



NEWSLETTER

Volume 9, Issue 8

November/December 2023

LODGE BROOKLYN SUPPORTS A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY

LODGE BROOKLYN 3-243

'Tis the Season! 'Tis the season of giving, but more importantly sharing. Time to extend your hand a little further and help another. It could be as simple as helping someone unload their shopping cart, crossing the street, or opening a door. It is a time to think about others. We can, even with our smallest gesture, make someone else's day a little bit brighter. I have found that when you do, it actually makes your day a little brighter.

Please be sure to check out our Facebook page, click here for a link, to see all the wonderful photos from our 100th Anniversary event, as well as read interesting articles, find great recipes, keep up to date on events happening within our community, and maybe find a laugh or two.

I just want to say that I am so proud of our Lodge and I think that our 100th Anniversary celebration was one that will mark history! We all did the work and it was a roaring success. I have received so many emails, calls, and notes, stating that everyone truly enjoyed themselves and were so happy to see so many members from other lodges that they haven't seen in years. Some even suggested that we make this an annual event!

I wish everyone a very happy and healthy holiday and new year. I am sure many of you now know what movie I will be watching this holiday!

Hope to see you this Sunday,

Kimberly Breiland, President

SAVE THE DATES OF LODGE BROOKLYN FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

JULEFEST

Sunday, December 17, 2023
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sporting Club Gjoa, Brooklyn

NYTTAR

Sunday, January 21, 2024
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sporting Club Gjoa, Brooklyn

FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 18, 2024
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sporting Club Gjoa, Brooklyn

MARCH

Sunday, March 17, 2024
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sporting Club Gjoa, Brooklyn

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!



LODGE BROOKLYN HAPPENINGS

What a wonderful 100th Anniversary celebration. Thank you especially to our Anniversary Committee, Victoria Hofmo, Daniel Johnson, Lisa Gonzalez, and Arlene Svindland. Lodge Brooklyn welcomed members from Bernt Blachen, Færder, Nansen, Nor-Bu, Norden, Noreg, Loyal, and Vesterheim lodges. Lillehammer (now merged with Lodge Brooklyn) was well represented with a full table. Actually, almost all the lodges each had a full table, it truly made it a spectacular celebration.

Our Third District president, Stephen Helmold, secretary, Karen Olsen-Helmold, vice president, Diana Syversen, youth director, Susan Olsen, Charitable Trust director, Leif Easterson, sports director, Paul Kornbrekke, and treasurer, Elaine Breiland, were all in attendance. We even had Zone 1 director, Michael Pedersen, assistant director, Melissa Pedersen, and Zone 3 director, Auden Gythfeldt, amongst all the revelers.

We had the children of Lodge Brooklyn past president Ragnhild Jermansen, Alice Svege and Torris Jermansen, as well as her grandson, Eric Svege. Ingrid Miller who is currently a member of Vesterheim Lodge came and she is the grand daughter of past president Einer Bredland.

One of our longest members, Oddbjorg Olsen came all the way from Florida and gave a speech. Others who spoke were Alice Svege, Stephen Helmold, and Sandra Fisher.

We were very lucky to have Elaine Jermansen make her famous Kransekake for everyone's sweet tooth, and a blessing in disguise was our band canceling, only to book the most fantastic jazz band around, Arnt Arntzen Music! Everyone raved. And I would like to extend a special thank you to Arthur De Gaeta who came from the *Brooklyn Eagle* and took photos. Arthur brought along for the ride, Wayne Daren Schneiderman from the *Brooklyn Reporter* who

published a wonderful article about the event. Click here for the article.

The space, The Bay Ridge Manor, worked out perfect. I believe everyone walked away very happy, and if not, at least I know they were all very well dressed!

General Business

- We received a generous donation of \$50 from Ellen Ryen in memory of her parents, Kristian and Elsie Willumsen

Proposed upcoming meeting dates for 2024

Sunday, January 21
 Sunday, February 18
 Sunday, March 17
 Sunday, April 21
 Sunday, April 28; Memorial Service
 Sunday, May 19; Parade
 Sunday, June 2; Joint BBQ
 Sunday, September 15
 Sunday, October 20
 Sunday, November 17
 Sunday, December 15

We are looking for article and photo submissions. What did you been up to? Anything special? Traveled someplace new, had a celebration, learned a new skill, tried a new dish? What ever it is, we are interested. Send to Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org so we can include it in our next newsletter.

Please remember to save stamps and postcards for the **Tubfrim** program. **Alice Svege** will be collecting all contributions. When cutting the stamps out, leave a



FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – NOVEMBER 2023



As I write this, I am preparing for the fall *Third District* board meeting, so this will be a short message.

The district has secured two sites for the cultural/sports weekends. One in New York State for members in the north and one in North Carolina for members in the south. You will receive more information (places, dates, and prices) in the next month.

Our leadership training program has been going very well and we have more dates scheduled for virtual zoom sessions, they are Sunday November 5th from 3 to 5pm, Friday November 10th from 7 to 9pm and Sunday November 12th from 3 to 5pm. All the sessions will be the same program, so you do not have to sign up for all three, just one. They are open to all third district members. If you are interested in attending any of these dates, please register with your Zone Director by sending him or her your email address and the day that you wish to attend.

Lodges that are electing new officers for 2024 should be planning to hold their elections in November so that your secretary can complete the D-63, Change in Officer report by the December 31, 2023 deadline.

I hope to have more information to share with you in my next president's message after the upcoming board meeting.

At this time Karen and I and the whole Third District Board would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Faternally,
Stephen Helmold, *Third District President*



Stephen Helmold, *Third District President*



FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – DECEMBER 2023



I hope everyone had a very Happy Thanksgiving, it is always nice to get together with family and friends for the holiday.

I would like to start with an update from the fall *Third District* board meeting. We have started a fundraiser for the *Charitable Trust*. You can shop online to send gifts to friends and family and the trust will get a portion of every sale. The details were sent out in an eblast on November 27, 2023. Shop now, the sale only lasts until the middle of December. If you did not get the email about this fundraiser, it is because the district does not have your email address. Please send your email address to *Third District Secretary Karen Olsen-Helmold* so you can receive these important eblasts. The executive committee is working on a policy for future eblast so that you are not inundated with emails, yet we can get out important information in a timely manner. We only have email addresses for about half of our members, so please contact Karen.

As 2023 comes to an end and we look forward to 2024, there are a number of deadlines that you should be aware of: Most applications for grants from the *Sons of Norway Foundation* are due by 12/31/2023 and *Foundation Scholarship* deadlines are by January 15th and February 15th. So, if you are interested in a grant or scholarship, please check on the *Sons of Norway* website under *Foundation* for more information, exact deadlines, and applications.

Next, secretaries must update their officer lists by December 31st. This can be done as soon as you have elected your new officers. If this is not an election year for your lodge, the officer list must still be updated by clicking on the box that says no changes. Karen, as district secretary can help with this if you are having problems completing the update.

In January, lodge presidents and secretaries will receive the maximum number of delegates that your lodge can send to the *2024 District 3 Lodge Meeting and Convention* in June. **Washington Lodge**, the host lodge, is working closely with the board to plan a great time for all; delegates as well as non-delegates. I am hoping that every lodge is represented by the maximum number of delegates that they are permitted to send. I will be sending more information about the convention and deadlines soon.

In mid-February lodge secretaries will receive a link from the home office to report fraternal and community service hours. Reporting of these hours is important for *Sons of Norway* to keep its fraternal tax status. This same status covers each lodge. This is now being done using a program called survey monkey and must be completed by March 15th.

March 15 is also the deadline for filing the lodge financial statement, which is also known as the D-17 form. We are working with the home office to develop a way in which the district can help individual lodges



FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – DECEMBER 2023



submit this report. It must be done using the online program from the home office and must be electronically signed by the treasurer, president and an auditor. We have been told that while the home office was lenient in accepting forms this year, in 2024, they will be checking to see that all signatures are included.

Other committee reports were made. The rezoning committee reported that they had ideas for rezoning, but it all hinged off the international redistricting committee, which has not come up with anything yet and is hampering the efforts of the rezoning committee.

The *Cultural Committee* has been busy setting up 2 cultural weekends. There will be an eblast soon with the details about these 2 weekends. I hope that many members will join us for fun and fraternalism at its best at these events.

Paul Kornbrekke, our *District Sports Director* is planning a district picnic in April to be held at **Nansen Lodge** on Staten Island. There will be more information sent to secretaries and editors in early 2024.

Our youth camp will be held again in 2024 at *Camp Koinonia* in Highland Lake, New York. The dates for this year's camp are Sunday July 21, 2024 to Sunday July 28, 2024. Please encourage your kids, grandkids,

and other youngsters in your family to attend. The ages for campers are from 8 to 17.

This is only a part of the work that your district board is doing. As you can see, your board is working hard to make *District 3* strong and to bring back the fraternalism that seems to be lost at the upper level of our organization.

Christmas and New Years will be here soon, and most lodges are having their holiday parties, so at this special time, Karen and I and the whole third district board would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
Stephen Helmold, *Third District President*



Stephen Helmold, *Third District President*



LODGE BROOKLYN PRESIDENTS MESSAGE AT 100TH

Sons of Norway was established in 1895. Like most humans, when you leave your home you seek something familiar. This is why we have flocks of different nations in pockets around our beloved city. We find comfort being around something we know in a world that is new to us. Norwegians are no different. Sons of Norway brought this ideology one step further.

“Practical, cautious, and driven to find solutions to the financial problems many Norwegian-American families faced, the founders looked to their homeland for answers. Several of them had lived in Trondheim, where for a small weekly fee, members and their families acquired free medical care. Borrowing from that plan, the men designed a mutual assistance organization to provide members with security against financial crisis, a forum to celebrate Norwegian-American nationalism, and a means to preserve the treasured literature, music, art, foods and customs of Norway.”

Mama's giving you her brooch. Her solje.

You mean that old silver thing she wears that belonged to Grandmother? What would I want an old thing like that for?

Katrin got her wish of the new dresser set for graduation. Papa said *Mama wanted your happiness; she wanted it more than she wanted the brooch.*

Katrin soon regrets this wish of hers, and she works hard to trade back the dresser set she just received from Mama for the solje Mama had traded for it. She has realized just how important the solje was.

How easy it is to lose sight of the value of things, ideas, ideals, family, and heritage. With each generation another little nugget gets chiseled away. In my eyes our fraternity doesn't just help, it reminds the

importance of our own personal family journeys.

Lodge Brooklyn has its own history. It is documented how much Lodge Brooklyn has contributed. One might note that even during the toughest times, for example, during the depression the Lodge was able to distribute \$4,000 in aid and during WWII \$10,000 for the sick, not to mention the service, letters, or packages members contributed.

He is a meek, insecure, clumsy, sans serif, who plunges himself into an ice encased river to be saved by a down-trodden, frustrated, desperate individual who has given up all hope. When confronted, Clarence said he jumped in the river to save George. And then we are brought down the life path of George and how it would be if he actually never existed. *I wish I had never been born!* were his words. His wish was granted.

I am sure you know what movie I am talking about. ***It's a Wonderful Life*** with James Stewart portraying George Bailey and Henry Travers as Clarence Odbody, AS2 — “angel-second class”. Clarence was the answer to George's prayer. Have you thought that maybe Lodge Brooklyn, or your Lodge and Sons of Norway as a whole has been the answer to someone's prayer, if not many?

When I “Remember Mama”, I think of the scene where the tante's are on the porch upset with the death of wealthy “Uncle Chris”. There is no will and there is no money. Mama reads from his diary. *Joseph Spinelli. Four years old. Tubercular left leg. Three hundred thirty-seven dollars, eighteen cents. Walks now. Esta Jensen. Nine years. Club-foot. Two hundred seventeen dollars, fifty cents. Walks now. And she reads on about Tante Sigrid's son Arne Solfeldt. Nine years. Fractured kneecap. Four hundred forty-two dollars, sixteen cents. Uncle Chris didn't finish the entry. Mama adds “Walks now.”*

The Third District has Charitable Giving, supporting



LODGE BROOKLYN PRESIDENTS MESSAGE AT 100TH

Alzheimers/Dementia Awareness and the Charitable Trust, the Third District has also helped students with scholarships, the Sons of Norway Foundation has helped with scholarships, cultural exchange, disaster relief, and Lodge Brooklyn has been giving to the Red Cross, Unicef—for the children of Ukrain, Ski for Light, and the like. How many lives have we touched? Maybe we are all AS2's—angel's- second class. Or maybe we will be the ones to add "Walks now."

I am proud to be a part of this community and I am proud to be amongst all of you to take part in this great celebration of 100 years!





LODGE BROOKLYN MEETING DATES



YULEFEST

Sunday, December 17, 2023

1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$25 SON members, \$35 all others, Children under 12 FREE
- Catered event and entertainment



FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 18, 2024

1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$15 SON members, \$20 all others, Children under 12 FREE
- Food, Raffles, and fun!



NYTTAR

Sunday, January 21, 2024

1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

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MARCH

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1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$15 SON members, \$20 all others, Children under 12 FREE
- Food, Raffles, and fun!



GOD JUL CARDS



HOLIDAY CARDS

SET OF 4: \$6.00

SET OF 20: \$25.00





NEWSLETTER BOOSTERS

Your donation is a voluntary act which helps pay for the publication and distribution of our Lodge newsletter. We appreciate all your support!

| Member | Amount | Date |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| Arnold Bergman | 25.00 | 11/2023 |

If you would like a printed version of this newsletter snail-mailed to you please send \$25 to cover the cost of paper, ink, and postage.



GRATULERER MED DAGEN

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Sandra L Fisher | December 1 |
| Richard Sabaugh | December 7 |
| Elaine Ann Breiland | December 16 |
| Gideon M Wyatt | December 17 |
| Lauren S Lee | December 22 |
| Nicole J Kraft | January 2 |
| Andrew Solem | January 6 |
| Laila Braaten-Proulx | January 23 |
| Adelle Leone Roban | January 23 |
| Shannon Barracato | February 3 |
| Karin L Holldorf | February 11 |
| Dr. Daphne L Davidson | February 16 |
| Linda Irene Kvam | February 16 |
| Ray Allen Spicer | February 24 |
| Olav B Hansen | March 8 |
| Stephen Sabaugh | March 8 |
| Synnove Froysti | March 19 |
| Arne Larsen | March 19 |
| Ragnhild Wallstedt | March 20 |
| Lucas Bourbon | March 22 |

Advertise in the Lodge Brooklyn Newsletter!
 This space is available — \$50 for 8 issues

For more information contact
Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org



SONS OF NORWAY

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LODGE BROOKLYN, EST. NOV. 22 1923

Lodge Brooklyn celebrates the traditions and history of the Norwegian and American Norwegian culture. We have a reputation as being fun, down to earth, and lighthearted. We gather and share past memories and create new ones in a warm and welcoming environment. We hope you come to a meeting!

WHITE GLOGG



- 1 bottle dry white wine
 - 1 cup water
 - 10 cardamom pods crushed
 - 10 whole cloves
 - 2 cinnamon sticks + for serving if desired
 - 1 tbsp sugar or honey
 - 1 cup elderflower liqueur
- Heat the wine with the water, cloves, cardamom, cinnamon, and sugar or honey over medium low heat. Once the mixture begins to steam and bubble around the edges, remove from the heat and cover. Steep at room temperature for 2-8 hours (alternately, let it sit at room temperature for at least a couple of hours and store in refrigerator overnight or up to two days)
 - To serve, strain the mixture and return to a clean sauce pan. Add the elderflower liqueur. Heat until it begins to steam and bubble around the edges. Serve garnished with cinnamon sticks and maybe a slice of citrus, spice, and rim cup with sugar.

Inspired by; Source: *The Norwegian American*

OFFICERS

President: Kimberly Breiland

Vice-President: Sigrun Larsen

Secretary: Gyda Arber

Treasurer: Elaine Breiland

Publicity Director: Gyda Arber

Activity Committee: Alice Spicer

Alisa Spicer

Membership Chair: Alice Svege

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