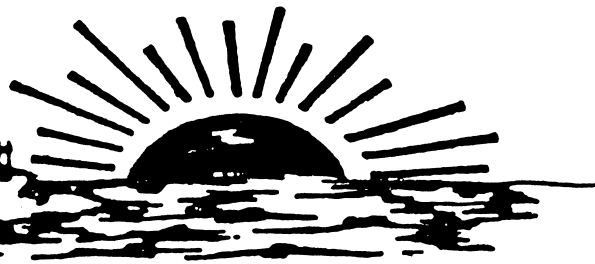




# Morgensolen Sypheter



[www.morgensolen.org](http://www.morgensolen.org)

Volume XXXIV-Number 7 October 2008

## Kalender

### Sunday, October 5, 2008:

Zone mtg at 1:00p.m. at Traveler Restaurant in Union CT.

### Friday, October 17, 2008:

Pot Luck Dinner, Guest Speaker John Gregg; Leif Ericksson Celebration, Social at 6:30 p.m., Masonic Hall, Beverly.

### Saturday, November 8, 2008:

Executive Board, at 12 noon, West Lake Asian Cuisine, 495 Center St. (Toute 28) Wolfeboro, NH.

### Friday, November 14, 2008:

Meeting at 7:30 p.m.; Masonic Hall, Beverly.

### Saturday, November 22, 2008:

Norumbega Scandinavian Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Regional High School; Acton, MA.

### Saturday, November 29, 2008:

Birka Scandinavian Fair; Hamilton, MA.

### Saturday, December 13, 2008:

Julefest; 5:30 p.m.; Masonic Hall, Beverly.

## Friday, October 17th Guest Speaker John Gregg plus Morgensolen's Delicious Pot-Luck Dinner



Have you noticed that fall is in the air? The leaf peepers will soon be flooding to New Hampshire and western Massachusetts in pursuit of the grand and glorious colors created by our Creator. This is a great time of year to kick back, and smell the aroma of the wood burning fireplaces in the fall. It is also a good time to get together to reminisce with old friends and acquaintances---such as at the next

### Lodge Meeting.

This meeting will feature a rescheduled official visit from Mr. John Gregg who will discuss "Today and Tomorrow", Where are we going and how will we do it while making it vital, fun, and attractive to new members. Come and give us your input for the future of our lodge! Tell us what you want our lodge to be. John is now District Treasurer and past Zone Chairman.

June and Sharon Guidara are hostesses for the event. See you all there and don't forget:

## When Columbus discovered America he was carrying a Norwegian map!



**Sons of Norway  
Morgensolen Lodge No. 545**

Unless otherwise noted, regular meetings second Friday of the month at the Masonic Temple, 20 Washington St.; Beverly, MA. Deadline for submission of articles for publication is the 15th of the month.

**Social 7:30 p.m.  
Meeting 8:00 p.m.**

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# Fra presidenten



Our September 21 program did not come off as planned and has been rescheduled for Friday, October 17, with John Gregg as our special guest. However, we did have social hour goodies and tasty deserts thanks to Dee Larson, ably assisted by Dottie Knudson. Mange Takk ladies.

I am appointing a nominating committee to report at our November 14 meeting. It would be extremely helpful to know of one and all who would like to serve in a position for the coming year. Already two members have made their wishes known to me. Please don't be bashful! Let me hear from more of you and I will pass the names on to the committee.

Remember our next lodge meeting is the third Friday in October due to the Columbus Day long weekend which includes our usual second Friday meeting date and it's a pot-luck!

Looking forward to greeting many of you October 17.

*FRATERNALLY,  
HARRY*



## Third District Today

A Publication of District 3, Sons of Norway  
Website: <http://www.SofN3D.org>

From the President

October 2008

Hei Alle Sammen! Well by now most of us have had our first fall meeting, organized our nominating committee (if needed), got our bazaar assignments lined up and are ready to go. Fall is here!!

I was invited to visit the Vikings of the Smokies Lodge in Knoxville TN where they were presented with their charter and charter pins. They are already over 70 members and growing. Just like our new lodges they are a very dynamic lodge.

Our Charlotte lodge needs a bit of help. They have 37 members and are looking for 3 more so we can plan their Institution. If you know of a potential member in that area have them contact the NORSK Carolina President, Carol King @ [ckingnc@bellsouth.net](mailto:ckingnc@bellsouth.net). They already have two membership events planned for the fall but a little help would be good.

Our Insurance Department in Minneapolis has applied for a license that will allow us to sell insurance in Georgia. When it is approved we will be able to sell insurance in all D3 states except Maine, Vermont, Delaware and West Virginia. Plans are being made to apply in Maine in the future. Our insurance department is looking for additional Financial Benefit Counselors in D3. If you know of someone who would be interesting in working for the SON Insurance Department they should contact Len Carlson at 800-945-8851.

There are a lot of SON activities going on in D3 in October and many of them are listed on our WEB site so check it out, <http://www.sofn3d.org/>. The events are also found in the "3D Today".

Our Sports and Recreation Director has organized a system of Sports Medal competition between the Zones. Check the September issue of 3D Today for more details. I hope that you participate. I am on my way to earning an enamel medal in the Sykkelmerke category if I don't slow



down this month. If I can do it you can do it. This is an excellent way for our Heritage members to join us in a SON activity. Let's put a run on the Sports Medal stores in Mary's store room in Minneapolis. For more information on the various categories of Sports Medal Competition check out the SON web site and look for the members benefit section after you login.

While you are logged in to the web site, check out the Cultural Medal program. There are several, they are well prepared and you should find something there that will interest you.

I just heard that the District Golf outing in Myrtle Beach was very successful. We all thank Brother Keith for all his hard work on that project. I understand that we had close to 40 golfers and many more at the banquet. Perhaps next year we can even do better.

Have you checked out the new SON blog? If not, please do so, they have very interesting news there. You can find it at <http://www.sonsofnorwayblog.blogspot.com/>

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the Gulfstream Leif Erikson weekend. It should be a wonderful time. Check out the events section on the SON web site for all the information.

Fraternally  
Ralph Peterson  
President District Three  
Sons of Norway



## International Convention Highlights as of Sunday, August 31, 2:58PM

Bernt Balchen was named Large Lodge of the Year for 2007.

District 3's own Audun Gythfeldt elected International Sons of Norway Secretary. Other officers elected include:

President - Dan Rude  
Vice President - Mari Kristiansen  
Treasurer - Gene Branvold (incumbent)

Ralph Peterson was awarded the SON 2006-2008 Outstanding Service Award. This award included a \$2,000 check which is to be distributed to SON activities of the winners choice.

## Gratulerer med dagen



Happy Birthday to the following birthday babies from all the rest of us at Morgensolen! If you have a birthday in a given month and your name does not appear on the list, please contact your Editor.

- 5 Jane Wilkins
- 7 Arthur Stolpestad
- 8 Virginia Lowell
- 13 Zoe Guidara
- 15 Paul French
- 15 Richard Berg
- 15 Jean Widman-Vargas
- 17 Lillian Pendlebury
- 20 Barbara Lewis
- 23 Arnt Arntsen
- 30 Robert Lewis

## From District Three Vice President, Gail Ekloff



September 2008

How do you make a new member, a member who attends meeting infrequently or a guest feel comfortable? Your GREETERS!

Have your Greeters at the door before the meeting starts to greet people as they enter the meeting hall and give them a NAME TAG. If your lodge doesn't have any, ask one of your gifted members to

volunteer to make some - the computer can do some amazing things. Or, have the children in your Barne Norsk group make some for the lodge. Or, in a pinch, you can use the "Hello, I am \_\_\_\_" stick on ones you get at the office supply store. Try to use them at all your meetings; this makes everyone feel like they are part of the lodge.

Name tags are particularly helpful at an initiation of new members -- they are great ice breakers. Speaking of initiations, does your lodge set aside a specific time throughout the year to have an initiation ceremony at a meeting? With the New Year approaching and the lodge calendars being made, maybe this would be a good time to incorporate your initiations into your lodge's meeting schedule. Two to four times a year would be great. (If, at the designated meeting, there are no new members, no initiations will be held that night.) Having it on the lodge's calendar makes it nice for the lodge members and the Secretary. They'll know in advance when new members will be joining the lodge so they can be sure to attend. And the new member is notified in advance of the date and can be welcomed in a big way!

Better yet, if there are a good number of new members, why not have an open meeting or social after the initiation ceremony, and let the new members invite friends and family to the event. This is a good way for your lodge to spread the word on Sons of Norway. You never know, maybe that friend or family member could be your lodge's next new member.

Alt for denna ganeg,  
Gail

*Litt på norsk...*

## **Skuterfører kjørte utfor 300 meter høyt stup - overlevde**

En skuterfører kom utrolig nok fra det uten større skader da han kjørte utfor et 300 meter høyt stup på Svalbard i juni. Mannen kjørte i Lunkefjellet da han mistet kontrollen over snøskuteren og raste ned den stupbratte fjellsiden.

- Det er bare tilfeldigheter at han ikke kom alvorlig til skade. Han var heldig og havnet i en snørenne midt mellom bergnabbene. Han har smerter i ryggen, men ellers uskadd, sier vakthavende sysselmannsførstebetjent Per Andreassen til Svalbardposten.

Føreren ble kastet av snøskuteren etter 150 meter, mens skuteren fortsatte nedover fjellsiden.

- Mannen ble først liggende livløs i fjellsiden, men klarte etter vært å kravle seg oppover til en bergnabb, sier Andreassen.

Et helikopter ble sendt og reddet mannen. Han ble sendt til sykehuset i Longyearbyen, men skal ikke være alvorlig skadd.

*Fra dagbladet.no*



*A Little in English...*

## **Snowmobiler Drove Over 300 Meter Cliff – and Survived**

A snowmobiler walked away unharmed after driving over a 300 meter-high cliff on Svalbard in June. The man was snowmobiling across Lunkefjellet Mountain when he lost control of the machine and tumbled over the mountainside.

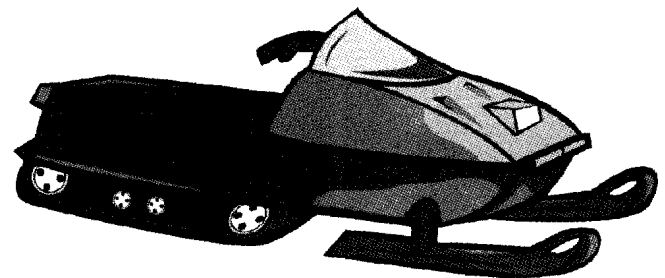
“It is just a coincidence that he wasn’t seriously hurt. He was lucky and landed in a patch of snow between two cliff faces. He has pains in his back but is otherwise unharmed,” said acting sheriff Per Andreassen to Svalbardposten.

The driver was thrown off the snowmobile after 150 meters, while the machine continued down the mountain.

“The man at first just stayed put, but after a while managed to scramble to rock outcropping,” Andreassen said.

A helicopter was sent and rescued the man. He was sent to the hospital in Longyearbyen, but was not seriously injured.

*From dagbladet.no*



## Leif Ericson Columbus' Predecessor by Nearly 500 Years

By Linn Ryne

In 986, Norwegian-born Eirik Thorvaldsson, known as Eirik the Red, explored and colonized the southwestern part of Greenland. It was his son, Leiv Eiriksson, who became the first European to set foot on the shores of North America, and the first explorer of Norwegian extraction now accorded world-wide recognition.

The date and place of Leiv Eiriksson's birth has not been definitely established, but it is believed that he grew up on Greenland. The Saga of Eric the Red relates that he set sail for Norway in 999, served King Olav Trygvasson for a term, and was sent back to Greenland one year later to bring Christianity to its people.

There are two schools of thought as to the subsequent course of events. One of these is that Eiriksson, en route for Greenland, came off course, and quite by chance came to the shores of northwestern America in the year 1000, thus preceding Columbus by nearly 500 years. However, according to the Greenland Saga, generally believed to be trustworthy, Eiriksson's discovery was no mere chance. The saga tells that he fitted out an expedition and sailed west, in an attempt to gather proof of the claims made by the Icelandic trader Bjarni Herjulfsson. In 986 Herjulfsson, driven far off course by a fierce storm between Iceland and Greenland, had reported sighting hilly, heavily forested land far to the west. Herjulfsson, though believably the first European to see the continent of North America, never set foot on its shores. Leiv Eiriksson, encouraged by the current talk of potential discoveries, and the constant need of land to farm, bought Bjarni's ship and set off on his quest of discovery.

He appears to have followed Bjarni's route in reverse, making three landfalls. The first of these he named Helluland, or Flat-Stone Land, now generally regarded as having been Labrador. The second was Markland, or Wood Land, possibly Newfoundland. The exact location of the third, which was named Vinland, is a matter of scholastic controversy, but it could have been as far north as northern Newfoundland or as far south as Cape Cod or even beyond this.

Eiriksson and his men spent the winter in Vinland,

at a place they named Leifsbud-ir, returning to Greenland the following year, 1001.

It was left to Eiriksson's brother, Thorvald to make the next voyage to the new-found territory, for strange as it may seem, Leiv Eiriksson never returned there. Subsequent attempts at settlement of Vinland were unsuccessful, due to strong friction between the Viking settlers and the native North Americans.

Though many still regard Christopher Columbus as the discoverer of the New World, Eiriksson's right to this title received the stamp of official approval in the USA when in 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson, backed by a unanimous Congress, proclaimed October 9th "Leif Ericson Day" in commemoration of the first arrival of a European on North American soil.

--Excerpted from "Norwegian Explorers" on the "ODIN" website, produced for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs by Nytt fra Norge.



*Happy Leif Ericsson Day!  
October 9th*  
*Happy Leif Ericsson Day!  
October 9th*



## **Leif Ericson Icelander or Norwegian?**

Issue has been taken with the inclusion on this website of Leif Ericson as a "Great Norwegian."

"I was wondering why you consider a person born and raised in Iceland to be a great Norwegian," Einar G. Einarsson asks, echoing a query previously made by a Canadian professor, Ed Jackson.

Garrison Keillor and Walter Mondale were both born in Minnesota. Yet, no one has questioned their inclusion in the category of great Norwegians. They were Americans of Norwegian heritage. So was Eric Sevareid.

Liv Ullmann was born in Japan. Does that mean that she, the daughter of Norwegians away from home, is Japanese, and not Norwegian?

Hardly.

Yes, Leif was -- so far as is known -- born in Iceland. (There is uncertainty as to the year of his birth, and, to a lesser extent, the place.) It is undoubted, however, that he was the son of Eric Thorvaldson ("Eric the Red"), a Norwegian, banished from Norway.

It could be said that just as Eric Sevareid was a Norwegian-American, Leif was a Norwegian-Icelander. That would be enough to warrant his inclusion on this website.

It could also be argued, however, that Leif was a Norwegian who simply happened to live his earliest years in Iceland. (From a young age, he was a denizen of Greenland, which his father explored and colonized.)

Iceland was largely settled by Norwegians. In 870, Norwegian Ingólfr Arnarson became its first permanent settler, and others from Norge forayed there. It did develop a governmental structure -- enough of a one to banish Eric the Red from the soils of Iceland for three years (resulting in his move to Greenland). But the governmental structure Iceland had was merely a council, the Thingvellir, with no executive powers. It is debatable whether Iceland at the time of Leif's birth in about 970 was truly a "nation," or whether it was more a Norwegian settlement with a council possessed of limited governmental powers.

If U.S. astronauts set up a colony of Americans on Venus, and a child were born there, that child surely would be regarded as an American, not a Venutian. Similarly, if the Iceland of 970 is to be viewed as a sparsely populated Norwegian settlement not constituting a nation, Eric the Red's habitation in that settlement did not effect an alter-

ation of his status as a Norwegian. And his son, Leif, acquired that Norwegian nationality.

Certainly, it must be inferred that Leif felt a sense of fidelity to the monarchy of Norge; he adhered unquestioningly to the directive of the king that he spread Christianity to Greenland.

It might thus be concluded that Leif, son of a Norwegian dwelling in Iceland when Leif was born, was not a Norwegian-Icelander but was a Norwegian, whose parents were simply away from the homeland.

<http://www.mnc.net/norway/nationality.htm>

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## **New Marshall statue in Oslo**

The Norwegian government unveiled a new statue in Oslo this week, of US General George C. Marshall -- more than six decades after Marshall Plan aid helped Norway and the rest of Europe rebuild after World War II.

The statue, located alongside the inner harbor below the Akershus Fortress, was sculpted by Asbjørn Høglund and formally dedicated by Foreign Minister Johas Gahr Støre, who said it honored "a man, a vision and a mission that changed Europe and Norway a half century ago."

Marshall was Chief of the Staff of the US armed forces during the war years, but his greatest claim to fame came after the war. The recovery program for Europe which bears his name, addressed the shortages suffered during the post-war years, and helped avert new conflicts.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded Marshall the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. Fifty-five years later, a statue of Marshall joins those of his fellow war-year leaders Winston Churchill and Franklin D Roosevelt in Oslo.

The statue was sculpted by Asbjørn Høglund.

*From [www.aftenposten.no](http://www.aftenposten.no)*

## Why Norway?

### Close to Heaven and Down to Earth

You will discover a country that is enchanting and unique. Natural. Imagine a country where nature is a gift to mankind. Imagine a country with whole seasons of light and darkness. Imagine a country where the thawing snow gives way to fragile blossom. Where sea meets mountain. Discover a country where nature creates art. Where you are invited to a life-enhancing experience.

Friendly, down-to-earth people, unique scenery, summer nights as bright as day and crisp, snowy winters make Norway a very special country. In summer there are plenty of attractions and activities to keep you busy – the unspoilt open country of the Saami people in the north and the fjords, salmon fishing and festivals in the south.

Norway:

A warm people in a hospitable country. Exciting encounters with a unique country. A people who take pride in their rich traditions and boldly explore new ideas and trends. A country that embraces all kinds of opinions,

lifestyles and cultures. It welcomes you with open arms, with friendliness and hospitality.

Enjoy travelling through a landscape that takes your breath away. The world unfolds before you in an infinite panorama. Experience unlimited freedom.

*--By Innovation Norway*



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