



April Lodge Meeting:

New Members' Welcome Brunch

Saturday, April 29

11 AM to 2 PM

Norway House

3846 Meredith Dr.

Fairfax, VA 22030 [directions](#)



Join us for a delicious Spring brunch to meet and formally welcome new members. In addition to brunch, we'll have a presentation by Genealogy Interest Group member John Norquist who will discuss resources for your own research, and a presentation by Mike Beck, our Financial Benefits Counselor, who'll speak about insurance and other SON financial products. Mike is also bringing two door prizes. Questions about Sons of Norway and our Lodge? We'll try to answer them. Information booklets and Lodge directories will be available. And of course, bottomless pots of coffee. Contact Dave Brown at VP@norwaydc.org.

Membership pins to be awarded at brunch:

Karen Aro and Oscar Halverson (45 years), Francis Walkuskie (30 years), Debra Fosaaen and Howard Soroos (20 years), and Karen Wilson (5 years). Congratulations and thank you for your loyalty to the Lodge!

Save the Dates — Two Syttende Mai Events!

Our Lodge will join the Norwegian Embassy and local Norwegian-American organizations for two special events for Syttende Mai (May 17, Norwegian Constitution Day).

Syttende Mai Gala Dinner, Wednesday, May 17. Capitol View at 400, 444 N. Capitol St. NW, Washington, DC 20001. Cocktail reception at 6 PM followed by dinner and entertainment at 7:30 PM. See page 23. www.naccma.org/events/annual-norwegian-constitution-celebration-gala.

Family Picnic at Carderock Park in Maryland, Sunday, May 21, 12:45 PM. Hot dogs, popcorn, ice cream, children's games, live music, speeches, parade through the park — a real family celebration! Address: Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, National Park Service George Washington Memorial Parkway, Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Towpath, Potomac, MD 20854. For map see <https://goo.gl/maps/N5eGfccJSiS2>



Lodge Contacts—See page 22. To join Washington Lodge 3-428, visit www.norwaydc.org/membership or call SON headquarters in Minneapolis (800-945-8851). See page 21.

Lodge Calendar

www.norwaydc.org/events

Activities are open to non-members and are at Norway House unless stated otherwise below. Directions are on page 22 and at www.norwaydc.org/directions.

April Board Meeting*

Monday, April 24, 7 PM
Members only.

New Member Brunch

Saturday, April 29, 11 AM to 2 PM
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Reading Circle

Tuesday, April 25, 7:30 — 9 PM
Page 11

Genealogy Interest Group

Sunday, May 7 2 — 4 PM
(no April meeting)
Page 7

Syttende Mai Gala Dinner

Wed., May 17, 6 — 11 PM
444 N. Capitol St. NW, Wash., DC
Pages 1 and 23

Syttende Mai Family Picnic

Sunday, May 21, 12:45 PM
Carderock Park, MD
Page 1

Norw. Language & Conversation

Every Wednesday
Beginner 6 PM, Interm. 7 PM, Adv. 8 PM.
www.norwaydc.org/language
Page 13

*

Note this is the **Board** meeting, not the monthly Lodge meeting. All members may attend to make suggestions and to learn how Lodge decisions are made.

Other local events

“The Global Seed Vault”

Lakselaget Luncheon Meeting
Sat, April 1, noon
The Capital Grille, 5310 Western Ave.,
Chevy Chase, MD.
\$35 Members, \$40 Non-members
RSVP by 3/29 to lisaba785@gmail.com.
www.lakselagetdc.org/calendar/

Mid-Atlantic Norwegian Dancers

Sat., April 1, potluck 6 PM, dancing 8 PM
9512 St. Andrews Way, Silver Spring, MD
Norwegian-style house party.
Paul Morrissett, guest fiddler. Beginners, singles/couples, watchers/listeners all welcome.
<http://MAND.fanitull.org>

“Vikings and Their Vessels”

Drott Lodge, monthly meeting
Sunday, April 9, 2:30 PM
St. James Episcopal Church Undercroft
11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD
Presentation by Bruce Blackistone of the
Longship Company. Page 9

Norwegian Church Service

Sunday, April 9, 3 PM
Emmanuel Lutheran Church,
7730 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD
Norwegian language church service. Sunday
School in Norwegian for children during
church. Coffee hour after. All are welcome.
Contact Lasse Syversen, 301-641-7908,
lasse@flagship.com. See page 16

Scandia DC Dance Party

Sat, April 15, 7 — 10 PM
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Dr., Greenbelt, MD
Recreational Scand. dance group. Live music. \$10. www.scandiadc.info/ or contact Linda Brooks & Ross Schipper at lin-da@scandiadc.org or 202-333-2826.

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(Continued from page 2)

“Why Did They Dance?”

Am. Scan. Assoc. (ASA) Meeting
Mon., April 17, 8 PM
St. John’s Episcopal Church
6701 Wisconsin Ave, Chevy Chase, MD
Presentation by Chris Kalke of the Nordic Dancers. www.scandinavian-dc.org/Meet-1.htm. See page 9

“The King’s Choice” at FilmfestDC

April 20 — 30. Venue and dates for this Norwegian film have not been set. We will send an email when info is announced. Check www.filmfestdc.org for updates. Film info: see page 13



Happy Easter ~ god påske

Norwegian Pianist Leif Ove Andsnes, with Marc-André Hamelin

Mon., May 1, 8 PM

The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman La., North Bethesda, MD

www.washingtonperformingarts.org/calendar/view.aspx?id=3181

See page 15

Ibsen’s “Hedda Gabler”

Film of British National Theatre’s contemporary adaptation on May 8 at Shakespeare Theater Company’s Sidney Harman Hall movie screen, and May 14 and 16 at Bethesda Row Cinema. <http://ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/productions/59687-hedda-gabler>

<http://ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/productions/59687-hedda-gabler>

Nordic Dancers of Washington, DC

Meets most Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
Highland View Elem. School,
9010 Providence Ave., Silver Spring, MD
Learn Scan. Dances. Chris Kalke 301-864-1596, NordicDancers@aol.com, or <https://sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc/>

Norwegian Embassy Calendar

www.norway.org/News_and_events/Event-Calendar/

SON Wash. Lodge Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorwayDC

Welcome new members!

Jo Ann Carlson, Vienna, VA, Philip Eskeland, Vienna, VA,
Marc Kaplan, Reston, VA, Andy Parks, Fairfax, VA, and
Brysson Torfin, Gainesville, VA



The Mission of Sons of Norway

is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.



From Lodge President Doris Goodlett

Hello!

We had another well attended lodge meeting on Saturday, March 18th, with an interesting speaker, Lee Ann Potter, who served as a Fulbright Roving Scholar of American Studies in Norway. She spoke about her experiences visiting the schools throughout the country and about the many things she learned there. It was very interesting.

We had about 60 attendees including new members Derick Swee and Andy Parks, and many visitors, including many family members of our honoree for the evening, long standing member, Gunnar Grotos, who was presented with a beautiful, inscribed plate, rosemaled by our own Tina Keune, as a token of our appreciation for all Gunnar has done for our lodge. He served many years on the board of directors and was President in 1985 and 1986. He most recently was the director of our Investment Committee and was largely responsible, through his sound advice about profitable investments, for

helping us increase our funds, enabling us to purchase Norway House. Thank you, Gunnar, for your many loyal years of leadership and good financial advice.

Thanks to all who helped set up the lodge for the meeting and to all who provided the delicious food for our Potluck Supper, and to those who helped to clean up afterwards. Seeing so many who are willing to pitch in and help is proof of the fraternal spirit we all share. Special thanks to our Hospitality Director, Susie Fosaaen, our Program Director, Denise Bowden, and to Marie Hansen who made the contacts with Lee Ann Potter.

We have had several Heritage Members join us in recent months, and we enjoyed having several children attend our last meeting. It makes us aware of our need for a Youth Director. Is there anyone who would be willing to serve in that important position? Contact me.



Syttende Mai is coming! Watch for special announcements about the festivities and plan to attend. Hooray for Syttende Mai!

Our next lodge meeting will be on April 29th when we will formally welcome our 46 new members who joined between March 19, 2016 and the present. Invitations will be sent to the new members, and we encourage our long standing members to come meet, greet, and welcome them. See details on page 1 of this newsletter. Fraternaly,

Doris Goodlett



Youth activities

Activities for children are usually planned during the presentation portions of our monthly meetings. If you plan to bring your children email programs@norwaydc.org prior to the meeting to ensure we have enough materials.

Cool relations, warming waters: geopolitics of the High North

By Reading Circle member Linda Sponsler

"There are only 5 million of us and we need to be smart. If we are not smart, we lose," said Naval Captain Erik Bøe as he spoke on the topic, "Norway, Russia, and NATO: The Geopolitical Battle for the High North" at the Norwegian Society of Washington, D.C., on March 24, 2017.

Bøe, Assistant Defense and Naval Attaché to the Royal Norwegian Embassy, said, "Because the world has changed and is still changing, we cannot take our security for granted."

During the Cold War, Bøe said, the enemy was clear. It was the Russian Northern Fleet. When the Cold War ended, there was a period of cooperation between Norway, Europe, and Russia. A big change occurred when Russia invaded Crimea in 2014. Russia, he said, is using military means for political gains. This is a "very different Russia."

Bøe outlined Norway's long-term plan to meet their security needs in this changing world. They will continue to contribute to NATO and strengthen their own forces. Norway is increasing the size of their military and buying fighter jets from the United States and submarines from Germany.

Norway has a vast region to protect. The areas in the High North are bigger than the Norwegian mainland. Bøe said Norway needs a robust presence there to manage their economic interests, such as fishing and oil and gas production. These resources need to be managed in a sustainable way.



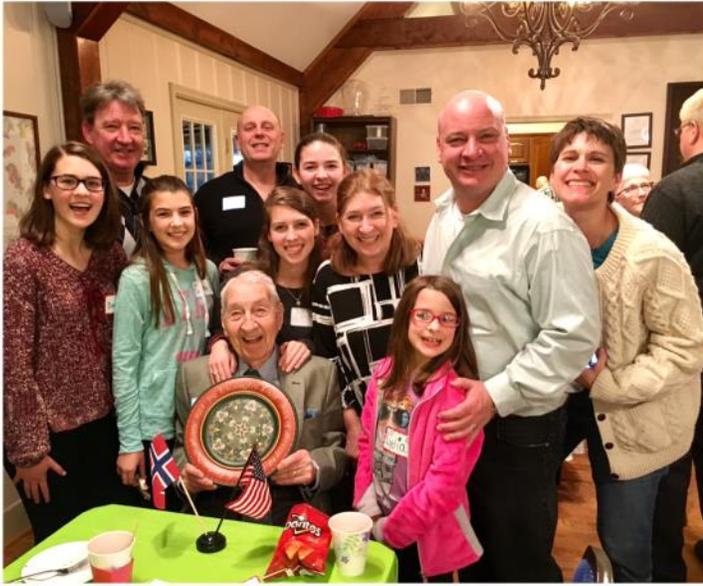
Captain Erik Bøe, Assistant Defense and Naval Attaché to the Royal Norwegian Embassy, unravels the web of economic, environmental, and security issues in the High North at Norwegian Society luncheon.

For many years, Bøe said, Russia and Norway have cooperated in areas of mutual interest. These include search and rescue operations and law enforcement.

For example, when asked by Russia for assistance, the Norwegian Coast Guard has made arrests on Russian ships when the Russian military services were too far from that area to respond. Bøe praised the Norwegian Coast Guard for its outstanding work, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in extreme weather conditions.

Bøe suggested cooperation with Russia could be improved by improving communication. Norway would like more advanced notice of Russian training operations in the North Sea. In the past, Russia would notify adjacent countries about three months before their scheduled exercises. Recently, notification has been just a few days before the exercises began.

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Tusen takk, Gunnar!

At last month's meeting, the Lodge presented Gunnar Grotos with an inscribed, rosemaled plate, by member Tina Keune, as a token of our appreciation for the invaluable support he has given us over many decades. He served for many years on the board of directors, was Lodge President in 1985 and 1986, and as director of the Investment Committee, was largely responsible for the financial health which allowed us to purchase Norway House.

We're so glad that Gunnar's family could share the evening with us!

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Another topic of concern to Norway is the accelerating climate change. Bøe said the sea ice is melting and this brings "enormous consequences and huge opportunities."

With the melting ice, the fish are moving North and the fisheries are following them. In many of these areas, the depth of the water has not been measured.

It is difficult to determine if people fishing in these waters are following the rules. Extreme weather conditions and vast distances to be covered makes policing and search and rescue more complicated.

Bøe said his mission as the Naval Attaché includes having a "situational awareness" of what is going on in Europe, Norway, the United States and Canada. He provides support for the Norwegian Ambassador and maintains contact with Norwegian Military in the United States.

Bøe sprinkled his detailed presentation with a dash of humor. He said being at the Embassy is different than being at sea. For one thing, there is no sea to look at; and, since he is the only Naval



The Norwegian Arctic region is enormous: Norway's archipelago of Svalbard is in the red circle above.

officer, there is no one to salute. "I can only delegate to myself."

To learn more about Norway's interests in and policies for this region, visit www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/high-north/id1154/.

GIG update:

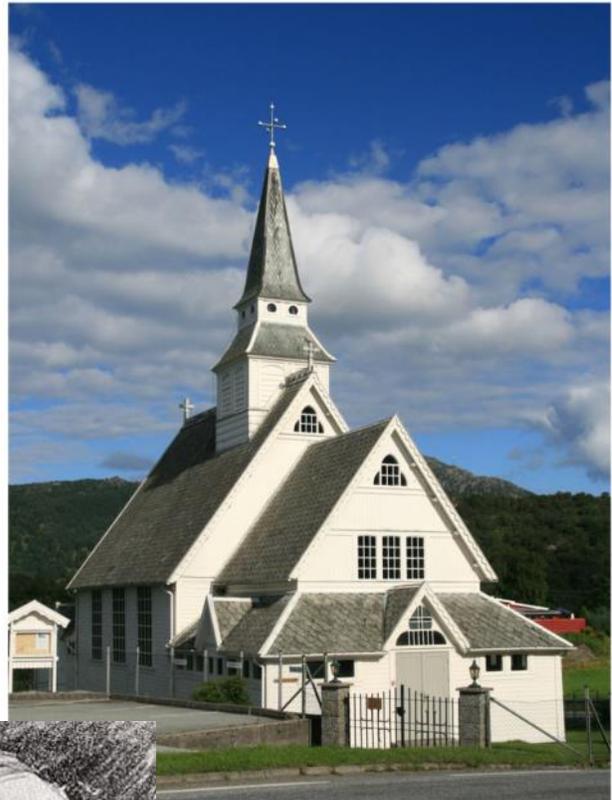
The Johnson and Rossedal families of Tysvær Kommune

By Lodge Member Jeff Jorgenson

The Genealogy Interest Group met at Norway House on Sunday, March 19, and was treated to an interesting talk by Lodge Vice President David Brown. David traces the Norwegian portion of his family through his mother back to the Sandbakken and Rossedal Farms in Tysvær Kommune, in the southwestern part of Norway.

Like many people, David's interest in genealogy began later in life, after many relatives had passed away. Fortunately, however, he was able to visit Norway in 1998 with his mother. They were able to visit the family farm sites and many of the areas where their relatives had lived and worked. A special treat was a family reunion attended by about 80 members of the extended Johnson-Rosedal Family. While many of those people lived relatively close by to one another in Norway, they had never gathered together in the context of a family reunion. They had a great weekend sharing stories and photographs.

According to David, one of the challenges in tracing his ancestry has been to follow the several name changes as people moved from one place to another. Grandfather Theodor Berdines Johannson Sandbakken in Norway, for example, took the name Theodor Johnson in the United



Clockwise from top: Skjoldstraumen chapel in Tysvær commune, built in 1910. [Wikipedia](#); orange balloon marks Tysvær, about 100 miles south of Bergen; Cleng Peerson, born in Tysvær, who inspired Norwegians to emigrate to America in 1885 on the sloop Restauration.

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States. Other family members have various versions of Rosedal and Rossedal.

David's grandparents emigrated from Norway to the United States while in their early 20s. Although married, they sailed in March and August of 1915, travelling on separate voyages. As documented by a ship's manifest, they landed at Ellis Island. Eventually his grandparents ended up in northwestern Iowa. Since then, several members of the family have moved on to California.

Growing up in the United States was extremely difficult for the early settlers, and few stories about daily life were passed on from the grandparents to the grandchildren. One interesting observation, though, was that English quickly became the spoken and written language of these people, especially the younger ones. On the other hand, when grandfather Theodor Johnson returned to Norway for a visit in the 1970's, he realized that the local Norwegian dialect had changed to the extent that he had difficulty com-

municating with many of his relatives.

As the genealogy session drew to a close, group members began to offer advice and share ideas with David on how to fill in some of the gaps in the Johnson-Rosedal Family, as well as how to manage this information. As David has discovered, when you begin to document your relatives and their lives, the amount of information can be

overwhelming. For his part, though, David is optimistic about being able to compile for future generations the story of the Sandbakken and Rossedal Families of Tysvær Kommune, Norway.



GIG members at their March meeting. Standing: Gary Johnson, Marvin Reed, and Jeff Jorgenson; seated: David Brown and Burt Koske; photo by Shelley Berg Mitchell.

The group will take a break during April, but will meet again on May 7 at 2 PM, when Shelley

Berg Mitchell will talk about her recent trip to Norway in search of her family roots. Visitors and guests are always welcome.

In the meantime, John Norquist will talk about Norwegian genealogy at the New Member Brunch on April 29. See page 1.



Sunshine Committee

Please keep **Care Committee Chair Shelley Berg Mitchell** informed about members who are ill, undergoing surgery, recuperating, homebound for an extensive period, or just need cheering up. We will send them best wishes from the Lodge as a whole. Contact Shelley at care@norwaydc.org.

Three local programs of note...

“Vikings and Their Vessels” at Drott Lodge Meeting, Sunday, April 9

Bruce Blackistone of the Longship Company will speak about the different types of Viking ships and how they evolved. SON Lodge members who crewed the Longship Company’s replica Viking ship *Sae Hrafn* may especially enjoy the presentation. Business meeting at 2:30, presentation starting around 3 PM.

Drott Lodge of the Vasa Order of America. St. James Episcopal Church, Undercroft, 11815 Seven Locks Rd., Potomac, MD. www.drott-lodge.org

Chesapeake Bay Magazine recently published a wonderful article on the *Sea Hrafn*: www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/new-blog/2017/2/15/oh-sae-hrafn. Learn more about the Longship Company here: www.longshipco.org.



“Why Did They Dance?” at the American Scandinavian Association Meeting, April 17

Presentation by Chris Kalke of the Nordic Dancers of Washington, DC. Nordic immigrant associations in communities across the U.S. erected halls to serve as gathering places, and all these halls had large dance floors. Folk dance societies flourished. Using historic photographs, archival research, oral histories, and her own memories of growing up in the Scandinavian community in Detroit, Chris will provide a general overview of the role of social and folk dance in the Scandinavian-American communities

in the Twentieth Century.

ASA April Meeting. St. John’s Episcopal Church, 6701 Wisconsin Ave, Chevy Chase, MD. www.scandinavian-dc.org

Spring Springar Spree with Hardanger Fiddle music, Mid-Atlantic Norwegian Dancers, May 4 — 7

The weekend will be saturated with fabulous, live Hardanger fiddle music by two top U.S. fiddlers who have spent extensive time in Norway: Paul Morrisett and Loretta Kelley. You can attend all or part of the Spree, which includes a Thursday evening concert and dance parties and classes from Friday evening through late Sunday afternoon. There will be jamming, and a cozy potluck brunch. Various locations in Takoma Park, MD. RSVPs are required for Hardanger lessons. See mand.fanitull.org/Home/spring-springar-spree



Norway Creates Jobs in the U.S.

The Royal Norwegian Embassy recently released a report on the impact of Norway on the US economy and trade, focusing on jobs created directly or indirectly by the Norwegian economy. The findings: Norway, a country of about 5 million, is responsible for almost one-half million U.S. jobs. Around 388,300 are the result of investment by NBIM (Norway's Government Pension Fund Investments). The remaining are supported by Norwegian-affiliated companies and the export of Norwegian goods and services.

In an article in the [Huffington Post](#), Norwegian Ambassador Kåre R. Aas commented on the mu-

tually beneficial trade relationship between Norway and the U.S.:

Exports of goods from the United States to Norway grew by 11 percent in 2015 and more than doubled in the last decade. The import of services to Norway from the United States also grew by more than 10 percent. Norway's exports to the United States grew in a similar fashion. The Norwegian public pension fund ([The Government Pension Fund – Global](#)) has more than \$292 billion invested in American stocks, bonds and real estate.

Information from the Embassy, including a link to download the report, can be found here:

www.norway.no/en/usa/norway-usa/news-and-events/washington/news2/norway-creates-jobs-in-the-u.s.-embassy-report

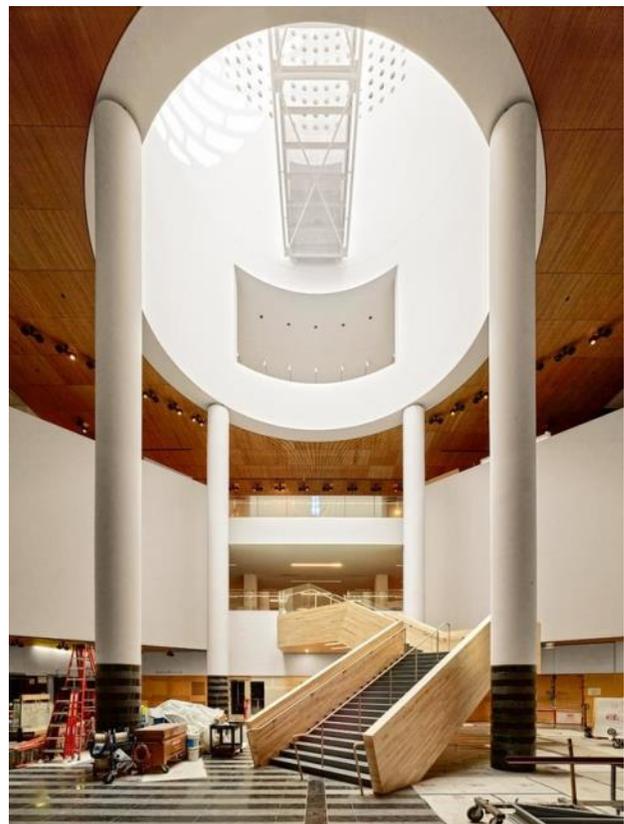
Snøhetta — architects of Oslo's National Opera — in U.S. cities

The premier Norwegian architectural firm, Snøhetta, has offices all over the world, including two in the United States — New York and San Francisco.

Perhaps their most famous project in the U.S. was their work on the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York.

Other U.S. projects include revitalizing public spaces in New York's iconic Times Square (in process), creating a Riverwalk for Willamet Falls, the second largest waterfall in the U.S., in Oregon City, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Expansion, at right.

Among the many acknowledgements the firm has received are the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 2004 and the Mies van der Rohe Award in 2009. Learn more at <http://snohetta.com> and www.arcspace.com/features/snoehetta/.



Snøhetta's San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Expansion (photographed while under construction)

Happy April Birthdays! Gratulerer med dagen!

R C Allen
Anne Al-Samarrie
Carla Baer
Rune Bakke
Katherine Barnett
Beverly Gaustad Bryce
Julie Burnett
Raymond Cahow
Tim Christenson

Lori Jo Churchyard
Anne Eason
Earl Ellison
Debra Fosaaen
Rannveig Fredheim
Roy Gjormand
Nina Dreng Hamrell
Mark Hansen
Lindsay Johnson

John Kaldahl
Marguerite Kause
Tina Keune
Grant LeHew
James Magnotti
Allison Malone
Kris Moen
Alexandra Olsen
Marcus Sacks
Howard Soroos
Kari Sprecher



Reading Circle Selection for April

We will meet at Norway House on Tuesday, April 25, 7:30 to 9 PM, to discuss *Before I Burn* by Gaute Heivoll. The author tells the true story of an arsonist who terrorized his small town in Norway for an entire month in the 1970s. Please RSVP to Christine Meloni at reading@norwaydc.org if you would like to attend, since the locale may change.



Reading Circle members and guests enjoy dinner before the Shakespeare Theater Company's reading of Ibsen's "The League of Youth" last month. From left: Barbara Myklebust, Rosalie and Lynn Juhl, Christine Meloni, Ruth Nybro, Tim Christenson, Joel Myklebust, and Sarah Olsen. Photo by member John Olsen.

Tubfrim Contest — Win tickets to Scandinavia

For every pound of stamps donated in 2017 you, or Washington Lodge, earns one entry in the 2017 raffle for an airline ticket to Scandinavia. Give your used stamps from **any nation** to Pat DeRoche, or leave them at the front hall table at Norway House. Tubfrim is a charity benefitting children in Norway. Visit their website www.tubfrim.no.



Visit the Lodge library!

By Lodge Librarian George Edwards

The Lodge has built up a significant library over the years. It started with a box of books that was carried to meetings. Now there are about 2000 books which more than fill the shelves in our library. There were a lot more books but we have made a significant effort to remove books that are not relevant. Last year a group went to work and we cleaned out the “Danish Annex” which contained books that were in Danish or solely about Denmark. More than 400 books were passed on to our Danish friends.

Since then I volunteered to be the librarian and have been trying to get the library in order and thinned out. So far more than 160 additional books have been removed. The criteria for retaining books is rather simple. They must be by a Norwegian author or be about Norway or be set in Norway. Books on Scandinavia are kept but books about Sweden or Denmark are not. Books can be in English or Norwegian. The library had many books that were translations from novels in English. Many of these have



From top: Recent acquisitions; Librarian George Edwards; WWII books—top shelf in English and second shelf in Norwegian.

been removed and more are to be found. The removed books have been given away at the Christmas festival and there is usually a box on the library floor for anybody to grab. One of our visitors was very glad to send a load home to Hawaii. Suitable books are given to Fairfax Library. After a while the remaining books are placed in the Better World Books collection bin. This organization sells the books on-line or recycles them if there is no market. They donate books and fund literacy initiatives worldwide.

been removed and more are to be found.

We also have vinyl, CDs and videos, both VHS and DVD, but I have not tackled that section yet.

The library is open when the building is open and our system is self-service. Fill out the card in the

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FilmFestDC April 20-30: “Kongens nei” (The King’s Choice) and other Nordic films

“The King’s Choice” depicts the events around King Haakon VII’s decision to have Norway, officially neutral at the beginning of War II, take a stand against the occupying Germans, or whether to maintain “peace” at by acquiescing to the collaborationist Quisling government. It was one of nine films shortlisted for best foreign films for the 2017 Oscars. Official trailer: www.youtube.com/watch?v=rNtu-bCGi18&t=2s.

Venues and the schedule have not been announced. The Lodge will send a broadcast email when we learn more. Check for updates at www.filmfestdc.org/index.cfm. FilmfestDC plans other Nordic films — check their website for details.

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back and leave it in the box by the window. If there is no card take a blank one and fill that out. I usually try to be in the library when we have meetings. There are a lot of books that have been checked out for a long time. Please look around and see if you have books that could be returned.

I am building a list of books based on a database started by a previous librarian. An older list is on our website on the “Lodge Library” page www.norwaydc.org/library. If you need help or

suggestions please contact me at librarian@norwaydc.org. I can read and write Norwegian and have done on-line research using the Norwegian National Library (www.nb.no) and other archives. The Lodge has a separate collection of books related to genealogy including “bygde books”. This is maintained by Burt Koske.

We accept donations but please think of our criteria outlined above. Contact me and I can see if we have it and whether it fits.

Visit the Library!

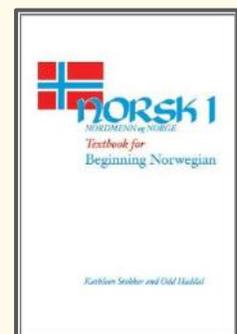
Norwegian Language Classes Every Wednesday at Norway House

Level 1 - Beginners: 6-7 PM ♦ Level 2 - Intermediate 7-8 PM ♦ Level 3 - Advanced 8-9 PM

Students can decide which level works best for them and can attend different classes to find a fit. In the first two levels, students use the book *Norsk, Nordmenn og Norge*, available from Amazon. A workbook accompanies the textbook, but is not mandatory. Classes meet at Norway House. [directions](#).

Cost is a bargain \$10 per hour to the Instructor and \$5 per evening to SON Lodge. The Lodge provides coffee and other beverages.

Contact the instructor, Nina Brambani Smith, at language@norwayDC.org for more information.



Norway inspires area artist Liliane Blom

By Member Christine Foster Meloni

Norwegian Liliane Blom spoke to the women of Lakselaget, DC about her digital art on Saturday, March 4 in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Growing up in Norway, Liliane Blom developed a deep love for nature. She spent a lot of time outdoors and had much freedom to roam and to explore. This is still true of Norwegian children today. When they are in preschool, they are mostly outdoors, rain or shine. Babies are put outside to sleep. Only when the temperature dips below -10°F are they brought inside!

Blom also developed a love of color. Norwegian houses are traditionally painted in very bright colors on the outside as well as the inside. Kitchens are usually blue, for example. The colors in nature are also beautiful in Norway. Her favorite color is cobalt because it is the color of the sky in Norway after sunset in winter. This color lasts for many hours at this time of year. She also loves the glorious colors in the summer sunsets, particularly the pinks and yellows. Another special color for her is the yellow-light green of the new leaves in spring.

In her art Blom fuses painting and photography. She begins a work by taking photos and then downloading them to her computer. After spending considerable time repainting and photoshopping the individual images, she prints them onto canvas or watercolor paper. She then



In her Rockville, MD studio, Blom applies silver paint in the mixed-media series “On Golden Pond.” The image below is one panel from the series, inspired by a pond on Capitol Hill. The vibrant colors of Norway are also a major influence. www.artblom.com

finishes the painting by adding oils and acrylics.

She also creates installations that are interactive, multi-sensory experiences. Her most recent installation, exhibited in the Kaplan Gallery in Rockville, Maryland, was “Pink – A Cherry Blossom Fantasy.”



Blom was inspired by the beautiful cherry trees in her neighborhood. “I was astounded,” she writes, “the first spring I lived in Rockville to discover that the trees lining the street had the most amazing big, fluffy, dreamy blossoms. I am still amazed 25 years later. Still besotted.”

This installation, she continues, “is my way to freeze time, to hold on

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LEIF OVE ANDSNES &
MARC-ANDRÉ HAMELIN,
pianos

Mon, May 1, 8pm
The Music Center at Strathmore



Leif Ove Andsnes at Strathmore, May 1

From Washington Performing Arts Society: Hearing a truly great pianist perform is a joy.

When two of the world's most celebrated perform together, it's an embarrassment of riches. Leif Ove Andsnes unites his ability to "make nanoseconds indelibly memorable" (Washington Post) with Marc-André Hamelin's reputation for "drawing the maximum amount of color from the instrument" (Boston Globe) in a rare evening of works for two pianos. The Music Center at Strathmore. www.washingtonperformingarts.org/calendar/view.aspx?id=3181

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to the ephemeral, to share with you my pink fantasy that comes around just once a year for a few brief days or weeks if we are lucky."

Viewers to this exhibit watched a video that showed cherry blossoms as they went from buds to flowers and then fell to the ground, where they created a lovely carpet of pink. Four 25-foot hand-painted "rivers" of silk fluttered in streams on the floor. And, tissue-paper cherry blossoms were blowing around with the help of several small fans in a pink "cocoon room."

One of Blom's recent installations had a Norwegian theme, "Norwegian Nights." To create this monumental work, she took about 40 photos of a mountain scene, stitched them together on her computer, printed them, and painted them. She then turned them into a wraparound panoramic photograph, which showed these Norwegian mountains in springtime, complete with a rainbow. The photograph was then enclosed in a glowing white cylindrical curtain that was seven feet tall and eight feet in diameter. When viewers parted the curtain and stepped inside, they felt a strong sense of peace.

Another beautiful installation was "On Golden Ponds" in which Blom took photographs of the gold fish in a friend's pond on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. They were taken in April when cherry blossom petals covered the pond. The intriguing prints showed multiple images: the fish below the water, the surface reflections on

the pond, and the cherry blossoms on the surface.

Blom's next exhibit "Kaleidoscope" is an immersive installation that opens at Artomatic in Crystal City, VA on March 24. In the following description, she gives us a hint as to its content.

"Each of us is a kaleidoscope, an endless reflection of a million shards of things seen, felt and experienced. And we carry in our bones the kaleidoscope of generations past, the migration of millennia across the globe and even the churning ocean and the song of distant stars."

Blom is one of several artists whose work will be displayed in the Crystal City exhibit. For information on Artomatic see www.artomatic.org.

Blom earned a B.A. from The George Washington University with a major in Fine Arts and a minor in Art History. She has an A.A. degree in Photography from Montgomery College. To see her beautiful work online, visit www.LilianeBlom.com and www.ArtBlom.com.

The Lakselaget (Salmon Club) DC Chapter is an organization of professional women who swim against the current and college and university students who are also Norwegian, of Norwegian descent, or are interested in contemporary Norwegian issues and all things Norwegian who are located in the metropolitan Washington DC area.

Editor's note: You may also consult Blom for your professional photography needs. See www.blomphoto.com.

The Norwegian Church Service in Washington

By member Lasse Syversen, Chairman of the Norwegian Church Service in Washington

The Norwegian Church Service will celebrate their 70th Anniversary in 2017 with special events throughout the year. Back in 1947, Seamen's Pastor Trygve Woxen was given a special task by the Bishop in Oslo, Dr. Phil. Eivind Berggrav, to start a church service in Washington, D.C. The first service was held March 30th of that same year at Lutheran Service Center, Jackson Place N.W. Pastor Woxen was the Seamen's Pastor in Philadelphia and Baltimore back then. With more motivation from Bishop Berggrav, Pastor Woxen continued working for the worship service in Washington, D.C. with assistance from Pastor Abraham Vereide, Executive Director of The National Committee for Christian Leadership, Inc. Georgetown Lutheran Church gave The Seamen's Church free use of their building for the expanded service with help from their pastor, Reverend Harold E. Beatty, In 1948, Pastor Madolf Rossebo, was relocated to Baltimore, but his assignment included the responsibility for the service in D.C.

Today the Church is located at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bethesda, MD with regular service, in Norwegian, once a month. The Church is now independently incorporated in Maryland, but still has close ties to the Norwegian Seamen's Church. In fact the current pastor, Ellen Marie Skillingstad, is pastor at the Seamen's Church in New York. Pastor Skillingstad travels to DC for a few days each month to conduct the service and visit



Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bethesda, MD, home of the Norwegian Church Service in Washington.

with people and organizations in the area.

The Norwegian Church Service also has a formal relationship with the Norwegian Society here in Washington, sharing a common communications committee.

The next Church Service is April 9th 2017 at 3 PM – it will be a small celebration after the Church Service – we will serve Norwegian style hot-dogs and waffles made in Church. Come join us.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, the home of the Norwegian Church Service, 7730 Bradley Boulevard (intersection of Seven Locks Road / Bradley Blvd.), Bethesda, Maryland. Worship Service is held at 3 PM on the second Sunday of each month except in July and August. Sunday school is held during the service, and a coffee hour usually follows.

Norwegian Language Meetup in NoVA

Snakker du norsk? If you would like to apply, maintain, or hone your Norwegian speaking skills in a casual social setting, join the Norwegian Meetup Group! You can find more information about us and/or join us by following this link: www.meetup.com/NOVA-Norsk-Language-Group/. Although all levels are welcome, you will need to know more than a few phrases since all our conversation will be in Norwegian. We usually meet once a month in the Arlington area at a restaurant or a pub near a metro stop. There is no charge for the event. We can promise you that there will be great conversation and a chance to share and learn about Norwegian culture.

March meeting photos

The March meeting featured speaker Lee Ann Potter and the presentation of a commemorative plate, rose-mailed by member Tina Keune, to Gunnar Grotos (below) for the decades of invaluable service he has given the Lodge. See page 6 for a photo of Gunnar with his family. And congratulations to Lance Wright for earning the Idrettsmerke Sports Medal!

Photos from all Lodge events are posted on www.flickr.com/photos/norwaydc/albums



More from the March meeting



3D President’s Message:

fra Presidenten, Mary B. Andersen

An [article](#) on LinkedIn caught my eye a few weeks ago. It encouraged people to spend time thinking about what you wanted. This appealed to me as I am a thinker. I started thinking about Sons of Norway and in particular District Three and my goals as your President (communication, collaboration, community). And the result of my thinking is that despite challenges we have faced and will continue to face, I am feeling good about good ole District Three! Hmppppppph, you may be saying, what water cooler is she drinking from? Here is what I thought about. Since my first term as President beginning in 2014, I have seen:

- Increased communication. We are talking to each other more, whether it be through social media or attending each other’s lodge functions.
- Increased support – we have had quite a few lodge anniversaries and it is so great to see people from different lodges joining in the celebration. At Fredriksten’s 105th Anniversary celebration, there were nine different lodges in attendance and two of them were from Florida.
- Our Florida lodges welcome the northern snow birds each winter.
- We are thinking out of the box – Scandinavian Heritage had an information table at a polar bear exhibit; Hampton Roads will be setting up an information table at a Home Improvement show where attendance is typically in the thousands. For the past two years we have had a table at ScanFest in Northern NJ where the attendance is in the thousands. Blafjell participates annually in a parade of nations. Many members are working hard at getting the word out about Sons of Norway.
- Land of the Vikings is open for business and

old customers have come back and new customers are appearing.

- We are in the community – read a lodge newsletter and you can see that there has been participation in some kind of community related event, whether it is a food kitchen or a walk for a particular cause.



So, what am I envisioning for the future as we move forward to the end of my term in June 2018:

- Lodge consolidation – which is not a bad thing. It is better to have a strong lodge with a larger core of engaged members than a few smaller lodges with members who are no longer able to be engaged as they once were or just plain burnt out and need a break.
- Support mechanisms – we are slowly building support mechanisms for lodges with declining membership or disengaged members. There is no magic bullet, no one size fits all solution. We will address each lodge situation individually as it presents itself and I am hopeful we will come to meaningful resolutions.
- Communications – continued communications. But remember, communications is a two way street. Please join the conversation when asked or start a new conversation.
- Member engagement – our 3D walking contest has gotten many members up and about. I see it as a catalyst for increased involve-

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

ment. Think out of the box to engage your members.

- Publicity – we have to work on this one. We have to tell the world what we do and that doesn't come easy for us but we are working on it!

Despite the challenges we face, I know we will survive. Why? Because I have met so many of you and you are great and you are resilient. We are strong in spirit and steadfast, a winning combination!

God Paske!
Mary

Almond and cardamom scones for Easter Brunch

Adapted from a recipe by Beatrice A. Ojakangas, author of several Scandinavian baking books.

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 TBS baking powder
- 1 heaping teaspoon ground cardamom
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup ground almonds (E.g., Trader Joe's, Bob's Red Mill)
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, frozen
- 3 large eggs
- 1/2 to 2/3 cup plain yogurt
- 1/2 cup slivered almonds for topping

1. Preheat oven to 400. Lightly grease a large cookie sheet or cover with parchment paper.
2. Combine flour, baking powder, cardamom, sugar, chopped almonds, and raisins in a large bowl.
3. Grate the frozen butter into the flour mixture.
4. Mix eggs and 1/2 cup yogurt in small bowl. Add to flour/butter mixture and blend quickly. Add more yogurt if necessary to form stiff dough.
5. Using ice cream scoop, place mounds of dough on the cookie sheet, about 3 in. apart. Sprinkle top with sliced almonds.
6. Bake 12 to 15 minutes or until golden brown. Cover loosely with foil if needed to prevent burning tops.

Makes about 10 large scones.



Land of the Vikings (LOV) Youth Camp: Camper and counselor applications available

The 3D offers a youth camp this summer at LOV in northeast PA and is soliciting applications for campers (age 8-15), counselors, and a camp director. The sessions run July 9-15, July 16-22, or July 23-29. The camp's focus is on Norwegian culture and language, and outdoor activities. Camp fees are \$300/week. Application deadline is June 15. Contact 3D Youth Director Susan Olson at dancnswede@optonline.net or 631-849-2287 for information about the camp. Email editor@norwaydc.org for applications. In addition to the camp, LOV offers lodge-type facilities with very reasonable rates. It is ideally suited for group retreats such as family reunions and sports clinics. For more information about reserving space at LOV call 516-791-3983 or see <http://3dsfn.org/land-of-the-vikings/about-lov/>.

Members Recommend...

- Ambassador Kåre R. Aas on “Norway: NATO of the North”
www.huffingtonpost.com/kare-r-aas/norway-nato-of-the-north_b_14721740.html
- Excellent article about Norwegian immigrants in New York <https://niahistory.org/the-history-of-norwegians-in-new-york>
- World’s first ship tunnel planned for Norway <http://gcaptain.com/worlds-first-ship-tunnel-to-bypass-dangerous-seas-in-norway>
- Norway launches cutting-edge vessel to research and promote sustainable fisheries in developing countries www.norad.no/en/front/about-norad/news/2017/development-aid-at-sea-with-cutting-edge-technology



World’s first ship tunnel planned for Norway

Join Sons of Norway, Renew a Membership, Give a Membership

- ⇒ **To join as a new member** call SON headquarters in Minneapolis (800-945-8851) or sign up online here: www.norwaydc.org/membership or email database@norwaydc.org.
- ⇒ **If you need your membership number** or if your membership has lapsed call 800-945-8851 or email database@norwaydc.org.
- ⇒ **Children 15 years of age or under** whose parent or grandparent is a SON member may sign up for a free Heritage Membership. **Youth ages 16-23** who have a parent or grandparent who is a Sons of Norway member may be a free Unge Venner member.

Current Dues: Individual \$56.50 (International = \$32 + District \$14.50 + Lodge \$10), Spouse \$49.50, Youth \$23.25, Your children & grandchildren are FREE!



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For information about Sons of Norway’s financial benefits contact:

Michael Beck, LUTCF
(p) 757-716-8830



**SONS OF
NORWAY**

Directions to Norway House

3846 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030
www.norwaydc.org/directions

On weekdays, a residential parking permit is required to park on Meredith Dr. You may park in the Christ Lutheran Church parking lot (entrance directly across the street from the Norway House).



From Beltway or I-66: From the Beltway, go West on I-66. Exit I-66 onto Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.) south toward Fairfax (Exit 60). Go about a half mile. Turn right on Rt. 50 west (also Rt. 29, Lee Highway, and Fairfax Blvd.). Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (between a Merchants Tire store and a Mobil gas station). Norway House is on the right.

From Rt. 50/29: Go west from the Beltway about 5.33 miles. After crossing Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.), stay in the right lane. Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (which is between a Merchants Tire store and a Mobil gas station). Norway House is on the right.

From far western suburbs: From I-66 East, take Exit 52, Rt. 50, east, toward city of Fairfax. Go about one mile. Turn left at Fairfax Blvd., which is where Rt. 29 joins Rt. 50 (which itself angles left). Turn left after a Mobil station onto Meredith Dr. Norway House is on the right.

Metro & bus: From the Dunn Loring/Merrifield Metro station (on the Orange Line), go to Bus Bay E. Take bus 1C toward West Ox Rd. and Alliance Dr. The bus will go down Lee Highway/Fairfax Blvd. (Rt. 50/29). Get off about 30 min. later at Meredith Drive (after Warwick Ave.).

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together with

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Invites you to join the celebration of the

THE NORWEGIAN CONSTITUTION

Syttende Mai Gala

SAVE THE DATE

For this year's Syttende Mai Celebration Gala

Capitol View at 400, May 17, 2017

Cocktail Reception with open bar and hors d'oeuvres

starting at 6pm

followed by

3 course dinner & Entertainment

at 7:30pm

Tickets

Members of Norwegian-American Organizations: USD 90

Non Members: USD 110

Discount Rate (under 30 years old): USD 45

Tickets include: Open bar • Hors d'oeuvres • 3 course dinner • Wine service • Entertainment

Attire: *Black Tie Optional, Service Uniform, Bunad, Cocktail / Evening Attire*

www.naccma.org/events/annual-norwegian-constitution-celebration-gala

