



Volume 58, Issue # 7



* Supporting A Dementia Friendly Society *

NORDEN STAR

NORDEN LODGE #407 HUNTINGTON

Celebrating Our 86th Year



September, 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 **Sunday September 27, at 2:00 PM**
On Facebook at: **NordenLodge3-407 Sons of Norway** - On the WEB at **NordenLodge3-407.org**
Deadline for Items for the October, 2026 Newsletter PERIODICAL is October 21, 2026

MONTH'S MESSAGE

I hope to see many of you at our September meeting. We will catch up on all our events and happenings during the summer vacation. I hope everyone had a happy and healthy summer vacation.

All the regular activities will start again. New meetings, a new parade in May 2027, the day in Atlantic city. Plus, more if you want it.

It will be nice to hear how the summer activities went. I do thank Chuck and Kristin for planning so many different activities for us. They do welcome all the other lodges, so let's see how they did. I really hope they had a lot of members attend the events: 1) The Whaling Museum 2) The Duck's game 3) Norden Picnic on August 9th 4) Henrik Ibsen's Fishing Trip and 5) upcoming Atlantic City on October 3rd. You have time to still go, so please let them know. 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.} where can you spend a full day out for only \$15.00 or even \$60.00. Plus, the money you get back from the hotel may pay for your lunch. We don't want to cancel the trip again, and we need a few more to cover the cost of the bus. We hope you were able to make most of these events because it is great to get together. Barbara and I did miss some because we went to Canada and Maine for vacation.

With the beginning of the New Year, we can start planning some ideas some have expressed to enhance the meetings. Please think about more ideas and let us know. Remember the Zone is planning for the 2028 convention, so there will be more information on what is happening and it seems to be a fun event in June 2028. More info to come.

Barbara has arranged our dinner, so come and enjoy.

There was a meeting with the "Foundation Board" and what has occurred. The new Sons of Norway policies and Procedures was sent out and is on the SofN web site if you wish to check it out. There are a lot of changes and Barbara will bring her copy for you to look at. It will be interesting to see how we are the same or if there are differences in the future.

Let's have a good meeting.

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

It will be nice to see everyone after our summer.

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

6-30-2026 Minutes Summary

President Roy opened Norden Lodge #3-407 at 2:15pm. He wished everyone a Happy 250th 4th of July. He welcomed everyone and pointed out that Ellen is here and he hoped everyone enjoyed our chicken dinner.

It is amazing how the members brought so many things for Karen to make so many baskets. Please be generous (during the Raffle) to ensure we raise money to continue the Dues Assistance Fund. We said the pledge and sang the anthems since Ellen was there. Introduction of guests and visitors Anna Tonen's cousin from California – Welcome Carla.

Secretary Barbara – took a silent officer attendance.

Lodge approved the last meeting modified minutes as distributed. Kristin stated, we do not have any applications for membership.

Correspondence: Barbara

1 announcement:

1. The attendance book. Was completed by Barbara for today

Correspondence:

1. Flyers are up here with the events planned from Kristin, chuck and for Henrik Ibsen's fishing trip. Come and take one and join us at these fun events. It is your last chance to sign-up and take a flyer, but if you change your mind over the summer, call Kristin to see if there are more places available.

2. Barbara has the parade journals with her. She can get more if needed.

3. Les expressed why he thought and suggested paying for an honorary membership for Thore Omholt. It was approved.

3. Letter from Nancy Rucci thanked the lodge for paying so she could attend the convention in Virginia Beach, VA. Barbara read the letter.

Financial reports – should anyone have any bills, if you have not already done so, please submit them to Shirley at this time.

Shirley financial report: all the bills were paid.

Committee reports

Social directors: Janet/Barbara/Kathy

Barbara: said she is not sure what happened since she talked with Amanda. Pizza is coming so we will have a meeting first.

Newsletter: Les – has extra copies with him. Remember to sign up for a remembrance and your name in the newsletter.

Remember to check your emails as Les finds nice zoom programs to watch and good information to read and learn.

Les stated he still cannot locate Else Hansen, Inge Gundersen and Karen Kvam.

Sports directors: Chuck / Kristin

2026 new sports – let them know if you are coming.

- The Whaling Museum was disappointing as we had fewer people than she hoped. Karen said that Steve and her plus the Varady's also went to the Fireman's Museum, but they all said they had a great day.!

- The duck's game – there are still tickets left.

- The picnic is ready and 19 have signed up already.

- Henrik Ibsen fishing trip – plan to attend.

- Atlantic City – there is 34 on the list so far, need 45 to fill the bus, please think about it.

Zone: Steve / Les /Karen / Barbara

1. 2028 convention was approved to host by zone 1. More to follow. We may need to call on others outside the zone delegates, so think it over.

2. We do not meet again until the fall, but Barbara introduced our new Zone 1 Director Leif Easterson. Congrats Leif.

Sunshine: Kathy said congratulations to Kristin and Chuck who are expecting to be grandparents in January 2027.

- Else Hansen thanked the lodge for paying for her membership. Kathy read the card.

- Fred and Jen Tremel are not driving any longer so they miss the members at the meeting but will be at the picnic.

Corporation: Steve – had the meeting in April and May and held the election. All officers are the same.

Dues assistance program: Karen said

The raffle to raise money for the program will be held tonight so get your tickets from Karen or Barbara & she thanked all the members who brought items to raffle off. The drawing will begin at 3:30pm after we eat. She said 5 or 6 people are being helped with this program besides our annual drawing for A year membership.

3rd district: Steve & Karen:

- News of the home office merging Sons of Norway with better life. See the convention report available from Les.
- **Youth camp** will be held at Camp Koinonia and there are only 7 children scheduled to come so far. This could be the last year for camp.
- **Culture camp down south.** – it will be held in the same place – the coastal retreat Isle of Palms in SC. September 16-20, 2026. Please sign up. There is a lot of room.

Parade: Barbara – the parade was this Sunday on the 17th it went great. There were a lot of marchers – we had 3 lodges march and Barbara had 2 from Henrik Ibsen hold our parade banner and marched with the committee. We were only about 8 marching on the committee, so it was nice to have Lisa and John hold the banner for us. The counsel general was nice and really impressed with our parade. Barbara has some journals with her today.

New business --None

Good of the order

1. Kristin showed pictures of Andrew and Erica's wedding.
2. Christine and Craig from Florida say hope all have a wonderful summer. It is warm down in Florida.

Counselor Les: may peace and harmony prevail within our lodge. Our next meeting is meeting on Sunday afternoon – September 27th at 2:30 – come early if you want to help – dinner at 2pm. Remember to join the summer events.

Roy thanked everyone for coming today.

Roy wished everyone a happy and healthy summer vacation. Barbara and I are gone almost the whole month of July.

He declared this business zoom meeting adjourned at 3pm.

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>

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



There entire Schedule is on their Website.
Many have enjoyed nights with them at familiar locations like: The Village Lanterne in Lindenhurst which makes for a lively night.
With Octoberfest Quickly Approaching They will be all over the Island including the Village Lanterne with its German Cuisine

WWW.SmorgasBandet.com

***** 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. to Norden Members. Get your name on the list!

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: Kristin Gottilla 642 Grand Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Transportation from Bethpage Train Station is available upon request!

SMORGASBAND
SATURDAY SEPT 26TH
6-10 PM

17TH ANNUAL Oktoberfest

SPONSORED BY THE MORICHES ROTARY CLUB
BENEFITTING THE SPECIAL NEEDS INDIVIDUALS OF Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026

FRIDAY 6-10PM SATURDAY 12-10PM SUNDAY 12-6PM

SmorgasBand 6-10PM

Join us for a weekend of Bavarian tradition, family fun, community spirit and authentic bites. All proceeds help support the special needs individuals served by Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck.

Prost! Celebrate for a Great Cause

Experience the sights, sounds, and flavors of Germany while making a difference in our community.

FEATURED ATTRACTIONS

- GIANT BEER TENT
- GERMAN REISER & FINE WINE
- AUTHENTIC GERMAN FOOD
- LIVE GERMAN MUSIC
- AUTHENTIC BAVARIAN DANCERS
- FUN CARNIVAL
- RINGS & GAMES
- LOCAL VENDORS
- FAMILY FRIENDLY ENTERTAINMENT

GENERAL ADMISSION
Adults 21 & Over: **\$25**
Includes ONE FREE Beer, Wine or Soft Drink

DISCOUNTED ADMISSION
Seniors (60+), Active & Retired Military, Police Officers, Firefighters, First Responders
\$20 with Proper Identification

YOUTH ADMISSION
Under 21: **FREE**

SUPPORTING CAMP PA-QUA-TUCK
For donations, Camp Pa-Qua-Tuck has selected the best of the best vendors to provide the highest quality food, entertainment, and the fundraising experience.

JOIN US!
Make a difference, be part of the celebration!

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026
Hosted By The Moriches Rotary Club



FROM THE 3RD DISTRICT



Fra 3D President, Steve Helmold, Fall /2026 I hope that everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer. I also hope that everyone is aware that Sons of Norway is entering into a partnership with BetterLife.

The International Board held an all-member meeting via zoom to announce the new partnership. They have put some information on their website. After attending the all-member meeting, the members of the Third District Board sent a list of questions to the International Board of Directors in May. We recently received answers to some of our questions. The questions and answers are posted on the Third District website.. - I am very excited about the new partnership. As it was explained at our convention, Sons of Norway was in financial trouble, and this partnership will allow us to continue as Sons of Norway lodges.

We don't have all the details yet, but we do know that the Sons of Norway Bylaws will no longer be what guides us. We will be governed by the BetterLife Bylaws and the Sons of Norway policies and procedures which are in the process of being rewritten.

I have appointed a committee to review the Third District Bylaws and the Third District Policies and Procedures and to recommend any changes needed to be in line with BetterLife's Bylaws and the new Sons of Norway policies and procedures. Changes to the Bylaws will then go to the delegates of the 2026 convention for approval. Changes to the policies and procedures will go to the Third District Board for approval. I will share any new information in my future President's Messages. - Many good and interesting things took place at our 2026 Third District Convention. I would like to highlight a few that will most affect the local lodges.

First, my congratulations to the new Third District Board:

President Stephen - Helmold from Norden Lodge.

Vice-President - Katie Brink from Hampton Roads Lodge.

Secretary - Karen Olsen-Helmold from Norden Lodge.

Assistant Secretary - Karen Lima from Troll Lodge.

Treasurer - Diana Syvertsen from Noreg Lodge.

Charitable Trust Director - Peter Hanson from Norumbega Lodge.

Cultural Director - Cherri Johnson from Bla Fjell Lodge.

Publicity Director - William (Bill) Browning from Norskevenner Lodge.

Zone 1 Director - Leif Easterson from Loyal Lodge

Assistant Zone 1 Directors - Elaine Breiland from Lodge Brooklyn and Susan Olson from Loyal Lodge.

Zone 3 Director - Paul Kornbrette from Nansen Lodge

Assistant Zone 3 Director - Barbara Bensen from Noreg Lodge.

Zone 4 Director - Kaare Hansen from Norrona Lodge.

Assistant Zone 4 Director - Gregory Lima from Troll Lodge.

Zone 5 Director - Christine Taylor from Tampa Bay Lodge.

Zone 6 Director - Linda Hestvik from Washington Lodge.

Assistant Zone 6 Director - Marie Hansen from Washington Lodge.

Zone 7 Director - Dirk Hanson, from Southern Star Lodge.

Assistant Zone 7 Directors a- Don Watrud from Norge Norsemen/Hampton Roads and Robert Longworth from Hampton Roads.

The delegates passed the merger of Zone 2 into Zone 4. This was necessary because a number of Zone 2 lodges have disbanded or merged into other lodges leaving only two lodges remaining in Zone 2.

Also passed was the ability of the District Lodge to suspend term limits for the Third District Offices.

We passed a resolution to request that the International Lodge be reconstituted and there be an International Lodge meeting.

The delegates also passed a resolution to investigate other Scandinavian organizations and the possibility of forming our own fraternal organization just in case the partnership with BetterLife does not work out. This is only an investigation, and nothing will be done without a vote of the District Lodge (the delegates) at a future date. In my four years as president, as I visited lodges or held programs on zoom with members from lodges throughout the district, this idea was raised many times. If anyone in your lodge is interested in serving on the committee, please have them contact me. - The Third District Board and its committees announced a few programs in which I hope that all of our lodges will participate.

Recruitment and Retention Contest - To entice lodges to recruit new members and offer programs that will help to retain members, the Third District is holding a recruitment and retention contest. The contest will run from June 2026 through May 2027. There will be 3 categories for which prizes will be awarded. Details are available on the Third District Website.

Newsletter Contest - We are bringing back the Third District Newsletter contest. Information along with a sample scoring sheet had been sent to all lodge editors from District Secretary Karen Olsen-Helmold. Information about the contest and a sample scoring sheet are also available on the Third District website.

The **Toolbox** is available on the Third District website. Revitalization Committee Chairperson, Christine Taylor, has been hard at work to get lots of ideas to help make your meetings fun and interesting. She has gathered (and continues to gather) programs, skits and events that were successfully done at local lodges and put them in our toolbox for all to share. - The Third District also announced the **Lodge Assistance Program**. Since we no longer get Fraternal Funds from the home office, the Board wanted to do something to help those lodges with limited funds. Lodge presidents and secretaries have gotten information from District Secretary, Karen Olsen-Helmold. The request form is available on the Third District Website. - This is only a small part of what took place during the convention. - The next convention will be June 4th to 7th in Riverhead, Long Island, NY. I hope every lodge will be represented. - If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me either by phone or email.

Fraternally, Stephen Helmold District 3 President

LODGE SAVE THE DATE 2026

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!!!

Oct 3 - Atlantic City Bus Trip - Leaving at 8 AM

*** **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS** ***

Months Birthdays - Gratulerer Med Dagen!

Name	Day	Name	Day
Lea Roth	1	Johanna M Finck	18
Karen L Carella	6	James Hannigan	18
James Schofield	6	Shirley M Erland	24
Paul Roth	8	Randi Dyrvik	28
Jacqueline L Oltedal	9	Karl O Olsen	28
Lilianna Johannessen	17	Janet M Hannigan	29

5 Yr+ Membership Milestones For This Month, Congratulations:

Joyce Pedersen - 57 Years, Stephen Helmold - 53 Years,
Jean A Tremel - 37 Years

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Summer is over and the Fall weather is starting it's cold trend already. But before we lose all of the warmer fun, we have one last opportunity to get on board the bus to Atlantic City! These trips have always been fun and with the Lodge supplementing much of it, combined with the \$15 the Casino is providing, it's a real treat. We have been very fortunate to have our Sports Directors who have provided all this year's activities and the promise of more to come. It demonstrates how full of life our Lodge is and we should take every opportunity to get involved. - On the other hand, things have changed in Sons of Norway, perhaps for the better we hope, but our Lodge is strong and we are planning ahead with your support, all will work out! Who knows it could be better than new! The point is, we need to stay focused and not lose all that is good within our Lodge.

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.

6-28-2026 - Roy & Barbara Berntsen, Chuck & Kristin Gottilla, Les & Kathy Johannessen, Shirley Erland, Karen & Steve Helmold, Barbara Struckman, Janet Hannigan, Anna Tonon, Asbjørn Lageraen, Susan Olson, Bob & Ethel McKeever, Nancy Seals, Leif Easterson, Christine & Craig Carlsen (Z), Tim Baxley (Z), Mary Booton (Z)

GUESTS - Carla from California, Ellen Lindstrom

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	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 11/30	Sandberg, Mildred 6/26
Erland, Shirley 9/27	Seals, Nancy 5/27
Hansen, Elsa 6/25 (Always)	Stuckman, Barbara 12/25
Helmold, Steve & Karen 3/25	Tremel, Fred & Jean 9/26

IN MEMORY OF

COMMEMORATORS

Berntsen, Knut 5/26	Barbara & Roy Berntsen
Berntsen, Margaret 10/26	Barbara & Roy Berntsen
Gladys J Ecock 10/26	Barbara & Roy Berntsen
Erland, Endre & Sigrid 9/27	Daughter Shirley Erland
Frey, Judith 2/30	Daughter Norma Frey
Maier, Betsy Jane Sersted 3/26	Daughter Janet Maies Hannigan
Johansen, Lars, Sigrid & Art 10/30	Family
Jacobsen, Edward 4/29	Brother John & Wife Carol
Larssen, Trygve & Signe 3/23	Daughter Greta & George Brown
Obsberg, Artie 11/26	Wife Norma
Hector Rucci 10/28	Wife Nancy
Stuckman, Erik 12/25	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



Elsa Margrethe Hansen

December 12, 1931 - August 9, 2026

Once again we have experienced the loss of a beloved sister in Elsa Hansen.

She was the essence of a devoted

Sons of Norway member with her loving presence and devotion to supporting our Lodge. She was always the most pleasant person who appreciated all that she met. She was a member for 52 years this year and always supportive of her Lodge. Always a kind word for all. We thank her for the time she shared with us Her sense of humour and love of her family and friends was always apparent in her smile.

She will be missed by all.

Hvil I Fred !!



*** ON THE LIGHTER SIDE ***

- One day Ole was seen only wearing one glove on his hands. When asked if he lost one glove? Ole replied: No, the forecaster last night said today may be hot on on the other hand, it could get cold.

- While on vacation Sven was told about a great restaurant in town, but upon arriving it was closed with big sign in the window:
"HOME COOKING"

Some Cultural Items for the Month

Cultural Corner: Students Stun Archaeologists: Norse Church Found

Scottish school pupils working with professional archaeologists uncovered what appears to be a 1,000-year-old Viking-era church on a remote island—evidence that faith anchored communities even on the edge of the North Atlantic.

Students And Archaeologists Team Up On Swona
Gordonstoun pupils and staff joined archaeologists from the Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology on a six-day field project to Swona, an uninhabited island in the Orkney chain. The group uncovered stone foundations and a central feature that the team believes could be an altar base. The building plan aligns with early medieval chapel forms seen across the Northern Isles. The discovery highlights how faith sites once served small Norse communities spread across harsh seas.

Swona sits in the Pentland Firth, where fast tides make access difficult. The island has been empty of residents for decades, with only feral cattle left to roam. The students camped with the research team and learned proper methods for mapping, recording, and careful digging. Their work followed standard practice and chain-of-custody for finds and samples, helping ensure that any later lab tests will have strong context and value.

Why The Team Thinks It Is A Viking-Era Chapel

Archaeologists often start with structure shape, alignment, and key interior features when they assess early Christian or Norse sites. The Swona remains show a footprint and arrangement that match known Viking-age chapels in Orkney. Other sites, such as the Brough of Deerness, show two-phase chapels with stone phases replacing earlier timber buildings. Those parallels offer strong clues before full lab results arrive, and they help guide careful next steps on Swona.

Researchers will likely use comparisons to dated Orkney chapels, check soil layers, and review any small finds. Past work in Orkney shows how chapels from the tenth to twelfth centuries can be identified through layout, enclosure traces, and nearby burials. The team's identification fits that pattern. Later reports from specialists can refine the age range. That path mirrors how other Orkney church sites moved from field identification to confident dating and phase plans over time.

What Comes Next: Tests, Timelines, And Stewardship

The next stage is routine but vital. Teams will cleanly document the structure, secure samples, and weigh which tests make sense. Radiocarbon dating can help in the right context, but experts warn it does not work for every material or layer. Archaeologists therefore combine results from multiple tools to confirm dates and function. That measured process protects truth and keeps the story of the site clear for the public and for local heirs of the island's history.

The Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology, part of the University of the Highlands and Islands, manages work like this across land and sea in the islands. The center brings trained staff, established methods, and ties to local heritage groups. Their partnership with students shows how hands-on learning can serve real science. It also shows how private owners, communities, and researchers can protect fragile places from careless tourism or government overreach.

Why This Discovery Matters To Us

This find reminds us that faith shaped the North long before modern politics. A small chapel on a windy rock guided families, marked births and deaths, and built local bonds. That echoes our own belief that strong families, local communities, and ordered worship are pillars of a healthy nation. When schools work with professionals and respect property rights, they deliver real results without waste or culture-war spin—exactly what citizens expect from education and research partners.

A Lesson In Heritage And Common Sense

America faces daily fights over erasing history or twisting it to fit an agenda. This story takes a better road. A team followed facts, honored the island's owners, and built skills that last. The work now moves to labs and careful study. If confirmed, the Swona chapel adds one more thread to a long Western story of faith and freedom on tough frontiers. That is the kind of history worth teaching and the kind of stewardship worth backing.

History Article: Routine Yard Work Reveals a Trove of Viking Silver—the Largest Treasure of Its Kind Ever Discovered in Denmark

The collection includes coins, jewelry, silver bars and a tiny artifact shaped like Thor's hammer. Experts say the roughly 700 items were buried during the tenth century

When a resident of northern Denmark started clearing their backyard, the plan was to install a new terrace. They expected a few hours of hard work. But after half an hour of digging, they came across something metallic: a trove of jewelry and coins. Located in the municipality of Rebild, the backyard revealed the largest hoard of Viking silver ever discovered in Denmark. According to a statement from North Jutland Museums, the treasure includes roughly 700 artifacts and weighs more than 40 pounds. Experts think these items were buried in the tenth century.

"This is an exceptionally important Viking Age silver hoard," archaeologist Torben Sarauw, head of cultural heritage at North Jutland Museums, tells the Art Newspaper's Hadani Ditmars. "It provides a rare insight into the Viking Age silver economy, where silver functioned not only as coinage but also as weighed bullion used for trade, payments and storing wealth."

Also a quick fact: A Viking hoard in Norway

- Earlier this year, metal detectorists found 19 silver coins in a field in eastern Norway.

- After they contacted authorities, excavations revealed thousands more. Experts said it was the largest coin hoard from the Viking Age discovered in the country.

The Rebild hoard easily surpasses Denmark's second-largest collection of Viking silver, a 14.5-pound assortment called Terslevskat, which is on display at the National Museum. Per the statement, North Jutland Museums is hoping to eventually exhibit the Rebild artifacts at the Fyrkat Viking Museum. Researchers aren't sure why someone buried these items at this particular spot.

"It was buried during the period when the Danish kingdom was taking shape and Christianity was spreading across Scandinavia," Sarauw tells the Art Newspaper. "As well as illuminating Viking Age trade and wealth, the hoard provides evidence of a society undergoing profound political and religious change."



Norway's Historic World Cup Journey

Norway captured global attention during the 2026 FIFA World Cup, reaching the quarterfinals for the first time in the

nation's history and marking its first tournament appearance since 1998.

-Managed by Ståle Solbakken and led by star striker Erling Haaland and captain Martin Ødegaard, the team won thrilling knockout stage matches against the Ivory Coast and Brazil before an eventual elimination by England.

-We don't hold a grudge though--and even enjoyed [some fun social media collaboration with our U.K. counterparts!](#)

-The squad captured the imagination of global fans with an exciting style of play and energetic "Viking row" celebrations.

- Following their return to Norway, the squad was welcomed by His Majesty The King, recognizing an extraordinary achievement for Norwegian football.

-The tournament represented Norway's first qualification for a major men's championship in nearly three decades and their deepest-ever run in a World Cup.

As told by our Embassy in Wash DC

Norwegian Design Celebrated at Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

The Norwegian Ambassador Anniken Huitfeldt attended [the grand opening of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library](#) in Medora, North Dakota, a landmark project designed by acclaimed Norwegian architecture firm Snøhetta.

-The library, inspired by the principle "*The Library is the Landscape*," is seamlessly integrated into the rugged Badlands terrain. Its distinctive grass-covered roof invites visitors to walk atop the structure and experience sweeping views of the surrounding national park—echoing the accessible design philosophy seen at Oslo's Opera House.

-The opening brought together prominent American leaders, including Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum, Governor Kelly Armstrong, First Lady Kjersti Armstrong, Senator John Hoeven, and Senator Kevin Cramer.

-North Dakota, home to one of America's strongest Norwegian-American communities, provided a fitting setting for this remarkable example of Norwegian design and American storytelling. *(Norwegian Embassy)*

Happy 250th, America!

To commemorate the United States' 250th anniversary, [the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Washington illuminated its building in celebration of America's historic milestone](#) and the enduring partnership between Norway and the United States.

-Across the country, Norwegian diplomatic missions are marking the occasion through a variety of events, from

World Cup-related activities to cultural engagements in North Dakota and New York.

-In New York, the Royal Norwegian Navy frigate HNoMS Fridtjof Nansen participated in festivities honoring America's anniversary.

-The celebrations highlight a friendship that has grown stronger over generations and continues to thrive through close cooperation across defense, culture, education, and trade. *(Fr the Norwegian Embassy)*



Norway Wakes To A New King

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

Norway's Crown Prince Haakon became king the moment King Harald V died at 6:35 a.m. in Oslo, as the constitution requires. Snapshot: - The Royal Court announced King Harald's death; succession took effect at once.

- Norway's constitution sets a clear hereditary line and automatic accession.

- A male-preference rule for births before 1990 kept Haakon ahead of his older sister.

- Some outlets rushed regnal-name guesses, but core facts are consistent.

A key exception that still matters today. For royals born before 1990, a male takes precedence over a female in the same generation. Crown Prince Haakon was born in 1973, and his older sister, Princess Märtha Louise, was born in 1971. Because of the pre-1990 rule, Haakon remained first in line. For those born in 1990 or later, Norway follows equal primogeniture, so the eldest child inherits, no matter the gender.

Accession by law happens at once, but public steps follow across days. The government holds periods of mourning and flags fly at half-staff. The new king meets the prime minister and the Council of State. A formal proclamation and an oath in Parliament may come at a set sitting, following Norway's practice. These steps do not create the kingship. They show it, mark it, and bring the public into the moment, while state work continues under the new head of state.

Why This Matters Beyond Norway

Clear rules calm tense moments. Norway's system shows how a written constitution can limit drama when a leader dies. There is no scramble for power, no bargaining, and no pause in state duties. That predictability is rare in many governments. People across the political spectrum often worry that elites bend rules to suit themselves. Here, the public can check the rule in print and see it applied in real time.



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Join us at our next meeting on Sunday September 27th at 2:00PM Getting back after our Summer break will be fun. We have had our share of activities this year and we now head toward our Atlantic City Trip and our Christmas Festivities including gathering with our extended Scandinavian family! Come on out and celebrate these Koselig events with us And bring a friend! - They'll like it Too !!

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