



# Sverdrup Nyheter

Sverdrup 4-107  
Bismarck, ND

Volume 57  
Issue 2 February 2026

## President's Brev Hei Alle Sammen

As we enter February someone asked me, "Does Norway celebrate Valentine's Day?" Yes they do, in the understated way us Norwegians are noted for. A low-key, celebration, since the 1990s, with flowers, cards, chocolate, and maybe a romantic dinner. Valentine's Day in Norway is called *Valentinsdagen* or *Alle Hjerters Dag* and is also observed on February 14.



## VINTERFEST

This is the third year of Vinterfest and the third year of trying to have outdoor events that require snow. Unfortunately we had to **CANCEL the Cross-Country Ski event** at Riverwood on February 1st. Our hope is that we get enough snow by the time we have the Kicksled event at Riverwood on February 15th from Noon to 3 pm. Check the Vinterfest calendar at <https://www.vinterfest.org> for updates.

We will still need volunteers to help serve refreshments and to help with this event on the 15th. Call me (Tom Marple 701-663-1147) if you would like to volunteer.

## Sverdrup Strategy Planning, February 14, 10 am to Noon, First Lutheran Church, Bismarck

All are invited to attend this planning session. We will be in the basement of the church and pizza will be served when we are done. Consider this a brain storming session to become a better Lodge. How do we do a better job of marketing our Lutefisk Dinner and Lefse sales? How do we offer more cultural programs? How do we communicate better to our Lodge members and a more diverse Lodge age wise? How do we become better community partners. If you can't make it in person call me and tell me your ideas.

## Sons of Norway District IV Convention

The convention is being held at the Radisson Hotel in Bismarck on June 18 –21, 2026. On the night of June 18 we will have a President's buffalo dinner at the Commissary at Fort Abraham Lincoln. We will soon be posting costs to attend the Saturday banquet and the buffalo feed on Thursday. All are welcome to attend. We will be looking for delegates to represent Sverdrup. I would really like to have younger and newer members to consider being a delegate. We will have Cultural categories that Lodge members can enter as a competition such as rosemaling, carving and hardanger with awards handed out at the Saturday banquet.

Because of the high monthly cost to have an active Credit Card Reader we have suspended our account until the next Lutefisk Dinner. Thus cash and checks only for the remainder of the year for our monthly socials.

Hilsen  
Tom Marple

## Kalendar February

- 02 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 09 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Strategy Planning Meeting 10 a.m. - noon, Pizza for lunch, 1st Lutheran
- 16 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Social Meeting 6:15 p.m.  
Program: In Trunks, Hands, and Hearts: What Norwegian Immigrants Brought to the United States, Speaker from Vesterheim  
Recognition of Past Presidents  
Menu: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, broccoli almondine, garlic toast, salad, dessert
- 23 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Convention Planning 6 p.m.
- 26 Business Meeting 7 p.m.

## March

- 02 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 09 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 16 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 20 Social Meeting 6:15 p.m.
- 23 Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 26 Convention Planning 6 p.m.
- 26 Business Meeting 7 p.m.
- 30 Language Class 6:30 p.m.

If you have food allergies or will have a child with you needing a child's meal, let Nanc know when you make your reservation. Credit Cards are now accepted for meals.

For reservations, unless you are on the "regular" list, contact Nanc at 258-4703 or [skaret@bis.midco.net](mailto:skaret@bis.midco.net)

**This is now being strictly enforced  
by the Eagles.  
Make your reservations no later than the  
SUNDAY prior to the social.**



### Februar Bursdager

Andrea Collin	01
Keara E Telshaw	01
Valerie J Otto	04
Sandy Mundahl	05
Jenell K Loftesnes	08
Michael Liudahl	12
Evelyn E Hildebrand	12
James Keith Soiseth	14
Shirley E Svanes	14
Delores Delain Soiseth	16
Diane Corinne Gronfur	17
Robert L Turner	17
Audrey H Solheim	18
Karen I Halldorson	20
Kevin Tengesdal	21
Jessica M Rossow	22
Ivadell J Larson	22
James R Lang	23
Howard Blackstead	24
Laken G Porter	24
Audrey Gehringer	24
Susan Ulvestad	29

### Treasure from Norway



Bring your family heirloom from Norway to the February Social as part of the Vesterheim program.

Do you have any items that your ancestors brought over from Norway when they immigrated to the states? That was a challenge from this month's social meeting program.

My grandmother's dad died when she was quite young, she was the youngest child in the family; as a result she inherited a sum of money. With this she purchased a Singer Sewing Machine.

When she was 18 years old she immigrated to America and brought her prized possession. She not only used it, but both my mother and I learned to sew on this machine as well. It still works, and is on display at the Manfred Museum. See photo to the left. Audrey Solheim

### Local Charity Drive

Lodge member, Jerry Saude, has organized a Thrivent Team project to provide boxed food items for AID INC. in Mandan. Aid Inc. serves our neighbors with short term helping hands for food, rent, counseling and assistance in their time of need. Their most pressing need for the food pantry-is simple and easy boxed meals that are supplemented with a protein such as beef, chicken and canned fish. Please support Jerry's efforts by bringing your donation of a boxed food item, such as in the picture, to the February social. We are also seeking a charitable grant from District IV in the amount of \$100 to match our lodge donations. Cash or boxed food is welcomed. Thrivent t-shirts will be available for you to pickup that night also. BE ON THE TEAM! Helping Our Helpers. [Aid Inc. | Self-Help Center & Thrift Shop - Mandan, ND](http://www.aidincnd.com) [www.aidincnd.com](http://www.aidincnd.com)



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### Social Meeting Dinner



Enjoying the January social are, l to r, new members Spenser and Beth Ulvestad, Stephane and Steve Olson, Mike and Sandy Mundahl, and Sharon Liudahl. It happened to be Sharon's birthday.

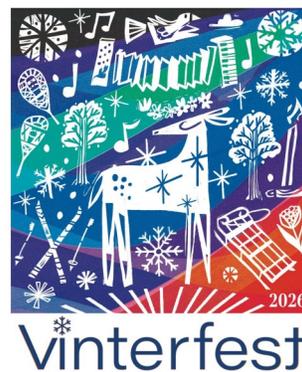
### Vinterfest Kickoff

Sverdup Lodge had a booth at the Vinterfest Kickoff on Jan 18th. We had two kicksleds and cross-country skis promoting two events in partnership with Bismarck Parks and Recreation. Tom Marple and Claudia Berg staffed the booth, several lodge members attended the kick-off on a very blustery Sunday afternoon, l to r, Tom Marple, Carol Christianson, Judith Hammer, Val Otto, and Eryls Fardal, seated, Claudia Berg.



Cultural Director Steve Olson provided another fun program. Did the Vikings Invade the English Language? was a multiple-choice series of questions proving the influence of the Old Norse language on the Old English language.

Over 1,000 everyday Norse words can be found in the English language. To learn more visit Rob Words *The Vikings, The Words the Vikings Left Behind*, on You Tube.



Stephanie Olson offered the swag basket to door prize winner Audrey Solheim. It was a good evening to be wearing a Norwegian sweater.



Social Director Joyce Harnden is the baker behind the sweet treats served after social programs.

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**February 2026**



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