

# St. Pauli News in Detail



## Greeting and Ushering

Nov. 7 Wahna Smith  
Nov. 14 Mike Stickler  
Nov. 21 Jim Strandlie  
Nov. 28 Skip Swanson

**Altar Preparation:** Kathy Alberg

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## Thanksgiving Services

Wednesday  
November 24<sup>th</sup>

7:00 pm

Redeemer Lutheran  
TRF



\* \* \* \* \*

## November Milestones

### Birthdays

Nov. 7 Blaine Torstveit  
Nov. 15 Marc Haugen  
Nov. 16 Barb Nelson  
Nov. 16 Jonathan (JD) Torstveit  
Nov. 17 Larry Hurst  
Nov. 25 Wade Benson  
Nov. 28 Wahna Smith

### Anniversaries

Nov. 26 Dennis and Sharon McCollough

## Fall Donations

Due to uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 restrictions, we will not host a Fall Event in 2021. We ask that each of you prayerfully consider all of the missions and charities to which we donate our Fall Event proceeds. Most operate on razor-thin margins even in good times. And the last year has not been a good time for most.

Please donate as you are able. Clearly note on your check or your offering "FALL EVENT." Put in the offering plate or mail to the church. We have typically donated between \$2,000 - \$2,500. As of the writing of this newsletter, we have received \$950 in donations.

## WELCA

Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm

Each year at our November WELCA meeting, we decide which charities should receive the proceeds from our Fall Event donations. It is also our annual Thankoffering Program.

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## CHRISTMAS TEA

Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 – 5:00 pm

WELCA will host a "Christmas Tea" this year on Sunday, December 5, at the Country School on Faye Auchenpaugh's property. Cost is \$10 per person. You are welcome to bring one guest. (Invitation for your use inside this newsletter.)

The Country School complies with Minnesota Covid-19 guidance. Mask wearing is strongly urged but will not be possible at our tea. We have several vulnerable members, so if you or your guest have chosen to not be vaccinated we wish you a Blessed Christmas and hope to see you next year.

Email, call or text Cindy Cedergren to sign up for the tea by **Nov. 28**. Include your guest's name. Payment can be made at the event, or in advance to Cindy.

**Prize awarded for best fancy hat worn!**

# Minutes of the Church Council

September 16, 2021

The St. Pauli Church Council met on September 16, 2021 at 7 PM at the church with the following members present: Virginia Anderson, Wade Benson, Craig Folkedahl, Pastor Carl Hansen, Tammy Haugen and Jim Strandlie.

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Folkedahl. Pastor Carl Hansen opened with prayer asking for blessings and guidance at our meeting.

Agenda: Remained as presented by President Craig.

Secretary's Report: M/S/C (Benson, Hansen) to approve the August 19, 2021 Secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report: M/S/C (Anderson, Strandlie) to approve Treasurer's Report as presented.

## St. Pauli Treasurer's Monthly Report August 2021

Checking Account Balance end of Aug 2021	\$16,974.49
Aug 2021 Revenue:	8,669.00
Aug 2021 Expenses:	<u>(7,333.92)</u>
Checking Account Balance end of Aug 2021	\$18,309.57

Other Account Balances end of Aug 2021:	
Education Fund	\$1,100.85
Edward Jones	\$77,716.23
Memorial Fund	\$14,677.39
Mission Grant	\$4,435.87
Savings	\$36,596.90

Total Account Balances end of Aug 2021	\$152,836.81
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Cemetery Association Funds end of Aug 2021	\$61,744.75
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Pastor's Report: Trinity Church has extended a call for a new Pastor. At this date, Pastor Eric Miller has answered that call and will begin pastoral duties in early November. Pastor Carl is delighted to have a new member of the clergy coming to our community.

Reports of members in sickness or distress: Concerns and prayers are said for those experiencing illness or distress.

New Members or interest in membership: Tammy Haugen said she has mentioned to her friend about St. Pauli Sunday School being available for any new children, Tammy hasn't heard any response.

## Reports:

- WELCA - the St. Pauli Women of the ELCA met on August 25th at 7 PM with seven members present. Prior to the business meeting, the group gathered for a tour and program by Hilary Stoltman at the 1912 Soo Line locomotive located at the City Depot. The tour was historical and very interesting due to the fact that Hilary is a retired Soo Line employee with years of experience and knowledge. The business meeting and lunch followed at the home of Jan Strandlie.
- Board of Education - N/A
- Other Reports - Jim Strandlie mentioned that he and Jan have been looking into the proposed project of trees at the cemetery. This matter will be addressed at the next Cemetery Association meeting scheduled for October.

## Old Business:

- Damaged tree at Cemetery has not been cut down, possibly later fall or winter according to the REA.
- Needle Night on Tuesday nights has begun with a few ladies in attendance. Anyone interested in crafts or needle work are welcome.

## New Business:

A new vacuum needs to be purchased as the old one is no longer usable. Virginia will talk to the church women for suggestions on their preference. She will then look for a new one. Price is estimated at not over \$300. M/S/C (Strandlie, Benson) to purchase new vacuum.

Lord's Prayer was prayed.

President Craig called for adjournment of meeting M/S/C (Anderson, Benson) to adjourn.

Virginia Anderson, Secretary

## 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Report

January 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

8/01/21	5309*	Susanne Hinrichs for cookbooks	\$2,951.00	9/11/21	5322	NWSC Anniversary booklets	\$171.00
8/18/21	Dep.	WELCA reimb. for cookbook cost	(\$2,951.00)	7/02/21	5303	Ace Rent-All tent rental deposit	\$80.00
2/24/20	5589	Faye A. 'Save the Date' letters	\$165.00	8/03/21	5310	August Productions A/V support	\$245.01
6/01/20	5617	USPS Cancellation postcards	\$70.00	8/09/21	5312	Ron Anderson mulch, pavers, table	\$384.89
7/01/21	5302	Virginia Anderson postage	\$55.00	8/20/21	5315	Jeff's Kitchen 95 dinners; \$150 gratuity (Council approved)	\$1,290.00
3/9/20	5597	NWSC 'Save the Date' letters	\$12.50	8/20/21	5316	David Lee Catering bars	\$110.00
4/6/20	5608	Faye Auchenpaugh envelopes	\$14.71	9/01/21	5314	Arlo Rude tent rental (Ace Rental)	<u>\$144.44</u>
7/1/21	5302	Virginia Anderson postage	\$110.00			TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$3,034.87
7/1/21	5302	Virginia Anderson envelopes	\$25.31				
8/20/21	5319	Faye A. Security sign / photos	\$157.01				

\* Because WELCA would have needed to cash in their CD to pay Susanne Hinrichs for the cookbooks ahead of actual sales, the church paid her for them and WELCA reimbursed the church after the anniversary weekend.

**NOTE:** \$3,000.00 was budgeted at the 2020 Annual Meeting for 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary expenses.

# WELCA Minutes

30 September 2021

The St. Pauli Women of the ELCA met on September 30, 2021 at 4 pm, following a 2-day quilting session. Four members were present.

President Kathy Alberg opened the business meeting. The secretary's report was approved as read. There was no Treasurer's report available.

Stewardship Report: Virginia Anderson reported that LWR shipping dates are Oct. 14 & 15 in Grand Forks. (It was later announced that TRF will have a shipping date of Nov. 6, so it won't be necessary to deliver boxes to Grand Forks). Cindy Cedergren will assemble the baby care kits; Virginia will assemble school and sewing kits. We will quilt again after the October WELCA meeting.

Kathy thanked everyone who sold cookbooks at Everybody's Market on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. Cookbooks will continue to be advertised in the newsletter until Christmas. Kathy also thanked everyone who helped with Pastor Carl's brunch on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

Since it had been determined to not hold a potluck lunch on Rally Sunday, it was decided to pay for the balloons for the event. M/S/C to pay \$16.67 to Kari Torkelson for the balloons.

Discussion was held on whether we should be serving potlucks or brunches after church services during the COVID

pandemic. Virginia will bring up this topic with the Church Council. She will also talk to the Council about having all the carpets professionally cleaned, and the purchase of a new vacuum cleaner.

Lainey Dicken will be confirmed on November 7. Kathy will purchase a corsage and card for the event.

Election of Officers for 2022: The following slate of officers was approved by a unanimous vote:

President – Kathy Alberg  
Vice President – Jan Strandlie  
Secretary – Faye Auchenpauh  
Treasurer – Cindy Cedergren  
Stewardship Chair – Virginia Anderson

An idea that came up before the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was a congregational pictorial directory, and a photographer was previously contacted. It has been at least 25 years since the last directory was printed. All those present agreed this should be pursued.

Thank you to Kathy Alberg and Sharon Bugge for serving lunch for the quilting days. We had plenty of good food.

The meeting closed with Prayer Partners and the Lord's Prayer.

Jan Strandlie  
Acting WELCA Secretary

*(Cut on dotted line and fold in half)*

*RSVP to Cindy Cedergren  
by November 28*

*Email, call or text*

*cindyced@outlook.com  
218.689.4511*

**You are Invited to a  
CHRISTMAS TEA**





All children who are excited about Christmas are invited to come and hear Christmas stories read by members of the Sons of Norway Snorre Lodge.

Monday, Nov. 22  
6:00 pm  
Eagles Hall, TRF

Treats for everyone and a surprise to bring home!!



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

This fall's shipment includes: 18 school kits, 17 fabric kits, 10 quilts, 1 blanket, 14 baby care kits



### MENU

*Finger Sandwiches*  
*Assorted Salads*  
*Christmas Cookies*



### TEAS

*Russian*  
*Black*  
*Flavored*

## ST. PAULI WELCA

*Invites you to a Christmas Tea*  
*on*

*Sunday, December 5, 2021*  
*3:00 - 5:00 pm*

*at the Country School*  
*11094 195<sup>th</sup> Ave NE*

*Prize awarded for the best fancy hat worn!*

The Country School complies with Minnesota Covid-19 guidance. Masks are strongly urged but are not possible for our event. We have several vulnerable members and so if you have chosen not to be vaccinated, we wish you a Blessed Christmas and hope to see you next year.

## St. Pauli Member: Wade Benson

Reprinted from the *Northern Watch*, October 23, 2021

Thief River Falls Area Community Theater has named Wade Benson director. Benson is directing the Neil Simon play "Plaza Suite," which opens Nov. 4 at the Eagles Club in Thief River Falls. Benson has had a long career in theater. Above, he is pictured acting in "Hello, Dolly!" (Submitted)



Local theater group begins season

# Meet the new TRFACT director

## "Plaza Suite" opens Nov. 4 at the Eagles Club

The Thief River Falls Area Community Theater has worked with Wade Benson as a volunteer actor for many years; however, since he has moved recently to Thief River Falls, we are now delighted to include him as a director. Currently, he is directing the Neil Simon play "Plaza Suite," which opens on Nov. 4 at the Eagles Club in Thief River Falls. Information on performance dates, times and tickets can be found at the end of this article.

*The following are Wade's reflections about his life in the theater before he arrived in northern Minnesota taken from a recent conversation on the subject.*

Getting to be onstage was a scary privilege early on. As a senior in high school, at Evans High in Orlando, Fla., I entered the talent show for this school with more than a thousand students. I performed my own poetry with music from a long-playing record in the background, furnished backstage by a friend. I won, and I was given all kinds of recognition and attention for the rest of the months before graduation, including having other poems in the school paper. That could have been my beginning, as the guy with the ego would need to be fed by an audience!

I had a couple of acting roles in high school, but nothing big. Had an excellent musician who was our choral director. He

introduced us to Gilbert and Sullivan, and he was my biggest influence in vocal control, giving me techniques that I use to this day. Later, in college, my true awakening came from a professor at Cornell University with strong directing skills and the ability to pull the best out of an actor. Later, an opera singer who had been a soprano with the Metropolitan Opera pulled me over from the theatre department to play El Gallo in "The Fantasticks," because she liked what she had heard from me when she saw "Threepenny Opera." In grad school, I played Don Quixote in "Man of La Mancha" and Fagin in "Oliver."

My first paid job was the summer after I graduated in "The Legend of Daniel Boone," an outdoor drama performed outside of Lexington, Kentucky. I made \$60 a week! I came back two years later to play the narrator lead for \$80 a week! I began teaching English and theatre in middle and high school right out of college. In the first year, our production of Chekov's "The Proposal" won both region and state one-act play contests, up against regions that included the best private schools in Atlanta. We were a little country school, so the kids and my principal were quite proud. When I called to tell him we had won, he said, "You're lyin'!" The next year, we won region and came in second at state with Saroyan's "Hello Out There," also a big deal for the little school.

That was the end of my teaching career, as I got my first Actors Equity Union role in Atlanta the following autumn in a children's theatre show at the Alliance Theatre, a venue with similar credentials and influence as the Guthrie in Minneapolis. From that time forward, I did whatever professional shows that could be worked into my schedule as a working man and a dad. I never decided to go to New York or to go on the road because of my kids. I directed multiple shows for community theatre in Atlanta over the years.

The very best times on-stage, for an actor, always come pouring in when the audience is engaged and clearly moved in the moment. When the actor is best, it is clear to all that the live exchange is genuine, and that all of us are a little bit changed in that instance, both onstage and on the aisles. We all forget ourselves and fall into the living story in the room, whether laughing, crying or frozen in place ... for the moment. For five years in the 1980s, I was the director of the Performing Arts Center in an Atlanta suburb. I developed after-school programs and summer sessions for kids, in addition to adult lessons in voice and instrumental. We had music, acting and dance along with visual arts. Active members of the large Atlanta community of credentialed artists comprised our staff.

Some of the best friendships I've had with fellow performers have been with the Broadway actors who would come for shows at the Alliance. Some of them had movie and TV roles, and they would invite me to stay with them when I visited New York. Most often, they were, as I was, just aspirational, struggling artists with good times and not so good times in their careers.

Debbie Allen, the renowned dancer and currently an actress and occasional director of "Grey's Anatomy," came from her studio in Los Angeles to direct at the Alliance Theatre and cast me in a leading role in 2010 in a production of "Twist," a musical adaptation of "Oliver Twist" by Bill Brown, the creator of the Broadway hit "The Wiz." Mr. Brown came to Atlanta several times and had good things to say to me about my work.

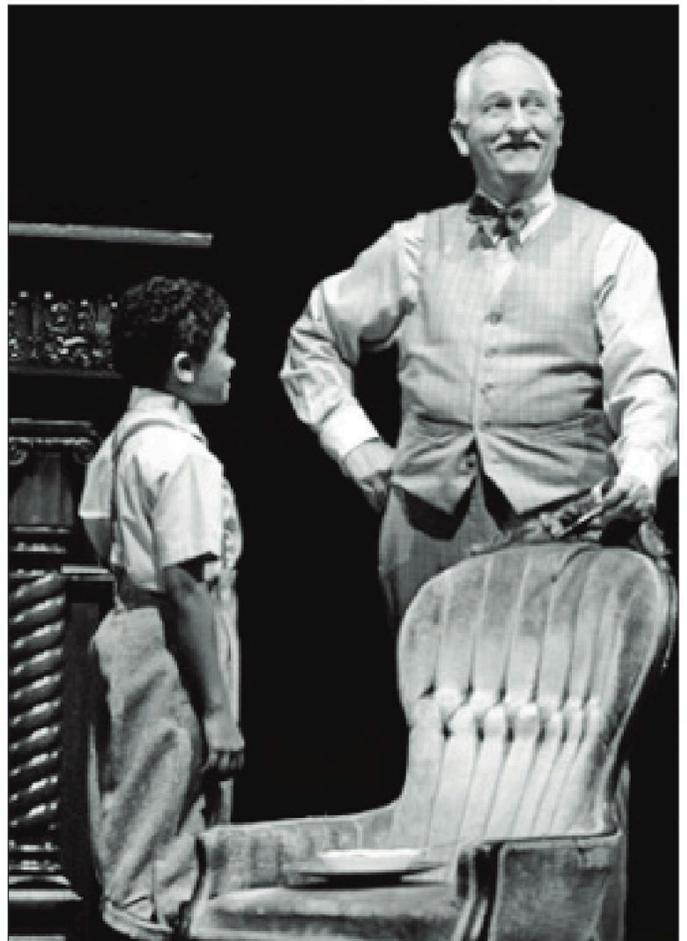
My wife is Marisa (Johnson) Benson. She graduated from Lincoln High here in Thief River Falls in 1980 and went to Duke University on a scholarship. From there, she moved to Atlanta where we met. She worked at Emory University there for 29 years, and she added two master's degrees and is an attorney. In 2014, she took a position as a vice president at Northern Illinois University. It fit in well as part of our plan to eventually move to Thief River Falls, being almost exactly halfway up from Atlanta (metropolitan population 5.9 million.) We were in Dekalb, IL (pop. 50,000) for five-plus years, while adding our living space onto her grandparents' family farm here in Pennington County. (Marisa's mom, Faye Auchenpaugh, and her late husband, Oliver, had bought the farm back from her family back in the mid-nineties. A few years ago, Faye added restored Country School you can see on Highway 59 South.)

Small town life has been a little hard to come by during this pandemic, but my times here, now, and my many visits in the last two decades, always make clear that I belong. Nine years ago, I came up to sing with the TRFACT cast in a musical

revue, and I have been pleased to be invited to continue involvement since then, currently as a director. The cast of "Plaza Suite," the Neil Simon comedy running at the Eagles on Nov. 4, 5 and 6, is loaded with comedic skill, and we are digging in to find the funny for this first adult show for the TRFACT in a couple years.

In every show an actor or director gets to do, there are abundant emotions and surprises and revelations, all of which make us come back for more. It's a good way to keep the brain and the body moving.

Plaza Suite runs Nov. 4, 5, and 6 at the Eagles Club located at 305 Red Lake Blvd. in Thief River Falls. Curtain time is 7 p.m. each evening, with doors opening at 6 p.m. Seating is general, and tickets are \$13 each and can be purchased online in advance at [www.trfact.org](http://www.trfact.org) or at the door each evening.



**Wade Benson has been named director for theater performances sponsored by the Thief River Falls Area Community Theater. He is currently directing the Neil Simon play "Plaza Suite." "Plaza Suite" runs Nov. 4, 5 and 6 at the Eagles Club in Thief River Falls. Curtain time is 7 p.m. each evening. Tickets cost \$13 and can be purchased online in advance at [www.trfact.org](http://www.trfact.org) or at the door each evening. Benson has had a long career in theater. The picture above shows Benson in "Twist" at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta in 2010.**

# How the Formerly Ubiquitous Pumpkin Became a Thanksgiving Treat

It took thousands of years, but the pumpkin went from one squash among many to American icon.

Smithsonian Magazine by Lorraine Boissoneault



With its spice-infused creamy, orange filling and crisp crust, there's nothing quite like pumpkin pie to herald the arrival of the Thanksgiving holiday (though some might argue in favor of its other forms, from pumpkin bread to pumpkin ale). The pumpkin features uniquely in this fall holiday and the autumn weeks generally, remaining absent from other celebrations like the Fourth of July or Christmas. But at one point, the squash was as ubiquitous as bread—and sometimes even more so, as American colonists would rely on it to make bread when their harvest of wheat fell short. How did the pumpkin go from everyday produce to seasonal treat? It's a story more than 10,000 years in the making.

To understand the surprising trajectory of the orange pumpkin, it's important to know something of its life history. The cheerful pumpkin is known by the species name *Cucurbita pepo*—a species that also includes acorn squash, ornamental gourds and even zucchini. All these different forms of *Cucurbita pepo* are cultivars, varieties of the same species that are selected in certain forms by human farmers. And yes, they are technically fruits, though many refer to them colloquially as vegetables. Before humans arrived in the Americas, wild forms of these squashes grew in natural abundance around floodplains and other disrupted habitats, with the help of enormous mammalian herbivores. Creatures like giant ground sloths, mastodons and gomphotheres (elephant-like animals) created the perfect environment for wild squashes, and when humans arrived and hunted the massive herbivores to extinction, many of the wild squashes and gourds went extinct as well. Those that survived managed to do so because humans continued growing them, making squashes (including in the pumpkin form) the first domesticated plant in the Americas. Archaeologists unearthed the oldest example of orange field pumpkin seeds in Oaxaca, Mexico and dated them to an astonishing 10,000 years—millennia before the appearance of domesticated corn or beans.

Initially, indigenous people used the squashes for their seeds and as containers, but by 2500 B.C. Native Americans in the Southwest were cultivating corn, beans and squash on farms.

The crop spread across the Americas, with communities from the Haudenosaunee in the northeast (also known as the Iroquois Confederacy) to the Cherokee of the southeast planting and sometimes venerating the squash.

When Europeans arrived, they encountered the endemic crop everywhere. “Columbus mentioned them on his first voyage, Jacques Cartier records their growing in Canada in the 1530s, Cabeza de Vaca saw them in Florida in the 1540s, as did Hernando de Soto in the 1550s,” writes historian Mary Miley Theobald. Native Americans cooked the squashes in all manner of ways: roasting them in the fire, cutting them into stews, pounding the dried flesh into a powder, or drying strips of it into something like vegetable jerky. (At one point, George Washington had his farm manager attempt the same preparation with Mount Vernon pumpkins, only for the man to report, “I tried the mode you directed of slicing and drying them, but it did not appear to lengthen their preservation.”) For these colonists, the squashes provided an abundant source of nutrition, and they rarely distinguished one form of *Cucurbita pepo* from another. “Through the colonial era they used the words interchangeably for pumpkin or squash,” says Cindy Ott, the author of *Pumpkin: The Curious History of an American Icon*. As to whether the Pilgrims ate pumpkin at their iconic meal with Native Americans, Ott says there's no mention of it in the written records, but people “probably ate it that day, the day before, and the day after.”

It wasn't until the early 19th century that Americans began to distinguish between the different forms of *Cucurbita pepo*, when masses of people moved from the rural countryside to urban areas during the Industrial Revolution. Zucchini and other summer squashes were sold as cultivars in city markets; the pumpkin, however, remained on farms, used as livestock feed. City dwellers, meanwhile, ached with nostalgia for their connection to the land, Ott says. By the middle of the century, popular songs pined for happy childhoods spent on the farm. The pumpkin served as a symbol of that farming tradition, even for people who no longer actually worked on farms. “The pumpkin had no economic value in this new industrial economy,” Ott says. “The other squashes were associated with daily life, but the pumpkin represented abundance and pure agrarian ideals.”

Pumpkin pie first appeared as a recipe in the 1796 cookbook *American Cookery*, published by New England writer Amelia Simmons, and was sold mainly in that region. When the dessert gained popularity, it was billed as a New England specialty. That connection to the North translated to the pumpkin being appropriated by abolitionists leading up to and during the Civil War, Ott says. Women who championed the anti-slavery cause also wrote poetry and short stories about pumpkins, praising them as a symbol of the resilient, northern family farmer. The status of the squash rose to national prominence in 1863, when President Lincoln, at the behest of numerous women abolitionists, named the fourth Thursday in November as a national holiday.



“The women who [helped create] Thanksgiving as a holiday were strong abolitionists, so they associated pumpkin farms with northern virtue and very consciously compared it to Southern immoral plantation life,” Ott says. “That feeds into how Thanksgiving became a national holiday in the midst of the Civil War, when the pumpkin was a pivotal player in the northern harvest.”

The link between Thanksgiving and pumpkin pie has continued to this day, with American farmers growing more than a billion pounds of pumpkin annually, the vast majority for Halloween and Thanksgiving. Urbanites travel out to family farms to buy their jack-o-lantern pumpkins and visit the grocery store for canned pumpkin before the big holiday. For Ott, learning the history of the pumpkin was a lesson in how everyday objects can tell deeper stories.

“These very romantic ideas are about farm life and how Americans like to imagine themselves, because farming is hard work and most people wanted to leave the farm as soon as they could,” Ott says. “But [the pumpkin shows] how we think about nature, ourselves and our past. A humble vegetable can tell all these stories.”

*Lorraine Boissoneault is a contributing writer to SmithsonianMag.com covering history and archaeology. She has previously written for The Atlantic, Salon, Nautilus and others. She is also the author of The Last Voyageurs: Retracing La Salle’s Journey Across America.*

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A minister was completing a temperance sermon. With great emphasis he said, “If I had all the beer in the world, I’d take it and pour it into the river.”

With even greater emphasis he said, “And if I had all the wine in the world, I’d take it and pour it into the river.”

And then finally, shaking his fist in the air, he said, “And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I’d take it and pour it into the river.”

Sermon complete, he sat down.

Janette, the elderly organist, stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, nearly laughing, “For our closing song, let us sing Hymn #365, ‘Shall We Gather at the River.’”

## SPORTS QUIZ

1. T or F: It has been over 100 years since the Pittsburgh Pirates last won 100 or more games in a season.
2. What is the record for most points scored by a college football team in a bowl game?
3. What are the two most common penalties called in an NFL game?
4. Which MLB team’s home ballpark is now Truist Park?
5. Goalie Jordan Binnington set a St. Louis Blues franchise record for most victories in a rookie season (2018-19). How many was it?
6. When Germany was split into two countries that competed separately in the Olympics (1968-1988), which one captured the most medals?
7. How many times has a Super Bowl game been tied at halftime?

Answers:

1. True: 110 wins in 1909.
2. 70 points by both Army (2018) and West Virginia (2012).
3. Offensive holding and False start.
4. Atlanta Braves.
5. 24 wins.
6. East Germany won 519; West Germany won 243.
7. Four times, including this year’s game.





**FUN FACT:**

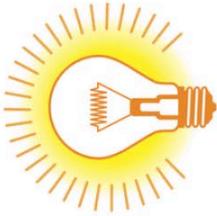
An English company, Gem Manufacturing Ltd., first designed the double oval-shaped paper clip we know today in the 1870s.



**Paper Clip**

There's debate among historians about who first invented the paper clip. In the late 1890s, Norwegian inventor Johan Vaaler created a version as a wire with triangular or square ends and two component arms. Vaaler, who studied electronics, science and mathematics, patented his invention in Germany in 1899 and then in the United States in 1901. Meanwhile in Connecticut, William Middlebrook patented a machine for making paper clips in their best-known, curvy shape in 1899. So who may make the biggest claim on the paper clip's origins? You decide.

Johan Vaaler and his original paper clip design



# Iconic NORDIC Inventions

PART 2

Norway and its Scandinavian neighbors have crafted more than their fair share of iconic items. Here, we continue our three-part series celebrating Nordic innovations.

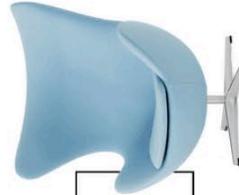
BY OLIVIA HERSTEIN



Look for this series to conclude in the November issue!



Cantilever Chair by Alvar Aalto



Egg Chair by Arne Jacobsen

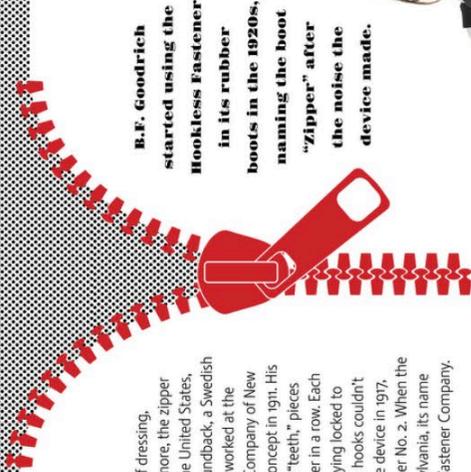
CLASSIC NORDIC CHAIRS



Panton Chair by Verner Panton

**The Zipper**

An essential component of dressing, undressing and so much more, the zipper was actually invented in the United States, but by a Swede. Gideon Sundback, a Swedish émigré and engineer who worked at the Automatic Hook and Eye Company of New Jersey, came up with the concept in 1911. His method used interlocking "teeth," pieces of metal that wove together in a row. Each piece could twist while staying locked to its companion, something hooks couldn't do. Sundback patented the device in 1917, naming it Hookless Fastener No. 2. When the business moved to Pennsylvania, its name changed to the Hookless Fastener Company.



B.F. Goodrich started using the Hookless Fastener

in its rubber boots in the 1920s, naming the boot "Zipper" after the noise the device made.



**ANOTHER SCANDINAVIAN COMPANY** making life easier for parents and small children is Baby Björn. The Swedish family-owned business started in 1961 by Björn Jakobson. Its products, which range from carriers, bouncers, travel cribs and chairs, are found in more than 50 countries.

**Tripp Trapp Chair**

First sold in 1972 and invented by Norwegian Peter Opsvik, the adjustable and ergonomic Tripp Trapp chair is a high chair designed to grow with children. Its manufacturer, Stokke, has sold more than 10 million of the popular chairs. The Tripp Trapp chair fits infants (with its tray and seat cushion), toddlers and even adjusts to fit older kids as they grow into adulthood. The chair remains tremendously popular in Nordic countries and is a fixture in many Scandinavian families' kitchens or dining rooms.



**FUN FACT:**

Peter Opsvik was inspired to design the Tripp Trapp chair in 1972 for his 2-year-old son, Tor. The toddler had outgrown his high chair, but Opsvik found there were no chairs for children that allowed Tor to sit comfortably at table height with the rest of the family. So, Opsvik invented one himself.

# The Back Page

## Questionable Signs That Require a Second Look

