



LODGE BROOKLYN 3-243

As a child, I remember hearing Norwegians referred to as “square heads.” Like many children, I first heard the word square as something negative. Later, when I asked why Norwegians were called that, I was told it was because we are honest to a fault. Over the years I have heard many explanations — from square sails to square faces — and I doubt there is one definitive answer. What has always stayed with me, though, is the idea that Norwegians are straightforward people.

We say what we mean. We work hard. We do the job in front of us and do our best to do it well. We may not always say a great deal, but when we speak, there is purpose behind our words.

Many people have told me that I speak plainly and “from the hip.” That is probably true. I believe in understanding things clearly, and I believe in transparency. To me, it is easier — and better — when things are out in the open. Then we can share the burden, the responsibility, and the reward together.

When I think about our Norwegian heritage, I think of people who are straightforward, honest, hardworking, and upfront with one another.

That is why the recent news from Sons of Norway leadership has been difficult for me to process. Learning of the planned partnership with BetterLife has left me with more questions than answers. My disappointment is not rooted in change itself, but in the feeling that many members were not brought along in a way that felt fully open, direct, or transparent.

I believe our members deserve awareness and understanding. Sons of Norway matters to all of us, and decisions about its future matter as well.

I ask you to become engaged, ask questions, and stay involved. As a lodge, we have always been strongest when we face important matters together — thoughtfully, honestly, and with respect for one another.

Warm regards,

Kimberly Breiland, President

**SAVE THE DATES
LODGE BROOKLYN
FUTURE MEETINGS
AND EVENTS**

SYTTENDE MAI PARADE

Sunday, May 17, 2026
1 PM
Bay Ridge, Brooklyn

JUNE BRO

Sunday, June 14, 2026
3:45 PM
Skiing Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

CANCELLED

ZONE ONE CONVENTION

June 4-7
Virginia Beach

SUMMER BREAK

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!



LODGE BROOKLYN HAPPENINGS

MAY LODGE MEETING —Your Voice Is Needed—

At our April 19 meeting, Lodge Brooklyn had the pleasure of gathering in person at Sporting Club Gjøa—something we had not done as a full lodge in quite some time. It was wonderful to see so many members together again and to enjoy the fellowship that comes so naturally when we meet face to face.

During the meeting, Kimberly reviewed recent lodge activities and upcoming events, and also led a discussion of the resolutions that will be presented at the upcoming convention. Members shared thoughtful comments, and as a lodge we agreed to divide future meetings between in-person gatherings and Zoom so that more members will have the opportunity to participate.

We were also pleased to share the afternoon with members of Færder Lodge, making the gathering especially enjoyable.

At the conclusion of the formal meetings, we welcomed Rev. Paul H. Knudsen, who led our memorial service and offered the invocation, closing remarks, and benediction. His presence added a meaningful and reflective close to a very special afternoon.

IMPORTANT UPDATE FOR OUR LODGE

For those who may not yet be aware, I recently attended an informational meeting hosted by Sons of Norway leadership regarding the organization's planned partnership with BetterLife.

This was the first time I, as President of Lodge Brooklyn, had heard that Sons of Norway was

pursuing this kind of arrangement. Like many members, I came away with both interest and questions. We were told that the agreement is intended to strengthen Sons of Norway financially while preserving our name, traditions, lodges, districts, and cultural programs. Those assurances are certainly meaningful and important.

At the same time, the presentation left some questions unanswered. The format allowed only limited participation, and several thoughtful questions submitted by members were not addressed during the meeting. At this point, I have not seen a formal merger or partnership agreement, so like many of you, I am still hoping for greater clarity about what this means for the long-term future of our organization.

My intention in sharing this is not to create alarm, but to encourage awareness. Sons of Norway has been an important part of many of our lives, and I believe members deserve to be informed and to understand the decisions that may shape its future.

For more information visit: sofn.com/newpartnership

GENERAL

- \$100 towards Viking Fest 2026; Scandinavian East Coast Museum
- **Our June BBQ is cancelled** as Sporting Club Gjøa is fully booked due to the World Cup
- Please remember to save stamps and postcards for the **Tubfrim** program. We will be collecting all contributions at our next in-person meeting.



LODGE BROOKLYN MEETING & EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY



WAR SAILORS MEMORIAL

Hosted by **Scandinavian East Coast Museum**
Friday, May 8, 2026
10:30 AM

Norwegian War Sailors Monument at Battery Park
New York, NY

(Enter at Battery Place and Bowling Green, past the
Netherland Monument)



SYTTENDE MAI PARADE

Sunday, May 17, 2026
1 PM

“Our Legacy Continues”

Parade will start at 85th Street marching along 3rd
Avenue turning up 75th Street to 5th avenue to 67th
Street. [Click here for more info.](#)



VIKING FEST 2026

Hosted by **Scandinavian East Coast Museum**
Saturday, May 9, 2026
10 AM until 5 PM

Owl's Head/Bliss Park; 68th St. & Colonial Rd.
Bay Ridge, Brooklyn

Performances, music, reenactments, Scandinavian
and local artists.



JUNE BBQ

Sunday, June 14, 2026
1 PM - 5 PM

Brooklyn Bowling Club Bjørn, Brooklyn

- Requested contribution: \$15 SON members, \$20 all other children under 12 free
- BBQ food, raffles, and fun!

CANCELLED



NEWSLETTER BOOSTERS

Your donation is a voluntary act which helps pay for the publication and distribution of our Lodge newsletter.

Member	Amount	Date

If you would like a printed version of this newsletter snail-mailed to you please send \$25 to cover the cost of



GRATULERER MED DAGEN

- Corinne Alexis Hall May 2
- Sigrun Larsen May 5
- Sophia Adannia Okpokwasili May 6
- Peter C Johansen May 8
- Daniel E Johnson May 12
- Oleander Burke-McLoughlin May 14
- Robert P Travis May 14
- Signe Sabaugh May 15
- Janet G Faaland May 18
- Martina M Leonard-Fossum May 18
- Charlotte Bourbon May 29
- Leo Bourbon May 29
- Inger L Fisher May 30
- Heidi S Magnus June 12
- David M Thorsen June 20
- Lloyd R Andersen June 22
- Beverly E Malmbeck June 25
- Alisa Spicer June 27
- Kaare Andreassen July 5
- Peter B Hanson July 6
- Hedvig Bourbon July 9
- Jimmy Rasmussen July 15
- Vera E Pressman July 18
- Riise James Heatherington July 20
- Nathaniel Okpokwasili July 26
- John T Daxland July 27
- John Bjarne Strand July 27

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This space is available — \$50 for 8 issues

For more information contact
Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org



SONS of NORWAY

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eMail: Bob@rmclu.com



HOMEMADE PRIM



WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- 250 g / 8.8 oz. TINE® Gudbrandsdalsost, geitost or other type of brown cheese
 - 2 dl / 6.75 liquid oz. skim buttermilk
 - 1 dl / 3.4 liquid oz. whipping cream
 - 1 tsp. sugar
 - Cut the brown cheese into pieces and place in a saucepan with the buttermilk, cream and sugar.
 - Stir until the brown cheese is melted and then simmer over low heat for 30 minutes.
 - Cool by placing the saucepan in a bath of cold water and stirring so that the prim does not become grainy during cooling.
- * You can store the prim in airtight jars for several weeks in the refrigerator. A fun, edible gift to give to the person who has everything. Serve with bread, crackers or lefse. Enjoy!

LODGE BROOKLYN

EST. NOV. 22 1923

At Lodge Brooklyn, we celebrate the rich traditions of Norwegian and Norwegian-American culture while fostering a community that is fun, friendly, and welcoming. Our gatherings are a place to share memories, make new ones, and enjoy each other's company. We hope you'll come experience it for yourself at an upcoming meeting.

OFFICERS

President: Kimberly Breiland

Vice-President: Sigrun Larsen

Secretary: Gyda Arber

Treasurer: Elaine Breiland

Publicity Director: Kimberly Breiland

Membership Chair: Alice Svege

BECOME A MEMBER

Contact: Kimberly Breiland

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via web: [Click here](#)

