

Lefse Help Needed!.....	2
Sunshine Report.....	2
Superbowl Raffle Tickets.....	3
Call for New Board Members	3
Rosemaling with Marilyn Hansen	
Sign up NOW!.....	4



Nordic Market and Cafe.....	5
Autumn Friluftsliv!	6
New Member Meeting and	
Presentation on Hurtigruten Trip	7
Strikkekafe, Norsk Conversation Group,	
Rosemaling Lessons	7

September/October

AUTUMN

2025

HØST

september/oktober

Greetings Lodge Members

Bernt Balchen Lodge is back in action after a long summer break. The Fish Boil kicked off activities and was another huge success. Tusen takk til alle! We are now gearing up for the Nordic Market, the lodge's biggest event. The market café; vendors; and bakery have been managed for years by a dynamic trio.

Gayle transformed the café into a highly anticipated lunch stop, and enhanced the menu with the very popular polse wrapped in lefse, and meatballs on a stick.

Charlene ensured that all of the vendors feature quality Scandinavian items and are well cared for.



Fish Boil Masters, Jacob, Blake and Craig



Charlene Howe, Anita Persson, and Gayle Mathiesen, Nordic Market's Dynamic Trio!

Anita's "bakeri" is so popular a line is formed before we even open the doors! We can't thank them enough for the years and hours of contributions to this event and to our lodge! The baton has been passed to our new café chair Sara Bryan and vendor chair Karin Wanamaker – let's all chip in and help them out with this big event.

Keep an eye out for more information and reminders of lodge activities through eBlasts, Facebook, or the website.

Looking forward to seeing everyone down at Viking Hall.

*Med Vennlig Hilsen,
Linda Bustamante, President
Sons of Norway, Bernt Balchen Lodge*

FAAR-I-KAAL DINNER – OCTOBER 18TH!

SAVE THE DATE



Please join us as we enjoy Norway's national dish!

This delicious autumn meal features tender lamb and cabbage, boiled potatoes, carrots, fresh rolls and is topped off with apple cake for dessert. The menu will also offer kid-friendly options, so bring the whole family!

Doors Open: 5:30 PM / Dinner Service: 6:00 PM

Please call the lodge for reservations at (907) 349-1613.

(Dinner prices will be determined after lamb has been ordered)

VIKING HALL 907-349-1613

8141 Briarwood Street • Anchorage, AK 99518



Website: <https://www.sofnalaska.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BerntBalchen

Instagram: [@sonsofnorwayanchorage](https://www.instagram.com/sonsofnorwayanchorage)

Sons of Norway International: <https://www.sofn.com>

Submit Articles:

newsletter@sofnalaska.com Attn: The Flyer

**Submission deadline for our
November/December 2025 issue is October 15th**

LEFSE, LEFSE, LEFSE

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

We have added a Weekday option

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

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

Potato preparation and set-up

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

Lefse rolling and packaging

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

Lefse rolling and packaging

2nd Session - September 19 - 21 (Weekend Option)

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

Potato preparation and set-up

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

Lefse rolling and packaging

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

Lefse rolling and packaging



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.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!

Save the Date(s):

Lefse making for the Lutefisk and Lefse Dinner is Friday, October 31st and Saturday, November 1st.

WATCH FOR EBLASTS FOR MORE INFORMATION!

"Gratulerer med dagen!"



SUNSHINE REPORT



"Happy Birthday!"

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

SEPTEMBER

Marianne G Lang

Norma Link

John Stabb

Sandra S Hanson

Beverly J Smith

Dottie C Hill

Sandra L Christopherson

OCTOBER

Lori Kincaid

John A Olnes

Michael R Yarborough

If you know someone who needs a little sunshine

Contact Anna Bryant at: anna_bryant@hotmail.com



SUPER BOWL RAFFLE 2026 SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER



The Super Bowl Raffle is the primary source of funds for the Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge No. 2-046 Language/ Heritage/Higher Education Scholarships. In May 2025 one scholarship was awarded to Sevrin Persson, for Higher Education. Details on how to apply for either of these scholarships will be in the lodge newsletter coming out in January 2026.

The Raffle will again have 20 winners with a top prize of \$1,000. Only 300 tickets are sold so the chance to win is very generous, one in fifteen. Tickets are selling for \$25 each or a special deal of 5-for-\$100. The drawing will be held at the Super Bowl Party on Sunday, February 8, 2026, during the airing of Super Bowl LX (need not be present to win).

Raffle ticket sales kick off during our annual Nordic Market on Saturday, September 27. Raffle tickets will also be available at upcoming Lodge events and through the office (leave a phone message at 907-349-1613 or email sonancak@gmail.com). ***Give us a call or send an email and we will arrange getting tickets to you.***

Finally, the raffle committee is hopeful lodge members will assist with ticket sales. Please contact the office or speak to a long time raffle committee member (John, Jane, Sandra or Wayne) during an event if you can help out. Thank you!

JOIN OUR BOARD IN 2026!

If you are interested in any of the positions below please let us know.

Many of the folks on this list would be happy to give someone else a chance to serve, and bring fresh ideas to our lodge!

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Sons of Norway, Bernt Balchen Lodge 2025 Officers and Committee Chairs

President Linda Bustamante	Cultural Director Christie Ericson	Auditor Patrick McCormick
Vice President Amanda Saxton	Foundation Director Amanda Saxton	Auditor Lloyd Persson
Secretary Anita Persson	Sports Director Martin Hansen	Librarian Christie Ericson
Treasurer Cynthia Olnes	Trustee (3-year) John Olnes	Newsletter Editor Ruth Kvernplassen
Counselor John Olnes	Trustee (2-year) Marit Kristiansen	Sunshine Chair Anna Bryant
Membership Secretary Hanna Persson	Trustee (1-year) Jacob Mathiesen	

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>



Please join us at our 29th Annual Sons of Norway NORDIC MARKET



September 27, 2025 | 10 am – 4 pm Viking Hall 8141 Briarwood Street

The 29th annual Nordic Market will be held both indoors and outdoors featuring Scandinavian cultural demonstrations including traditional rosemaling and Norwegian knitting.

There will be many top-quality Scandinavian items for sale, including:

New & Vintage Norwegian Sweaters
Whimsical Alaskan Focused Art
Oil Paintings
Wooden Gifts & Cribbage Boards
Nordic-themed Door Hangers
Embossed Prints
Handcrafted Jewelry
Norwegian Hygge Candles
Quilted, Felted & Knit Items
Scandinavian & Alaskan Enamel Mugs

Finnish Kicksleds & Accessories
Authors to autograph their Books
Stained Glass and Fused Glass
Swedish Cardamom Buns & Dishcloths
Alaska-inspired KOS Water Kefir
Nordic Home Goods & Food Gifts
Handcrafted Wooden Items
Laser Engraved Art, Maps, Puzzles
Hand-dyed Silk Scarves

Alaskan Wild Berry Jams & Jellies
Handcrafted bird feeders
Fur-Bearded Gnomes
Handcrafted Pillows & Recycled Art
Alaska Wildflowers Pressed on Glass
Handsewn bowl cozies
Handwoven Textiles Finnish/
Ukrainian/Russian handicrafts
Lobben Boots
Fresh Roasted Coffee



The Nordic Café will be serving delicious food throughout the day offering a variety of Scandinavian Foods including Meatballs on a Stick and Polse (Reindeer dog wrapped in lefse). Waffles hot off the iron and Hot Autumn Cider will also be served.

Fresh Lefse and Prepackaged Pastries will be available at the Outdoor Bakery.

Our popular Scandinavian Silent Auction will be open until 3:00 pm.

Join the Crew!

The Nordic Market is a great day at the Lodge, and the Cafe is a popular stop! Join the Nordic Cafe crew as we prepare and sell delicious food in a fun and friendly kitchen. We welcome all ages and will find a job that best suits your talents.

We serve Scandinavian-inspired food with a fresh twist - including Meatballs-on-a-Stick with lingonberry side, Lefse wrapped Polse, Northern Soups, Chowders ... and sweets, like Rice Porridge, Waffles, Krumkake and fresh Oslo Kringle baked hourly.

The Market is our Lodge's main fund raiser. Many helping hands make the day a success.

Please text or call 907-887-3743 so we can plug you into an opening in the Cafe. Or email: saralynnbryan@gmail.com

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS AND BAKED GOODS NEEDED FOR THE NORDIC MARKET!

We are still accepting donated Scandinavian/Nordic items for the Silent Auction, to be held during the Nordic Market on September 27th.

Gently used sweaters or bunads, candle holders, linens, knitwear, artwork, Christmas decorations and rosemaling are all items that have done well in previous years.

Contact the Lodge by phone message at 907-349-1613 or by email at sonancak@gmail.com. We will arrange a time for you to either drop off your items, or we will pick them up.

Thank you for your support!



Bakers, if you would like to donate homemade cookies, cakes or breads, please bring them to the Nordic Market on Saturday, September 27th between 9 am and 2 pm.



All items must be packaged and ready to sell. We will have labels there if you need them and can help with the pricing. This is the largest annual fund-raiser for our lodge, please help us make it a success! Hint - Chocolate is VERY popular!

For more information call Anita @ 301-4215

Upcoming Friluftsliv Events

Autumn 2025

Come for fresh air and good company, and explore the outdoors in Anchorage and beyond.

Held rain, snow or shine. There is never bad weather, just bad gear.

Keep your eye on Social Media and eblasts for reminders and more details.

Brought to you by your adventure loving Friluftsliv Committee:

Annette Iverson, Heidi Hill, Martin Hansen and Marti Pausback



Sunday September 28 - Out of Town

Lingonberry adventure at Settlers Bay. Stay tuned for more details. Lets all carpool!

Sunday October 12

Wildlife Walk Glen Alps

2:00 - 4:00 pm



Sunday November 16

Wool Walk Prospect Heights

2:00 - 4:00 pm



Sunday December 7

Dark twinkle light walk
Abbott Loop Community
Park 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Fabulous Fungus



Friluftsliv outing - Mushroom Appreciation at the Girdwood Fungus Fair, September 7th.

COMING TO YOUR OCTOBER 9TH BOARD AND NEW MEMBER WELCOME MEETING!

A Presentation from Charlene Howe and Gayle Mathiesen

Tales from the Hurtigruten!



Photos provided by Charlene Howe

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

will resume Saturday, October 4th!

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 and then Amanda will reach out with more information.





Sons of Norway
8141 Briarwood St.
Anchorage, AK 99518
907-349-1613

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**Especially during this time,
our neighbors need us.**

Our lodge continues to donate
canned goods, non-perishable
foods and money to the local
food bank.

Please bring your food or
monetary donation in to Viking
Hall. Please consider helping
those who are less fortunate.



CLASSIFIEDS FOR VIKINGS



AD SIZE:

2 x 3.5 inches
(business card size)
\$10.00 per issue.

Email a scan or digital image of your business card;
or contact the Flyer Editor to discuss other options to:

kvern66@gmail.com

Attention:

Classifieds for Vikings

**AFFORDABLE
MEDICAL COVERAGE**

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Lower cost than COBRA

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