



# The Norden Club of Lincoln

Our 67th Year

May, 2014

- Next Meeting: 6:30 May 19 at First Lutheran Church
  - Call for Reservation by Wednesday, May 14
- Dorothy Ekblad 402-488-6313  
Leona Bellinger 402-484-7123

## May Program

We will view a video about Sweden from the NET network by Rick Steves. Rick is an American author and television personality focusing on European travel. He is the host of the American Public Television series Rick Ste-

ves' Europe, has a public radio travel show, "Travel with Rick Steves" and has authored various location-specific travel guides. The video is about 20 minutes long. It is about Sweden and its capital, Stockholm. He talks about

the heritage and historical sites, the local food and the culture. He also talks about visiting the country and some places of interest to see.

Neal Simley,  
Vice President

<i>Norden Club Officers</i>	
<i>President</i>	Phyllis Ericson
<i>Vice President</i>	Neil Simley
<i>Secretary</i>	Ingrid Hansen
<i>Treasurer</i>	Karen Zins
<i>Membership</i>	Ron Johnson Mary Contreras
<i>Courtesy</i>	Charlene Johnson
<i>Historian</i>	Dorothy Ekblad
<i>Newsletter</i>	Len Nelson
<i>Song Leader</i>	Ozzie Gilbertson
<i>Pianist</i>	Janet Harms
<i>Librarian</i>	Dorothy Ekblad

## Did you know?

There is a tunnel from Amager Denmark to Peppar Island and from Pep-

par Island there is a bridge to Sweden.

The highest point is Denmark is 172 meters (565 feet).

## Courtesy Report

Cards sent: Louise Terrell—Get Well; Lois Johnson—Thinking of You; Del Stites—Thinking of You; Carol Reed—Thinking of You; Ida Petersen—95th Birthday.

Charlene Johnson, Courtesy Chairperson

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

At the last Norden Club board meeting the subject of life membership was discussed. It has been some time since this issue has been brought up for

discussion. A motion was made and seconded to reinstate the Life Membership Awards. At the next board meeting in August the names for consideration

in the Life Membership of The Norden Club will be selected. The individuals selected will be initiated as Life Members at the Smorgasbord in December.

## AUGUSTANA HERITAGE ASSOCIATION FESTIVAL

The Norden Club members are invited to attend the Augustana Heritage Association Festival at Midland University in Fremont NE, June 13-15. Celebrate the Nebraska institutions of the Augustana Synod. Many of you may have grown up going to a Lutheran Church of the Swedish Augustana Synod or have some heritage back-

ground in relationship to the community where you came. The theme is "Prairie Roots, Global Impact". Special focus will be on the people, churches, agencies, and institutions that started with prairie roots in Nebraska and have had global impact. The Norden Club members and or friends who attend the Festival will also gain im-

portant lessons and inspiration for today's ministries through the rich variety of program offerings at the Festival. More information can be received by contacting Carrie Reed at [reed@MidlandU.edu](mailto:reed@MidlandU.edu) or call Al and Sharon Seagren at 402 438-7174 or Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137.

## Presidents Corner

Dear Norden Club Friends –

First of all I want to thank all of you who worked to make the dinner and evening a success. I would also like to recognize and thank Neal Simley, our Program Director, for the wonderful program we had at our March meeting. It reminded me of my recent visit to Elk Horn and Kimballton, Iowa, known as *Denmark on the Prairie*. They are planning their annual Tivoli Fest, May 24 & 25. The Museum of Danish America west of Elk Horn, IA is a real gem. It is a grand building that houses a large collection of Danish displays and items. There you can explore the experi-

ences of Danish immigrants, their descendants and Danes living in America. While you are in Elk Horn, stop by the Danish Mill and grab lunch or supper up Main Street at the Danish Inn.

The Board of Directors met in April. We have been concerned about the costs of our dinners and so you will notice that starting with the May dinner we have had to increase the price. Our caterer Karen London from Leon's Market provides us with an excellent buffet dinner and we wanted to retain her services. We will have a traditional Swedish dinner for our May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Remember to invite your friends and family who have an interest in Scandinavian traditions and culture to join Norden Club. Also, provide your email address to Ron Johnson, our Membership Chair. And let Neal Simley know of ideas you have for program speakers, topics, or entertainment that would interest our group.

I look forward to seeing you in May.

Phyllis Ericson  
President

### Menu for May 19 Norden Club Meeting

Traditional Swedish Dinner of Swedish meatballs with brown cream sauce  
Real mashed potatoes, Pickled gherkins, Whole cranberry sauce  
Lettuce salad, and Molasses Cookies

### Two possible tours

NORSK HOSTFEST is North America's Largest Scandinavian Festival located in Minot, ND. It is a tour group's ideal vacation. Everything is under one roof, unlimited entertainment at one admission price, a wide array of Scandinavian foods unequalled anywhere else in North America, and exhibits and hand crafted imports demonstrated and sold by craftspeople from Scandinavian countries, Canada and the USA. This years events run from Sept. 30th to Oct 4th.

**OR**

"Mid America Scandinavian Tour" will begin on September 29th and end on October 3rd. The tour will begin with a stop at the Danish Museum in Elkhorn, IA and lunch at the Amana Colonies. Then to Decorah, IA for a two night stay at the Historic Hotel Winneshick, visit the Norwegian American Museum, plus other point of interest. Next to Red Wing, Stillwater and Scandia, MN. In Scandia you will visit the Swedish Farm Museum that's still a working farm today. Then on to Minneapolis for a guided tour of the Swedish

Institute and on to Plymouth, MN to see a performance at the Green Mills Theatre. On the way home we will stop at St. Peter, MN for a lunch at Augustana College and a tour of their beautiful Chapel. An interest form to indicate which tour you would enjoy taking will be at the May meeting.

If you will not be at the May 19th meeting we ask that you call either Phyllis Ericson at 402 499-6594 or Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137. We also plan to invite the Omaha Scandinavian Clubs. Prices are not determined.

### NEW MEMBERS TO BE INTRODUCED AT MAY 19th MEETING

We are asking that ALL new members that became members of The Norden Club just prior to the December Smorgasbord and up until the May 19th meeting mark your calendars to be present with us that evening so we can introduce each and every one of you. As our club grows it is important to get to know everybody in our group. We are

asking that you tell us a little bit about yourself, what you do or did do if you're retired, and about your Scandinavian Heritage background. For those who have not filled out a membership form, please let us know so we will get one sent to you. We are hoping to have your name tags available that evening. Should you have a friend

or two that would be interested in The Norden Club, please invite them to attend or let one of us know of their interest. For further information please call Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137 or Phyllis Ericson at 402 499-6594. Our e-mails are: [iron855@live.com](mailto:iron855@live.com) and [phyllis.ericson@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.ericson@gmail.com)

## Foundation News

Spring is here, and all of our Norden Club Foundation Board members have returned from their winter travels. We are pleased to say that the Foundation has received donations for a variety of reasons. For their donations, Bernice Peterson, Phyllis Ericson, and Deanna Hageman have received purple ribbons for their Norden name tags. And thank you Hubert Paulson, Jr., for making another donation. Due to the recent loss of our Foundation Board member Olie Ahlquist, Norden members have sent in a memorial on his behalf. We want to acknowledge Dagmar Ahlquist, Karyn and David Glenn and Jan Lingren for their kindness in donations. John Lund of Omaha has made a donation to

the Foundation due to a recent Foundation mailing. More recently, another member of Norden Club has set up their estate planning to include our Foundation as benefactor at a later time. A heartfelt thanks to all of you!

We certainly appreciate our members who support us in a very gracious way, this allows us to continue our Foundation work. Thanks again to all of you who have supported us through our many efforts to raise money. We work hard and stay focused to make sure that the Norden Foundation continues to be successful. Our Foundation Co-Treasurers Len & Arlene Nelson will gladly accept your donations--please make your checks payable to the--Norden

Club Foundation. Their address is 7821 Lillibridge St, Lincoln, NE 68506.

After attending the last three annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festivals--in Omaha; I personally want to invite you to attend this years fourth annual Festival. Mark your calendar for June 21, 2014, at the Elmwood Park Pavilion--Omaha. It's entertaining, it gets you in-tune with your Scandinavian heritage--the music, food, activities are great fun for family and friends of all ages. The Festival show-cases the talents, hard work and dedication of so many involved. Let's support their efforts and have a good time too!  
Norden Foundation President  
Joan Tomlinson White

## Treasurers Report

Thank you to all who have paid your 2014 dues. They are the basis of the Norden Club's operating budget. Dues remain the same: \$18 per couple and \$10 for singles.

The time has come, however, to raise the cost of our dinners by \$1, to \$16 per person. Expenses have exceeded income the past several dinner meetings by about \$100. The Norden Club board is commit-

ted to keeping our organization vibrant and financially solvent.

Karen Zins

Norden Club treasurer

## Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

**Saturday, June 21, Elmwood Park Pavilion, Omaha**

The 5th annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival will be held this year on Midsummer Day, Saturday, June 21 from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at the Elmwood Park Pavilion just south of the University of Nebraska Campus.

The Festival celebrates the culture and contributions of Scandinavians to the Midwest, to our country, and to the heritage and character of our families. The event is being supported by Scandinavian-Americans, Scandinavian-

American organizations, businesses, and personal contributors in Omaha and Lincoln. This family-friendly festival is free and open to the general public.

The festival will include:

- ★ Decorating and raising the Midsummer Pole
- ★ Parade of Young Vikings
- ★ Live Scandinavian music
- ★ Folk Dancing
- ★ An ABBA Sing-along
- ★ Nordic Foods:

- ★ Scandinavian storytelling
- ★ Commercial and homemade Scandinavian crafts

If you have any questions about the event please contact:

Del Stites  
Festival Chair  
Telephone: 402 234-2417  
Email: [delstites@gmail.com](mailto:delstites@gmail.com)

P.S. As a special promotion, we promise not to serve lutefisk or surstromming (sour herring)!

The Norden Club promotes fellowship among Scandinavian-Americans and their descendants and helps preserve for the benefit of the United States the best in the cultural heritage of Scandinavia.

The countries of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden make up Scandinavia.



*The* **Norden Club**

of Lincoln  
Since 1947

7100 Old Post Road  
Lincoln, NE 68506

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT 1359  
LINCOLN, NE

## **We hope to see you on May 19.**

The meeting is at First Lutheran Church, 2520 S 70th at 6:30. The program will be Rick Steves' video on Sweden. Cost is \$16.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

Call for reservations by Wednesday, May 14:

Dorothy Ekblad—402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger—402-484-7123

Cancellations need to be made by noon Wednesday, May 14. Norden Club is charged for all dinners that are reserved. We appreciate you calling early if you know you can or can not attend.