein Gong,
fekk skoda med blomar.
Enno eg høyrde at Vårfuglen song,
mot Sol og mot Sumar.*

The Spring

Once more I got to behold winter
Fleeing before the spring;
Hackberry with trees covered by blossoms,
I once more saw blooming.
Once more I got to behold the ice
Flowing from land,
The snow softening, and waterfall into river
Buzzing and bursting.
The green grass I once again got
To behold with blooms.
Still I heard the spring fowl sing,
To sun and to summer.



International Report



Greetings everyone in District IV. The last few months have been very busy. Reports from Ron Stubbings and Chris Pinkerton have summarized Headquarters' activities. To date those activities, continue.

At my first International Board meeting, President Ron Stubbings appointed me as a representative to the Foundation Board. The Foundation Board met in Minneapolis on April 14-15. Two changes have taken place, Linda Pederson resigned from the Foundation Board and President Merv Ericksson appointed Elaine Nelson to complete Linda's term. Dale Fellon resigned as the District IV Foundation Director; he was replaced by Kay Halvorson. District IV is well represented in the Sons of Norway Foundation.

The following information on grants was presented at the April meeting and will be of interest to you. There were 66 grant applications, and funding requests greatly exceeded the amounts available for disbursement. This meant the Grants Committee had to be very judicious in their decisions.

Approval of 26 out of 66 applications, roughly one-third of those submitted, for a total of \$54,156 out of \$137,831 requested. The Foundation Board approved 6 Lodge Vitality grants totaling \$6,951; 11 Lodge Culture and Heritage grants totaling \$9,370; 6 Community Partnership grants totaling \$6,250; 2 Kenneth Algot Nelson grants totaling \$10,000; and an additional Community Partnership grant totaling \$5,000 for the Stoughton Dancers 2023 Norway tour, of which \$1,500 be granted from the Community Partnership category and \$3,500 from General Funds.

Goals of the Grants and Scholarships Committee this year are to:

- 1) Reevaluate the grant application process, both in how the questions are framed to ensure that we are getting quality applications, how to get this message out to future applicants, and to make it easier for reviewers to score.
- 2) Add parameters to the Humanitarian Grants.
- 3) Explore ways to raise money to support the grant programs. This third goal is related to the number of grant requests received this year that exceeded the amounts available.

4) Additional goal added, as a result of board discussion, review deadline dates.

There was also a brief discussion regarding special funding for our 200th anniversary in 2025— or perhaps share best ideas for lodges to celebrate by Zone.

Also, an update from Headquarters, Emily Stark has resigned as the Foundation Manager. She has taken her dream job at the Science Museum in St. Paul. Her last day with the Sons of Norway is April 21st.

The next International Board meeting is scheduled for May 23-25, via Zoom.

Claudia Berg
International Board of Directors, District IV

Foundation Report

Dale Fellon, District IV Foundation Director
February 8, 2023

On behalf of the Sons of Norway Foundation Board of Governors, I want to thank our lodges and members for their financial support during the 2022 'Together We Are The Future' fundraiser.

You will recall that our first 'Together We Are The Future' fundraiser was in 2020 and the goal was to raise \$100,000 for the Foundation between October 2020 (Foundation Month) and January 15, 2021. The total donated by our lodges and members was \$137,000.

Our 2021 'Together . . . ' goal was to raise \$150,000. Again, our lodges and members exceeded the goal by donating \$158,276.

And our 2022 'Together . . . ' goal was to raise \$175,000. Our lodges and members responded by donating an amazing \$198,867!

A total of 136 lodges in Districts 1 through 6 donated \$93,009 in 2022.

In District 4, 14 lodges, including the District 4 lodge, donated \$25,863.

When the final report is completed, we'll be sharing more information.

So, thanks to all who joined in making the 2022 'Together . . . ' campaign another success.



Zone Reports



Zone 1

Becky Gunderson

4-021 Gyda-Varden-Grand
Forks ND, 4-078 Mjosen-May-
ville ND, 4-178 Heim-Devils

Lake ND, 4-203 Fagerlund-Manfred ND, 4-478
Mollargutten-Maddock ND, 4-486 Vaarliv-Fairdale
ND (inactive)

Mjosen Lodge 4-078 of Mayville

President Becky Gunderson reports:

Members held their “Annual” meeting January 17. Members approved the 2023 Budget, helped choose cultural programming and watched the video presentation of the 2022 recap of activities.

The Mjosen Lodge members hosted a reunion of the Goose River Ski Jumping Club for their February meeting. The Ski club was very active promoting ski jumping in the area until the 1980’s. Old photos were shared and stories from about 30 former members. This program was led by SfN member Lute Simley who also jumped with the group. Norwegian heart-shaped waffles were served with gjetost cheese and Lingonberry jam with sour cream or whipped cream.

The weather ruined the March meeting with icy roads, the meeting was postponed. Hopefully the snow will melt slowly, and the April meeting can be held with a movie night showing “John, The Last Cowboy” that was featured in the March/April Viking.

Gyda-Varden 4-021 of Grand Forks

Marianne Oyerhavn Knudson, President reports:

Last year, almost every winter meeting at the Gyda Varden Lodge was cancelled due to a storm. This year, we only missed the January meeting. In February we enjoyed the Kon-Tiki Movie about Thor

Heyerdahl expeditions accompanied by popcorn and snacks. At our March meeting, our new Cultural Director held a lovely and interesting presentation about Viken Fylke (A Norwegian “Fylke” is somewhat comparable to a State).

In Norway, every Easter there are “Påskesnøtter” (Easter Quiz) on TV every day (in Norway Easter is celebrated for approximately a week during which time most Norwegians have vacation). We will follow this tradition at our April meeting where we have planned a potluck and a “Påskequiz” (Easter Quiz). In addition, our lodge are working hard on the preparations and planning for the Syttende Mai (May 17th) celebrations and also planning a Sankthansaften (traditional Norwegian midsummer night) Celebration in cooperation with Heritage Village in East Grand Forks. It will be an exciting spring!

Heim 4-178 of Devils Lake

No report submitted.

Mollargutten 4-478 of Maddock

Bonnie Benson, President reports:

The calendar says spring, but as I sit here with a cup of coffee looking out the window there are no signs of green grass or tulips peaking through. Our Mollargutten Lodge has been busy even though our winter has been unpredictable. In January our members wore their Norwegian sweaters and told a little bit about what region the sweater represented. It was very interesting seeing the different designs on the sweaters. A little history about the meaning of the different designs was enjoyed by all.

For our culture day in January we had a wood carving day. We made penguins and painted them when we were done carving. February was our annual potluck Sweetheart dinner. We enjoyed court whist and golf cards after dinner. In March our lodge



furnished pizza and popcorn as we watched Lutefisk Wars. Some of this movie was filmed in Mayville, ND.

Our culture day was Adopt a School Passport to Norway. Our lodge set up 4 stations; a culture/geography station-here the students were able to look at maps and see where their ancestors came from, learned about Norwegian instruments, and all the different traditions, age appropriate craft table-grades 10-12 painted wooden egg cups, grades 7-9 made Gnomes using tree branches, grades 4-6 made Julecurver (Norwegian heart baskets) and PK-3 made Gnomes on a stick, there was a language station where students learned numbers and colors in Norwegian, and a lefse station, all ages made lefse and ate lefse. The students rode the bus to the community center at their appropriate time and were given a Passport to Norway and when they attended the stations they received a stamp along with handouts about the activity at that station. Every student and staff from PK-12 got a chance to roll and eat lefse. Some of the older students were able to fry their own lefse. We had a table set up with butter and sugar so each student prepared their own lefse. Our lodge members were at each station helping students. This is definitely a project we will continue with. Such a fun way to share our culture.

In April is our Mystery Night. A who done it play will be presented by several of our members and the rest of us will decide who did it. A fun interaction play. Our plan for the culture day is to prepare a Norwegian main dish. Just a look ahead to May is our Syttende Mai Dinner scheduled for May 14 from 11-1pm at the community center. Everyone is invited to enjoy a very Norwegian menu, view our many activities, visit the silent auction table and there will be door prizes for the Moms. Come and enjoy.

Fagerlund 4-203 of Manfred

No report submitted.



Zone 2

Kay Halverson

Spring is finally here... maybe we think... possibly????? No matter the weather outside, my calendar still says the end of April and that means almost May.

Lodges are busy planning, organizing, and preparing for Syttende Mai. Events include a Torsk and meatball dinner with a live band for dancing entertainment, a community celebration in the city park with games, food and entertainment, a potluck dinner with members and guests and a get together celebration in the church with Norwegian goodies.

more Syttende Mai Goodness - Kringen in Fargo will be hosting Liv Marit Haskenstad. on Tuesday, May 16. Liv is the author of A Guide to Norwegian Genealogy, Emigration and Transmigration. She will talk about settlement of the Red River Valley by Norwegians. Liv will speak after lunch at about 1:00 and will be selling her book. All are welcome so please encourage your lodge members to come for a fun day trip and hear Liv's presentation.

Movie night has also been a fun activity in some lodges. Popcorn, cheese and crackers, cookies and desserts, sloppy Joes and chips were part of several movie nights. Movie suggestions are The Last King, Amundsen and Kon Tiki.

Please mark your calendar for a fun day trip to Bismarck for an interlodge event on June 15. A bus will be leaving Fargo, traveling to Bismarck for a riverboat cruise, visit to the Heritage Center and Museum with lunch and a dinner. We are hoping to fill the riverboat with SONS members and guests. Tell your friends about the fun day and plan to attend. Contact Bismarck or Fargo lodge for more information and to make your reservation.

Have a happy spring!



Zone 3

Martha Elliot



The Zone 3 lodges are all looking for spring, meaning warm temperatures and the snow completely melted. Farmers are waiting to do their springs work and the rest of us want to plant our gardens.

The lodges are celebrating at some time in May Syttende Mai--some on the 17th, and some the Saturday before and some the following Saturday.

Sverdrup had a new membership dinner on the 18th. There were new members joining in and we all had a nice evening. They are hosting an interlodge event on June 15th. Kringen members along with Maddock members will attend and enjoy a riverboat ride. They will be a good time. The event coincides with our Midsummer Festival, so it makes it difficult for our members to attend.

Vidda Lodge meets regularly and will plan a membership event. They plan to celebrate Syttende Mai and show the film **Lutfisk Wars** and have a parade of flags. They will have a craft booth at the Divide County Farmers Market with knitting, ceramic painting, and rosemaling demonstrations. They continue a variety of cultural programs.

Bjarne Lodge also has plans for the spring, including Syttende Mai. Cultural classes are scheduled, and they hope to schedule more this fall.

Nordlyset is planning on having FFA students at their meeting and talk about what the FFA is doing. The lodge plans to give financially to help this group. Meetings are attended by many members.

Thor Lodge has held a couple cultural events. They had a program of making a kransekake. Members enjoyed this class. A barn quilt class will be on May 6th. We will paint a block of half American flag and half Norwegian flag design.

Syttende Mai will be a parade at noon followed by a lunch of hot dogs and ice cream. The Daughters of Norway, Minot chapter, will provide the ice cream. Midsummer festival is always a well-attended three-day celebration. Thor Lodge sells root beer floats. Over 1,500 people attended last year.

Other lodges are doing what they can with the few members they have. Business meetings and social are held at the same time. All lodges are doing the best for the Sons of Norway and the preservation of our heritage with cultural events.

Just a Little Bit of Norsk

Weather is one of the most common topics of discussion in Norway. Use it to have a small talk with your Norwegian colleagues or the person sitting beside you on a bus. Norwegians always talk about the weather.

Det er så fint vær i dag.

It is such a nice weather today.

Det er så varmt i dag.

It is so hot today.

Det er så kaldt i dag.

It is so cold today.

Det er iskaldt.

It's freezing.

For et vær!

What a weather.

(This can be used for both good and bad weather.)

Åh, det er så surt i dag.

Oh it is so bad today.

Det bøtter ned.

It's pouring rain.

Det var 3 grader da jeg sto opp i morges.

It was 3 degrees when I woke up in the morning.

Regner det?

Is it raining?

Det blåser.

It's windy.

Har du sett værmeldingen?

Have you seen the weather forecast?



Zone 5

Noel Birkland

Zone 5 is made up of just four lodges 4-489 Sidney Sidney, Montana; 4-499 Jotunheimen Billings, Montana; 4-524 Fjell Heim Big Timber, Montana;

4-531 Snofjeldet Lewistown, Montana.

I do believe spring has come to Montana, twenties one day, seventies the next, snow and thirties the next. Oh well, that is why we live in Montana.

I visited lodge 4-499 Jotunheimen in April for their lodge meeting. I talked to them about the District IV Convention, but they voted not to do it. They did say that they would be interested in the 2026 convention. They are having a cultural event on May 17 at the Billings Public Library for Syttende Mai.

It is with great sorrow that Zone 5 has lost two lodges, 4-553 Dalen Glasgow, Montana and 4-586 Nordst Jernen Miles City, Montana.

Lodge 4-531 Snofjeldet Lewistown, Montana is planning a busy year ahead.

Lodge 4-524 Fjell Heim Big Timber Montana sponsored a Viking Village at the Valhalla Dayz March 24 and 25 in Big Timber. They had games, displays and demonstrations.

The picture below is of making lefse for our upcoming annual lutefisk supper.



Passport to Norway



top left and going clockwise: Kathy Daeley and Flo Kallenbach taught beginning Norwegian, Carol Thompson organized everything and look at all the medals on her vest. Each student rolled out their own lefse and then buttered and sugared them for eating.

(Mollargutten shenanigans)

Whodunit



Left: Carol Thompson is the detective who leads the investigation

Below: This couple looks really guilty to me.





Zone 6

Paul Christofferson

Hei alle sammen;

Maybe if I start writing some phrases in Norwegian I will eventually learn some of my ancestor's language. My father, who was fluent in Norwegian, would not teach me a word. I think he worked so hard ridding himself of his accent that he did not want his children to learn the language in fear of their developing an accent also. In high school I studied German for two years thinking it would help me learn Norwegian later in life. Not a good decision! Norwegian pronunciation is much more difficult, at least to me, after learning German.

During the last quarter I managed only one Lodge visit due to schedule conflicts and weather issues. I did manage to visit the Lodsén Lodge in Great Falls as they celebrated their 110 year anniversary with a catered dinner in February. Their lodge, located not far from one of the main thoroughfares in town, provides a nice venue for their meetings. A group of 59 attended the celebration. The food, not normal Norwegian fare (but a very tasty meal), was provided by a Hawaiian who owns and operates a restaurant in downtown Great Falls. I enjoyed perusing their historical displays including the impressive badges worn by Lodge officers over the years. Their "kubbestol" on display in the lodge was also very impressive. As a side note, if you haven't driven Interstate 15 between Helena and Great Falls, you missed seeing the Wolf Creek canyon and the Missouri river as it flows down river after passing through the Gates of the mountains. Some of the best scenery in Montana.

Now an update on the Helena Hovedstad Lodge 50th anniversary celebration and the Taste of Norway. On Sunday April 16th the we will provide the Taste of Norway to the public from 1:00 to 3:00 and on Saturday May 13th the members will enjoy a catered meal in celebration of the 50th anniversary

of the Lodge. Both events will be held in Helena's Neighborhood Center. At the taste of Norway event we provide a sampling of Norwegian deserts for the public to enjoy. The cost for the public will be minimal.

I plan to attend a new member event for the Norhaven Lodge in Libby on March 24th at 6:00 PM. At around 300 miles from my Montana City home the Libby Lodge is the furthest in Zone 6 from my home base. I also have a meeting in Hamilton at the Bitterrootdalen lodge scheduled for April 5th. The Hamilton Lodge provided a fish dinner to the public on March 11th which I could not attend due to a scheduling conflict and, as it turned out, extremely bad road conditions (winter life in all of District IV).

As Zone Director I visited, or will soon visit, five of the lodges in Zone 6. I will contact the Presidents of the remaining lodges and schedule visits for this Spring if possible.

I included some pictures of the officer badges, used over the years, and a Kubbestol from the Great Falls Lodsén Lodge. These are only a few of the items that were on display at their celebration.



Above: Kubbestol (block chair), Clockwise: Newer Lodsén Lodge Badges, Oldest Lodge Badges



Zone 6 Director Paul visited the Bitterrootdalen Lodge in Hamilton MN in April.

Sverdrup Lodge hosted a table at the annual Families Around the World at the Bismarck Public Library. Youth Director Elisha Placek designed an Easter egg necklace project that featured Norwegian folk art designs.



Sverdrup Happenings



Harold Rolfsrud was thrilled to bring his daughter Kelli to a Sverdrup social. Kelli was visiting from Alabama, she borrowed one of her father's Norwegian sweaters, ND was a little cooler than home.



Sverdrup Lodge annually recognizes all past lodge presidents at their February social. This past February those at the social included: back row, l to r, Dave Phillips, Jerry Saude, Lowell Jensen, Eugene Weekes, and Vern Monger, center, l to r, Susan Hammer Schneider and Audrey Solheim, front row, l to r, Louise Benz and Jeannette Radig. Elected in 1981, Jeannette was the first woman lodge president



Our annual strategic planning meeting was held on a February 18. With plans in place members gathered for a group photo and a little birthday celebration for Audrey Solheim, a long-time lodge member and Sverdrup's Nyheter editor.