



The Norden Club of Lincoln

Our 67th Year

September Issue

- Next Meeting: 6:30 September 16 at First Lutheran Church
 - Call for Reservation by Thursday, Sept 12
- Dorothy Ekblad, 402-488-6313
402-488-6018
Leona Bellinger 402-484-7123

Program Set for September 16 meeting

Dr. Paul Read, professor of Horticulture and Viticulture in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture will be our guest speaker. He will discuss topics such as the gardens of Scandinavia, the wine and grape industries in Scandinavia, and talk

about the wine industry in Nebraska. Dr. Read serves as the resource person for Nebraska's developing grape and wine industry.

The dinner/program will be at 6:30 on Sept 16, 2013. It will be held at First Lutheran Church at

1551 So 70th St (just south of 70th and A St). Doors will open at 5:45 p.m. You can enter from the side door which is handicapped accessible and has plenty of parking. Tables will be set up to collect the \$15 per person for dinner, dues if owed,

<i>Norden Club Officers</i>	
<i>President</i>	Dorothy Ekblad
<i>Vice President</i>	
<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

Editors Comments

I am just starting to learn the ropes of editing the Norden Club Newsletter. The contributions you see are from your officers. I just place them on the

page. I welcome any comments on how I can improve the readability of this newsletter. Also, I welcome contributions, especially if anyone would

like to interview some of our life members and print up their stories. Send comments to: lennelson@windstream.net.

Len Nelson

Courtesy Report

Cards were sent by Charlene Johnson, Courtesy Chair to:
Karen Lind-Olson on April 30 "Thinking of You"
Quentin & Marie Johnson on May 14 "65th Anniversary"
Shirley Oliver on May 14 "Thinking of You"
Mary Brass on May 16 "Death of her Mother."

Swedish Smorgasbord

This year on December 9th, the Swedes are hosting The Norden Club's annual Smorgasbord. They will have to work hard to out-do the Norwegians who, last year, hosted one of the most memorable Smorgasbords. In order to do so, we need several volunteers to help plan



this event. The following are areas where we need your assistance:

1. Decorations - Chairman: Leona Bellinger
2. Food - Chairman:
3. Registration - Chairman:
4. Hors d'oeuvres - Chairman: Arlene Nelson
5. Setup - Chairman:

6. Cleanup - Chairman: Please call Leona at 402 484-7123 or Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137 if you are willing to chair or help on a committee. There will be a planning meeting the latter part of September.

Presidents Corner

Dear Norden Club Friends, "Summertime, and the living is easy." So the song goes? And summertime in Lincoln and Nebraska is a special time – But I find that there is not enough of that "time" to get everything done. I hope your summer has been good to you. But I can't help but tell you how "lucky" I am to live in Lincoln and be a part of Norden Club, to know such wonderful Scandinavian-American friends and learn so much about Scandinavia and be able to show my gratitude for my own Swedish parents and my

four grandparents who emigrated from Sweden. I hope all of you can also feel grateful for Norden Club and its history and for the beautiful country we live in and for your Scandinavian Heritage. I know everyone has a "story" to tell so let's share it together at Norden Club. We set aside four evenings a year to enjoy dining, visiting, and sharing interests in Scandinavia. We enjoy singing the Scandinavian national anthems and God Bless America and sing our parting song to the tune of Edelweiss. We proudly display

the flags of the Scandinavian countries and the American flag.

Many thanks to all members, officers, committee members and volunteers at each meeting for your help, guidance, support, and time given on behalf of Norden Club. Coming to our dinner meetings and sharing your love of Scandinavian-American heritage is what Norden Club is all about. Join us on Sept 16, 2013 at our next meeting and meet and share with others in the Norden Club

Dorothy Ekblad,

President

Treasurers Report

Thank you to all who have paid your dues for 2013. No reminders have been sent. If you aren't sure you are up to date, please call Karen Zins, treasurer, (402) 421-6003 or check at the September dinner meeting. Over the past few years, we have

lost several members. Our operating budget and programs depend on dues income. We need new members to keep our club going strong!! Please help by inviting friends and/or family to Norden Club. If you are single and two people join that you have invited, or if a couple, and

two couples that you have invited join, your dues will be free the following year. Take advantage of this ongoing offer! We all benefit. See you in September.

Karen Zins

Norden Club Treasurer

Membership

The Norden Club board has approved the re-establishment of a Membership Committee. The main purpose of the Committee is to better inform current members, past members, and others who have expressed an interest in The Norden Club. The main purpose is: "To promote fellowship among Scandinavian-Americans and their descendants, and to help preserve for the benefit of the United States the best in the Cultural heritage of Scandinavia."

Today we have approximately 225 members of which two-thirds have paid their 2013 membership dues. We will be sending letters to those who have not paid, encouraging them to bring their membership current.

The committee has already sent 127 letters and brochures to past members and to families and individuals who have expressed an interest in The Norden Club. Some of those people were never personally con-

tacted. One individual was asked why she was not in The Norden Club and the answer was, "Nobody asked me." So we as current members need to be more aware about asking people to join.

Let's make it a goal for the year 2014 to get our membership back up to over 300 members. Thank you for your support in making this happen.

Ron Johnson

Foundation News

Earlier this year Karen Lind-Olson had a medical setback and had to be hospitalized. She then took on weeks of rehab at Madonna and improved everyday with the best of care. With Karen's willingness to get better and the support of her husband Doug, their family and care givers, she was able to return home. In recent months, Karen and Doug have stepped down from their responsibilities as Co-Secretaries on the Norden Foundation Board. Understandably, they had to cut back on many of their activities to concentrate on Karen's recovery. Our thoughts, best wishes and prayers continue to go to both Karen and Doug as they progress through the coming months. The Foundation Board wants to thank both of them for their dedication and long time support. We have certainly appreciated their commitment to the growth and success of the Norden Foundation. For those who didn't attend our last dinner meeting, we announced our Foundation \$1000 Scholarship recipient for 2013. Lisa Elizabeth Kopf, age 20 is a Junior at Nebraska Wesleyan University. At this very time, she is on her way to Finland where she will spend the entire fall semester studying at the University of Eastern

Finland. Her major is Exercise Science and Biology, planning to take pre-med classes in Finland. Her career plans are to be a Physicians Assistant. At the end of December, she will return to the USA. We hope that she will share her educational experiences with us and provide a program for Norden in 2014. Once again we have put our scholarship dollars to good use. We can be proud of our investment in continuing to help educate young adults and help to give them a better future.

The Foundation has ordered a new supply of purple donor ribbons. For those who don't have one attached to your name tag, just write a check and make a donation to the Norden Club Foundation. We will call out your name and add that new ribbon to your name tag at the one of the next Norden dinner meetings. Please show your support and thank you! Your check can be mailed to: Norden Club Foundation, 7601 Roose, Lincoln, NE 68506 or Norden Club Foundation, 1667 Cheyenne, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Last fall 2012, we invested a lot of time and effort in the Younkers Community Day Event fundraising project. And it really paid off, we were able to raise \$660.

We kicked off the project by selling \$5 booklets to you our members. Your booklet purchases gave us the jump start that we needed. There are multiple coupons worth hundreds of dollars, and you also receive a \$10 coupon to spend any way that you wish on a store purchase. I usually purchase several booklets, and do a pre-sale the week of the Event; I organize my list and then shop at my leisure. Shop for yourself, or do some holiday gift shopping at the November event. The booklet makes a great gift for friends or family members. Starting in September we'll have booklets available and we want to thank you in advance for participating and supporting our scholarship program! Olie Ahlquist has volunteered to head up this project and we want to thank him for the many hours that he puts in on this. If we have a high volume of sales from our members, we are then given additional prime time hours to sell booklets at Younkers doors. Your \$5 booklet purchase is critical and much needed for the success of our scholarship program. Thank you!
Norden Foundation President
Joan Tomlinson White

Nominating Committee Report

Dorothy Eckblad, President of The Norden Club, formed a nominating committee consisting of past presidents to help select officers for the year 2014. The nominating committee consists of Dr. Al and Sharon Seagren, Dr. Len and Arlene Nelson, Ron Johnson, and Dr. Ozzie and Kay Gilbertson.

The committee met and selected ten people to be contacted to see if they would willing

to serve. Only one person responded that he would serve on the board. The board consists of eight members. Four of these positions are carried over from the existing board which means we still need three new board members.

If you want to see The Norden Club continue, which has been in existence since 1947, younger members need to become involved. The club meets four times a year

which includes the Smorgasbord in December. In order to continue learning about our Scandinavian culture and heritage, we need YOU to help with this endeavor. You will have plenty of support by existing and past board members.

To find out more about the duties of the board, please call one of the nominating committee members or Ron Johnson at 402 488-3137.

Did You Know?

Sweden, which occupies the eastern part of the Scandinavian Peninsula, is the fourth-largest country in Europe and is one-tenth larger than California. The country slopes eastward and

southward from the Kjölen Mountains along the Norwegian border, where the peak elevation is Kebnekaise at 6,965 ft (2,123 m) in Lapland. In the north are mountains and many lakes. To the south and east are

central lowlands and south of them are fertile areas of forest, valley, and plain. Along Sweden's rocky coast, chopped up by bays and inlets, are many islands, the largest of which are Gotland and Öland.

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

We hope to see you on Sept. 16.

The meeting is at First Lutheran Church at 6:30. The program will be presented by Dr. Paul Read. The menu for the buffet style dinner is beef brisket with the trimmings catered by Leon's and the cost is \$15.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you there.

Call for reservations:

Dorothy Ekblad—402-488-6313 or 402-488-6018

Leona Bellinger—402-484-7123

Reservation and cancellations need to be made by noon Thursday, Sept 12. Norden Club is charged for all dinners that are reserved. We appreciate you calling early if you know you can or can not attend.