



NEWSLETTER

Volume 12, Issue 6
July/August 2026

LODGE BROOKLYN 3-243

I hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer!

Wow, wow, wow... what an incredible summer it has been for Norwegian football! After waiting nearly three decades to return to the FIFA World Cup, our Norwegian Men's National Team gave us all something to cheer about. While they didn't make it all the way to the final, they played with heart, determination, and pride. Judging by the excitement throughout the tournament, I think Americans—and football fans from around the world—fell in love with Team Norway. And the welcome they received when they returned home was nothing short of inspiring. **Ro! Ro! Ro!**

For those of us here in Brooklyn, it was especially exciting that Princess Ingrid Alexandra and Prince Sverre Magnus visited the young athletes at Sporting Club Gjøa—the very clubhouse where our Lodge meets each month. What a proud moment for the club and for our Norwegian-American community!

Now, I have to confess... there was one day when things got just a little tense in the Breiland-Patrick household. My husband was cheering for England, while I was firmly in Norway's corner, and Katrina stuck in the middle. Fortunately, we all survived—and somehow our daughter still claims she won!

Between another fantastic winter for Norwegian athletes and this unforgettable World Cup run, it has been a wonderful year to celebrate Norway. It's hard not to feel an enormous sense of pride in our heritage.

I hope you'll join us for our Welcome Back BBQ. **Please RSVP** so we know how much food to buy, and bring along that same Norwegian spirit and enthusiasm. I can't wait to see everyone!

Med vennlig hilsen,

Kimberly Breiland, President

SAVE THE DATES
LODGE BROOKLYN
FUTURE MEETINGS
AND EVENTS

WELCOME BACK BBQ

Sunday, September 20, 2026
1 PM - 5 PM
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

OCTOBER MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2026
7 PM - 9 PM
via ZOOM

THANKSGIVING TOGETHER

Sunday, November 15, 2026
1 PM - 5 PM
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

DECEMBER MEETING

Monday, December 21, 2026
7 PM - 9 PM
via ZOOM

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!



LODGE BROOKLYN HAPPENINGS

AROUND THE LODGE & AROUND THE DISTRICT

This summer I had the pleasure of attending the Norwegian Day Parade and volunteering at the Sons of Norway information table. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces, and as always, gathering afterward at Sporting Club Gjøa made for a perfect ending to the day.

In June, I also had the opportunity to attend my very first Third District Convention as Lodge Brooklyn's delegate. It was an eye-opening experience. While business was certainly conducted, my favorite part was meeting members from lodges throughout our District. We all share the same goal—keeping our Norwegian heritage alive—and it's amazing how many wonderful ideas are exchanged simply by sitting down and talking with one another.

One unexpected highlight for me was learning about the role of a **Parliamentarian**. After serving on several boards over the years, I quickly realized just how valuable this position can be. A Parliamentarian helps meetings run fairly and according to proper procedure. Needless to say, I've added another topic to my ever-growing list of things to learn!

Another memorable part of the convention was having the opportunity to present a resolution on behalf of Lodge Brooklyn. The resolution focused on the long-term sustainability of Sons of Norway while preserving the traditions and values that make our organization so special. I was pleased that it was adopted by the delegates, and I was proud that our Lodge could contribute to an important discussion about the future of Sons of Norway.

SONS OF NORWAY & BETTERLIFE

Perhaps the biggest topic discussed at the convention was the new partnership between Sons of Norway and BetterLife.

Many members have asked what this means. The short answer is that **our local lodges are continuing**, and the partnership is intended to strengthen the financial future of Sons of Norway. Most members should notice very little change in day-to-day lodge activities while new policies and procedures are developed.

Some of the changes will happen behind the scenes. The current Sons of Norway Bylaws will eventually be replaced by BetterLife's governing bylaws, along with updated Sons of Norway policies and procedures. District and local bylaws will be revised over time as more information becomes available. For that reason, our Lodge will wait to revise our bylaws until additional guidance becomes available.

Since returning home from the convention, we also learned that **Dan Seyfried**, who has served as Sons of Norway's leader for the past six years, has accepted a new position with another insurance carrier. According to the International Board, Dan played a significant role in establishing the BetterLife partnership and helping secure a path forward for our organization. We thank him for his years of dedicated service and wish him all the best.

Stepping into the role of **Interim Leader** on August 8 is **Tu Hornstra**, a familiar member of the leadership team with more than 20 years of experience in the fraternal insurance industry. She has served in several key leadership positions within Sons of Norway and will help guide the organization through this transition while working closely with BetterLife.



LODGE BROOKLYN HAPPENINGS

While there are still many details to learn about the partnership, one message was consistently reinforced throughout the convention and in subsequent communications: **our mission, our heritage, our lodges, and our commitment to celebrating Norwegian culture remain unchanged.** As more information becomes available, I'll continue sharing updates in future newsletters and at our lodge meetings.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Congratulations to our own **Elaine Breiland**, who was elected Assistant Zone 1 Director!
- The next Third District Convention will be held **June 4–7 in Riverhead, Long Island.**
- The Third District has launched a **Recruitment & Retention Contest** to encourage membership growth, and is bringing back the **Newsletter Contest.**
- The District's online **Toolbox** continues to grow with meeting ideas, programs, and activities that local lodges can use.
- A **Lodge Assistance Program** is now available to help lodges with limited financial resources.

THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING

One thing that really stood out to me this summer—whether at the Norwegian Day Parade, the Third District Convention, or our own lodge meetings—is just how much of Sons of Norway is built by volunteers.

The 17th of May Parade doesn't simply happen. Someone plans it. Someone organizes it. Someone orders supplies, coordinates participants, sets up tables, and cleans up afterward. The same is true for our lodge meetings, cultural programs, newsletters, and events.

Our Lodge officers are volunteers.

Our committee members are volunteers.

The Third District Board is made up of volunteers.

The many committees working behind the scenes throughout the District are all volunteers.

There are countless hours of work that most members never see, yet those hours are what keep our organization thriving. The convention really opened my eyes to just how many people quietly give their time, talents, and energy so that the rest of us can simply enjoy being members.

If you've ever thought about becoming more involved, I encourage you to take that first step. You don't have to become Lodge President or chair a committee. Sometimes volunteering simply means helping at an event, welcoming a new member, serving on a committee, or sharing an idea.

Sons of Norway has been around for more than 130 years because generation after generation has been willing to give a little of their time for something bigger than themselves. Whether you have an hour to give or are looking for a larger role, your time and talents truly make a difference. I hope you'll consider becoming part of that tradition. We can always use another helping hand—and another good idea.



LODGE BROOKLYN MEETINGS



WELCOME BACK BBQ

Sunday, September 20, 2026

1 PM - 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$15 SON members, \$20 all others, children under 12 free
- BBQ food, raffles, and fun!
- RSVP: Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org



THANKGIVING TOGETHER

Sunday, November 15, 2026

1 PM - 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$15 SON members, \$20 all others, children under 12 free
- Thanksgiving meal, raffles, and fun!
- RSVP: Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org



OCTOBER ZOOM MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2026

7 PM

via Zoom

Email: Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org to let us know you would like to attend the Zoom meeting and you will receive the link to join.



DECEMBER ZOOM MEETING

Monday, December 21, 2026

7 PM

via Zoom

Email: Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org to let us know you would like to attend the Zoom meeting and you will receive the link to join.

EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY



SCAN FEST

Sunday, September 6, 2026

10 AM - 5 PM

Vasa Park

93 Wolfe Rd., Budd Lake, NJ

- Scandinavian Food, Live Music, Viking Heritage, Culture & Traditions, Vendors, and Family Friendly.



NOREWGIAN FESTIVAL

Hosted by **Nansen Lodge**

Saturday, September 19, 2026

10 AM until 4 PM

3441 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY

- Norwegian Foods, Vendors, Food purchased by A Taste of Honey, Vendors, Shop, Raffles, 50/50, Community, and Culture.



AUTUMN FESTIVAL + FALL FAIR

Saturday, September 12, 2026

10 AM - 5 PM

Norwegian Christian Home & Health Center

1250 67th Street, Brooklyn, NY

- Traditional Norwegian & American Food, Unique Gifts & Deli Food Items for Sale, Various Raffle Prize Drawings, Vendors Galore!



LOBSTER + STEAK PARTY

Saturday, September 19, 2026

3 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- \$65 per ticket by 9/12, \$75 per ticket after 9/12
- Includes Hamburgers & Hot Dogs prior to dinner
- Live Music
- RSVP: Vera @ 917-831-8423



Coastal RETREAT

September 16–20, 2026
Isle of Palms, South Carolina

*Norwegian Cultural Camp
for Families and Adults*

Cost:

- 1 person room \$925
- 2 attendees sharing room \$1400 (\$700 pp)
- 3 attendees sharing room \$1875 (\$625 pp)
- 4 attendees sharing room \$2300 (\$575 pp)



**Sons of
NORWAY**

3rd District





COASTAL RETREAT 2026 APPLICATION

For Families & Adults

Isle of Palms, SC

September 16 - September 20, 2026

2101 Palm Blvd, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

Full Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Email Address

Phone Number

Do you have any food allergies or dietary restrictions?

☐ Yes

☐ No If yes,

please elaborate:

Please list everyone staying in your room. (Each room requires an application)

☐ Adult ☐ Teenager ☐ Child

☐ Adult ☐ Teenager ☐ Child

☐ Adult ☐ Teenager ☐ Child

☐ Adult ☐ Teenager ☐ Child

Please return this application along with a check to cover the **full payment by August 20, 2026.**

Make out check to **Sons of Norway District Lodge No. 3** and mail to:

Katie Brink, 7107 Fernwood St #2421, Henrico, VA 23228

Any questions contact Katie at uyakkm27@outlook.com or (614)202-5964



NORWEGIAN CHRISTIAN HOME AND HEALTH CENTER

Dear Friends,

July 2026

We are delighted to announce the **Annual Autumn Festival & Fall Fair** will take place on **Saturday, September 12, 2026** from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This beloved community tradition is an opportunity to reconnect with friends, enjoy great food, support the Home and find uncommon and unique gifts from many diverse vendors. Bring your family and friends – **Admission is free!** Once again we will have our highly anticipated Grand Prize raffle along with other raffle prizes and many opportunities to win some great items.



This year, our Grand Prize will offer you the opportunity to win a fabulous trip on a **Cruise for Two with Norwegian Cruise Line!**

Select your destination on any Norwegian Cruise Line ship! Travel south to the Caribbean, Mexico or Bermuda, north to New England, Alaska or even Europe!

The maximum value of the prize is **\$2500**. If you wish you may supplement that amount.

Travel is valid thru December 2027. *(Transportation to and from the port and taxes are not included).*

** In lieu of the cruise a cash prize of \$1000 may be selected.*

Don't miss your chance to win this amazing prize! Tickets for the **Grand Prize raffle are \$10 each and \$50 for a sheet of six**. Purchasing tickets is easy. Simply complete the enclosed raffle form and return it to the Home using the enclosed envelope along with your preferred method of payment.

In keeping with our Norwegian heritage, we are pleased to offer advance orders of our favorite traditional foods and delicacies including, Marzipan Cake with apricot filling, Lapskaus (Beef Stew), Pea Soup, and Fish Pudding.

Food orders may be placed online beginning August 5, 2026. To place your order, visit www.nchhc.org, click on "Events," and select *Autumn Festival & Fall Fair 2026*, and then *Food Order Form*. Orders should be submitted no later than **September 5, 2026**. Please note that prices may be slightly higher on the day of the event.

For additional information about food orders please contact Christina Marino at 718-306-5626 or Donna Oblocki at 718-306-5872.

We look forward to seeing you at the Fair!

Very truly yours,

George A. Jensen
Chairman, Board of Directors

Encl: Raffle sheet, flyer, return envelope





This year our Grand Prize raffle will offer you the opportunity to win a fabulous trip on
a ***Cruise for two with Norwegian Cruise Line!***

Select your destination on any Norwegian Cruise Ship Line! Travel south to the Caribbean, Mexico or Bermuda, north to New England, Alaska, or even Europe.

The maximum value of the prize is \$2500. If you wish you may supplement that amount. Travel is valid thru **December 2027**. Arrangements made by Jensen Elite Travel. (Transportation to and from port and taxes are not included)

In lieu of the cruise a cash prize of \$1000 may be selected

Drawing: **Saturday, September 12, 2026** Tickets: **\$10 each/\$50 for sheet of 6**
Winner need not be present to win.

This page may be copied if you wish to purchase additional tickets.

Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

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Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

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City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

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Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Fall Fair 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Check payable to: Norwegian Christian Home Foundation
Mail to: 1250 67th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219



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

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
Alice Svege	August 1
Sunshine Burke-McLoughlin	August 4
Gustav Thommesen	August 24
Schylar Burke-McLoughlin	August 27
Isabella Louise Bolstad	August 28
Alice Spicer	August 28
Kennet I Njerve	August 30
V L Swanson	September 10
Ellen Lindstrom	September 26
Bertram Okpokwasili III	September 28

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

For more information contact
Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org



**SONS of
NORWAY**

Robert McKeever, CLU
Financial Benefits Counselor
www.SONSOFNORWAY.com

Phone: (800) 561-1492
Cell: (631) 672-5340
Fax: (631) 863-2204
eMail: Bob@rmclu.com



SHRIMP SMØRREBRØD



WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- 1 lb fresh, cold-water shrimp (peeled)
- 4 thick slices of rustic white or rye bread
- Mayonnaise
- Fresh dill (chopped)
- 1 lemon (cut into wedges)
- Cucumber (thinly sliced)
- Salt and pepper

HOW TO CREATE

- Toast or butter your bread slices lightly.
- Spread a generous layer of mayonnaise on each slice.
- Add a layer of fresh cucumber slices.
- Pile the peeled shrimp high on top of the cucumber.
- Sprinkle fresh dill, salt, and pepper over the shrimp.
- Serve with a fresh lemon wedge on the side.

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

via Phone: 917-523-3266

via e-Mail: Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org

via web: [Click here](#)

