



THE RUNESTONE



News from the Sons of Norway Lodge Fedrelandet #23, Petersburg, AK



Fall 2025

Upcoming Lodge Events

Mark Your Calendars!

November 16 – Harvest Potluck 5pm

Please bring a dish to share. This is your opportunity to show off your fish, wild game, garden produce, or foraged products. I love the variety and the creativity on display at this event, so don't miss it.



November 29 – Wreath Making Class 10-12

Wreath Making "make it take it" class - \$25.00. Sign up through Fedrelandet Facebook and Sons Email, or call Judy Ohmer 907-351-4686 or Stephanie Thynes 907-518-4065. Look for additional information by November 8th.

December 6 – Christmas Bazaar 10-3

Hopefully vendors have signed up for a table already, and we are always looking for more soup makers to contribute a home-made soup to sell during the Bazaar. Contact Sally Dwyer if you can make a soup: 907-518-0601.

December 10 – Pickled Herring Contest 7pm

December 14 – Julbord 5pm

Bring a dish to share, and savor the holiday spirit with Santa!



2025 Officers

President [Stephanie Thynes](#)

VP [Ambre Burrell](#)

Secretary [Briana Drury](#)

Financial

Secretary [Sharon Wikan](#)

Treasurer (Lodge) [Rhoda Gilbert](#)

Asst. Treasurer (Lodge)

[Lanette Odegaard](#)

Treasurer (Non-Profit) [Glo Wollen](#)

Social Directors Carrie
Martinsen & Cheryl File

Cultural Director [Brandi Thynes](#)

Trustees: [Wendell Gilbert](#)
[\(chair\)](#), [Tom Rockne](#), [Troy Larson](#), [Dave Berg](#), [Carolyn Kvernvik](#), [Tina Buschmann](#)

Counselor [Sally Dwyer](#)

Historian Olivia
Martensen

Sunshine Sylvia Larson

Newsletter [Robin Roberts](#)

Greeters [Glo Wollen](#)
[Family](#)

President's Note



We closed out the spring season with a highly successful Syttende Mai: Bunad style show, Kaffe Hus and awarding Desi and Steve Burrell with the "Norwegian American Award."

We would not be able to execute any of these functions without the endless volunteer hours and generosity of baked goods from our members. Tusen Takk to all members for your time and talents!

Our monthly meetings resumed on September 10th, and we've been busy planning for an exciting season ahead.

We kicked off the fall season Oct. 19th with our annual "Potato Ball Potluck." Ambre Burrell, Brandi Thynes and their helpers Cheryl File, Alisa Edgars, and Jennifer Thynes were kept busy on a beautiful fall day peeling, cutting, cooking and squeezing potatoes, truly a labor of love.



Desi & Steve Burrell



Potato Ball Team

- November 16th– We'll be hosting a Fall Game Dinner which gives us a chance to share something we've foraged, hunted or fished.
- Wreath-Making Class, Nov. 29th 10-12, perfect for getting into the cozy spirit of the season.
- December 10th– our annual Pickled Herring contest 7pm.

- December 14th – Our year will wrap up with the festive Julebord, a much-loved celebration full of food, fellowship, holiday cheer and of Santa!

In August, twelve of our Leikkaring youth dancers were honored to perform at the 100th anniversary of the Baptist Church of Ketchikan. Their traditional and interactive dances helped spread Viking spirit and showcase our cultural heritage with pride.



Leikkaring Dancers

Lastly, *Tusen Takk* to all members for their past/current and future donations, our parking lot will be resurfaced in the near future!

Hilsen,
Stephanie Thynes
Fedrelandet #2-23 President



Lodge News & Events

Harvest Potluck Committee Chair Needed

Rhoda and Wendell Gilbert have chaired the November Committee for many years, but are ready to step down. So, we are looking for a new chairperson(s) for November. If you would like to be more involved, but don't have a ton of time, November is a great month to chair. The only event is the Harvest Potluck and all the food is made by members. You don't even have to dedicate an afternoon to cooking lutefisk or meatballs - just help organize set up and clean-up crews from the November Committee (listed at the bottom of this email). If you are available to chair this event, please contact Stephanie at (907) 518-4065

February's Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner

Grant and Lila Trask are stepping down from chairing the February Lutefisk Potluck. They may have a helper for the lutefisk, but we need a new chairperson.



Norwegian Reading Corner – by Sharon Wikan

I wanted to share information on a couple of books that our members might enjoy if they have not already read. They are available at the Petersburg Library and if you are out of town, you may go to your public library and ask about their inter-library loan program. The books are located in the Petersburg section, and there are more available.



***Alaska Panhandle Tales* by Jack O'Donnell.** He was born in Alaska and the stories are about life in the 1920's to 1950's of Southeast Alaska. Jack was a bear guide and commercial fisherman. Many, many fun stories, such as Papke, fish traps, Johnny Sales, bear and fox farms, girls in Warm Springs and 4th of July and many more.

***There Never Was Another Time* by Sharlene Greenaway Pilkey.** She was born in Petersburg in 1935. The stories are from about 1935 to 1950s. It includes recipes too, but I skipped over them. Also, part of her life after Petersburg. Take a look at it - the first paragraph will get you hooked. I vaguely remember hearing bits and pieces of the stories.

Another book is ***A Frog in the Fjord* by Lorelou Desjardins.** It's out in paperback. It's about a French gal going to Norway and living there for a year. Her story is about some of the quirky differences Norwegians have, and just life in current Norway. It's an easy read and again, great humor.

Hope you enjoy some of these. Maybe you can share your own recommendations for books about Norway or Alaska!

November 2025 Committee

Chairs:

Event: Harvest Potluck November 16

Monthly Lodge Meeting November 12 at 6:30pm

Dave & Nancy Berg

Michelle Cameron

Josh & Heather Conn, Kennedy

Charlie & Diane Christensen, Charlie, Anders

Larry & Larine Dunham

Jim & Maureen Floyd

Wendel & Rhoda Gilbert

Brad & Sharon Hunter

Andy & Stacy Kittams

Mickey Knight

Chris & Samai Kegans, Chelsea, Melisa

Kristy McConville

Pat & Bennett McGrath

Cindy Moyer

Lanette & Veronica Odegaard

Jow Short

John & Karen Tucker

Stewart Vick

Theresa Vick

John & Sheri Wikan

Vivian Yuen



December 2025 Committee

Decorating Chair: Kurt Kvernvik

Julbord Chair: Janet Kvernvik

Contests Chairs: Cynthia & Sig Mathisen

Bazaar Chairs: Rhoda Gilbert & Sally Dwyer

Events: Julbord, Seafood Contest, Bazaar

Monthly Lodge Meeting December 10 at 6:30pm

Curt Birchell

Greg Birchell & Diane Otness

Desi & Steve Burrell

Ronn & Tina Buschmann

Chris Buschmann & Devynn Johnson

Darcy Caples

John & Kirsten Dupree

Jim Edgars & Alisa Jestel

Kathy Emmeneger, Jack Engell

Chris & Tamara Evens

Craig & Ginger Evens

Dave Evens

Tom Rockne

Mike & Cheryl File, Michael, Ethan, Noah

Sue Flint

Mark Hofstad

Patrice Huettl

Scott & Julie Hursey

Carolyn Kvernvik & Aaron Phillips

Kurt & Janet Kvernvik, Adanna

Pia Rogers

Cindy Rogers

Terry & Darcel Schouweiler

Matt Short & Kendra Speh

Gary Slaven

Troy Thomassen & Leah Vick, Sam, Ivar

Nick Versteeg & Haley Short

Laife Weathers, Sapphire, Valon

Luke Whitethorn

