

THE NAVIGATOR

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48
Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California
September 2019 (Early Fall Edition)

Editor: Stephen Rosenthal

rosen@winfirst.com

Occasional Highly Paid Contributor: Dick Tracysen



INSIDE: SIGN UP FOR FALL BBQ NOW! PG. 2.

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DONNA

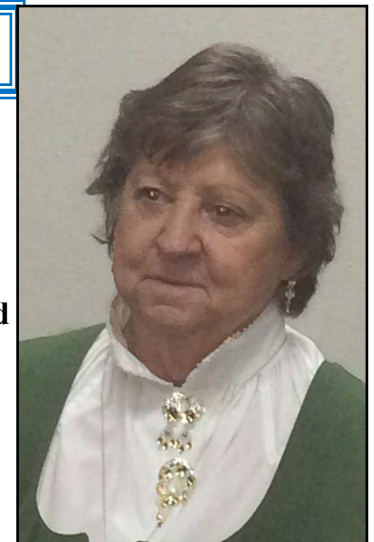
Hilsener,

Hope everyone has had a good summer as we look forward to the cooler days of fall. Although we have taken a break from our monthly meetings we did have a very successful family picnic in July. Many thanks to **Steve and Celia Rosenthal** for hosting this event in their beautiful yard. Also thanks to **Tove Lise Miller and Larena Hannon** for putting it together and **Sean Mattes** for barbecuing. It was great to see so many attend with both regulars and new members and guests. The pot luck dishes were delicious and this just goes to prove Norwegians are excellent cooks. Thanks also to Tove Lise for making the adorable Trolls for the children's Troll hunt.

We have many activities scheduled for the next few months. Labor Day weekend will be the annual Kesstevne at Camp Norge. This is always a fun weekend and this year it is the 60th anniversary celebration of the Camp.

Our September meeting will be our annual barbecue. This will be on Sunday, Sept 8th, and there will be no Tuesday night meeting. We will have a catered dinner followed by a presentation by the youth that attended Camp Norge this summer. This is always a fun and informative evening. In October we hope to have a Lutefisk dinner and November we will again have our Vikingfest. In December we have both the Julebord and Family Christmas Party. These are all great events that promote our Norwegian Heritage. They do take lots of volunteers to make them all successful. Please say yes if approached to help. Or call a Board member and volunteer. Looking forward to seeing you at these events. More information and flyers will be in this and future Navigators. Tusen takk.

Donna



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 provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



Special Fall Afternoon Lodge Meeting:

Enjoy a Summer's-End BBQ Afternoon!

Learn what some of our youth did at camp!

Sunday, September 8th, 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 at our District 6 Camp Norge youth camps. Enjoy a full BBQ dinner prepared in part 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 8th, 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 Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, please, so that we know how much food is needed. See form below, and see you there!

✂ **BBQ Reservation principal name or names, phone #, and e-mail:**
(Only one name necessary)

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

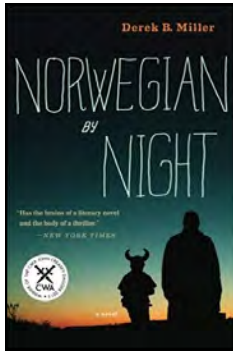
Number of guests over age 13 _____ @ \$12 = \$ _____

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

(Age 5 and under, no charge)

(Camper youth demonstrators, no charge)

Mail to David Bailey (Treasurer), 2944 Shirley Street, West Sacramento, CA 95691 916/239-9576 davidsbailey@yahoo.com



INAUGURAL MEETING: **ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE** **BOOK CLUB!**

WHEN/WHERE: Monday, September 9, from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM, Arden-Dimick Library Conference Room, 891 Watt Avenue, Sacramento. (SWC Watt and Northrup, about 4 blocks north of Fair Oaks Blvd.)

OBJECTIVE: The book club would be focused on Norwegian literature, consistent with the requirements of the Sons of Norway Cultural Skills Program, Unit 2, Literature. The idea would be to select books from the categories recommended in the Program so that participants could earn their Level 1, 2, and 3 pins as they participate in the reading, group discussions, and activities specified in the Program guide.

MORE INFO: Member Noelle Buer is organizing the club. Those who are interested should let Noelle know by email at speedynoelle@gmail.com. To get things started she has reviewed possible books for the first selection, taking into account availability and cost of the books, subject matter interest, and level of difficulty. The list would of course be revised and updated to reflect the interests of the group members. Here is the proposed initial selection of titles:

- 1) **Norwegian by Night, by Derek Miller**
- 2) **Snowman, by Jo Nesbo:**
- 3) **Kristin Lavransdatter I Vol.I: The Wreath, by Sigrid Undset**
- 4) **Ordeal: A William Wisting Mystery, by Jorn Lier Horst**
- 5) **Popular Tales from the Norse, by Sir George Webbe Dasent**

Noelle suggests that those interested read the first book on the list, **Norwegian by Night**, prior the first meeting, so that we can discuss it. She reports: "I very much enjoyed reading this book though it defies characterization. It is a thriller, an adventure story, a philosophical treatise on war, a road trip novel, and a respectful, if humorous tip of the hat to the senior generation. The book will spark a good discussion, and hopefully fire up our book club." The book is available from Amazon for \$8.50± (Amazon book prices seem to vary almost daily) and is also available in the Sacramento County Public Library.

JOIN US AT THE BOOK CLUB MEETING!

LODGE ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC WAS GOOD FUN

Hosts Relieved that Nothing Illegal took place....

Roald Amundsen Lodge celebrated its Summer Picnic this past July 21st at the home of **Stephen and Celia Rosenthal**. More than 30 guests attended during an afternoon of delightful summer weather.

Given the aging of our lodge membership, 1) no one got thrown in the pool, 2) no one was smoking pot, 3) no one was blowing off left-over fireworks, 4) there were no fights, 5) most persons ate real meat cooked on the grill, and 6) as far as we know there were no secret trysts in the extensive redwood forest at the back of the property.

Although this all sounds pretty boring, everyone enjoyed sitting in the shade chatting. The kids enjoyed the swimming, and **Tove-Lise Miller** had crafted some delightful little stone trolls that were hidden around the yard for the children to hunt. Some of the adults imbibed in a little “øl.” We should be so lucky as to enjoy more summer afternoons like that.

Thanks to all who brought potluck offerings and to **Sean Mattes** for grilling the burgers and dogs.



Sign warning children that trolls are hidden in the yard. Picnickers milling around nervously waiting for burgers. Passel of children envying on another's troll. Youngsters Dru and Van with their trolls.

SIDEBARS WITH THE EDITOR...

TOVE-LISE'S WONDERFUL TROLLS

We decided to have a "Troll Hunt" for the kids at the recent Summer Picnic (see article elsewhere in this Navigator).

Tove-Lise made some wonderful little trolls for the event, and here are a couple of photos of them:



LODGE FACEBOOK PAGE

Please join our Facebook page. Open your Facebook account and put "Sons of Norway Sacramento" in the search bar. When you open our page, click on the "like" button and be a follower! Also, encourage your family and friends to join! Many exciting features of Norway and our lodge are posted on this site for you to enjoy. We have hundreds of visits to our page every month. Call Arlene if you need help. 916-771-0183—*Arlene Kozub. (Editor's Note—Arlene is doing a terrific job with our FB page!)*

LODGE WILL



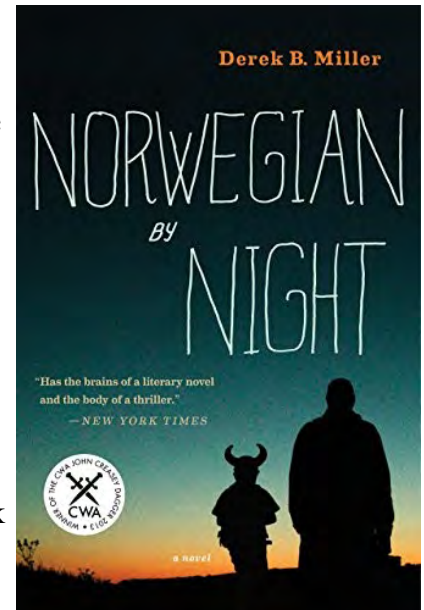
LAUNCH A SCANDINAVIAN—

(Continued on page 6)

(**SIDEBARS**, Continued from page 5)

ORIENTED BOOK CLUB!

Please review the flyer in this Navigator for this exciting new project! Member Noelle Beur is organizing it, and she has picked some interesting books to kick it off. Your editor has purchased the first one, Norwegian by Night, and it appears to be an intriguing story. See you at the inaugural meeting on September 9th!



FROM THE SONS OF NORWAY NEWSLETTER SERVICE

Explore Your Heritage. Are you curious about the unique story of your family? Then get inspiration to begin exploring using our newly updated guide, Genealogy Tips and Hints — Connecting with your family history. This handy 10-page introduction will help you get your research off to a quick start with information about Norwegian names and places. Exclusively for Sons of Norway members, you'll find the guide online at www.sofn.com in the Member Resources area under genealogy.

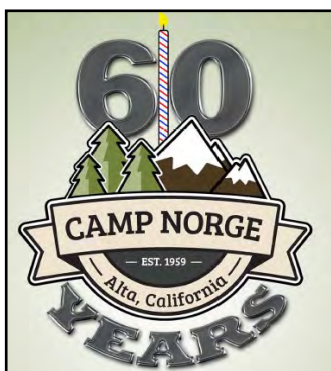
Member Benefit: Grants and Scholarships. Did you know that Sons of Norway members, their children, and their grandchildren are eligible for college scholarships? Opportunities range from supporting enrollment at any major US college to assistance with travel to Norway and other countries. There is even a scholarship for a cultural class for members age 40+! Our lodges may also receive awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 for children's programming, new equipment, or cultural events. Learn more at www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships and www.sofn.com/foundation/grants.

LUTEFISK AND MEATBALL DINNER

The dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 12th. As this Navigator goes to press we are dealing with some logistics problems, but we should have a signup flyer in the next issue.



CAMP NORGE 60TH ANNIVERSARY!



It is too late to sign up, but Camp Norge's sixty years in the Sierras is being celebrated during Kretsttevene Weekend—August 31, through September 2, 2019. The celebration will be highlighted by a banquet on Saturday, Aug. 31st. If you decide you want to attend at this late date you might call 530/389-2508 to see what can be done. No guarantees, that is for sure.

(Continued on page 9)

IN MEMORIAM

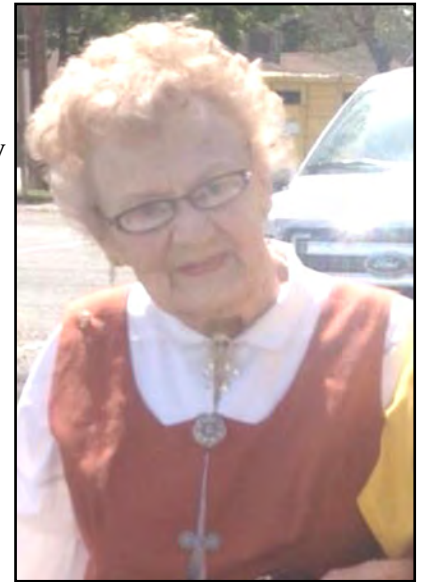
Grace Lillian Sandstad
October 16, 1925 – June 12, 2019



Grace when a young lady.

Long time lodge member **Grace Sandstad** died on June 12, 2019, setting a record for 75 years of membership in Roald Amundsen Lodge. Her personal history is, in many respects, intertwined with the history of Roald Amundsen Lodge and indeed with the early Norwegian immigrant settlements here in the Sacramento area.

Grace, a native to Sacramento, was the youngest of three daughters born to **Einar and Haldis Øvre Sandstad**. Along with older sisters **Thelma (called May) and Bernice**, she lived on the Gladding Ranch in Lincoln where her father Einar was ranch foreman until his death shortly after Grace's sixth birthday. Her mother Haldis



Grace in fairly recent photo.

moved with her three girls back to the Owre Brothers Ranch in what is now Carmichael to live with Haldis' brothers **Alfred and Leif Owre**. Grace graduated from San Juan High School, and worked for the State Board of Equalization for forty years. She continued to live at the Owre ranch until her death this year.

In 1887, her great uncle **Leif Owre** was in the first of a group of Norwegians primarily from Trondelag who settled in Rancho Del Paso north of Sacramento. The next two to come were **Karl Johnson and Marie Nielsen** (both first cousins of the Owres), and Marie organized a "Norway Club" on February 18, 1919, to



Grace, May and Bernice.

bring together women of Norwegian ancestry. Men were allowed membership after a number of years, and on May 17, 1929, a group from Bjornson Lodge in Oakland helped organize Sons of Norway in Sacramento. The lodge was formally chartered on May 19, 1929, and named for polar explorer Roald Amundsen. The majority of the charter membership of the lodge came from Ytterøy, an island in Trondheim's fjord.

Another connection of this family to the lodge was through the Bethel Lutheran Church on Darina Way in North Sacramento where the first organizational meeting for Roald Amundsen Lodge was held. The church was purchased and remodeled for our lodge home in March 1960 until 2001, when the lodge building was sold.

(Grace Sandstad. ontinued from page 7)

The Bethel congregation moved to a new facility at 1200 Alamos Avenue, the location of Grace's celebration of life on July 13, 2019. Grace was a life-long member of this church, from baptism and confirmation to membership (with her sisters) in the Luther League and church choir. Grace was also a Sunday school teacher there.

One of Grace's proudest achievements was becoming a "Life Member" of Sons of Norway. She served as Social Director and as a member on various committees. Helping with the Sons of Norway Camellia Parade floats, she danced the entire parade route in the folk dance group to Norwegian folk music and proudly wore the every-day bunad chosen as their costume. The folk dance group performed on many occasions at the California State Fair. Grace also was active in the Lodge's bowling league. Grace's two sisters were also long-term members of the lodge, as well as many people with the name of Owre.

For many years Grace and Bernice managing the cookie room at the old lodge, putting out the cookies for large dinners. At the lodge 85th Anniversary luncheon in 2014, Grace showed up in fine style with many family members in attendance as she got her 70th year membership pin. She had a ready smile, sparkling blue eyes, and a positive attitude, and contributed greatly to the success of our lodge over the years. Her 75th Anniversary Pin was awarded in absentia at the lodge's 90th Anniversary celebration earlier this year.— *Prepared by Carol Francis, with significant input from Sondra Betancourt.*

IN MEMORIAM

Bob Dahl
1928-May 7th, 2019



Our slightly irascible Publisher and Musician has played his last Santa Lucia accompaniment for us. He passed away this past May 7th after being ill for some time. We will miss his mild epithets about the workings of the US Post Office. For many years he folded the Navigators, added the address labels, and took them to be bulk mailed at the Post Office in Sacramento. From time to time (meaning often) the postal rules changed, and Bob had to scramble to comply and get the Navigators timely mailed.

But, he was proud of the job he did, and the fact that he saved the lodge thousands of dollars over a number of years.

Bob's great-grandparents and grandparents came from a farm in Norway called Eskedahl near Grimstad. The great-grandparents went back to Norway but their children stayed. He was born on Staten Island in New York in 1928, and he was able to trace his ancestry back to 1550.

At age four he was stricken with a rare strep infection and the doctor recommended a dry climate. His parents opted for Norway in the summer. The family pooled all their money and put little Bob Dahl on the SS Stavangerfjord. He had his tricycle and the run of the ship, eating and sleeping with the crew. After the summer on the Eskedahl farm he returned to his home on Staten Island in better health.

When he was eight he was given tap dancing, acrobatic and singing lessons. He must have been good as he was chosen to have the lead in the production "The Marriage of Jack and Jill" presented by the Academy of Music in Brooklyn. He sand a solo "Makin' Whoopee." This was Bob's first introduction to music which later became a big part of his life.

(Continued on page 9)

(SIDEBARS. Continued from page 6)

CAMP OLDFJELL AT CAMP NORGE, 10-15 SEPTEMBER

Registration is officially closed, but check with District 6 to verify.

MEMBER EMAIL LIST UPDATED

Our list of member emails was recently audited and updated. Every member email address that have (i.e., members over the age of 18 sometime this year) should receive CHIMP system notifications with a copy of the Navigator, each time it is published. With a very few requested exceptions, those households will not receive black and white mailed copies of the Navigator. The mailed copy is sometimes abbreviated.



If you are receiving the Navigator by postal mail but have an email address that we should have, we would be obliged if you would send it to us, to rosen@winfirst.com. (We hope we have recorded all previous notifications to us, but if we missed some, we apologize.) We have our postal distribution requirements down to about 50 households, which is pretty good, but we would like to do better – it is expensive to print and mail the Navigator.

(Bob Dahl, Continued from page 8)

In 1933 an aunt died leaving Dahl a Steiner violin which he never touched until high school. A music teacher helped him put strings on it and ultimately he became 1st violin in the school orchestra.

While in his senior year he received his draft notice for service in WWII. Not wanting to go into the Army, he joined the Navy which precluded him from getting his diploma. The high school offered to help, giving him the necessary text books and he soon became a history teacher to other Navy buddies. In his spare time he taught himself to play the guitar.

After leaving the Navy Dahl got his diploma and wanted to get educated in metallurgy as he had been a welder in the service. He sent out applications to five universities and was accepted by all five. He chose Missouri School of Mines and got his degree. He became a supervisor in the GM Foundry but left after 5 years because “they were stuck in their past ways.”

Mary, his new wife had a high school girlfriend living in Ceres, California. He put a trailer hitch on his Cadillac and they headed west. Within weeks he was in charge of fort-five workers in R&D at Aerojet General. The job lasted as long as Aerojet did, thirteen years. he then went to work for McClellan as a metal processing engineer teaching how to machine all of the new exotic metals he had worked on at Aerojet. He retired at age 65 after twenty-two years.

In 2000 his wife of 45 years died. He has lived in the same house since 1968. He has four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. He has been a member of the Old Time Fiddlers, Rancho Cordova, until his passing.

Your present editor of the Navigator enjoyed working with Bob for a number of years. I would deliver the printed Navigators to him and he would take care of the rest.

There will be a memorial service for Bob on September 7th at 11:00 am, at Grace Lutheran Church, 2201 Benita Drive at Coloma Road, Rancho Cordova. **(Editor’s note: Much of the above information about Bob was taken from a 2012 article composed by lodge member Knut Blodger when he was Editor of the Navigator.)**

Invite new members to join and make a difference in your community



When you recruit 1 or more new members, you'll be recognized with a colorful, limited-edition, 2019 Recruiter Pin. Show your support of our growing Sons of Norway family and wear it with pride!

Look around. Who may want to deepen their connection to heritage, make new friends in the community, or learn a folk art through Sons of Norway?

Simply inviting someone to join in our fun activities may make a positive difference in their day. For nearly 125 years our organization has been about making a caring difference for our members and communities. ***Let's keep going for another 125 years!***

Thank you for everything you do as a Sons of Norway member.

Sincerely,

Doris Kamstra

Membership Manager and Sons of Norway Member

ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE, SONS OF NORWAY

Invites you to attend its annual

VIKING FESTIVAL

Saturday, November 16th, 10:30 am to 3:00 pm

Admission is Free!

Masonic Center

*5944 San Juan Avenue, Citrus Heights
(Between Madison and Greenback)*



*Craft items, demonstrations, clothing, bakery goods,
Scandinavian merchandise, Norwegian calendars, gift items...*

Just in time for holiday shopping!

Lunch will be available:

*Open-face sandwiches, Fish soup, Waffles,
Viking-on-a-Stick, Bakery goods... and more.*

Additional information: Call 916-451-3853 or 916-972-7337

And also the lodge website: sonsofnorwaysacramento.com.

All are welcome—you will have a good time!



2019 CALENDAR EVENTS **ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE**

(As of 8/26/2019)



Sunday, 8 September	BBQ Afternoon. Youth Camper Demonstrations, etc. (No other September meeting.)
Monday, 9 September	Book Club, 1:30 pm, Arden-Dimick Library
Tue-Sun, 10-15 September	Camp Oldfjell, at Camp Norge
Tuesday, 8 October	Monthly meeting with Cultural Program 7 pm
Saturday 12 October	Lutefisk Dinner
Tuesday 12 November	Monthly meeting with Cultural Program 7 pm
Saturday 16 November	Vikingsfest
Saturday 14 December	Julebord
December, Date TBD	Family Christmas Party (Date and Venue to be announced.)

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**.

A WORD FROM OUR FINANCIAL BENEFITS COUNSELOR...

Lodge members, this is National Life Insurance Month!

As an Insurance Agent having been in the business for over 17 years, I am very aware of the importance that life insurance can do for you and your family. It is important to not put off what you can do today until tomorrow, because tomorrow may not come! As an agent I know how important it is to make sure you have the right policy coverage and design to meet your specific needs. Not everyone is the same fit! We can design your life insurance coverage anywhere from a simple burial plan to a sophisticated retirement plan.

Do you have medical or disability issues that have prevented you from getting one in the past? Well we have one for you now! Don't want to pay for an Insurance Policy until you are 125? We have policies now that we can design just for you and your family.

I would love to sit down with you and do a free financial review and design a program just for you or your loved ones. Give me a call 530-263-6565 or 530-470-6070.

Thank you,
Adrienne Lincoln

Adrienne Lincoln Insurance Services
Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor
10771 Pittsburg Rd., Nevada City, Ca. 95959
E: alincoln2048@comcast.net
License # OF63907

