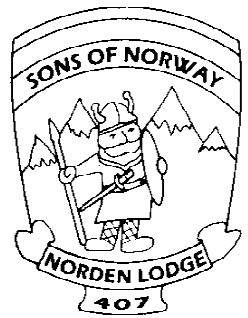




* Supporting A Dementia Friendly Society *

NORDEN STAR



Volume 57, Issue # 6



NORDEN LODGE #407 HUNTINGTON

Celebrating Our 86th Year

June, 2026

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 **Friday June 28, at 2:00 PM**
 On Facebook at: **NordenLodge3-407 Sons of Norway** - On the WEB at **NordenLodge3-407.org**
Deadline for Items for the September, 2026 Newsletter PERIODICAL is Sept 17, 2026

MONTH'S MESSAGE

I hope to see many of you at our June meeting. We will have music from our own Ellen and the raffle for the Dues Assistance Program. So, bring your dollars (I hope plenty of them) to support our senior members and the raffle for free membership in 2027. See the bottom of the letter for the instructions. Our next meeting will be in September, so if you have not signed up for any of the activities, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer vacation.



Well, the convention and the Third District Lodge meeting are complete, and many had a wonderful time. I did the "live" auction, and I hope we raised a lot of money for the Charitable Trust Fund. Karen also held a game, during the lunch break, to raise money for the SofN Foundation. It was a lot of fun, and most tables gave back the money for the Foundation. If I remember correctly, it was over \$600 raised. A good afternoon. All the resolutions and finances were approved. Some were amended but that is normal. The nominations, elections and instillation were held, and we have a wonderful set of officers for 2026-2028. The 2028 convention hosted by Zone 1 was approved so we will reach out to many to help before, during and after the 2028 Convention and District Lodge meeting. We met with the Officers from Better Life, Dudley and John, and they were very informative and welcoming. I personally think it will be a good match and partnership for Sons of Norway. We were informed several times "that things will not change" except the International Board of Directors will be called The Fraternal Board. The Norden resolution was approved, and the District Officers were asked by that resolution to still research for other organizations. It could be a good thing, as we may find other organizations in the same situation as our SofN. I believe the future for Sons of Norway will be in very good standing.

Remember to sign up for all the fun-filled activities that Chuck and Kristin are planning. 1) The Whaling Museum on June 27th. At 11am. The cost is \$6.00. There is also a Firehouse Museum down the street and plenty of nice restaurants to choose from to have lunch at. 2) The Duck's game on July 18th and the cost is \$15 per person. There will be fireworks. 3) Norden Picnic on August 9th and Ellen called and she had a cancelation so she will be with us playing that day. The cost is \$10 {which Norden members get back when they come} and it will be from 11am to 5pm. 4) Henrik Ibsen's Fishing Trip on August 23rd from 1 pm to 5 pm. The cost is \$65 per adult and \$50 per child 12 and under. 5) Atlantic City on October 3rd. The bus will stop at 4 different locations to pick up and arrive at the Tropicana Hotel where you get \$15 back. The cost per person is \$60. BRING your own breakfast to eat on the bus, and you will get snacks, water, and a movie chosen from those on the bus. {Norden members – regardless of your attendance at meetings you will get back half from the corporation so our total cost will be \$15 each member.} We don't want to cancel the trip again, as we need to get almost full capacity to cover the cost of the bus. Flyers for all these events and please remember to book your trip(s) or event with Kristin and Chuck. We hope you will be able to make most of these events because it is great to get together. Barbara and I will miss 2 as we are going to Canada and Maine for vacation during some of the events.

As always, remember each meeting you attend, in person or on zoom, will earn you 1 ticket in the Dues Assistant Program raffle. So, the more meetings you attend the more tickets you acquire. Just ask the committee: Karen, Roy, Kristin or Barbara.

Have a wonderful, happy and healthy summer vacation. See you in September.

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

5-15-2026 Minutes Summary

. President Roy opened at 6:17pm. He thanked all who came and wished everyone a Happy 17th of May. Also noting: it is really nice to see everyone, and he hoped everyone enjoyed our dinner today He further thanked the corporation for taking us out to dinner for the April meeting. Food was delicious and it was a nice restaurant.

Conducted the Pledge of allegiance, a silent count of officers in attendance taken, Last month's Minutes approved. VP Kristin reported we have no applications for membership at this time.

- Bob McKeever has transferred into our lodge from Norge Lodge. We all welcome Bob to our lodge.

Correspondence: Barbara reporting:

Announcements:

1. Remember to sign-in the attendance book. Located on the dessert table or find Mary & she will note your attendance.

Correspondence:

1. Flyers are at the podium table up front with the events planned from Kristin & Chuck, including Henrik Ibsen's fishing trip. Take one at the break & join us at these fun events.

Financial reports –Treasurer *Shirley provided the financial report at meeting (Copy available upon request)*

Committee reports

Social directors: Janet/Barbara/Kathy stated all was well. Barbara: ordered dinner for today.

Newsletter: Les – has extra Newsletter copies with him. Remember Booster sign ups, & remembrance of loved ones in the newsletter. Remember to check your emails as Les finds nice zoom programs to participate in or watch as well as interesting information to read and inform.

Sports directors: Chuck / Kristin have the sign-up sheets up front, so if not already signed up, you can do so now for the various trips planned: (Which included)

- Whaling museum on June 27
- The duck's game on July 18th
- The picnic on August 9th
- Henrik Ibsen fishing trip mail check directly to John Kern.
- Atlantic City is on October 9th rain or shine
- Check the newsletter for all the information as well.

Zone:

1. Our Memorial Service was on May 3, 2026. It went well but we could have had more attendance. Barbara gave out the scholarship awards in the

coffee hour after the service. Barbara read all 3 notes from the 3 applicants; 1 family member and 1 friend attended the award and 1 was mailed.

2. 2028 convention will be voted on at this June's convention. The Zone will be submitting a proposal. Results should be available next meeting.

Sunshine: Kathy said that Betty and David Stahl are celebrating their 75th Wedding Anniversary and The Lodge has send them a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Corporation: Steve – Corporation Board had a meeting in April and provided financials results. They also elected officers for the corporation. (All remains the same)

Dues assistance program: Karen – said the raffle to raise money for the program will be held in June.

3rd district: Steve & Karen:

- News of the home office merging sons of Norway with Better Life Insurance. There was a discussion of what was said during the zoom announcement.
- **Youth camp** will be held July 26 – August 1, 2026, at Camp Koinonia and the age for campers is up to 17.
- **Culture camp down south**. – it will be held in the same place as last year – the coastal retreat Isle of Palms in SC. September 16-20, 2026. (Lot's of interest)
- **2026 convention** will be held in Virginia Beach VA on June 4 – 7th.
 - It is coming up in a few weeks.
 - If anyone has anything to bring as a gift for the raffle, please let us know.
 - Also, if you have anything for the cultural display or contest please get it to me or les soon so we can bring it down. Delegates and non-delegates --- save your hotel receipt from the hotel so that Shirley can give you the check at our June meeting.

Parade: Barbara – Pins and purses are here. The parade is Sunday on the 17th. So please think good thoughts for no rain. We are kicking off at 1pm this year.

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

The 50/50 was won by Bob McKeever = \$23, flowers won by Tim, and the Norwegian 2 newsletters by Roy.

Our next meeting is meeting on Sunday afternoon – June 28th at 2:30 – come early if you want to help – dinner at 2pm. hopefully we may meet in person. Ellen will be here to play for us.

Roy thanked everyone for coming today. - He declared this business zoom meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Barbara Berntsen, Secretary

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



IT'S ALL SCANDINAVIAN

**Follow and see
Ellen Lindstrom's Band
perform at:**

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

Visits Whaling Museum and Education Center

301 Main Street, Cold Springs Harbor, New York 11724

**Come join fellow S/N members
as we come together to
cultivate knowledge &
celebrate creativity through the
arts, science, and history of
Long Island's whaling heritage.**

**Saturday June 27th @ 11am
Cost: \$8/person & \$6/Senior**

RSVP and payment due by May 16th

Please make checks out to Kristin Gottilla or Venmo @kgottilla

Kindly state the names of participants and phone numbers in case I need to contact you.

More Info: Kristin Gottilla, 66642 Grand Ave, Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Phone: 516-521-3190 or Kgottilla@hotmail.com

Directions: Take the LIE to exit 49N (Rt 110N, which will become New York Avenue). Continue North for about 6.5 miles. Make a left on Rt 25A and continue west for 1.5 miles; museum will be on right. Note: While this is a direct route, Route 110 is full of street lights! (See Pg 4 for additional Info)



**NORDEN LODGE IS HOSTING A
LONG ISLAND DUCKS EVENT**

At 3 Court House Dr., Central Islip, NY 11722

On Sat July 18th 2026 @ 6:35 PM

For the fireworks spectacular Cost is: \$15 per person

Please contact Chuck or Kristin Gottilla with any questions or to say you will be attending.

Checks payable to and sent to: Chuck Gottilla
642 Grand Ave, Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Always a fun night filled with Baseball, Fireworks and Friends at this Rain or Shine Event!!

RSVP by June 15th

Contact: Chuck Gottilla: 516-512-9427

Kristin Gottilla: 516-521-3190



**3D Norwegian Cultural Camp Returns at
The Isle of Palms, SC
For Families and Adults Sept 16 - 20, 2026
More Information on Page 4**

Sons of Norway Youth Camp



**@ KOINONIA
Highland Lake, NY**

**July 26-August 1, 2026 for ages
8 to 17**

Activities include:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Bonfire | Canoeing |
| Rosemaling | Language class |
| Woodcarving | Kubb, Archery |
| Cultural Studies | Hardanger |

The completed application form, along with a \$100 deposit must be sent to: Katie Brink before May 26th. The check should be made payable to Sons of Norway District Lodge #3. You will receive camp materials including a health form when your application is received. Total cost: \$550 Sons of Norway Members, \$600 for Non Members.

The full balance must be received by June 26th

Send to: Katie Brink

Sons of Norway Youth Camp Coordinator
7107 Fernwood St #2421, Henrico, VA 23228

Email: Uyakm27@outlook.com Phone: 614-202-5964

NORDEN LODGE

Annual Picnic

at

**Centerport Beach
Senior Citizens Pavilion
Sunday, August 9, 2026**

**11am to 5pm
(Rain or Shine)**

Come join fellow S/N members, children and grandchildren for a day of great fun, lots of food and plenty of games for kids and adults. We will have a cook too, so all can have fun !!!

**Cost: Members: \$10 (Qualified Members Reimbursed)
All Children (under 12 years): Free
Adult Non Members: \$10**

Directions to Centerport Beach:

Going east on 25A to Centerport, turn left onto Little Neck Rd. - Continue past Vanderbilt Museum about half a mile. - Entrance is near bottom of hill on the left.

(Stop at Picnic Area gate to get day pass if you didn't get one)

Contact: Norden:

**Chuck Gottilla: 516-512-9427
Kristin Gottilla: 516-521-3190**

**RSVP by July 15 - Checks to Chucks Gottilla
642 Grand Ave, Lindenhurst, NY 11757**

**The Atlantic City Outing is "Back on" for
October 3, 2026, More Info see Page 7**

Also see details of Ibsen Fishing Trip Pg 4



FROM THE 3RD DISTRICT



Fra 3D President, Steve Helmold, Summer/2026 - As I write this message Karen and I are preparing to go to the district convention. We have been working with the convention committee over the many months to make sure everything comes off without a problem. We are excited to welcome all the convention delegates and very excited to welcome the representatives from BetterLife. I am sure that there will be a lot of questions for them as Sons of Norway is partnering with BetterLife making this a new direction for Sons of Norway. Many members have already overwhelmed me with questions about the partnership, so I created a committee to compile all the questions which they did in record time. The list of questions has been forwarded to the International Board, and we are hoping for answers before the start of our convention. If not, we know they will be asked again during our Third District Lodge meeting. It is my sincere hope that this partnership will be a successful endeavor for Sons of Norway going into the future.

During the Third District Lodge meeting, committees will be announcing new and revised initiatives that will take place in the next two years to help strengthen our lodges, one of which is the Third District Newsletter contest. I will share all the details of our great plans in my next president's message.

The district board is working hard to recruit new members and to that end will be setting up a booth again at Scanfest to do just that. We hope to sign up many more new members that day as we did last year.

Youth Camp will be held this July from Sunday the 26th to Saturday the 1st of August at Camp Koinonia in upstate New York. I highly encourage you to send your children or grandchildren to youth camp to learn about their heritage and culture. It is the best gift you can give to the children. Also, Cultural Camp will be this year from Wednesday September 16th to Sunday September 20th at Isle of the Palms, South Carolina. The first one last year was such a success that we anticipate being sold out soon. There is a lot more information about both camps on the Third District Website.

That is all for now. Till my next president's message in the fall, Karen and I and the whole Third District Board would like to wish you all a very happy summer.

Fraternally, Stephen Helmold

Additional Info about The Whaling Museum Trip: Parking:

- Street parking (unmetered) is typically available by the museum. The Museum does not have a private parking lot.
- Guests are welcome to park in Cold Spring Harbor's free town lot, a 5 minute walk away located between 90-126 Main Street, next to the Town's Post Office.

Afterwards, we are going to walk down Main Street and see all the beautiful shops, and you can stop for a bit of lunch. Some suggestions: Sandbar, Grasso's Restaurant, Sweetie Pies on Main, The Gourmet Whaler & Cold Spring Harbor Plaza Delicatessen

You can also visit along main street:

- **Firehouse Museum**. Exhibit about the local fire department. \$2/adult
- **Picnic or Hike in Cold Spring Harbor State Park**. Picnic near the shoreline, or hike hilly terrain in a hardwood forest that offers scenic vistas of the Cold Spring Harbor. Excellent birdwatching. The park serves as the northern trailhead of the Nassau Suffolk Greenbelt Trail that extends to Bethpage State Park. Pets are permitted on leash only. Free parking. Use restrooms in the Cold Spring Harbor Library (check library for hours).

2026 Henrik Ibsen Fishing Members, Family and Friends Welcome Aboard the Capt EDDIE B III

Sunday August 23rd, 2025

1:00pm – 5:00pm (BOAT LEAVES AT 1 PM SHARP)

\$65 per person (includes gratuity)

\$50 per child (12 & under)

RAIN or SHINE

This is a private Charter

You may bring your own food/beverages

We must give a final count so **PLEASE** send names and payment **NOLATER** than August 1st 2025

Make checks payable to: John Kern

Mail to: John Kern

1498 Brightshore Blvd Bay Shore NY 11706

Questions? Please contact John cell/text 631 636-2035



3D SONS OF NORWAY COASTAL RETREAT 2026

For Families & Adults
Isle of Palms, SC

September 16 - September 20, 2026

2101 Palm Blvd, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

Join us at the beautiful South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Center on Isle of Palms for an unforgettable experience! Families and adults will have the opportunity to explore Scandinavian traditions through activities such as Scandinavian dancing, hardanger fiddling, rosemaling, learning about bunads, the life of Leif Eriksson, the Sami people of Northern Scandinavia, and more. All of this takes place in the perfect setting where relaxation meets the The soothing sound of the coast.

LODGE SAVE THE DATE 2026

- Jun28** - Lodge Meeting St Peters 2 PM
- Aug 9** - Lodge Picnic Centerport 11 AM
- Sept27** - Lodge Meeting St Peters 2 PM
- Oct25** - Lodge Meeting St Peters 2 PM
- Nov22** - Lodge Meeting St Peters 2 PM
- Activities In and Out of Our Zone!!!**
- Jun27** - Cold Spring Harbor Museum Trip 11 AM
- Jul18** - Ducks Game w/Fireworks 6:35 PM
- Jul 26 - Aug 1** - Youth Camp- Koinonia at Highland Lake, NY
- Aug23** - Ibsen Fishing from Captree 1-5 PM
- Sept 6** - Scafest, Vasa Park, Budd Lake, NJ
- Sept 16-20** - Cultural Camp - Isle of Palm, NC
- Oct 3** - Atlantic City Bus Trip - Leaving at 8 AM

*** BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS ***

Months Birthdays - Gratulerer Med Dagen!

Name	Day	Name	Day
June			
Thomas Schofield	2	Gladys J Ecock	15
Christina Varady	11	Kristin Gottilla	21
Gayle B Arnum	12	Donna Cooper	28
Eric Peter Oltedal	12	Inger J Gundersen	28
July			
Rebecca Lynn Oltedal	5	Stephen E Helmold	24
Susan S Olson	14	Inger L Nielsen	25
Christine S Carlson	15	Fiona McCabe	27
Anna Marie Tonon	20	Eric S Arnum	30
August			
Erika Varady	10	Eleanor T Lygren	21
Steven L Lygren	11	Michael De Marco	22
Andrea Sorg	11	David D Stahl	22
Dylan J Solberg	13	Barbara T Struckman	23
Carmen M Odin	17	Nikolina Johannessen	25
Linda Salta	18	Robert Roth	25
Erica Rucci	20	Brandon Varady	28

5 Yr+ Membership Milestones For This Summer, Congratulations:

- June**
- Karen Olsen Helmold - 52 Years, Mira Rathopf - 52 Years, Else Kinney-Patecell - 50 Years, Robert Mitcha - 28 Years, Christine S Carlson - 13 Years, Craig Carlson - 13 Years,
- July**
- Randi Dyrvik - 64 Years, Erika Varady - 8 Years
- August**
- Kimberly S Lynn - 30 Years, Larry Torguson - 8 Years

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

So we are back from Convention !
We heard a lot of promising plans for the future. Should it come to a successful end, there is hope that we will go on. We can hope for more but we need to give it a chance in my opinion.

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.

5-15-2026 - Roy & Barbara Berntsen, Kristin Gottilla, Les & Kathy Johannessen, Shirley Erland, Clif & Nina Hotvedt, Bob & Ethel McKeever, Janet Hannigan, Barbara Struckman, Karen & Steve Helmold, Susan Olson (Z), Mary Booton, Tim Baxley, Linda Petersen, Leif Easterson (Z) 19 in attendance
 50/50 \$23 won by Bob McKeever. - Flowers won by Tim Baxley, Norwegian Newspapers - Barbara Berntsen

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 3/24/26

Berntsen, Barbara & Roy 5/26	Holvett, 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 11/30	Sandberg, Mildred 6/26
Erland, Shirly 9/27	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 9/27
- 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

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

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

Dates for this Month

Father's Day 6/21

Summer Solstice 6/21

St Hans Day 6/23

DISCOUNTED PRESALE TICKETS
are available now!
 VISIT ScanFest.org
 and click the **BUY TICKETS** button to purchase.

Some Cultural Items for the Month

Cultural Corner: The Hjemkomst Center

Viking Ship



If you are planning a trip across the country you may wish to stop at **The Hjemkomst Center**. It is a cultural center where you will find Nordic permanent and rotating exhibits. When Roy and I plan our trip across the country this is a stop I plan to see. Check out this web site to see larger pictures of the Viking longboat.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hjemkomst_Center

The Hjemkomst Center is a multi-use facility in [Moorhead, Minnesota](#), United States.

Hjemkomst Center first opened in 1985 and serves as a home to [Hjemkomst Viking Ship](#), [Hopperstad Stave Church](#) replica, quarterly museum exhibits, and county archives. In 2009, the Clay County Historical Society (which was founded in 1932) and the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center merged to form the [Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County](#).

Hjemkomst, which means "Homecoming" in [Norwegian](#), is a replica [Viking ship](#) that is permanently housed in the center of the museum. The ship is a full-scale replica of the [Gokstad](#) Viking ship that was discovered in Norway in 1880. The idea for building *Hjemkomst* was that of [Robert Asp](#) (1923–1980), a [guidance counselor](#) at Moorhead Junior High School. Construction on *Hjemkomst* began in 1974 at the Leslie Welter Potato Warehouse in [Hawley, Minnesota](#).



The warehouse site was then transformed into the Hawley Shipyard during the construction. That same year, Asp became diagnosed with [leukemia](#); however, he still continued to build the ship; he had help from other volunteers.

In July 1980, the Hawley Shipyard was torn down for the removal and [christening](#) of the completed ship. *Hjemkomst* was shipped overnight to [Duluth, Minnesota](#), on August 5, 1980. Asp held the rank as captain during the ship's maiden voyage throughout [Lake Superior](#) until his death four months later on December 27, 1980.

In May 1982, Asp's three sons and daughter along with eight members of *Hjemkomst* crew decided to sail *Hjemkomst* to [Norway](#), which was Asp's original dream. The ship departed Duluth on May 11, 1982, and arrived in [New York City](#) on June 8, then arrived in [Bergen, Norway](#), on July 19, and on August 9 arrived in [Oslo](#). The ship stayed in Oslo for a year until it was transported back to Minnesota on MV *Brunto*.

Exhibits and programs at the Hjemkomst Center also hosts rotating exhibits that cover various aspects of local history, from the indigenous peoples of the Red River Valley to the arrival of European settlers. These exhibits examine the social, economic, and cultural developments that have shaped the region over time. The center's exhibits often include artifacts, photographs, and documents that offer a glimpse into the everyday lives of the people who have lived in the area.

In addition to its permanent and rotating exhibits, the center regularly offers educational programs, workshops, and events. These programs are designed to engage the public with the region's history, encouraging a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical



forces that have influenced the area. *Barbara*

History Article: Weird Things about Norway -

part 4: Tim and Teresa Ward have been traveling for years, and they are now on the road in Norway for two whole months. We drove from bottom to top, east to west.

<https://medium.com/mature-fl%C3%A2neur/ten-weird-things-about-norway-7bdb11d65607> Remember to see the full article all at once, check out their web site. This is from Tim Ward's point of view.

7. Cash is useless

Norwegians buy everything with a credit or debit card. As a result, in Norway ATMs are as rare as phone booths. Banks don't even have them anymore, as they do everywhere else in Europe. When I first arrived, I spent a long afternoon trying to track down an ATM in central Oslo. Eventually, I discovered one inside a deli! There are a few rip-off Euronet machines in most towns for naive tourists. These take a whopping 10% commission! But there really is no need for cash at all. I got 2,000 kroner from the Deli machine mid-June — about \$200 US. Two months later, most of it is still in my back pocket.

One time my foreign credit card would not work at a parking lot ticket machine, so I asked the young woman behind me in line if she would be kind enough to purchase a ticket for me, and I could give her kroner for it. She looked at me as if I had offered to trade her a sack of flour. "I don't *use* cash," she told the old man. Luckily, I did find someone in my own demographic willing to accept my gold doubloons in exchange for a ticket I could put on the windshield of my buggy.

8. Spectacular scenery abounds, but don't expect a room with a view.

One of the strangest things we encountered time and again were hotels, homes, and cottages located in the midst of vast grandeur, but situated so poorly you couldn't see the view. This is especially so in the rugged, mountainous Lofoten Islands, where there are hundreds of waterside cabins — most of them are facing onto a harbor with no view at all. Renters are more likely to be looking out on a lumber yard or fuel depot than the ocean. The reverse is also true: Industrial zones are often right by the waterfront, and highway depots stacked with supplies and rubbish are located in front of spectacular mountain vistas. Maybe Norwegians are so used to being surrounded by natural beauty they don't think about the "view" the way a visitor does?



Spectacular viewpoint! Let's put the road-repair depot here! Photo credit:

[Tim Ward](#)

Advice: When booking a hotel or air B&B, be sure to find a photo of the view from the window. *Barbara*

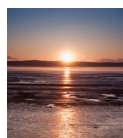
Don't forget by selecting (clicking) on a picture you can enlarge it by selecting it first and then select & hold one of the dots that appear & pull until the desired size is reached

ENJOY THE SUMMER SOLSTICE

JUNE 21, 2026

PERFECT FOR ST HAN'S DAY

JUNE 23, 2026



Hans, in this case, refers to John the Baptist. His birthday, apparently, is June 23rd. The day is also known as jonsok, jonsmesse and jons vake, vake meaning to be awake, watching and waiting for something to happen.



Norway Tops World Press Freedom Index

Norway has once again ranked #1 in the World Press Freedom Index! Freedom of speech has been enshrined in the

Norwegian Constitution since 1814. When press freedom was abolished under Nazi occupation during WWII, resourceful Norwegians found ways to fight back. Using hidden, unregistered radios, they tuned into clandestine BBC broadcasts from London. BBC airwaves even helped carry King Haakon's historic refusal to step down and recognize the Quisling puppet regime.

World Cup fever takes over the Norwegian Storting (Legislature)

For the first time in 28 years, Norway's men's national football team has qualified for the World Cup, and the entire country is celebrating, including its top politicians. Nearly 1.5 million Norwegians stayed up late Tuesday night 6/16/26 to watch their national football team run over Iraq's in its opening match at the World Cup in Boston. Once again, it was Norwegian superstar Erling Braut Haaland who stole the show, like he has so many times before. Haaland scored twice in their winning of the match. This team is very strong, demonstrating no losses in the qualifying rounds for the World Cup and winning their first game in World Cup competition. The fans, many Norwegians as well as others that have come here from Norway, are really fun to watch. The RED is apparent as they roar while demonstrating a rowing action, quite impressive! – We wish them the best and hope the heat does not destroy their ability to perform at the top of their capability, as has happened in the past in Mexico.

GO NORGE GO!!

Ice hockey heroes joined football send-off

- Norway's national ice hockey team avoided a meltdown at the world championships in Switzerland in June and ended up with the bronze medal after beating mighty Canada! They celebrated with thousands of Norwegian football fans back in Oslo, who'd gathered for a World Cup warm-up match against Sweden that Norway also won. - It was Norway's new hockey heroes who grabbed half-time attention in Oslo on Monday, though, as sports fans cheered for the country's first medal at the hockey world championships in 90 years. When Norway beat Sweden as well at the exhibition match, ambitions rose for the World Cup. "Norway is winning in many arenas now," noted sports commentators in Norway.

It is nice to see that Norway is meeting the noted Swedish Hockey success, after many years in the same environment!

Zone One Christmas Party

The Zone is subsidizing the cost of this event to help our members. Please help Zone One by supporting this event and sharing the information early so that our busy members can save the date and display it continuously through the fall for those members who like to wait until the last minute. Norden Corporation is further subsidizing this event to allow for a \$10/pp.



Norden Lodge's Atlantic City Bus Trip

Saturday October 3, 2026

Cost: \$60 per person



The Tropicana is giving us \$15 to get us started. On the way down we will play a few games. On way back we will relax & watch a movie.



1st stop - Leaving LIE Exit 49 Park & Ride 8AM

2nd stop - LIRR in Roslyn at 8:30AM
(Roslyn Heights, NY 11577)



3rd stop - Brooklyn PC Richards parking lot 9:15AM
(576-80 86th St)

4th stop - Nansen Lodge Staten Island at 9:45AM
Arriving at Tropicana Casino, Atlantic City.
Departing Atlantic City around 7 PM

****Make sure to get to the bus pickup 15 minutes before the time stated for your stop. It is better for you to wait for the bus, because the bus will NOT wait for you!****

RSVP by: August 28th Call or E-mail Today!!!

Contact: Chuck: 516-512-9427

Kris: 516-521-3190 CGottilla@hotmail.com

Please make check out to Charles Gottilla or Kristin Gottilla and mail to 642 Grand Ave, Lindenhurst, New York 11757. We also take venmo or zell; just reach out for the information.

****We need your Names, Phone #'s, Lodge and the stop you want to be picked up at (very important)****

****All reservations are first come first served****

*****PAYMENT Locks in your spot on the bus*****

Join Zone One for our Christmas Party

December 6, 2026, 1-5

Hartigan House - 517 Central Ave., Bethpage NY 11714

Menu: -Vegetable and Cheese platter
- Salad (your choice of Caesar, Greek, or Mesclun field green with cranberries and walnuts)

Buffet will include: Rigatoni ala Vodka, Baked Ravioli, Sliced Flank Steak London Broil, Stuffed Flounder, Chicken Francais, Roasted Potatoes. Roasted Vegetables, Ice Cream Sunday and cake, Unlimited coffee, tea and soda



CASH BAR

Music by Ellen Lindstrom

Cost: SON Members \$45.00, Non-Members \$60.00

Deadline November 15, 2026. Make check payable to Zone One Committee Sons of Norway and mail to Karen Olsen-Helmold, 183 Evergreen Ave., Bethpage, NY 11714

Transportation from Bethpage Train Station is available upon request!



Place Stamp Here

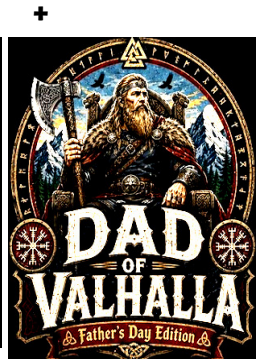


Sons of Norway

NORDEN LODGE 407
Les Johannessen, Editor
7 Nichols Road
Huntington Station, NY 11746-3419

Have A Great St. Hans Day !

Join us at our next meeting on Sunday **June 28th at 2:00PM** We have planned a mini Viking Auction this meeting. Father's Day is celebrated this month along with the Summer Solstice and St. Hans Day. Then we swing into the rest of Summer again this year. This meeting will be the jump off for our Summer activities, be sure you don't miss any of our Summer Fun Events. We have Ball games, Fishing, a Picnic and more! See page 5 herein. Come on out and celebrate these Koselig events with us. and bring a friend!



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



Robert McKeeve 21 Averly Place, Smithtown NY 11787
Phone: (800) 331-1192 - 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.

VELKOMMEN TO NORDIC GIFT HOUSE



Your premier source for Scandinavian themed gift items featuring Jewelry, Runic/Viking, Knitwear, Ozone Socks, Home Decor, Kitchen items, Swedish dishcloths, and Heritage items. We invite you to visit our website, subscribe to our newsletter and enjoy this special offer.

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.

SONS OF NORWAY SPECIAL OFFER

Take 10% off your first order
Discount Code: SON10



Nordic Gift House
Goods and Goodness from Norway and beyond



Phone: 715-386-0939
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*A cozy and warm atmosphere of
Togetherness in a pleasant setting.*