



The Norden Club of Lincoln

www.nordenclub.com

Our 68th Year

May 2015

- Next Meeting: 6:30
May 18 at First Lutheran Church
- Call for Reservation by
Wednesday, May 13

Dorothy Ekblad 402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger 402-484-7123

Presidents Corner

Dear Norden Club Friends

First of all I want to thank all of you who worked to make the March 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.

Cecilia Hall, University of Nebraska star Volleyball player, was a delight beginning with the dinner prayer in Swedish to her photos and stories as she described her *Life In Sweden*.

The Norden members enjoyed her observations of the differences and similarities of life in the U.S. compared to Sweden. Graduating in December, we look forward to seeing her play her final year for the university.

The Board of Directors met in April. The Norden Club is currently in good financial condition. Discussion was held on membership dues and it was noted that dues have remained the same for over 15 years. With just under 150 paying members the board recognizes the likely need to increase the dues for 2015. A decision will be made at the next board meeting.

Also, we will need a nominating committee for the summer to select candidates for board members whose terms are expiring at the end of the year. Nominations and election of 2015-16 board members

will be held at the September 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.

I look forward to seeing you at the May dinner meeting. The dinner reservation phone lines are now open. Call Dorothy Ekblad – 402-488-6313 or Leona Bellinger – 402-484-7123 to get your dinner reserved.

Enjoy the spring weather!!!
Phyllis Ericson
President

Phyllis Ericson
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

Courtesy Report—New Courtesy Chairperson

The help of all Norden Club members is needed in order for me to do a good job as your new Courtesy Chairperson.

If you know, or hear about, any happy or sad occasions (special birthdays, anniversaries, illnesses or deaths etc.) that would warrant a card/greeting from our group, please let me know.

You may call me at 402-488-9389, or e-mail me at ingellings@gmail.com

Thank you very much for your cooperation

Ingrid Hansen

May Program

Our May program will be presented by Ozzie and Kay Gilbertson. The title of their talk is "FROM DOVER, ENGLAND TO MURMANSK, RUSSIA, VIA THE

NORWEGIAN NORTH CAPE." They will be showing slides and explaining their 2013 trip to Norway.

Ozzie is a retired professor from the University of Nebraska.

His claim to Norwegian heritage comes from his hometown which was first Norwegian community in Minnesota and still celebrates Norwegian Independence Day.

May 19 Norden Club Traditional Swedish Dinner

Swedish meatballs with
brown cream sauce
Real mashed potatoes

Pickled gherkins
Whole cranberry sauce
Lettuce salad

Molasses Cookies

Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Sunday, June 7, 2015 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Elmwood Park Pavilion and Grounds
602 South 60th Street, Just south of UNO
Omaha
Contact Information: 402 830-6679
delstites@gmail.com

Scandinavian music by Greenblatt and Seay, Nordic foods, lefse, and crafts, Folk Dancing, Little Viking Parade, Tribute to Norway Tent, Midsummer Pole decoration and pole raising, many children's games. Free and open to the public. Flat grounds, free parking, sidewalks, inside seating in Pavilion.



Don't forget the December Smorgasbord

It is only May, but it is not too early to begin thinking about our December Smorgasbord. This year the Norwegians will be in charge. If you have ideas about program, menu, decoration, or

venue, this would be a good time to get involved. You will save the Norden Board a lot of arm twisting if you volunteer to chair one of the committees. There are a lot of good ideas out there that have not

been tried yet, so here is your chance to shine. Even if you are not Norwegian, they will be glad to adopt you for the remainder of the year.

MEMBERSHIP

We would like to recognize the new members that have joined the Norden Club thus far for the year of 2015. We thank you for joining and look forward to getting to know you. If you have ideas to help the Norden Club grow or suggestions concerning programming, we certainly want to hear from you. Our names and phone numbers can be obtained from our web site, "NordenClub.com". You should have also been receiving The Norden Club Newsletter.

The new members who have

joined thus far for 2015 are:

Paul & Joyce Hansen
Heather Brown & David Iverson
Robert (Bob) Johnson
Carol Mason
Ron & Karen Nielsen
Wayne & Jan Ruliffson
Wayne & Janet Wallman
Connie Whyrick
Angela Carter
Virgil & Ruth Johnson

For you members that have not paid their 2015 dues, now is the time to do so. Please find the

registration form attached for your convenience. A member of the calling committee will be giving you a call to see if we can reinstate your membership into Norden Club. If you wish not to renew your membership, please give us the reason for not renewing. This will help us in building a stronger Norden Club, however your membership is important to us.

Ron Johnson, Membership Chairman

Foundation News

What I was observing in 1999, and honored to be a part of, were the early stages of establishing the Norden Club Foundation. The initial idea was to create a fund to encourage the appreciation of our Scandinavian heritage. To support those of all ages who needed financial help by providing a Foundation scholarship or grant-in-aid. Our scholarship recipients payback was to provide a program to the Norden Club and share their Scandinavian experience with us.

In the beginning, it was amazing to see those fellow Foundation Board members in action. Passionately asking questions and providing answers with expertise. We cautiously and painstakingly took one step at a time. After countless meetings and long hours, the legal papers were filed. The “who, what, when, and where” was established and we became a Foundation.

Of course a Foundation requires money to exist. Early on, that was another step to overcome. Thanks to the Norden Club Board officers, it was then decided that they would loan money to the Foundation to get things moving. It was also discussed, by the original members of the Foundation to use only the interest earned, to do the work of the Foundation. Unfortunately, interest rates

started to drop and our investments were not growing. It was time to diversify our money and look into investment funds. With guidance and good management our new investments started to increase. Each year, we have a specific amount of money we work with to award scholarships and grants, print brochures as needed and enough to cover the scholarship mailing. The remainder of our money is restricted and untouchable due to fund investments. Over the years, we’ve had some significant monetary donations given to the Foundation, and your Scandinavian items given to us for auction. Big or small, it has been wonderful to have your ongoing support!

A concern that we now face, is that our membership has dropped significantly. And that effects financial giving to the Foundation. We hope new members as well as existing members remember the Foundation as part of your financial planning. We need your membership and your support for the continued success of the Norden Club and the Foundation. Also consider a single donation, perhaps one for a birthday, anniversary, or memorial donation, which is tax deductible. With your donations we are able to continue giving scholarships and grants to those who live in and around our Lincoln

community.

Now in our sixteenth year of existence, we have come a long way and have grown significantly. Note: our loan from the Norden Club has now been paid back. Two Foundation fundraisers keep us busy each year and gives us additional funds to work with. In the beginning, we provided one \$500 scholarship. Today we now award \$1000 scholarships and grants-in-aid as well. In return, our awarded recipients have produced great diversity in their programs. They provide a new experience and enjoyment to our members.

Thanks to all of those amazing people who have given commendable service to the Foundation—past and present. Engaging in many smart discussions and getting the work done. We have experienced team work at its best! Thanks to Jan Lingren and Ron Johnson for their guidance and wisdom. They were there in the very beginning and continue to serve today. I’m proud to serve as your Foundation President, it has been an incredible experience. With your help we will continue to grow, kudos to everyone!

Norden Foundation President
Joan Tomlinson White

September Program

Our September program will include a presentation by the Foundation Scholarship recipient.

In addition, Ron Johnson and Phyllis Ericson will review the highlights of the Scandinavian Mid-

America tour they were on last summer. Watch for more details later.

Remember to check out our web site at WWW.NordenClub.com. The newsletter archives, club information, scholarship applications, and other information are located there.

THE NORDEN CLUB OF LINCOLN MEMBERSHIP FORM—2015

Annual dues \$10 individual – \$18 for Couples
Mail checks to Ron Johnson, Membership Chair
7100 Old Post Rd, #1 Lincoln, NE 68506

Members Name (1) _____

1st Applicant’s heritage: ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___ Norwegian ___ Swedish

Members Name (2) _____

2nd Applicant’s heritage: ___ Danish ___ Finnish ___ Norwegian ___ Swedish

Mail address _____

E-Mail address _____

Phone 1 _____ Phone 2 _____

Greetings from The Norden Club of Lincoln to all prospective and returning members!

As we are entering the new year of programing for The Norden Club we are certainly interested in NEW MEMBERS. Since you have expressed an interested in The Norden Club or have attended one of our past meetings we hope you have that continued interest. We are including this registration form as part of the Norden Club Newsletter. It is imperative that we get to know you and your Scandinavian background. It is our intent to develop meaningful and interesting programs as ways of preserving and passing on our Scandinavian heritage.

New members as well as past members please use the membership form listed above and send it as soon as possible or bring it to the March meeting. For the members, if you don't know if you have paid your dues for 2015, please call Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137

Your Membership Committee.

One day Ole and Sven were paging through the Sears Catalog and admiring all the beautiful models. Ole said to Sven, "Haf you seen da perdy girls in dis catalog?"

Sven replied, "Ya, Dey sure are bootiful, an yust look at da prices!"

Ole looked wide eyed and said, "Yumpin' yimminy. Dey ain't very expensive. At dees prices I'm buyin' me vun."

Sven smiled, patted Ole on the back and said, "by golly Ole, if she's as perdy as she looks in da catalog, I

will get vun too."

Three weeks later Sven came by and asked Ole, "did ja ever git dat girl you ordered from da Sears Catalog?"

Ole replied, "no, but it von't be long now, her clothes came yesterday!"

May 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

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 1359
LINCOLN, NE

We hope to see you on May 18

The meeting is at First Lutheran Church. The program is by Ozzie and Kay Gilbertson on their trip to Norway. The meal of Swedish Meatballs is catered by Leon's and the cost is \$16.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

Call for reservations by Wednesday, May 13

Dorothy Ekblad—402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger—402-484-7123

Cancellations need to be made by noon Wednesday, May 13. Norden Club is charged for all dinners that are reserved. We appreciate you calling early if you know you can or can not attend.