

Norden Folk

"The Midwest Institute of
Scandinavian Culture"



January 2023 Celebrating 60+ years of Scandinavian Culture Visit our website: www.nordenfolk.online



The Annual Wahlstrom Nordic Workshop

The Wahlstrom Nordic Workshop was held April 8,9,10, 2022 at the Beaver Creek Reserve. The expanded "Tour of Traditions" was a success with the help of the American Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) grant that was awarded to us. We enjoyed hosting folk artists James Miller and Tara Lynn Austin to teach flat plane carving and rosemaling, respectively. They were alongside David Winter, our longtime wood-carver presenter, Valorie Arrowsmith, teaching band weaving, and the Finn Hall Trio, teaching folk dancing. We also had a new chef, Sara Mattieu, from The Cranky Buzzard, who served many authentic Scandinavian dishes with the help of her husband, mother in-law, and father in-law.

We are excited to announce this years workshop will be held April 14-16, 2023 at Beaver Creek Reserve with Finlandia University hosting this years event. As always, this years program will include Nordic games, ax casting, woodcarving, band weaving, folk dancing and home cooked meals. Registration for all students will be \$60 for the weekend or \$40 for one day.

Any members whose dues are paid by March 31, 2023, are welcome to attend Saturday's activities at no charge. Please let us know if you are attending and what meals you would be there for to give the chef an accurate count.

Please write us at:

MWISC
P.O. Box
522 Eau
Claire, WI
54702,

contact a board member, or click on box on the contact page on our website !

www.nordenfolk.online



Syttende Mai

Norwegian
Constitution Day
is the day Norway

became an independent nation in 1814. Plans are underway for the annual Syttende Mai celebration on Wednesday, May 17, 2023. The celebration will be held at Holiday Inn South/Johnnys Italian Steakhouse in Eau Claire. The featured speaker will be Chad Filley, Comedian, Storyteller, and Author.



The Land

MWISC has officially sold our 69 acres of forested property to Landmark Conservancy.

The press release: Landmark Conservancy has purchased a 69-acre forested property located at the confluence of the Chippewa River and Elk Creek, located in Dunn County between Eau Claire and Menomonie. The property was sold by the Midwest Institute of Scandinavian Culture (MWISC), a small non-profit organization based in Eau Claire whose mission is the education and promotion of Scandinavian culture. MWISC acquired the land in the 1960s and took steps in the 1970s to improve the property in preparation for building a Nordic Cultural Center. When the organization recognized their vision was no longer attainable, they decided to work with Landmark to protect the ecological resources of the property and to promote public access for generations to come.

“This land ranks extremely high in terms of climate resiliency,” said Landmark’s Conservation Director Rick Remington. “This means that the landscape’s diverse features are highly likely to continue hosting biodiversity as our climate changes in the future, even though species composition may shift.”

Permanent protection of the Elk Creek Bottoms property was made possible by a grant from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, willingness of the MWISC members to sell below market value, and the generosity of Landmark Conservancy supporters. Landmark plans to evaluate visitor access, map existing trails, and add signage in the coming year.

The property is located across the river from the Lower Chippewa River State Natural Area owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. One half mile away and across the county line in Eau Claire County, Landmark and the Town of Union have worked together to create the 127-acre Town of Union Conservancy Area. These properties offer a unique opportunity to explore the diverse landscape of the Lower Chippewa River.

Landmark Conservancy is an accredited, nonprofit land trust that has permanently protected over 40,000 acres across 20 counties in northwest

Wisconsin. Their mission is to conserve Wisconsin’s natural legacy for everyone, forever. Primary tools used for land protection are conservation easements and land acquisition. To learn more, visit www.landmarkwi.org



Tim, Rick & Diane

The Midwest Institute of Scandinavian Culture

Annual Meeting was held at our land on 960th Street in Elk Mound, WI on June 17, 2022. The meeting minutes from the annual meeting June 17, 2021 were approved along with the financial reports. The three board positions nominees were voted in for a 3 year term. Tim Sivertson, President, Diane Lund, Treasurer, and Bethany Jacobson-Flieger, board member.

Culture Fest fka International Folk Fair at UWEC – Davies Center date to be announced.

This family friendly event is a great way to learn more about different cultures from around the world.

Icelandic language: Vaðlaheiðarvegavinnuverkfærageymsluskúraútidyralklappuhringur Yep, this is one word, and it means "key ring of the key chain of the outer door to the storage tool shed of the road workers on the Vaðlaheiði," from which you might be able to glean that it's largely (OK, pretty much entirely) for show. (Go ahead—try to use it in a sentence.) The Icelandic language has a reputation for lengthy words, and this one is one of the longest of them all. Credit to Mental Floss website.

The Midwest Institute of Scandinavian Culture

Officers are: Tim Sivertson - President

Janice Wnukowski – Vice President

Linda Curtis – Secretary

Diane Lund – Treasurer

Board Members - Marv Anderson, Bethany Jacobson-Flieger, Paul Kaldjian, Garry Running, and John Streif.