



Volume 57, Issue # 9



* Supporting A Dementia Friendly Society *

NORDEN STAR

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
NORDEN LODGE #407 HUNTINGTON

Celebrating Our 86th Year



November, 2025

Meeting normally each 4th Sunday of the month at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church, Huntington Station, NY
Phone (516) 791-3983 NordenLodge407@Gmail.com -Next Meeting **Sunday November 23, at 2 PM**
On Facebook at: **NordenLodge3-407 Sons of Norway** - On the WEB at **NordenLodge3-407.org**
Deadline for Items for the December, 2025 Newsletter PERIODICAL is December 10, 2025

MONTHLY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our meeting is on Sunday November 23 at 2:00pm. It's the Sunday before thanksgiving this year so you'll have time to prepare for yourself and may be your first taste of turkey with all the sides.

Last meeting, we had so many in costume that it was a fun afternoon. Thank you to all who did dress up and came to help early. Chuck and Kristin had a lot of extra hours at work, so I apologize for not being able to have our zoom meeting. We did discuss different items as we usually do, but you can read that in the minutes from our last meeting, page 2 of this newsletter. We did approve supporting the Zone "IF" the Zone votes to host the 2028 convention, we support that the profits will go towards the Zone 1 Scholarship Committee Funds, and the district board approves the time and the location, plus if we can get enough volunteers, it would be really good fund raiser for the scholarship awards fund supporting members family students of Zone 1.

November will be the last meeting for 2025 at the church, and I know our Christmas Julefest is booked to the rafters. It will be very nice for all of us to get together. I know it will work out well.

There are going to be changes for our lodges, at the end of 2025, with the stopping of the Fraternal Funding from the Sons of Norway, so many of the lodge extra activities and visitations, supporting culture events, are something the lodges will now need to do without having any fraternal funds to help support the treasury for the lodges. With all the items the SofN has taken away it is a wonder what their thoughts are for the members who have dedicated their time over so many years. What is the draw for the common lodge member? I want to thank Bob McKeever for coming to our meetings and reminding us of the annuity, and the value to be part of that, but are they trying to get us all into Lodge 3000. Are the small lodges in jeopardy, and the large lodges too? I guess time will tell.

Remember our December meeting will be on December 7th at Palmers Restaurant. (123 Fulton St, Farmingdale, NY 11735.) If you already paid for your dinner, then I will see you there. I will send out a phone message to remind you. **But we will have no meeting at the church.** We are welcoming many members, from other lodges, and that will be a nice way to celebrate our Julefest. I truly need to thank Karen & Steve for the planning and organizing the afternoon and to our corporation for this great idea and their approval to host if for Norden members.

Remember each meeting you attend, in person or on zoom, will earn you 1 raffle ticket in the Dues Assistant Program. So, the more meetings you attend the better chance you have to win a free one-year of membership. Just ask the committee: Roy, Karen, Kristin or Barbara.



Fraternally, Roy



If you hear of anyone who is not feeling well, or needs some cheering up, please contact our **SunShine Lady, Kathy Johannessen (631) 421-9482**, so we can respond & get the word out.

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAGS TO EVERY MEETING.

As voted, a \$1.00 reminder fee for a temporary name rental will be charged each time you forget. This could be fun! Only excellent above reproach excuses will be exempted by Vote on the floor. **See Les Johannessen for your Tag**

NORDEN ALWAYS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS

*** NORDEN OFFICERS FOR 2025 ***

For Contact Info Email bigjobber@aol.com

President: Roy Berntsen

Vice President Kristin Gottilla

Membership Chair: Tim Baxley Assist Mary Booton

Secretary: Barbara Berntsen

Counselor: Les Johannessen

Social Director: Janet Hannigan

Youth Dir: Vacant **Editor:** Les Johannessen

Alternate Editor: Barbara Berntsen **Financial Secretary:** Shirley Erland

Treasurer Shirley Erland **Sunshine:** Kathy Johannessen

Sports Dir. Charles Gottilla **Greeter:** Mary Booton

10-26-2025 Minutes Summary

President Roy greeted all. It is really nice to see so many costumes. What a treat! Asbjørn reports our newsletter is now on the district web site. Picture to be taken at the end of the meeting for distribution. – Pledge of allegiance, silent attendance taken – Sept. Summary of minutes approved. – No new membership apps.

Correspondence: Barbara reminded all to sign attendance book.

1. Barbara received an invitation from the Norwegian Christian Home and Health Centre. It is the 5th annual friends giving dinner which benefits the home. It is to honor Joseph Riley and Joseph Loccisno. The smallest donation is \$250 per seat. This was tabled.

2. Received a note from Zone 1 Elaine Breiland stating she had a wonderful time on zoom with us last month and she is now getting our newsletter and would like to join on zoom more often.

3. Secretary Barbara completed the d63 officer's notification on October 3, 2025. So we are done with that.

4. Secretary Barbara apologized for the delay in making our regular donations but asks for a motion to donate \$500 to the Charitable Trust Funds. *Barbara made the motion, Les second, it was approved.*

5. Secretary Barbara asked for a motion to donate \$1000 to the Helping Hands Rescue mission. *Les made the motion, Janet and Karen second, it was approved.*

Financial reports – Shirley financial report: (Omitted, available upon request) She paid the Liability insurance for Sons of Norway.

Committee reports: - **Social Directors:** Janet stated: Barbara: ordered our dinner for Oct and Nov also. – mentioned we can donate wreaths for our soldiers. She stated you can place a wreath on a specific cemetery plot. The cost is \$17 each. *Janet made the motion to pay for 10 wreaths, Karen second, all approved.*

Newsletter: Les – had extra copies with him. Remember to sign up for a remembrance and your name in the newsletter. He apologized for the lateness of the newsletter. Remember to take a booster for yourself or in memory of someone. – Remember to check your emails as Les finds nice zoom programs to watch and good information to read and learn.

Sports Directors: Kristin & Chuck not in attendance, Roy reported: Henrik Ibsen bowling for fun will be held on February 16th. It's the week before our meeting. Let Kristin, Chuck or Roy know if you want to bowl. It is a fun day even if you just visit. You don't need to bowl. Barbara doesn't.

Zone: /Karen & Barbara: 1. Our memorial service will be held on the first Sunday in May. Ibsen is host. 2. Færder is celebrating their 115th anniversary. It will be on Dec. 14th along with their Christmas party. If anyone wants to attend please let Barbara know. She will contact Sylvia. Roy and Barbara are planning on attending. 3. The zone is planning on getting their own zoom program, they need someone to set it up. 4. Elaine spoke about the 200 anniversary of the landing of the restoration in NYC. She spoke to many people from all over the U.S. and some from Norway came too. 5. One important issue was to decide if we want to host the 2028 convention as a zone. The zone approved it if we can get those who are on the ground that day. We have many of the positions filled. We are trying to raise money for the scholarship fund and that would give us a good amount of money.

NORDEN Approved 2028. – Karen and Steve are checking out hotels just in case. It has to be presented at the 2026 convention for approval by the delegates.

6. We had 2 guests with us Linda Hestvig from zone 6 and Bill Browning from zone 7. They wanted to see how we plan and work.

7. The Zone is thinking about hosting a Julefest 2026 next year. Different restaurants and such will be looked into. The Zone is asking if Norden would participate in the party. Janet made a motion to be part of the Zone Christmas Party and not have one on our own. Mary second and the lodge approved celebrating if the zone agrees.

Sunshine: Kathy Stated that it is good to see Linda, Nancy and Jean here after suffering some set backs..

Corporation: Steve said they would like the lodge budget by Nov. 15th, so they can plan for the activities & meetings for 2026.

Christmas Party. Shirley & Barbara are working on it. There are additional members 15 from Norge & 9 so far from Henrik Ibsen.

Dues assistance program: Karen – it is available for those who need help paying their additional dues payment. (Discretion is key)

3rd District: Steve & Karen:

- **Youth camp** will be held July 26-Aug 1, 2026, at Camp Koinonia and the age for campers is 8 to 17.

- **Culture Camp down south.** – was a great success and they wanted to do it again next year even though it is a convention year. It will be held in the same place – the coastal retreat “Isle of Palms” in SC. September 16-20, 2026. A day has been added due to # of events.

- **Revitalization committee:** send out 544 letter to the 999 members. They received about half back and those people have not paid dues since 2018-2022.

- **Fraternal Funds:** the IBOD are taking away the funding for the districts to share with the lodges for wonderful culture events. They are discussing what and if things will be covered for the future. We are still good for 2025.

- **2026 Convention** will be held in Virginia Beach VA on June 4 – 7th. It is coming along nicely and Hampton Roads and the District are hosting it. We will need to elect our delegates in January.

- **2028 Convention** –. Stated above in Zone notes.

- Steve announced the **newsletter contest** will be brought back. It will start after the 2026 convention. Zone Directors will Judge.

- **Parade:** Barbara – having another parade in 2026. Some people stepped up to assist us with the planning. We voted on our slate of officers. Our theme for this year is “our legacy continues” and we can go anywhere with that but we thought it was appropriate.

We still need a few committee chairs open so please see me if you want to get involved. We are revamping our meeting schedule, half in-person and half on zoom. We are working on our theme so I will hopefully know it next week. – We thank you for allowing us to utilize our Norden zoom. We will have our first zoom meeting on Nov. 5. Will see how it goes & I am glad not to drive into Brooklyn.

New business

Clif and Nina gave us an overview on the landing of the Restoration Longship in Manhattan.

Nancy Seals thanked the lodge for the flowers.

Good of the order

1. Bob. McKeever spoke about the annuity and said to watch the stock market – it might be high now but it could go down quickly.

2. 50/50 raffle was won by Else Hansen

3. Roy said that Leif has items to sell and Leif added they are 30% off. So go to the back of the room and see him. That's a great deal.

Counselor Les: may peace and harmony prevail within our lodge.

Our next meeting is on Sunday afternoon – November 23, 2025 at 2 pm– we will again have a zoom meeting at 2:30.

I would like to thank everyone for coming today.

I now declare this business meeting adjourned. Time 4:15pm

*Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Berntsen
(Edits by the Editor for space considerations)*

***** UP COMING EVENTS *****



IT'S ALL SCANDINAVIAN

Follow and see
Ellen Lindstrom's Band
perform at:

<http://www.theswedishmeatballs.com/shows.html>

Norden Lodge

**Christmas at Palmer's
American Grill**

115-123 Fulton St., Farmingdale, NY
Sunday, December 7, 2025 1-4 PM

Appetizer

Eggplant Rollatini

Pasta Starter

Penne Ala Vodka

Entrée - your choice of

Chicken Marsala

Grilled Honey Herb Atlantic Salmon

Sliced Pork Tenderloin with Cherry

Chambord Sauce

Dessert

Apple Crisp

Dinner includes

Dinner rolls, vegetable, potato, unlimited
soda, juice, coffee or tea.

Price for Norden members - \$10.00

Price for other Sons of Norway members - \$35.00

Price for non-members - \$65.00

Cash Bar available

Reservation are a must. Send your check
made out to Norden Lodge Membership
Corporation to Karen Olsen-Helmold at 183
Evergreen Ave., Bethpage, NY 11714 by
November 30, 2025.

Music by Ellen Lindstrom

YOUTH CAMP IS BACK NEXT YEAR

JULY 26 to August 1 2026

It's All Back Including: Bonfire,
Canoeing, Archery, Viking Games,
Rosemaling, Woodcarving, Cultural
Studies, and Hardanger



Recognize them?

Of course you do, whether you attended our last meeting or not. This is just a teaser of the many ingenious costumes that showed up at a very well attended meeting. Unfortunately, attending to business concerning the newsletter concerns for our members did not allow me time to take pictures. This is the only one I was able to take. Others took pictures that I hope to be able to include in next month's Newsletter. If you have more please send to me!



FROM THE 3RD DISTRICT



Fra 3D President, Steve Helmold, Fall 2025 - A big hello everyone. It has been a while since my last president's message, so I wanted to bring you up to date on what is happening in the district.

I have just returned from the wake for Audun Gythfeldt, past Sons of Norway International Secretary and Third District President. It was nice to see so many turn out from all over the district to pay their respects for Audun and participate in

the Sons of Norway Funeral Service. It was a fitting tribute for him, for his many years of service to our order. For me, Audun was a good friend and advisor as he was for many of us, he will be very sadly missed, it is a great loss for Sons of Norway and the Third district. With Summer almost over and fall just around the corner there are just two more events left to hold. One is the district picnic at Nansen lodge on Staten Island on August 23rd which the district board hopes will be a big success, if not it may not happen next year. The other event is a district membership drive at Scanfest, in Budd Lake, NJ to get new members. The district will have a table with lots of information to hand out and hopes to sign up many new members that day.

Earlier this summer, the district cultural camp in South Carolina and the district youth camp were both a great success. The cultural camp had a great turnout with members from all over the district that were interested in learning about cultural activities. Those that attended would like to see it happen again next year, so the district board voted to investigate having another cultural camp in North Carolina about mid-September of 2026.

The district youth camp had more children attending this year over last year. The children enjoyed camp so much that they asked if they could attend next year. So, the district board voted to have it next again from July 26th to August 1st. This is the best gift that we as Sons of Norway members can give our children. So, if you have children, grandchildren or great grandchildren of camp age 8-17 years old, please, highly consider sending them to youth camp next year.

The success of both of these camps is due to the hard work of our Cultural Director Cheri Johson and our newly appointed Vice President Katie Brink. These ladies along with their volunteer committees went above and beyond to make everyone happy.

Also happening next year is the Third District Convention, Thursday June 4th to Sunday June 7th at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia and will be cohosted by Hampton Roads lodge and the Third District Board. I encourage you to come to the convention as a delegate, non-delegate or guest, where you can meet other members from other lodges in the district, hear from them what their lodges are doing and learn what the District is all about. I am sure you won't be disappointed, and for all past delegates I hope you will return as delegate again.

The District Lodge Revitalization Committee has been very busy working on ways to help lodges. One thing they have been working on is contacting the Spirit New Century 3-999 Lodge members with a personalized snail mail letter and information about Sons of Norway lodges in the third district. They are Sons of Norway members, just not in any lodge. It is the hope of the committee that these members will transfer to a lodge in the district, which will help those lodges. The District Board also approved reimbursing lodges for the purchase of a banner to be used for recruitment. Information regarding the ordering of these banners has been sent to all lodge presidents.

At this time, I want to wish you all a happy fall. Look for my next message in December.

Fraternally, Stephen Helmold

A royal journey across Norwegian America

There was a royal visit this fall — by Norway's Crown Prince Haakon as part of the grand celebration of the 2025 Norwegian emigration jubilee. He traveled through the Midwest on his way to New York City to honor the 200th anniversary of Norwegian emigration.



< Meeting at the Minnesota Capital with Gov Tim Walz and the Norwegian delegation on Oct 7 (The Prince 2nd from the left)

Chris Johnson, President and CEO of the Vesterheim Museum, welcomes Crown Prince Haakon — dressed in a Fanabunad — to Vesterheim in Decorah, Iowa, on Oct. 6. >



The Restauration docked at Pier 16 with a skyline backdrop after it's arrival in New York City on Oct. 9, following its 98-day journey, across the Atlantic. >



When the crown prince meets descendants of Norwegian immigrants here in the United States — many now several generations removed from their Norwegian ancestors — what makes the greatest impression on him about the way they preserve their identity within today's Norwegian-American community? about the way they preserve their identity within today's Norwegian-American community?

Remember you can expand the size by selecting the picture.

LODGE SAVE THE DATE 2025/26

Nov 23 - Lodge Meeting St Peters 2 PM

Dec 7 - Christmas Fest at Palmer's in Farmingdale 1-4PM

Activities In and Out of Our Zone!!!

Feb 16 - Bowling for Fun – Hosted by Henrick Ibsen Lodge

Jul 26 – Aug 1 - Youth Camp- Koinonia at Highland Lake, NY

Sept 16-20 – Cultural Camp – Isle of Palm, SC

*** BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS ***

Month's Birthdays – Gratulerer Med Dagen!

Name	Day	Name	Day
Craig R Carlson	10	John J Jacobsen Jr	25
Kyle Schofield	11	Les Johannessen	25
Ann Norton	16	Lillian Padin	27
Gladys E Passaro	20	Drew M Arnum	30
James R Sollitto	22		

5 Yr+ Membership Milestones For This Month, Congratulations:

Norma Frey – 61 Years, Steven Lygrn – 52 Years
 Joseph Accordino – 50 Years, Solveig Accordino – 50 Years
 Clifton Holvedt – 35 Years, Linda A Perterson – 19 Years
 Brandon Varady – 17 Years, Heidi C Varady – 17 Years
 James J Varady – 17 Years, Inger L Nelsen – 15 Years
 Ethel McKeever – 12 Years, Christina Varady – 9 Years
 Daniel Johannessen – 7 Years, Kristen Johannessen – 7 Years
 Lilianna Johannessen – 7 Years, Nikolina Johannessen – 7 Yrs
 Kaylin Roth – 7 Years, Lea Roth – 7 Years,
 Robert Roth – 7 Years,

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Many have said that the Lodge is their quiet place. Asked why? They say it's a chance to escape from the outside social atmosphere being experienced lately. Whether that is true or not is not the point but how we feel contributes to our overall health. At the Lodge we experience fun and caring. As witnessed by getting involved with the great costume turn out at our last meeting. We can feel good about what we do for the community we live in, how we reach out to members that we share needs with and welcome others to join us. They say that today's society are not joiners but many are starting to realize that there is a growing need!

Meeting Attendance – in order to enhance our members benefits by increasing subsidies for good participation. The more involved the more you benefit.

If you don't see your name, & you attended, let us know.

Attendance for October 26, 2025: Mary Booton, Tim Baxley, Barbara & Roy Berntsen, Susan Olson, Shirley Erland, Kathy & Les Johannessen, Nancy Rucci, Asbjørn Lageraen, Nancy Seals Heidi & Jim Varady, Janet Hannigan, Bob Saunders, Karen & Steve Helmold, Linda Petersen, Norma Ohsberg, Barbara Struckman, Fred & Jean Tremel, DoreeAnn Kohl, Ethel & Bob McKeever, Nina & Clif Hotvedt, Else Hansen, Leif Easterson - GUESTS None - 29 Members 50/50 won by Else Hansen

The Lodge's Official Annual List of Attendance at our Meetings is Available upon request. Just ask your Editor or any of the Lodge's Officers.

2025 Norden Star Boosters Updated 11/10/25

Berntsen, Barbara & Roy 5/26	Holvedt, Clif & Nina 11/28
Berntsen, Margret 5/26	Meusel, Helen 6/27
Berntsen, Roy Jr 5/26	Obsberg, Norma 11/26
Brown, Greta & George 6/28	Rucci, Nancy 7/28
Carlson, Craig & Christine 11/24	Sandberg, Mildred 6/26
Erland, Shirley 9/25	Seals, Nancy 5/27
Hansen, Elsa 6/25	Stuckman, Barbara 12/25
Helmold, Steve & Karen 3/25	Tremel, Fred & Jean 9/26

IN MEMORY OF

Berntsen, Knut 5/26
 Berntsen, Margaret 10/26
 Gladys J Ecock 10/26
 Erland, Endre & Sigrid 9/25
 Frey, Judith 2/30
 Maier, Betsy Jane Sersted 3/26
 Johansen, Lars, Sigrid & Art 10/30
 Jacobsen, Edward 4/29
 Larssen, Tryggve & Signe 3/23
 Obsberg, Artie 11/26
 Hector Rucci 10/28
 Stuckman, Erik 12/25
 Skauvold, Harry & Kate 12/24

COMMEMORATORS

Barbara & Roy Berntsen
 Barbara & Roy Berntsen
 Barbara & Roy Berntsen
 Daughter Shirley Erland
 Daughter Norma Frey
 Daughter Janet Maies Hannigan
 Family
 Brother John & Wife Carol
 Daughter Greta & George Brown
 Wife Norma
 Wife Nancy
 Mother Barbara
 Daughter Christine Carlson

Room for more members that would like to join us. The \$5/Yr helps mailing costs. The dates following the names denote the end of the annual support

Please make checks payable to Norden Lodge 407. Cash is fine.

WE THANK ALL OUR BOOSTERS HELPING TO GET THE NEWSLETTER OUT

SOME LITTLE KNOW SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS HIDE AWAYS

1- NYC's most magical Christmas market is hiding in plain sight. Nestled inside the Church of Sweden at 5E 48th Street, this cozy Julmarknad is a holiday haven scented with cardamom, lined with Swedish crafts, and brimming with irresistible treats. It's the kind of secret spot that makes you feel like you've stumbled into a Nordic Christmas dream right in the heart of Midtown.

The moment you step inside the 104-year-old church, you're wrapped in its cozy, welcoming warmth—an atmosphere that feels as timeless as the building itself. Upon taking a quick right into the library, the smell of cardamom and saffron buns will fill your nose, alerting you that you've arrived at the right place.

2- A Brooklyn tradition: The Danish Christmas Fair!! at the Danish Seamen's Church 102 Willow St., Brooklyn Heights (for all ages) There will be festive treats, classic decorations, and holiday hygge for the whole family. Maybe you will even get to meet Santa Claus: all the way from Greenland to Brooklyn! Saturday and Sunday, November 22–23, 2025 10 AM – 4 PM

3- Then we are Welcomed to this year's Christmas Fair at the Norwegian Seamen's Church, 317 E 52nd St., New York! There will be gløgg, food, Christmas items, Norwegian chocolate, cookies, music and lots of good Christmas spirit! Starts Friday Nov 21 through Sunday from 12:00 to 6:00 PM with a Children's Workshop on Saturday at 12:00 and Sunday Services starting at 11:00 AM (But then we all knew about this one, right!)

Some Cultural Items for the Month

Cultural Corner: *the most famous Vikings in history - part 2* - **Ragnar Lodbrok:**

Thought by some to be the most important Viking leader and most famous Viking warrior, **Ragnar Lodbrok** is famous for leading fierce battles against the Franks and Anglo-Saxons. He was supposedly married three times and had six children, who went on to become fierce Viking figures themselves. Thirsty for more success following his initial battles, Ragnar invaded England with just two ships, which failed. As punishment, the King of Northumberland captured him and threw him into a pit of snakes – or so the story goes.



A grand statue, by Alexander Stirling Calder, of Leif stands in the center of Reykjavik in front of the Hallgrímskirkja church. Photo: Lara Rasin

Leif Erikson: Erik the Red wasn't the only famous Viking in his family. **Leif Erikson**, his son, was born in Iceland around 970 and later moved to Greenland.

Around his father's death in 1000, Leif set off to discover a land that was spotted years earlier by Icelandic explorer **Bjarni Herjólfsson**.

During his journey, Leif dubbed modern-day Baffin Island (Canada's largest island) Helluland, meaning flat stone land, and



Labrador as Markland, meaning forest land. Leif and other Vikings traveling with him may have set up camp at Newfoundland, too, according to some historians. While Leif never went back upon his return to Greenland, other Norsemen journeyed back. Viking prevalence in North America was short-lived, possibly due to tensions with Native Americans.

Rollo of Normandy: Viking warrior Rollo, born around 860 in Scandinavia, is most known for being the first ruler of Normandy. Prior to his Normandy reign, Rollo garnered a gnarly reputation due to his vicious seize of Rouen, France. His nickname, Rolf, or Walking Rolf, comes from the fact that he was supposedly so large in appearance, no horse could carry him and he had to travel by foot. Under Rollo, the Vikings reached an agreement with the King of France, allowing them to rule the Normandy region. Rollo is also famous for later converting to Christianity. One of his great-great-great grandsons was **William of Normandy**, who ruled the English throne in 1066. This is a statue of Rollo in France.



Barbara

History Article: *The Rose Church -- part 5*

The Rosemaling Artwork and Palette: Experts say the art in Rosekyrkja is Renaissance- Baroque style, although it was painted 150 years after that style had gone out of vogue in Europe. The artwork is charmingly naive in character. It is also worth noting that with the exception



of the crucifix, which was Goliath seems to have an enemy's head tucked under his arm. The apostles are portrayed on the south wall, while the evangelists can be seen above the entrance to the choir.

The artist had written a verse about the virgins. The beginning of the quote was hidden when the gallery was extended and the painter must have run out of space at the end of the verse and had to continue writing over the top. The message reads: "do not be reckless like the bad maidens that lost their bridegroom and forgot their beatitude." [The blessings listed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount {Matt 5:3-11}.J]

Rosekyrkja Closes: Larger windows were installed in 1862 so that more light entered the church but, even so, the interior was still cold and drafty. With long sermons and no heating, the congregation constructed a second, more modern church in 1908, closer to the sea. The new location was more convenient for farmers traveling to church along the fjord by boat. This meant Rosekyrkja was reserved for special occasions and ceremonies, such as weddings, *Syttende Mai*, and St Olav Day in July.

These days, the church is an increasingly popular choice for weddings due to its outstanding beauty and is often booked out far in advance.

The church is currently owned by the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Norwegian Monuments and is part of a charming traditional village complex, which includes a vicarage from 1850, a house from 1750 used for storing food, and the farmhouse ML0setstova from the 1790s. A stone wall surrounding the church that was a feature of the original stave churchyard, was rebuilt in 1930.



While Rosekyrkja is typical of churches built around 1800, it is the interior decoration that sets this church apart. The simplistic design, uncomplicated palette, lack of color tone (i.e., no shading and highlighting), and the naive execution by the artists add to the overall impression of a rural, ancient treasure. The artifacts are of historic significance, but, for me, it is the painting that is the real gem, making Rosekyrkja a living time capsule of Viking, Medieval, and Renaissance history, one that offers visitors a glimpse into the early development of rosemaling.

Barbara

Don't forget by selecting (clicking) on a picture you can enlarge it by selecting it first and then select & hold one of the dots that appear & pull until the desired size is reached



Norwegian Christmas Tree Lighting 2025

December 2 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

The annual Norwegian Christmas

Tree Lighting, presented by **Washington Performing Arts in partnership with the Royal Norwegian Embassy**, kicks off the holiday season with festive music and an appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus; and the lighting of the magnificent Norwegian Christmas Tree. The country of Norway presents the Christmas tree to the people of Washington, D.C., in recognition of the strong friendship between Norway and the United States, and in gratitude for America's assistance during and after WW II. Artists TBA If you are in the area or plan on making a trip down, as many members have done in the past, this is a worth while event to witness at least once in one's life

This is the World's Most Beautiful Stamp and It is From Norway



This Norwegian stamp is voted the most beautiful in the world. The motif on it was painted by visual artist Viggo Ree (69).

A Norwegian postage stamp depicting a snowy owl has been named the world's most

beautiful design. Designed by artist Viggo Ree, the stamp was awarded the honour in Madrid last month.

A jury consisting of around 40 internationally qualified philatelists evaluated stamps from all over the world in different classes. The Norwegian snowy owl stamp by Ree was selected the best in the Nexofil competition, organized by the stamp magazine El Eco in Spain last month.

Did you know that the movie "Mission Impossible 6" Moved Norway's Iconic Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock) just outside Stavanger Norway to India ?



When Tom Cruise came to Norway for filming that part of the movie, it was big news, and the tourist industry in the region was excited to see Norway's biggest advertising in one of the world's biggest

movie series. Tom Cruise and the stunt at the Preikestolen even received over six million NOK through the incentive scheme of the Norwegian Film Institute (NFI). The scheme is supposed to help increase the number of major international film and series productions in Norway to promote Norwegian culture, history and nature. - But as it turned out Preikestolen is featured in the movie not as part

of Norway, but as a random rocky hill in Kashmir, India. Neither Preikestolen nor Norway is named in the movie. However, it is hoped that people can quickly find out where the scene was filmed, regardless of how it is presented in the movie.— The pulpit rock- Preikestolen is almost as iconic as the Eiffel Tower in Paris, so the thought is it will still promote Norway. (Haven't heard anything yet!)

Norwegian Recipe *Sandkaker / Sand cookies*

Sandkaker, also known as sand cookies, are traditional Norwegian Christmas cookies made with a simple shortbread dough. The best sandkaker are flavored with lemon zest, giving them a tangy and refreshing taste. These cookies are often gluten-free as they are made with potato starch. They are a favorite among Norwegians and make a perfect addition to your holiday cookie tin.

Ingredients:

- 200g unsalted butter, softened
- 200g powdered sugar
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon lemon zest
- 350g all-purpose flour
- 50g potato starch



Instructions:

- 1 - In a mixing bowl, cream together the butter and powdered sugar until light and fluffy.
- 2 - Add the egg yolks, vanilla extract, and lemon zest, and mix until well combined.
- 3 - In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour and potato starch.
- 4 - Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients and mix until a dough forms.
- 5 - Shape the dough into a disk, wrap in plastic wrap, and refrigerate for at least 1 hour.
- 6 - Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F) and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 7 - Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to a thickness of about 1/4 inch.
- 8 - Using cookie cutters or a sandkaker mold, cut out shapes and transfer to the prepared baking sheet.
- 9 - Bake for 10-12 minutes, or until the edges are lightly golden.
- 10 - Allow the cookies to cool completely before serving.

Enjoy these delightful Norwegian sand cookies with a cup of hot cocoa or a glass of mulled wine, and let the flavors transport you to the cozy Christmas markets of Scandinavia. (Sandkaker molds sold at IKEA)

Place
Stamp
Here

Norden Star



Sons of Norway

NORDEN LODGE 407

Les Johannessen, Editor

7 Nichols Road

Huntington Station, NY 11746-3419



Join us at our next meeting on Sunday November 23th at 2PM As we prepare for Thanksgiving we get a chance to welcome the event with our very own celebration at this meeting. We also remember our Veterans who in many ways made it possible. Come see what else we are doing and don't forget we always love sharing our feelings and demonstrating the meaning of "Koselig" during this Thanksgiving season & Veteran's Remembrance.



Are your assets aligned with your financial goals? A Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor will offer a **Free Financial Review**.



Robert McKeever, CLU - 21 Averly Place, Smithtown NY 11787

Phone: (800) 561-1492 - Email: bob@rmclu.com



Got Stamps? Tubfrim Is Still Accepting Stamps !

Please leave a 1/4 " around cut stamps.

We are continuing to support **Tubfrim**, a Norwegian-owned charity that resells cancelled stamps to benefit Norwegian children with health and other physical disabilities. **Every little bit helps**. The effort has continued since 1928 and will hopefully continue with our help as long as there is need. Bring them to the next meeting & any of our officers will take it from there.

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The Nordic Gift House is Owned & Operated by, SON Members: Liv and Bruce Benschine. Past members of Norden who moved to Wisconsin to be closer to the Scandinavian Import Businesses they have dealt with for the past 45 years.

Koselig =

*A cozy and warm atmosphere of
Togetherness in a pleasant setting.*
