



# The Norden Club of Lincoln

www.nordenclub.com

Our 69th Year

Sept 2016

• Next Meeting: 6:30  
Sept 19, 2016 at First  
Lutheran Church

• For Reservation by  
Thursday, Sept 15

Dorothy Ekblad 402-488-  
6313

Leona Bellinger 402-484-  
7123

## Presidents Corner

Dear Friends –  
I hope you had a pleasant summer and  
are ready for your fall activities to  
begin. You will want to make sure you  
have Norden Club on your calendar.

**Next Norden Club Dinner Meeting,  
Monday September 19<sup>th</sup>  
Swedish Smorgasbord, Monday  
December 5**

Also, take a moment to visit our Nor-  
den Club website at

[www.Nordenclub.com](http://www.Nordenclub.com). You will be  
delighted and proud of our club.

As always our club exists for our mem-  
bers. All of you love and take pride in  
your Scandinavian heritage. The suc-  
cess of our club programs and dinners  
depend on our members. I want to  
acknowledge and thank all of the mem-  
bers who volunteer to help with our  
Norden Club activities. Please join me  
in a special “thank you” to Ron John-  
son for his years of service and dedica-  
tion to the Norden Club. We will miss  
him.

We began planning this year’s *Swedish  
Smorgasbord* this summer. Ron John-  
son got us off to a good start and Jan  
and Terry Branting are serving as co-  
chairs for the Smorgasbord Commit-  
tee. We will be having a grand event at  
Hillcrest Country Club this year. Plan  
now to attend and be entertained and  
pampered with the fine service & food  
provided by the staff of the country  
club.

I am proud of how active and commit-  
ted our members are in preserving our  
Scandinavian heritage. We also are  
always looking for members to be in-  
volved and help with the activities of  
the Norden Club and Foundation. Have  
you have been coming to dinner meet-  
ings for a while and would like to get to  
know club members better? There are  
several opportunities listed elsewhere in  
this Newsletter to help the club and get  
to know the members a little better.

See you in September.

Your president, Phyllis Ericson

## Courtesy Report

A sympathy card was sent to Jane Mick-  
elson on the death of her husband War-  
ren Mickelson, life member of Norden  
Club. A birthday card was sent to Doro-  
thy Ekblad on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

“Thinking of you” cards were sent to  
Joan Thomlinson White, Ozzie Gilbert-  
son, and Ingrid Hansen. A thank you  
card was sent to Ron Johnson for his

many years of service to Norden Club.

Please contact me if you know of any  
people and events we want to recognize.  
Contact **Mary Brass, 6000 South 77<sup>th</sup>  
St, Lincoln, NE 68516 or phone me at  
402-483-0035**. If you would like to  
help me with courtesy cards, please con-  
tact me.

Mary Brass

<i>Norden Club Officers</i>	
President	Phyllis Ericson
Vice President	Ron Nielsen
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

Thank You—I want to thank the  
Norden Club and all the mem-  
bers who are very dear to me. I  
want to thank all who came to  
my 90th birthday party at First  
Lutheran Church. You made my  
day special.  
Dorothy Ekblad

## Foundation News

This is a good time to announce the \$1000 Norden Foundation recipient for 2016. Patrick Linafelter is a Junior at the University of Omaha, in the College of Information Science & Technology. He is currently participating in a 2016 fall semester study abroad program at Lulea University of Technology in Lulea, Sweden. Patrick is excited to be a part of the newly formed partnership between both schools. Majoring in Business Databases and Marketing, he is taking additional classes to learn the Swedish language, study Swedish history and travel with fellow students. We look forward to having Patrick as our guest speaker in 2017.

The Foundation also awarded a grant-in-aid for \$400 to the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Omaha. Planning for a whole year, the Omaha Festival Committee works so hard to bring it all together in

June. The focus is on Scandinavian heritage and culture with many enjoyable activities. It all begins with the parade and raising of the Midsummer Pole. There are games for kids, a variety of vendors, folk dancers, crafts, Nordic foods and folk music. The Norden Club of Lincoln shared Club brochures and offered flag pins for sale.

Now in the dog days of summer, the Foundation has begun to make plans for our two fundraisers. At the Norden dinner in September we will be selling coupon booklets for Younkers' Community Days (November 9-12). We need your contributions and support for a successful outcome. Read "Ole and Sven" for details. During the December Smorgasbord, the Foundation will offer Scandinavian items for your bidding pleasure at our Silent Auction. If you are downsizing, cleaning out a drawer or a closet, or want to re-gift an item, give me a call at 402-

423-0023. Your donation of Scandinavian treasures will go to a new home. Thank you for all of your support!

A long time member of Norden Club, Ron Johnson and wife Jackie will be moving to San Mateo, California September 1st. We have known Ron as Norden Club Vice President, President, Board Member, Membership Chair, Smorgasbord Chair, and Norden Club Foundation Board Member. He has been dedicated to keeping our Scandinavian heritage alive. Best of luck Ron. We hope to see you and Jackie from time to time when you are back in Lincoln. Thank you for all you have done! You will be missed but never forgotten.

Norden Foundation President

*Joan Tomlinson White*

## September Program

Our speaker for the September meeting is Kristian Deng-Olson, a student from Denmark. He is supported by the STS Foundation and is a

Junior at Beatrice High School. We are looking forward to hearing about the current living conditions in Denmark.

The meal will be smothered chicken breast with baked potato, Waldorf salad, dinner roll, and cream pie.

## 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: Vell, las year at the September meeting you brought a bunch of Younkers Community Day booklets. Are you gonna do dat again dis year?

L & A: Yes, we are looking for another successful fund raiser for our scholarship program. All the money raised goes directly to our scholarship fund. Last year we raised enough money to give one scholar-

ship. The winner this year is now in Sweden studying. We really need your help.

Sven? How does dat work?

L & A: The \$5.00 donation to our foundation will get you one of those booklets with over \$400.00 in coupons and savings. For a \$10.00 donation you get 2 booklets and your contribution will be included as a foundation contributor. You will also get a purple ribbon as a contributor. Remember, this is also tax deductible.

Ole: Vye vud I vant to have two of dem booklets?

L & A: Don't forget that your friends and family like to save money just like you do. You can give them as gifts or you can use the coupons in the second book to buy things for yourself or as Christmas presents.

Sven: Ja, even my mudder-in-law might like me if I gave her vun of dose booklets.

L & A: We won't guarantee that, but it might be worth a try.

# ANNUAL SMORGASBORD MONDAY, DEC 5, 2016

Dec. 5 Evening, at Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 East O Street, Lincoln

This year's Smorgasbord is going to be a grand affair. With a Santa Lucia pageant, choir, folk dancing and the annual Norden Foundation silent auction there will be something to delight everyone. We are looking forward to the beauty of the country club and the superb dinner and service they will provide for the evening.

We have averaged over 200 the last

few years and we anticipate this to be a big event as well. Last year almost 1/3 of the attendees were nonmembers. Seating will be limited to the first 280 reservations.

There will be three prices for the event - a standard fee for nonmembers, a discounted rate for current Norden Club members and one for children 10 years and younger. Make sure you have paid your

2016 Norden Club dues by the September meeting in order to qualify for the Norden member event rate.

**Member reservations may be made at the September dinner meeting.** The public announcement will be made Nov 5. **Reservations must be made and paid in advance, no later than Monday, November 28.**

## Smorgasbord Committee Members

Co-Chairmen - Jan and Terry Branting

Decorations - Leona Bellinger – Chair, Terri Heckman, Mary Brass, Marge Anderson, Debbie Harper – Non Mem, Jacque Scholz, Menu Committee - Phyllis Ericson, Jan Branting, Jacque Scholz & Marcia Blomstedt

Pageant Committee – Ingrid Stites, Chair, Del Stites, Ann Elmore, Many Ann Hulsgrand

Registration Committee – Ray Friesen, Chair, Mary Friesen, Ingrid Hansen, Verla Youngquist  
Name Tags – Arlene Nelson, Chair, Len Nelson, Dave and Sandy Hanson

Ushers - Stan Peterson, Chair, Beth Peterson, Sharon Seagren, Linea Fredickson,

Pre-Paid Tickets - Terri Heckman  
Choir – Gordon Youngquist – Director, Kristina Hanson, Doug Lind-Olson, Ingrid Stites, Ozzie and Kay Gilbertson, Al and Sharon Seagren, Mary Brass, Roger & Ann Elmore, Oscar Blomstedt, Len &

Arlene Nelson, Dave & Sandy Hanson, Joan Zimmerman, Jerry and Arlene Johnson, Terri Heckman, Ron Thomsen.

**There is still time for anyone who would like to sing in the choir. Call Gordon at 402 489-0122.**

The Pianist will be Heidi Widner and St. Lucia is Violet Widner

Dance Committee - Kate McBride, Craig Shogren, Del & Ingrid Stites and families.

## Upcoming Area Events

Sat. Oct. 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Fall Open House,

*Little Scandinavia*, 2619 N Main St, Elkhorn, NE  
Scandinavian Dancers, Viking Reenactment, Food Samples & a good time.

Library - Don't forget our Club Library located in the First Lutheran Church Library on the upper level. We appreciate all the donations that our members have made to the library.

Dorothy Ekblad, Librarian

**Member Opportunities** – If you could help our club with one or more of these activities please notify Phyllis 402-499-6594 or [Phyllis.ericson@gmail.com](mailto:Phyllis.ericson@gmail.com) or the member listed.

**Courtesy Committee** – 1-2 members to send cards to members on behalf of Norden Club for Anniversaries, Illnesses and Special Occasions.

**Library Committee** – 1-2 members to assist Dorothy Ekblad. We need to organize and update listing of Scandinavian books held by the Norden Club in the 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church library.

**Smorgasbord Greeters** - Greet guests, direct to sign-in table and coat closet. Assist with dining room seating before the event. Arrive 5 p.m. Call Jan & Terry Branting 402-435-0401, [jbranting@neb.rr.com](mailto:jbranting@neb.rr.com)

**Dinner Meeting Song Leader** – Do you like to sing? We need someone to lead us in our opening and closing songs at our member meetings Mar, May and Sept.

**Dinner Meeting Pianist** – Together with the Song Leader, provide accompaniment for group singing and keep us in tune at member meetings.

**Norden Choir Members for Smorgasbord** – Come and join in singing a few Christmas songs with the 2016 Norden Choir. In the early days, the Norden Club was known for its choir that even travelled to other cities to sing on occasion. Contact our choir director, Gordon Youngquist. 402-489-0122 or [snr68@aol.com](mailto:snr68@aol.com)

## The Foundation Needs Your Help

**FACT:** There are only 6 of us on Foundation Board that are available to help sell booklets and only 4 remain in November for actual sale.

**FICTION:** Foundation Board members enjoy listening to all kinds of excuses why they choose not to buy or help us.

**FACT:** We need to pre-sell many booklets ahead of time to get times to sell during the actual Community Days

of Nov 9-12. That's when people really want extra booklets and then they are very easy to sell. Besides we get a bonus at end of campaign based on number of booklets sold.

**FICTION:** It's so easy to raise money for scholarships. Interest rates are high enough to support a scholarship.

**FACT: WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you can't help sell booklets at Youters, please consider a donation of

\$10.00 or even more which is tax deductible. You will be given 2 booklets that either you can use or give as thank you gift to someone else. This entitles you to a purple ribbon on your name badge for you contribution. Scholarship winners will especially be grateful because ultimately that is where the money goes. We foundation members are only helping to facilitate that scholarship money and you can help us in that way.



Hello Norden Club friends! My name is Mary Brass and I am taking over the duties of Membership chairman from Ron Johnson. My husband, Gene Brass, and I have been

members of Norden Club for 16 years. My heritage is Danish and Norwegian. I remember joining Norden Club because of a casual conversation with Bill and Karen Zins. I also remember Len and Arlene Nelson inviting us to join Norden Club. So our experience proves that the best way to continue getting new members is by word of mouth!

A BIG THANK YOU to Ron Johnson for his many years of volunteer work for our Norden Club. We wish Ron and Jackie would stay in Lincoln, but we certainly wish the Johnsons many happy blessings as they move to California. You folks will certainly be missed!

Gene and I have lived in Lincoln since 1990. We have been married for 36 years. We are members of First Lutheran Church and enjoy the mutual connection of our Scandinavian friends between the Lutheran Church and the Norden Club.

My husband is a retired Civil Engineer with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Gene is also retired military as a former Marine and Iowa Air National Guard. While Gene was in the National Guard, I was caring for our three children. I was a Cub Scout – Boy Scout Leader for 18 years for Cub Scout Pack 25 and Boy Scout Troop 25. I enjoyed watching our two sons grow into Eagle Scouts. I was also a Girl Scout leader and helped our daughter earn the Girl Scout Gold award.

I will do my best to maintain an accurate current membership roster for Norden Club, but I need your help.

Please notify me of any address or telephone changes, or if you know of someone who wishes to join. Because we are not receiving annual dues by January 1 each year, we can no longer afford to send the Newsletter to people who are not currently paid. We are doing our best to keep annual dues at a low, reasonable cost. The annual dues have remained at the same level, \$10 and \$18 for over 20 years.

We have mailed reminder letters and tried phoning our delinquent members recently. A response would be greatly appreciated one way or another. The membership dues can be sent to our Treasurer Ray Friesen, 9841 North 143<sup>rd</sup> St, Waverly, NE 68462. If any questions about your annual dues, please call Ray Friesen 402-786-2670. Mary Brass, Membership Chair 402-483-0035

## MEMBERSHIP

## September Meeting Election of Officers

The following have been nominated and all have agreed to serve a 2-year term. We will hold nominations and the election for the 2-year term at the September dinner meeting.

President:	2017-18	Ron Nielsen
V-Pres, Programs	2017-18	Del Stites
Secretary:	2017-18	Sandy Hanson
Treasurer:	2017-18	Ray Friesen
Membership Committee Chair:	2017-18	Mary Brass
Newsletter Editor:	2017-18	Len Nelson
Courtesy Committee Chair:	2017-18	Mary Brass
Historian & Librarian	2017-18	Dorothy Ekblad

Sept 2016

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 Sept 19**

The meeting is at First Lutheran Church. Cost is \$16 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.. Dinner at 6:30 with program to follow. Doors open at 5:30.

Program will be a student from Denmark. Menu is chicken breast.

Call for reservations by Thursday, Sept 15

Dorothy Ekblad—402-488-6313

Leona Bellinger—402-484-7123

Cancellations need to be made by noon Thur. Sept 15. Norden Club is charged for all dinners that are reserved. We appreciate you calling early if you know you can or can not attend.