

Nordahl's Tidende

NORDAHL GRIEG LODGE 6-52 • SAN JOSE, CA

VOLUME 71, No. 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 BUSINESS MEETINGS AS ANNOUNCED

En hilsen fra Nordahl Grieg Presidenten

Hello Fellow Lodge Members:

This month, I want to write about how important Nordahl Hall is to maintaining and growing our Lodge membership. Our Hall is our anchor. We have the luxury of using it for any of our functions, events, and programs throughout the year. Nordahl Hall has some great features: large banquet room, cozy feeling bar, accessible chairs and tables, fully functional kitchen with commercial grade appliances, and a good size parking lot.

Without Nordahl Hall, Nordahl Grieg Lodge would have to rent another space for our meetings and gatherings, and we would need a commercial kitchen for any food preparation. This would dramatically curtail, and most likely end our ability to sponsor events.

Other Lodges in the Bay Area have lost or sold their buildings over the years due to various reasons. Many Lodges are struggling to gain new members and their membership is dwindling rapidly.

It is really important that we not lose Nordahl Hall. The Nordahl Hall Board has embarked on a plan to repair and improve the look of our interior space in order to help increase our rental income. Our building has not had major improvements for nearly 40 years. The interior is looking tired, old, and out of date. Young people and families want neutral colors and an attractive well-maintained space for their celebrations of important milestones. These renters want their photos to be stunning. Businesses, organizations, and clubs are looking for clean modern bathrooms, and comfortable well-maintained meeting areas.

We are starting our improvements now, and soon will be installing contemporary vanities, new countertops, sinks, faucets, and large mirrors in both bathrooms. We thank the Solveig Club for their donation to make this happen. The foyer interior doors and trim have been painted to lighten that area, and planning is underway to replace the foyer tile with a contemporary style and lighter color.

I also want to invite you to join us for a Taco Dinner and entertaining program about an icon, John Nordstrom, and his immigrant experience, on **October 18 at 5:00 PM**. See page 6 for more information and reservations.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Hawes, President

Nordahi Hali Board Needs a New Treasurer

After years of dedicated service as the Nordahl Hall Treasurer, **Rich Pierson** would like to step down and transfer the reins to a new recruit.

As Treasurer, you will be responsible for managing the flow of money into the Hall (primarily from rentals) and for allocating and recording how that money is spent to run the Hall. Rich is a great teacher and is



eager to mentor you through the process of managing the Hall's accounts. You will join a great group of fellow Hall Board members who all work together towards maintaining the Hall and planning for its future.

If you're interested, please contact Hall Board president **Duane Adams** at *duane.adams@use.startmail.com*. Thank you!

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

Sunshine News In Memoriam

On August 11, 2025 we said goodbye to **Dennis Bjerkhoel**. He had a big heart and quick wit. He was so proud of his

kids, Cassie Bjerkhoel Leventon, Andy Bjerkhoel, and Sven Bjerkhoel. He loved and appreciated his wife, Donnette Bjerkhoel. He adored his grandchildren Svea and Skyla Leventon.

He loved a good party, music, and being with people. He will live in our hearts forever; we love and miss you. Our condolences to his children, his siblings and their children, his many friends, and the Leventon family.

You can reach out to our Sunshine Chair, **Barbara Shoup**, with news of illnesses, trips, and other life events. We love to support our members in good times and in bad! 408-806-0105 | sunshine@nordahl-grieg.org

Camp Oldfjell

September 20 to 23

This immersive adult retreat celebrates the rich cultural traditions of Norway through hands-on workshops. Try your hand at a variety of folk arts including baking, textile crafts, embroidery, and even making your own Viking costume (and shoes to match!). This year brings new offerings from the Santa Cruz Textile Arts Guild, and as always, our talented instructors make learning fun and approachable. Camp Oldfjell is open to adults 18 and over. Tent and RV camping is free for 2025! Note: All indoor lodging is fully booked. Remaining space is for RVs, tents, or off-site accommodations only.

Visit sofn6.org/camp-oldfjell for the current course catalog, or to register.

Folkedans Stevne

October 24 to 26

Dance your way into fall at Camp Norge's Folkedans Stevne! This lively retreat offers traditional Norwegian dance instruction in a warm, welcoming atmosphere. It's a great chance to build new skills, meet new friends, and celebrate Scandinavian culture. This year we feature dances from Gudbrandsdal, Norway, with live music for classes. Beginners are absolutely welcome, and no partner is needed. Just bring your enthusiasm and your dancing shoes!

For details and registration form, visit campnorge.org/site/folk-dancers or reach out to: Zena Corcoran at zmcor-coran@gmail.com or Meg Laycock at meg@jstub.com.



September Birthdays

- l Max Jones
- 2 Claire Smyth
- 7 Jon Villarreal
- 8 Larry Hulberg
- 12 Janet Espersen
- 12 Lindy Freeman
- 12 Julie Porter
- 13 Jamie Horner
- 16 James Jacquez
- 17 Judy Purrington
- 18 Jennifer Frost
- 23 Mayvid Maclay
- 24 Janice Crawford
- 24 Janie Kelly
- 26 Maud Hansen
- 27 Bruce Fihe
- 29 Jan Overland
- 29 Kate Slama

Heritage Members

- 3 Nevaeh Freitas
- 6 Declan Laycock



Catching up at the All-Lodge Picnic

Leslie Jones and her brother, John Behel, were visiting from Georgia and Florida last month. They had the opportunity to attend the All-Lodge Picnic at Henrik Ibsen Park. Leslie enjoyed greeting old friends, and John enjoyed meeting new ones. Russ has adjusted to his assisted living home, has made a lot of new friends, and continues to love dancing. Russ lives close to Leslie and Marlin, and they see him often.

Pictured on left: Mark and Kristen Hunsbedt with their boys, Andew and Cameron, Laura Hulberg, Leslie Jones, John Behel, Janie and Pat Kelly.

2025 Upcoming Events Calendar - Nordahl Grieg Lodge and Affiliates

Date	Event	Description	Location	Cost/RSVP
September 20- 23	Camp Oldfjell	Adult camp to learn crafts; rosemaling, folk dance, baking, painting, embroidery, new classes. Enjoy food, fun, and camaraderie.	Camp Norge 250 Canyon Mine Rd. Alta, CA	Reservations required.More details at campnorge.org.
Saturday, October 18 5:00 PM Social hour / 6:00 PM Taco Dinner / 7:00 PM Program	Program about John Nordstrom, Founder of Nordstrom Department Stores	Hear about an immigrant from a small farm in northern Sweden who came to America and in 1901 founded one of America's most iconic department store chains—Nordstrom.	Nordahl Hall 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos	See page 6 for more details.
Saturday, November 15 *Please note date change!	Julebutikk Holiday Boutique	Fabulous holiday gifts and Norwegian treasures to purchase. Hosted by Daughters of Norway	Immanuel Lutheran Church 1715 Grant Rd. Los Altos, CA	No entrance feeNo RSVP required
Saturday, December 6 2:30 - 10:30 PM	Traditional Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner *Solveig Club Bazaar & Raffle (cash/checks only) *Nordahl Bar (cash)	A tradition for 75 years! Family- style dinner all-you-can-eat fresh frozen lutefisk, meatballs, potatoes, coleslaw, lefse, coffee, and handmade Norwegian cookies. Live music entertainment 8:30 PM to 11:00 PM.	Nordahl Hall 580 W. Parr Ave, Los Gatos	 Cost: TBD Reservations required Three seatings: 3:30 PM, 5:30 PM, & 7:30 PM

2026 Events

Nordahl Grieg Lodge Meeting Dates for 2025

Mark your calendars for our upcoming lodge meetings! This will be a mix of Zoom and in-person meetings, so stay tuned for more details in upcoming Tidende newsletters.

• September 11 - 7:00 PM, on Zoom

- November no meeting
- October 18 5:00 PM. Program on John Nordstrom December 11 7:00 PM, on Zoom

Hall Workday

Friday, Oct. 10 9 AM

Please lend a hand.

We plan to take care of minor repairs, paint touchups, and general cleaning.

Whether you can stay for just a few hours or all day, your help is very much appreciated. Let's work together to make our Hall a more inviting space for our members and guests.

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.



2025 Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner

Volunteers Needed

It's never too early to begin planning for our traditional Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner and the most important fundraiser of the year. It takes a village to pull off such a magnificent event. That is why we are hoping to have a record number of volunteers this year. We need your help to make it happen!



Until we get all the chairpersons confirmed, contact the Volunteer Coordinator, **Kristine Estensen**, listed below. She will be able to help direct you to open positions that you may be interested in and keep you updated on the details. We appreciate any help you can offer, and no prior experience is necessary.

Once again, this year's dinner will be for one night only on Saturday, December 6 with three seatings at 3:30 PM, 5:30 PM, and 7:30 PM. Reservations will be available October 1 through October 31, and the details will be in the October issue of the *Tidende*.

Tusen takk!

Kristine Estensen Volunteer Coordinator 408-712-4583 kristinegoldie@comcast.net

Mark Your Calendars

November 2 (Sunday), 8:30 AM - Meatball Making

November 8 & 9 (Sat/Sun), 9:00 AM - Lefse Making

November 22 & 23 (Sat/Sun), 9:00 AM-5:00 PM - Cookie Making

December 4 (Thursday) - Cook Tent and Hall Setup

December 5 (Friday) - Table Setting and Bazaar Setup

December 6 (Saturday) - Lutefisk Dinner

Servers needed at 3:30 PM, 5:30 PM, and 7:30 PM seatings

December 7 (Sunday) - Hall Clean-up

Call for Nominating Committee for 2026 Lodge Officers

Believe it or not, we need to start developing a slate of candidates to run for our officer positions for 2026. But first, we must form a nominating committee. The nominating committee will start by contacting the existing officers to see if they are willing to serve another term, and then identify other Lodge members to fill the positions of retiring officers. The nominating committee will encourage members to self-nominate for any officer position.

This is an important committee and is vital to the future of our Lodge. Please contact President **Sheryl Hawes** if you are willing to serve on the nominating committee at **president@nordahl-grieg.org**. If you have an interest in an officer position, you can reach out to the current officer or president to learn more about their duties. You can also get more information on the Sons of Norway website here: **https://tinyurl.com/5h8n75mk** (Login may be required.)



New Sons of Norway Book Club Meeting Times

Please note: the Sons of Norway Book Club has changed its meeting times and will now meet on:

- the last Thursday of each month at 5:00 PM Pacific and
- the last Saturday of each month at 11:00 AM Pacific.

Both meeting times are available to all Sons of Norway members in the United States, Canada, and Norway.

To join and get the Zoom link for any given month, send an email to **SonsofNorwayBookClub@gmail.com**. Please include your lodge name and number. Free of charge to all Sons of Norway members.

- September's main selection: We Die Alone by David Howarth. Mystery title selection: Still Waters (Sandhamn Murders Book 1) by Viveca Sten
- October's main selection: Accidental Shepherd by Liese Greenfelder. Mystery title selection: Frozen Assets (A Sergeant Gunnhildur Novel) by Quentin Bates.



Help build the "Hygge Hus" at Camp Norge!

This ambitious fundraising campaign to build the **"Hygge Hus"** cottage adjacent to Heritage Hall at **Camp Norge** is going strong!

Our dream is to build these fully accessible units will ensure inclusivity for individuals using wheelchairs and walkers.

But we need your help!

We need your support to make the Hygge Hus a reality. Let's come together to build the Hygge Hus and make Camp Norge a haven for all, regardless of age or ability.

Phase one goal is to raise \$50,000 we are almost half-way there.

We've already raised over \$17,000 but we need your generous support.

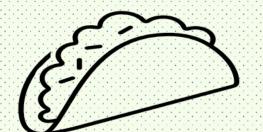
Make your donation TODAY. Go to our Go Fund Me Campaign

Click HERE

or go to https://gofund.me/62ff9cf7

For more information, contact any member of the Camp Norge Board, or Fred Hymans: fred.hymans@gmail.com

Taco Dinner and Program - John W. Nordstrom "The Immigrant in 1887"



Saturday, October 18, 2025

5 PM - Doors Open

Beverages for purchase in the Bar

6 PM - Dinner

Taco Bar, featuring tasty cod and beef tacos with all the fixings, followed by a traditional Norwegian dessert – *Tilslørte Bondepiker* (Veiled Farm Girls)

7 PM - Program

Based on his memoir, "The Immigrant in 1887", written in 1950, we'll hear the story of John W. Nordstrom, founder of the iconic Nordstrom Department stores. Born on a small farm in northern Sweden, he immigrated to the U.S. at the age of 16, worked his way across the country as a manual laborer, tried his luck prospecting in the Klondike Gold Rush, and eventually settled in Seattle where he opened a small shoe store and raised his family. This is a wonderful tale of perseverance, determination, and drive to build a new life in America.

Adults - \$20. Children 12 and under – free October 14 is the <u>deadline</u> for reservations and payment

→ When reserving, please indicate whether you would like to have cod tacos, beef tacos, or both, so we know how much of each choice to prepare. Thank you.

You have two ways to reserve and pay:

Mail your check, payable to Nordahl Grieg Lodge, to: Bruce Fihe 2435 Felt Street, Spc. 57 Santa Cruz, CA 95062-4201 (831) 454-8509

OR

Click here to reserve online or enter this URL in your browser: https://tinyurl.com/5f2jdcy8
You can then either pay online or pay by mail.

Please bring non-perishable food for our community outreach program.

Sons of Norway • Nordahl Grieg Lodge, 580 W. Parr, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Sons of Norway Foundation Scholarships and Grants

The Sons of Norway Foundation has once again opened the door to opportunity. With the 2026 scholarship and grant cycles launching soon, now is the perfect time for members and lodges to plan ahead and take advantage of these meaningful programs.

The Foundation's mission is clear: to share and preserve Nordic heritage, offer life-changing support to members, and invest in the vitality of our communities. Whether your goal is to help a dedicated student achieve their dreams, host a cultural event, or provide emergency support to someone in need, the Foundation is here to help.

Scholarship applications open on October 1, 2025. Deadlines range from January 15 to February 15, 2026, depending on the specific scholarship. The Sons of Norway Foundation awards approximately 25 scholarships to promising students each year and promotes cultural exchange and supports education to help students prepare the next generation of workers. District Six offers up to three \$1500 academic scholarships each year to members who are attending any accredited post-secondary schooling or training institution. The application process is found on the Sons of Norway Foundation scholarship page *HERE*.

The Sons of Norway Foundation distributes over \$30,000 in grants every year. We're dedicated to empowering youth and supporting Nordic cultural projects throughout your communities. Applications for our Helping Hands to Member Grants (Medical/Disaster Relief) are open year-round. Community, Heritage, and Lodge Vitality Grant applications are due December 31, 2025 for 2026 funding. For a full list of grants, click *HERE*.

Don't leave any lutefisk unturned! These programs provide real support to lodges and members across the country. Whether you want to fund study-travel abroad, enhance your lodge programming, or help a member through hard times, the Foundation is here to partner with you. We encourage all members and lodges to apply early and share these opportunities widely. A little planning now can lead to big rewards in 2026.

Takk for innsatsen – and keep those Viking spirits high!

Vennlig hilsen, James Adams Foundation Director, District Six



Love Your Lodge Donations

Platinum Level

The Solveig Club (donation, February 2024)

In loving memory of Don Slama

The Kids: Kate, Becky, Victoria, Marianne, & Craig (donation, January 2024)

In memory of Homer Stennes

June Stennes (donation, June 2023)

Gold Level

Barbara Shoup (donation, October 2024)

In memory of Bob Thomson

Jeannie Thomson (donation, October 2024)

In memory of Michael Stennes

June Stennes (donation, June 2023)

In memory of Virginia Jolly

Don Ansok (donation, May 2021)

In loving memory of Clarian Pintacura

Alan Pintacura (donations, Dec 2019, Dec 2021, and Dec 2023)

Silver Level

In memory of Joan D. Johnson

Shelley Curtis (donations, January 2023, December 2023, and January 2025)

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)

Bronze Level

In memory of Anne Herbert

Sharon Sullivan (donation, January 2024)

In memory of Anne Herbert

Alan Pintacura (donation, December 2023)

In memory of Don Slama & Kari Warner

Randi Cruze (donation, July 2023)

italiai Gruze (dollation, buly 2025

In memory of Shirley Shoup

Lois Bertelson (donation, March 2023)

Shirley Shoup (donation, January 2023)

Tusen Takk for your support!

Donations made prior to April 2021 are not listed.

Please view past issues of *Tidende* to see donors and honorees from earlier contributions. *Takk!*

Rent Nordahl Hall

Events, Banquets, Parties, Meetings 580 W. Parr Avenue, Los Gatos, CA

Nordahl Hall has all the amenities you need to host your next celebration, reception, business function, or community event. Make your vision for your event a reality in our spacious and well-maintained facility.

All hall rentals include:

- Use of main assembly area 2,500 square feet
- Dining capacity 210
- Assembly capacity 450
- Kitchen with commercial-grade appliances
- Bar serving space with refrigerator, ice maker, sink (beer and wine only)
- Round banquet tables (6 feet diameter, seats 10 to 12) 9
- Rectangle banquet tables (8 feet x 30", seats 8 to 10) 35
- Padded chairs 250
- Parking 68 spaces
- Men's and women's restrooms
- Coat closet
- Built-in stage
- Pull-down projector screen
- Audio equipment, including microphones and auxiliary plug-in
- Wi-Fi

Optional:

• Bartender services for an extra fee - subject to availability

Contact Viking Property Management 408-915-7755 • VikingPM1@gmail.com

Visit our website at nordahlhall.com



Connections...ways to connect with your Norwegian heritage

- Norwegian Folk Dancing Starting on September 3, join us on Wednesday nights to learn Norwegian folk dances with friendly people and live music. All experience levels are welcome! You'll learn dances from all over Norway (plus the occasional Swedish or Danish dance). We include change-partner dances, couple dances, and no-partner dances. Everyone has plenty of opportunities to dance! 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. If possible, please bring shoes that are not used for outdoor wear. For more information, contact **Meg Laycock** at 408-255-2111.
- Going Paperless As of last month, Sons of Norway new member and renewal letters, which include membership cards, will no longer be mailed. Members can print their card from the website under their profile or save a digital copy to their phone to show proof of membership. This change is being made due to the ongoing rising costs of postage and our desire to continue to be good stewards of our resources. Members can create a profile so that they can access the card and print it from their computer. They can also access their renewal notices and policy-related documents from their online profile.
- Trolls have arrived at Filoli! Now open. This special touring exhibition features six giant folklore-inspired Troll sculptures built from reclaimed materials. The whimsical gremlins are located in Filoli's "Natural Lands" for guests to discover on their adventures through the property. The Filoli Historic House and World-Class Garden is located at 86 Cañada Road, Woodside, CA. Visit https://filoli.org more information.

Recruiting a New Editor for Our Newsletter

After years of dedicated service as Nordahl Grieg Lodge's editor, **Kristen Hunsbedt** is stepping down and transferring the reins to a new recruit.

As editor of the *Tidende*, you will be responsible for keeping lodge members informed of lodge news, events, and programs, Camp Norge key activities, and interest-



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 the *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.

Then mail to:

Jim Sturtevant, Treasurer 1078 Ticonderoga Dr. Sunnyvale, CA 94087 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.

NEED INFORMATION?

Visit our website



nordahl-grieg.org

Newsletters, upcoming events, scholarships, join/renew membership, and much more!

ing articles about Norway and culture through the publication of a monthly newsletter. Primary duties include soliciting articles from members, determining the layout of the newsletter, and adding topics of interest from other sources such as the *Viking* magazine, District Six communications, and Nordahl Hall news.

Most members receive the electronic version of the monthly *Tidende* newsletter, but about 20% receive a paper copy in the mail. The editor ensures those are printed and mailed out.

Kristen will provide valuable mentoring to the new recruit. The new editor will join a great group of fellow Lodge officers who all work together to better our lodge.

If you're interested, please contact **Sheryl Hawes** at **sheryl.hawes@att.net**. Thank you!

Editor job responsibilities: https://www.sofn.com/wpcontent/uploads/2020/01/LR Editor 2020.pdf

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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 submissions 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 3rd Thursday 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

outreach@nordahl-grieg.org

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CHAIR SUNSHINE@nordahl-grieg.org

MULTI-LODGE OUTREACH DIR. JEANNIE THOMSON 510-656-3549



September 1 Labor Day

Sept. 20-23 Camp Oldfjell at Camp Norge Sept. 27-28 Rosemaling at Camp Norge

October 10 Hall Work Day

October 18 Taco Dinner and Program

Oct. 24-26 Folkedans Stevne at Camp Norge

LODGE WEB ADDRESS: www.nordahl-grieg.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/Nordahl.Grieg ETIDENDE WEB ADDRESS: www.nordahl-grieg.org/site/newsletters

PHONE NUMBERS: LODGE 408-438-5910 NORDAHL HALL—RENTALS 408-915-7755 OTHER 669-221-3858

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