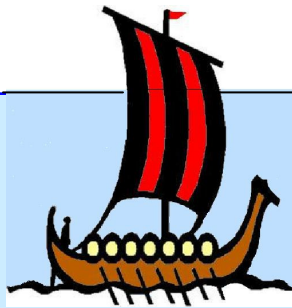


# Valhall



# Viking

December 2009

Phone: 619/469-9779

Number 10

1912—2009



**VALHALL  
LODGE**

Meetings at 7:30 pm  
first Monday of the month  
at the  
**East San Diego  
Masonic Temple  
7849 Tommy Drive  
San Diego, CA  
92119-1799**

[www.lodgeofvalhall.com](http://www.lodgeofvalhall.com)  
[www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com)

**Next Business  
Meeting:  
Dec. 7**

**Newsletter  
deadline:  
January 15, 2009**

**December Social  
Christmas Party**

**January Social  
Installation Dinner**

## **Breskjed Fra Presidenten – The Survey Says?**

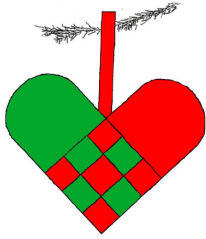
Well, the survey results are in and of the 28 surveys we received, 100% of them indicated that the lodge was meeting their expectations! That is great news and is an indication to the board that at least in 28 people's opinion, we are doing things the right way. Since we did not get responses from the other 275 members, we assume they are happy with all aspects of Valhall Lodge 6-25 operations including: business meetings, socials, membership, administration, cultural events, the Viking Newsletter and all other aspects of a large working lodge! We received some good suggestions on how to improve the lodge from the 28 surveys we did receive and will use the information to tweak the current operations and make improvements. If you would like to see the results of the survey or would like to provide additional input, we are still taking surveys until the end of the year. A copy of the survey is available on the Valhall Lodge web site or at the business meetings and socials. If you are unable to attend these events or cannot access a web site, contact Duke Johnson or Amelia Seeto and they be happy to get a survey to you.

I enjoyed my trip to Germany, Norway and Egypt; however it was good to be back and see all the friendly faces at the November business meeting. There was a vote of the membership for approval of a Board of Director's recommendation to increase the budget for the Valhall Viking. The increase in the budget is due to increase of the printing and mailing costs as a result of new requirements from the United States Postal Service. Following the business meeting, we were treated with delicious chili and cornbread along with the usual tasty desserts. Tusen Takk to Judy Sawyer and the social committee for the delicious spread!

It is with great sadness that the Charter was draped in remembrance of the passing of two long time lodge members: Juanita Griebel and Oswald Gilbertson. Our sincere condolences to their family and friends. They will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

The Nomination Committee is still looking for a Lodge Secretary. Amelia Seeto is moving to the Philippine Islands and is unable to continue as secretary next year; She has graciously volunteered to remain as the Assistant Lodge Secretary via internet and email if we cannot fill that position locally. As the current Lodge Secretary she has created templates for all the secretary's required reports and duties. With her templates and assistance, attending the business meetings and board meetings to take notes and read correspondence is about all that's left to do as secretary. If you feel you could help the lodge in the position, or know someone who may be interested, please contact Amelia Seeto, Lou Coover or Lizzy Riiber. Our next business meeting is on December 7 at 7:30 PM. I look forward to seeing you there!

Vennlig Hilsen, Rick Hausvik



# Valhall Annual Christmas Party And Potluck Dinner

**Saturday, December 19, 2009**

**Adults Happy Hour and  
Children's Activities**

**5:00-6:00 P.M.**

**Pot Luck Dinner – (bring enough for 8-10 people)**

**6:00 –7:15 P.M.**

**Last names with A-M bring a side dish or salad**

**Last names with N-Z bring a main dish**

**Dessert Will Be Provided**

**(If You Can, Bring Norwegian Christmas Cookies to Share)**

**Go Around the Christmas tree Norwegian Style...**

**Family Entertainment**

**Visit with Santa**

**Make Reservations before December 17th**

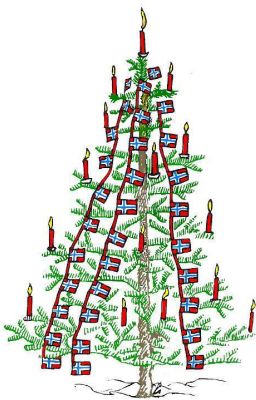
*We need a count of adults attending for seating arrangements*

*and number of kids in order to reserve*

*Christmas bags for children under 13*

**Ellen Spitzer**

**619-444-9077 or e-mail [ellenspitzer@cox.net](mailto:ellenspitzer@cox.net)**



**East San Diego Masonic Temple, 7849 Tommy Dr., San Diego**

## 2010 Elected Officers

<b>Position</b>	<b>Elected Board</b>
President	Rick Hausvik
Vice President	Duke Johnson
Counselor	Helga Moore
<b>Secretary</b>	
Assistant Secretary	Amelia Seeto
Financial Secretary	Aprill Waymire
Treasurer	Don Lesney
Team of Social Directors	Loreen Cook, LaVonne Coover and Judy Sawyer
Co Cultural Director	Sven Olsen
Co Cultural Director	Lizzie Riiber
Marshall	Raymond Johnsen
Asst Marshall	Marvin Wig
Greeter	Lou Coover
Greeter	Don Balmer
Historian	Jim Wolner
Librarian	Kay Wolner
Co-Musician	Ragnhild Amble
Co-Musician	Joyce Olsen
Editor	Arlene LaBree
Foundation Director	Charles Gorder
Publicity Director	Jean Shogren
Trustee (Year 1)	Judy Sawyer
Trustee (Year 2)	Chris Hausvik
Trustee (Year 3)	Ingrid Lindgren
Youth Director	Ellen Spitzer
Sports Director	Jeff Wergeland
Auditor	Allen Johannesen
Auditor	Thelma Johannesen
Auditor	Sig Stautland
Corporation	
Director	Don Balmer
Director	Aprill Waymire



### Special Treat at December's Business Meeting

The Norwegian Male Chorus will entertain us with some Christmas music at the beginning of the business meeting on Dec. 7th.

Hope to see you all there.

## Lodge Officers of 2009

President	Rick Hausvik	619-579-5447
Vice-President	Duke Johnson	858-459-8818
Counselor	Helga Moore	619-298-0390
Secretary	Amelia Seeto	858-712-6876
Assist. Secretary	Judith Johnson	858-459-8818
Financial Secretary	Aprill Waymire	619-276-3809
Treasurer	Don Lesney	619-465-3686
Social Director	Loreen Cook	619-588-4170
Asst. Soc. Dir.	LaVonne Coover	619-264-9486
Cultural Director	Sven Olsen	760-735-6171
	Joyce Olsen	760-735-6171
	Ingrid Lindgren	858-277-3376
	Lou Coover	619-264-9486
Marshal	Don Balmer	619-466-2179
Asst. Marshal	Ron Thomas	619-749-9967
Greeter	Lou Coover	619-264-9486
Greeter	Raymond Johnsen	858-459-5430
Historian	Jim Wolner	619-692-9584
Librarian	Kay Wolner	619-692-9584
Musician	Joyce Olsen	760-735-6171
	Ragnhild Amble	619-465-7425
Editor	Arlene LaBree	858-271-8709
Circulation Editors	Dean Seiler	858-455-6798
Foundation Director	Charles Gorder	619-287-3559
Publicity Director	Judy Sawyer	619-583-0859
Trustee (1 years)	Chris Hausvik	619-890-5447
Trustee (2 years)	Ingrid Lindgren	858-277-3376
Trustee (3 years)	Everett Shogren	619-287-6056
Youth Director	Ellen Spitzer	619-444-9077
Sports Director	Neal Cook	619-588-4170
Auditors	Allen Johannesen	858-452-1797
	Thelma Johannesen	858-452-1797
	Reg Becker	619-562-4403
Corporation Directors		
	Don Lesney	619-465-3686
	Sigurd Stautland	619-299-9237
	Aprill Waymire	619-276-3809
Corporation Officers		
President	Ola Brevig	858-756-1167
Vice President	Allen Johannesen	858-452-1797
Secretary	Everett Shogren	619-287-6056
Treasurer	Rick Hausvik	619-579-5447



# Congratulærer Med Dagen!

## Valhall's Social Calendar for 2010



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Robert Kurz  
 3 Caroline Olsen  
 5 Eldbjorg Backous  
 5 Jan Elin Garzon  
 5 Per Larsen  
 7 Rosalie Olson  
 7 Peggy Gere  
 10 Jeff Wergeland  
 11 Warren Oftedahl  
 14 Gale Schaffroth  
 15 Katherine Edd  
 17 Carmen Hagen  
 17 Allen Johannesen  
 19 Jeffrey Giarde  
 20 Ragnhild Amble  
 21 Mary DeNino  
 23 Ola Brevig  
 25 Arita White  
 29 Helen Andrewson  
 29 Tonje Nilsen

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 James Moore  
 3 Ken Monson  
 4 Leslie Chomicz  
 4 Barbara Evje  
 7 Kennet Brevig  
 7 John Erickson  
 11 Tam Stautland  
 11 Solveig Waters  
 13 Thelma Johannesen  
 16 Helga Moore  
 16 Carlos Svendsen  
 17 Bob Bardin  
 19 Henry Halleland  
 21 Charles Hansen  
 21 M.K. Omdalen  
 22 Lucille Wendling  
 25 Erik Adams  
 25 Don Amundson  
 26 Wendy Hovland-Henry  
 26 Glenn Jerpseth  
 29 John Montalbano  
 31 Ronald Thomas

### Lutefisk Dinner Committee

#### February 2010

Eldon & Carol Andersen  
 Don Balmer  
 Karin and Ola Brevig  
 Kennet & Rhonda Brevig  
 Mary Conklin  
 Martha Larsen  
 Maury, Graciela, & Erica Lee  
 Norman Magneson  
 Dale Roybal  
 Dean Seiler  
 James & Helen Seiler  
 Sig & Tam Stautland  
 Douglas Swenson  
 James & Kay Wolner



### February

1 Business Meeting  
 20 Lutefisk Dinner

### March

1 Business Meeting  
 20 Anniversary Diner

### April

5 Business Meeting  
 17 Social---Delegates

### May

3 Business Meeting  
 15 Syttende Mai-Social

### June

7 Combined Meeting-Social

### July

No Activities

### August

No Activities

### September

6 Business Meeting  
 17,18,19 Kretstevne

### October

4 Business Meeting  
 16 Heritage Social

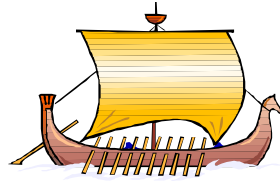
### November-Election of Officers 2011

1 Business Meeting  
 20 Salmon Dinner

### December

6 Business Meeting  
 18 Christmas Social-Potluck

## Ladies of Valhall LOV notes..



### November LOV Notes

LOV Holiday Party: December 6  
Next Meeting: January 2, 2010 at Denny's in  
Fletcher Hills.

We had 26 members present at our November meet-  
ing on Nov. 7 at Denny's.

The bus has filled up for the trip to the Seaman's  
Church in San Pedro. The bus will be departing from  
the SON lodge at 8:30 am, and stop at North County  
Fair mall near Sears to pick up other travelers. We  
hope to be making a rest stop on the way. A small  
box breakfast will be served on the bus, and we will  
have lunch at the church.

We have received lots of items for the Lille Butik-  
ken, and there will be a group meeting at the lodge to  
do pricing of items on Sat, Nov 14 at 9a.m. Ingrid  
Lindgren has also requesting a good supply of baked  
goods, as they always sell well. Ingrid is also order-  
ing goat cheese and lefse.

We still are selling the 2010 calendars, and they will  
be avail at the Butikken. Please contact Barbara Evje  
if you would like to purchase a calendar.

We are looking forward to our Christmas High Tea  
on December 6. Seating is limited, so get your reser-  
vation in early.

A collection was taken for an extra tip for our regular  
server, Geraldo. He is always pleasant, happy to see  
us, and delivers excellent service, and we wanted to  
do something extra as an early Christmas gift.

---

Arnette Scherl has offered to create fabric name tag  
holders for LOV members. This is a way to keep all  
of your pins in one place, instead of putting on each  
pin, one by one.

LOV will be making a donation in the memory of  
Juanita Griebel who passed away in July. The dona-

tion will be made to the SON Scholarship Fund.

Lizzie Riiber reminded everyone of the upcoming  
events surrounding Knut Hamsun. There are several  
events with lectures, movies, and information on this  
famous Norsk writer.

The next meeting will be on January 2, 2010 at 9:00  
am at Denny's. Hostesses will be Lorraine Tucker  
and Tam Stautland.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Cody, President, LOV

## DON'T FORGET

### BOARD MEETING JANUARY 19 AT 7 PM

### 2009 AND 2010 OFFICERS

## SERVICES DIRECTORY

Financial Benefits Counselor  
Pat Kelly  
(818) 986-7199  
amlives@aol.com

Language Instructor  
Erling Nyhammer  
(619) 448-4217  
Telephone Committee

Sunshine Committee:  
Chairperson, LaVonne Coover  
(619) 264-9486

Blood Bank Representative  
LaVonne Coover  
(619) 264-9486



## Minutes of the Valhall Lodge Business Meeting November 2, 2009

President Rick Hausvik called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The Charter draped in honor of passing of Valhall members Juanita Griebel and Oswald Gilbertson.

The following guest was present: CDR (sel) Jenna Hausvik, President Hausvik's daughter, from Hawaii.

The October Business Meeting Minutes, as printed in the November Valhall Viking, were approved unanimously.

Secretary Amelia Seeto informed members of the following received items of correspondence: District 6 Directory order form from District 6 is received; if you want a 2010 District 6 Directory, please let Secretary Seeto know.

### Committee Reports

**Social Director** Loreen Cook reported on past and upcoming Socials.

**Cultural Committee** Chair Sven Olsen reported on past and upcoming cultural events.

### Historian Report

Historian Jim Wolner thanked all that contributed, including past Historian Lorraine Tucker and Counselor Helga Moore, to the completed album for the 2008 International Convention.

### Library Report

We recently added two children's books of Norwegian fairy tales to our already wonderful library...check them out (literally)! Both books are written by the same author and she documented the tales that were told to her as a child. They are great reads for the children they were written for and for grown-ups alike. Who doesn't love a good fairy tale? And these are from our roots, perhaps the very stories that were told to our parents or grandparents when they were little children!

### Newsletter

Newsletter Editor Arlene LaBree pointed out the staple free nature of our Valhall Viking Newsletter. Circulation Editor Dean Seiler informed the membership that November's News-

letter was mailed on Friday and that some members had received it in the mail.

### Foundation Report

Valhall's Foundation Director is Charles Gorder and he can be reached at 619-287-3559. You just might want to give him a call for information on tax deductible gifts because donations are tax deductible and the Foundation is happily accepting all donations at this time.

**Publicity Director** Judy Sawyer gave the Publicity report

### Sunshine and Blood Bank Reports

Lavonne Coover sent thinking of you cards to Lydia Nyhammer, Marlene Lesney and Wilma Springer. Thank you October Blood Bank donors. When you join the Difference in Life Program, you can check your Donation History, Wellness Profile and LifeSaver information online. Call 1-800-4 MY - SDBB, or 1-800-469-7322, to make an appointment or get more information. Tusen takk for serving our community! Trustees Chris Hausvik, Ingrid Lindgren and Everett Shogren gave the Trustees report.

### Youth Report

Youth Director Ellen Spitzer informed members that there would be a crafts table during Happy Hour at the Salmon Dinner for children to decorate paper fish.

### Corporation

Corporation President Ola Brevig gave the Corporation report.

### Unfinished Business

Secretary Seeto read the proposed nominees for the Slate of 2010 Officers. President Hausvik opened the Slate to the Floor for further nominations, noting that there are no nominees for Secretary or Asst. Secretary. Amelia Seeto volunteered to be Assistant Secretary and her name was added to the slate. There being no further nominations from the floor, the 2010 Slate of Officers was closed. The Slate passed unanimously.

### New Business

The Board recommends an increase in the Newsletter budget for publishing and mailing the Valhall Viking Newsletter in the staple free format required by the Post Office. Passed unanimously.

### Financial Reports

Financial Secretary Aprell Waymire and Treasurer Don Lesney read their respective reports.

### Remarks for the Good of the Order

President Hausvik presented 10 year pins to Don Balmer, Becky and Tom Bourdage, and Chris Lelevier.

The Ladies of Valhall Christmas Luncheon will be a Christmas Friendship High Tea at Mrs. Burton's Tea House.

Next Business meeting: Dec 7 at 7:30 PM.

Next Social: Salmon Dinner on Nov 21

Next Board meeting will include both incoming and outgoing members and will be Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Members present: 48

Respectfully submitted,  
Amelia Seeto  
Secretary, Valhall Lodge

## Searching for a Secretary.... the Saga Continues

Our Lodge is still in need of a Secretary to jot down what happens at Business and Board meetings. Templates have been created for Board and Business Meeting Agendas and Minutes and Secretary Seeto will be preparing the upcoming Lodge of the Year Report as well as acting as Assistant Secretary from her soon to be new home in the Philippines.

# *O Jul Med Din Glede*



## House of Norway Traditional Juletefest

January 1, 2010 at Hall of Nations,  
Balboa Park

Time: 3:30 pm  
Cost: Children \$ 5 Adults \$ 15

Koldtbord with all the traditional Christmas favorite foods  
Rice Porridge and traditional desserts and Christmas Cookies

Bring a small gift for the bag of Julenissen (Santa)

Games and fun for the children and singing of the Norwegian and American Christmas Carols while gathering around  
The Christmas Tree

### ***You are all invited to come to the House of Norway Juletefest***

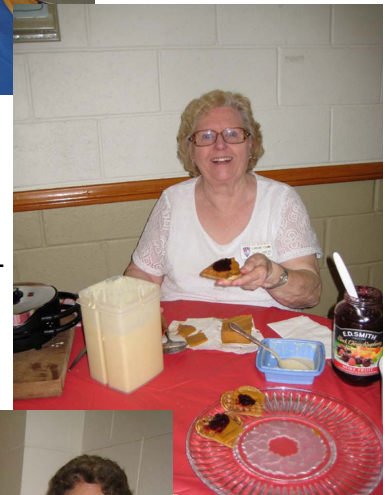
Send in your reservation to Ingrid Lindgren 4761 Mt. Alifan Drive, San Diego, CA 92111-2507 or Call (858) 277-3376



## Heritage Display 2009



Lefse Demonstration and sampling.



Vaffler Demonstration and sampling.



Rosemaling Demonstration and a chance to try it out.

Thanks to Jean Shogren for the pictures

Valhall Lodge 6-025 - Sons of Norway

# Installation of Officers and January Social

East San Diego Masonic Temple 7849 Tommy Drive, San Diego 92119

**Saturday, January 16, 2010**

**Social Hour at 5:30 PM -**

**Dinner at 6:30 PM**

**Installation Ceremony follows**

## Western Barbeque Dinner

Barbequed Beef and/or Chicken - Baked Beans - Potato Salad - Cole  
Slaw – Rolls – Butter – Coffee - Dessert



**Adults \$12.50 – Reservations Not Required**

MEMBERS' CHILDREN/ GRANDCHILDREN 15 AND UNDER- FREE

FULL TIME STUDENT MEMBERS OF VALHALL UNDER 25-FREE



## Minutes of the Valhall Lodge Board Meeting October 27, 2009

President Rick Hausvik called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**Meeting Minutes:** The April Board Meeting Minutes as printed in the June Valhall Viking and the July Board Meeting Minutes as printed in the October Valhall Viking were approved.

**Correspondence:** Secretary Amelia Seeto summarized the letter from Ski for Light and the Board decided against presenting the request for participation to the membership. President Hausvik received an inquiry about our Lutefisk Dinner; he forwarded the e-mail address to Financial Secretary Aprell Waymire and she will forward the flyer to the inquirer when the February Lutefisk Social flyer is distributed.

**Membership Report:** Financial Secretary Waymire reported 14 new members, including five San Diegans that transferred into Valhall from Central. 10-year pins will be presented at November Business Meeting. There will be a Welcoming Ceremony at December Business Meeting; Secretary Seeto requested assistance preparing the Welcome Packets.

**Corporation Financial Report:** Corporation Directors have been provided the report. The investments are making a profit.

**Social Report:** September's Heritage/New Member Event was a tremendous success; we may have the New Member Event annually in conjunction with each Heritage Social--Lesson learned: sandwiches need to be plated in the kitchen, maybe three to a plate and then placed on a serving table so that we do not run out of sandwiches; also, two people are needed to man a registration table near the entrance to register guests, answer questions and sign up new members. Since there is no January Newsletter, a Save the Date notice for the February Lutefisk Social will be included the December Newsletter and the Chairman of the February Social Committee will have to contact February Committee members in late December or early January to advise them of their role in the February

Business Meeting Dinner and the Lutefisk Social.

**Cultural Awards Program:** People that are participating in cultural programs are not interested in completing the lengthy and detailed forms and paperwork required for each type of award and each subsequent level of award.

**Membership Committee:** We received 28 completed surveys. There was discussion on the responses and analysis of the first five questions and then it was decided to request that members that have not already completed and submitted a survey to please take the time to do so in 2009.

**Newsletter:** We discussed the Post Office requirements regarding newsletters and booklets and various quotes received for different formats, services and quantities. Ola Brevig motioned to accept the quote from Phoenix for printing 300 and mailing 200 newsletters (we will be invoiced for mailing approximately 80 additional newsletters at a cost of about \$15); Sven Olsen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Utilizing this new vendor will eliminate the need for a Circulation Editor; the Board would like to thank Dean Seiler for his faithful service to the lodge.

**Publicity:** Publicity Chair Judy Sawyer is advertising the Salmon Dinner on the Sons of Norway website; she has been submitting photos to District 6 Publicity Chair for submission to Sons of Norway Viking Magazine.

**Telephone Committee:** Telephone Tree Chair Helen Seiler has resigned. She regretfully reported that despite her years of trying to ensure that all members are informed of important events in a timely manner by telephone, it appears there are a number of members that are on neither the e-mail distribution nor the telephone tree. In the future for the telephone tree to operate the Lodge President needs to inform the telephone chair as soon as news happens and members that wish to be informed need to notify the Telephone Tree Chair of their contact information.

**Unfinished Business:** President Hausvik is preparing a report for District and

Headquarters on our New Member Event; Secretary Seeto is preparing the reimbursement request.

**Announcements:** LOV requested and was granted use of downstairs room at the lodge on November 14 for pricing items for the Lille Butiken, as well as use of the Store Room for one week to store the priced items prior to the Lille Butiken.

We need to identify a new Tubfrim chair. Don Balmer has a 14 pound box of stamps for Tubfrim; he will give it to Ingrid Lindgren to deliver to the Norwegian Seaman's Church in San Pedro. There is a school in Pt. Loma that collects stamps and will donate them to Valhall; Helen Seiler offered to pick the stamps up as needed when she is in Pt. Loma; President Hausvik will e-mail the contact information for the School Administrator to Dean Seiler.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM.

**Present:**

Rick Hausvik  
Duke Johnson  
Judith Johnson  
Don Lesney  
Arlene LaBree  
Karin Brevig  
Ola Brevig  
Judy Sawyer  
Ellen Spitzer  
Helen Seiler  
Dean Seiler  
Ingrid Lindgren  
Everett Shogren  
Lizzie Riiber  
Allen Johannesen  
Helga Moore  
Sven Olsen  
Ray Johnsen

Respectfully submitted, Amelia Seeto,  
Secretary

# Valhall Cultural Page

## Woodcarving

The woodcarving group meets on every Tuesday of the month, from 9am to Noon. The class is being held at the *House of Norway* in Balboa Park. Everyone is welcome to join the group and enjoy conversation and carving.

Call Lou Coover before coming for time verification and more information at 619-264-9486.

## Rosemaling Classes

Informal *rosemaling* classes meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. Call Carmen for location information. Come visit and learn about *rosemaling* and have fun learning how to *rosemal*. Classes are free for SON members, \$5 for non-members. No prior experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.

Contact instructor Carmen Cleary for more information at 619-442-0064.

## Norwegian Genealogy

Next meeting January, 2010

The Genealogy Group will not meet in December. Meetings will resume in January.

We meet at the Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Everyone interested in Norwegian genealogy and history are welcome to attend our meetings. For more information or to be added to our mailing list, please contact Dale Roybal at [tdroybal7@aol.com](mailto:tdroybal7@aol.com) or call 858 278 7521.

## Norwegian Classes

If you would like to learn how to speak Norwegian—classes are taught by instructor Erling Nyhammer.

Classes are held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in North Park.

For more information, call Erling Nyhammer at 619-448-4217 or email at [Enyhammer@cox.net](mailto:Enyhammer@cox.net)

## Christmas in Norway Today

Christmas celebrations in modern Norway have lost the strong superstitious overtones that made the holidays a perilous time for earlier generations. Most Norwegian homes display few signs of Christmas until December 23 "Little Christmas Eve", when many households trim their tree and set out their decorations. Other wait until the morning of Christmas Eve.

The Christmas tree was not a part of the ancient Norwegian celebrations. The tradition of having a Christmas tree originated in Germany in the 1500s and was common among well-to-do Norwegian people in the 1700s. Clergymen and teachers brought the custom to the countryside. In the beginning, people used various types of trees, depending what was valuable. Now tree nurseries provide the fir trees that many people prefer, although in later years the pine has taken over a part of the market. There are quite a few families who consider searching the woods for their tree, one of their dearest Christmas traditions, and in most districts some property owners provide the general public with the opportunity to go out in the woods with axe and sled to find their own special tree the old-fashioned way.

The trim has varied somewhat with time. Most modern Norwegian Christmas have glass balls and tinsel garlands, electric candles, and a luminous star on top. Many have long strings with small Norwegian flags on them plus nisser, pinecones, stars and birds. Probably every home has its own home-made trim: heart-shaped paper baskets and long colorful paper strip chains, made by children. Felt and yarn are given shape and turned into nisser, angels and birds. Wooden strips and straw are also traditional materials for decorations.

In addition to the tree, most Norwegian homes also have decorations made of natural materials. Twigs, pine cones, lingonberry twigs, heather, moss, reindeer lichen, staw, and other trees twigs.

Excerpts From SON information bank –Norwegian Christmas



**OSWALD I. GILBERTSON**

**MAR 23, 1927– OCT 29, 2009**

Sadly we report that Oswald Gilbertson, Norwegian Consul Emeritus and a long time member of Valhall Lodge, passed away on Thursday October 29, 2009 at the age of 82. Oswald played an important role in the Norwegian community.

In addition to his duties as the Honorary Norwegian Consul for over 20 years, he also actively participated in Valhall Lodge and the House of Norway. He helped establish the San Diego Fiskeklubben in 1995.

Oswald was a Golden Member of Sons of Norway Valhall Lodge and a long and faithful member for 37 years having joined in 1972.

Oswald is survived by his wife Magnhild, and his sons Erik Gilbertson and Jan Gilbertson, as well as a brother Odd and five grandchildren.

Oswald Gilbertson will leave a void in our hearts and in the Norwegian community. Oswald will be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences to his family and many friends.



**JUANITA GRIEBEL**

**MAY 1, 1923– AUG 22, 2009**

It is with great regret we share another member's passing, Juanita Griebel who was 86 years old. Juanita joined Valhall Lodge in 1999 and also belonged to the Ladies of Valhall.

Juanita was proud of her Norwegian heritage. She loved to travel. Juanita is survived by her daughters Judith Huck, Nancy Ross, Marte Adkinson and son Bill Griebel.

Our condolences to her family and friends. She will be greatly missed.



**CARMEN SYNNES**

**AUG 14, 1923– NOV 6, 2009**

Sadly we report the passing of our former member and musician, Carmen Synnes at the age of 86. Carmen was our musician for years and had been a member of Valhall Lodge since 1971. She remained a member and our musician until her illness made it too difficult to continue.

Our condolences to her friends. Carmen and her music will be greatly missed.

**Sons of Norway  
Mission Statement**

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



**Valhall Viking**  
Published Monthly by  
SONS OF NORWAY  
(Valhall Lodge) 25

Arlene LaBree, Editor  
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PERMIT NO. 758

**DATED MATERIAL**

*Please Deliver Promptly*

**Valhall Viking**

**DECEMBER 2009+JANUARY 2010**

**CALENDAR**

**DECEMBER**

5 Sat No LOV meeting  
7 Mon Business Meeting  
10 The No Genealogy meeting  
12 Sat Rosemaling  
21 Sat Christmas Party

No newsletter in January

**JANUARY 2010**

2 Sat Ladies of Valhall  
4 Mon No Business Meeting  
9 Sat Rosemaling  
14 Thu Genealogy Group  
16 Sat Combined Business Meeting/Social  
Installation of Officers for 2010  
19 Tue Board Meeting with Previous  
and New Officers  
23 Sat Rosemaling

Woodcarving every Tues at House of Norway

*God Jul!*

Next newsletter is the  
February issue.

Deadline for the  
February  
Valhall Viking is  
**January 15**

E-Mail articles to:  
[valhallnews@san.rr.com](mailto:valhallnews@san.rr.com)

