SONS of NORWAY

Nordahl's Tidende

NORDAHL GRIEG LODGE 6-52 • SAN JOSE, CA

VOLUME 69, NO. 11 | DECEMBER 2023 | BUSINESS MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

En hilsen fra Nordahl Grieg Presidenten

Dear Members,

As we gear up for a national election in 2024 the likes of which could only be imagined by…Nostradamus, I remind you all that MOST politicians, like most performers, begin on the local stages, with the support of the people who know them. It's for this reason I put my signature on the paperwork to nominate this gentleman for another stint at representing my district next year. But this isn't a plea for your vote — unless you live in San Jose, District Four, anyway — it's a call to nourish and cultivate that reemergence of community spirit that's springing up as the Plague leaves the land. To get involved — with your community, with your nation, and with your Lodge!

Chatting with my City Council representative. He doesn't just like my homemade ice cream, he also wears my hats!

We are still actively seeking a Social Committee, but we're also open to folks who'd like to take on one event in the year as a way to see if it's for them. Notable examples in Lodge history include the way Pat and Janie Kelly hosted a Western BBQ social with live music, or the "traditional" wine and cheese party at the November business meetings that was sponsored by the Hansen family.

As you enter this season of feasting, think of the ways that you can share the bounty of your talents with your Lodge. We will all be the richer for it!

Fraternally,

Kathy Whitesel, President

God Jul!

A few Christmas words...

- *juletre* - Christmas tree
- *stjerne* - star
- *småkaker* - cookies
- *gave* - gift
- *julepynt* - Christmas decorations
- *snø* - snow
- *desember* - December
- *reisndyr* - reindeer
- *julelys* - Christmas lights

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2024 Nordahl Grieg Officers

President – **Kathy Whitesel**

Vice President – **Sheryl Hawes**

Co-Secretaries – **Duane Adams** and **Meg Laycock**

Treasurer – **Jim Sturtevant**

Financial Secretary – **Bruce Fihe**

Social Director – vacant

Co-Cultural Directors – **Judy Purrington** and **Kathy Whitesel**

Tidende Editor – **Kristen Hunsbedt**

Counselor – **Bruce Fihe**

One-Year Trustee – vacant

Two-Year Trustee – vacant

Three-Year Trustee – vacant

Greeters – vacant

Marshalls – vacant

This year's installation of officers will be combined with our anniversary dinner on February 17. More details will be available in next month's *Tidende*.

December Birthdays

5 Marilyn Nelson
6 Sally Mercado
9 Cavanaugh Larson
11 Judy Lund
13 Marilyn Moreno Haaberg
17 Steven Hawes
20 Barbara Shoup
23 Lois Bertelson
25 Jesusa Bjerkhoel
27 William Alkire
28 Gunnar Heistein
29 Kristina Davidson
29 Alexander Mommer
31 Vidar Dallokken

Heritage Members

24 Savannah Kramer

Stoughton High School's Norwegian Dancers

The Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers from Stoughton, Wisconsin will be coming to Nordahl Hall for two special performances on **Wednesday, March 27, 2024**. They will perform at 4:00 PM and again at 7:00 PM, with a meal between the performances.

The Stoughton Norwegian Dancers are a group of high school students who perform various authentic Scandinavian dances. They visited this area twelve years ago and are returning to perform and celebrate Norwegian culture with the communities in northern California. They will also perform in Sacramento and Santa Rosa during their tour. Last summer they performed in Norway, where they celebrated their 70th anniversary as Goodwill Ambassadors. They are featured on page 27 of the September/October 2023 *Viking* magazine. You can also follow them on Facebook under the "Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers."

Ten couples (twenty dancers) and four musicians will perform. Members of the Lodge will have opportunities to become involved to make their visit and performance a success. The performers will need a meal, plus some housing. If you want more information, contact one of the coordinators listed below. We look forward to this very special performance!

Meg Laycock - ***meg@jstub.com***
LaVinnia Pierson - ***lavpier@aol.com***
Jeannie Thomson - ***jeannie352@me.com***
Sheryl Hawes - ***sheryl.hawes@att.net***

Ole and Lars were on their very first train ride, heading from Hinckley to Minneapolis. They had brought along bananas for lunch. Just as they began to peel them, the train entered a long, dark tunnel. "Have you eaten your banana yet?" Ole asked excitedly. "No," replied Lars. "Vell don't touch it den," Ole exclaimed. "I yust took vun bite and vent blind!"

Lutefisk in the Works

At the time of publication, preparations for our Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner were still ongoing. Here are a few photos from meatball, lefse, and cookie making days. Thank you to all our volunteers! We're looking forward to another wonderful dinner and could not have done it without all of your hard work.

Save the Date - 2024 Events

Here's a look at some of the exciting events coming up in 2024. Stay tuned for more details and additional events throughout the year.

- **Saturday, February 17, 2024: Installation of Officers & Anniversary Dinner**
  Celebrating the 78th anniversary of Nordahl Grieg Lodge, established in 1946 in San Jose. Enjoy this popular annual Lodge event with drinks in the bar, a special catered meal, and presentation of member awards. Enjoy shopping at the Solveig Club Boutique with their unique selection of Scandinavian gifts and specialty items.
  Contact: **Duane Adams** at ***social-director@nordahl-grieg.org***.

- **Wednesday, March 27, 2024:** The **Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers** will be coming to Nordahl Hall for two special performances. See page 2 for additional details.

- **Saturday, May 18, 2024: A Taste of Norway - Syttende Mai Nordic Festival**
  A day of celebrating our Norwegian-American heritage with culture, foods, and more. Guests are invited to come in their Bunad, Folkedrakt, or Viking gear. There will be Viking reenactors, opportunities to watch and to participate in folk dancing, a Kid's Area to complete a unique craft project, and a chance to interact with demonstrations of heritage foods and crafts. The Solveig Club Boutique will be open, featuring vintage Nordic items.
  Contact: **Judy Purrington** at ***judypurrington@aol.com***.

- **Saturday, December 7, 2024: Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner**
  This is a great tradition for our Lodge and an important fundraiser. Join us for lutefisk, meatballs, lefse, cookies, and more! The Solveig Club Boutique will be open in order to shop their unique selection of Scandinavian items and Christmas decorations.
  Contact: **Janie Kelly** at ***janiekelly6@aol.com***.

Have an interesting topic or speaker that you would like to facilitate and help plan another event in 2024 to support the Nordahl Grieg Lodge? We are looking for interesting speakers, topics, or events and help with planning for additional events! Please contact **Duane Adams** or **Barbara Shoup** at ***social-director@nordahl-grieg.org***.

Metal Detector Jackpot

After his doctor prescribed increased exercise, Erlend Bore [AIR-len BOO-reh] of Sola near Stavanger chose a metal detector as motivation to get more activity. He'd dreamt of becoming an archaeologist as a child, and within two months, he'd made a 1,500 year-old find, Norway's gold discovery of the century.

Photo Credit: ANNETTE GRÆSLI ØVRELID / ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM, UIS

In late August 2023, Bore went to the island Rennesøy to hike and search. Having had no luck after hours, he looked around and thought, "Where would I have been, if this was a long time ago?" Near a rocky crag, the detector signal led him to uncover something he thought was a candy wrapper.

It turned out to be a huge cache of gold from the 5th century migration period. Bore's highly unusual discovery consists of nine gold pendants engraved with a horse from Norse mythology, along with ten gold beads, and three gold rings.

The Cultural Heritage Act specifies that finds older than the year 1537 are considered state property. However, according to tv2.no, a finder's fee is commonly given, based on 10 percent of the current value of the metal, to be divided between the finder and the landowner.

The gold pieces are now on display at the Archaeological Museum in Stavanger.

...from SON Newsletter Service

Celebrate Lille Julaften

Christmastime is one of the high points of the year in Norway with many rituals leading up to the big day of *julaften*—Christmas Eve. Weeks of preparation include cookie baking, Christmas market visits, and gift-buying, lending a festive atmosphere in every town. The anticipation is almost too much to bear! Thus, Norwegians get a head start on the merriment, celebrating *lille julaften* "Little Christmas Eve," on December 23.

But this is no recent addition; lille julaften has been celebrated as early as the 12th century in Norway and other Nordic countries. Tradition dictates that this day is for cleaning the house to make way for the *juletre*, the Christmas tree. Everything has to be tidy and the whole family bathed, to ensure no evil spirits could invade and spoil Christmas. Today, Norwegians might buy their tree on the 23rd, without first having to banish the dark forces. Next comes tree decorating with popular ornaments such as Norwegian flags, candles, white lights, tinsel, and red and white woven heart baskets.

For supper, it is common to enjoy creamy *risgrøt* (rice pudding) with a dash of cinnamon and sugar on top. Then it's time to settle in for some favorite shows: trivia quizzes like *Julenøtter* (Christmas stumpers) and some favorite cartoons and Christmas films, the list of which grows longer every year.

...from SON Newsletter Service

Jon Fosse Wins Nobel Prize for Literature

Norwegian novelist, translator, and playwright Jon Fosse, whose work is based on his Norwegian roots, has won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Raised in Kvam along the Hardanger fjord, Fosse says that the novels of Jens Bjørneboe inspired him to start writing in his early teens. His body of work includes seventy novels, poems, stories, essays, children's books, and plays. His award-winning publications have been translated into over 50 languages. The author's minimalist prose takes on life, death, anxiety, and other elemental human themes.

Fosse's style is referred to as postmodern minimalism, and he writes in a spare Nordic style in novels such as *Morgon og kveld* [Morning and evening] and *Septologien* [Septology], an epic in seven books consisting of a single sentence. He is the fourth Norwegian to receive a Nobel Prize for Literature, and the first one in 95 years.

As the first Nynorsk writer to receive this award, Fosse attributes his win to his use of the lesser-used official version of the Norwegian language.

...from SON Newsletter Service

Have your newsletter preferences changed?

Please let us know if you'd prefer to receive the Tidende electronically or on paper.

editor@nordahl-grieg.org

Love Your Lodge Donations

Platinum Level

In memory of Homer Stennes
June Stennes (donation, June 2023)

In memory of his loving wife, Peggy Riddervold
Glenn Riddervold (donation, Sept 2020)

In memory of Ovald & Lorraine Norgaard
Elaine Edwards (donation, July 2020)

Gold Level

In memory of Michael Stennes
June Stennes (donation, June 2023)

In loving memory of Clarian Pintacura
Alan Pintacura (donation, December 2021)

In memory of Virginia Jolly
Don Ansok (donation, May 2021)

In memory of Clarian Pintacura
Alan Pintacura (donations, Oct 2018 and Dec 2019)

Silver Level

In memory of Homer Stennes, Shirley Shoup, Anne Herbert, Kari Warner, and Don Slama
JoAnn Bjerkhoel (donation, September 2023)

In memory of Shirley Shoup
Sheryl Hawes (donation, June 2023)

In memory of Shirley Shoup
Andy Hunsbedt (donation, May 2023)

In memory of Garrett & John Hansen
Virginia Hansen (donation, March 2021)

Bronze Level

In memory of Don Slama & Kari Warner
Randi Cruze (donation, July 2023)

In memory of Shirley Shoup
Lois Bertelson (donation, March 2023)

In memory of Joan D. Johnson
Shelley Curtis (donation, January 2023)

Shirley Shoup (donation, January 2023)

In memory of Mike Stennes
Shaun and Nicole Stennes (donation, January 2021)

In memory of JoAnne Ansok
Campbell Chamber of Commerce (donations, Nov 2018 and Dec 2019)

Tusen Takk for your support!

Donations made prior to November 2019 are not listed.
Please view past issues of *Tidende* to see donors and honorees from earlier contributions. *Takk!*

Connections...ways to connect with your Norwegian heritage

- **Norwegian Folk Dancing** – Join us on Wednesday nights to learn everything you need to know to get your Cultural Skills pin in Norwegian Folk Dancing, plus much more. We include change-partner dances, couple dances, and no-partner dances, with teaching reminders and step practice sprinkled throughout the evening. Everyone has plenty of opportunities to dance! Live music makes the evening even more special. Meetings are Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto CA 94306. We ask participants to wear masks while dancing and chatting. If possible, please bring shoes that are not used for outdoor wear. For more information, contact **Meg Laycock** at 408-255-2111, or ***meg@jstub.com***.
- **Share Your Heritage** – Free Heritage Membership in Sons of Norway is an easy way to share your heritage. Sign up your children or grandchildren (age 15 and under) for FREE Heritage membership. They'll receive a member welcome kit with their own member ID Card. Visit ***https://www.sofn.com/join_or_renew*** for more details and to sign up.
- What would you like to see here? Tell us about activities and ideas to **CONNECT** with our Norwegian Heritage! View Nordahl Grieg Activity Photos

  www.nordahl-grieg.org

  www.facebook.com/Nordahl.Grieg

Feel like Baking?

Traditionally, Norwegians make seven kinds of cookies or pastries in the weeks leading up to Christmas. This can include *krumkaker*, *goro*, *sirupsnipper*, gingerbread, star cookies, *fattigman*, and others. Families gather to spend time together and fill the house with delicious aromas.

Many Norwegian-American families incorporate some of these cookies with their own American traditions. Celebrating many cultures is always a fun way to bring us together. Whatever you make, *sjuslaks* (seven kinds) is a serious undertaking!

What will you make this year? Visit the Sons of Norway Recipe Box for instructions and additional ideas. ***https://www.sofn.com/norwegian_culture/recipe_box***

Nordahl Hall – Love Your Lodge

Support the "Nordahl Hall Capital Fund"

Help us repair and upgrade Nordahl Hall.

All donations will be used for improvement projects.

Your donation*– *at any of the following support levels* – will be listed in *Tidende* each month. Donations may be designated as *"In Memory of…"* or *"In Honor of…"*

Donations can be made at any time.

Love Your Lodge Support Levels

Platinum	$1,000	Silver	$250
Gold	$500	Bronze	$100

Please make checks payable to: *Nordahl Grieg Lodge*. Write *"Hall Capital Fund"* on the memo line.

For more info, ask a Hall Board member, or contact **Dave Melius** at (408) 244-4497 or ***dmelius@hotmail.com***

* Donations are not tax deductible. Please consult your tax professional.

Planning a Party or Special Event?

Welcome to Nordahl Hall Banquet & Meeting Center

Perfect for weddings, parties, meetings, and more! Convenient Campbell-Los Gatos location

For rental information, contact: Viking Property Management at 408-915-7755

Nordahl's Tidende
Nordahl Grieg Lodge 6-52
580 West Parr Avenue, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Nordahl Grieg
1902 – 1943
Norwegian Poet,
Novelist, Patriot

Nordahl's Tidende is published on the 1st of each month.
Deadline to submit information for the next issue is the 15th of each month.
Please send all entries via email to *editor@nordahl-grieg.org*.
Advertise in the *Tidende* – information and rates are available at *www.nordahl-grieg.org*.
Business meetings are generally held on the 2nd Friday of the month and announced in the *Tidende*.
Social events are announced in the *Tidende* and via email.

Nordahl Hall 580 West Parr Avenue, Los Gatos, CA 95032 Hall Rentals 408-915-7755 Lodge 408-374-4454

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	JudyPurrington@aol.com	
	Kathy Whitesel	408-839-2966
	cultural-director@nordahl-grieg.org	
Webmaster	Bruce Fihe	831-316-4889
	webmaster@nordahl-grieg.org	

Dec 2	Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner
Dec 3	Lutefisk Clean-up
Dec 25	*God Jul!* Merry Christmas!
Jan 1	*Godt Nyttår!* Happy New Year!
Feb 17	Installation of Officers & Anniversary Dinner
Mar 27	Stoughton Norwegian Dancers

Lodge Web Address: *www.nordahl-grieg.org* **Facebook:** *www.facebook.com/Nordahl.Grieg* **eTidende Web Address:** *www.nordahl-grieg.org/site/newsletters*
District Web Address: *www.sofn6.org* **Camp Norge Contact Info:** *www.campnorge.org* **530-389-2508 PO Box 622, Alta, CA 95701**