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Special Edition

SPRING/SUMMER

2025

VÅR/SOMMER

Spesialutgave

### Greetings Lodge Members

You may have noticed we haven't published a **Flyer** since the January/February issue.

I had surgery on my hand in February and was unable to fulfill my duties as your editor. It has taken awhile to regain flexibility and strength, but I am happy to say it was a success!

This issue is a recap of some of the lodge events, and a preview of what is coming up.

We are heading into our fall season and our lodge is going to be busier than ever.

Next month we will have our famous Fish Boil, and then at the end of September our popular Nordic Market.

Please help out if you can, we are a volunteer organization and our lodge needs many hands to make the magic happen! (Especially you lefse rollers.)

*Med Vennlig Hilsen,  
Ruth Kvernplassen, Newsletter Editor  
Sons of Norway, Bernt Balchen Lodge*

## CLASSIFIEDS FOR VIKINGS



**AD SIZE:**  
2 x 3.5 inches  
(business card size)  
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[newsletter@sofnalaska.com](mailto:newsletter@sofnalaska.com) Attn: The Flyer

**Submission deadline for our  
September/October 2025 issue is August 15th**

"Gratulerer  
med dagen!"



# SUNSHINE REPORT



"Happy  
Birthday!"

*Greetings are sent to our members celebrating a birthday who are at least 75 years young!*

## MARCH

Gordon J Severson is 95!  
Phillip J Ramstad  
Leslie M Hageland

Louann A Peterson  
Gabrielle R Ledoux  
William Sobolesky

## APRIL

Loretta Hodson is 91!  
Ruta Cukurs  
Delores A Lambert  
Craig O Ronning

James H Larsen  
Richard Dunning  
Lillian Marvin  
Janice G Finlay

## MAY

Phyllis Begun  
Darrell E Korman is 90!  
Gordon D Homme  
Judith A Bagley  
David W Haugen  
Donna L Libal  
Joan W Nunn

John Randall  
Mimzy Wellberg  
Eric Johnson  
James S Strandberg  
Sonja Ann Arduser  
Martin John Hansen  
Robert Herrett

## JUNE

Esteline Moe  
Colleen Markley  
Rutledge  
Wayne C Johnson  
Sandra L Johnson  
Sigrun C Robertson

Denis M Allen  
Andrea L Monsen  
Camille I Curry  
Terje G Birkedal  
Michael E Ellingboe  
Kathy Privratsky

## JULY

Marilyn L Freitag is 95!  
Shirley Marie Luedke  
Alice L Sears  
Marilyn B Lee  
Sigrid S Bryant

Carol Ericson  
David G Hanson  
Hal Courtice  
Robert Watkins

## AUGUST

Eunice Vrem is 93!  
Joan Hatley  
Diane Thomas

Diane R Pederson  
Kathryn A Morgenthaler

*If you know someone who needs a little sunshine*

Contact Anna Bryant at: [anna\\_bryant@hotmail.com](mailto:anna_bryant@hotmail.com)

For a really good read, please go to the Anchorage Daily News (online) for a story about member Gordon Severson!

*Meet Gordon Severson, the Alaska Court System's 95-year-old bailiff*

*The Anchorage resident has retired from three careers.*

*He's been serving the public since Harry Truman was president — and he's not done yet.*

By Jenna Kunze Published: June 28, 2025

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/anchorage/2025/06/28/meet-gordon-severson-the-alaska-court-systems-95-year-old-bailiff/>

## LEFSE, LEFSE, LEFSE

*The indoor/outdoor Nordic Market will be held on September 27th so lefse making for the bake sale starts in September.*

**1st Session - September 14 - 16 (Weekday Option)**

**Sunday, September 14th from 3:00 - 6:00 pm**

**Monday, September 15th from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**Tuesday, September 16th from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**2nd Session - September 19 - 21**

**Friday, September 19th from 3:00 - 6:00 pm**

**Saturday, September 20th from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**Sunday, September 21st from 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**



The 3-day lefse making session has potato preparation and set-up on Friday (3-6 pm) with lefse-rolling and packaging on Saturday (9 am-6 pm) and Sunday (9 am-6 pm).

This is a huge fundraiser for the Lodge so we hope to see you on any of the dates/times listed above.

Contact Cynthia at 907-748-6301 or send an email to [sonancak@gmail](mailto:sonancak@gmail.com) if you would like more information or to let us know what time/dates you can help. Or, if you find you have a couple hours to help out – drop by the Hall!

## COMING SOON TO A LODGE YOU LOVE!



### FISH BOIL

**August 25th**

**4:00 pm, Dinner at 6:00 pm**

**Reservations by August 23rd**

**Call 907-349-1613**



29th Annual Sons of Norway

## NORDIC MARKET

**September 27, 2024 | 10 am – 4 pm**

**Viking Hall 8141 Briarwood Street**

**&**





## NORWEGIAN FISH DINNER!



*Rave reviews were heard from all that attended the Norwegian Fish Dinner....Merlin, Wayne, Steve, and Lloyd & Anita outdid themselves preparing the delicious fish entrees - Wayne caught the lake trout and his team cooked it up. Lloyd & Anita prepared 350+ cod fishcakes with brown sauce to accompany the trout - they were delicious!*

*Tusen takk to all of the members that helped out and those that attended the dinner - it truly was a seafood feast!!*



Photos Courtesy of Karin Ruud and Anita Persson



**Saturday, May 17!**

**What a beautiful day  
for a Celebration!**



## Norwegian Rosemaling with Marilyn Hansen

October 3, 4, 5, 2025 (Fri, Sat, Sun, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm)

Viking Hall (Bernt Balchen Lodge 2-46)  
8141 Briarwood Street, Anchorage, Alaska. 99518



*Explore this vibrant traditional Norwegian folk art with professional artist Marilyn Hansen.*

Marilyn has painted various Rosemaling styles for nearly 50 years.

Her artwork has been exhibited in museums and private collections all over the world, including the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. An experienced instructor, Marilyn has taught this skill to hundreds of adults and children.

You will learn how to create a beautiful handcrafted piece of Nordic Culture.

All skill levels are welcome to participate in this three-day workshop.

*This class is designed for 15 to 20 students so reserve your space now.*

### Class Cost

- \$145.00 - Sons of Norway Member
- \$165.00 - Non-member

### Cost includes

- Three (3) days of instruction\* (Coffee and Tea provided & Bring Your Own Lunch)
- Two (2) good quality brushes: #2 shader and #1 liner
- Pre-painted background and sealed 8" wooden plate
- Use of some artist oil paints (See supply list of items to bring to class).

### Additional Information

If you have or want your own Acrylic or Oil paints, feel free to bring them. Students can share our odorless paint thinner, mixing mediums, pencils, etc.

We will send supply list and vendors from email:

**100poodles@gmail.com** (or see link at bottom of page)

*Please Include your email when sending your payment. (See Below)\**

### Questions?

Call Marilyn Hansen, Instructor, at 425-765-3694 or,

Email questions to local contact: Amanda at **100poodles@gmail.com**

### Payment Instructions

Send a check, payable to **Marilyn Hansen** to: Rosemaling Workshop Attn: Amanda Saxton  
4740 Kent Street Anchorage, Alaska 99503

*Include full amount, or a deposit of \$50.00 will reserve your space with the remainder paid at the door.*

Please include the following information when sending your payment:

- Rosemaling Class - 10/3/25 to 10/5/25
- Your Name
- Check #
- Phone
- Email (*this will help us give you updates, supply lists and vendors etc.*)\*

*Join us to learn a new skill and have a great experience*

**You can also go to our website for this Flyer and the Supply list**

<https://www.sofnalaska.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/October-Rosemaling-Class-and-Supply-list.pdf>



## Upcoming Friluftsliv Events

2025

September:	Orienteering
October:	Fall wildlife walk
November:	Winter wool walk
December:	Dark walk with lanterns
January:	Wooden Ski Classic
February:	Ice skating and kick sled fun
March:	Kubb tournament
April:	Picking up trash in a beautiful park
May:	Bird watching

*This year we're also hoping to add in some pop-up events in addition to our set schedule, including some longer adventures.*

*Keep an eye on the eblasts for these pop-up events. Are there any extended adventures you would like to see? Please email Marti at [martipausback@gmail.com](mailto:martipausback@gmail.com) with any ideas.*

## SOME POP-UP IDEAS:

- Fall lingonberry picking trip
- Ullr Fest at the Alaska Zoo
- Northern lights viewing
- Ski for Women
- Eklutna lakeside hike
- Russian Jack Park geology exploration
- Gunsight Mountain HawkWatch with the Audubon Society
- Springtime foraging for shoots (fiddleheads, fireweed, etc.)

**Kubb Tournament!**

*Photo provided by Jacob Mathiesen. (This photo also appears in the July/August Issue of Viking Magazine!)*

## DISTRICT 2 ZONE SEMINAR

*Our Lodge hosted the D2 Zone Seminar at Viking Hall on Saturday, May 3rd.*

*Officers from Seattle were on hand as well as other lodge members from Ketchikan and Fairbanks. It is so nice to meet other Sons of Norway members from other places!*



*Photos Courtesy of Anita Persson*

### STRIKKEKAFÉ

***Starts up on September 10th!***



**To all our fellow knitters and makers out there, we are looking forward to seeing you. Strikkekafe is going strong!**

Strikkekafe means 'knitting cafe' and is popular all over Norway for all who enjoy handcrafts, it's not just for knitters! This is a time to gather with your projects and enjoy the company of others. It is a great way to meet other members, get inspiration, share your skills, or get a little help.

***Strikkekafe meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.***

**Check the E-BLAST for notifications or contact:  
Christie 602-0673 or Anita 301-4215.**



### Norwegian Conversation Group

**Saturdays from 10 - 11 am  
via Zoom**

**All levels welcome**

**Contact Christie Ericson to register  
Christieak@gmail.com**

### Rosemaling Lessons

***The lodge is offering a Rosemaling class the same evenings as Strikkekafe at the Lodge.***

Amanda Saxton will be teaching this class.

If interested, email the lodge at [sonancak@gmail.com](mailto:sonancak@gmail.com) and then Amanda will reach out with more information.



# In Remembrance

**Janette Adasiak January 30, 1945 - April 15, 2025**



Janette "Jan" Peterson Adasiak died on April 15, 2025, in Tacoma, Washington. She was 80 years old.

Jan was born in Hemet, California, to Morris B. Peterson and Monique (Ryan) Peterson. She graduated from Hemet High School and attended the University of California, Berkeley, where she met her husband, Allan Adasiak, in the Glee Club. They married in May 1964, and shortly thereafter packed their Volvo and drove the Alcan Highway to Alaska.

Jan received her nursing degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage and soon returned to earn her master's degree. She became one of the first psychiatric nurse practitioners in the state, later mentoring several younger nurse practitioners entering the profession. Jan served clients at Southcentral Counseling Center and Southcentral Foundation for three decades.

Jan loved music and the arts. She sang in the Anchorage Concert Chorus when she first arrived in Alaska, and later with the Central Lutheran Church choir for 30 years. She loved listening to Saturday Night at the Opera on KLEF and attending Anchorage Opera performances, and she volunteered several seasons with Ushering in the Arts. An expert quilter, Jan made quilts for many friends and family. Her artistry also manifested in the kitchen, where she cooked recipes from around the world, specialty soups and delicious baked goodies. She had an uncanny knack for improvising something delicious out of whatever was left in the refrigerator.

Jan loved reading, learning and engaging with others in thoughtful conversations. She was lucky to travel to Europe several times as well as to great cities in the U.S. to enjoy art museums, theater productions and symphonies. Jan cared about her community; she participated with Anchorage Faith in Action and the cold weather shelter at Central Lutheran. Most of all, Jan loved being with family, especially with her grandkids, and celebrating their adventures and accomplishments.

Jan was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by her daughter, Anne Adasiak-Andrew (Tim) of Tacoma; grandchildren, Juliana and Eric; son, Paul Adasiak (Laura) of Fairbanks; grandchildren, Ezra and Josie; and siblings, Bob Peterson of San Marcos, California., and Karen Brown of Sacramento, California.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, those wishing to express sympathy make a donation in Jan's name to the Alzheimer's Resource Center of Alaska.





# In Remembrance

**Kaare Elde September 17, 1940 - July 18, 2025**



Kaare (Kåre) Per Elde passed away peacefully on July 18, 2025, at the age of 84, surrounded by his loved ones. Born on September 17, 1940, in Nordfjordeid, Norway, he was the son of Karl Johan Elde and Elfrid Drageset-Elde.

Kaare spent his early childhood in the tiny seaside farming and fishing village of Elde. His first five years were shaped by the hardship of living under Nazi occupation during World War II. The experience instilled in him a deep appreciation for resourcefulness and resilience-values that carried him through life.

By the age of 11, Kaare began working on small fishing boats, and by 15, he joined the crew of a cargo ship that took him across the globe-visiting countries such as India, Africa, Cuba, and the United States. After two years at sea, he returned home to help his family rebuild their home on a new site following the war.

At 18, Kaare immigrated to the United States, settling in South Dakota with his maternal aunt and uncle. Sponsored by his uncle, he joined the painters' union, where he met Jerry and Guy Morris, who introduced him to their sister, Orvetta Rae. Kaare and Rae fell in love quickly and began their life together in Rapid City, South Dakota, where their two sons, Karl and Gary, were born.

Following the 1964 Alaska earthquake, Kaare answered the call for union workers to assist with rebuilding efforts. Alongside a seasoned coworker, he made the journey north. Soon after, Rae joined him in Alaska, marking the beginning of their lifelong adventure in the Last Frontier. Kaare embraced Alaska as his adopted homeland and never looked back.

Longing to return to the sea, Kaare discovered the Alaska Marine Highway ferry system during a fishing trip on the Kenai Peninsula. He worked diligently to have his Norwegian maritime credentials recognized in the U.S. and pursued the hours needed to earn his marine pilot's license. During this time, his daughter Kari was born in Alaska, and his youngest daughter DeAnn was born in Seattle while he was working for the Washington State Ferry System. Eventually, the family settled back in Alaska, where Kaare began his long and distinguished career with the Southwestern Alaska Pilots Association (SWAPA).

A true outdoorsman, Kaare enjoyed sport and commercial halibut fishing, dog mushing, and playing the accordion. He treasured Alaska's wild bounty, especially his secret cranberry picking spots, which he guarded with pride.

He was a proud member of the Pioneers of Alaska and the Sons of Norway, reflecting his deep roots in both his Norwegian heritage and his adopted Alaskan home.

Kaare is survived by his beloved wife of over six decades, Orvetta Rae Elde; his children: Karl (Julie) Elde, Gary (Anna) Elde, Kari (Dwayne) Atwood, and DeAnn Corbin; grandchildren: Branden, Blake, Madelyn, Mitchell, Courtney, and Audra; and six great-grandchildren, with two more on the way and many beloved relatives in Norway.

He was preceded in death by his sisters, Oddney Elde and Liv Mikkelsen; his son-in-law, Michael Corbin; and grandson, Preston Atwood.

Kaare's legacy is one of hard work, adventure, love of family, and an unshakable bond with the land and sea. He will be deeply missed by all who had the honor of knowing him.

***A memorial service will be held at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Seward, Alaska, on August 9, 2025 at 1:00 pm with refreshments to follow the service. Family burial service at the Seward Pioneers plot will occur at a later date. In lieu of flowers, family requests donations in his name to Resurrection Lutheran Church Boiler Fund.***

