

# THE NAVIGATOR

## JANUARY 2026

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48

Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California

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*"Most of what we print is true most of the time"*

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Facebook: *facebook.com/sonsofnorwaysacramento*



### FROM PRESIDENT TOVE-LISE:



Members and friends of Roald Amundsen Lodge: It's a new year, and we're fortunate to experience it again.

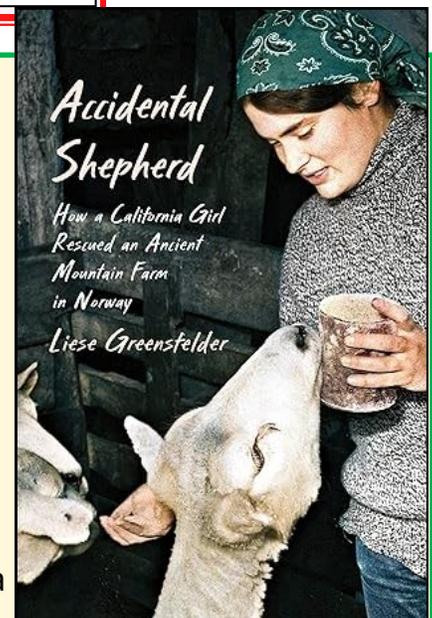
We have an exciting meeting scheduled for February and are happy to welcome **Liese Greensfelder** as our speaker. Curious about who she is? Join us to find out! Additional details can be found elsewhere in the Navigator.

The **Julebord** drew a great crowd, with many children happily crafting and singing Christmas songs. Jim Smith's presence was a highlight, as he was honored with his 50th-year loyalty pin. He is a Past President of Roald Amundsen Lodge and District 6. He also served as International Director from 2002 to 2006.

We reinstalled last year's officers for another term, and installed our new Cultural Director, **Christina Newport**, in absentia. Thank you, Christina, for stepping up to the role!

We're excited for another wonderful year at our lodge, now entering its 97th season. With any luck, we'll reach our centennial anniversary soon.

Godt nytt år! **Hilsen Tove-Lise**



**NO DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER.** Members did not receive a December newsletter because none was issued. However, if you become aware that you are not receiving (almost) monthly Navigators, we would certainly like to hear of it (notify at [rosen@winfirst.com](mailto:rosen@winfirst.com)). Similarly, if you hear others expressing doubt about newsletter receipt, we would really appreciate notice. Recently, several newsletters sent to a changed postal address for an individual were returned to us all at once, meaning that we were months behind in knowing of the error. And please try to keep your member information current at the headquarters office – their records provide our initial basis for member distribution. - Editor

**UPCOMING LODGE EVENTS 2026****FEBRUARY**

Tuesday , Feb. 10, Business meeting

**MARCH**

Saturday, Mar. 28, Fish/Meatball Social event

**APRIL**

Tuesday, Apr. 14, Business meeting

**MAY**

Sunday, May 17, Norwegian Constitution Day Celebration (Syttende Mai)

**JUNE**

Tuesday June 9, Business meeting

**JUNE**

BIENNIAL DISTRICT CONVENTION, Sacramento (11th—14th)

**SEPTEMBER**

Sunday, Sept. 13, Camper Recognition BBQ

**OCTOBER**

Tuesday, Oct. 13, Business meeting

**NOVEMBER**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, Business meeting

Saturday, Nov 7, Viking Festival

**DECEMBER**

Saturday, Dec 5, Julebord with 2027 officer installation.

**All meetings and events at the San Juan Masonic Center, Citrus Heights, unless otherwise indicated. Call 916.364.8704 for more information.**

**NO JANUARY MEETING**

Please note that there is no January meeting or event. See you on February 10th.

**VISITING AUTHOR AT FEB. MEETING!**

Hei!!

The Son's of Norway, Roald Amundsen Lodge, is having an interesting cultural presentation at our next meeting!

Author **Liese Greensfelder**, Author of: ***The Accidental Shepherd***: How a California girl rescued an ancient mountain farm in Norway, will be coming to talk about her experience in Norway and to present a slide show. There will be time afterward for questions.

There will also be hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and coffee.

**February 10, 2026 at 6 pm at the Masonic Center 5944 San Juan Avenue, Citrus Heights**

**Special Information:**

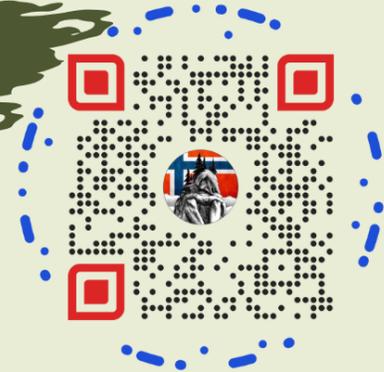
This true story is an amazing account of life on a Norwegian farm over 50 years ago. It gives insight into not only the hard work of being a Norwegian farmer but insight into Norwegian culture of the time. This is a rare chance to read about real, rural life in Norway. It's a great story!! Her book has already received two awards!

\*\*\*\*There will be books for purchase, so bring cash. Books will be selling for \$20.00 to \$25.00. This is a great opportunity to purchase a book and get Liese to sign it!

Please come out and support a locally based Norwegian Author! - **Christina Newport, Cultural Director.**



# CAMP Trollfjell & Folkehøgskule



## NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE & HERITAGE KIDS CAMPS

REGISTRATION  
JAN 1 - MAY 31

Early Bird Discount  
Register by April 1st

Trollfjell Folkehøgskule (ages 14-17)

- June 28-July 11

Camp Trollfjell (ages 8-13)

- July 12-25



Camp Norge in Alta, CA



<https://sofn6.org/arv/camp-trollfjell/>



[Trollfjell](#)

## 2026 KIDS CAMPS INFORMATION!

Sons of Norway District Six will offer Camp Trollfjell & Folkehøgskule in summer 2026 at Camp Norge, located near Alta, California in the Sierra Nevada mountains. These Norwegian Language & Heritage Kids Camps provide young people with an opportunity to learn about Norwegian culture while participating in traditional summer camp activities.

Two two-week sessions are planned. Trollfjell Folkehøgskule for ages 14–17 will be held June 28–July 11. Camp Trollfjell for ages 8–13 will follow from July 12–25. Each program is designed to be age-appropriate and to encourage learning, participation, and connection among campers.

Daily activities include Norwegian language instruction, folk dancing, rosemaling, hikes, campfires, games, and other group activities. Time is also built into the schedule for recreation and social interaction in a supervised camp setting.

Registration will be open from January 1 through May 31, with an early bird discount available for registrations received by April 1.

Camp Trollfjell & Folkehøgskule information tree: [linktr.ee/trollfjell](https://linktr.ee/trollfjell)

Register for Camp Trollfjell at: [sofn6.org/arv/camper-registration/](https://sofn6.org/arv/camper-registration/)

Register for Trollfjell Folkehøgskule at: [sofn6.org/arv/folkehogskule-registration/](https://sofn6.org/arv/folkehogskule-registration/)

**DECEMBER JULEBORD PHOTOS**



*Top: The gathered multitudes just before they started banging the tables with knives and forks and demanding food. Above: Lars Gjerde, lodge member and gifted piano player providing Christmas music. Left: Service line. VP Norm Hales in foreground, right.*

DECEMBER JULEBORD PHOTOS



*Jim Smith, a former International Director of Sons of Norway, receiving 50-year (!) pin from President Tove-Lise. Kara O'Brian, this year's Santa Lucia portrayer. Kids picking out gifts.*

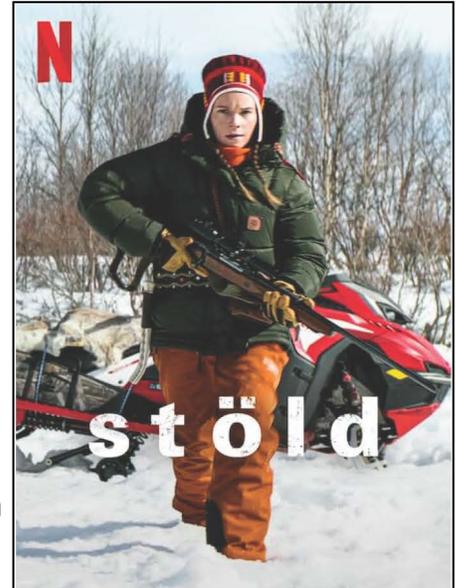
INTERESTED IN SÁMI, WOLVES, OR OSCAR CANDIDATE?

## EXCEPTIONAL SCANDINAVIAN FLICKS NOW ONLINE

### STOLEN

**AI Summary:** "Stolen refers to the acclaimed novel and subsequent Netflix film by **Ann-Helén Laestadius**, a story about Elsa, a young Sámi woman fighting to protect her indigenous reindeer herding community from escalating violence, prejudice, and the legal system's dismissal of their culture as mere theft."

This is a 2024 Swedish film available, as said above, on **Netflix**. We watched it and really enjoyed it as well as finding it very interesting. There is some great scenery of northern Scandinavia, reindeer herds, and Sámi life. Spoken in a Sámi dialect, Swedish, and a smattering of Norwegian and English. English subtitles. The book was an NPR Best Book of the Year.



### THE WOLF WAR



In recent years wolves have returned to California and with them has come the inevitable friction between animal rights groups and cattle ranchers, the latter not happy about wolves killing their cattle that they would much prefer to see end up in a Raley's cooler priced at \$12 or \$15 per pound. Well, same-same along the northern border between Sweden and Norway. The Wolf War is a Swedish documentary focusing on this argument

that verges on a religious conflict. The two-part documentary has received kudos for being even-handed in its approach to reporting on this friction. In Scandinavia the wolf is a threat to the valued elk population, at least in the eyes of hunters.

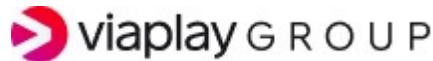
What seems to emerge is an often reasonable approach to dealing with the conflict by both the animal rights groups and the elk hunters, but unfortunately a host of problems are created by the fringe elements of both persuasions.

Spoken in Swedish and Norwegian with English subtitles available. The streaming service is VIAPLAY.

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

How does one access **VIAPLAY** in the United States? This is a streaming service featuring primarily Scandinavian film productions. Based in Sweden, it is widely available in the Nordic and Baltic countries and some other European countries.



In the United States Viaplay Select (i.e., some Viaplay content but not all of it) is available on Amazon Prime Video, and perhaps other sources. An Amazon Prime subscriber can simply choose to add VIAPLAY as an add-on service, at no additional cost.

## SENTIMENTAL VALUE

As mentioned in a previous Navigator, *Sentimental Value* (Norwegian title: Affeksjonsverdi) is a 2025 comedy-drama film directed by **Joachim Trier**, who co-wrote the screenplay with **Eskil Vogt**. It stars **Renate Reinsve**, **Stellan Skarsgård**, **Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas**, **Elle Fanning** and other notable actors. The film had its world premiere at the main competition of the **2025 Cannes Film Festival** in May where it received widespread acclaim and won the Grand Prix award. It was selected as the Norwegian entry for **Best International Feature Film for the upcoming 98th Academy Awards**.



The film is now available on both **Apple+** and **Amazon Prime Video**. The rental fee is 15 bucks—invite others over! The film is two+ hours long! (We haven't watched it yet, as your editor cannot sit still for two hours.)



## TRAFALGAR SQUARE CHRISTMAS TREE

Every year since 1947 Norway has delivered to Trafalgar Square in London a Norway Spruce Christmas tree as a gesture of thanks for Britain's support during WW2. This year's 213-foot tree was named "Ever Oslo." The honor of felling the tree this year was bestowed upon two forest-dwelling Nisse brothers, Klem and Phlegm.



## “...REFLECTIONS ON NORWEGIAN AND SOMALI SETTLEMENT IN THE UPPER MIDWEST”\*

Recently the Somalian diaspora now populating portions of the upper Midwestern United States has been the subject of news reports, some good and some not quite so good. But here we reference an article (see insert) that reports on hopeful elements of this group’s assimilation into our current American culture. The author gives background: “...As conditions in Somalia in the Horn [of Africa] ebb and flow...Somali people have continued to arrive in the Midwest, seeking work in this region’s vast meatpacking plants and warehouses – *in much the same way that Norwegian immigrants once sought work in the regions vast timber forests and farm fields.*” (Italics added)

Ms. Pisera chronicles the activities that occur at a venue called Pioneer Village, run by the Barron County Historical Society in Barron, Wisconsin. A number of cultural events or interactions have taken place at this facility among Somali and Norwegian-American women. For instance, women in the two cultures have exchanged information about their respective weaving cultures. Members of the **Sons of Norway** Dovre Lodge have participated in these exchanges.

She concludes her article by asking: “*Who is afforded the privilege to settle and dwell, to celebrate roots and build new homes, in this region we have all come to love? Celebrating our community’s success in establishing a Norwegian sense of home in America feels incomplete without also supporting the dreams of new immigrants following that path today. I have come to understand that our roots become dearer to us and our home and hearth feels warmer when we invite others in.*” (Italics added)



***The author interviewing Norwegian-Americans and Somalis practicing crafts.***

***\*The title of an article by Sallie Anna Steiner Pisera, Ph.D., published in Vesterheim magazine, Vol. 23, No. 2, 2025, just recently mailed to subscribers. Ms. Pisera has conducted field observation and research on the interaction of Somalis with Norwegian-Americans in Minnesota and Wisconsin under the auspices of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures. Ms. Pisera is a folklorist and was awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin and a BA in Scandinavian Studies from Concordia College. She is director of Museums of Sogn og Fjordane in Førde, Norway.***

***Note: Somali are the largest immigrant African group in Norway, numbering about 40,000, about a third of whom were born in Norway. Many live in the Oslo area.***

***If you do not have ready access to the reviewed article, you can find much similar information by googling the author’s name.***

## LODGE OFFICERS 2026

The 2026 lodge officers were installed at the December Julebord event. They are as follows:

### President

**Tove-Lise Miller**

ToveLise@aol.com

### Vice President

**Norman Hales**

claykara@att.net

### Secretary

**Arlene Kozub**

Arlene.kozub@gmail.com

### Treasurer

**Kathy Bennett**

kathyjbennett@comcast.net

**Stephen Rosenthal (H&P)**

rosen@winfirst.com

### Social Director

**Peggy Hyde**

peggyhyde2@yahoo.com

### Cultural Director

**Christina Newport**

yosemite4@softcom.net

### Editor

**Stephen Rosenthal**

rosen@winfirst.com

Numerous other members fill positions when and as needed, and we thank them all for their service.

The above listed officers are the ones to whom you should ~~com-~~  
~~plain~~ offer suggestions!

The lodge's assigned investment professional for Sons of Norway products is **Fred Hymans, CFP**, 916-333-2086.

## DISTRICT SIX CONVENTION RETURNS TO SACRAMENTO AFTER 22-YEAR HIATUS!

This biennial convention will be held at the Double-Tree Hilton Hotel in the Point West area of Sacramento, and will include a one-day trip to Camp Norge available to all delegates. The convention dates are June 11-14.



Roald Amundsen Lodge probably will qualify by member count for five or six delegates who will have to be chosen from the membership—more on this next month.

The leadership/membership seminars will be on Saturday morning and the District Convention meetings will be on Saturday and Sunday. There will be a hosted dinner on Saturday and the Banquet with installation of officers on Sunday. Any and all members of District Six may attend even if not a delegate. Save the dates! We should have more information on the total schedule next month.

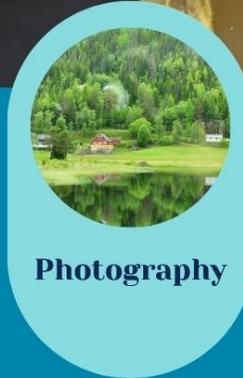
Any lodge member interested in helping at the convention contact Tove-Lise. See the next page for folk art exhibition information.



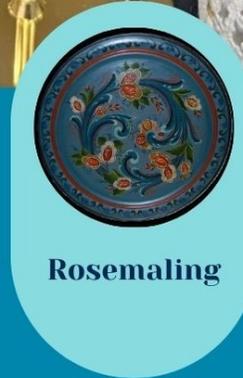
# 2026 Folk Art Exhibit



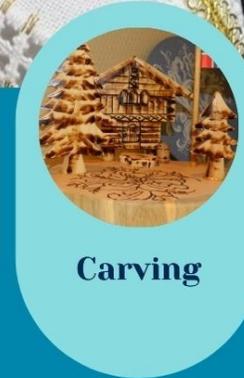
Painting



Photography



Rosemaling



Carving



Knitting

## 2026 Folk Art Exhibition

It's time to start preparing your projects for the 2026 Folk Art Exhibition at the Biennial District Six Lodge Meeting and Convention. An 'Olaf' award will again be presented to a favorite digital or electronic program. So, start, or continue your knitting, stitching, carving, weaving, painting, etc, or get creative with a digital program.



**Sons of Norway District Six  
2026 Biennial Meeting & Convention**

**June 11 – 14, 2026**

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Sacramento  
2001 Point W Way, Sacramento, CA 95815**



[2026.sofn6.org/folk-art-exhibit/](https://2026.sofn6.org/folk-art-exhibit/)



[culturaldirector@sofn6.org](mailto:culturaldirector@sofn6.org)



[2026.sofn6.org](https://2026.sofn6.org)