# THE NAVIGATOR

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48 Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California September 2018 (Early Fall)

Editor: Stephen Rosenthal

rosen@winfirst.com

www.sonsofnorwaysacramento.com.
Intrepid Reporter: Dick Tracysen









**Knute Rockne** was a Norwegian-American football player and coach at the University of Notre Dame. Rockne is regarded as one of the greatest coaches in college football history. He was born in Voss, Norway and immigrated with his parents to Chicago when he was five years old.

"As a coach, I play not my eleven best, but my best eleven."

## <u>A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DONNA GORDON</u>

Hilsener,

Hope everyone had a good summer. It certainly went by very quickly. Roald Amundsen Lodge is gearing up for a busy fall and winter with several great activities. Editor Steve has included flyers in this issue. Labor Day weekend is Kretsstevne at Camp Norge. This is a great time to join other lodges and enjoy the end of summer. Our lodge is providing lunch for the group on Saturday. If you are not camping consider joining us for the day.



Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 16th at noon. This is our **annual BBQ with our youth** we helped to send to Camp Norge Norwegian Culture camps. It's always great to see what the kids have taken away from camp. Please come out and join us for the future events. And remember that helping can also be fun and rewarding.

Tusen Takk

Donna

## LODGE SUMMER PICNIC A PLEASANT AFTERNOON

About 30 members of the lodge and guests celebrated the summer season this past July 8th afternoon at the Rosenthal's house and yard. It was a most relaxing time with lots of visiting and swimming for some of the kids in the pool and spa.

Member **Kristi Mattes' husband Sean** grilled the burgers and dogs, and many folks brought delicious side dishes. The yard grove of redwoods provided shade and the weather cooperated. Some of our newer members came and it was good to visit with them.

Lodge camaraderie is always good, but it is especially enjoyable in the good ol' summertime!



Photos: Sean Mattes, grill master. Morales children playing in the Spa. Carol Frances with President Donna Gordon and her grandson Wyatt Mattes, one of our junior members. More photos on next page.



MORE PICNIC PHOTOS—Richard and Carleton Petersen, Carol Lee Solheim, and Diana Martyn. Kristi Mattes, Stein Baur, Adrienne and Jim Lincoln. Mark and Sandi Streeper, with Buster.



#### **SIDEBARS WITH THE EDITOR...**

## **67th ROSEMALING SEMINAR**



#### September 22 & 23, 2018.

It is time to make your reservations for the adult (18 years and over) Fall Rosemaling Seminar at Camp Norge. There will be two classes. The teachers are **Karen Nelson** of our lodge and **Onya Tolmasoff.** 



Participants will be painting a 10" beaded scoop plate. Karen is teaching a **Hallingdal** design using JoSonja Russet as the background color. Onya is teaching a **Vest Agder** design on a blue galaxy

background. There is an application elsewhere in this Navigator. (*Photos: Hallingdal snippet; Vest Agder snippet.*)

# END OF SUMMER BBQ WITH PRESENTATIONS! SIGN UP NOW!



It is Sunday afternoon, September 19th—send you registration in now! There is a form elsewhere in this Navigator. Our summer campers will be relating their experiences. Also, we are expecting a member of the Rancho

Cordova School District to attend to receive the contributions of cash and backpacks to their homeless student program.

The BBQ meal will be catered. See you there!

## NEXT NAVIGATOR PUBLICATION DATE – LATE SEPTEMBER

Please have any matters for the next Navigator (October) submitted to the editor by September 25th.

# <u>LUTEFISK!</u> <u>WE WILL HAVE IT FOR YOU!</u>



Indeed, in order to serve the freshest Lutefisk possible, several members of the lodge are down at Arden Pond right now catching catfish that they plan to cure in lye in the back parking lot of the lodge, after which they will dry in racks along the lodge San Juan Avenue frontage. If the feral cats don't get it, it should be ready by October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Plan B – the best lutefisk available will be ordered from Minneapolis for the event, and it will be expertly fixed in the lodge kitchen. Pray for the implementation of Plan B.

This is often one of our best attended events of the year. Reserve your place with the form found elsewhere in this Navigator.

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA KRETSTTEVNE AT CAMP NORGE THIS WEEKEND!

Even if you haven't reserved anything or signed up for anything, consider coming up for a day! You might be able to buy into a meal at short notice—see the flyer in last month's Navigator for more information.. Our lodge is serving lunch on Saturday, and help is always welcome. (Hopefully you will receive this Navigator prior to the weekend!)

## IN MEMORIAM— WILLIAM (BILL) NILSEN

Roald Amundsen Lodge has lost one of its longer and most supportive members. William Karl (Bill) Nilsen passed away on August 16<sup>th</sup> at the age of 94 – almost 95. He had been a member of the lodge for 24 years.

As of this writing we have not viewed any newspaper obituary, but we do know that there will be a memorial service at Foothills United Methodist Church, 3301 Green Valley Road, in Rescue on September 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 2:00 PM.

Many nouns and adjectives can be used to describe Bill, including amusing, irreverent, irascible, loud, a curmudgeon, master painter, friendly, engaging, and probably many more – all of which are positives as far as your editor is concerned. Bill was well-known in the lodge for his painting abilities. His subjects have included ships, portraits, and perhaps other objects. He often maintained a booth at the lodge Viking Festival and he obviously enjoyed chatting with all those who stopped by to admire his paintings.

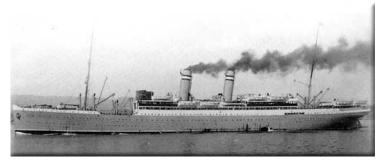
In 2005 we recounted his adventures when he left Norway just before the WWII occupation, which is a terrific story. We are reprinting it below in honor of his long and interesting life.

Bill is survived by his wife Estral and daughter Gina Feston. Our condolences to them.

#### BILL NILSEN'S EXCITING TALE

The photograph to the right is of none other than William (Bill) Nilsen, long time member of the Roald Amundsen Lodge! The photograph was taken on board the Norwegian passenger ship *D/S Bergensfjord*, en route to the United States from Norway in April, 1940. Bill was fortunate enough to have left his home in Kristiania (now Oslo) two days before the Germans occupied Norway. His pose in front of a life boat, "Noto # 23," which was picked to coordinate with the year of his birth.

A photograph of Bergensfjord is displayed below.



About the size of modern US Navy Cruiser (she was 10-11 tons, and about 512 feet in length), she originally was a Norwegian passenger ship. However, after Bill's voyage ended in New York, she was requisitioned by the Ministry of War Transport and converted to a troop-



(Continued on page 6)

#### **NILSEN** (Continued from page 5)

ship at Halifax, Nova Scotia. By the end of the war she had carried 165,000 troops, sailed 300,000 miles, and been at sea for 919 days! After the war (February 1946) she was chartered for one voyage to carry GI brides from Europe to the US -- do you know anyone who arrived that way, readers? More interesting information about her war exploits, including an incidence of mutiny aboard, can be found at <a href="https://www.warsailors.com">www.warsailors.com</a>.

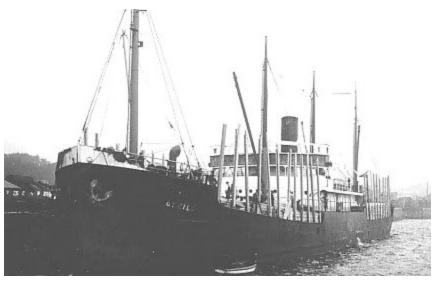
Lost (sort of) in America! But, back to Bill! He arrived in the United States (Brooklyn), 16 years old, by himself, and unable to speak English. For days he ate hamburgers three meals a day because all he could say in English was "hamburger and coffee!" Eventually he found a Scandinavian restaurant in Brooklyn where the waiters could speak Scandinavian languages, and he was able to broaden his diet a bit. Also, he found himself a room. After a while he found his way to the Norwegian Consulate, and they were instrumental in helping him ship out again.

Also, he struck up a friendship with another Norwegian fellow, Anton Jacobsen, originally from Bergen. This young man was five years older than Bill, and he became Bill's mentor, almost like a big brother. He took Bill under his tutelage, and advised him that, if he wanted to stay in the United States, he was going to have to

learn English which, of course, Bill eventually did.

Norwegian able-bodied seaman that he was, Bill shipped out on a total of seven different vessels during this wartime era. However, one of the unfortunate results of all this wartime activity was that he lost contact with his "big brother."

**Shipwrecked!** One of the ships he sailed on was named the *D/S Askild*, a convoy ship, much smaller than the *Bergensfjord*. (Photo to right) The *Askild* departed St. Johns, Newfoundland, in December 1942 and, quoting from internet material, here is what happened:



"Departed St. John's on December 2-1942 for St. Lawrence in ballast, and joined a convoy that afternoon. **Ran aground** by Chance Cove (near Cape Race) the following morning, Dec. 3 at 04:20 due to worsening weather. The entire crew were called to the boatdeck, distress calls were sent out as well as flashes. They all stayed on board until she at 06:30 broke up. The seas were continuously washing in over the boatdeck where the crew was still assembled, so they were sent to the port side which was still fairly undamaged to try to get ashore. At that time two men were found to be missing, assumed knocked overboard by the seas. The rest managed to get the port boat out and by 07:30 they were all ashore, but had to climb straight up a cliff in order to get clear of the breakers.

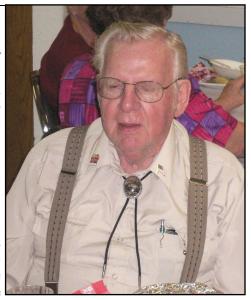
"As day dawned, they managed to get further up with the help of lines from the lifeboat. While 1st Mate Nils Jespersen remained with 16 crew, the captain and 3 others went to look for help. En route Ordinary Seaman William Nilsen had to be left behind due to exhaustion, while the captain, together with Gunner Einar Rognerud and Ordinary Seaman Gunnar Pedersen reached the light house on Cape Race several hours later. A report was immediately sent to St. John's, and people from the lighthouse went out to look for those who had remained behind. They soon returned carrying William Nilsen, while others, with the help of dogs, kept searching for the others, but came back early the next morning without having found them. A fresh search team was then sent out, from Cape Race as well as from Trepassey, and later that day the men from Trepassey

#### **NILSEN** (Continued from page 6)

returned with Able Seaman Hans Jeppesen and the Canadian Galley Boy Walter Sheeby. Medications, food and dry clothes were sent from St. John's. On Dec. 5 the remaining 14 were finally found. They were taken to private families in Portugal Cove and Cape Race, then transported to St. John's on the 6th."

Bill says, "I still remember everything that happened that terrible night." We are glad you made it, Bill.

**Epilogue.** Bill, of course, eventually made it to California, and a good life here in the Sacramento area. His interesting experiences over the years are too numerous to cover here. However, he always wondered what happened to the kind fellow from Bergen, Anton Jacobsen, who looked after him in Brooklyn. Finally, after 32 years, Bill wrote to the Norwegian Seamen's Club in Oslo, and they had an address for him; he was living in Cedar Lake, Indiana!



Bill Nilsen in 2005, when this article was originally published.

Bill called him on the telephone. One of Anton's sons answered and yelled to his father, "There is a call for you from California." When he answered, Bill started talking to him in Norwegian, and the poor fellow did not know if he was "getting a call from heaven or hell!"

Bill found his friend to be just the same—just as affable— as he had been so many years before. Some stories have happy endings.  $Editor's \ note: D/S = steamship.$ 

#### **SIDEBARS** (Continued from page 4)

# 2018 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION RECAP

The convention recently concluded in Bloomington, Minn. A gentleman by the name of **Ron Stubbings** was elected President. **Mary Beth Ingvoldstad** was confirmed as our District 6 International Director.

The 2020 International Convention will be in Hamar, Norway.

### **VIKING FESTIVAL**



The year is racing by! The lodge's annual Viking Festival is scheduled for Saturday, November 17th. You may want

to put this on your calendar now!

#### **MORE LUTEFISK!**

And in case you can't get enough Lutefisk at our lodge, there is always our neighbor lodge in Oakland:

#### **COMING ATTRACTION**



SAVE THE DATE

LUTEFISK DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

BJORNSON HALL







Special Fall Afternoon Lodge Meeting:

# **Enjoy an End of Summer BBQ!**

## **Learn what some of our youth did this summer!**

**Sunday, September 16th, 12:00—3:30** 

Come and enjoy a meal and camaraderie with fellow lodge members and guests after a short lodge meeting and youth presentations on their summer activities or travels. Enjoy a full BBQ dinner prepared by a catering service and provided by the lodge at a very modest charge! (Our summer youth campers are invited to demonstrate craft projects and tell about their camp experiences! This is always entertaining and showcases our members of tomorrow.)

When:	Sunday,	September	16th,	12:00-	-3:30.
-------	---------	-----------	-------	--------	--------

Where: Masonic Center, 5944 San Juan Ave., Citrus Hts. Meal plans: BBQ entrée, salads, desserts and all the related

"fixin's" provided by the lodge.

Reservations: Required, with payment, by Wednesday,

Sept.12th, please, so that we know how much food is needed. See form below, and see you

there!

BBQ Reservation <u>principal</u> name or names, phone #, and e-mail: (Only one name necessary)

Number of members over age 13\_\_\_\_@ \$8 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Number of guests over age 13\_\_\_\_\_@ \$12= \$\_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons 13 or under \_\_\_\_ @ \$5 = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total \$\_\_\_\_\_

(Age 5 and under, no charge)

Mail to Carol Lee Solheim, 3570 Vista Grande, Shingle Springs, CA 95682; solheim2636@att.net; 530/677-2006.



# SONS OF NORWAY ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE LUTEFISK AND MEATBALL DINNER SAT., OCT. 13, 2018



Social Hour 5:00 pm.
Dinner 5:30 pm.
MASONIC CENTER
5944 San Juan Ave., Sacramento

A Short Film on Lutefisk History is Planned for After Dinner

Reservation Deadline is October 9th
Pre-paid Reservations only · No ticket sales at the door
Adult S/N Members \$19.00 · Non-members \$23.00
Children 11 and under \$5.00 · Children 5 and under, No Charge
(These rates are good for the first 500 registrants.)

Make check payable to "Sons of Norway"

Mail to: Carol Lee Solheim, 3570 Vista Grande, Shingle Springs, CA 95682

Questions: 530.677.2006; solheim2636@att.net;

www.sonsofnorwaysacramento.com

#### **LUTEFISK DINNER**

Please reserve the following tickets, which wi	ll be held at the door for you:
Member Name(s)	
Non-member Name(s)	
Contact phone number and e-mail	
# of members @ \$19 each, to total	\$
# of non-members@ \$23 each, to total	\$
# of paying children@ \$5.00 each, to total	\$
Grand Total	\$

(Detach and mail to above address by October 7th, 2018, with check)

#### SIXTY SEVENTH ROSEMALING SEMINAR AT CAMP NORGE September 22/23, 2018

It is time to make your reservations for the adult (18 years and over) Fall Rosemaling Seminar at Camp Norge. We will have two classes. The teachers are Karen Nelson and Onya Tolmasoff.

We will be painting a 10" beaded scoop plate. Karen is teaching a Hallingdal design using JoSonja Russet as the background color. Onya is teaching a Vest Agder design on a blue galaxy background..: I am attaching copies of the pictures to this notice.

Please make your bed reservation with me. I develop the list of who is in which room. You will pay for your bed when you arrive at Camp. It is not included in your class fee. Bring your current membership card. If you can't locate your membership card, bring the last issue of your Viking Magazine. It has your number in the address box. Members pay \$16.20 per night; guests pay \$27.00 for beds in the dorms, which includes 8% Placer County Occupancy Tax. Only members are allowed to stay in the main house and the cozy cabins. For people who want to room together, I need to receive the list of names with the first reservation. RV's are encouraged as we have a limited number of beds. Members pay \$25 per night for up to four people per RV. Guests pay \$35 per night for RV's. Camp has electrical and water, but no sewer hookups. Tents are \$15 for up to four people for members, \$20 for non members. No occupancy tax on RV's or tents. Pets are \$2 per night. Pets are not allowed in any of the buildings, pool area or sleeping rooms at any time.

Please include your full phone number, address and lodge name and number when registering. If you have e-mail, please include your e-mail address. It is so much faster and cheaper if I need to talk to you. The supply lists will be sent when I receive your registration form and check. ABSOLUTELY NO E-MAIL RESERVATION REQUESTS. I need the check and registration form together. Be sure to send a self addressed stamped envelope for your supply list and class confirmation information if you do not have e-mail. I will not be sending you a supply list unless you send me a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your e-mail address with your registration form

The cost of the seminar will be \$87 for registration which includes the class and wood piece all base coated and ready to go, hall rent, and the meals. There will be \$25 cancellation fee for any cancellations, but absolutely no cancellations after Sept .lst It is difficult for people on the waiting list to take your place if they do not have at least a couple of weeks to make their plans, so please be thoughtful. Melanie Souza will again do our cooking. The cost for food for the weekend is included in the \$87 registration fee. The food includes breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. You were so very generous and cooperative with the cookies last time. I do so appreciate that. We will ask just one class to bring cookies, and will rotate those classes each time. The information will be on your supply list.

My e-mail address is pennyiknudsen@sbcglobal.net. My phone number is (916) 941-6433. Please cut off and complete the following registration form, make your check payable to Penny (not Camp Norge) and return as soon as possible with your stamped, self-addressed envelope for supply list if you do not wish to receive it by e-mail, to:

Penny Joseph Knudsen, 37/4 Park Drive, El Dorado Hills, California 95/62				
SEPT. 22/23, 2018, ROSEMALING SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM				
Name	Phone ()	I need a bed reservation: y es No		
Address	e-mail address	I want to room with:		
CityZip	Name of Lodge			
Class I want is: Karen	Onya	I am bringing my RV		
I am enclosing \$87 for registration fee for food and class.  My spouse and/or family will be eating with us and I enclose \$35 for each		I am bringing my tent		
Yes, I want to take the stroke class at 6:30 p.m I will pay the instructor \$5 at the time of class.				



#### Central California Kretsstevne (CCK)

Flying Flags RV Park 180 Avenue of the Flags, Buellton







The CCK Committee cordially invites all Sons of Norway members and their guests to attend the 2018 CCK at the beautiful Flying Flags facility in Buellton, just 45 miles north of Santa Barbara on Hwy. 101 for fun, fellowship, and great food – don't miss out!

Name(s) 1)	2)		Lodge:	#
Your E-Mail Address:		_Telephone:		First Time Attendee: (yes/no)
Child(ren): (please give nam	es and ages)			
Additional Adult Guests:				
Present or Past District Office	:e(s) held:			
Resort and Campground (80) of \$157.00 + tax. Call the Sinow for a condition. These	5-688-3716). The Sideways Inn (forme ideways Inn directly at (805- 688-8448 rooms will only be held for us at this p ing your hotel reservations sooner than	erly Wind Mill I 3) and mention y rice until 6/28/20 1 later. They mig	nn) has agreed to rou are with the So 018 (that's correct ght charge you creat	90 days before our event this year). I dit card for one night when you make
Following are the Prices for Registration, Meals and RV parking:				
Registration & Meals: Note: We must pay the RV park for each person attending; thus the Registration Fee.				
\$Weekend Package: \$42 per adult (includes registration fee and Friday dinner thru Sunday breakfast)				
\$Weekend Package: \$21 per child age 10 to 17. (Friday through Sunday)				
\$Weekend	Package: \$34 per person (includes reg	istration fee and	Saturday brunch t	thru Sunday breakfast.
\$Weekend	Package: \$17 per child age 10 to 17.	(Saturday throug	h Sunday)	
OR Daily Registration fee a	and Individual Meals:			
\$Registration Fee: \$8.00 per adult, \$4.00 per child ages 10 to 17, children under 10 free				
Registrati	ion includes a commemorative Kretsste	evne Pin		
Individual meals fo	r Adults are:	Individ	lual meals for Ch	ildren are:
\$Friday Di	nner: \$8.00 (x # needed)	\$	Friday Dinner: §	\$4.00 (x # needed)
	brunch: \$8.00 (x # needed)		_Saturday brunch	n: \$4.00 (x # needed)
\$Saturday:	night dinner: \$13.00 (x # needed)	\$	Saturday night d	dinner: \$6.50 (x # needed)
\$Sunday co	ontinental breakfast: \$7.00 (x # needed	i) \$	_Sunday continer	ntal breakfast: \$3.50 (x # needed)
Total amount due for registration and meals. (STOP HERE IF NOT BRINGING AN RV)				
***RV cutoff is September 10, 2018 for this price***				
RV Campers Only (a special Thanks to you for bringing your RV as we need 12)				
\$Cost per night is \$67.50 and the minimum number of nights is two: Friday and Saturday (additional people \$5 per night)				
An extra vehicle fee is \$5.00 per day but up to 2 pets per site are now FREE				
\$Total amount due for RV parking: RV LengthRV_Site Request (if any)				
\$ Dead line 09/10/2018 Total amount due for registration, meals and RV parking (include all fees).				
	ating in the Craft Fair Sat. Afternoon Wanted raffle items (large or small);			
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "CCK" AND MAIL WITH THIS COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO: Ron Oftebro, 5395 Queen Ann Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111-1121 phone 805-964-9195 (questions to <a href="ivar\_aasen@cox.net">ivar\_aasen@cox.net</a>). Deadline 09/15/2018.

# Sons of Norway 27th Annual Weekend Southern California Kretsstevne

# Friday, Oct. 19 - Sunday, Oct. 21, 2018

## SCK Banning Fall Weekend

Join us for the weekend or a day trip for a wonderful blend of Norwegian Heritage and fellowship. The campground is a short distance south of Hwy 10 in Banning, 25 miles west of Palm Springs. The camp is on level ground at low elevation.



Banning Stagecoach KOA Campground & RV Park 1455 S. San Gorgonio Avenue, Banning, CA 92220

http://koa.com/campgrounds/banning-stagecoach information, only - no reservations

- Enjoy Music, Singing, Heritage Crafts, and Camaraderie
- Cultural Food Demonstration and/or games Silent Auction and Scavenger Hunt
- · Enjoy Saturday afternoon side-trip to Suveg Cellars Winery in Yucaipa

#### \*\*\*\* Lodging Options \*\*\*\*

Banning Travelodge 951-849-1000, Days Inn Banning 951-849-0092

Limited number of RVs (2) and Park Models (3) for rent. Pricing is for two nights

Park Model – bedroom and foldout couch	\$215.00
RV – various sizes and accommodations, TBD	\$155.00
RV space, full hookups	\$ 95.00
Tent space	\$ 60.00

Please complete the registration form below and mail with your check made out to: Southern California Kretsstevne. Mail by October 10 to:

28-351 Via Las Palmas Thousand Palms, CA 92276

Nancy Madson, SCK Registrar Call for campsite lodging (760) 343-0848 e-mail: norsknm@gmail.com

\_\_\_\_\_ cut here and mail \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) Lodge \_\_\_\_ Adults @ \$8.00 each \_\_\_\_ Children under 12 Free Fri. Night Meatball Dinner Sat. Norwegian Vaffler Breakfast \_\_\_\_ Adults @ \$5.00 each \_\_\_\_ Children under 12 Free \$\_ Sat. Hot Dog in Lefse Lunch Adults @ \$5.00 each Children under 12 Free \$\_ Sat. Salmon Dinner Adults @ 12.50 each Children under 12 Free \$
Sun. Scandinavian Breakfast Adults @ \$5.00 each Children under 12 Free \$
SCK Registration Fee – all attendees Adults @ 7.50 each or Family \$15.00 \$ Includes commemorative Rosemaled Kretsstevne pin for adults Lodging: Use pricing from above - Circle one RV rental RV space Park Model tent space TOTAL AMOUNT, check written out to: Southern California Kretsstevne

All proceeds support Camp Norge.

Roald Amundsen 6-48 Sons of Norway P.O. Box 3734 Citrus Heights CA 95611-3734

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Roald Amundsen Lodge Website: http://www.sonsofnorwaysacramento.com.

# **2018 CALENDAR, REMAINING EVENTS ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE** (As of 9/1/2018)

Sunday, 16 September Meeting: 12 Noon, BBQ/Youth Camp Camper presentations

Tuesday, 9 October Regular meeting, 6:30 pm. Cultural presentation.

Saturday, 13 October LUTEFISK DINNER

Saturday, 17 November VIKINGFEST

Tuesday, 13 November Regular meeting. Cultural Presentation NO REGULAR LODGE MEETING

Saturday, 1 December JULEBORD

December CHILDREN AND FAMILY PARTY (Date and Venue TBD)

All events at the Harding San Juan Masonic Lodge, Citrus Heights, unless otherwise indicated.

Schedule always subject to change. Changes will be announced in The Navigator.

Other event dates: Camp Norge; Kretsstevne at Camp Norge, Sept. 1-2.