



Ord fra Presidenten

Luella Grangaard

District Board Develops Mission Statement and Goals

I have often thought about the value a District Lodge brings to the local lodges and members and how it all fits together with Sons of Norway. As a District, we need to align our activities with International's mission and goals, so we all are working towards the same outcomes. The first step in making this happen is to develop a mission for the District. A Mission is a guiding light for an organization and the individuals who run the organization.

Prior to its October meeting the District Board members completed a SWOT analysis. This type of analysis identifies factors that affect an organization, including internal **S** (strengths) and **W** (weaknesses) as well as external factors, **O** (opportunities) and **T** (threats).

With the information obtained from the SWOT analysis we began to develop our mission statement. There was a lot of debate, discussion resulting in the Board making a choice on a mission statement Friday evening of our meeting. However, less than 24 hours later it was brought back to the group, reworked and a new mission statement was adopted with consensus by the board.

Here is the mission statement we adopted:

**The mission of District Six is to support
Sons of Norway through communication,
resources and opportunities.**

Goals are statements of actions you need to take to meet your mission. The Board developed goals that support the mission of the District and also align with goals developed by Sons of Norway. Specific projects/action plans were assigned to each goal. Here is our action plan:

District Six Goals:

District Six will acquire 300 new members by 2020.

District Six will include a financial product article, written by a District Six FBC, in each district newsletter this biennium.

By 2020 the treasurer will move \$20,000 into Scholarship monies held with the Sons of Norway Foundation towards achieving a self sustaining fund.

Projects

Increase the number to at least 12 Folkehøgskule and 20 Trollfjell campers by 2019.

The District Communication team will build an all-District member e-mail distribution list by January '19—completed October 2018.

The District's Lodge Editor Distribution list will be used by all lodges by 2020.

The District's Cultural Director will update the "cultural resources" list by 2020.

The District's VP and Zone Directors will jointly develop a plan for Zone Directors to communicate inter-zone activities by 2020.

The District's leadership will aggressively promote the 2020 convention to obtain 160 voting delegates.

The District Treasurer will write an article for the District Newsletter to promote our District Foundation Fund by 2020.

The District Six President and Cultural Director will develop a Cultural Grant Program for District Six lodges, utilizing fraternal funds.

Additional Ongoing Board Projects

Publish and distribute a District Newsletter, three times each year.

Publish and distribute a Cultural Newsletter, 4 times each year.

Host an annual Language and Heritage Camp. Sponsor/Host "Camp Oldefjell" in 2019.

Each Zone will host Member Seminars for local lodge members.

Host and coordinate the District Convention in Mesa, AZ in June of 2020.

Continue to offer District "50%" tuition Camperships

Continue the District Six Scholarship Program

Continue District Website support for the development of Lodge websites and Lodge Facebook pages.

All of the above, in addition to the ongoing activities, responsibilities and functions of the Officers and Directors of District Six.



Fra Vice Presidenten
Bruce Fihe

District Six Email Distribution Lists

How did you get this edition of the District Six Newsletter? If it showed up in your email inbox, then your email address is the new *All District Six Members* email distribution list. If another lodge member forwarded this to you, or you picked up a printed copy at a lodge meeting, then we do not have your email address in this distribution list. I will explain below how you can *subscribe* to this list.

District Six maintains a number of email distribution lists, each has its own purpose and features. There is a full list and short description on the District Six website under Resources -> Distribution Lists (or direct link: <https://sofn6.org/distribution-lists/>). Here is a little more information about two of them.

All District Six Members

This distribution list is for use by District Six to send things like this newsletter or other important announcements. We are intentionally limiting the number of messages sent to this list so that you will know that they are important. You can easily identify email coming from this list by the From name. "All District Six, Sons of Norway." If you wish to subscribe to this list, click on the word "subscribe" for this list on the web page listed above and fill in the subscription form. If you decide that you no longer wish to receive email from this list, every email sent has an *Unsubscribe* button at the bottom.

District Six Lodge Editors

Has your lodge ever had an event that you wished to promote in other lodge newsletters? Or have you ever come across an interesting article that you thought would be of interest to other Sons of Norway members? If so, this is the list for you. Email sent to editors@sofn6.org is automatically sent to all the District Six Lodge editors. While anyone can send a message using this list, it is still up to each individual editor to decide if it is worthy of publishing in their newsletter. Any message sent to this list should be related to Sons of Norway or Norwegian or Scandinavian culture or heritage. If you send an ad for your uncle's used car lot, it will not be forwarded, and you will get blacklisted and will not be able to use the list again. Although this list is primarily intended for newsletter editors, anyone may subscribe. Just be prepared to receive quite a few emails per month as our editors share their newsletters through this list.

Questions or Comments

You can send questions or comments regarding any of the email distribution lists to webmaster@sofn6.org.



Scholarship Opportunities for District Six Youth

District Six offers at least one \$1,000 scholarship (every year) for a student between the ages of 16 and 23. This scholarship is available for students attending an accredited post-secondary school or training institution. The application deadline for this scholarship is May 1, 2019.

District Six also offers a \$1000 scholarship to the Concordia Skogfjorden Language Camp. The deadline for this scholarship is April 14, 2019.

Applications are available on the District Six website at www.sofn6.org

In addition there are many scholarships offered by the Sons of Norway Foundation at www.sofn.com



KRETSSTEVNE

Translating the word "Kretsstevne" - "Krets" means a circle and "stevne" means a gathering so *Kretsstevne* is translated as "a circle of friends getting together".

This fall we had three very successful District Kretsstevnes. What happens at a Kretsstevne? Members of Sons of Norway get together to celebrate our heritage, eat, drink, sing, dance, play horseshoes, Viking games, taste wine, food demonstrations, and enjoy time with all our fraternal sisters and brothers. In addition, our Kretsstevnes also raise money for Camp Norge. Three Kretsstevnes were held this year; the Northern was held at Camp Norge, the Central held in Buellton, CA, and the southern in Banning, CA. Approximately 20 different lodges participated in the three events. I was fortunate to attend all three. This year, the three Kretsstevne raised over \$4000 for Camp Norge.

Thank you to all the volunteers and members who donate their time, food, items for auctions and drawings. Your efforts are appreciated by the members of District Six.

I encourage everyone in our district to take the opportunity to visit and use Camp Norge. Also watch next spring for postings for the 2019 Kretsstevnes and mark your calendars. I would like to meet you at one of these fraternal events. **(Luella Grangaard)**



SofN District Six FBC
Fred Hymas, CFPP*

Life Happens; Be Prepared

As many of you know, I always start my talks at lodge meetings and events with “I’ve got good news and bad news...” Groans usually follow and then someone says “give us the bad news first!”

Well the title of this article may sound like bad news but it really isn’t. September was Life Insurance Awareness Month, a campaign coordinated by the nonprofit Life HappensSM in response to growing concern about the number of Americans who lack adequate life insurance protection. But I think it’s always a good time to think about life insurance. According to the 2018 Insurance Barometer Study by Life Happens and the Life Insurance & Market Research Association, 35 percent of households would feel the financial impact within one month if the primary wage earner died.

So what is the right amount of life insurance? As with many personal finance numbers, that depends on your circumstances, your stage in life and your future plans. Certainly at its most basic, life insurance is intended to offset the financial impact your death may have on the lives of your dependents. That impact may be simply the costs of your final expenses, such as funeral costs, medical bills, taxes, debts and professional fees for attorneys or accountants. Or the impact may be more significant, as in the case of a stay-at-home parent and his or her children, who depend solely on a spouse’s income for all of their day-to-day needs.

Life insurance can factor into more complex financial needs, such as leaving a legacy to your children or favorite charities. It can be important for a small business owner, providing the funds for the heirs to purchase the business or replace the business income if they must close or sell it. If you have a large estate, life insurance can provide funds to pay for estate taxes that would otherwise limit your legacy.

Over your lifetime, your life insurance needs will change. At certain times, you may need to increase or decrease your life insurance coverage. While on its surface life insurance may seem to be a one-time decision – you buy it, have the premium deducted from your bank account and never think about it again – it can be a dynamic part of your financial picture.

If you or a loved one needs help in evaluating your life insurance needs, including whether your current coverage is appropriate, please contact your FBC. She or he will gladly sit down with you and give you a “second opinion” about your existing coverage. If you need just plain advice that is what FBCs can provide.

***Certified Financial Planner Practitioner®**



EDITOR’S NOTE:

In this edition of the *Super Sixth District Fall 2018 Newsletter*, we are pleased to bring

you the first of a series of articles about the history and beginnings of the presence of Norwegians in the western regions of the United States (in the states of: California, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, and New Mexico) that we know as District Six in the Sons of Norway organization.

To this end, please welcome guest author and contributor, **Dave Nelson**, Vice President and Editor of Desert Troll Lodge #6-165, in the Boulder City/Henderson area in Nevada.

The first article (found on the following pages) revolves around the historical happenings surrounding the beginning of our oldest lodge in District Six, Henrik Ibsen, Lodge #6-007, in San Francisco, California.

If YOUR lodge has a story behind it’s beginnings and/or the Norwegians in your area who founded your lodge—we want to know about it.

Please contact Dave as soon as possible.

You can reach him by any of these means:

Email: odnelson2@gmail.com

Telephone: 702 415 4764

Mail: 829 Lava Court

Boulder City, NV 89005-1292

HOW DISTRICT 6 LODGES BEGAN:
The Story of Henrik Ibsen Lodge #6-007 San Francisco



**HENRIK
IBSEN LODGE**

SONS OF NORWAY - SAN FRANCISCO, CA

By O.D. Nelsen
(edited by Kaye Wergedal)

There were only a handful of Norwegians on the west coast of America in the years before 1850, but we know of at least two venturesome men in California early on. John Davis, "a Norwegian carpenter," went to California in 1828 and lived in the LA area. He was a tavernkeeper in Santa Barbara Co. by 1852. Peter Storm, a sailor, was one of the most intriguing Norwegians who lived in California, ever. He came in 1833 and was one of 50 foreigners arrested for trying to overthrow the Alvarado (Mexican) government in 1840. It is almost certain Storm took part in the "Bear Flag Revolt" which seized the town of Sonoma in 1846, and he personally assisted in the painting of the bear that is on today's state flag.

In 1849, a booklet was published in Oslo called *An Account of California and its Riches of Gold*. Within only a few weeks, the first Norwegian immigrants set sail for the months-long trip to San Francisco to seek their fortunes in the diggings. By 1850 there were 124 Norwegians in California. That figure grew to 227 by 1852. Most were mining gold, only two were women.

Only one of them struck it rich, but many others decided to remain in California, rather than return to Norway ---and prospered as craftsmen, carpenters, fishermen and seamen. Undaunted by hardships and major earthquakes, they invited their friends and relatives back home, where farm land was getting scarce, to join them in a city of beauty, good climate and economic opportunities.

By 1890, there were 3000 Norwegians in the San Francisco Bay Area. Much as they wanted to become Americans, they also wanted to preserve the cultural traditions of their homeland. Thus was born the idea of creating an association which would not only provide for a social community, but also would offer economic support and protection in times of sickness or hardship.

Sometime in early 1906, the loosely organized San Francisco community galvanized in forming plans for celebrations with the announcement of the pending arrival, into San Francisco Bay, of the famous Norwegian polar explorer, Roald Amundsen and his crew, who had begun navigating the Northwest Passage, Atlantic to Pacific, in 1903.

Amundsen was the Gjøa's owner/master. His first officer was Godfred Hansen, a Danish naval lieutenant, the second officer Helmer Hanssen, was an experienced ice pilot. Also, were Anton Lund an experienced sealing captain, Peder Ristvedt, the Engineer, Gustav Juel Wiik, the Second Engineer, was a gunner in the Royal Norwegian Navy, and Adolf Henrik Lindstrøm, the cook. Gjøa left Oslofjord in June, 1903, and spent much of the next three years locked in Arctic ice, with the crew undertaking sledge journeys to determine the location of the North Magnetic Pole.

The Amundsen festivities, as well as the founding of a Norwegian lodge, were put aside for the time-being, when on April 6, 1906, the infamous San Francisco Earthquake and Fire devastated the city, and all its residents focused on working to find homes and to build a new city. But, when the *Gjøa* finally passed through the Golden Gate, over 6 months later, *the expedition was met with a hero's welcome. Amundsen and his crew traveled back to Norway by commercial ship.*



1908 San Francisco's Delegation to Seattle to seek Henrik Ibsen Lodge's admission to the West Coast Sons of Norway Order

In 1907, physician/masseur Klaus Olsen convened a meeting of several dozen Norwegians to discuss organizing a local *Sønner av Norge* (Sons of Norway) lodge. Similar lodges had already been organized in the U.S. and the original Sons of Norway in Minneapolis, and an independent West Coast group based in Seattle, were competing for San Francisco's affiliation. Ultimately, they chose to associate with the closer West Coast Sons because it seemed more interested in preserving Norwegian traditions and culture, and less in selling insurance. They sent a delegation of dapper San Franciscans to Seattle to seek affiliation with them.

On January 26, 1908, San Francisco's **Henrik Ibsen Lodge** was chartered as the first Sons of Norway Lodge in California. C.A. Anderson was elected the lodge's first president. There were 36 Charter Members, and the Lodge today boasts descendants of several of them (Anderson, John Dybdal, C.L. Wold, O.E. Carlsen and O.M. Oyen) as members, more than 100 years later. All of them can be seen on the San Francisco census of 1910, with Carlsen apparently Swedish. In 1910, all the West Coast lodges voted to join the International Sons of Norway Order, based in Minneapolis.



SOURCES: Henrik Ibsen Lodge History by Norman Ronneberg Jr.; "Gold, Salt Air, and Callouses" by Thomas I. Benson; Wikipedia; U.S. Census and SF City Directory records.

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SAVE THE DATE

District Six 2020 Convention

June 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				





**The Sheraton
Mesa Hotel**
Mesa, ARIZONA

Celebrating Our Roots

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SKI FOR LIGHT, INC.

SKI FOR LIGHT 2019 EVENT

The 2019 Ski for Light International Week will be held from Sunday, January 27, 2019 through Sunday, February 3, 2019, at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado. The skiing portion of the SFL week has taken place on the 100 kilometer trail system of Snow Mountain Ranch ten previous times, so you can tell that there is a lot about the trails that we like. This year, as in 2017, we will also be staying on the grounds of the property, so skiing will be just a short distance from your room.

Save the date!

Arrival at DIA on Sunday, January 27, 2019 and

Departure at DIA on Sunday, February 3, 2019

**Volunteers are needed both at DIA and
Snow Mountain**

Go to <http://www.sfl.org/events/next/> for more information.



**SONS of
NORWAY**



The ***SUPER SIXTH*** DISTRICT

Children's Cross Country Ski Event



BARNELOPET

1.0 Km, 2.5 Km & 5.0 Km for ages 0 -16)



February 23, 2019, Saturday



Snow Mountain Ranch ~YMCA~ Granby, Legett Hall

Sponsored by Sons of Norway

- Free Ski Lessons - 10:00-11:00 AM
- After Event Reception with Refreshments
- Ski rentals at YMCA Nordic Center
- Register at www.barnelopez.com or on the day,
beginning at 9:30 a.m.
- For further information contact:

Lois Hodne at (303) 795-6695 or hiloie@aol.com

or Jon Eirik Holm-Johansen, Coordinator

(970) 412-0433 or tvchiro@gmail.com



Zone 2 Director
Lotte Sather



Zone 5 Director
Troann Mortensen Loy

The District Six Board met in October in Mesa, Arizona and toured the site of the 2020 District Six Convention. Plans are underway.

Congratulations to Teri Morken of Solheim 69 in Stockton for her great job helping our District Cultural Director, Judy Immel, produce the first District Six Cultural Newsletter! Be sure to share the newsletter with your lodge members.

We have many lodge activities to complete before 2018 ends. I heard from one of my lodge members that Santa Rosa's Viking Fest was terrific. They've had 31 years of practice. Modesto had a Lutefisk Dinner October 20th, same day as my Lodge, Victory, in Vallejo, lunched on lapskaus that I prepared. Oakland has Lutefisk set for November 3rd and Stockton has a finger food and 90th Birthday party for member Joyce Morken.

There are Christmas bazaars in Santa Rosa, and other holiday festivities. Plan to attend an event in a neighboring lodge. You will have fun and you don't need to do the work.

PLANNING FOR 2019

Please save the date for the Zone 2 Member Seminar on February 9, 2019, from 10:00 AM to about 3:00 PM in Vallejo. Lunch will be provided. This will be a time to learn about Sons of Norway International, District Six, local lodges, and a time to share.

More information will be provided as the seminar date gets closer. This event is open to **all** members of Zone 2.

Looking forward to seeing many of you then.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

It is fall already and we are heading to the holidays, I know everyone is getting busier but do not forget your lodge events. They are so special this time of year. It takes all of us to make a lodge work; we are all volunteers. Find where you are needed and show them your Norwegian shine. I call it my Norwegian shine because I take pride in my heritage and love to share it.

Upcoming Zone 5 Lodge events:

November . . .2018

- Solbakken** #6-064- November 7 Thanksgiving Dinner
November 17 Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner
- Norrone** #6-050 – November 9 & 10 Lutefisk Dinner
- Ivar Aasen** #6-045 – November 17 Wine and Cheese Social

December . . .2018

- Norrone** #6-050 – December 2 Children's Christmas Party
December 8 – Julebord Social
- Fridtjof Nansen** #6-009 - December 8 - Christmas Julebord
- Solbakken** #6-064 – December 6 – Catered Julebord
December 8 – Barnefest

And, on a personal note:

Before this year, I had never been to a Krestsstevne. I never went because I thought it was for families and you had to be good at camping. This year, I went to the Central Krestsstevne and Southern Krestsstevne. I had a great time!

Put it on your calendar for next year, you just have to come. Make a reservation in a cabin, tent or bring your RV. The Krestsstevnes are open to everyone and everyone feels welcome. What a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, renew old friendships, have great food and maybe win a raffle item you just had to have. I know I will be back next year, and I hope to see you there, too!



Zone 7 Director
Benny Jo Hinchey

As we head into the holiday season, I am always curious about how people celebrate the holidays. My Grandfather came to the U.S.A. from Oslo (Norway) when he was still a young man. He met my grandmother whose family were farmers in the Montana/North Dakota region. (My great grandmother was from the Telemark region of Norway.) They married and had 3 young girls when my grandfather was involved in an automobile accident and passed away. My Mom was only 10 years old. Yet, she remembered those Christmas seasons from her early childhood. As opposed to those of us that start decorating right after Thanksgiving, my Grandparents didn't put the Christmas tree up until Dec 24 after my mom and her sister had gone to bed. I am not sure if they slept much due to the anticipation. They would get up to the sight of the tree and gifts that were made by my both grandparents. I understand that my Grandfather could carve and build things, so he made some of the toys they had when they were young. My grandmother was a wonderful seamstress as well as doing just about any craft she set her mind to doing. Fortunately, I have many keepsakes that she embroidered and crocheted as well as many handcrafted Christmas ornaments she made for me.

Here, as far as I know, are some of the upcoming happenings in Zone 7:

Desert Fjord Lodge in Scottsdale is planning a Heritage festival for March of 2019,

Overtro Lodge, Mesa is also planning a Scandinavian Festival in March of 2019.

Sola Lodge in Yuma will be having their Scandinavian Festival in February.

Nordic Pines Lodge in Flagstaff has been doing a variety of activities outside the usual social meeting.

The Stoughton Dancers will be performing in Mesa on March 23 and at Scottsdale on March 24.

Wishing everyone a very happy and safe Holiday Season!



Zone 8 Director
Bev Moe

One of our Zone 8 members, Dana Ferguson, crewed on the Draken Viking Ship this past summer. Here, in his own words are some of the highlights of his adventure:

Last May I volunteered to be a crew member for the Draken (<https://www.drakenhh.com/>) "The World's Largest Viking Ship" while it is touring here in the US. I had pretty much given up hope to be on it, when, this past July, I got an email from the Draken's Expedition Coordinator. I about fell over in shock and disbelief!!!

I had to give the email a real close look to make sure it wasn't a joke being played on me by my family or friends. As it turned out, it came from the proper email address based on my application response and all the links and everything checked out. I then went numb, and then kind of "WOW! This is the real thing!!!! So I immediately emailed back, making sure they knew, "YES I wanted to go!"

The following day I went through all the hoops to make an international call just to find out the coordinator's cell phone number wasn't in a service area. Finally, around 3pm our time (12am Sweden time) I got to talk with the Expedition Coordinator as part of the interviewing process. She and I both came to the agreement it was going to be a challenge and an adventure for me. This is the first year they let non-professional tall-ship sailors on board as crew members. It helped that I had military training from the USMC, in small boats (kayaks, and zodiacs in the Reconnaissance community), and also on large warships (like the USS Germantown and others).

I was on the 3rd leg of the Draken's east coast tour from July to August, from Plymouth, Rockland, Portland to Boston as part of the ship's crew and educational tour.



Dana will be making a presentation about his adventure on Saturday, January 19 at 2 PM at Trollheim Lodge in Lakewood, CO.

Come meet him!



Save the Date
Language and Heritage
Camps!



Camp Folkehøgskule (ages 14-17)
23 June-6 July 2019

Camp Trollfjell (ages 8-13)
7-20 July 2019

Registration opens January 2019!

Visit our website:

<https://arv.sofn6.org/>

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Trollfjell/>

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THESE
DISTRICT 2019 UPCOMING EVENTS
PUT THEM ON YOUR CALENDARS

NOW!

(ALONG WITH SKI FOR LIGHT AND BARNELØPET)



YOUR DISTRICT SIX

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Public Relations Officer
Cultural Director
International Director
Zone 1 Director
Zone 2 Director
Zone 3 Director
Zone 5 Director
Zone 6 Director
Zone 7 Director
Zone 8 Director

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zone6director@sofn6.org
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SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 10 - 15 2019

CAMP OLDFJELL
FOLKEHØGSKULE FOR VOKSNE
(Folk School for Adults)



CAMP NORGE