

THE NOR-BU NEWS



January 2020
Volume 16 issue 1

Lodge web address www.norbulodge.org
NOR-BU LODGE SUPPORTS A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Lake Telemark, NJ



B.U.L Cabin
Lake Telemark, New Jersey
Pen and Ink Sketch by Don Tripp '94

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

President Audun Gythfeldt 570-646-3817
Vice President.. Joe Zarnitz.....973-267-2052
Counselor..... Evelyn Hammaren973-584-8249
Secretary..... Irma Lafko 973-983-9479
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Rental of the cabin can be made by contacting
Barbara Samuelson at 973-586-8454
Checks for rentals made out to **BUL, Inc**

MEETINGS HELD AT BUL CABIN
21 Oslo Dr., Lake Telemark, NJ, **ONLY FOR GPS NOT MAIL**

Deadline for submission of materials for publication is the 20th of the month prior. PLEASE NOTE!

Nor-Bu is on Facebook at Nor-Bu Lodge.

Check our website. www.norbulodge.org



Dates to Remember

January 15th, Board Mtg. 6:30pm
Calendar planning for the year

January 18th, Business Mtg. 6:30pm
Election of delegates
Trivia night

February 15th, 6:30pm
Valentine Social



NOR-BU LOV WEEKEND

FEB 7-9, 2020

Come have fun and enjoy our special time at this place that has been very special to us for so many years.
Call Audun 570-646-3817 or Evelyn 973-627-5634 to let them know you are coming
Call LOV to reserve your room at 570-461-3500
Don't miss this chance to enjoy this great place.

Skiing, sleigh riding, ice skating depending on weather or just some great indoor fun with friends.





92 W Shawnee Tr.
Wharton NJ 07885
973-663-1070
anne@smallworld-travel.com



Time to think ahead for your summer vacation plans. We can help you with all your travel needs.

The Board will be setting up the Nor-Bu Lodge Calendar for 2020 at their board meeting on January 15th. If you have any ideas for programs or special events or fund raisers, we would appreciate your input. So please attend this meeting. The full new calendar will be printed in the next newsletter and will also be located on our website at www.norbulodge.org

GRATULERER MED DAGEN



- Holly Midkiff-Weber
- Laura Treutlein
- Deborah Landvik-Larsen
- Marcus Gokan
- Scott Tonnesen
- Barbara Samuelsen
- Hilary Walaas
- Bill Nostrand
- Robert Anderson
- Marie Ross
- Maria Trujillo
- Sigrid Bjelland
- Lars E Roerkoll
- Gunvor Satra
- Debra Arntzen
- Andrew Bakos
- Karl Peter Thorsen
- Richard I Tonnesen
- Edward Bakos
- Thomas P Bakos
- Judith Eriksson
- Ellen Crane
- Peter Johanson



GOD BEDRING

We would like to send get well wishes to Rita Kugler, Bob Haugeto, Bill Nostrand, Marilyn Pettersen and Peter Johanson



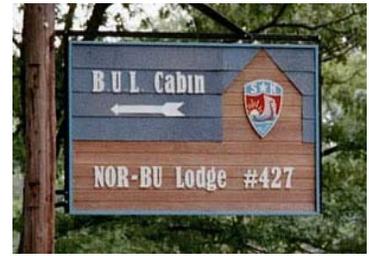
NOTIFY our Sunshine Lady, Sister Evelyn Hammaren, 973-584-8249 ASAP if you know of anyone who is sick, or if you wish to extend congratulations to someone, For whatever reason It only takes a minute to call.



Don't forget our ongoing sale of Shop-Rite cards. This is an successful fundraiser. Since we started in March of 2010, we have sold over \$125,000.00 in gift cards, that is \$6,250.00 for Nor-Bu. Please consider purchasing for yourself or for gifts. If you wish to purchase some gift cards, contact Evelyn Karpack at 973-627-5634 or just mail a check for your order, made out to Nor-Bu Lodge and specify for Shop Rite cards in memo line. Send to Nor-Bu Lodge, PO Box 317, Hibernia, NJ 07842. Let us know the amount you wish \$50, \$100 or other and we will mail them to you.

FOOD SALE CONTINUES AT ALL MEETINGS

We have these items for sale, nøkkelost, norvegia, snøfrisk, ekte gjetost, blended gjetost, gulost (gouda), lohengrin, firkløver, milkchocolate, "dronning" chocolate, selskap chocolate, gullbrød, mokkabønner, marzipan gris, Laban (seigman), tyttebær, tidbits, lefse, surkål and rødkål, fishballs, mackerel, cod roe, solo, crisp bread and kardemomme.



January 2020 MESSAGE

Life has its ups and downs, as was the case with Sons of Norway last year, at least in my opinion. A couple of years ago referendum by email was approved. I oppose referendums by mail/email unless absolutely necessary, basically meaning having to make a decision before the next International Lodge meeting. My main reason is that making decisions by referendums deprive me of my right to debate the issue, and to make amendments to the resolutions if I so desire. It was disappointing therefore, that twice in the last few months votes were called by referendums on matters that could easily have waited until our International Lodge meeting in Norway in August. The first referendum was about remuneration for the International Board. Although I understand that it has been recommended by Minnesota authorities that the organization considers further enhancement of the quality of its board members, for Sons of Norway to respond to this by increasing the remuneration of its board members by a couple of thousand dollars, will not likely have the desired result of attracting what I would call better qualified candidates. This should have been left for the International Lodge to discuss and decide.

The other referendum refers to nominating committee guidelines. I would have liked to discuss this resolution, and certainly would have proposed amendments. An example is the new paragraph 1.11.4 which refers to sections 2.11.4, 3.11.4, and 4.11.4 of the *Charter and Constitutions*. This is incorrect. The aforementioned sections are sections of the Constitutions, not the *Charter and Constitutions*. The Charter and Constitutions are two separate entities published in the same publication. To refer to sections of the Constitutions as being sections of the *Charter and Constitutions* is a mistake that is made frequently, but it is disappointing to see that our International Officers don't know better.

It is also odd to see these proposals being referred to as Bylaws proposals as Sons of Norway at this level does not have Bylaws. Personally I can see the Charter as our Constitution, and the Constitutions as Bylaws. But the documents are officially called Charter and Constitutions, and should be referred to as such.

These were a couple of disappointments from this past year. But we had some good things happening also, one being that the lodge and the Third District have adopted Alzheimer's as a cause, hopefully to be followed by the entire organization. I understand that the International Board has discussed the proposal, and I hope that we will hear some good news shortly.

Another downer for us was the decision to close down the operation of LOV at the end of July. Without going into arguments about why and why not, let me urge you to take the opportunity of getting together at LOV the first full week end of February for what will most likely be the last Nor-Bu family week end at LOV. Call or email LOV and make your reservations, I know we will have a blast!

Fraternally,

Audun



TRICKY TRAY THANK YOUS

The Nor-Bu Lodge Tricky Tray Committee would like to thank all of the members who donated trays or money to make our Tricky Tray a success. Grateful thanks also goes out to all the people who helped work on the day of the Tricky Tray. We had a successful day although not as many donations or people attending as in the past, but a good day regardless. We also want to thank one person, named Ruth, who donated many trays and helped bring the trays down from upstairs. Ruth is not a member but a friend and loves to help. She also gave back her share of some of the winnings. My extended family was also my greatest supporters to make this event a success. Signed Anne-Lise

We also request that our members frequent and support the vendors that made donations to help make this a successful day:

CAFÉ NAVONA, ROCKAWAY
GATWYNS II, LAKE HOPATCONG
ROCKAWAY HARDWARE, ROCKAWAY
ROCKAWAY LIQUORS, ROCKAWAY
WINDLASS RESTAURANT, LAKE HOPATCONG
FOSSIL FUEL, WHARTON
EMBROIDER THIS, WHARTON
TELEMARK AUTO, ROCKAWAY
MOTOR MASTERS, ROCKAWAY
BARN RESTAURANT, ROCKAWAY
DENVILLE DAIRY, DENVILLE
SUSSEX MEAT MARKET, WHARTON
DENVILLE SEAFOOD, DENVILLE
ROCKAWAY BOWLING, ROCKAWAY
RIVIERA MAYA RESTAURANT, ROCKAWAY
ELEGANT NAILS, ROCKAWAY
TONY'S JEWELERS, DENVILLE
PAINTEN PLACE, DENVILLE
EL MEJICANO RESTAURANT, DENVILLE
FLOWERS BY CANDLE-LITE, DENVILLE
WRITE ON GIFTS, DENVILLE
RJ'S PIZZARIA, ROCKAWAY
ROCKAWAY BAGEL & DELI, ROCKAWAY
SMALL WORLD TRAVEL, INC, WHARTON
MISSY'S MAINSTREET CAFÉ, ROCKAWAY
THE EXCHANGE, ROCKAWAY
THE AUTO ZONE, DOVER
CALIFORNIA BEACH HUT, DENVILLE

The folks that help bring you the newsletter.
Booster Club Members

Nils Abate.....	12/2020
Stuart Anderson.....	2/2020
Kristine Anker-Kaufmann.....	9/2022
Dorothy Furst Bahnatka.....	7/2020
Eric Barman.....	12/2020
Frank & Kari Brescher.....	2/2020
Anne-Lise Henriksen Carew.....	3/2021
Artie Crane.....	4/2020
Ellen Crane.....	4/2020
Jeff & Debbie Dirgo.....	5/2020
Kim Dwyer.....	2/2020
Marit Fosstveit.....	6/2020
Gail Garnett.....	11/2021
Peggy Gerding.....	6/2021
Audun & Margaret Gythfeldt.....	5/2021
Ellen Hantho.....	3/2020
Iris R. Hascup.....	9/2020
Vega & Arthur Hendela.....	4/2021
Henny Henriksen.....	12/2020
Barbara & Peter Johanson.....	4/2020
Stan & Hessie Kjekstad.....	2/2022
Irma Lafko.....	11/2020
Debbie Landvik Larsen.....	4/2021
Joe & Barbara Lehner.....	3/2020
Bjorg Lema.....	11/2021
Gerda Lindstrom.....	3/2021
John & Claire Loken.....	9/2021
Per & Marit Mikalsen.....	6/2020
William Nostrand.....	3/2020
Mary & Harry Ostevik.....	1/2020
Charly Pedersen.....	5/2021
Neil Pedersen.....	10/2021
Marilyn Pettersen.....	1/2021
Judy & Eugene Randazzo.....	12/2019
Gunvor Satra.....	1/2020
Ray and Carol Schutz.....	5/2020
Roy & Barbara Selland.....	2/2020
Mari Svensen.....	2/2020
Angie Thompson.....	1/2020
Austin Thompson.....	1/2020
Joanne Thompson.....	1/2020
Robert & Mary Thompson.....	1/2020
Gwyn Anne Thompson.....	1/2020
Mary Ellen Thompson.....	1/2020
Garth Eric Thompson.....	1/2020
Gindy Dale Thompson.....	1/2020
Garon Keith Thompson.....	1/2020
Gayle Elaine Thompson.....	1/2020
Heather Thompson.....	1/2020
Jason Thompson.....	1/2020
Laura Thompson.....	1/2020
Thelma Thompson.....	1/2020
Barbara & Karl Peter Thorsen.....	4/2024
Richard & Ellen Tonnesen.....	10/1020

You can be a booster too! Adding your name to the booster list helps to pay for mailing and printing. \$ 10.00 donation to the Treasurer will put you on the list! Make Check out to Nor-Bu Lodge.

Mail to:
Anne-Lise Meisner
92 West Shawnee Trail, Wharton, NJ 07885-2923
 If your name is missing and you have sent in your booster, please let Anne-Lise know, 973-663-1070.

Memorial Boosters



In Loving Memory

Eileen Anderson	February 2020
Daniel Lema	October 2021
Arne & Ingeborg Strom-Henriksen	April 2021
Arne Landvik-Larsen	December 2020
Arnt & Solveig Walaas	April 2028
Louise Scantlebury	June 2021
Ruth & Ivar Skavnes	October 2020
Evelyn & Oscar Tonnesen	October 2020

With Deepest Sympathy



The members of members of Nor-Bu Lodge wish to send their condolences to the family and friends of Fredrik Westby who passed away recently. Fred had been a member for 37 years. He loved to attend our special events.

Closing of Land of the Vikings

November 11, 2019

At the 2019 Third District October Board meeting, when the LOV Board was asked to give their report, they approached the 3D LTD Board with the recommendation that LOV be closed permanently. I acknowledge the difficulty of this decision.

Few ceremonies were more impressive than the opening of a Sons of Norway Cultural Center. The Land of the Vikings Cultural Center would be an integral part of our Sons of Norway Third District for many years.

Land of the Vikings (LOV) Cultural Center was established as a fraternal project in 1978. The property was conveyed to Sons of Norway 3/D LTD as owners (Third District Limited). The property was for Third District members, families and guests to enjoy and for the District Outreach Program, including the Youth Camp and activities for people dealing with a disability. Over time LOV had various programs including language classes, cooking Norwegian, Ski for Life, Sports for Health, family reunions, lodge weekends, youth camps and recreational programs. Hunters, four wheelers, snowmobilers, and fishermen were outside of our SON family but still enjoyed the facility.

In the early years, LOV was full. Waiting lists were not unusual. But in the past few years as our members have gotten older, as well as cultural changes, lodges have either disbanded or merged with other lodges, members moved away, resulting in a decrease in the LOV revenue. As a result, the income did not cover the expenses for continued operations resulting in an increase in fraternal fees to subsidize LOV. It has gotten harder and harder to make the Land of the Vikings to become self-supporting on a day to day basis yet alone budget for major expenses. The Third District LTD has supported LOV through forgiving lease payments and funding of over \$225,000, including the gas lease money, in an effort to keep it a going concern. Full lease and loan payments have never paid for years with the exception of a few partial lease payments sporadically deposited. The 3D LTD Board even approved a temporary modification to the lease payment amount in an effort to assist operations.

The LOV Board and members of the 3D Board, and many 3D members, through blood, sweat and tears have tried valiantly to keep LOV open. Unfortunately, the 3D membership has dwindled down from over 10,000 to just over 4,500 this year and there was not enough financial cashflow to sustain the upkeep of LOV. The bookings have not been able to keep pace with the costs of ownership and operations and even after extraordinary efforts by all stakeholders, ownership of this property has completely drained the financial resources of both the 3D LTD and LOV LTD.

We are at a point where there are some hard choices to make. One of those is what to do with this beloved piece of Third District's heart. But we must decide based only on facts and not just emotions.

I credit the LOV Board itself with making one of the hardest decisions, and that is to cease operations of LOV.

Continued next page

LAND OF THE VIKINGS CONTINUED:

The 3DLTD Board had a Special Meeting teleconference on November 11, 2019 and after much discussion it was voted to cease operations on July 31, 2020 with no bookings after that date.

The 3D LTD Board is now in the process of being pro-active in preparing for the closing by forming a committee to find knowledgeable persons to assess the property, investigate sale opportunities and basically put a plan together so that LOV can be closed in a professional, safe, legal, ethical and moral way to hopefully satisfy most if not all of our membership.

This is not a situation anyone is happy with and not something to be pleased about. Conversely, we can say we were so blessed to have had the facility for so many years. It was there to be used and enjoyed and frankly we will miss the facilities but we have our memories of the gatherings and friends we met there and continue to be in contact with.

To paraphrase a LOV board member *"We just don't have enough bookings / members coming to it," "It's hard to get people to want to volunteer, and that's what this is."*

Although this is not the way we hoped things would end, we can look back and feel nothing but appreciation as we reflect on the support we have gotten and the memories we can bring to mind around LOV events.

Thank you to all the dedicated members and non-members who have supported LOV. Without their dedicated support we would not be able to look back on the past 41 years and reflect on them as a success. Thank you to everyone who has put their heart and soul into Land of the Vikings.

Thank you to the LOV Board for making this courageous decision in ceasing operations. And Thank you to the 3D membership for their patience as we end this chapter in 3D history in a manner suitable to our Tremendous Third.

Fraternally



Kathy Dollymore

Third District President

CHILDREN'S JULEFEST CANCELLED

It is really a shame that this event needed to be cancelled for lack of participation. After arranging for a Santa Claus, who actually donated his time and comes from Brooklyn, and then have no interest from our members to bring their children or in most cases from our members, their grandchildren. We had hoped that our members took pride in showing the children some of our Norwegian customs.