

CONSTITUTION and BYLAWS
of
Vesterdalen Lodge 2-131 • Sons of Norway

ARTICLE I - NAME and AUTHORITY

1. The NAME OF THIS LODGE shall be Vesterdalen Lodge, No.2-131, Sons of Norway, Auburn Washington, District 2.

The principal meeting place will be Messiah Lutheran Church, Fourth and "H" Streets NE, Auburn, WA.

The principal mailing address will be P.O. Box 99, Auburn, WA 98071.

2. REGULAR MEETINGS shall be held at such time and place as the Lodge itself determines and will be posted on its web site. Special meetings may be called in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sons of Norway.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP, QUALIFICATIONS AND PRIVILEGES

1. TO BECOME A MEMBER OF SONS OF NORWAY, the applicant must possess requirements outlined in the Constitution. Membership in the Lodge is effective upon receipt of application and payment.
2. Membership shall consist of insurance and non-insurance members.
3. THE MEMBERSHIP shall consist of the following categories:
 - a. Life - 65 years old with 30+ years membership prior to 1/1/99
 - b. Golden - 65 years old with 30+ years of membership after 1/1/99
 - c. Heritage - birth to 16 years of age
 - d. Unge Venner - 16 through 23 years of age. Unge Venner membership status will remain in effect until the member becomes 24 years of age regardless of future membership status of the sponsor because of non-payment of dues before the Unge Venner reaches age 24.
 - e. Juvenile - 16 through 23 years of age, but have elected to not become an Unge Venner member.
 - f. Honorary - the name of any community member who has made significant contributions to Norway, the United States or Canada can be submitted to International for consideration as an honorary member.
 - g. Affiliate. A member of another lodge who also wants to become a member of Vesterdalen.

Requirements for each of the above shall be as listed in the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitution.

4. ALL MEMBERS SHALL ENJOY equal privileges, except that only those with insurance shall have the right to vote on matters concerning insurance and hold District and International office.

5. Once a new member's completed application has been received and accepted by the Board they will instruct the Financial Secretary to announce the action to the membership.

ARTICLE III - FEES AND DUES

1. There shall be no initiation fee.

2. The Local Lodge dues shall be \$6.50 per year for each member, plus an additional amount representing the District and International dues. Local dues for members age 16-23 shall be \$3.

3. Life Members (those members in good standing who were 65 or older prior to Jan. 1, 1999 and have been members for 30 years) are exempt from payment of International, District and local lodge dues. Years of membership need not be consecutive.

4. Golden Members (those members who are 65 or older after Jan. 1, 1999 and have been members for 30 years or more. Years of membership need not be consecutive) shall pay 50% of International dues, 100% of District dues and 50% of local dues. In all respects, these members shall enjoy all rights and benefits they previously held in the lodge as full dues paying members. Those transferring to another lodge shall maintain their Life or Golden membership status. Life membership shall be extended to any members who have served as President of the International Lodge..

5. Heritage Members shall pay no International, District or local dues.

6. Unge Venner Members are exempt from paying International, District or local dues. Further, such members shall have all the rights and privileges as all other members of Sons of Norway. An Unge Venner member who desires a subscription to the Viking Magazine will be assessed the same amount that is allocated to the Viking Magazine subscription from a regular annual membership.

7. Juvenile Members will come under the fee structure of Unge Venner members except they will pay 50% of local dues.

8. Honorary members will pay no dues or fees unless they elect to subscribe to the Viking Magazine in which case the fee will be determined by the International Board.

9. Affiliate Members will pay local dues, but no fee shall be charged for issuance of a transfer card or for membership by transfer.

ARTICLE IV - GOOD STANDING

1. A member who is in arrears 120 days in the payment of dues shall not be eligible for any benefits of the Lodge and shall be subject to suspension in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Constitution.
2. A member who pays all back dues and assessments shall be reinstated effective with their original date of membership

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

1. Officers shall consist of those listed in the International Charter and Constitutions, and in addition, the Lodge shall have the positions of Foundation Director, Musician, Vocalist, Assistant Musician, Web Master and Editor appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.
2. A nominating committee shall present to the business meeting in October a list of candidates for office. Candidates will have been asked, "Will you serve if elected?" and have replied in the affirmative.
3. Elections shall be conducted in November according to the guidelines set forth by the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitutions.

ARTICLE VI - FINANCES

1. Appropriations to defray the running expenses of the Lodge shall require only a simple majority vote for adoption. Other appropriations from the Lodge funds shall require a two-thirds majority of votes cast for adoption.
2. The Lodge shall maintain one or more funds. The General Fund shall be used to defray the running expenses of the Lodge.
3. The budget for the coming calendar year shall be submitted by the Board during the October general meeting and voted on at the November meeting of the general membership.
4. The Financial Officers of the Lodge are covered by a blanket position bond, as provided in the Constitution, with a deductible for each claim, which surety bond is maintained by the International Office, in accordance with the Constitution.
5. An annual audit shall be conducted as set forth in the Sons of Norway Charter and Constitutions.
6. The Lodge shall participate in the mandatory liability insurance for District and Local Lodges as secured by the International Headquarters. This insurance does not cover Lodge-owned real estate or buildings, or liquor liability claims.

ARTICLE VII - PROPERTY

1. Property of the Lodge will be marked "SON 2-131."
2. All property will be the responsibility of the Trustees or their designees.
3. Property of the Lodge will be dispersed as defined in Procedures Upon Dissolution in the Charter and Constitution of the International Lodge of Sons of Norway.

ARTICLE VII - CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF BY-LAWS

1. These By-laws may be repealed or amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting, provided that such By-laws changes were presented in writing and read at the prior meeting of the Lodge.
2. These By-laws, and any changes thereto, shall become effective upon approval by the International Headquarters.
3. The By-laws of the Lodge are subject to the terms and conditions contained in the Charter and Constitution of the International Lodge of Sons of Norway.