# THE NAVIGATOR



## NOVEMBER 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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SONS of NORWAY

**FROM PRESIDENT TOVE-LISE:**



Hi everyone,

Our biggest event of the year, **Viking Festival**, is this Saturday, November 7th. There will be photo opportunities for the kids with the **Dark Boar Vikings.**

We have **se**veral new venders including Ed Santarosa from Capital **Woodcarvers. Norwegian style sandwiches, waffles, Vikings on a stick and several other food items will be available.** We are working hard for this to be a successful event and according to the weather forecast it is supposed to be a beautiful day.

We have a regular business meeting on November 10th, which I hope many of you will attend, as many important decisions will be made, including our charitable donations for the year.

If you have students that could benefit from a scholarship, please go to www.sofn.com and check out all the different scholarships that are available. **The scholarship application season is October 1– January 15. Scholarships are awarded in late Spring for the next academic year.** We have some additional information on page 4.

**Our annual Julebord will be on December 5th. The flyer and reservation form are included in this newsletter. Make sure you make an early reservation.**

**Please note that if your membership lapses you will not be able to renew online and will receive an error message. Please contact customer service so they can adjust your account enabling you to pay online.**

**Happy Thanksgiving! Tove-Lise**



***This could be your child...***

# VIKING FESTIVAL

**Saturday, November 7th, 2026, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Admission is Free!**



*Masonic Center*
*5944 San Juan Avenue, Citrus Heights, 95610*
*(Between Madison and Greenback)*



THIS SATURDAY!

*Craft items ... tions, clothing, bakery goods,*
*Scandi... Norwegian calendars, gift items...*

*Just in time for holiday shopping!*

*Lunch will be available:*
*Open-face sandwiches, Fish soup, Waffles,*
*VIKINGS-ON-A-STICK, Bakery goods... and more.*

*Additional information: Call 916-364-8704*
*And also the lodge website: sonsofnorwaysacramento.com.*
*And also Facebook: facebook.com/sonsofnorwaysacramento*
*All are welcome—~~vendors and exhibitors call the above number for table.~~*
**(Sorry— all reserved.)**








ALL ARE INVITED TO THE LODGE CHRISTMAS SEASON DINNER:

# THE ANNUAL JULEBORD!




SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 TH
HARDING MASONIC LODGE
5944 SAN JUAN AVENUE
CITRUS HEIGHTS 95610
SEATING AVAILABLE
BEGINNING 5:30 PM
DINNER SERVICE ABOUT 6:00 PM
PREPAID RESERVATIONS ONLY –
SEE INFORMATION ON NEXT PAGE

The menu will include these Norwegian delicacies: Roast Pork, Meatballs, Surkål, Vegetable, Herring, Smoked Salmon, Norwegian dessert cookies, coffee and drinks.
(Some wine will be available and you may bring your own.)

Julebord has its roots in the ancient Norse tradition of celebrating the winter solstice. These early celebrations were called "Yule" and were a time for the Norse people to honor the return of the sun, marking the gradual lengthening of days after the darkest period of the year.

The Yule celebration was associated with feasting, drinking, and a sense of unity. Over the centuries, the Yule tradition evolved and was eventually merged with Christian Christmas celebrations, leading to the creation of the modern Julebord, which features – surprise, surprise - feasting, drinking, and a sense of unity.

# JULEBORD 2026 RESERVATIONS

*Saturday December 5th*
*Seating available beginning at 5:30 PM, Dinner about 6:00 PM*
*Make checks payable to "Sons of Norway"*
*Mail to Treasurer, Sons of Norway, PO Box 3734, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3734*
*Questions: 916-364-8704*
*(Reservations will be checked off at the event)*

*Name(s)_____*
*Cell phone # & email (So we can confirm your reservation)*
*_____*

*# of adults (age 18 and up)_____@ $30 each* *Total $_____*
*# of teens 13 thru 17____@$10 each* *Total $_____*
*# of children 12 and under ____* *(No charge)*
*Grand Total* *$_____*
***NO CASH, PLEASE. RESERVATION DEADLINE DECEMBER 1st.***
*Notes, comments:*

## SONS OF NORWAY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sons of Norway Foundation awards scholarships to promising students each year. These scholarship funds support education to help students prepare for their career and journey in life. They also help bring our Foundation mission to fruition by promoting cultural exchanges and the importance of lifelong learning.

Want to live in Norway and attend a Norwegian university or folk high school? Could you appreciate help with paying for tuition at your US academic institution? The Sons of Norway Foundation offers different scholarships to both members and non-members of Sons of Norway. It is another benefit of Sons of Norway membership!

**The scholarship application season is October 1–January 15 — one month already gone! Scholarships are awarded in late Spring for the next academic year.**

**What scholarships are available? Go to this URL for a great summary thereof:**
https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/.
We counted at least 18 separate scholarships, some of which offer multiple awards.

**Lodge Member Holiday Birthdays**

## UNDERSTANDING (?) THE BIRTHDAY PARADOX

**Thanks to the "miracle" of compounding, in** a room of just 23 people there is a 50-50 chance of at least two people having the same birthday. In a room of 75 there's a 99.9% chance of at least two people matching. So if you are like your editor, you might expect that in our lodge of **169(!) persons** there must be several persons in this lodge with a Thanksgiving birthday…

But wait! There's more! Forget all that stuff above. In our lodge of currently 169 persons, and assuming a 365-day year, the probability of at least one person being born on Thanksgiving is only approximately 37.10%! And the probability of two, three or more becomes less and less.

**How to calculate it:**
Instead of calculating the probability of 1 person, 2 people, or 3 people having a Thanksgiving birthday and adding them up, it is much easier to calculate the **complement** (the probability that *nobody* in the room was born on Thanksgiving) and then subtract it from 1.

**Probability of NOT a single person being born on Thanksgiving:**

$$(364/365)$$

So the probability that all 169 people were NOT born on Thanksgiving:

$$(364/365)^{169} \approx 0.6290 \text{ (or } 62.90\%)$$

**And finally, the probability that at least one person WAS born on Thanksgiving:**

$$1 - 0.6290 = 0.3710 \text{ (or } 37.10\%)$$

So, not especially likely that any of our 169 members was born on one of the upcoming holidays. Let's see if that is so…




**Holiday Birthdays**

These are the only ones we found:
Thanksgiving 11/26: None.
Christmas Eve 12/24: **Christina Newport**
Christmas Day: 12/25: None.
New Year's Eve: None.
New Year's Day: **Mark Sabin, Kai Miller**

For those that have these birthdays – Happy Birthday! If we missed any, Happy Birthday to you, too. By the way, the "Birthday Paradox" seems to hold: We found **24** instances of two persons having birthdays on the same month and day, and 4 cases of three persons having birthdays on the same month and day. (And corrections welcome. Your editor took Statistics and Probabilities about 60 years ago and remembers nothing.)

# NEWS OF NORWAY

## Finland and Norway Presidents call Putin



*Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre (2026, Wikipedia)*

Last week Finland's President **Alexander Stubb** and Norwegian **Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre** held a joint call with **Vladimir Putin** - a rare contact between the Russian president and European leaders. The aim was to look at "future negotiations to help to end the war" in Ukraine, their offices said. They said their initiative was not on behalf of "Europe as a whole". The phone call was held from the Finnish capital Helsinki.

Ukrainian President **Volodymyr Zelensky** has spoken to the two Nordic leaders after their conversation with Putin. Last week, Zelensky met them as well as US special envoy **Steve Witkoff** in Oslo. The Ukrainian leader said he was grateful for the "active support" of his Finnish and Norwegian counterparts.

"Finland and Norway border Russia," Stubb and Støre said. Maybe the fact that they do gives them a unique reason to talk directly with Russia. They said they had initiated the call to "discuss Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the diplomatic efforts to end the war and promote peace and stability in Europe".

Tuesday's phone call was "frank and substantive", Stubb said, explaining that the war's outcome will "have a direct impact on our and the broader European security".

After speaking to the two Nordic leaders, Zelensky said part of their discussions with Putin had centered on the upcoming trilateral talks to be held in Abu Dhabi in November.

Stubb and Støre are the first European leaders to contact Vladimir Putin since French President **Emmanuel Macron's** conversation with him in July 2025.



***One of Norway's...let's just call it a public lavatory and commode for the traveling public... (Lars Grimbsby/turistveg/Visit Norway)***

In the past President Stubb has played golf with **President Trump** and seemed to get along with him quite well. So far, President Trump has not found reason to call Finland a "s- - -t house country," as he has referred to Norway. Norway, for its part, has begun featuring "Norway's most beautiful and spectacular toilets" along the country's highways and byways on its ***Visit Norway*** website.

## REMAINING LODGE EVENTS 2026

NOVEMBER

Tuesday, Nov. 10, Business meeting. Officer selection, contributions guidance

Saturday, Nov 7, Viking Festival  Can you help? Call Tove-Lise at (916) 364-8704.

DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec 5, Julebord with 2027 officer installation. See flyer.

JANUARY 2027

No events or meetings

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

**Coming early next year….**

## FISH DINNER, SATURDAY, MARCH 27th

As soon as Lake Wobegon freezes over our professional contract fishermen, Ole and Sven, will be on station and maybe catching enough Walleyes for our dinner. If they don't come through, we reserve the right to switch to a different fish genus...




### SONS OF NORWAY MISSION STATEMENT

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

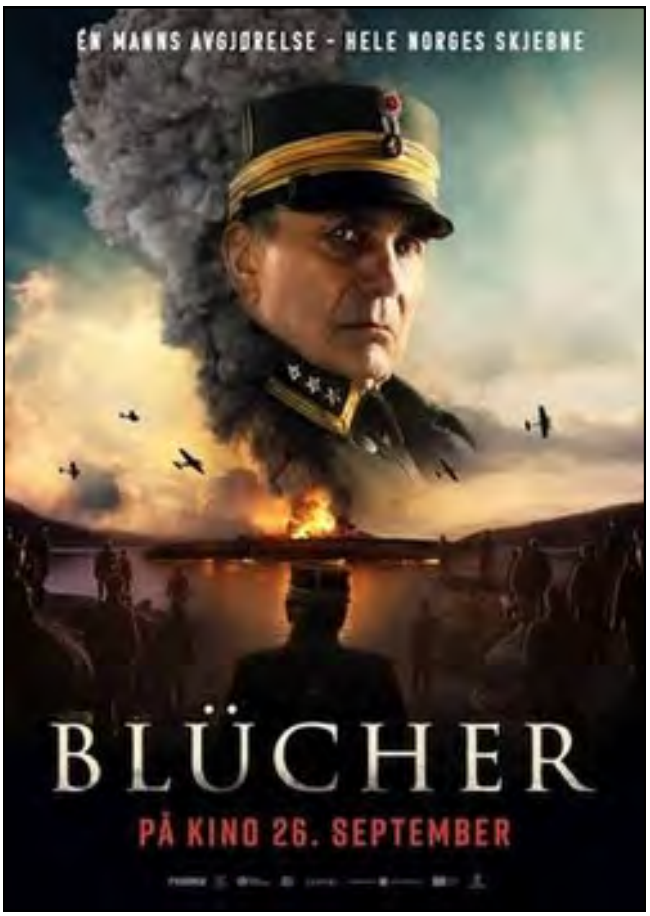


**2026 NORWAY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS, AND WHERE TO STREAM THE FILMS**

Film festivals happen around the world and Norway is no exception. Every year, for one week in August, enthusiasts gather in the coastal city of Haugesund to celebrate the country's film industry. The event has taken place there since 1987, but originally started back in 1973 as a traveling film festival around Norway. Since settling into Haugesund, *Den Norske Filmfestivalen*, as it is known, has become an important event to celebrate and showcase the film industry of Norway and other Nordic countries.

**Best Children's Film: *A Mouse Hunt for Christmas (Hvis ingen gär I fella).*** Norwegian. A family comes to an abandoned house full of mice to celebrate Christmas. Can be rented on Apple TV.

**Best Foreign Language Film: *One Battle After Another.*** *American.* "An epic screwball adventure." Leonardo DiCaprio. Sean Penn. On Amazon Prime for rental for about $4, and other streaming services.




**Best Documentary: *Flophouse America.*** Norwegian production, in English. Stream with ads on Tubi. Can be purchased on other streaming services including Apple TV. About poorer Americans living in cheap hotels.

**The People's Amanda (An overall award): *The Battle of Oslo (*Blücher).*** *2025 Historical Thriller about the Battle of Drøbak Sound. English Subtitles. On Amazon Prime for $5 rental, and other streaming services.*

***Best Short Film: Fata Morgana, (Hildring)***. It is a warm, summer day and Sarah and her boyfriend are preparing to host a summer party. But in just one day her entire sense of reality is turned upside down. An amazingly beautiful and tender short story where acting cinematography and score together create a unique atmosphere. Apparently not streaming in our area.

**Best Norwegian Film: *Sentimental Value***. Oscar winner. Mostly in Norwegian with English subtitles. On Netflix and other streaming services.

*Name of German Heavy Cruiser involved.