

**Sons of Norway International Convention and Lodge Meeting**  
**August 13- August 18, 2018**  
**Hyatt Regency Hotel, Bloomington, Minnesota**

The following are highlights of the International Convention and Lodge Meeting. Monday our International Director Roger Espeland participated in the International Board Meeting, while Janie Kelly and I participated on the committees to prepare items for the Delegate Assembly.

Wednesday our delegation participated in a Leadership Program. Volunteerism was the main theme featuring Sons of Norway Lodges who give to their communities as well as Second Harvest Heartland, Hope 4 Youth and Catholic United Financial. The leadership participants prepared 400 hygiene kits for distribution through Second Harvest Heartland. In addition our own PRO, Kaye Wergedal did a presentation on taking photos with smart phones. We also heard about how to use social media for our lodges.

Thursday we participated in the opening ceremonies, memorial service and President's reception.

Friday the work of the assembly started. Prior to our meeting all delegates had a 153 report book to review. This report book included over 60 pages of financials. To put this in context of the delegate assembly, the delegates of which we had 19 of the 155 made decisions on behalf of Sons of Norway the Financial, Foundation and Fraternal. All the financials were reviewed by a committee that meticulously reviewed every line making comments, recommendations and then approval by the assembly. There were a number of reports from the President, Jon Tehven, CEO Evind Heiberg, Sons of Norway Foundation and Sons of Norway Foundation Canada. All reports were reviewed by committee, commented on and were approved. The Resolution's Committee, chaired by our own Janie Kelly, reviewed almost 20 resolutions. These resolutions ranged from website update recommendations, annual dues structure for Canada and Norway, recognition of International Forms, recognition of younger members and use of bank cards by local and district lodges, all of which were approved.

Saturday the Laws Committee, which I was on, presented 43 items. All of these items refer to the Charter and Constitution and some Policies and Procedures. The International board presented a number of items found in your August *Viking* pages 30-35. These proposed Law Changes along with other items from the Districts were reviewed, on occasion modified and recommendations were made. On Thursday there was a presentation regarding governing documents, the Charter and Constitution, which are reviewed by state departments of insurance. The State of Minnesota has to approve our Charter and Constitution. To address the different states regulatory guidelines, Sons of Norway has adopted guidelines set forth by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. Many of the proposed items from the International Board reflect these recommendations and include guidelines regarding board member qualifications and the nomination process.

Throughout the International Lodge Meeting there was significant debate and thoughtful comments regarding all the presented reports, resolutions, financials and law changes. Every one of the 155 delegates took this extremely serious.

The day ended with election of our new officers, including Ron Stubbings, President; Mark Agerter, Vice President; Marci Larson, Secretary and Elaine Nelson, Treasurer. We also voted on our next convention location which will be in Hamer, Norway, August 16-23, 2020. Saturday evening included the installation of our new officers including our new International Director, Mary Beth Ingvaldstad, congratulations to all.

Thank you to our delegates, Karen Aaker, Ronna Clymens, Susan Cody, Bruce Fihe, Phebe Fricioni, Rick Hausvik, Benny Jo Hinchey, Judy Immel, Gary Indrebo, Mary Beth Ingvaldstad, Carl Peter Ingvaldstad, Janie Kelly, Troann Loy, Nancy Madson, Gerald Rowe, Robert Sather, Crystal Sundet and Kaye Wergedal. The final minutes of the convention will take a number of months to complete, however if you have any questions or want more specifics prior to release of the official minutes please contact me or any of your delegates.

Fraternally,

Luella Grangaard  
President District Six  
Sons of Norway