
August 2026 Newsletter Eva Nansen Lodge 46 no

1 message

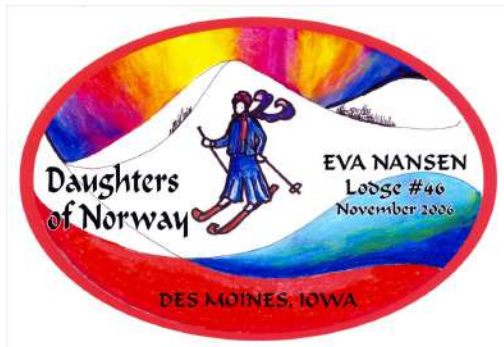
Lee Ann Bakros, Communications chair <don.eva.nansen.lodge46@107948566.mailchimpapp.com>

Sat, Aug 1, 2026 at 7:43 PM

Reply-To: don.eva.nansen.lodge46@gmail.com

To: Kirsten <dofnorway@gmail.com>

August 2026 Lodge Newsletter



What's inside:
Strong Hands, Brave
Hearts program;
summer photos; &
more!

Programming



August Meeting, Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026

6:30 PM: Social time

7:00 PM: Program followed by business meeting

Where: Faith Lutheran Church, 10395 University Ave, Clive

Program: Strong Hands, Brave Hearts: Norwegian Women Who Built Two Nations

Join Eva Nansen Lodge president and Iowa historical fiction author Ann Hanigan Kotz for a compelling program exploring the lives of Norwegian women whose labor, resilience, and cultural strength shaped both Norway and the American Midwest.

From elegant manor houses overlooking Norway's fjords to isolated sod homes on the Dakota prairie, Norwegian women helped shape two nations. This presentation explores the vastly different lives of Norway's upper-, middle-, and working-class women during the 19th century, revealing how education, religion, industry, and the growing women's movement transformed opportunities for girls and women. Discover what daily life was truly like on the Dakota frontier, how Norwegian women preserved their language and traditions while adapting to America, and why they eventually established the Daughters of Norway to celebrate their heritage and support future generations.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Dates: Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of the month except November which is on the 2nd Tuesday. 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 2026 Programs

- Aug. 4, 2026: Scandinavian Women by sister Ann Hanigan Kotz
- Sept. 1, 2026: How to Bake an Assortment of Norwegian Goodies by lodge members
- Oct. 6, 2026: Christkindlmarket Des Moines History and Highlights by Suzanne Hull, founder/director
- Nov. 10, 2026 (note this is the 2nd Tuesday due to the election): Eva Nansen Lodge #46 20th Anniversary Celebration
- Dec. 1, 2026: Christmas Potluck

If you missed our May meeting, here's what you missed.

Members celebrated Syttende Mai with a potluck followed by an infotainment program from fiddler Eden Ehm.



In June, members traveled by motorcoach to Minneapolis.

Pauline Fjelde Lodge hosted Eva Nansen Lodge members at their monthly meeting, lunch, and program held at Norway House in Minneapolis. Afterwards, the group toured Norway House and the nearby Mindekirken Norwegian Lutheran Church with a stop at Ingebretsen's Nordic Marketplace before returning to Des Moines.





Scandinavian Book Club



Our Scandinavian book club will meet at 2:00 PM, Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Franklin Avenue Library, 5000 Franklin Ave, to discuss *Kon Tiki* by Thor Heyerdahl.

At the September meeting, we'd like to pick books for 2027. [Click here for a list of potential titles.](#)

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 at Franklin Avenue Library.

- Sept. 20, 2026: *Kon Tiki* by Thor Heyerdahl
- Nov. 15, 2026: *What We Leave Behind* by Barb Solberg

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



First photo is our May discussion of *The Journey of Karoline Olsen* by Ann Hanigan Kotz. Second is from our July discussion of *Giants in the Earth* by OE Rolvaag.

August Birthdays

Happy birthday from your lodge Sisters to you!

Laura Amundson

Sharon Knudsen

Cheryl Newsom

Tamara Trinder

Karen Waline



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



What to Watch

Norway, like much of Europe and the US, is experiencing record summer temperatures. The country promotes itself to tourists as a “cool-cation”

destination, but temps have risen to 85-95° F, uncomfortable in a country where most homes and many businesses lack air conditioning.

If you're looking to stay inside but want to soak up Norwegian culture, here are some shows now streaming.

PBS Passport's Walter Presents

- *Ammo*: A thriller about a corporate whistleblower at a Norwegian tech firm.
- *RIP Henry*: A drama about a brilliant surgeon moving to a small Norwegian town.

Netflix

- *Lilyhammer*: Steven Van Zandt stars in this crime-comedy as an ex-mobster from New Jersey hiding out in Norway.
- *The Girl from Oslo*: High-stakes thriller following a mother searching for her kidnapped daughter in the Middle East.
- *Post Mortem: No One Dies in Skarnes*: Supernatural dark comedy about a woman who wakes up undead on an embalming table.
- *Ragnarok*: Mythological fantasy-drama set in a fictional Norwegian town experiencing climate change and ancient evils.
- *Norway: The Dark Horse*: A documentary on Norway's 2026 World Cup journey.
- *Detective Hole*: Based on Jo Nesbo's popular crime novels

Disney+

- *Wild Nordic*: Nature documentary exploring the rugged wilderness and ecosystems across Scandinavia.

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!

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 September **newsletter articles** no later than Friday, Aug. 28, 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. Take a moment to LIKE us on [Facebook](#) and see what is happening.
 4. 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 2026 Officers

2026 Officers

President: Ann Hanigan Kotz

Vice President: Sheryl Farrand

Judge: (vacant)

Secretary: Kay Sacquitne

Financial Secretary: Danette Kobolt

Treasurer: Ann Campbell

Cultural Director: Rebecca Butler Mona

Marshall: Carol Lunde

1-year Trustee: Bev Rosenbeck

2-year Trustee: Irene Simonsen

3-year Trustee: Vanna Johnson

2026 Non-elected Positions

Communications: Lee Ann Bakros

Greeters: Cheryl Newsom, Lois Wergeland

iPad coordinators: Carol Lunde, Michelle Henderson, Mandy Kubik

Librarian: Naomi Payer

Musician: Lee Ann Bakros

Scribe: Lisa Hamilton

Sunshine: Alexa Mitchell



2026 Eva Nansen Lodge Officers: Vanna Johnson, Rebecca Butler Mona, Kay Sacquitne, Ann Hanigan Kotz, Danette Kobolt, Sheryl Farrand, Carol Lunde, Bev Rosenbeck, Irene Simonsen; not pictured Ann Campbell

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



Share



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

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

