



Daughters of Norway <dofnorway@gmail.com>

---

## September 2025 Newsletter Eva Nansen Lodge 46 no

---

**Lee Ann Bakros, Communications chair**  
<don.eva.nansen.lodge46@107948566.mailchimpapp.com>  
Reply-To: don.eva.nansen.lodge46@gmail.com  
To: Kirsten <dofnorway@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 31, 2025 at 8:24 PM

# September 2025 Lodge Newsletter



What's inside:

Popular baking program,  
Taste of Norway & more!

---

## Programming



## September Meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025

**6:30 PM:** Social time

**7:00 PM:** Program followed by business meeting

**Where:** Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave, Clive

Our program will be How to Bake an Assortment of Norwegian Goodies.

---

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Dates: All meetings are the 1st Tuesday of the month.  
There are no meetings in June and July but June will have an activity.
- Times: 6:30 PM Social, 7:00 PM Program followed by a Business Meeting
- Location: Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave, Clive

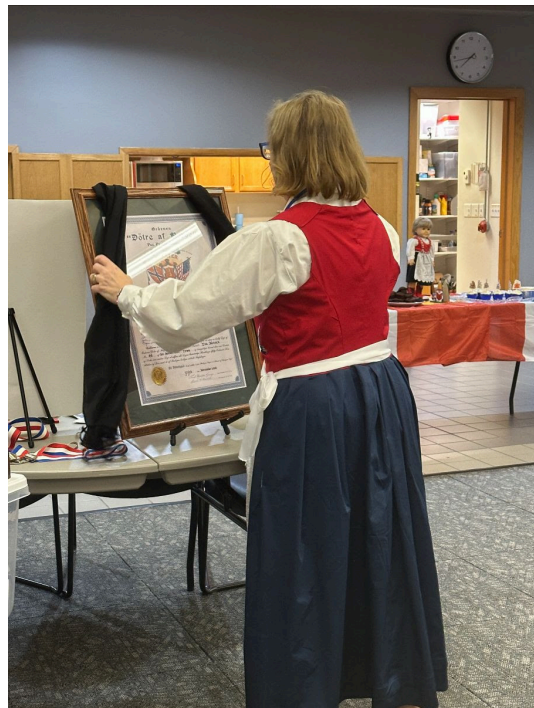
All programs are on our [Facebook page](#) so you can share the events with interested friends.

### Upcoming 2025 Programs

- Sept. 2, 2025: How to Bake an Assortment of Norwegian Goodies by lodge sisters
  - Oct. 7, 2025: Scandinavian Fun Facts by Sheryl Farrand
  - NOTE CHANGE IN DATE – Nov. 11, 2025: Scandinavian Modern Design in Norway by Laurann Gilbertson, Vesterheim curator
  - Dec. 2, 2025: Annual potluck
- 

**If you missed our August meeting, you missed the story of Leif Terdal's family's escape from Nazi-occupied Norway and the draping of our charter in memory of Sister Else Marie Hitt.**





---

**Save the Date**





## **Taste of Norway 2025**

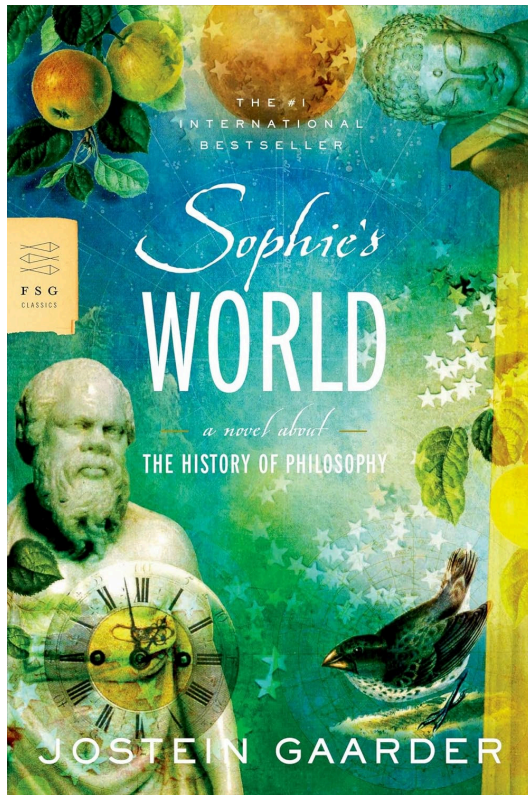
**9:00 AM–3:00 PM**

**Saturday, Oct. 18**

**Valley High School**

---

## **Scandinavian Book Club**



Our Scandinavian book club will meet at 2:00 PM, Sunday, Sept. 21, at Franklin Avenue Library, 5000 Franklin Ave, to discuss *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaarder.

The book club is open to members and non-members, and meets every other month at 2:00 PM on the third Sunday of the month.

**In our upcoming schedule, we have SWAPPED our reading of *The Journey of Karoline Olsen* and conversation with author, and Sister, Ann Hanigan Kotz, from November 2025 to May 2026**

- Sept. 21, 2025: *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaarder
- Nov. 16, 2025: *Norwegian by Night* by Derek Miller NOTE this is a change of date from the original schedule
- Jan. 18, 2026: *A Frog in the Fjord* by Lorelou Desjardins
- Mar. 15, 2026: *Will and Testament* by Vigdis Hjorth - NOTE this is a change from *Berlin Poplars* due to the unavailability of that title
- May 17, 2026: *The Journey of Karoline Olsen* by Ann Hanigan Kotz NOTE this is a change of date from the original schedule
- July 19, 2026: *Giants in the Earth* by OE Rolvaag
- Sept. 20, 2026: *Kon Tiki* by Thor Heyerdahl
- Nov. 15, 2026: *What We Leave Behind* by Barb Solberg

[Click here for a list of researched titles.](#)

Direct questions and suggestions to [Lee Ann Bakros](#).

---

## September Birthdays





**Happy birthday from your lodge Sisters to you!**

Sept. 6: Lois Wergeland  
Sept. 22: Christy Wilkins

*May your birthday and every day be filled with the warmth of sunshine, the happiness of smiles, the sounds of laughter, the feeling of love, and the sharing of good cheer.*

---

## Norwegian Minute



## Denmark Raises the Retirement Age to 70

Denmark has raised its retirement age from 67 to 70 for everyone born after 1970, becoming the first European country to do so.

While other European nations are bogged down in political battles over increasing the retirement age, the Danes are following a long-established principle that it should go up in line with life expectancy. The average life expectancy for Danes is 81.7 years. The legislation was passed with an overwhelming majority in the Danish parliament.

There is a good deal of public disagreement. Many Danes, particularly those in physically demanding jobs, are reluctant to work until 70 and want to enjoy their retirement years. On the other side of the argument, a significant portion of the population have the health and desire to continue working.

What is the retirement age in other Scandinavian countries?

Norway: The earliest possible retirement age is currently 62. However, the government is introducing a new retirement age which will raise the current fixed age of 67 for those born after 1964.

Sweden: Residents can start receiving their national pension at age 63 or later but have the legal right to work until age 69. The average for retiring is 65.

Iceland: The retirement age is 65.

Other recent Scandinavian news. Links to BBC News.

- [Why Norway is restoring its Cold War military bunkers](#)
- [How Denmark's left \(not the right\) made hardline immigration laws](#)

---

## Lodge Lending Library

**Did you know your lodge has a lending library?** We have more than 50 titles including fiction, mystery, mythology, children's books, history, rosemaling and hardanger designs, cookbooks, and travel booklets. We even have language and music CDs, a travel DVD, and a puzzle!

**NEW: Last month we received a donation of books in Norwegian.**

Each month, librarian Naomi Payer brings the items to the meeting so you can pick something out to take home.

[Click here to see our list of items.](#)

Want to check out an item or donate your item to the lending library? See [Naomi Payer](#) at one of our monthly meetings.

---

## Bits and Pieces

1. Email October **newsletter articles** no later than Friday, Sept. 26 to [Lee Ann Bakros](#)
  2. **If you know of a Sister who is ill, having surgery, or experiencing other health issues**, inform Sunshine Chair [Alexa Mitchell](#).
  3. [Look over the list of items](#) available in our lending library.
  4. Take a moment to LIKE us on [Facebook](#) and see what is happening.
  5. View our [Daughters of Norway's Lodge webpage](#). Members can sign in through the Members Page. The username and password is in our monthly lodge minutes. Contact [Ann Hanigan Kotz](#) for access to our lodge's private, member-only website.
- 

## Eva Nansen Lodge 46 2025 Officers

### Officers

President: Ann Hanigan Kotz  
Vice President: Kathy Roat  
Judge: Lesia Smith  
Secretary: Kay Sacquitne  
Financial Secretary: Danette Kobolt  
Treasurer: Ann Campbell  
Cultural Director: Sheryl Farrand  
Marshall: Carol Lunde  
1-year Trustee: Elizabeth Thacker  
2-year Trustee: Bev Rosenbeck  
3-year Trustee: Irene Simonsen

### Non-elected Positions

Communications: Lee Ann Bakros  
Greeters: Cheryl Newsom, Lois Wergeland  
Librarian: Naomi Payer  
Musician: Lee Ann Bakros  
Scribes: Lisa Hamilton  
Sunshine: Alexa Mitchell

At the national level, Sharon Knudsen is a Grand Lodge four year trustee/scribe liaison.





Front row, left to right: Danette Kobolt, Kathy Roat, Ann Hanigan Kotz, Kay Sacquitne, Sheryl Farrand. Back row, left to right: Lee Ann Bakros, Lesia Smith, Carol Lunde, Elizabeth Thacker, Bev Rosenbeck, Lois Wergeland, Irene Simonsen.

## About Eva Nansen



Lodge 46 was named in honor of famous Norwegian romance opera singer, Eva Helene Sars Nansen (born Dec. 17, 1859 in Christiania, Akershus, Norway, and died Dec. 9, 1907 in Lysaker, Bærum, Akershus, Norway).

Eva was the youngest of 21 children of Michael Sars and Maren Cathrine Welhaven. At age 28, she left for Berlin to study opera with a contemporary of Tchaikovsky. Eva knew Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg and she performed his music beautifully.

Eva was relatively short but very athletic and became a pioneer in mountain and cross-country skiing. She was a smart and practical woman and realized the need for women to stop wearing only dresses while practicing the sport. Thus, she became the first woman in Norway to wear "trousers" while skiing!



Eva married ski pioneer, famous Norwegian explorer and scientist, Fridtjof Nansen on Sept. 6, 1889. They were a very “modern” couple, both continuing their individual vocations after their marriage. Eva not only continued to sing in operas at home and in other parts of Europe and Scandinavia, but she also gave lessons when at home.

At the age of 49 (1907), Eva sang a final concert in a well-received performance in London. Not long afterwards that same year, Eva died suddenly of pneumonia. That left her husband a widower with five relatively young children to raise: Liv (14), Kåre (10), Irmelin (7), Odd (6), and Åsmund (4).



Share



Forward to Friend

---

This is your official Eva Nansen Lodge 46 Newsletter emailed the first of each month to all Sisters.

### STAY SUBSCRIBED.

All Sisters are welcome to submit news articles and photos to editor Lee Ann Bakros.

**Our email address is:** [don.eva.nansen.lodge46@gmail.com](mailto:don.eva.nansen.lodge46@gmail.com)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

---

This email was sent to [dofnorway@gmail.com](mailto:dofnorway@gmail.com)

*why did I get this?* [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Daughters of Norway - Eva Nansen Lodge 46 · 6770 NW Trail Ridge Dr · Johnston, IA 50131-1320 · USA

