



VOLUME XLVIII
May, 2019

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2019 Event Schedule

Date and Time	Event	Location
May 18, 2019	Syttende mai or Nasjonaldagen	Shelter 4 at Shillito Park (same as Last year)
June 22, 2019	Midsommar Danish Night	Home of Anne Keating 4-8 pm

Syttende mai



Norwegian constitution Day celebrates the creation of Norway as an independent kingdom in 1814, following the devastating defeat of Denmark and Norway in the Napoleonic wars. Norway remained in union with Sweden, however, and for awhile, the Swedish King was not comfortable with public demonstrations in Norway. Children's parades of boys began as early as 1820, and in 1899, girls were allowed to join in! Public addresses began in 1833, and beginning in 1864, the day was well established. The Union with Sweden was dissolved in 1905, and Prince Carl of Denmark was chosen to be King of independent Norway. World War II ended 9 days before the celebration which adds to the special meaning of the day. The parades are not military ones, but festive events with children, bands, speeches, and visits along the way at nursing homes, monuments and other special places. I assume you can identify all of the foods served above!

Here are the words to Ja, vi eisker dette landet: Yes, we love this land!

Yes, we love with fond devotion
This the land that looms
Rugged, storm-scarred,
O'er the ocean,
With her thousand homes.
Love her, in our love recalling
Those who gave us birth,
And old tales which night, in falling
Brings as dreams to earth,
And old tales which night, in falling
Brings as dreams, as dreams to earth.

Ja, vi eisker dette landet,
Som det stiger frem,
furet, vaerbitt over vannet
Med de tusen hjem,
Eisker, eisker det og tenker
Povar far og mor
Og den saganatt som senker
Dromme pa var jord.

Norske mann i hus og hytte,
Takk din store Gud!
Landet vilde han beskytte,
Skkjont det morkt so ut.
Alt hvad fedrene har kjempet,
Modrene har grett,
Hjar den Herre Stille lempet,
So vi vant var rett

Ja, vi eisker dette landet,
Som det stiger frem
Furet, vaerbitt over vannet
Med de tusen hjem.
Og some fedres kamp har hevet
Det av mod til seir,
Ogsa vi, nar det blir krevet,
For dets fred slar leir

The words were written by Bjornstjerne Bjornson who lived from 1832-1910, and the music is by Rikard Nordraak who lived from 1842-1866. This song, too, is not nationalistic in the military sense, but a song of love of home. Come join us for the celebration on Saturday, May 18. We all bring our own picnic except for the dessert. Cupcakes and ice cream will be provided!

Bill Hedberg's funeral on March 29, 2019 was a very special occasion. Several of our members were able to attend the visitation and funeral. We all loved Bill, and learned even more about what a wonderful person he was from his pastor, family and friends. The Emanuel Baptist Church women prepared what we would consider a Smorgasbord after the service and we all enjoyed the fellowship that always meant so much to Bill, and all of us. We have great memories and send our heartfelt thoughts to Mary and all the family.

We had a great time both for Laskiainen and for the business meeting. As always, the food was wonderful, with a great variety of our favorite specialties. Not having a planned program, we went around the room and shared history and anecdotes with each other, met new members and became better acquainted with the long term ones. We had not done that in awhile, and everyone seemed to enjoy it. I did too, and learned a lot!

Our business meeting made no changes to speak of. Anytime someone would like to participate in the planning and administering of the group, of course all are welcome. In fact, we would be delighted! In the fall, Risto Martinen has kindly offered to speak to us about the Winter War in Finland. I look forward to hearing more about that. Risto's father experienced that conflict first hand.

Photo links follow for your interest. Vi ses snart!

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