



# LODGE BROOKLYN 3-243

As summer swiftly comes to a close and fall approaches, many are settling into the new school year. My mother once told me that time seems to pass more quickly as we age, and I've come to understand why that might be true. Nature itself is a reminder of this cycle—sometimes time moves fast, other times slow. What I find inspiring about Norwegian culture is their deep connection to nature, embracing both its rhythms and the inevitable finality, while savoring every moment. It's a beautiful perspective that highlights the value of living fully in the present.

I'm excited to invite everyone to our Annual Welcome Back BBQ this Sunday, September 8. This year, we're hosting a joint meeting with Færder Lodge, featuring a special guest, Jeff Dirgo, who will present on *Operation Gunnerside*.

I'm also thrilled to share that two of our members, Hailey Papa and Katrina Patrick, who received Zone One Scholarships, were celebrated recently. It was a wonderful event, and their achievement is a testament to the value of participating in our community. I hope their success inspires others to get involved or consider joining us.

Since we haven't gathered as a group since April, this meeting will be packed with important updates and discussions. Your participation is greatly encouraged and valued.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Fraternally,

Kimberly Breiland, President

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

### JOINT BBQ

Sunday, September 8, 2024  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

### OCTOBER

Sunday, October 20, 2024  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

### NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 17, 2024  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

### DECEMBER

Sunday, December 15, 2024  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!**



## FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – MAY 2024

### MAY 2024

Recently, Karen and I attended the **Third District Picnic** chaired by Sports and Recreational Director Paul Kornbrekke. When Paul approached the board stating that he wished to bring back the 3D sports picnic, the board happily gave him the go-ahead. The hard work of Paul and his committee, mainly the members of Nansen Lodge, paid off as the picnic was a great success. I am hoping that it will be even bigger and better next year! A big **THANK YOU** goes to Paul et al.

As I write this message, the time for the Third District Convention is quickly approaching and will be here before we know it. Then the summer months arrive when the district lodges take time off from meetings to have their picnics and get-togethers. This is also a time when members travel or just stay home and enjoy the summer.

With that said, it was very disheartening when I, along with other district board members, was notified from International Board Chairman Ron Stubbings that our dues will be drastically raised starting July 1st.

In 2021 the International Board put out a referendum to go to a board governance format which most of the Third District delegates from the 2018 International Convention strongly opposed and voted “no”, but it passed anyway. Since Sons of Norway went to a board governance format and stopped having international conventions with delegates to represent the members of Sons of Norway, we the members have lost our say in our organization. Just as in colonial times in America where England was taxing the colonists, where it was taxation without representation, we have the same problem not having international convention delegates to represent us. So, we have

dues increases without representation. The International Board has all the power, we do not have control anymore. We have no say in our own organization. Those who voted to give the International Board of Directors this power did so in good faith. We can only ask, “Is the International Board of Directors governing with the same good faith?” I want the members of the Third District to know that the change in dues was made solely by the International Board of Directors without any input from district presidents or other district leaders. Everyone to whom I have spoken about this agrees that it will lead to a major decrease in membership and could backfire on the International Board of Directors by bringing less revenue overall to the home office.

The fraternal leg of our beloved “3-legged stool” has taken and continues to take the brunt of the shortcomings of the “insurance leg.”

Just during my term of office which began in June of 2022, we have seen the following changes:

- The number of issues of the Viking Magazine decreased from 12 to 6 issues a year.
- The amount of dues received by districts was drastically reduced. In District 3 we had a 73% decrease from 2021 to 2023.
- Our district convention is not being supported this year as it has been in the past; no longer does the home office supply tote bags, pads, pens, and booklets explaining Parliamentary Procedures and this is the last year that they will supply ballots, instead, they sent a template for districts to print and cut-up on their own. They are also not paying for any representatives from the home office to attend district conventions.



## FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – MAY + SEPT. 2024

### SEPTEMBER 2024

- They are no longer supplying plaques for lodges that reach important milestones such as 50, 75, 100-year anniversaries.
- The recruitment event kits are no longer available from the home office. This box of goodies had signs, applications, and many types of informational handouts for all three legs of our stool: fraternal, foundation, and insurance. This forced districts and lodges to develop and pay for their own information to distribute.
- Just prior to my term of office, the International Board of Directors did away with the Founders Award. Soon after raising the threshold for a lodge to win this award from a 3% increase in membership to a 10% increase in membership, they stopped awarding anything. The award was a nice recognition with a small monetary award for lodges that recruited new members.

One might question their ultimate plan for fraternal. Do they want to do away with the fraternal leg of our stool all together? We must work hard to keep the “fraternal” in Sons of Norway by recruiting more new members and by having more programs at lodge meetings, so members do not mind paying the dues increase. The **Third District Revitalization Committee** is here to help you do just that! There is a lot of helpful information from the committee on the Third District Website.

I hope to see many of you at our convention. Due to the Convention, there will be no president’s message in June. My next message will be in September. Have a great summer.

Fraternally,  
*Stephen Helmold*, Third District President

It is hard to believe that summer is about over. I hope everyone had a great one and enjoyed it with picnics and vacation trips. Soon lodges will be starting to meet again, and I would like to bring you up to date on what has been going on in our Third District.

At the Third District Convention in Herndon, Virginia the delegates approved 10 resolution and 1 motion that have now been sent to the home office for recording. Washington Lodge was the host lodge, and they did a great job to make everyone feel welcome and making sure everything was perfect, which it sure was. They left nothing out. Every little detail was covered. The bus tour of Washington DC at night was fantastic. I want to thank Dave Brown and his entire committee for a job well done.

At the District Lodge meeting, we had election of offices for the 2024-2026 Third District Board. A number of our Board members choose not to seek reelection. I want to thank Audun Gythfeldt, Susan Olson, Andy Mathisen, who is running for a position on the International Board, Jeanne Addison and Michael Pedersen for all they have done for the Third District. I know they will continue to be active in their lodges and their zones.

I would also like to thank those Board members who have agreed to stay on the Board for another year. Some have changed positions. Diana Syvertsen will be our Treasurer, Elaine Breiland will be the Zone One Director, and Paul Kornbrekke will be the Zone 3 Director.

Karen Olsen-Helmold will remain as Secretary, and she will serve as our liaison to the Sons of Norway Foundation. Leif Easterson will remain as Charitable



## FRA PRESIDENTEN, STEPHEN HELMOLD – SEPT. 2024

Trust Director Asbjorn Lageraaen as Publicity Director, Peter Hanson as Zone 2 Director, Kaare Hansen as Zone 4 Director, Christine Taylor as Zone 5 Director and Bill Browning as Zone 7 Director.

We also welcome a few new Board members. I really want to thank them for stepping up to the plate. Kaite Brink from Hampton Roads Lodge will fill the new position of Assistant Secretary. Our new Cultural Director is Cheri Johnson who is presently the President of Bla Fjell Lodge. They have both hit the ground running and have already been part of this year's youth camp and are planning the Cultural weekend for June of 2025. (Both events as discussed more in this letter). Robert Johnson from Loyal Lodge will be our new Vice President and Linda Hestvik from Washington Lodge will be our new Zone 6 Director. I am delighted to welcome them to the Third District Board. I am happy to see the lodges in the Southern half of the District having more representation on the Board. I have been working hard during my time on the Board to get more involvement from this area and from all lodges.

Youth camp this year went very well from what I heard from the camp counselors. For the children that did not go, they missed out on a great time. There were only 8 children this year, we were hoping for more, but we are going to advertise and push it for next year, so I hope if you have children and grandchildren of youth camp age (8 to 17 years old) you will encourage them to go to youth camp next year.

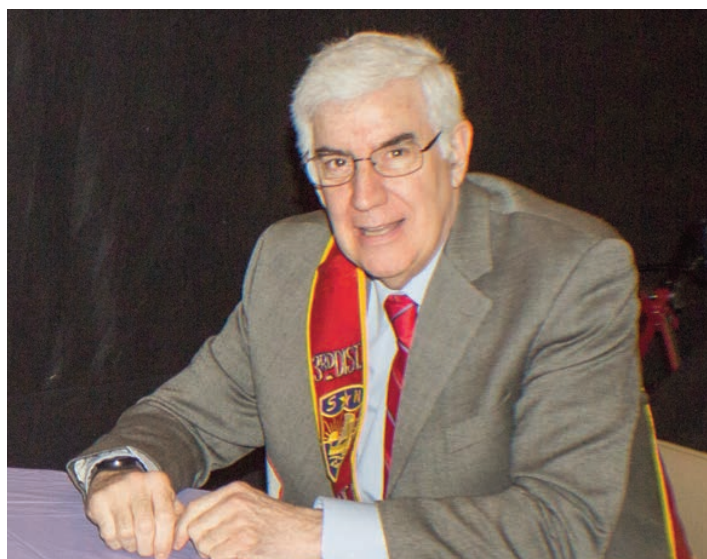
Next year there will be a Third District Cultural weekend from Thursday June 26th to Sunday June 29th in South Carolina. Third District Cultural Director Cheri Johnson and her committee are working on planning a fun weekend with cultural and more. The weekend is for members of all ages,

families, couples and singles and for our friends. All are welcome. More information will be coming about it in the next couple of months, so if you are interested in going, please contact Cheri.

The Third District Board and its committees have been very busy planning the future of the Third district. The fall board meeting will be on Saturday October 19th and I will keep you informed of what has been planned after the board has met.

Until my next message, I hope you all have a great fall season.

Fraternally,  
*Stephen Helmold*, Third District President



Stephen Helmold, *Third District President*





## LODGE BROOKLYN HAPPENINGS

On May 5th, many members of Lodge Brooklyn attended the Færder Lodge meeting, in celebration of two members receiving Zone One Scholarships. Hailey Papa and Katrina Patrick were the recipients. Barbara Berntsen, Zone One Scholarship Committee Chair presented a check and certificate to each recipient as well as sharing an inspiring speech.

For our meeting on September 8, Færder Lodge has arranged a special presentation, **Operation Gunnerside**, by *Jeff Dirgo* of Nor-Bu Lodge. Many have walked away from his past presentations with nothing but the highest of accolades. We will also have the traditional Welcome Back BBQ with Adam Patrick manning the grill. Please be sure to let us know if you will be attending by Friday, September 6, as we have to buy the food.

Thank you Daniel Johnson for representing Lodge Brooklyn as our Delegate at the 2024 Convention.

### We Need

- In June we were to elect/appoint representatives and alternates for the Zone One Committee 2024-2026 term. We did not have a meeting because of conflicts, at the September 8 meeting we will address. Please step forward if you can be a representative or alternate. The next Zone One meeting is Wednesday, September 18, at 7 PM via Zoom.

### Posts

- Elaine Breiland — Zone One Director
- Susan Olson — Zone One Assistant Director
- Karen Olsen-Helmold — Zone One Secretary (for now)

### General Business

- Paid for Loyal Lodge 100th Anniversary journal ad
- Paid Gjøa March-August
- Paid for lodging @ Convention
- Paid 22 Graphics for Qickbooks subscription (yearly)
- Made donation to Zone One Scholarship Committee
- Received a loving note from Svege family for service, love, and support
- Received a Thank You from Scandinavian East Coast Museum for our donation
- Received a Thank You from Zone One Scholarship Committee for our donation
- Received a Thank You note from Karen Olsen-Helmold for the honor of being our guest speaker at the Memorial Service.

### International

Please take note that **International Board Chair, Ron Stubbings** has sent out correspondence informing all members that dues will be increased effective July 1, 2024. Individual memberships will be increased by \$2 and household memberships by \$4 per month.

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](mailto: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 1/4" margin around the stamp.



# LODGE BROOKLYN MEETING DATES



## WELCOME BACK BBQ WITH FAERDER LODGE

Sunday, September 8, 2024 (note date change)

1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

- Requested donation of \$15 SON members, \$20 all others, Children under 12 FREE



## NOVEMBER MEETING

Sunday, November 17, 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!



## OCTOBER MEETING

Sunday, October 20, 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!



## DECEMBER MEETING

Sunday, December 15, 2024

1 PM until 5 PM

Sporting Club Gjøa, Brooklyn

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





## EVENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY



### 2024 FALL FAIR

Saturday, September 7, 2024  
10 AM until 5 PM

Norwegian Christian Home and Health Center  
1250 67th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219

- Delicious Food, Marvelous Gifts & Deli Food Items for sale, Raffle Drawing, Child Activities



### NANSEN HERITAGE FAIR

Saturday, September 21, 2024  
10 AM until 4 PM

Nansen Lodge Picnic Grounds  
3465 Victory Blvd. Staten Island, NY 10314

- Raffles, Birthday Board, 50/50, Social Director's Food Store, Regina's Waffles, Lapskaus, and cake table. Trash to Treasure, Nansen Crafts, etc.



### LOYAL SPEGHETTI BINGO

Saturday, September 21, 2024  
Doors open 5:30 PM

Loyal Lodge: St. James Lutheran Church Parish Hall  
230 Second Avenue, St. James, NY 11780

- \$25 per adult, \$20 12 years and under
- Bingo, 50/50, Spaghetti + Meatball dinner
- RSVP by Sept. 7: Kirsten 229-395-1036



### CLAN OF THE RAVEN

October 5 + 6, 2024  
10 AM until 5 PM

Nor-Bu Lodge  
516 Green Pond Road, Rockaway, NJ 07866

- \$10 adults, \$20 family, \$8 seniors, Free for 10 yrs. and under. Education on the Viking Age, games, food, vendors, etc. Info: IngridSceusi@gmail.com





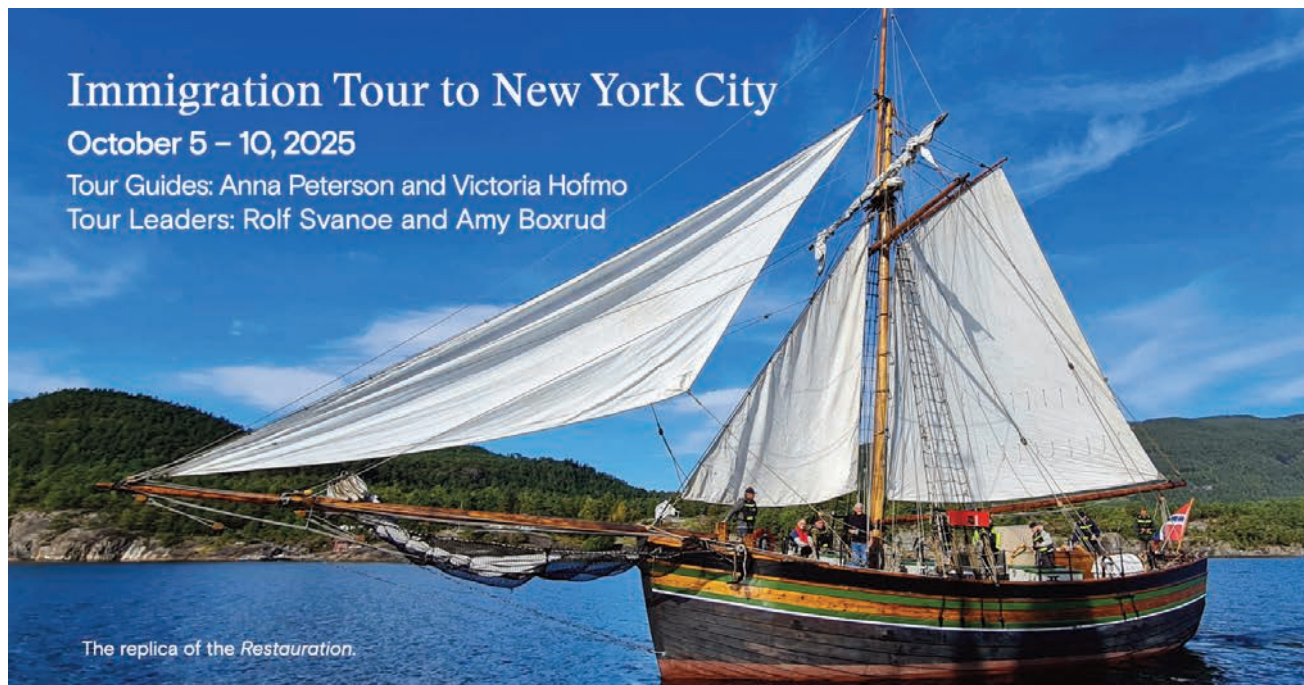
# HISTORICAL TOUR

## Immigration Tour to New York City

October 5 – 10, 2025

Tour Guides: Anna Peterson and Victoria Hofmo

Tour Leaders: Rolf Svanoë and Amy Boxrud



The replica of the *Restauration*.

Known as the city of immigrants, New York has welcomed people seeking economic prosperity and cultural freedoms for the past 400 years. For Norwegians, too, New York has held a central place in their immigration history. Norwegian sailors had a presence in the city since the 1600s and the first organized group of Norwegian immigrants to enter the United States, nicknamed the Sloopers, sailed into New York Harbor on their ship *Restauration* on October 9, 1825. Over time, New York has been an entry point for Norwegians as they embark on new adventures in the United States, and for some, New York itself became home.

### Experience History

Join us to experience this history first-hand as we explore the rich topic of immigration in New York City. Presentations on the city's immigration past and present, the larger history of Norwegian immigration to the United States, and the local story of Norwegians who made lives for themselves in New York from the 1600s to today will prepare us to walk in those immigrants' footsteps as we tour important sites.

### Highlights

Tour visits include the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration, and the Tenement Museum, where we will learn what everyday life was like for the city's working-class migrants. We will spend time at Scandinavia House in Manhattan and Norwegian-American sites in Brooklyn as well as meet local Norwegian Americans living in the area today.

The tour will culminate on October 9, when we will welcome the arrival of the replica of the Sloopers' ship, *Restauration*, to New York. We will also enjoy events and exhibits in conjunction with this commemoration of *Restauration's* arrival exactly 200 years prior.



Ellis Island

This tour is a collaboration between the Norwegian-American Historical Association (NAHA) based in Northfield, Minnesota, and Vesterheim, the National Norwegian-American Museum and Folk Art School, located in Decorah, Iowa, as part of Crossings, the bicentennial of Norwegian migration to North America ([crossings.norwegianamerican.com](http://crossings.norwegianamerican.com)). The guides will be Anna Peterson, associate professor of history at Luther College and editor for NAHA, and local expert, Victoria Hofmo, president of the Scandinavian East Coast Museum in Brooklyn. The tour can easily be expanded to include your own interests in New York.

For more info, check [vesterheim.org](http://vesterheim.org) or contact Rolf Svanoë, 563-382-9681, ext. 240, [norwaytours@vesterheim.org](mailto:norwaytours@vesterheim.org).



NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN  
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



VESTERHEIM





## 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.

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

For more information contact  
[Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org](mailto:Kimberly@LodgeBrooklyn.org)



## GRATULERER MED DAGEN

- Solveig Simonsen McLoughlin July 4
- Kaare Andreassen July 5
- Peter B Hanson July 6
- Ivar Soma July 8
- Christopher Ahart July 11
- Jimmy T Rasmussen July 15
- Vera E Pressman July 18
- Odette Marie Larsen July 19
- Riise James Hetherington July 20
- John T Daxland July 27
- John Bjarne Strand July 27
- Kjetil Whelan July 28
- Alice Svege August 1
- Sunshine Burk-McLaughlin August 4
- Lynda Anna Larsen August 10
- Arnold C Bergman August 25
- Schylar Burk-McLaughlin August 27
- Isabella Louise Bolstad August 28
- Alice Spicer August 28
- Ester Hall September 7
- VL Swanson September 10
- Cory Way September 13
- Mary Utvik September 20
- Robert Ahart September 21
- Ellen Lindstrom September 26



## SONS of NORWAY

Robert McKeever, CLU  
Financial Benefits Counselor  
[www.SONSOFNORWAY.com](http://www.SONSOFNORWAY.com)

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Cell: (631) 672-5340  
Fax: (631) 863-2204  
eMail: [Bob@rmclu.com](mailto:Bob@rmclu.com)



## 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!

## RABARBERSAFT (RHUBARB SYRUP)



- Lemon
- Rhubarb
- Sugar
- Water

- Chop rhubarb into pieces no longer than 1" in length
- Zest and juice lemon
- Add the chopped rhubarb to a large saucepan along with the sugar, water, lemon zest and lemon juice. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat and then reduce to a simmer. Continue to cook until the rhubarb has completely broken down, about 15-20 minutes.
- Strain rhubarb mixture through a fine mesh strainer into large bowl. Be sure to press all liquid out. Cover and chill until ready to serve.

\* True-north-kitchen.com

## 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

## WHO'S WHO

Editor-in-Chief: Kimberly Breiland

Photographer: Kimberly Breiland

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