



Sverdrup Nyheter

Sverdrup 4-107
Bismarck, ND

Volume 57
Issue 3 March 2026

President's Brev

Hei Alle Sammen

Another Vinterfest is in the books with more participation from other cultural groups than ever before. Thanks to your very own Sverdrup Lodge with helping this annual event get off the ground with a grant from The American Scandinavian Foundation. Where did all the snow go? We are still hoping for some late season snow so we can hold a Kick Sled event with Bismarck Parks and Rec. at Riverwood Golf Course.



The Lodge held its annual Strategy Planning meeting on February 14. We had a great turnout. The most since I have been attending. Items covered were: How to get more people to our Lutefisk Dinner and buy more Lefse through marketing. We have a great lodge with active members. How do we convey that and increase membership and participation. What is the future of Sons of Norway Park and how to increase Cultural offerings.

Speaking of cultural offerings I had the great honor of taking Nanc Skaret's 3 night Hardanger class at the Veterans Memorial Bismarck Public Library. The class filled up within one hour of being offered. Despite having to "rip out" my stitches and start over multiple times, I thoroughly enjoyed learning a new Nordic skill from a top instructor. Tusen takk Nanc!!

So many activities to choose from. Watch the pages of this newsletter for details of upcoming events and how to participate. They are: A SONS table at **Families Around the World**, BPL, April 27th. SONS **District IV Convention** hosted by us, Sverdrup Lodge, June 18-20. **Larks Game**, July 12th. **Mystery Bus Tour**, date TBA. As you can see we have a lot going on.

The District IV Convention has a **Folk Arts Competition**. Open to all Sons of Norway Members from District IV. We will have applications at the upcoming Socials or you can call me at 701-663-1147 and I will email you one. There are four skill levels you can compete in from Novice to Professional. Skills such as rosemaling, hardener, carving, knitting etc. can be entered. This is not so much a competition as it is a showcase of Nordic skills where you can learn and mingle with other crafts people.

Did you mourn the passing of **Norsk Høstfest**? I know I did. The good news is that there are attempts to revive a smaller version of Høstfest at the Civic Auditorium in Minot on August 20 and 21 of this year. Fingers crossed that it happens. We will keep you posted.

Hilsen og tenk sno!
Tom Marple

Kalendar

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.
Menu: Cod, rice, peas with pearl onions, salad, dessert
Program: Immigrants Who Settled in Bismarck by Anne Vadne
- 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.

April

- 06 Advanced Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Beginner Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 17 Social Meeting 6:15 p.m.
Menu: Ham, Scalloped potatoes, carrots, salad, dessert
Program: Top Things to See in Norway by Joy Flynn
- 20 Advanced Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Convention Planning 6 p.m.
- 23 Business Meeting 7 p.m.
- 27 Beginner Language Class 6:30 p.m.
- TBA Lutefisk Dinner, Bismarck Eagles in April

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.

For reservations, unless you are on the "regular" list, contact Nanc at 258-4703 or 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.



Mars Bursdager

Delores M Johnson	9
Boston H Porter	14
Susan O Lundberg	15
Kay Joann York	19
Norma M Sipma	20
Myrtrice D Ecklund	22
Jean C Johnson	22
Brian Bjella	24
Paulette A Vetter	26
Dennis Svanes	26
Jackson Sommerville	31

Good conversations were had over dinner at the Feb. social. L to r, are Susan Hammer Schneider, Ron Harnden, Joyce Harnden, Sue Tohm, Norma Anfinson, Michele Bjugstad, Rick Collin and Andrea Collin. Sue and Michele are Norma's cousins.



Past Presidents

February is the month when Sons of Norway Past Presidents are recognized for their leadership in Sverdrup 4-107.

The following past presidents were introduced at the recent meeting:

- 1991 - 1991 - Audrey Solheim
- 1993 - 1993 - Vern Monger
- 2005 - 2006 - Robert Johnson
- 2015 - 2118 - Jerry Saude
- 2019 - 2020 - Susan Hammer Schneider

Sverdrup Lodge sponsored a Vinterfest Hardanger class lead by Nanc Skaret. Tom Marple and Carol Christianson took the opportunity to learn the traditional needlework technique.



Long time lodge members and former lodge presidents Vern Monger and Audrey Solheim posed for a photo in their warm Norwegian sweaters.



Jerry Saude spearheaded a food drive for Aid Incorporated in Mandan. Lodge members brought nonperishable food items to the Feb. social, and the effort was matched with a Thrivent Community Action Grant.

Sverdrup Nyheter is published once a month by Sverdrup #107 Sons of Norway Lodge, PO Box 1912, Bismarck, ND 58502-1912. There is no charge for the newsletter. For address changes or questions contact: asolheim@bis.midco.net Website: www.sofnbismarck.com

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- Current Membership 225 youth and adults

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Social Meeting Dinner



Our new musician Aryv Smith did a great job on her first time playing the three national anthems at our social meeting.

Paula Schilling carefully holds a wooden tine dating to 1795 brought to the US by her grandparents. [photo on right]



Helen Swenson shared several family pieces including handknitted mittens. The wool came from family sheep and was then processed to make the wool for the mittens.



Judith Hammer inherited these carved and kolrosed decorated wooden spoons from relatives that go back at least three generations, dating to ca. 1870. Admiring the spoons are l to r, Janell Loftness, Judith, Tom Marple, and Stephanie Olson.



Bob and Susan Wefald brought a 1780 silver spoon from Bob's family and brought to the US in the 1880s.

The February social featured the Vesterheim live presentation, "In Trunks, Hands, and Hearts: What Norwegian Immigrants Brought to the United States." A table was available for lodge members to share their Norwegian family stories and heirlooms brought to the US from Norway. [picture to the right]



The **annual strategy meeting** was held Saturday, Feb. 14th. Those attending included, seated l to r, Erllys Fardal, Val Otto, Nanc Skaret, and Audrey Solheim. Standing, Dave Kolding, Joyce Harnden, Ken Lien, Carol Christianson, Jim Skaret, Tom Marple, Dan Sauerwein, Jerry Saude, Judith Hammer, Dave Helland, not pictured Claudia Berg. Val celebrated her birthday with us. [See below]



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March 2026



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