



The Norden Club of Lincoln

www.nordenclub.com

Our 68th Year

December 2015

• Next Meeting: 6:30
December 14 at The Falls

• For Reservation by
Wednesday, Dec 9

Dorothy Ekblad 402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger 402-484-7123

Presidents Corner

Christmas is always a special time of year for Scandinavians of today. It is a time for us to remember and pass on the traditions of our ancestors. At our house, we celebrate with a fusion of my husband's Swedish and my Danish traditions. We have a mix of Dala horses, straw Yule goats and woven red and white hearts, molasses cookies and *Gløgg*. As we unpack our ornaments and decorations to display in

our home, it brings back memories of friends and family.

As Norden Club members, we gather together to end each year by celebrating with a Scandinavian Smorgasbord and program. Each year we focus on a specific country and this year we are having a Norwegian celebration.

Plan on joining the celebration. Start your holiday season with a bit of

Scandinavia. Be sure and help spread the word and invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to attend. Everyone, young and old, will enjoy this special evening as we visit the heritage and customs of Norway.

From my family to yours Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Glædelig Jul og Godt Nytår

Phyllis Ericson
Norden Club President

<i>Norden Club Officers</i>	
President	Phyllis Ericson
Vice President	Neil Simley
Secretary	Sandy Hanson
Treasurer	Ray Friesen
Membership	Ron Johnson Terri Heckman
Courtesy	Ingrid Hansen
Historian	Dorothy Ekblad
Newsletter	Len Nelson
Song Leader	Ozzie Gilbertson
Pianist	Janet Harms
Librarian	Dorothy Ekblad
Web Master	Len Nelson

December Norwegian Smorgasbord

Come join the Norwegians as we celebrate our heritage with the Norden Club's annual Smorgasbord. The Norden Club of Lincoln has been holding a traditional Smorgasbord since the group was founded in 1947. The Club promotes the traditions and customs of the Scandinavian countries, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

Annual Scandinavian Christmas Smorgasbord
Monday, December 14, 2015
At The Falls Reception Hall, 5960 Adams, Lincoln, NE

5:30 PM Social Hour and
Hors d'oeuvres with live music by Heidi Beran, Harpist

6:30 PM Norwegian Smorgasbord
The authentic tradi-

tional menu will include: pork loin stuffed with smoky apple au jus, Scandinavian meatballs, red-skinned mashed potatoes, sweet and sour red cabbage, creamed peas, a garden salad, lefse and almond rice pudding with fruited sauce. There will be a cash bar.

Program: *The Heritage and Traditions of Norway*, by Kay and Ozzie Gilbertson and the Norwegian Norden Club Members

During the evening, the Norden Club Foundation will host a silent auction of traditional Scandinavian and Norwegian items. This is a major annual fundraiser for our Foundation.

The event is \$25.00 per person, Norden Club members; \$30 for nonmembers, and

\$12 for children under 12 years.

• Advance Reservations only. Deadline Monday, December 7, 2015.

• Members may make phone reservations, 402-488-6313 (Dorothy Ekblad) or 402-484-7123 (Leona Bellinger) and pay at the door the night of the event or

• Mail your check to: The Norden Club, c/o Terri Heckman, 5621 Bison Ct., Lincoln, NE 68516. For more information call Terri @ 402-421-7142.

What better way to celebrate the holidays than to join the Scandinavians for this festive holiday event. Space is limited so place your reservation today!!

FYI Due to the large number of people attending the Smorgasbord dinner, we are unable to "save" tables for family groups arriving late. If you wish to sit with a group of friends and family please come early to obtain your table.

Foundation News

So far, our Younker's Fundraiser and booklet sales for 2015 are looking very good. We have a little more work to do, to wrap up this special project. Total sales will be announced in our next newsletter at the beginning of 2016. A "special thanks" goes to David Glenn for chairing this project and coordinating all of the details. An added thanks to our Norden members for their much needed participation. And kudos to all of our Foundation Board members for their time, input and donations to make this a success.

Scandinavian items are coming in for the Norden Foundation Christmas Silent Auction. We always have a nice variety, some older, some newer, one-of-a-kind unique treasures. If you wish to donate to the auction, please call me at 402-423-

0023. We certainly appreciate your Scandinavian donation. Everyone seems to have fun with this, enjoying the opportunity to bid and take home something they will always cherish.

Norden Club members are always welcome to make a "year-end-tax-deductible donation" to the Norden Foundation. Perhaps consider gifting to the Foundation through your will or estate planning. Our common thread is our Scandinavian culture and heritage. As an organization we are very fortunate to have your ongoing interest and support. Your gift will help the Foundation promote scholarships and grants-in-aid and allow others to pursue a Scandinavian project. We all share in the thrill of experiencing a variety of excellent programs brought

to us by our past and present recipients. Our Foundation Co-Treasurers Len & Arlene Nelson are very willing to take your donation. Thank you!

Christmas is near! It's a special time of year to be with friends and family. Many of you have family traditions and perhaps some very special Scandinavian Christmas traditions. For me, it is the time of year to fondly remember loved ones who have passed on. Thankful to those who gave me the gift of life and so many great opportunities. From all of the Norden Foundation Board members may you have a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Norden Foundation President
Joan Tomlinson White

2015 Smorgasbord Committee

Please join me in recognizing the planning committee for this year's Smorgasbord. Planning an event of this size takes commitment, time and effort. Please offer your appreciation to the members of this

committee for stepping forward to ensure that this Norden Club tradition continues. – Phyllis Ericson

Mary Bowen, Mary Brass, Dorothy Ekblad, Phyllis Ericson, Kay

Gilbertson, Ozzie Gilbertson, Ingrid Hansen, Terri Heckman, Ron Johnson, Hubert Paulson, Sharon Seagren, Janet Westberg, Karen Zins

Ole and Sven Interview Foundation Treasurers

Today, Norden Club members Ole and Sven are interviewing the Co-Treasurers of the Norden Club Foundation, Len and Arlene Nelson.

Ole: How did the ting at Younkers go?

L & A: Thanks to some very hard work by David, Karyn and Joan, we are well on our way toward our scholarships.

Sven: How will you raise enough money to complete the scholarships?

L & A: We are counting on contributions to our silent auction at the Smorgasbord. That's our only other money making project for the year.

Ole: How can we help with dat?

L & A: Look over the table at the Smorgasbord and find some things Lena would like to use in your

house. Give Lena the checkbook and tell her to enjoy shopping for authentic Scandinavian items. If you have some authentic Scandinavian things that you don't use but would be useful to someone else, you can donate them to be sold on our silent auction.

Sven: I saw lots of tings to buy last year.

L & A: Thanks, your purchases will help us out. Tell your friends too.

Officers for 2016 to be Installed at Smorgasbord Meeting

The following officers will be installed at our December Smorgasbord for the year 2016:

President: Phyllis Ericson 1 Yr

Vice President: Ron Nielson 1 Yr

Secretary: Sandy Hansen 2 Yrs

Treasurer: Ray Friesen 2 Yrs

Historian: Dorothy Ekblad 2 Yrs

Membership: Ron Johnson 1 Yr

Librarian: Dorothy Ekblad 2 Yrs

Courtesy: Ingrid Hansen 2 Yrs

Newsletter: Len Nelson 2 Yrs

Courtesy Report

Courtesy chairman needs your help.

I need you, our members, to help me out with information regarding happenings in our members lives, happy or sad, I do

watch the announcements in the paper, and look at the obituaries for information, but it's hard to catch everything. Please contact me, either by phone, 402-488-9389, or by e-mail ingel-

lings@gmail.com. We like to recognize important events in our members lives.

Thank you, Ingrid Hansen

WANT ADS

Wanted: Norwegian items to display at the Smorgasbord. Call Kay or Ozzie Gilbertson, 402-489-6993.

Wanted: Ideas for program topics and presenters for May and September 2016 Norden Club dinner programs. Contact Neal Simley 402-560-6879, nealsimley@gmail.com.

Wanted: Library volunteers to help organize The Norden Club library in 2016. We have received many wonderful contributions of Scandinavian books for our library which need to be listed and organized. Library is on 2nd floor, First Lutheran Church, 1551 So. 70th St. Contact Dorothy Ekblad, Norden Club librarian, 402-488-6313.

MEMBERSHIP

Last year the Board of Directors established three goals to increase our membership. These goals were and are:

1. Increasing Norden Club membership: Our main purpose was to get our total membership involved in spreading the word and celebrating our Scandinavian heritage. We did a pretty good job, but we can do better. Be enthusiastic when talking about the Norden Club to prospective members. We added approximately 30 some new members and many have become involved in various facets of the Norden Club. However, we need to do a better job of introducing these new members, be sure to have our current members make them feel wanted and invite them to become a part of a committee.

2. Improving connections with our members: We want to make it easy for members to receive club information and to connect with each other. This includes providing and informative and timely newsletter; and connecting with members via email as well as the mail. We need to get our members involved in providing articles of Scandinavian interests, such as recent trips to Scandinavia, special celebrations that our members have

been involved in and certain customs that portrays their Scandinavian heritage. Let's see how many articles we can get to Len for our newsletters. This will help in getting new members when they get a copy of our newsletter. Let's show them how active of an organization we are!

3. Providing memorable programs: There is nothing better than to have good programs to gain the interest of prospective members. Each one of us can help in this regards! It's kind of like football recruiting, when you have a sell out crowds with all the enthusiasm, it gains the attention of lot of the football recruits. We've had some good programs in the past, but we can certainly use your input to continue this trend.

With the Smorgasbord coming up on December 14th, here is an opportunity to make a special attempt to invite friends, relatives and acquaintances to this special event. It is the boards responsibility to follow up and make a special attempt to have them become members. Our overall membership has decreased, so our main objective for 2016 is to add 50 new members. You will find the membership application in our brochure. There will be a cou-

ple of brochures on each of the tables that new members can use. **We can do it!!!**

CONTACT PEOPLE: For 2016

1. Phyllis Ericson, President - Phone # 402 499-6594 - email, phyllis.ericson@gmail.com
2. Ron Nielsen, VP - Phone # 402 477-0065 - email, rnielsen2@neb.rr.com
3. Ron Johnson, Membership - 402 488-3137 - email, iron855@live.com
4. Neil Simley, Program - 402 560-6879 - email, nealsimley@gmail.com
5. Ray Friesen, Treasurer - 402 786-2670 - email, rffmf9841@windstream.net

For the Smorgasbord on Dec. 14th, if you are planning to attend, and we hope you are, to make the registration run smoother, please send in your dues, (\$18.00 for couples and \$10.00 for singles). Also, if you prefer you can send in your check for the meal, which is \$25.00, along with your dues to Ray Friesen, 9841 No 143rd St. Waverly, NE 68462

Ron Johnson, Membership chair

December 2015

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

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 1359
LINCOLN, NE

**We hope to see you on December 14
(note date change to 2nd Monday)**

The meeting is at The Falls Reception Hall, 5960 Adams, Lincoln, NE. \$25 per person (\$30 non-members, \$12 children under 12). We look forward to seeing you there.

Call for reservations by Monday, December 7

Dorothy Ekblad—402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger—402-484-7123

Cancellations need to be made by noon Wed. Dec 7. Norden Club is charged for all dinners that are reserved. We appreciate you calling early if you know you can or can not attend.