



THE RUNESTONE



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



Winter 2025

Upcoming Lodge Events

Mark Your Calendars!

January 19 – New Member Dinner @ 5pm

Gerry, Knut, and Glo along with their wonderful crew will prepare a delicious heritage dinner for all of us - Lapskaus (Norwegian beef and vegetable stew). Lapskaus is one of Norway's favorite dishes. Come and see if you agree! Please bring fruit, vegetables, cheese, crackers, bread or a dessert to share. There will be an introduction of our 2025 officers and a thank you to last year's hard-working officers. We will also recognize our new members who joined in 2023 and 2024. We want them to know how happy we are that they are now part of our Petersburg Sons of Norway family! All members are encouraged to attend and socialize with friends, new and old.

February 12 – Monthly Lodge Meeting @ 6:30pm

February 16 – Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner @ 5pm

Grant and Lila Trask chair this traditional potluck, celebrating the traditional Norwegian fish dish, and the delicious lefse that we all love to slather with butter and cinnamon-sugar. Please bring your favorite side dishes or desserts to share.

If you want to help roll lefse, please come at 2:30 with your equipment, or come to learn how it's done. Grant is looking for new leadership, so he's encouraging people to come and learn how to make the lutefisk, and consider taking over as the event chair.



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 Director ?

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](#)

March 19 – Monthly Lodge Meeting @ 6:30pm

March 30 – Meatballpalooza Dinner @ 5pm

Bring your favorite meatballs, side dishes, or desserts to share in this always-fun event!!



April 9 – Monthly Lodge Meeting @ 6:30pm

April 27 – Blessing of the Fleet



Letter from the President



As we are marching into the new year, we installed new board members for 2025 into the Lodge at the January 8 meeting.

I would like to introduce myself to all of you who don't know me – Stephanie Thynes. I am your new Lodge President.

I was raised in Shoreline, WA by a Swedish/Irish mother, Mexican father, and many siblings. I came to Petersburg 44 years ago with a girlfriend, and never left. Nine months later I married my very Norwegian husband Chuck, and was immediately introduced to Norwegian food, culture, and traditions by my mother-in-law, Tora Thynes. I felt very welcomed and loved that I had settled into a community so rich in heritage.

Throughout the years I raised two children (Brandi and Ted), started two businesses, fished our family business, and joined Alaska Airlines team before I eventually retired. Now I enjoy four grandchildren (Max, Alysia, Trygve, and Tora). After raising my two children, I realized how important it was to preserve Petersburg's traditions for my grandkids and for all the future generations.

We live in a very special place and are very privileged to enjoy some wonderful traditions, as well as our iconic hall to bring us together with friends, family, and neighbors. I hope we can continue the legacy that we've been handed from our past members, and keep this Lodge/Hall for another 100 years.

Please feel free to email, text, or grab me at the grocery store and let me know your ideas or how you can help at the Lodge. I look forward to seeing all of you and meeting our new members in 2025.

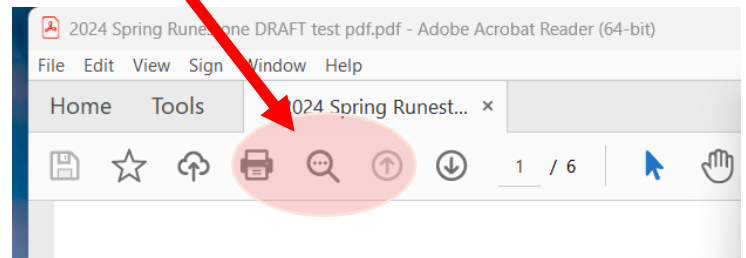
Godt Nytt ar
Stephanie Thynes (907-518-4065)

How Does Our Lodge Make Events Happen??



As our President Stephanie points out, 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 few pages of this newsletter, you'll find a roster of members and Chairpersons for each month (except summer), and the officers have assigned each Lodge member to a particular month. 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.



Lodge News & Events

Pickled Herring Contest



Julebukking

Julebukking 2024 was amazing! The setup and decorating team came in the day before so there was less stress and hustle on Sunday. We concentrated on the plating of sweets and savories brought by the members, filling the reception tables, and enjoying visiting with our 550 guests to the hall. We opened the doors at 2pm and didn't stop serving until we literally ran out of food around 3:30pm... not for a lack of food - lots and lots of people stopped by to enjoy the Sons hospitality.

Thank you to the many members who brought goodies and helped spread the Holiday Cheer around the community.



Bunad Report



Four Leikkaring vests are currently under construction, and after that I will start on three little girl bunads. Funds have been appropriated to purchase new blouses for the young dancers. Mending and knickers for the Leikkaring dancers need to be completed before the cruise ships sail back north for the season. This is a perfect opportunity to share your sewing talents or learn a new one.

Please call Stephanie Thynes 907-518-4065 or Kelli Slavin 907-518-1699 if you can help out!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joined in 2023 or 2024

Shannon Baird
Samuel Bergeron & Linda Millard
Greg Birchell
Riley Brooks
Chris Buschmann & Derrynn Johnson
Kennedy Conn
Debb & Gregg Couch
Martha & Ty Cummins
Ayla & Paul Dupree
Ethan File
Mike File
Cheryle File
Noah File
Michael File
Stephan & Stephanie Fine
Theresa Jewell Kvalheim & Gerald Kvalheim

Chris Keegans & Samai Keegans, Chelsea, Melissa
Tere Lenz
Samantha Marifern
Scott May
Scott Newman
Brian & Marlena Newman
Natalie Nicholson & Michael Reid
Judy Ohmer
Matthew Pallissard
Matthew Short
Kendra Speh
Troy Thomassen & Leah Vick
Troy Thynes & Megan O'Neil
Mike Wiegund
Holli & Paul Winje
Chuck & Sally Roesel



Member's Corner :

An interview with Sharon Wikan

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

A - *First, a little background. I was born and raised here. I only left Petersburg for a short time to attend college. My parents and grandparents were members. Being a member was just part of our life. Both my grandfather and father were past presidents. All of my friends were members and I joined in January of 1970.*

During the 1960s and early 1970s the downstairs of our building was rented to Alaska Fish and Game. It provided a space for them to store their supplies, and in winter they worked on their small boats inside. Just think for a minute what was happening to our wood floors!

Around that time younger members started to get more active in the lodge and, working with established members, they came up with plans to renovate the downstairs. Fish and Game was asked to relocate. While it took several years, they added a kitchen to the downstairs and "spruced it up." Dinners continued to be upstairs, and downstairs was used for dances, bazaars and even basketball.

We've come a long way since then, but now we're at a point where we can use that same spirit to continue to improve our building and surrounding grounds.

Q - If you could change one thing about our lodge, what would it be?

A - *We need to reach out and involve younger people. That's the only way to keep our lodge up and running effectively. Our lodge is an important part of Petersburg's history.*

Q - What do you like best about being a member?

A - *I like being able to preserve my history and culture. I do Ancestry. I like learning about our history from Norway and how it ties into our Norwegian customs and culture here in Petersburg. I want to ensure our customs continue. It's important for our members to participate in our many, many activities. For example, they can get involved in our style show, our traditional cooking and baking. They can help out at our monthly dinners, etc. We all need to become active members.*



Scholarship Updates

[Hunter Conn](#) was awarded a scholarship from our Lodge, and he reports that he's doing well at AVTEC, and working on making his dream a reality!

From Hunter:

I hope this email finds you well. I have been attending Avtec for half a year now and I wanted to give you a bit of an update, including things that I have learned and my grades. During this course I have worked on 4 different engines, tearing them down and rebuilding them by myself. I did that for the first three months that I was there. Last month the second semester teacher pulled me and a couple of my friends aside and told us he noticed that we took pride in our work and saw how confident we were and he wanted us to get a first-hand look at working in the second semester shop with bigger engines, trucks and harder challenges. So for the last month we were fixing electrical problems, seized engines, etc. We were fixing everything the second semester kids couldn't and I just wanted to say I couldn't have done it without you supporting me - thank you.



[Alysa Thomassen](#) was awarded a scholarship from our Lodge, and she recently sent us this report:

Good afternoon & Happy New Year to you all!

I hope this email finds you well. As the spring semester is shortly approaching, I'd like to give you all an update regarding my previous semester. As you may know, I took the route of majoring in Business Management, and I plan on also acquiring a certificate in Construction Management. So on down the line, I plan to attend a trade school for industrial welding. I was employed at the Gilkey Admissions office right on my campus this semester. There, I obtained multiple skills that I will continue to make useful in future careers including; customer service, communications, active listening, and adaptability. Next semester, I was fortunate enough to jump first in line for an Internship I'll be starting in February through the Gallagher Business Building. There, I gained experience working in international business affairs. I earned a total of 15 credits from my five classes. This semester's workload will be relatively the same, classes wise. Throughout all the chaos, I was able to make wonderful friends, explore beautiful places, and start my adventures. The attachment is a document of my unofficial transcript for the Fall semester of 2024. I can't thank you, and your committee enough for the endless support. Thank you for the time you've invested in me, I am deeply appreciative.

We encourage more graduating seniors to apply for the Lodge's 2025 scholarship!

www.petersburgsons.org

Speaking of Scholarships...

There are two very different Sons of Norway District 2 Scholarships available for young people, and the information about each of them follows. Check them out!!! Contact [Laurie Berg](#), District 2 Youth Chair for more information or to ask questions. [Sally Dwyer](#) has copies of the instructions and applications for each scholarship. **Note that the deadline for the International Summer School scholarship is JANUARY 15! Deadline for the Youth Camp scholarships is April 15.**



SONS OF NORWAY - DISTRICT TWO

Washington - Oregon - Alaska - Idaho

Carl M. Saltveit Scholarship

For study at the

International Summer School 2025 University of Oslo – Oslo, Norway

The Carl M Saltveit Scholarship Fund up to the cost of tuition, room, and board to one qualified applicant to attend the International Summer School at the University of Oslo. This permanently endowed fund provides one scholarship annually to encourage and facilitate attendance at the International Summer School and partly pays for Basic Tuition and the cost of room and board in the university dormitory. Extra classes, optional trips and airfare are the responsibility of the recipient. The Scholarship is named for Carl M. Saltveit Sr. in honor and remembrance of his contributions to the Norwegian community through Grieg Lodge #15 in Portland, Oregon, his work in Norwegian war relief, educational exchange and services to immigrants and visitors from Norway. He also served as an International Director of the Sons of Norway.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Applicants must:

- ✍ Have met the entrance requirements and applied to attend the International Summer School at the University of Oslo (award of scholarship contingent on acceptance to ISS); and
- ✍ Be a current member of District Two, or a child or grandchild of one; and
- ✍ Have completed one year of college.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applicants must submit:

- ✍ A completed and signed application
- ✍ Two essays
- ✍ Three letters of recommendation.
- ✍ An official grade transcript.

HOW IS THE RECIPIENT SELECTED?

The District Two Scholarship Committee will choose and forward all applications and recommendations, to the Sons of Norway Foundation. The Foundation will administer the scholarship.

WHERE DO I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION?

Applications (including all supporting documents) must be postmarked no later than **January 15th, 2025**, and mailed to:

Sons of Norway-District Two Scholarship Committee

c/o Laurie Berg

913 241 PL SW

Bothell, WA 98021

Faxed copies will not be accepted.

Questions about the Carl Saltveit Scholarship, contact Laurie Berg, District 2 Scholarship Chair @ (206)235-5558 or laurieberg.lb@gmail.com.

About the International Summer School, including registration and dates, see www.uio.no/english/studies/summerschool.



SONS OF NORWAY - DISTRICT TWO

Washington - Oregon - Alaska - Idaho

GUIDELINES FOR SOFIE/OLSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Sofie/Olson Memorial Scholarship Fund was created from donations that were contributed after the untimely deaths of two women – Sherrie Sofie and Bernice Olson – who gave much of their time and talents to District Two Sons of Norway.

Each year, it is the District Two goal to award at least three scholarships to attend District Two Youth camps: a minimum of one each to Camp Normanna, Camp Nidaros and Camp Trollhaugen. The scholarship fund is self-sustaining and only the interest will be used for the awards.

Who is Eligible?

All applicants must be members or related to a current member of District Two Sons of Norway.

For Camp Normanna & Camp Nidaros, applicants must be between the ages of 9-12.

For Camp Trollhaugen applicants must be between the ages of 13-15.

All applicants must have completed a separate application for the camp of their choice.

Awards are contingent on acceptance to the camp applied for.

How do I apply?

Applicants must submit a scholarship application (see attached).

How are the winners selected?

Final selection of the scholarship winners will be made by the Scholarship Committee. The criteria for selection include interest and participation in Norwegian cultural and heritage activities.

How much is the Award?

The District Two Scholarship Committee will determine the amount to be awarded based on the available interest in the scholarship account. A recipient can only be awarded the Scholarship once within a three-year period.

Deadline for Application?

All applications must be postmarked no later than April 15.

Applications must be sent to:

Sons of Norway – District Two
c/o Laurie Berg, Scholarship Chairperson
913-241 PL SW
Bothell, WA 98037

Questions?

Contact Scholarship Committee
Seth Tufeland (206)605-4112
Laurie Berg (206) 235-5558
Jane Bueing (425)882-2212

Get those applications in – don't miss out!

THE RUNESTONE RECIPE BOX

Wafler from Auntie Gloria

From the collection of Sally Dwyer

Note: You need to have a 5-heart waffle iron to make these.

Ingredients:

5 eggs	½ cup sugar
½ tsp salt	2-3 tsp cardamom, to your taste
1 cup flour	1 cup sour cream
¼ cup (half a cube) of butter, melted	



Beat eggs and sugar for 6-7 minutes in a mixer on medium-high speed. This will lighten in color and look a bit foamy (called eggidocious).

Add salt and cardamom.

Sprinkle in flour, then fold in sour cream (I use my mixer on low). Drizzle in melted butter. Let stand for 10 minutes or longer. Heat up the waffler iron.

I use a ½ cup measure for the batter and gently spread it so all areas have some batter. Bake until it beeps (mine does), and you may need to find the happy place for the lightly browned results you want - not burned dark brown, though some brown is okay.

Cool and cut into individual hearts. At this point you can freeze them or store in fridge for a couple of days until you serve them. This batter makes 7-8 sets of 5 hearts.

To serve: butter the heart with softened butter, then add a slice of gjetost or cheddar cheese. I sometimes sweeten the butter with a little powdered sugar, spread it on and add a slice of strawberry - looks great and tastes good. This recipe makes a sturdy heart that won't tear when buttering.



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 January 19

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 February 16
Monthly Lodge Meeting February 12 at 6:30pm

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: Meatballpalooza Dinner March 30

Monthly Lodge Meeting March 19 at 6:30pm

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 17, Spring

Litter Pick-up (TBA)

Monthly Lodge Meeting April 9 at 6:30pm

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

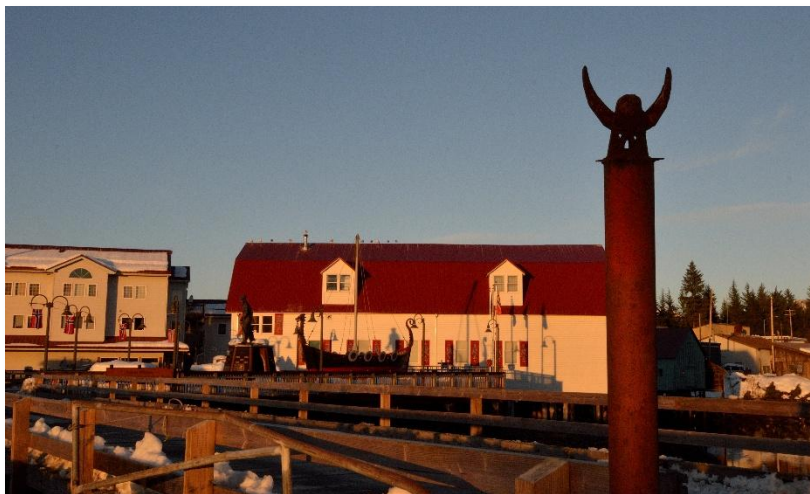
Brian Paust

Brian & Hannah Smith

Lloyd & Yvonne Thynes

Tom Westof

Patty Zorich



May 2025 Committee

Style Show Co-Chairs: Sally Dwyer & Glo Wollen

Kaffe Hus Chair: Bridget Wittstock

Events: Style Show & Kaffe Hus

Monthly Lodge Meeting TBA at 6:30pm

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 TBA)

Monthly Lodge Meeting September 10 at 6:30pm

Monthly Lodge Meeting October 8 at 6:30pm

William & Joyce Bergmann

Steve Berry

Dave Burleigh

Sig & Ambre Burrell, Svea, Brandt

Daniel & Robyn Cardenas

Doug & Cathy Cronlund

Ty & Martha Cummins

Josh Etcher

Harley Ethelbah

Roger & Jean Hammer

Robert & Sylvia Larson

Tore Lenz

Mara Lenz

Andi Payne

Ken & Stacy Madsen

Phil Meeks

Terry & Karil Miller

Mike & Kay Schwartz

Rob Schwartz

Sue Short

Barb Steltz

Mark Sturgeon

Brandi Thynes

Chuck & Step Thynes

Steve Thynes

Ted Thynes

Sam & Trish Titterington

Mike Wiegand & Kaitlin Willis

Sharon Wikan

Vava Wikan



November 2025 Committee

Chairs: Wendel & Rhoda Gilbert

Event: Harvest Potluck (Date TBA)

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

Rick & Barb Fish

Jim & Maureen Floyd

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

Ken & 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**

**Monthly Lodge Meeting December 10 at
6:30pm**

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

