



# SynNor Brevet

Synnøve-Nordkap  
Lodge #1 - 008

November 2024  
Issue Number 24 - 10



## Front Page News

### November 12 Member Meeting: Frokost and History

Breakfast for supper??? Yes, we will have a light frokost rather than a light supper before our meeting. We are trying for a triple play. We just got done with our wonderful Taste of Scandinavia (a home run). We'll have Frokost, and we look forward to our Julebord in December. Can it be better than this? I think not!

Just to get your taste buds atwitter, we are planning to serve heavy-grained bread, meats, eggs, pickles, and condiments for open-faced sandwiches, potato salad, coleslaw, cheeses, and a few other things that may come to our minds. Don't forget the dessert treats; we will be serving waffles and kransekake.

**If you, dear reader, would like to bring something to contribute to this lovely Frokost, please bring it on Tuesday, November 12, at 5:45, so we can prepare a beautiful spread.**

Following the Frokost, have another cup of coffee and listen to members share Synnøve-Nordkap history. This program emanated from cleaning our storage areas and finding many historical records and treasures.

When the lodge turned 100 in 2002, a wonderful 100-year history was prepared, and many members have a copy. However, new members may know little about our background.

Following the meeting, Kristina Warner, the archivist from NAHA at St Olaf, will review our information to determine which items should be archived for permanent Norwegian history.

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer for a specific history topic from our lodge and be interviewed for about four minutes at the November meeting. Call or email [knaak002@gmail.com](mailto:knaak002@gmail.com) or 651-357-6139.

Jean Knaak  
Cultural Director

**As always, everyone is welcome at our monthly meeting at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade Street in St. Paul. The will begin at 6 pm (at a cost of \$5), the program at 6:45, and the business meeting at 7:45 pm. As always, everyone is welcome at our monthly meeting at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade Street in St. Paul.**

A Zoom link will be sent out before the meeting, if you would rather attend virtually.

## President's Letter

Dear Members,

I hope you all are in good health. We had a great Taste of Scandinavia event in October. Thank-you for your help!

We will have breakfast waffles at our next meeting. Yum! This year is going fast, but I still love this weather. Hope to see you all on November 12.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Kathy Kaluza, Synnøve-Nordkap President

## Lodge News

### Global Democracy at a Crossroads

Minnesota Peace Initiative presents The World Votes: Global Democracy at a Crossroads. This free program will be presented at Norway House at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 19. The program will also be streamed live. For more information: <https://www.norwayhouse.org/calendar/save-the-date-mpi-fall-symposium-a-recap-of-elections-around-the-world-in-2024>

### Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge Open Offices for 2025

Attention members! There are still a few positions open among the lodge offices. One of these is of vital importance, that of Newsletter Editor. Our current editor, Ingrid Bjorum, is willing to help the new editor during the next two months, but she will be leaving the position come the end of the year. If you, or someone you know, have any skill at all in laying out pages, or are willing to learn how to do so, please step forward. Notify Ingrid, Ron Stow, or another member of the Lodge Board. Let them know that you can help.

Other openings include Executive Secretary, which is a short term, non-board position. This involves sending welcoming greetings to new members and sending in annual reports. Speaking of greetings, we need one more Greeter to welcome members and guests at the door on the evening of lodge meetings.

Do you like keeping track of history and artifacts? Then you would make a good lodge Historian. If looking for your ancestors is in your wheelhouse, then you may like to join the Genealogy Group, where they are looking for new leadership.

The Publicity Team is in need of members who would like to spread the word about Synnøve-Nordkap and events taking place at the lodge. They are looking for your creative ideas.

Our "New Land, New Life" exhibit has taken on new life and is ready to travel to museums and to other lodges. Lowell Johnson would like someone to work with him to be the NLNL Co-coordinator of the traveling show. This is not a traveling position, but rather one that keeps track of where the banners go.

To volunteer, call Ron Stow, nominating committee chair, at 612-845-0393. Mange tusen takk!

## Junior Lodge Update

### JUNIOR LODGE UPDATE

The Orienteering Game using a Norwegian map was so much fun! There were four groups of dancers starting at the compass points of North, South, East, and West. But first there was a brief introduction as to how to use a compass in relation to the Norwegian map stations. Here is how some of the game went:

Lag TRONDHEIM. Your Quest:

1. Start at Trondheim and face north with compass and map

Go north to Harsvik and find your first quest!

2. Point your compass and map North

Jump East with your body and head to Stjørdal

3. Point your compass and map North

Jump south with your body and head to Oppdal

4. Jump west with your body and head to Kristiansund

TRONDHEIM

N Harsvik

Arrange yourselves in alphabetical order by the last letter of your last name

When completed, head south to Trondheim for your next quest

S Oppdal

Compare with your teammates- what's the northernmost place you think you've been?

When completed, return north to Trondheim for your next quest

E Stjørdal

Hop on your right foot for 10 seconds while saying hei hei hei (hello på norsk)

When completed, return west to Trondheim for your next quest

W Kristiansund

Count how many letters are in your names, then arrange yourselves by fewest letters to most letters

When completed, head back home to Trondheim! Quest complete!

## Lodge News

### Looking Ahead:

### December Lodge Meeting - Ya Sure, I'm a Norvegin Lutheran" & Julebord

Our December meeting will include storyteller Pati Kachel with a show entitled "Ya Sure, I'm a Norvegin Lutheran". For over 35 years, Pati Kachel has entertained audiences around the Midwest and beyond with her interesting and inspiring story programs. She shares captivating stories honoring her heritage as a Norwegian Lutheran. With songs, humor, and historical information, she tells tales of her pioneer ancestors' immigration from Norway to their Minnesota homestead.

There will be a sign-up sheet for Julebord at the November meeting. Please start to think what you can bring for this annual celebration that we anticipate all year long. We all have food memories that evoke special feelings of the past of our moms, grandmas, families, etc. Let's make this Julebord as good as, or even better than, those in the past.

## Taste of Scandinavia

We had such a wonderful event on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. How can a large group of people NOT have a marvelous time when there is good food, good company, and fun things to see and purchase? Please check out the pictures to see for yourselves. Now remember, this was a “taste,” not a big meal. But, adding up all the ‘tastes’ turned out to be a delicious and filling supper: meatballs, potatoes, rutabaga/carrot casserole, red cabbage, lefse, beet salad, refrigerator pickles, beet pickles, smoked salmon, herring, 3 cheeses, crisp bread, fruit soup, and open-faced sandwiches.

Let’s not forget the Dessert Buffet: The goodies are almost tooooooo numerous and scrumptious to list... rosettes, almond cakes, rhubarb sauce, kringla, rice pudding with lingonberries, rommegrot, krumkake, kransekake, kingle, mini-pancakes and vanilla waffles and cardamom waffles with whipped cream and lingonberries,

As usual, the Silent Auction had a beautiful array of so many lovely things. Clothing items, especially sweaters, were stunning. People were kept busy browsing and bidding.

The Bake Sale had so many yummy things to sell. Not many folks bake these days, but we had a lot of baked items that were donated and snatched up by discerning purchasers.

The Junior Lodge members made some delightful kitchen magnets from the maps of Norway. It was such fun to find the one where my family lives.

Bestafor’s Attic is a fun area to find treasures you never knew that you needed until you spotted just the right one.

Many thanks to ALL the volunteers and helpers who made this fundraiser a huge success. We started getting everything together at 1PM and were exhaustingly packing up vehicles after 9PM. Lots of hard work, much excitement, and great satisfaction was shared by all. (We will not spend too much time about the sore feet and backs.)

A special **Thank You** to the Junior Lodge members who kept the water glasses and coffee cups filled. You looked so special in your bunads. Thanks also to the parents and grandparents who brought these terrific kids to help. Thanks also for the parents/grandparents who donated food items and also participated.

Last, BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, Mange Tusen Takk to all who donated food, time, and talent to make this the success that it was. Mere words sound a bit hollow, but the gratitude is sincere. We could not have done this without each and every one of you. Again, Mange Tusen TAKK!!!!





## Taste of Scandinavia



## Norway and NATO

by Don Halvorson

With the end of WWII and the beginning of the Cold War, Norway no longer believed that total neutrality was possible as a defense against aggression from outside. Its shift away from their long-standing neutrality policy had begun as early as December of 1940, only to be violated four months later by German occupation. In 1944, then Russian Foreign Minister, Vlacheslav Molotov, demanded that the Svalbard Treaty be revised so that Bear Island, the southernmost island on the archipelago, could be ceded to Russia. At wars-end, they faced a new threat on their 200-kilometer shared border with the Soviet Union. Right on their doorstep, the Kola peninsula, a large Russian naval and air base had been built. Still, they believed that they had strong support from both the United States and Great Britain, who did not want Norway falling under communist domination during the Cold War.

One option, proposed by Sweden, was the creation of a defense pact between Norway, Sweden, and Denmark that would establish a neutral buffer between the two new emerging super powers. After a failed attempt in the 1930s and then again in 1942, the plan re-emerged in 1948. But after several meetings between the three countries, it was tabled because it was considered to be too weak to go against stronger soviet aggression. Counter to Sweden, Norwegian politicians including Trygve Lie and Halvard Lange, believed that this proposed option could only work with military support from the United States and other western European allies.

Stunned when the Soviet Union overran Czechoslovakia, Finland signed a Friendship Agreement with Russia. Norway

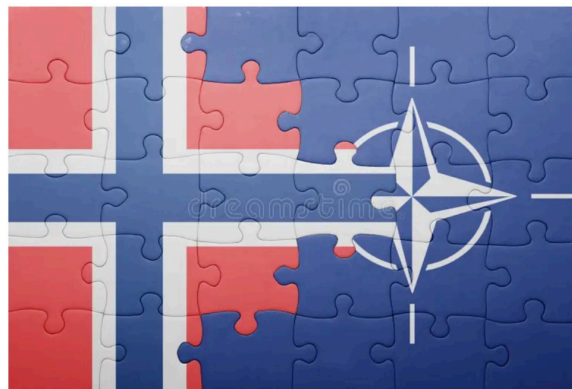
decided instead to go with a stronger defense plan. They, along with Denmark and Iceland, became founding members of NATO in 1949, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The threat of Soviet hostilities with the West was very real during the Cold War. For Norway, the only NATO country that bordered Russia, it required a real balancing act. To appease its neighbor, Norway did not allow foreign bases or troops on their territory during peacetime. It also would not allow nuclear weapons to be stockpiled on its land or in any of its ports. In 1953, NATO intelligence sources discovered signs of a possible Soviet campaign that could be targeting both Norway and Denmark. In the 1960s, there were real concerns brought on by

the movement of Soviet Northern Fleet nuclear submarines through the Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom Gap above northern Norway causing NATO strategists to rethink their maritime planning.

Throughout the cold war, from 1951-1994, NATO's headquarters, Allied Forces Northern

Europe (AFNORTH), was situated at Kolsås, a high hill outside Oslo. Its main responsibility was defending NATO's northern flank: Denmark, Northern Germany, and the strategic Baltic Approach. Because of its unique terrain, Norway was often asked to host NATO training exercises. After the closing of AFNORTH in 1994, Kolsås remained open and is the home of NATO's System Support Center. Today Norway continues to be an active NATO member and was a participant in military operations in the Balkans, Afghanistan, the Gulf of Aden, and against ISIS.

[https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified\\_162353.htm](https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/declassified_162353.htm)





## Sunshine News

Our condolences to member, Leslie Oliver. Her brother passed away earlier this month. May he rest in peace.

## Genealogy Group

No December meeting

## Norwegian Language Classes

Tuesday Class: November 12,  
5:30-6:00 p.m. at Gustavus Adolphus Church before the Lodge Meeting.

Wednesday Class: November 13,  
1:00-2:30 p.m. at SunRay Library,  
2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN  
55119. **No class November 27.**  
"The Mystery of Nils" textbook  
(Available to borrow from our Library  
- contact Sheryl).

WELCOME to new members!  
Sheryl Hove,  
[sherylhove12@gmail.com](mailto:sherylhove12@gmail.com)  
651-738-4908

## Sunshine News

Please contact Sharon Amann if you become aware of the death or illness of members so I can send a card from the Lodge. H/651-631-0399, C/ 651-706-9700. Thanks in advance for keeping me informed.



*Jeg heter Louisa Zobel. My friends at Skogfjorden know me as Siv fra Kristiansand. This summer I was lucky to go back to Skogfjorden for a one-week session. This was my second time going to a one-week session. Before that I had done Barnehage and Adventure Day Camp.*



It is a long drive to Skogfjorden from my house in Minneapolis and I always feel so happy and excited when I see the Concordia Language Village sign! The road into camp feels so long, but I can't wait to get there, choose my name, find out which *hytte* I am going to be in and hopefully get a top bunk!



There are many reasons I love being at Skogfjorden. I think it is really fun to learn *norsk* and connect with my culture. This year I was *lyseblåstreng*, but I hope to come back many more summers so that I can work my way through the different *strengfarger*.

There are always so many fun activities to choose from. I loved *kosetime* when we could choose from many different activities. There are even some surprises. On the last night we celebrated all of the fun things we did. We got to dress up for a *bankett* and I got a *diplom*.



When I am at Skogfjorden I feel really happy because I get to try new things and I love being responsible and independent. We had different jobs for *byopprydning* to help keep our *hytte* clean. My job this summer was to take out the *søppel*. Every morning I would collect and bring the *søppel* to the dumpster.



Another reason I love being at Skogfjorden is because I always get to meet cool friends both old and new! At the end of every day we stand in *en stor ring*, hold hands and sing a song called *Lev vel*.

The week went by really fast and I was sad to leave Skogfjorden. My family came to pick me up. *Tusen hjertelig takk* for helping me get to Skogfjorden. Your support helped make it possible for me to have yet another summer of cool *norske* experiences. I appreciate you.



Hilsen  
Louisa "Siv" Zobel

## For Information:

**Kathy Kaluza**, President: [pres.synn.nord@gmail.com](mailto:pres.synn.nord@gmail.com)  
**Ingrid Bjorum**, Brevet Editor: [ingrid@steinmetz.org](mailto:ingrid@steinmetz.org)  
**Sons of Norway HQ:** [https://www.sofn.com/contact\\_us/](https://www.sofn.com/contact_us/)

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



Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008:  
District 1 Lodge of the Year in 2013, 2018  
Family Lodge of the Year in 2006, 2008, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018  
Visit Synnøve-Nordkap online: <https://synn-nord.org>  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/synnor/albums>  
<https://peergyntdancers.wordpress.com/about/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/SynnoveNordkap/>

Date	Event	Location
Tuesday, November 12, 5:30 - 6 PM	Norwegian Language Lesson	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church 1669 Arcade St. St. Paul, MN 55106
Tuesday, November 12 6:00 PM Frokost 6:45 PM Program & Meeting	Lodge Meeting	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
Wednesday, November 13, 1- 2:30 PM	Norwegian Language Lesson	SunRay Library 2105 Wilson Ave. St. Paul, MN 55119
Monday, December 2, 6:00 PM	Board of Directors Meeting (All lodge members are welcome)	Ramsey County Library - Maplewood 3025 Southlawn Dr. Maplewood, MN 55109
Tuesday, December 10	Julebord	Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church