

Norwegians

Feb-March 2021

WORLDWIDE - Tucson Chapter

The latest news, views, and announcements

INSIDE

News this month

Our COVID-19 policies
BIG NEWS regarding
NWW Tucson
Changes ahead

King Harald's Birthday

Celebrate the King's
birthday and learn about
his life.

Save the Date

21 March 2021
2:00 PM



New Information this month

By President Larry Jensen

Greetings from your President and Board. Your Board has been meeting every month all through the Pandemic and summer all of 2020. Here are some decisions we have made:

Note: Due to the health risks of COVID-19, our club is temporarily suspending all physical events and activities as precautionary measure. We will be holding virtual meeting through Zoom - see our Upcoming Events page www.norse-tucson.org . Please reach out if you would like to join our club and these virtual activities.

We hoped all of you enjoyed the programs we created for our members and guests in our new ZOOM format 2020. We had a wonderful and meaningful Norwegian Christmas Worship Service with Pastor David Strommen of Salinas Kansas. This January 2021 your Board made the difficult decision to Pause our meetings. Membership participation had been low and consequently your board made that tough decision. Stay tuned for updates as we move forward.



February 21 -- King Harald's Birthday

His Majesty The King

King Harald V, born on 21 February 1937. King Harald will be 84 years old.

Son of King, then Crown Prince, Olav V and Crown Princess Märtha. Succeeded his father as king of Norway on 17 January 1991. Consecrated in Nidaros Cathedral on 23 June 1991. Children: Princess Märtha Louise and



Important NEWS

By; Larry Jensen

I would like to inform our members that on June 8, 2020 Nordmanns-Forbundet/Norwegians Worldwide (NWW) and the Norway-America Association (NORAM) announced they will merge the two organizations. The new organization will be named the Norway-America Association, or NORAM. The mission of the Norway-America Association is to promote transatlantic cooperation through academic and cultural exchange, ensuring lifelong learning.

This leaves our own NWW Club in a bit of a mystery place. Currently they only accept Norwegian Kroner for membership and their main concern NORAM is mainly an academic organization. We, as a club are not sure this meets the type of club that fills the needs and wants of a Norwegian Heritage Club. Your Board has been searching for the correct type of club that fills the hopes of our members. In the future we will be holding an open discussion, perhaps via Zoom and call in to evaluate what type of club our members would like to be a member of. The only current members that would be affected by any change would be lifetime NWW Members. In the meantime, we welcome your thoughts and ideas of what we should explore. Please email NWW_Tucson@outlook.com with what you would like from your membership and club. We will not act on any changes without a member VOTE, so stay tuned.



Prince Harald was the first prince born in Norway in 567 years. Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Märtha also had two daughters, Princess Ragnhild and Princess Astrid, both born before the Prince. At the time, the Norwegian Constitution of 1814 stipulated that only male heirs could inherit the Throne. Thus, the birth of Prince Harald guaranteed the line of succession. The Constitution was amended in 1990, and it is now the oldest child, regardless of gender, who accedes to the Throne. In connection with the entry into force of the new amendment, a decision was taken to apply the previous rule to all children born prior to 1990.

King Harald

Early life

The first three years of Prince Harald's life were spent in the peaceful surroundings of Skaugum. However, this came to an abrupt end on 9 April 1940, when German troops invaded Norway. To avoid being taken into custody by the occupying forces, the Royal Family, the Government and most members of the Norwegian Storting escaped from Oslo by train.



(Above) King Harald & Queen Sonja

(Below) King Harald & Crown Prince Haakon



When they reached Elverum, Crown Prince Olav and his family parted company. Crown Princess Märtha and the three children, Princess Ragnhild, Princess Astrid and Prince Harald, fled to safety across the border to Sweden. After several months in Sweden, the Crown Princess and her children travelled to the USA by sea. While King Haakon and Crown Prince Olav stayed in London, the Crown Princess lived with the children in the outskirts of Washington, DC, until 1945, when peace was declared.

Crown Prince Olav returned to Norway on 13 May 1945, where he was joined by King Haakon and the other members of the Royal Family on 7 June. The homecoming of the Royal Family was celebrated by thousands of cheering spectators who lined the streets to welcome them back after five years of occupation.

Years as Crown Prince

King Haakon VII died on 21 September 1957, and Prince Harald became Crown Prince, attending the Council of State for the first time. The following year he acted as Regent in the King's absence for the first time. The Crown Prince worked closely alongside his father, King Olav V, and carried out an increasing number of official tasks, such as travelling with trade delegations to promote Norwegian industry abroad.

In 1960 Crown Prince Harald made his first official state visit abroad, travelling to the USA in connection with the 50th anniversary of the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Family

In March 1968 it was announced that King Olav had given permission for the Crown Prince to marry Miss Sonja Haraldsen from Vinderen in Oslo. The couple had known each other for nine years before their marriage was approved.

The decision to be taken by the King was not only a family matter, but also an affair of state that could have implications for the future of the monarchy. After consultations with the Presidium of the Storting, the parliamentary leaders and the Government, the King gave his consent for the Crown Prince to marry a commoner. The wedding was held in Oslo Cathedral on 29 August 1968. The newlywed Crown Prince and Crown Princess were received with great jubilation by people throughout the country. The Crown Princess assumed her share of the official duties.

Continued- King Harald and Queen Sonja have travelled extensively in Norway and abroad, both together and separately. They have two children, Princess Märtha Louise, born on 22 September 1971, and Crown Prince Haakon, born on 20 July 1973.

SAVE THIS DATE ~ Sunday 21 March 2021, 2:00 PM

We have a very Special Presentation planned for you. A Speaker from the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah will be talking *directly* with you about:

In Trunks, Hands, and Hearts: What Norwegian Immigrants Brought to the United States

Speaker - Jennifer Kovarik

Between 1825 and 1980, nearly one million Norwegians left for new lives in America. Consider the reasons for leaving, what they brought, and where they settled. Explore the immigrant experience through stories associated with artifacts in Vesterheim's collection.

Jennifer Kovarik is Vesterheim's Registrar and Youth Educator. She holds a B.A. in history and English from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and an M.A.T. in elementary education from Hastings College, Hastings, Nebraska. Kovarik cares for the museum's diverse collection, which includes objects, books, and historical photographs. Through a variety of onsite and online programs, she connects people of all ages to the stories objects and the people who used or made them tell about Norwegian-American experiences, culture, and traditions of the past and present. LOOK For more details on our Webpage www.norse-tucson.org & our Facebook pages.



Vesterheim

The National Norwegian-American
Museum & Heritage Center

