

FALL 2024

# AVISA

## Newsletter of Norwegian House Society



### President's Message

Dear Members,

I have to admit that I find it hard to believe that it is already time to start preparing for Christmas (if you have not already started)! 2024 seems to have flown by very quickly.

My personal thanks to all of the volunteers for the effort each of you give for our organization -- effort and time which makes Norway House Society the success that it is.

It is at this time of the year that I enjoy partaking in the Norsk Christmas traditions that have been part of our family for years and teaching the traditions to my son. I also reflect on how interesting it is that the holiday traditions differ for our members depending on which part of Norge that you or your family hail from. I so enjoy hearing stories from our members as to the different traditions that you have maintained in Canada and learning the different recipes for the



*I wish each of you and your families a happy holiday season and a wonderful 2025!*

*God Jul,  
Greta Reiten*

traditional foods that many of us keep making each holiday season.

I hope that each of you will enjoy keeping your family traditions alive or possibly create a new holiday tradition this year.

## Upcoming Events

You may find all events taking place at the Scandinavian Community Centre on the events calendar webpage: [Events Calendar](#)

**Dec. 8** Scandinavian Family Christmas Party

**Dec. 13** Seniors Christmas Luncheon

**Dec. 22** Norwegian Christmas Service



# SCANDINAVIAN FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

You are INVITED! Everyone welcome!

Scandinavian Christmas Party  
**Sunday December 8th**  
**12:30 pm - 3:00 pm**

Tickets: \$20 per person ages 12-95, children under 11 and anyone over 95 are free!

Tickets at the door \$25. Bring a wrapped gift for your kids under age 18 for Santa to deliver max \$25-30 value please.



[Click here to purchase tickets](#)

# SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

## TURKEY DINNER



**Friday, December 13th, 2024**

12:00 Noon Cost \$30

For tickets, please contact:

**Laura Olufsen 604-294-0749 or  
email [tmolufsen@gmail.com](mailto:tmolufsen@gmail.com)**

**Reply by Dec. 9th, earlier if possible**

**No tickets at the door**

## **Norsk Julegudsstjeneste Norwegian Christmas Service**

**December 22, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

Held at the **Danish Lutheran Church**

**6010 Kincaid Street, Burnaby.**

The sermon will be in English, various text readings in Norwegian.

Donations of Christmas baking appreciated for coffee after the service as we sing Carols round the Christmas tree.

For further info, please contact **Tine Moberg Parker** phone 778-772-1202

## **17 mai Constitution Celebration**

Norwegian House Society held its annual Constitution Day celebration dinner at the Scandinavian Centre. There were over 115 people in attendance; and they all enjoyed the

evening with friends and families. The food was great as usual with a lot of different items to choose from on the buffet.



## Congratulations to the Bursary recipients

### 2024 Memorial Bursary Awards of \$1,000 each:

- Chester and Patricia Hansen Memorial Bursary - Corvin Welstead
- Egil Lorntzsen Memorial Bursary - Mattias Moberg Parker
- Egil Lyngen Memorial Bursary - Piper Mitchell
- Erik Unheim Memorial Bursary - Fredrik Sverre
- John Sherman Memorial Bursary - Cole Mitchell
- Marian Snowball Memorial Bursary - Gracie Phillips
- NHS Memorial Bursary - Annika Noringseth
- Olaf "Hall" Leiren Memorial Bursary - Sonja Noringseth
- Sjur, Martine and Reidun Seim Bursary - Christopher Moon



## The Munin Has Landed!

Sunday, May 18, more than 100 people gathered to celebrate the ribbon cutting for the Viking Ship at it's new location.

The ribbon cutting with Master Boat Builders Kristian Frostad and Arne Frostad as well as Elsa Bardsness representing her Master Boat Builder husband Raymond and many of the men and women who participated in the building, maintenance and sailing of Munin, took place in the Lounge during the rain storm.

They were supported by others who participated in the building, launch, maintenance and sailing of Munin as well as the latest volunteers who built the base and relocated the ship.

Helping to recreate the atmosphere of the launch in 2001 were our amazing musicians the Spelmanslag as well as others who participated in the launch. Special welcome to Marian and John Hammond who captained the ship for many years.

Kind and enthusiastic words were said by representatives of many Nordic organizations and other individuals.

When the sun returned, the field was too wet to play our Viking games, but the gravel base provided a dry surface for photo opps with Munin.



## Midsummer Festival Highlights

Many members of the Norwegian Society volunteered on June 22 and 23 for the Midsummer Festival at the Scandinavian Centre.

The festival theme was Folk Art and Costumes. Ukraine was the guest country this year.

In addition members made waffles, manned the entrance, barbecued salmon, cooked the Sunday morning pancake breakfast and promoted the Viking ship Munin. The wife carrying competition continued to be a popular event. The festival had more than 4000 attendees.





## Seterskveld Dinner

Norwegian House Society, in partnership with Sons of Norway Sleipner Lodge, hosted a Seterskveld dinner on October 15th at the Scandinavian Centre. We are pleased to report that nearly 100 people attended.

The meal included rommegrot, roast pork with potatoes with gravy and vegetables plus fruit and ice cream for dessert. The rommegrot was a crowd favorite and a big thank you to Ingeborg bekken for sharing her recipe and expertise with us.

Many thanks to all the volunteers from both organizations who assisted in making this event a success.

## Torskeklubben Christmas Dinner

Torskeklubben Christmas Dinner & Dance was held on November 22 where nearly 80 people enjoyed: being with friends and family; a delicious dinner; Norwegian Aquavit; thoughtful separate toasts to the women and men; and all ages enjoyed dancing and listening to the talented, lively Ed Wahl band.



## Welcome to Norway Craft Fair



The Welcome to Norway Craft Fair held on November 3rd was well attended. Norwegian House Society had a table selling commemorative pavers as a fundraiser for the Centre, as well as T-shirts, caps and waffle heart tote bags. Over \$1200 was raised. **Samples of pavers are shown in the photo above.**

## Pave the Way



The Scandinavian Community Centre, partnering with the member houses, is pleased to offer a programme that allows us to recognize the significant people in our lives and our communities. The funds generated will be committed to upgrading & maintaining the Centre.

Leave your mark for years to come, and be a part of our history by purchasing a commemorative paver today. Your custom paver can be engraved with your family's name, a motto, a wish for the centre, or you can choose to honour a loved one.

[Information Sheet - Pave the Way](#)

For additional information, please contact:

Dave Moulton via email: [dmoulton@telus.net](mailto:dmoulton@telus.net) or phone 604-522-8182.

# Hurtigruten

Submitted by Anne Haug

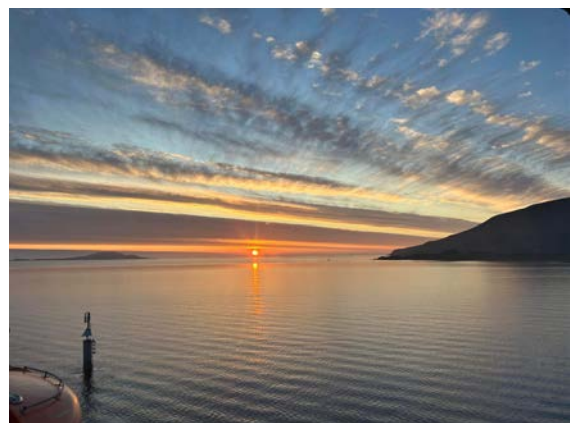
## Hurtigruten – The Original Norwegian Coastal Voyage

The route has been linking towns along Norway's coastline since 1893, at that time, running from Trondheim to Hammerfest. When it first started, it was the quickest way to travel between northern and southern Norway, which is why it's called "Hurtigruten" (the express route). One of its original purposes was to deliver mail from central Norway to Hammerfest, reducing the delivery time from 3-5 weeks to just 7 days. Today, Hurtigruten still provides transportation for goods and passengers from Bergen to Kirkenes, and it has also become a popular option for tourists.

In September, I had the chance to go on a cruise with my friends, Inger and Anne-Lise, who are sisters. We started our adventure in Oslo and took a train to Bergen. The train ride lasted seven hours, and we enjoyed some stunning views of the mountains along the way. After spending a night in Bergen, we had a nice lunch with Inger's son and his girlfriend, and I also got to catch up with a high school friend.

On September 1, we got on the ship called "Nordlys" for a five-day cruise from Bergen to Tromsø. The ship made 23 stops, some of which were really quick—only 10 or 15 minutes long. We had a few hours to explore places like Ålesund, Trondheim, and Bodø. In Bodø, we connected with Inger and Anne-Lise's cousin, who took us to see the famous Saltstraumen. Instead of going through Geirangerfjord, the Nordlys sailed into Hjørundfjorden.

The food was amazing! Every meal was served buffet style, and there was so much variety to choose from. The kitchen focuses on using fresh and unique ingredients from over 50 local suppliers. There was plenty of fish on the menu, too. The ship also had a cafeteria, hot tubs, a bar, and a gift shop. Unlike cruise ships, there wasn't much entertainment in the evenings. Instead, they offered talks and pointed out interesting sights you could see from the deck. Watching the changing scenery as we traveled was both fascinating and relaxing. We were lucky with the weather, enjoying sunshine every day! We met tourists from Germany, Australia, and Denmark, and we hardly heard any Norwegian among the passengers. After flying from Tromsø back to Oslo, we all agreed that our journey had been fantastic!



## Language Classes

The adult only classes (age 15 and over) take place one evening per week from 7-9 pm. Taking language classes gives students a year's membership in the Norwegian House Society. For additional information, **including details about January classes**, please visit our webpage:

<https://scancentre.org/about/language-classes/norwegian/> or email [NorwegianClassesSSC@gmail.com](mailto:NorwegianClassesSSC@gmail.com)

## Make Friends With Us

Did you know that Norwegian House Society is on Instagram? Follow us at @NorwegianHouseSociety to stay updated on upcoming events and for content and news about Norway.

## New Video

Thanks to Tammy Evans for spearheading the creation of a much needed facility video. Please click the Norway sign to watch the 3 minute Virtual Tour of the SCC.



## Board of Directors 2024/2025

President: Greta Reiten 604.661.9239 [greiten@rbs.ca](mailto:greiten@rbs.ca)

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