



Ord fra Presidenten



Thank you all who made our March social so successful. Thank you to the lodge board for the food. A special thanks to TJ's wife Janis for making the salmon. And we all are very grateful that our members who came here from Norway, their primary reason,

love, and now are part of our lodge and Joy who went to Norway in high school.

Next month the meal is soup and salad. The program will be Vikings in England. It is a very interesting history about how much the Vikings did influence England. My mother is part English and part German/French. However when she did her DNA she was about 15% Scandinavian. Well an easy explanation is her family came from the York area of England which was settled by many Vikings. I will speak a bit about a Viking site in York, called Jorvik, [JORVIK Viking Centre](#). The Romans settlers knew York as Eboracum, to the Saxons it was Eoforwick and the Vikings – who came as invaders but stayed on in settlements – called it Jorvik. In the newsletter you will find a map of where England was settled by the Vikings and the dates.

Coming soon is our member satisfaction and planning questionnaire for us to prepare for our 2026-2027 lodge season. Please complete and return to me by April 30. We really appreciate your thoughts on how to make our lodge great. We could use some members to help routinely with set up and clean-up.

Fraternally,

Luella

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Upcoming Events

April 25

Soup and Salad
Viking Presentation

May 23

Hot dog and Ice Cream
Bring your Norwegian flag

Oven baked salmon, Janet's version

1 piece Salmon, wild caught or farm raised
Sprinkle with garlic salt
Lay sliced lemon on top, peeled or not peeled

Bake for 15 min on 350F
Lay sliced margarine on top and bake another 5 min.

If baked too long, salmon will get dry.



Happy Birthday

Birthdays April 2026 - June 2026

Sandra K Kennedy	April 3
Svein Olav Stokke	April 5
Colin Brown	April 12
Wyonne M Long	April 27
Edward Maury Tauber	April 29
Carrie Kosvic	April 29
Junelle Pearson	May 10
Lee Rasmussen	May 12
Jeffrey Carlson	May 23
Ulf Løkke	May 24
Lise Fleming	June 1
Steinar Johansen	June 6
Ronna Clymans	June 19
Rex Seawright	June 25
Miriam Hendrix	June 26



H An official holiday.
Similar to federal holiday.
F Official Flag Day.

Norwegian Flag Days, Holidays and Days of Observance

April 5	Første Påskedag Easter Sunday	FH
April 6	Andre Påskedag Easter Monday	H
May 1	Arbeidernes Dag Labor Day	
May 14	Kristi Himmelfartsdag Ascension's Day	
May 17	Grunnlovsdagen Constitution Day	FH
May 24	Pinsedagen Pentecost Sunday	H
May 25	Pentecost Monday	H

Editor for Solskinn Nyheter (Sunshine News)
Terje "TJ" Berger 760.799.6660
Send pictures, ideas, articles to
solskinn150@gmail.com

Solskinn Lodge

Website: solskinn.sofn6.org
Facebook: Solskinn Lodge, Sons of Norway 6-150
Email: Solskinn150@gmail.com

Sons of Norway

Website: sofn.com
Facebook: Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group

Sons of Norway, District Six

Website: sofn6.org
Facebook: Sons of Norway District Six

Social Calendar for 2026

Always a Saturday. Social at 11:00 AM

General Cost
Members \$10.00, Guests \$15.00

SAVE THE DATES

2026 Socials

- April 25 Soup and Salad
Viking presentation
- May 16 Hot dogs and ice cream
Bring your Norwegian flag



BOOK CLUB

April 2026 Book

The Memoirs of Stockholm Sven
by Nathaniel Ian Miller

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 4 PM

May 2026 Book

Blind Goddess
by Anne Holt

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 4 PM

The book club is open for any member of Sons of Norway, anywhere in the world.

Want to join? Send an email to Luella: morongo2@verizon.net

April 2026

The Memoirs of Stockholm Sven by Nathaniel Ian Miller is a captivating novel about a man's journey of solitude, adventure, and the search for human connection in the Arctic wilderness.

Overview

Set in the early 20th century, the story follows Sven Ormson, who leaves his restless life in Stockholm in 1916 to seek adventure in Svalbard, an Arctic archipelago. After a mining accident leaves him disfigured, Sven retreats to an isolated fjord, where he builds a hut and lives alone with his loyal dog. His life

of solitude is punctuated by letters from family and the teachings of a Finnish fur trapper, which help him endure the harsh conditions.

Themes and Character Development

The novel explores themes of friendship, isolation, and resilience. Sven's journey reflects the human spirit's capacity to endure and find connection even in the most inhospitable environments. As he navigates his solitude, unexpected visitors bring warmth and companionship, ultimately leading him to a new family of fellow outcasts.

Nathaniel Ian Miller is the author of the novels Red Dog Farm and The Memoirs of Stockholm Sven, the latter of which was longlisted for the Center for Fiction First Novel Prize. His work has been translated into six languages. A former journalist for newspapers in New Mexico, Colorado, Wisconsin and Montana, he lives with his family in Vermont.



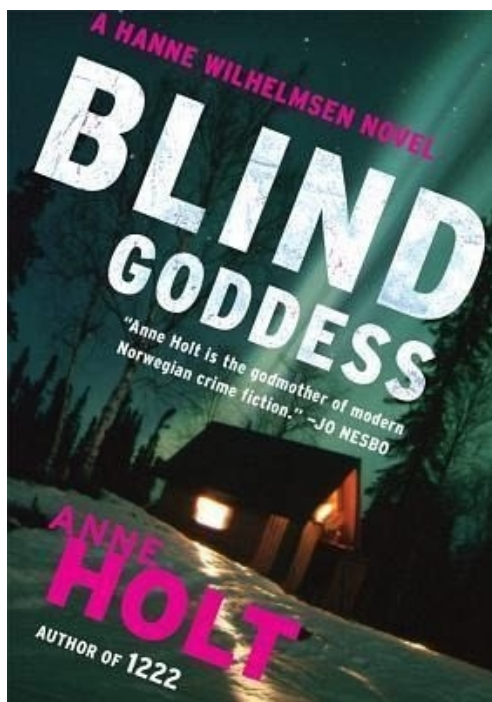
May 2026

BLIND GODDESS

A Hanne Wilhelmsen Novel
by Anne Holt

Its focused upon attorney Karen Borg. As we gradually come to learn, it has been Borg's misfortune to discover the body of a low-level drug dealer who has been battered to death. The police almost immediately arrest a young Dutchman who is found covered in blood and wandering around central Oslo. The suspect refuses to talk, insisting not only upon legal representation but also demanding that Borg represent him. Borg is a civil attorney, not a criminal one, but there is a method to the suspect's madness, which soon becomes all too clear.

A couple of days later, a lawyer with an unsavory reputation is found shot to death. Wilhelmsen and fellow officer Hakon Sand establish a link between the two killings, one that slowly but inexorably leads them to the discovery of a massive network of graft and



corruption that reaches into the highest levels of Norwegian government, and perhaps beyond. This revelation puts both Wilhelmsen and Sand in mortal danger, given that their investigation cannot

continue nor can their findings be revealed, if they meet with a bad end. Both soon find that they can only rely on each other as they race to find a brutal killer before they become victims themselves.

The Norwegian judicial system is similar to that of the United States in many ways, so that it's mildly though not unpleasantly jarring when differences between the systems are occasionally encountered here. It is important to read this book with the understanding that it was written with Norwegian audiences in mind, thus occasional cultural and legal procedural differences are going to be encountered. American readers by and large will find that these are more interesting than obstructive with respect to enjoying the narrative. It is the passage of time and the resultant advances in technology over the past 20 years or so that are much more disconcerting. What was state of the art when the book was written isn't any longer.

Norwegian History

A **Sámi drum**, is a shamanic ceremonial drum used by the Sámi people of Northern Europe. Sámi ceremonial drums have two main variations, both oval-shaped: a bowl drum in which the drumhead is strapped over a burl, and a frame drum in which the drumhead stretches over a thin ring of bentwood. The drumhead is fashioned from reindeer hide.



In Sámi shamanism, the noaidi used the drum to get into a trance, or to obtain information from the future, or other realms. The drum was held in one hand, and beaten with the other. While the noaidi was in trance, his "free spirit" was said to leave his body to visit the spirit-world. When used for divination, the drum was beaten with a drum hammer; a vuorbi ('index' or 'pointer'), a kind of die made of brass or horn, would move around on the drumhead when the drum was struck. Future events would be predicted according to the symbols upon which the vuorbi stopped on the membrane.

The patterns on the drum membrane reflect the worldview of the owner and his family, both in religious and worldly matters, such as reindeer herding, hunting, householding, and relations with their neighbours and the non-Sámi community.

Many drums were taken out of Sámi ownership and use during the Christianization of the Sámi people in the 17th and 18th centuries. Many drums were confiscated by Sámi missionaries and other officials as a part of an intensified Christian mission towards the Sámi. Other drums were bought by collectors. Between 70 and 80 drums are preserved; the largest collection of drums is at the Nordic Museum in Stockholm.

Terminology

The Northern Sámi terms for the drum are goavddis, gobdis and meavresgárri, while the Lule Sámi and Southern Sámi terms are goabdes and gievrie, respectively. Norwegian: runebomme, Swedish: nåjdrumma; In English it is also known as a rune drum or Sámi shamanic drum.

The Northern Sámi name goavddis describes a bowl drum, while the Southern Sámi name gievrie describes a frame drum, corresponding to the distribution of these types of drums. Another Northern Sámi name, meavresgárri, is a cross-language compound word: Sámi meavres, from meavrit and Finnish möyriä ('dig, roar, mess'), plus gárri from Norwegian kar ('cup, bowl').

The common Norwegian name for the drum, runebomme, is based on an earlier misunderstanding of the symbols on the drum, which interpreted them as runes. Suggested new names in Norwegian are sjamantromme ("shaman drum") or sametromme ('Sámi drum').[8] The original Swedish name, trolltrumma, comes from the Christian perception of Sámi religion as witchcraft (trolldom), and it is now considered derogatory. In his *Fragments of Lappish Mythology* (ca 1840) Læstadius used the term divination drum ("spåtrumma"). In Swedish today, the term that's commonly used is samiska trumman ('the Sámi drum').

Sources on the history of the drums

There are four categories of sources for the history of the drums. First are the drums themselves, and what might be interpreted from them. Secondly, there are reports and treatises on Sámi subjects from the 17th and 18th centuries, written by Norwegian and Swedish priests, missionaries or other civil servants,

like Johannes Schefferus. The third category are statements from Saami themselves, given to legal courts or other official representatives. The fourth are the sporadic references to drums and Sámi shamanism in other sources, such as *Historia Norvegiæ* (late 12th century).

The oldest mention of a Sámi drum and shamanism is in the anonymous *Historia Norvegiæ* (late 12th century). It mentions a drum with symbols of marine animals, a boat, reindeer and snowshoes. There is also a description of a shaman healing an apparently dead woman by moving his spirit into a whale. Peder Claussøn Friis describes a noaidi's spirit leaving the body in his *Norriges oc omliggende Øers sandfærdige Bescriffuelse* (1632). The oldest description by a Sámi is by Anders Huitlok of the Pite Sámi in 1642 about a drum that he owned. Huitlok also made a drawing; his story was written down by the German-Swedish bergmeister Hans P. Lybecker. Huitlok's drum represents a worldview where deities, animals and the living and the dead are working together within a given landscape. The court protocols from the trials against Anders Paulsen in Vadsø in 1692 and against Lars Nilsson in Arjeplog in 1691 are also sources.

During the 17th century, the Swedish government commissioned a work to gain more knowledge of the Sámi and their culture. During the Thirty Years' War (1618–48) rumours were spread that the Swedes won their battles with the help of Sámi witchcraft. Such rumours were part of the background for the research that led to Johannes Schefferus' book *Lapponia*, published in Latin in 1673.



Little bit of everything

Book Club Books for 2026

April	The Memoirs of Stockholm Sven by Nathaniel Miller
May	Blind Goddess A Hanne Wilhelmsen Novel by Anne Holt

Syttende Mai

May 17 Celebration
with Norwegian Flags,
hotdogs, and parade around the quarter.

Sjømannskirken
1035 S Beacon Street, San Pedro
(310) 832-6800

<https://www.sjomannskirken.no/los-angeles>



April 9th, it is 86 years since Norway was occupied by Germany for 5 years.

God Påske!

Easter is one of Norway's biggest holidays, just as big as Christmas. The entire country seems to shut down during the week of Easter to enjoy the holiday with family, friends and nature.

Påskelilje (wild daffodil or Lent Lily)



GENEALOGY

Presentation from January 24 has been converted to a PDF file and uploaded to our website.

The website also includes the following:

Newsletters back to 2020,
Social activities for 2026
Genealogy will be updated constantly.

**How much do you know about your
Norwegian ancestors?**

Does children or grandchildren know?
Don't hesitate.

Write down all you know about grandparents, or even great grandparents, where they lived, when they were born and died.

Send it to the lodge email.
Solskinn150@gmail.com

Norwegian Government

In 2025, the Norwegian government consists of the Labour Party, led by Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, after the Centre Party withdrew in February 2025.

Government Composition

The Støre Government was formed on 14 October 2021 as a coalition government between the Labour Party and the Centre Party. After the Centre Party withdrew from the government on 4 February 2025, the Labour Party continued as a pure minority government. This happened after the general election on 8 September 2025, where the Labour Party and their allies, the so-called red-green parties, received a majority with 100 out of 169 representatives in the Storting.

Political Priorities

Following the departure of the Centre Party, the Labour Party launched its political priorities on 6 February 2025. The government has focused on several key areas, including health, climate, and economic development, in line with their election program and previous political platforms.

2025 Stortingsvalget

The 2025 Stortingsvalget was held on 8 September 2025, and resulted in the red-green bloc, consisting of the Labour Party, the Centre Party, the Socialist Left Party, the Reds, and the Greens, receiving 100 seats, while the conservative side received 81 seats. This election led to Jonas Gahr Støre being re-elected as Prime Minister.

Members of the Government

The Støre Government consists of the Prime Minister and 19 ministers, all from the Labour Party. This includes key ministers such as the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Health and Social Care, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, all of whom play important roles in the day-to-day running of the government.

Jonas Gahr Støre; born 25 August 1960) is a Norwegian politician who has served as the prime minister of Norway since 2021. He has been leader of the Labour Party since 2014. He served under prime minister Jens Stoltenberg as minister of foreign affairs from 2005 to 2012 and as minister of health and care services from 2012 to 2013. Støre has been a member of the Storting for Oslo since 2009.

Støre was born in Oslo, grew up in West End Oslo and underwent naval officer training at the Royal Norwegian Naval Academy. He studied political science at Sciences Po in Paris from 1981 to 1985 and international relations at the London School of Economics. As a student in Paris, he was active in the efforts to support the Jewish refuseniks in the Soviet Union.

Støre was a career special adviser and director-general in the Prime Minister's Office from 1989 to 1997, serving under prime ministers Jan Syse, Gro Harlem Brundtland, and Thorbjørn Jagland. He became known as a protégé of Brundtland in the 1990s, and her mentorship inspired him to become a member of the Labour Party in 1995. In 1998, he followed Brundtland to the World Health Organization, where he became her chief of staff. Støre was state secretary and chief of staff in the Prime Minister's Office in the first government of Jens Stoltenberg; the government was inspired by the British New Labour project. He later served as secretary-general of the Norwegian Red Cross from 2003 to 2005. Like his political mentors Brundtland and Stoltenberg, Støre is mostly associated with the business-friendly right-wing of the Labour Party. He became a household name for Norwegians during his tenure as foreign minister, when he was voted the most popular member of the cabinet several times.

Despite the Labour Party receiving 1% fewer votes and losing a seat, the centre-left won a majority in the 2021 Norwegian parliamentary election. As the leader of the largest



party, Støre was the clear favourite for the role of prime minister. Two days after the resignation of Erna Solberg and her government on 12 October 2021, Støre was appointed as prime minister by King Harald V, leading a minority government with the Centre Party. In early 2025, the Centre Party left the coalition. Støre led the Labour Party to victory in the 2025 parliamentary election and has indicated his intentions of leading another sole-Labour minority government.

Born in Oslo, Støre is the son of the wealthy ship broker Ulf Jonas Støre (1925–2017) and librarian Unni Gahr (1930–2022). He grew up in the Ris neighbourhood in West End Oslo. Støre is a multi-millionaire, with a fortune of around NOK 60,000,000 (approx. US\$ 7,100,000 in 2016).

Støre attended Berg School in Oslo, then underwent naval officer training at the Royal Norwegian Naval Academy. He later studied political science for five years at Sciences Po in Paris. He started studying for a PhD at The London School of Economics, but dropped out after a few weeks.

In 1986, Støre was briefly a teaching fellow in the Harvard Negotiation Project at Harvard Law School. From 1986 to 1989 he was a researcher at the Norwegian School of Management, working on the Scenarier 2000 project with sociologist Andreas Hompland and economist Petter Nore.

Norwegian Food

Lamb Fricassee

A Lamb fricassee should not be stressed. Here, the meat which comes from the less tender parts of the lamb, should be allowed to enjoy itself quietly and peacefully until it achieves a melt-in-your-mouth effect. This cannot be achieved without plenty of time. At the same time as the meat tenderizes, the cooking water is transformed into a lovely lamb stock. This forms the basis for the fricassee sauce

Ingredients

4 portions

Lamb fricassee

- 3 lbs lamb leg, sliced
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 large yellow onion, halved
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 thyme sprig, or a pinch dried
- 2 lbs vegetables, like carrots, parsnips or green peas
- 1 cup chopped parsley

Sauce

- 3 tbsp butter
- 3 tbsp flour
- 3 cups lamb stock
- 1 cup whipping creme
- salt and ground pepper
- lemon juice



Cut the meat in suitable pieces. Rinse the meat well in cold water. Place the meat in a large saucepan and cover with cold water. Do not fill with too much water, only cover the meat. Add salt and bring to a gentle boil, skimming off any impurities that rise to the top.

Add the onion, bay leaf and thyme, and simmer until the meat is completely tender and falling off the bones. This will take about 2 hours. You can simmer the meat longer, but be careful not to overcook, as this will make the meat tough and dry

Clean and cut the vegetables into even pieces while the meat is simmering.

Lift the tender meat out of the broth onto a platter. Also lift out the onion if it has not cooked completely.

Pick the meat off the bones and cut it in even pieces. Divide the onion into natural layers. Cover the meat with foil so it doesn't dry out.

Strain the stock and cook the cleaned, neatly cut vegetables in the lamb stock. Add the vegetables that need the longest time first.

Lift the vegetables out of the stock and add them to the meat while making the sauce.

Sauce

Strain and boil the stock to the desired amount, about 3 cups. Melt the butter in a saucepan constantly, and whisk in the flour. Add the cooking liquid, whisking. Add the cream, bring to the boil, and season the sauce with salt, pepper and lemon juice.

Heat the meat and vegetables in the sauce, and mix in the chopped herbs just before serving.

Served with cooked potatoes

From Norwegian newspaper



Solskinn Lodge March 28, 2026



Solskinn Lodge Social March 28, 2026



Picture of ovenbaked salmon missing



Solskinn Lodge Officers 2026

Board of Directors

President	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Vice President	Terje Berger	760-799-6660
Counselor	Ulf Lokke	760-808-5403
Secretary	Tone Chaplin	760-408-9170
Treasurer	Nancy Madson	760-238-8819

Program Directors

Social Director	Nancy Madson	760-238-8819
Assisting Social Director	Joy Rogers	760-821-3497
Cultural Director	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Sunshine	Joy Rogers	760-821-3497

Support Positions

Book Club	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Editor, Webmaster	Terje Berger	760-799-6660
Photographer	Miriam Hendrix	
Musician	Terje Berger	

Insurance Professional

James Donovan, FIC, CSA	Cell: 760-276-5529
	Office: 760-440-9905
	jdonovaninsure@gmail.com

Solskinn Lodge, #6-150
Terje Berger
52705 Avenida Obregon
La Quinta, CA 92253



Mission Statement

*The mission of
Sons of Norway
is to provide quality insurance
and financial products to our
members, promote and preserve
the heritage and culture of
Norway, to celebrate our
relationship with
other Nordic countries.*