



SONS OF NORWAY - DISTRICT TWO

Washington - Oregon - Alaska - Idaho

Kjære medlemmer (Dear Members): Mark Agerter here. Just wanted to let you know that I have recently been appointed to the position of Foundation Director for District Two. I am happy for the opportunity this gives me and excited to be a part of such a worthwhile cause. And, the timing couldn't be better. October is Foundation Month and I have a lot of work to do to catch up.

As I see it, I have 4 goals in this new position:

- 1 - Increase awareness of our foundation within District Two
- 2 - Increase the number of District Two lodges and members applying for and utilizing the scholarships and grants offered
- 3 - Increase the number of D2 lodges applying for grants and encouraging their members to apply
- 4 - Increase donations to the foundation by both members and lodges

I have my work cut out for me!

As you probably know the Sons of Norway Foundation provides grants and scholarships for students, members, lodges and the communities we live in. In 2023 the Foundation distributed over \$241,000 in awards: \$160,000 in scholarships, over \$67,000 in grants, and \$14,000 in camperships for kids in the US to attend Norwegian heritage and culture camps. I can think of no better way to keep our heritage alive and thriving than by awarding funds to further our member, lodge, and organizational goals.

How can we help you might ask? Here's how:

- ü Encourage and support a lodge foundation director for each and every lodge (this is not a difficult job!)
- ü Publish newsletter articles about the foundation – both opportunities and needs (lots of information on the SON website)
- ü Email your members with the good news about what the foundation is and what it does and encourage them to both apply and donate (Remember all donations are tax deductible!)

My plan is to send out periodic emails with information that will help you communicate Foundation news with your members. Please share these emails (starting with this one!) with your members and/or in your newsletter or in whatever way you get important information out.

If you have received this email you are either the Foundation Director for your lodge or another prominent lodge officer. Should you want this email to go to a different officer or member volunteer, please let me know so I can update my distribution list accordingly.

Thanks so much for your attention to this important arm of Sons of Norway – the third leg of our 3-legged stool – Financial + Fraternal + Foundation. All three so vital to the health of our organization.

Med beste hilsen (Best greetings)
Mark Agerter