

# Solskinn Nyhetsbrev

November 2023 Newsletter from Solskinn Lodge 6-150



Solskinn Lodge 6-150

## Ord fra Presidenten



November is here and so is the time for our families to gather for Thanksgiving celebrations. Our November social will be a meatball dinner. This brings back memories of meatball dinners with my grandparents. However, instead of lingonberry jam with the

meatballs we used catsup as well as the gravy. In addition, at our social we will have Viking games. Maybe a lutefisk toss, lefse throwing, pin the tail on the troll, put the rings on the Viking horn and feed the nisse. Or we might have a hardy game of Uff-da. There actually is such a card game. We continue to raise funds for the Sons of Norway Foundation with chance to win a quilt. If you would just like to donate, we will pass on your contributions to the Sons of Norway Foundation.

It is time to elect new officers. Our nominations committee is Connie Fleischner and Miriam Hendrix. If you would like to run and participate as an officer of our lodge, please contact either of them. Currently, we have a very dedicated board, but we would really appreciate other volunteers to help keep our lodge going. We will vote for officers at the November social.

During November I will be heading to Minneapolis to participate on the International Board. Last year, it snowed a lot. It was fun to see the snow, but hopefully not so much this year. I will be hosting our book group from my hotel room. The selection for November, "Norske Fields," takes place in Thousand Oaks, CA.

I look forward to seeing you all at our social.

Fraternally,  
Luella

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## Next Social

**Saturday November 18, 2023**  
**Game Day and Meatballs**  
**at Hope Lutheran Church**

**Invitation will come!**



Mark the Date for the District Six Lodge Meeting and Convention!

June 20-24, 2024, Tuscany Suites and Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Hosted by Vegas Viking Lodge # 152 and the District Six Board

**New dates for the Book Club.**  
**Mark your Calendar!**

**November 9 and December 28**

Mark your calendar



**Christmas Party, December 16**

# Solskinn Nyhetsbrev



## Happy Birthday

### Birthdays November 2023 - January 2024

David Johnson                      Nov 7  
 Diane Elaine Farber                Nov 20  
 Kathy Regner                        Nov 29

Lauren Ashley Lunstrum        Dec 5  
 Jhan Schmitz                        Dec 9  
 Jack Bjerke                         Dec 21  
 Gail F Ryan                         Dec 23  
 Corinne J Bjerke                 Dec 24  
 Charlotte A Larsen                Dec 26

Jose Monjaras                      Jan 4  
 Joseph Kleitsch                    Jan 10  
 Sammie Lee Lingle                Jan 10  
 Susan E Norby                      Jan 21



### Norwegian Flag Days, Holidays and Days of Observance

Dec 25    Christmas Day  
 Dec 26    Box Day  
 Jan 1     New Year Day



Nov 9    Sami Parliament est. in Finland (1973)  
 Nov 15   Isak Sabas' Birthday (b.1875)  
           He wrote the Sami Song "Sámi soaga lávlla"

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.org  
 Facebook:        Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group

#### Sons of Norway, District Six

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

**Don't miss out of the last Viking Magazine  
 Sept Oct 2023  
 Lots of good articles!**

### Social Calendar for 2023-2024 Season

**Always a Saturday. Social at 11:00 AM**

- November 18    Game Day  
                    Meatballs
- December 16    Christmas Party
- January 27     Rosemaling Program  
                    Frokost
- February 24    Norwegian Sweaters  
                    Soup & Salad
- March 23        Norwegian Easter Traditions  
                    Open Faced Sandwiches
- April 27         Heavy Water Program  
                    Lapskaus
- May 18          Syttende Mai Celebration  
                    Hotdogs & Ice Cream
- June 20-24     District Six Lodge Meeting and  
                    Convention in Las Vegas

# BOOK CLUB

## November Book

Nowegian Fields  
by Anne Schroeder

## ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, November 9 at 4PM

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

## December Book

Nowegian Fields  
by Anne Schroeder

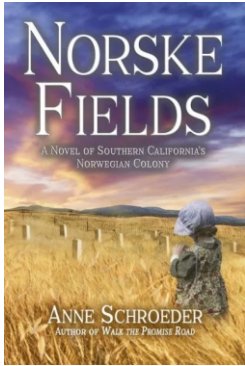
## ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, December 28 at 4PM

November Norske Fields: A Novel of Southern California's Norwegian Colony  
by Anne Schroeder  
**November 9**

December A Coat Dyed Black  
by Don Pugnetti Jr.  
**December 28**

## November 2023



In 1888, five young bachelors emigrate from Stranda, Norway, with a dream to become land barons in America. In southern California they pool their money to purchase affordable land. They draw names from a hat to decide who farms the better land and who must

make do with the inferior. Soon after, their sweethearts arrive from the homeland and the Norwegian Colony is born.

This novel uses modern fiction techniques to recreate unforgettable characters who experience heartbreak and personal triumphs. Readers will experience the struggles, joys and sacrifices of the families who settle the land and create a legacy for their children in part through original

diaries, photos and letters. Written by the great-granddaughter of Nils Olsen and Ellen Fjorstad, two of the five immigrant families that settled in the Conejo Valley (Ventura County). The author is an award-winning novelist and storyteller who uses family history to create an emotional true story that will remain in readers' hearts.

"Write what should not be forgotten."  
- Isabel Allende.

*From Barnes and Noble  
Bio: from Google Books  
Picture: Bookcharming.com*

A fifth-generation Californian, Anne Schroeder's love of the West was fueled by stories of bandits and hangings, of her great-grandfather and his neighbors working together

to blast the Norwegian Grade in Southern California out of solid rock, of Indian caves and of women who made their own way. She worked her way through Cal Poly with a variety of odd-jobs that included as a waitress at a truck stop near the spot where James Dean died. Anne served as President of Women Writing the West. Her short stories and essays have appeared in print and online magazines.

She lives in Southern Oregon with her husband, dogs and chicken.  
[www.facebook.com/anneschroederauthor](http://www.facebook.com/anneschroederauthor).



## December 2023



A young farmer turns into a courageous resistance fighter after Nazi Germany invades Norway and steals his way of life.

Bjørn Erliksen lives a peaceful life on

Norway's west coast and has never considered himself anything but a farmer. But when Nazi Germany invades, and his country's ill-equipped military collapses in less than two months, it falls on him and other ordinary Norwegians to fight back.

He escapes to England, trains with an elite Norwegian special forces army unit, and is smuggled back into his homeland as a commando. When Bjørn's resistance work eventually reunites him with a lost love, they join forces to carry out dangerous sabotage missions, all the while working in the shadows to evade the Gestapo. He weighs love against duty, wrestling with his own conscience as he is forced to commit unspeakable acts and unexpected betrayals. Can Bjørn survive long enough to see Norway's liberation and find his own peace?

*Information from Google Books*



Don Pugnetti Jr. has had a decades-long career in journalism, public relations, and public affairs, including eighteen years as a newspaper reporter and editor. He has served as policy advisor and speechwriter for a statewide elected official and has taught news writing and communications at the university level. He and his wife, Wendy, live in Gig Harbor, Washington.



Hope (Norwegian: Håp) is a 2019 Norwegian semi-autobiographical drama film directed by Maria Sødahl, based on the experience she faced with her husband, director Hans Petter Moland. Released in Norway on 22 November 2019.

At one point in Maria Sødahl’s superb drama “Hope,” which concerns a woman facing the onset of an illness diagnosed as terminal, a doctor describes treating cancer as “like peeling an onion.” The same might be said for the film itself. Though the story’s medical premise is quickly announced, what follows peels back layer after layer of human realities that science can’t begin to describe, beginning with the shock and disorientation the diagnosis initially provokes and continuing through the deeper realizations and understandings gradually faced by the woman, her partner, their kids, friends and extended family. These carefully unveiled discoveries make “Hope,” Norway’s submission for this year’s Best International Feature Film Oscar, one of the year’s richest and most rewarding contemporary dramas.

Subtitled in Danish, English, Finnish and Norwegian



**Remember the Braves**

**Saturday, November 11**

You have any favorite Norwegian movies? Let us know.

Send an email to our lodge. Email address on page 2

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**Quilt for 2023  
Sons of Norway Foundation fundraiser.**

Made by Luella Grangaard  
Tickets are \$1 each. Drawing will be at the Christmas Social December 16  
If you would like to purchase now, send a check to Solskinn lodge.  
Note for foundation quilt, send to Luella Grangaard.  
PO box 832, Morongo Valley. CA 92256.

The quilt will be displayed at November and December socials

# History of Norway - the 1850's

## The cities are growing

The strongest urbanization in Norwegian history took place in the decades after 1850. The capital, Kristiania, became a European metropolis, and population growth in the villages came to a halt.

The Norwegian population grew from around 1.33 million in 1845 to 2.65 million in 1920. Population growth was nothing new, but unlike before, the surplus of people now ended up in the cities.

In the rural areas, population growth leveled off in the 1860s, after having increased dramatically since 1814. From 1865, the population in the rural areas remained fairly stable for a hundred years, while the cities grew strongly.

The degree of urbanisation, the proportion of Norwegians living in cities and towns, increased from around 9 per cent in 1800 via 19 per cent in 1865 to 29 per cent in 1890 and 42 per cent in 1920.

## Full in the villages

Why did population growth stop in the villages in the 1860s? They could not accommodate many more, for economic and social reasons. There was little new land to clear. Better methods in agriculture, such as new technology, meant that fewer people were needed. Thus, the household service could be abolished.

People had emigrated from the villages since the 1830s, but it was not until 1866 that the flow really accelerated. Many went abroad, but the largest emigration went to cities and towns inland.

## The urbanization

From 1870, the state largely stopped issuing market town or loading place rights in order to increase the number of towns in Norway. The pattern of cities around the country was almost complete. The number of cities and towns (with over 200 inhabitants) increased from 117 in 1865 to 347 in 1920, but only six of these were new cities: Mosjøen, Narvik, Harstad, Svolvær, Horten and Notodden.

Instead, growth increased within the existing city limits, suburbs sprung up, and towns of many types came into existence.

*From: Norgeshistorie.no*

Norway was the 13th country in the world to have a railway. The "main line" Oslo–Eidsvoll (68 km, 42 miles) opened in 1854 as the first. The project manager was George Stephenson's son Robert, and the capital was Norwegian and British. In 1857, the Storting decided that the state itself should be responsible for the railway construction, and the first two state railways were put into operation in 1862 on the sections Hamar–Grundset and Lillestrøm–Kongsvinger.

In addition to Kristiania, the early railway hubs in Norway were also Trondheim, Hamar, Drammen, Bergen, Stavanger and Kristiansand. Here it was the desire for better contact with the surrounding countryside that was the driving force in the local railway construction, both with a view to strengthening access to agricultural goods and to obtain a larger market for goods produced in the cities. The lines in question are Trondheim–Støren, Hamar–Grundset, Drammen–Randsfjord, Bergen–Voss, Stavanger–Egersund and Kristiansand–Byglandsfjord.

Throughout the 19th century, most railways in Norway were built with narrow gauge (1.067m, 42") to reduce construction costs. The narrow gauge's foremost advocate was railway director Carl Abraham Pihl, and internationally this gauge is often called the CAP track after his signature. When the Bergen Railway was decided to be built with standard gauge, the time of narrow gauge was over in Norway, and the lines were rebuilt. The last of the regularly trafficked lines was the Vestfold Railway in 1949.

*From: Store Norske Leksikon*



Caroline was built by Robert Stephenson and company in 1861 originally numbered 4 until the next year when it was renumbered 17. Becoming the Norwegian State Railways last 2a class. It was withdrawn in 1920 and preserved.

*Photo: Lars Johnson*

*Text: Deviantart.com*

Flytoget (The Airport Express Train), also known as Gardemoenbanen. The train is limited to 210 km/h (130mph) because of the rail.



Class 71. Built in Norway at Strømmen Værksted, by Adtranz



Class 78. Built in Spain

# Famous Norwegian-Americans

**Jon Olav Fosse** (born 29 September 1959) is a Norwegian author, translator, and playwright. In 2023, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature "for his innovative plays and prose, which give voice to the unsayable".

Fosse's work spans over seventy novels, poems, children's books, essays, and theatre plays, which have been translated into over fifty languages. The most performed Norwegian playwright after Henrik Ibsen, and currently —with productions presented on over a thousand stages worldwide— Fosse is one of the most performed of contemporary playwrights globally. His minimalist and deeply introspective plays, with language often bordering on lyrical prose and poetry, have been noted to represent a modern continuation of the dramatic tradition established by Henrik Ibsen in the 19th century. Fosse's work has often been placed within the tradition of post-dramatic theatre.

Jon Fosse was born in 1959 in Haugesund, Norway, and grew up in Strandebarm. His family were Quakers and Pietists, which he credits with shaping his spiritual views. A serious accident at age seven brought him close to death; the experience significantly influenced his writing in adulthood. He started writing around the age of twelve, despite Fosse's claims that he was not very concerned with books.

Fosse enrolled at the University of Bergen and studied comparative literature during which time he began writing in Nynorsk. His debut novel, *Raudt, svart* (Red, Black), was published in 1983 and was influenced by the Nynorsk writer Tarjei Vesaas.

Fosse's first play, *Og aldri skal vi skiljast* (And We'll Never Be Parted), was performed and published in 1994. Fosse has written novels, short stories, poetry, children's books, essays, and plays. His works have been translated into more than forty languages. Between working on his novels, Fosse works as a translator on other authors' works.

Fosse is the most performed Norwegian playwright after Henrik Ibsen. His works are seen as a modern continuation of the tradition established by Henrik Ibsen in the 19th century. Fosse himself mentions Samuel Beckett, as well as Georg Trakl and Thomas Bernhard as his elective relatives. Since 2011, Fosse has been granted the Grotten, an honorary residence owned by the Norwegian state and located on the



Karl Ove Knausgård telling about Jon Olav Foss

The author did what he always does when the Swedish Academy announces who wins the Nobel Prize on its regular October Thursday in week 40. I was probably a bit shaken, he says to VG and continues: It was such a violent collision between the close and familiar and the universal and unattainable. A Norwegian Nynorsk writer receives the Nobel Prize!

Fosse is an artist, and it is literature that is art. The Swedish Academy rewards. He himself had Jon Fosse as a teacher at the Skrivekunstakademiet in Hordaland, in 1989. I was 19 and Fosse was 29. I remember him as a pale, chain-smoking, shy and nervous young man who was at the same time incredibly sure of what he was doing and really of literature in general. When it came to his own writing, he was uncompromising and completely uncorrupted - he would never think of making someone feel bad in his novels, says Knausgård.

He can tell that Fosse was a strict teacher and reader. The worst thing he knew, it seemed, was what he called invention. What he was looking for was his own, what came from within. Literarily, he was incredibly sophisticated and advanced, while in other ways he was a completely ordinary guy from Strandebarm who had studied in Bergen and written a few novels. Knausgård believes Fosse has always had his own language and his own style. Right from the beginning. Authorship is like a single long immersion in the same thing. It's hypnotic at the sentence level, and it's hypnotic as a whole. It is as if one wants to compare both the sentences and the writing to a river, a slow river in the dark, says Knausgård - and now he stops in his reasoning:

You see - when you write about Fosse, the atmosphere from his books begins to seep in! This is because they form a world of their own, which cannot be translated into newspaper language or film language for that matter without losing the essentials along the way.

*About Fosse and Knausgård, from Wikipedia*

*Knausgård is a Norwegian author. VG is a Norwegian tabloid newspaper*

premises of the Royal Palace in the city centre of Oslo. The use of the Grotten as a permanent residence is an honour specially bestowed by the King of Norway for contributions to Norwegian arts and culture. He was among the literary consultants for *Bibel 2011*, a Norwegian translation of the Bible published in 2011.

Many of Fosse's works have been translated into Persian by Mohammad Hamed, and his dramatic works have been performed on the main stages in Tehran, Iran.

Six of Fosse's plays have been translated into American-English by interdisciplinary artist Sarah Cameron Sunde, who also directed their American debut productions in New York City and Pittsburgh. The translated works which have been produced include *Night Sings its Songs* (2004), *deathvariations* (2006), *SaKaLa* (2008), *A Summer Day* (2012), and *Dream of Autumn* (2013).

In April 2022, Fosse's novel *A New Name: Septology VI-VII*, translated into English by Damion Searls, was shortlisted for the International Booker Prize. The book was named a finalist for the 2023 National Book Critics Circle Award in Fiction.

In October 2023, Fosse was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature. This made him the first Nynorsk writer to receive the prize and the fourth Norwegian to win it, following Sigrid Undset, who won it in 1928.

Fosse spends part of his time with his third wife, Anna (m. 2011), who is Slovak, in Hainburg an der Donau in Austria. He also owns homes in Bergen and two more in other parts of western Norway. Originally, he was a member of the Church of Norway (although he described himself as an atheist before 2012). In 2012–2013, he joined the

# Norwegian Food

## Norsk Fiskegrateng Fish Au Gratin

Serves: 4  
Time: 1 hr

### Ingredients

1 lb White fish fillets, poached  
1/3 cup Margarine  
1/2 cup White Flour  
2 cups Milk  
1 tsp Salt  
1/8 tsp Pepper  
3 eggs, beaten  
nutmeg (optional)

Buttered bread crumbs (optional)  
or Grated cheese (optional)

Flake the poached fish into a well greased baking dish  
In a small saucepan, melt margarine and add 1/2 cup flour.  
Gradually add the milk, salt, pepper and the beaten eggs.  
Beat thoroughly until smooth and lump-free.  
Pour over the fish and top with a layer of buttered bread-crumbs  
or grated cheese

Bake at 350F for 45 minutes

Option from Hammerfest:  
Use Salmon and Shredded Carrots.

According to Norwegian recipes, any leftover fish can be used, cooked,  
fried or raw. Cauliflower, macaroni and peas can be added.



### Public holidays in Norway

Public holiday is a term for days when employees have a paid day off. The term is frequently used, but is not defined in the legislation, which uses other terms.

In Norway, Sunday is a public holiday. The following ten days are the same.

1 January, 1st New Year's Day  
Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, 2nd Easter Sunday  
1st May, May 17  
Ascension Day, 2. Pentecost  
December 25, December 26

### Discussions around public holidays

From time to time it is proposed that one or more public holidays be deleted. The reasons can be different:

Secular-minded citizens point out the large number of religiously justified holidays. On days such as Whitsunday, Ascension Day and others, church attendance is lower than on ordinary Sundays, and this is understood to mean that a

large majority of Norwegians use the day for anything other than what the day was intended for.

Some priests in the Church of Norway largely agree with this, and point out that the biblical justification for keeping Easter Monday, Whit Monday and Christmas Day is rather thin. In this context, the historical justification that an extra day was needed for all annex churches to receive a priest's visit for the holiday is overlooked; in other words, that it was simply true that much of the country was rugged and difficult to access.

In light of the fact that Norway has become a multicultural society, some want to expand the number of holidays to also include important feast days in other religions. This is especially true of the Muslim holiday Eid.

The 1 May celebration has a strong connection to the parties on the left in Norwegian politics. Citizens associated with the political center and right often do not feel that they have any part in this. This can result in a sudden fire in the garden while the 1 May train passes by, or a proposal to delete 1 May as a public holiday.

# Social Gathering October 21, 2023

Welcome to Zone 6 Kretsstevne in Banning



## Food and Social

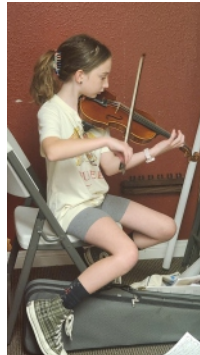


The few, The Brave!



They came from ...  
 Valhalla Lodge, San Diego  
 Fridtjof Nansen Lodge, Long Beach  
 Vinland Lodge, Temecula  
 Solbakken Lodge, Orange  
 Solskinn Lodge, Palm Desert

Zone 6 director:  
 Maury Lee with wife Graciela  
 (to the left)  
 Nancy Madson (top middle)  
 Treasure for District 6 and married  
 to Rex, the excellent hot dog frier





# Social Gathering October 21, 2023



## Activities: BINGO and Lutefisk toss



Big thanks to Ellen Spitzer!



## Solskinn Lodge Officers 2023-2024

### 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	Charlotte Larsen	760-835-4391

### Support Positions

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

### Insurance Professional

James Donovan, FIC, CSA	Cell: 760-276-5529
	Office: 760-440-9905
	<a href="mailto:jdonovaninsure@gmail.com">jdonovaninsure@gmail.com</a>

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



***Mission Statement***

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