



FREYA FORUM

Sons of Norway, Freya Lodge #6-062 Newsletter

March 2020

Ord fra Presidenten

Our Corned Beef Dinner on March 14 is coming up quickly. Get your tickets soon as ticket sales end on March 9th. Details on the flyer on page 11.

The Vikings of Bjørnstad plan an interesting program around Viking women and their role in society titled Viking Women: Out of the Shadows.

Please see Michele's call for help on page 2.

We are struggling with getting enough help for our events. It is the same core group of members that make our events happen. We NEED more help. Please see the flyer on page 3 asking for assistance. Events cannot happen without YOUR help.

The Scandia Book Club continues to meet monthly. Please contact Anne-Marie Winterhalder at Annemarie@thegrid.net or Else Bratlien at ebratlien@pacbell.net.

The January book selection was The Ice Beneath Her by Swedish author Camilla Grebe. The group enjoyed this mystery so much that the February selection was the sequel, After She's Gone. Our March book is Jar City by Icelandic author Arnaldur Indridason.

The Freya Knitters meet every other Friday afternoon. If you are interested in learning to knit, or are an experienced knitter, please consider joining us. Contact Else Bratlien for more information.

If you are interested in other cultural skills, please contact Siri Fenson at siri-max@att.net.

Don't forget to Spring Forward on March 8th.

Happy Spring!

Lis Barca
President



Upcoming Freya Lodge Events:

- Corned Beef Dinner
March 14, 2020
- Scandinavian
Brunch
April 18, 2020
- Syttende mai
May 16, 2020

Upcoming Events:

- Sacramento Scandinavian Festival
April 18, 2020
[https://
www.eventbrite.co
m/e/37th-annual-
sacramento-
scandinavian-
festival-tickets-
74524896973](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/37th-annual-sacramento-scandinavian-festival-tickets-74524896973)

Social Director

Greetings from the kitchen!

The next event I will be needing help with is our March 14th dinner: Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. Please read the following and see how you can help our lodge stay open with help from our members.



***Kitchen help is needed for The Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner!**

I will need:

***5 people to serve the food in the buffet line.**

***3 people to help setup on Saturday morning 9:30am to 10:30am;
the serving line (chafing dishes), beverage table and beverages**

******3 people to help with food prep on Friday evening at 3pm.******

Please contact me for more info:

michele.dawn.edler@gmail.com

Grab your pencil and mark your calendar!

Scandinavian Brunch

Event is *Saturday April 18th* starting at 12pm

Food Prep (Friday) April 17th @ 1pm for prep and cooking

Setup on Saturday April 18th @ 9am for setting up; serving line (Chafing dishes) and beverage table.

Saturday morning April 18th @ 8:00am for final touches and last looks for cooking and serving

See you in the kitchen!

Michele Edler
Social Director



Freya Lodge needs YOUR help.

No Experience Necessary

Meet fellow members



Volunteers are needed for each event.

Examples of needs:

- Set up
- Food Prep/Kitchen Help
- Decorations
- Hall Maintenance
- Parking Assistance
- Take Down
- Clean Up
- Bartending

We will be unable to continue to put on events if we cannot get assistance from our members.

“Ask not what your Lodge can do for you – ask what you can do for your Lodge.” Darryl Laxo paraphrasing John F. Kennedy.

Friluftsliv: Outdoor Life and Recreation

March is a great time to hike our surrounding hills and see the wildflowers popping up. Go on your own to one of our parks or open spaces or join one of the guided hikes listed below to learn more about the nature that surrounds us. Be sure to mark your trekking in your Gangmerke card so you can earn your sports medal.

Carol Eber, Sports Director
ceber@att.net 707-364-1564

March 7 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Jack London State Historic Park, 2400 London Ranch Road, Glen Ellen

Wildflowers and Trillium Hike

Naturalist, John Lynch will guide this adventure where we expect to see a variety of early bloomers including the beautiful Western Trillium. This hike will be an easy-intermediate 3.5 mile slow-paced hike; bring cameras, binoculars, poles, plenty of water, snacks and wear sturdy shoes. Be prepared for uneven ground. Limited to 15 participants. Sign up on the park website. Admission: \$10 (parking fee extra)

March 8 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Hood Mountain Regional Park - South Entrance, 1450 Pythian Road, Santa Rosa

Fitness Hiking

Explore panoramic views, seasonal flora, and wildlife during this rigorous hike. Intermediate to advanced 4-6 mile hike. Bring hat, water and lunch.

March 10, 2020 10:00 – 11:30 am

West County Regional Trail, Graton Entrance, Off Graton Road behind old Graton Fire Station, Graton, CA 95444

Senior Saunters

Enjoy leisurely walks with friendly, older adults. Explore plant and animal life, swap stories, and take a gentle 2-mile stroll along some of the county's most accessible trails. Free

March 21, 2020 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Crane Creek Regional Park, 5000 Pressley Road, Rohnert Park, CA 94951

Vernal Equinox Night Hike

Join us for a twilight walk to celebrate the first day of spring. Experience the day slowly turning to night while we wait for the sounds of night creatures. Learn what it's like to use all your senses to walk at night without a light. Registration is required for this free event. Go to...

<https://sonomacountyparks.ticketleap.com/vernal-equinox-night-hike/>

March 22 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Jack London State Historic Park, 2400 London Ranch Road, Glen Ellen

Discovery Nature Hike

Meet in the museum parking lot on the left as you enter the park. Explore the woods and openings of Jack London State Historic Park. Retired biologist Kate Symonds will lead a discovery hike. We will pay special attention to the diversity of plant life and look for signs of wildlife. Walks are generally slow-paced and ranges from 1.5 to 4 miles on gently-to-moderately undulating terrain. *Walk goes rain or shine.* Families welcome. Limited to 10. Sign up on the park website. Free.

~ Continued on page 5 ~

Friluftsliv: Continued

March 25 8:30 – 10:30 am

Ragle Ranch Regional Park, 500 Ragle Road, Sebastopol

Winging It Wednesdays

Enjoy leisurely bird walks for all levels of experience on the last Wednesday of the month. These outings are designed especially for older adults to enjoy nature and each other's company. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair from us.

March 29 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Foothill Regional Park, 1351 Arata Lane, Windsor

Fire Followers and Resilience

Many flowers and plants, known as "fire followers," thrive after a fire has occurred in an area. Together we will walk a gentle route past ponds and examine how the ecosystem recovers from fire, discovering how the thriving plants, flowers, and animals have adapted to the changed habitat.

Or are you eager to get out on the water? Then check out North Bay Rowing Club in Petaluma. The Club holds two-day Learn-to-Row seminars geared towards adults several times throughout the year. During this weekend course participants learn about sport terminology, equipment, safety, and the proper rowing stroke. See <https://www.northbayrowing.org>

Carol Eber, Sports Director

ceber@att.net 707-364-1564

Camperships

Freya Lodge Heritage or Unge Venner members who are going to camp can apply for a campership from Freya Lodge. Their letter of application should include information on:

- Why they want to go to Camp
- How they have participated in Freya Lodge activities
- How they and/or their families have supported Freya Lodge by serving on committees, as officers or helping put on events

The amount of the camperships depend on the number of applicants. The letter of application for Freya Lodge Campership should be mailed to *Freya Lodge, PO Box 6558, Santa Rosa, CA 95406*.

Deadline for applications: April 1, 2019.

We hope to have a great group of kids going to camp again this summer!

Freya Board Contact Info

President: Lis Barca
707-495-5808 editor@freyalodge.org

Vice President/Membership Secretary: Siri Fenson
707-303-7860 sirimax@att.net

Secretary: SandraSmith & Valerie Box
415-898-0244 sandrasmith007@comcast.net or
707-494-0970 boxmom@sbcglobal.net

Social Director: Michele Edler
707-331-3817 dragontraders@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Else Bratlien
707-528-7162 ebratlien@pacbell.net

Cultural Director: Karen Larson
707-996-9889 tandkrlarson@sbcglobal.net

Editor: Lis Barca
707-495-5808 editor@freyalodge.org

Cultural Skills Director: Siri Fenson
707-303-7860 sirimax@att.net

Sunshine: Sandi Mc Connell
707-539-1021 sandrahedvig@aol.com

Norway Hall Maintenance Committee
President: Darryl Laxo
707-838-2857 dlaxo@comcast.net



Jon Arild
Marit Barca
Tanya Barca
Deborah Cherkas
Carol Brandstad Eber
Christina Engelbart
Max Fenson
Curtis Fjelstul
Veda Hellevik
John Kozubal
Margret Kram
Laurel Laingen
Ned Lewis
Theresa Mavrakis
Thomas Mavrakis
Beverly Mooney
Greta Olson
Jack Potter
Michele Silver
Ashlynd Stanford
Richard Wooster

May I Have this Dance?

Folk dance, that is! Plans are ongoing to start a Scandinavian folk dancing class, but first we need to know that we can count on YOU to attend. We'd probably meet once a week for 2-3 months to learn 2-3 dances. It is still uncertain what days of the week we can do this, but, for sure, it will be either Friday, Saturday or Monday; the days Norway Hall is to our disposal.

Let Siri Fenson know that you are interested - as soon as you can, please. E-mail sirimax@att.net or telephone 303-7860.



Please contact Sandi Mc Connell at 707-539-1021 or sandrahedvig@aol.com with news of any member in need of a little sunshine.

Genealogy

February 6 this year, the story of an inmate who had died in prison with no known survivors made the news in multiple outlets in Nevada. I decided to see if I could figure who this guy was and to find surviving family. You can read [the story here](#).

I started off with just the information in the news story, which wasn't much; just a name and age. One of the current news articles mentioned a previous one from when the prisoner was initially arrested. I was able to find the original reporting in older newspapers on a subscription website, Newspapers.com.

What I found there gave me a little bit more information, namely that the prisoner, then suspect, had no permanent address. Ultimately, I also found an obituary for his father, also in older newspapers. The obituary listed his siblings and where they lived.

From there, I searched for him on Ancestry and thankfully, there was the only person I found with that name and age. I located a divorce record which indicated the person I had found had no permanent address. This seemed to corroborate that this Ancestry entry was one and the same as the deceased convict.

Once I fleshed out the tree I made for him on Ancestry, and adding the names of his father and siblings, I was able to discover possible matches for living family. Because of the "shaky leaf" hints that Ancestry provides, I was able to see who else was researching this man. Because Ancestry reveals how recently a researcher has logged on, I was able to make contact with two family members who had logged on in the previous few days and weeks. I sent each of them an e-mail of the newspaper article to explain the reason for my contact. One of them responded that the deceased was indeed a family member, that he had been a transient for much of his life and had never had a fixed address. I wrapped up by informing the Department of Corrections of my findings so that they could contact the family and close the file.

Records for living people are scarce these days but sites like TruePeopleSearch, Whitepages and even Facebook can provide some potential leads. The obvious limitation of Facebook, or even Ancestry, is that your message to the recipient might not elicit a response.

This is an excellent example showing that the methodology is the same whether you are researching your own Norwegian lineage, or trying to locate the surviving family of someone who has passed away. Start with the known, work toward the unknown and validate your findings as you go.

Submitted by Pamela Stutrud Groth

Til Minne

Our condolences to Anne Marie Eskilsson on the loss of her husband Nils-Ake Jeppe Eskilsson.

Welcome to Four New Freya Lodge Members

Beth, Ned and Emily Lewis:

Beth Lewis cannot quite prove she is of Norwegian ancestry, but it is believed that there is some Viking blood in her. She does know that her grandfather came from England and other family members from Ireland.

So why did Beth join Freya Lodge? Emily, now eighteen, had become interested in Norway while in Middle School. Ned also had interest in Norway through his interest in photography and was to attend a Calotype conference in Oslo, Norway. Calotype, by the way, is an early photographic process introduced in 1841 using paper coated with silver iodide. Ned brought Beth and Emily with him to Oslo which resulted in Emily enrolling in the Ringerike Folkehøgskole in Hønefoss.

Beth, born in southern California, is a Transitional Kindergarten teacher at Hidden Valley Elementary School. She volunteers in an organization dedicated to rescuing Golden Retrievers. She also plays the flute with Rohnert Park Community Bank. Ned is employed by Kaiser Hospital in the Vaccine Safety Studies department.

We are looking forward to meeting you, Beth and Ned. AND Emily when she returns from Norway. Velkommen!

Christina Engelbart:

Christina Engelbart was born in Berkeley, CA. Her father, Doug Engelbart, together with his daughter, formed the non-profit Doug Engelbart Institute “to research the human ability to solve complex urgent problems”. After Mr. Engelbart’s death in 2013, Christina has continued running the non-profit. Christina’s mother was an artist. Her parents, both with a love of dancing, met in Palo Alto while being members of a folk dancing group. Scandinavian dancing was their favorite and Christina remembers that as a child she was taught the waltzes and the hambos at home in the family livingroom. Consequently, folk dancing is one of Christina’s very favorite hobbies.

It is on Christina’s dad’s side that yields the 35% Norwegian, Swedish and Danish ancestry, her Norwegian side being her favorite. In 1829, Anne-Marie Bjørnsdatter was born in Lom in Gudbrandsdalen. Later orphaned, she lived for some years within the home of her cousin who later became one of Norway’s greatest poets, Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson. In 1849, she immigrated with an aunt to America. On the ship she met Martin Munson from Hov in Land. They fell in love and soon married and settled in Wisconsin, eventually ending up in Seattle.

Christina moved from Palo Alto to Sebastopol nineteen years ago. Her son teaches math at Petaluma High School; his partner of twelve years teaches middle school science. Her daughter and son-in-law, both occupational therapists, will soon be moving to Santa Rosa. Christina enjoys family gatherings, genealogy, gardening, music and dance.

It’s great to have you as a lodge member, Christina. Velkommen!

In not too long, you will hear about our lodge’s hope to give, with Christina’s help, some lessons in Scandinavian folk dancing.

Submitted by Siri Fenson, Membership Secretary

Erika the Red?

Viking warriors are a big part of Scandinavian history, often depicted as fierce, muscular, bearded men. However, using facial recognition technology, British scientists have challenged this view as they recreated the remains of a woman warrior buried in a Viking graveyard in Solør, Norway.

At first discovery, the burial site was not considered a warrior grave, “simply because the occupant was a woman,” according to archaeologist Ella Al-Shamahi. However, the scientists found that the woman was buried with multiple deadly weapons including an axe, spear and sword. Perhaps more shocking, she had suffered a major head injury that resulted in a serious dent, most likely caused by a sword.

A similar situation occurred with the Birka Warrior in Sweden. The remains were originally believed to be male, but scientists proved later that they were in fact female. Professor Neil Price, a Viking expert, stated “There are so many other burials in the Viking world...It wouldn't surprise me at all if we find more [female warriors].”

From Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

Spread Nordic Love With Heritage Membership!

“I grew up in a Sons of Norway lodge and loved every minute of it. I love the ability to ensure that my daughter feels tied to the culture...”

“My son is inspired to learn more about his Norwegian heritage, and attended a Norwegian language camp... these opportunities to connect with his cultural heritage are very valuable to him.”

Did you know members in good standing can sponsor free Heritage membership for family members age 15 and younger?

They may enjoy taking part in lodge celebrations and activities, or earning pins and medals through the youth Cultural Skills and Sports Medal programs. All Heritage members can access fun online resources including the Just for Kids activity pages and the Recipe Box (with help from a parent, if needed) at sonsofnorway.com.

Heritage members receive a welcome kit with a personalized member ID Card that is valid until their 16th birthday. After that, they can continue in a Family membership or join Sons of Norway as an Individual member.

Contact Sherry at fraternal@sofn.com for more details.

From Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

Welcome New Members!

Carla Eide
Beth Lewis
Emily Lewis
Ned Lewis
Lars Toennessen
Theodor Toennessen
Carolyn Tomberlin
John Tomberlin

Thanks for Renewing!

Barbara Ginsky
Ginger Schechter Gong
Lester Hoel
Unni Hoel
Loren Hovland
Gloria Keller
Jeanne Moen
Sidsel Moller
Lee Rossavick
Clint Stevenson
Shirley Stevenson

Insurance News

Whether they're moving out, moving on or moving home again, every stage of life is another opportunity to model for your adult children the value of financial planning. Any time you reduce your expenses, you have a great opportunity to save for future needs, including life insurance. As you help them plan a budget, be sure to emphasize the importance of dedicating funds to protect what's most important: their future.

Let a Sons of Norway Financial Professional help you prepare for whatever the future holds.

Adrienne Lincoln

E: alincoln2048@comcast.net

License # OF63907

530-263-6565

10771 Pittsburgh Road, Nevada City, Ca 95959

Vikings by Magnus Magnusson

Member John Hill reports:

I am reading a book by this writer. It tells the story of the Viking age. It is very interesting and I am enjoying it. I have always been a history buff.

It tells the story of Vikings to the West, the British Isles, the Faroes Islands, Ireland, Iceland, Greenland and eventually to North America. It has pictures of the Vikings buildings, burial mounds, etc.



Norway Hall has a new 10-burner, double oven stove. Huge thanks to our Hall Maintenance Committee President, Darryl Laxo!

FREYA LODGE, SONS OF NORWAY

VIKING
WOMEN:
*OUT OF THE
SHADOWS*

MARCH 14, 2020

SOCIAL 5:00P DINNER: 5:30P

PRESENTATION BY THE
VIKINGS OF BJØRNSTAD



\$10 Children 14 and under
\$22 Members
\$27 Non-Members

Tickets available via Brown Paper Tickets

1-800-838-3006

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4523364>

** No tickets will be sold after 3-9-2020 **

- Corned Beef
- Cabbage
- Potatoes
- Mashed Rutabaga
- Dessert

Beer and Wine available for purchase



Norway Hall
617 W 9th St, Santa Rosa
707.579.1080
RSVP@freyalodge.org

**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HomeServices

Anne Marie Eskilsson
REALTOR®, SRES®, e-Pro®



Drysdale Properties
707-478-8251
ameskilsson@gmail.com
www.AnneMarieEskilsson.com
DRE #01400952

An independently owned and operated member of BHH Affiliates, LLC



Johanna Sandev
REALTOR®, DRE #01255368

707.321.1459
johannasan@att.net
johannasandev.bhhsdrysdale.com
917 College Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC.

Contact Us

Freya Lodge
617 West 9th St
Santa Rosa

Mail:
PO Box 6558
Santa Rosa, CA 95406
(707) 579-1080

Editor@freyalodge.org

Visit us on the web at
www.freyalodge.org



Find us on
Facebook

Culture, Community, Camaraderie

Freya Lodge, Sons of Norway

Lis Barca, Editor
403 Decanter Cir
Windsor, CA 95492

Save stamps for
TUBFRIM cut
½ inch around
the stamp




**SONS of
NORWAY**

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