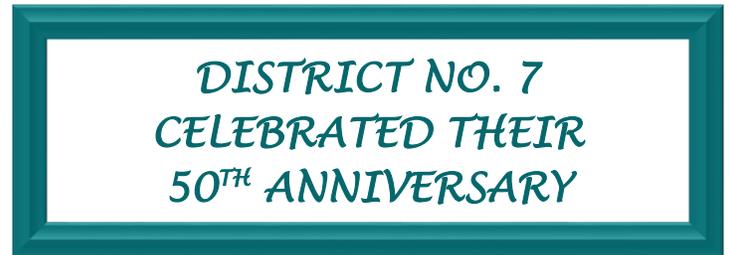




YOUR FOUNDATION NEWS

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
2016
ISSUE NO. 9

GREETINGS:



In May, District Lodge No. 7 (The Scenic Seventh) celebrated their 50th Anniversary and 25th Biennial Convention in Victoria. The District was formed in 1966 and just 5 years later the Canadian Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada was founded.

Last year I included some suggestions for a S.O.N. Foundation Fund Raising event. This year let's have some fun.



Remember Wimpy from the 50's and his passion for Hamburgers. Plan a Fifty's party with Hamburgers, paper plates, balloons and as many cartoon characters as you can find.

Organize a contest to see how many can remember the names of Cartoon Characters from the 50's. Members could form teams. A suggestion: cartoons i.e. Popeye and Blondie and Dagwood. Make posters with Characters from these cartoons and have the teams guess the names of the characters. The winning team could be that "Kid Again" and receive a Lollypop each as a prize.

Be a Wimpy "I will gladly donate later for a Coin Bank today." Issue 8 your Foundation News featured an article on recycling empty plastic containers as Coin Banks. It is easy to cut a hole in the center of a plastic top.

Pins and awards could be presented right after dinner. Dessert could be served after your contest.

Invite friends and relatives, this concept makes it easy to mix and meet new people.

If you would like further information organizing this Fund Raiser for your Foundation contact me at thelmadsen@telus.net.



DISTRICT NO. 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Back row: Andrina Benazic, Darren Erikson, Bruce Strang, Jim Tore Brevik, Judith Hansen
Front Row: Thelma Lysne, Erik Brochmann, Susan Strang



STAMPS

The Foundation News is mailed out to several Lodges every Issue. The stamp pictured on top was on the last Issue. I hope every stamp was cut and saved for your Foundation.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW PETER FROYLAND

I was the fortunate recipient of a Sons of Norway bursary in 2003 following my graduation from high school. I moved from my hometown in Northern Saskatchewan to attend the University of Victoria and later Camosun College. My grandmother and lodge member, Paula Froyland, encouraged all of her grandchildren to apply through the local Sons of Norway lodge for the generous bursary to assist with our education. Following a year of studies at University of Victoria, I moved to Camosun College where I completed an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice studies. The bursary I was awarded went toward my tuition. While completing this program I began volunteering with the local Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment in Langford, Collwood, View Royal, Metchosin and Highlands and spent a considerable amount of my free time working along with the fine volunteers, police officers and municipal staff that serve the Victoria area. As a result of these volunteer hours I was offered a position with the detachment as a clerk where I assisted in administrative duties.

Following my dream of becoming a police officer, in 2007 I attended the R.C.M.P. training academy, Depot Division. After completing the training program, I was posted in Fort McPherson and Tsiigehtchic, Northwest Territories; far above the Arctic Circle. I served these communities with pride, dedication and determination and fought back against the long winters while living alongside some of the most interesting people I have met. I was transferred to Fort Smith, Northwest Territories in 2009 and again found myself experiencing a whole new life amongst hardworking, traditional and dedicated people.

My time in the North allowed me to travel the country to protect the world leaders at the G8 Summit in Huntsville, Ontario and then again the G20 Summit in Toronto. I have met the Governor General and his wife, provided VIP security for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and been the recipient of the Diamond Jubilee Award for dedication and service to the people of the Northwest Territories.

I currently serve the people of Kamloops, British Columbia and love my life with the R.C.M.P. as much today as I did the first time I put on the uniform. I had no idea that my career would have taken me to each end of this country, to the far North and back and thank the members of the Sons of Norway for their investment in my education and later career. I truly appreciate having been awarded the bursary and given the opportunity to have applied it to my career.

Tusen Takk!
Peter Froyland



Peter
with his
Grandmother
Paula
Froyland

LOOKING BACK

Last month we learned how the Foundation in Canada was started. This month we address why the Foundation in Canada was started. The Foundation originated in the United States to enable members to make donations to charitable, cultural and athletic programs and receive a receipt for Tax purposes. We in Canada, supported this concept, but quickly learned that Tax Receipts issued from the States were of no value to Canadians.

In 1971 District No. 7 applied for and registered a separate Canadian Foundation with similar aims and objectives. The main difference between the two Foundations is in the U.S. the Board of Directors are appointed by and responsible to Sons of Norway International Board. In Canada the Board of Directors are elected from the Delegates of Voting Memberships and report to the Annual General Meetings held each September.

After the start-up capital of \$40,000.00 from District No. 7 Charter Flight Fund an appeal was sent to all Local Lodges to become voting members by donating a minimum of \$1,000.00. The donations could be accumulated to reach the \$1,000.00 goal. Eidsvold Lodge 07-53 sent \$100.00 and Rondane Lodge 07-71 donated \$200.00. The net worth on March 31, 1973 was \$41,218.64.

The first Officers of the Foundation were President Tormod Rekdal; Vice President Haakon Soros; Secretary/Treasurer, Henry Sotvedt.

In 1978 Viking Lodge 07-81 became the first Local Lodge to achieve Voting Membership.

In May when the Fort McMurray fires were raging Foundation President, Tore Pettersen, issued a request for donations to the Foundation Humanitarian Fund, another appeal was requested when floods threatened homes in Dawson Creek. These requests prompted me to contact one of my Heritage Camp Hardanger students to tell her story. I found it inspiring to read "First Hand" what it was like to go through what many people endured in the Fort McMurray fires. *Thelma Lysne*

THE BARSİ STORY

The summer of 2003 began like any other for our family; time spent playing in our back yard and garden in Louis Creek, BC, cooling off in the creek, spending time with my husband at work (away from home), and visiting family in Alberta. On the night of July 31st there was a fire many kilometres away in McLure but I had information it was under control at the dinner hour so we didn't worry about our safety overnight. It had been a hot summer, and without air conditioning we retreated to the basement to sleep. We woke to banging on the door from a Barriere Search and Rescue member telling us to evacuate as quickly as possible. The fire was close-by. I made my way to Kamloops via 100 Mile House (due to road closures because of the fire) along with my two children and a few precious belongings (and a rather stressed-out kitty). After reuniting with my husband Mike late that night in Kamloops and a two week wait to find out officially that our property had been destroyed, the long process of recovery began.

We met so many supportive people along the way, but the first were the people attending and organizing District 7 Heritage camp. It was our first year to attend camp and I thought we could easily be evacuated visiting Hatzic as scrambling for a hotel room in the Kamloops area. People were so kind and helpful to us – it was a bright spot in our otherwise sometimes dark days.

Although we were insured for our personal losses, no amount can cover all when there is literally nothing left - even the septic and well had to be replaced, not to mention the extended time we had to rent before moving back home.

We are self-employed with a mobile gravel crusher, so we felt fortunate that all of the major components of the crusher were away in Princeton at the time of the fire and were therefore safe. At least we could continue to work despite the fact we had experienced business losses in the Barriere area. Things took a negative turn after the fires in Kelowna when the Province implemented a back country ban which immediately shut down businesses such as ours. Not only did we not have a place to live, we also didn't have any income and the bills and loan payments kept rolling in.

Neither my husband nor I qualify for employment insurance – our only hope was to get back to work quickly –



The Barsi Family receiving a cheque from Foundation President Tore Pettersen in 2003

we also had another family depending on us for their income. Unfortunately it was some time before that would happen.

There came a point that our savings had dwindled and it was hard to keep up with basic expenses. We had to forego some things in order to stay afloat. Our application to the Hardship Fund was denied and we headed into winter (our slow season) unsure about what our future was going to look like. I received a call one day from our local Sons of Norway Lodge president, David Sallows, asking permission to make an application on our behalf to the Foundation in Canada. Once again, there was the Sons of Norway supporting us – even if the application had not been approved, I was grateful to know people care. The application **was** approved and we received a generous cheque presented personally by Tore Petterson at a Heimdal Lodge meeting.

The funds we received made a huge difference in our quality of life. Being self-employed, we didn't have medical benefits – we used some of the funds for counselling and to help my son get better from a severe sickness we found out later was induced by mold inhalation.

Thirteen years later we are back on our feet, so to speak. We are very grateful to the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada and all who donate to it.

Sincerely, Lori Barsi



The Barsi family in 2015



“Your Foundation News” needs your help. In future issues I would like to feature your Lodge and the ways your Lodge has benefited from YOUR Foundation. I am requesting information from you, to notify me of any assistance you have received in the past from your Foundation. If time does not allow you to write a complete article just send me the information. I will expand on any material sent. Pictures are also appreciated.

For example:

- 1) Scholarships received by a member or child of a member.
- 2) Grants received for summer camps.
- 3) Cultural events.
- 4) A personal grant to expand your Cultural skills.

Sharing your experiences with other Lodges demonstrates the commitment your Foundation has for helping our youth and passing on the Culture of Norway.

You may send your experiences with the Foundation to me:

Thelma Lysne, National Director
 Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada
 #14- 5051 – 203 Street
 Langley, B.C. V3A 1V5
 or thelmadsen@telus.net

**SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION INCANADA
 ANNUAL
 GENERAL MEETING
 SEPTEMBER 10, 2016
 2:00 p.m.
 NORMANNA,
 BURNABY**



The general meeting of the Foundation is held every year the first Saturday after the Canadian Labor Day which is the first Monday in September.

In Norway it is called Arbeidernes Internasjonale Kampdag, which means International Labor Day and is considered a holiday. It occurs every year on May 1.

The first Labor Day was celebrated in 1890. In 1919, protesters walking in parades successfully petitioned for the 8-hour –workday as part of a program for better working conditions. In 1947 Labor Day was recognized as an official holiday by the government.

Labor Day is still an important day in Norway and many people continue to celebrate by walking in demonstrations parades. Songs and music are still part of Norway’s Labor Day but like in Canada many Norwegian’s view Labor Day as normal and use it as a day to relax, do gardening, golfing, boating or camping.

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The new Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada Website is now up and running and we hope you have all had a chance to check it out.

WWW.SONFIC.CA