



# THE RUNESTONE



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



*Spring 2025*

## Upcoming Lodge Events

*Mark Your Calendars!*



### April 12 – Pop-up Used Furniture Sale 10am-1pm

Drop off used furniture in good condition to the Lodge Thursday April 10 from 3-6pm, or contact: Stephanie (518-4065), Carrie (518-1490), or Cheryl (650-7024). Proceeds go to the Lodge Maintenance Fund.

### April 27 – Blessing of the Fleet

Each May, the Sons of Norway collaborates with the Petersburg Vessel Owners Association and the Petersburg Christian Ministerial group to host

the annual Blessing of the Fleet. A lot of time is dedicated to preparing the boat names, prayers, and a tribute to those we've lost in the past year.

With Yvonne Thynes at the helm, local fishermen, pastors, and volunteers create a program where each boat in the harbor, as well as the captain and crew receives a blessing. The program also includes a moment of silence to honor the fishermen who are no longer with us.



### 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](#)

After the Blessing of the Fleet, local businesses and Sons of Norway members will provide snacks and desserts. **We need cookies** for the Blessing of the Fleet by 1pm please, cut and plated if possible. Call Sally Dwyer (518-0601) if you can help out with this community annual event. Sally Dwyer, Brandi Thynes, and Ambre Burrell ensure the food and coffee keep flowing so everyone can socialize and discuss the upcoming fishing seasons and remember those we've lost over the year.



The biggest challenge we face each year you may ask? Making sure it isn't low tide so the wreath will float out to sea!



### May 16 – Little Norway Festival Style Show

Stay tuned for more info...

### May 17 – Syttende Mai! Little Norway Festival Kaffe Hus

It's hard to believe Little Norway Festival is coming up so quickly. When the spring showers arrive don't forget to bake a few cookies and freeze for the Kaffe Hus.

A reminder from Bridget - **please bring cookies on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> morning before 9:00 am** - preferably Norwegian cookies from the Sons of Norway cookbook - Kaffe Hus section.



## President's Note



I'm always quite humbled by this town's generosity! A lodge officer learned of a matching \$10K grant in December. Always up for a challenge, we immediately started collecting donations at our December lodge functions. With all of your help we met our goal and then some, with the final total of \$11,400!!! *Tusen Takk* to Petersburg Mental Health for the \$10K grant to help us repair our parking lot.

We are heading into one of the busiest months at the lodge. I'm looking forward to working with all of you and sharing our Norwegian heritage/culture with the town and its visitors.



*!Parking lot - In need of repair!!*





Spring Cleaning was a huge success this year! Along with the inside of the lodge, the outside got spiffed up: flower beds cleaned, power washing, and general maintenance. Our trustees spent some of our sunny days repairing and prepping the Viking Ship for paint to be completed on future sunny days. We couldn't have accomplished this task without the help from Jim Engell's baseball boys. *Stor Takk* goes to Glo, Sharon, Tom, Rhoda, Wendel, Desi, Carolyn and Chuck.

It's hard to believe Little Norway Festival is coming up so quickly.

Hilsen,  
Stephanie Thynes  
Fedrelandet #2-23 President



## Nordic Easter Tradition



Did you know that it's traditional for Norwegians to read crime novels (paskekrim) at Easter? Norwegian publishers even release their newest crime novels right before the Easter holiday. In honor of the tradition, the Petersburg Library will be putting out their collection of Scandinavian crime novels on their display shelves around April 10. (*I'm currently enjoying a Jo Nesbo crime novel "Kingdom" – Ed.*)



## Lodge News & Events

### January's New Member Dinner



Gerry & Knut Frostad and Glo Wollen, along with their wonderful crew prepared a delicious heritage dinner - Lapskaus (Norwegian beef and vegetable stew). Our 2025 officers were introduced, and we extended a big thank you to last year's hard-working officers. We also recognized our new members who joined in 2023 and 2024 – we're happy to see our Lodge grow!

### February's Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner

Grant and Lila Trask chaired this traditional potluck, celebrating the traditional Norwegian fish dish, and the delicious lefse that we all love to slather with butter and cinnamon-sugar. Many happy hands came to help roll lefse (or learn how).





## March's Meatball Palooza Dinner

Our recent potluck dinner was very well attended. Glo and her kiddos created the cheeriest paper flower vases to adorn our tables. We enjoyed a sunny evening eating Farmar's (Tora Thynes) meatballs, and all the other yummy ones from members and guests. *Tusen Takk* to Carolyn, Janet, Patrice, Shannon (my meatball makers), Carrie, Jim and Cheryl (the kitchen crew), and Alisa and Chuck for the yummy gravies.



## Educational Opportunity (from Sally Dwyer)

We have a wonderful resource for us available from Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa. I have been taking cooking and rosemaling classes via Zoom for a couple of years now, and really enjoy the modern way of distance learning.

On April 19th I am taking a class called “101 Smorgasbord” - history, traditions and recipes included - sounds like fun! Then May 3rd I am taking a class on “Smoragstarta” (Sandwich Cakes) which I have been interested in for many years. I have been collecting photos, ideas, and recipes, so when I saw the class listed this spring I signed up. My plan is to host/share a class or two on how to make, cut and serve them later this summer.



*Smoragstarta - courtesy of Vesterheim Museum*

## **Member's Corner :**

### **An interview with Heidi Lee**

*Q - How long have you been a member of Sons of Norway?*

A – I have been a member since 1972. I was born here, and in the third grade I learned our Norwegian dances. Getting ready for my first Little Norway Festival, where we danced at the North Harbor (not downtown), I started getting interested in our Norwegian culture and traditions. Learning the dances was fun, and our leaders were Tora Thynes and DJ Roundtree. They did a great job and we learned a lot.

Right out of high school, on a visit to Norway, I met a cousin who played the fiddle at local Norwegian dances. He shared songs and dances, and the meaning behind the dance movements from the communities our Petersburg ancestors emigrated from. This certainly gave me a greater appreciation of why our Norwegian dance traditions continue to this day. I'm proud to have shared this knowledge with our dancers.

My grandmother always told me to give back. "Volunteer in the community," she would tell me, "...and stick with it!" I took her wisdom to heart and spent 31 years leading our youth in Norwegian dancing.

Leading the dancers involved not just teaching the dances, but mending the costumes, ensuring everyone had a costume, and handling any issues or problems. My primary mission with the kids was to teach them to respect each other, to ensure everyone was treated equally, and most importantly, to work together in order to be successful.

*Q – Why did you join Sons of Norway?*

A – As I stated above, I joined because of the dancing and the ability to learn more about our Norwegian culture. My mother Roxy was one of the drivers who started the Little Norway Festival.

*Q – If you could change one thing about our Lodge, what would it be?*

A – Just a couple of things come to mind and that's because we rent out our hall - I think we need a new stove and a better sound system. This would make it easier to have successful, community events.

*Q – What do you like best about being a member?*

Being able to bring our family and guests together to celebrate our traditions and show our pride in our Lodge.



# THE RUNESTONE RECIPE BOX

## Grandpa Eiler's Swedish Pancakes

From the collection of Sally Dwyer, and in the Sons cookbook

Makes 8 in my large pan.

4 eggs                      3 Tbsp sugar  
1 tsp salt                1 cup flour  
1-1/2 cups milk

Mix well so no lumps (I use my immersion blender) then add:

1 Tbsp butter, melted in pan just before frying. I use a ladle that roughly measures ½ cup, as that fits my 12" x ½" high round crepe pan.

I use a pretty hot pan, pour my batter in and quickly spread it by turning the pan this way and that to cover. It will bake in about 2 minutes, gently flip, and cook the second side for maybe a minute. I then fold them in quarters and put in the oven, loosely covered with foil while baking the rest.

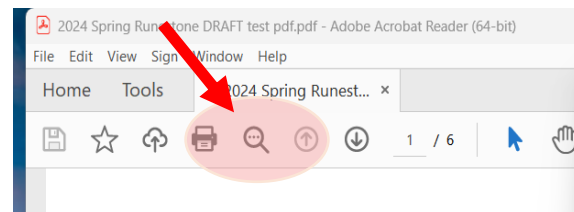
***A little back story*** - Eiler Wikan cooked on fishing boats for many years and served this recipe to his crew on the boats. When he retired, every Sunday he and Grandma Loyla would welcome all the 13 grandkids (in shifts) for Swedes. He made them in a small, square electric frying pan. We loved the pancakes and it was great to visit both each week. As we got older, in the summer after breakfast, we were often drafted to help in the garden and or splitting wood, or helping Gram finish her latest puzzle.



## How Does Our Lodge Make Events Happen??

We have a very busy Lodge with many events throughout most of the year. Often, the Lodge puts out a call for volunteers to help out for something specific, but there is also a way for us to spread the work among all our members. On the last pages of this newsletter, you'll find the roster of members and Chairpersons for each month (except summer). To find the month where you've been assigned, go to the tool bar at the top of this PDF document, and look for the magnifying glass icon (highlighted here in red). Click on that, and type your last name into the search box. It should take you to the month where your name appears.

If the month we have you listed does not work with your schedule, please contact Lila Trask at 907-518-0067 to change to a different month. Please let your month's Chairperson know as well.



# Sons of Norway Committee List for 2025

## Schedule Conflicts:

If the month we have you listed does not work with your schedule, please call [Lila Trask](tel:907-772-3775) (907-772-3775), text (907-518-0067), or email to change to a different month. Let your chairperson know as well.

## January 2025 Committee

Chair: [Gerry & Knut Frostad](#)

Co-Chair: [Glo Wollen](#)

Event: New Member Dinner Date: TBD

Veronica Carter & Jane Slater  
Holli & Casey Flint  
Knut & Gerry Frostad  
Scott & Lin Horchover  
Ryan Littleton & Tessa Bergmann, Cedar,  
Denali  
Mike & Barb Luhr  
Bruce & Barb Marifern  
Sam Marifern

Lenore Mathisen  
Erin Michaels  
Jason & Vanessa Miller, Gianna, Isabella,  
Sophia, Victoria  
Marlena & Brian Newman  
Bob & Niccole Olsen  
Heather O'Neil  
Megan O'Neil & Troy Thynes  
Liv Perschon  
Robin & Jim Roberts  
Dave & Tanya Somerville  
Rexanne Stafford  
Dick & Bridget Walsh  
Glo Wollen, Sigrid, Arne



## February 2025 Committee

Chairs: Grant Trask, Bob Martin, Neil  
Newlun

Lefse Chair: Lila Trask

Event: Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner Date: TBD

Katy Brantuas  
Craig & Nancy Curtiss  
Stuart & Katie Eddy, Hakon, Soren  
Sean Griss  
Sarah & Randy Holmgrain, Alex, Arya

Craig Olson  
Orin Pierson  
Jeff & Lana Pfundt  
Jummy & Carrie Martinsen  
Aaron & Katrina Miller, Mette, Rikka, Sarissa  
Glenn Reid  
Jeff Robinson  
Bev Siercks  
Tommy Thompson, Anna, Soren  
Jody & David Tow  
Kurt & Sheri Wohlheuter



## **March 2025 Committee**

**Chairs: Officers**

**Event: Meatball Palooza Dinner Date: TBD**

Josh Adams & Lisa Schramek, Erik  
Greg & Lisa Browning, Zane & Linda Krapu  
Dick Eide  
Jeff & Susan Erickson  
Carl R. & Judy Forgey

Carl G. & Jill Copeland, Taralynn  
Heidi Lee  
Troy Larson  
Don & Alice Merrill  
Jeanette Ness  
Al & Shannon Peeler  
Brittany & Mikalai Potrizuski  
Dylan Swainson  
Jim Swainson & Mary Ellen Anderson  
Paul & Holly Winje, Tula Bell



## **April 2025 Committee**

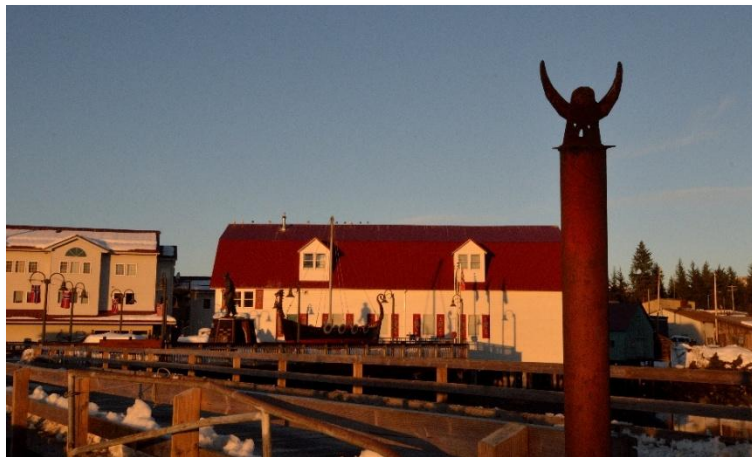
**BoF Chairs: Sally Dwyer, Yvonne Thynes**

**Litter Pick-up Chair:**

**Events: Blessing of the Fleet April 27**

Dick Aho  
Devren Bennett  
Pat Blair & Jeanine Sicard  
Michelle Brock  
Vicki Curtiss

Bob Dolan  
Rocky Littleton & Marva Reid  
Heidi & Jack Lyons  
Hillary MacDonald, Brooklyn, Madi Whitethorn  
Matthew Pallisard  
Carson & Sonja Paul, Henry, Mason  
Brian Paust  
Brian & Hannah Smith  
Lloyd & Yvonne Thynes  
Tom Westof  
Patty Zorich



## **May 2025 Committee**

**Style Show Co-Chairs: Briana Drury & Glo Wollen**

**Kaffe Hus Chair: Bridget Wittstock**

**Events: Style Show May 16**

**Kaffe Hus May 17**

Rick & Sue Braun

Doug & Lana Corl

Clyde & Jean Curry

Charles & Dominique Davis

Briana & Don Drury

Merilee Enge, Marit Frost

Julia Evens

Norm & Lynda Fredricksen

Dick Greseth

Signe Haltiner

Kelsey Hammer & Camille Hammer

Chuck & Cathy Harris

John Hoag & Debbie Downs

Mark Jensen

Tim & Polly Koeneman

Sheryl Leekley

Jenny Martens

Larry & Julie Martin

Morris & Cathy Mattson

Shannon McCullough

Debi & Dan McMahon

April Miller

Margaret Newlun

Natalie Nicholson & Michael Reid

Ladd & Brenda Norheim

Chris & Elizabeth Nyssen, Sofie, Sten

Judy Ohmer

Helmer & Annette Olson

Sue Paulsen

Tracy Reid

Jeff Rice & Liz Cabrera

Karen Rosvold

Audrey Samuelson

Mark & Karen Severson

Floyd & Barbara Strand

Stacey Thorsen

Jackie Tyson

Naomi Welde

Bridget Wittstock & Scott May, Gillian, Kjell

Naomi Youngberg



**Fall (Sept/Oct) 2025 Committee****Chairs: Ambre Burrell & Brandi Thynes****Co-Chair: Sally Dwyer****Event: Potato Ball & Ham Dinner Date: TBD**

William &amp; Joyce Bergmann

Steve Berry

Dave Burleigh

Sig &amp; Ambre Burrell, Svea, Brandt

Daniel &amp; Robyn Cardenas

Doug &amp; Cathy Cronlund

Ty &amp; Martha Cummins

Josh Etcher

Harley Ethelbah

Roger &amp; Jean Hammer

Robert &amp; Sylvia Larson

Tore Lenz

Mara Lenz

Andi Payne

Ken &amp; Stacy Madsen

Phil Meeks

Terry &amp; Karil Miller

Mike &amp; Kay Schwartz

Rob Schwartz

Sue Short

Barb Steltz

Mark Sturgeon

Brandi Thynes

Chuck &amp; Step Thynes

Steve Thynes

Ted Thynes

Sam &amp; Trish Titterington

Mike Wiegand &amp; Kaitlin Willis

Sharon Wikan

Vava Wikan

**November 2025 Committee****Chairs: Wendel & Rhoda Gilbert****Event: Harvest Potluck Date: TBD**

Dave &amp; Nancy Berg

Michelle Cameron

Josh &amp; Heather Conn, Kennedy

Charlie &amp; Diane Christensen, Charlie, Anders

Larry &amp; Larine Dunham

Rick &amp; Barb Fish

Jim &amp; Maureen Floyd

Brad &amp; Sharon Hunter

Andy &amp; Stacy Kittams

Mickey Knight

Chris &amp; Samai Kegans, Chelsea, Melisa

Kristy McConville

Pat &amp; Bennett McGrath

Cindy Moyer

Lanette &amp; Veronica Odegaard

Jow Short

John &amp; Karen Tucker

Stewart Vick

Theresa Vick

John &amp; Sheri Wikan

Ken &amp; Vivian Yuen



## **December 2025 Committee**

**Decorating Chair:** Kurt Kvernvik

**Julbord Chair:** Janet Kvernvik

**Contests Chairs:** Cynthia & Sig Mathisen

**Julbuk Chair:** Sally Dwyer

**Bazaar Chairs:** Rhoda Gilbert & Sally Dwyer

**Events:** Julbord, Seafood Contest, Bazaar,

**Julebukking Dates:** TBD

Curt Birchell

Greg Birchell & Diane Otness

Desi & Steve Burrell

Ronn & Tina Buschmann

Chris Buschmann & Devynn Johnson

Ethan Bryner

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

Nico Larson

Pia Rogers

Cindy Rogers

Terry & Darcel Schouweiler

Matt Short & Kendra Speh

Gary Slaven

Rob & Teri Swanson

Kole Sperl

Troy Thomassen & Leah Vick, Sam, Ivar

Nick Versteeg & Haley Short

Laife Weathers, Sapphire, Valon

Luke Whitethorn

