



Newsletter for American Citizens in Norway

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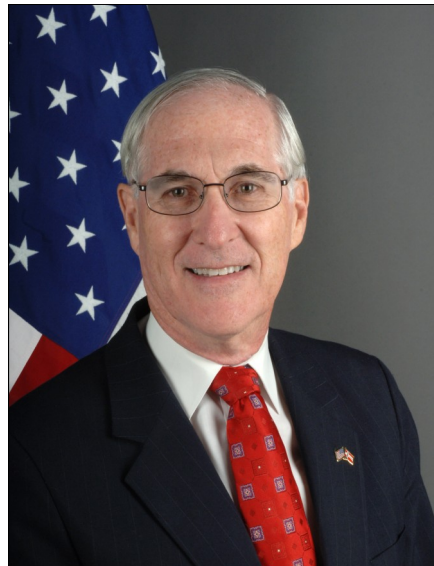
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Appointment System now available for American Citizen Services at the Embassy

All of our American citizen services requiring your presence at the U.S. Embassy are now available by appointment only. Appointment slots will be scheduled daily from 9:00 AM until 11:00 PM. [More information.](#)

Greetings from Ambassador Barry B. White



Greetings fellow Americans,

For the past seven months, I have had the pleasure and honor to serve as the representative of the President of the United States to the Kingdom of Norway.

The job of a U.S. Ambassador is to further the interests of the United States and its citizens. Here in Norway that means nourishing and enhancing a long standing friendly relationship. Our countries share a common commitment to promoting human rights, democracy, and freedom throughout the world. I enjoy working to build upon this invaluable relationship

and to increase economic development opportunities both for U.S. companies in Norway and for Norwegian firms in the United States.

As part of the U.S.-Norway relationship, your participation and successes in the American community and Norwegian society at large are important to me. Here at the Embassy, we want to welcome you to use our services to make your lives easier. One of my highest priorities is to work to insure the safety and well-being of American citizens here.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can in the years to come.

Excellent Turnout for Town Hall Meeting

On May 12 the Embassy hosted a Town Hall meeting for American citizens living in the Oslo region. Attendance was excellent, with an enthusiastic audience of about 200 Americans turning up at the Bristol Hotel to hear about the work of the Embassy and to ask questions.

Ambassador Barry White and other Embassy officers described our work in Norway in the areas of political, economic and military affairs. Security and consular issues were also discussed, as were the plans for our new Embassy. **continues next page..**





Town Hall Meeting continued...

Attendees also heard from representatives of several U.S.-oriented civic organizations: the Ameri-



can Coordinating Council of Norway, the American Chamber of Commerce, the American Women's Club, Democrats Abroad, and Republicans Abroad. In keeping with the Town Hall spirit of dialogue, citizen attendees had an opportunity to ask numerous questions of the Ambassador and other officials. Tax, citizenship, and education issues figured prominently. A roundup of the questions and answers can be found at the embassy website www.usa.no A smaller Town Hall meeting was held in Trondheim, at NTNU, on April 28, 2010. We hope to host more meetings elsewhere in Norway this year. Invitation to Embassy Town Hall meetings in Norway is by citizen registration at www.travel.state.gov.

Passport Information for U.S. Citizens in Norway

The summer season is here and passport processing time will increase. Please allow 4-5 weeks for processing. Please make sure that your passport is valid before summer travel. It is important to keep your passport up to date at all times. Please note that American Citizen Services now has an appointment system for services requiring your presence at the Embassy. For more information [click here](#).



American Independence Day Celebration



Every year the American Coordination Council of Norway, (ACCN), organizes an Independence Day Celebration. All of the ACCN member organizations join forces to put together an event full of entertainment for the whole family.

Location: Frogner Parken, Oslo
Time: 12pm-5pm, Sunday, July 4
Details: www.accn.no



Federal Voting Assistance



The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act grants U.S. citizens overseas the right to vote in federal elections. Federal elections include primaries as well as general and special elections. Upcoming primary elections in many States are being held in May, June, and July. Absentee voting is easy and there is assistance available on the voting assistance website at www.fvap.gov.

U.S. Tax Information

All U.S. Citizens and Legal Permanent Residents must report worldwide income from all sources to the Internal Revenue Service. You may not have to pay any U.S. tax, but you must file a return. Normally U.S. citizens residing abroad have until June 15 to file. Embassy Oslo does not have a tax office. Inquiries can be directed to the London tax office, [click here for more information](#). Tax forms are available on the Internet at www.irs.gov. [click here](#) for further information regarding taxes.



Registering with the Embassy

All U.S. citizens planning to visit long-term or reside in Norway should register with the Embassy. Registration will make your presence and whereabouts known in case it is necessary to contact you in an emergency. If you have applied for a passport at our Embassy since the early 1990's, then you are already registered. If you have previously registered, please be sure to notify us of any changes in your contact information. Please see our website for registration details www.norway.usembassy.gov

Norwegian Citizens Must Register With ESTA Before Traveling to U.S.A.



Beginning January 12th, 2009, all Norwegian citizens must obtain approval through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), prior to traveling to the United States without a visa under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP). ESTA is a web based system, available in 16 languages including Norwegian. Under ESTA applicants answer the same few questions that have long been answered on the small green paper form I-94W (typically on the airplane prior to landing). In most cases, ESTA will provide an almost immediate determination of eligibility for VWP travel. However, determination may take up to 72 hours, so travelers are encouraged to apply well ahead of time. Applicants whose ESTA applications are denied will have to seek a visa in order to travel to the United States.

Travelers who have not received an approved travel authorization via ESTA may be denied boarding, experience delayed processing, or be denied admission at a U.S. port of entry. [Register with ESTA now](#)



Consular Fees to Increase

On February 9, 2010 the Department of State published a proposed rule in the Federal Register to change certain Consular fees, including those related to U.S. passport and passport card applications, and other services provided to U.S citizens. The Department will not begin collecting these fees until it fully considers public comments and publishes a final rule. More details available at a later date.



Memorial Day Ceremony

When: 0900-1000, 31 May 2010

Where: US Memorial Vestre Gravlund (entrance across from Volvat Medical Center)

Who: All Embassy and local American Community

Featuring:

- Remarks by Amb White
- U.S. Marine and Norwegian Color Guard

Please see the next page for map to the Memorial Day Ceremony.



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES
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Map to Memorial Day Ceremony

