

Vikingskip

www.vesterdalen.org



mai 2023

Vesterdalen Lodge No. 2-131 • Sons of Norway • Auburn/Kent, WA • Chartered October 23, 1983

Vol. XLI No. 5

Hilsen Fra Presidenten



Hello Vesterdalen Lodge,

This month we celebrate Syttende Mai and our meeting on May 15 will reflect that celebration. The social committee will host a potluck and our cultural director will find some interesting videos to share with the Lodge.

There will be the annual Syttende Mai parade in Ballard on Wednesday, May 17, so I hope some of you might go up for that. The Leif Erikson Lodge is also celebrating their 120th year as a lodge in May, so there will be activities at the Lodge in Ballard on that day.

We will not be holding a Memorial Service in May, as we have had no deaths in the lodge this past year, for which we are thankful (there was one who was an insurance member, but not an active member).

We are also in the midst of planning our Nordic Fest for June. Because the church is not available on any Saturday, we will be holding our **Nordic Fest** on a Friday afternoon and evening, from **3:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Friday, June 16**. This will be a smaller event than in the past, as we haven't had one since 2019. We will have food to purchase, a bake sale, various vendors, possibly some demonstrations of making various Scandinavian foods, a gently-used item table and hopefully some entertainment – or at least music to listen to while people shop or eat. It is very important that we have enough help to successfully put this on. I really need someone to be in charge of the food/kitchen. I believe we have someone in charge of the Bake Sale and the Gently Used Items table, and we are obtaining vendors. **I hope someone will step up to take on the kitchen and food items, please!** We could consider different food items, since it will be essentially around dinner time. Meatball Sundaes are usually a big hit (meatballs and gravy on mashed potatoes). Pea Soup went well as the Norway Day in Olympia. These items would be less labor intensive than sandwiches, (which we have done in the past). I know the sandwiches are also enjoyed, however. We have had our event advertised in the Olympia Norway Day program (which was held on April 15) and it will be in various newsletters, so we are getting the word out. We will also advertise to our email lists. We will also need to put together a program and will sell ads to bring in some additional income. **If you are able to help in any way, please let me know sometime this month.** We do need help in the kitchen, making food, making items for the Bake Sale prior to the event, setting up on Friday, doing demonstrations, cleaning tables during the event, cleaning up following the event. I would like someone to be in charge of the kitchen, the setup and the cleanup. I was told I should not be in charge of this event, so if someone would like to take it on, please let me know. I appreciate those who have already

continued on next column

Upcoming Meeting

Monday, May 15, 2023

Messiah Lutheran Church

410 H Street NE, Auburn WA 98002

6:00 PM – Potluck Dinner!

Bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to share. We will be celebrating Syttende Mai! (17th of May) with food and some short videos.

7:00 PM – Lodge Meeting

Nordic Fest Coming on June 16

We will be hosting a Nordic Fest again this year, on Friday, June 16 from 3:00 until 8:00 PM.

We need helpers for that day, which would include a Bake Sale, Food service (lunch, what to serve and pricing), Lefse and/or Krumkake making areas or other demonstrations, Gently Used Items table and entertainment. Please see my article to the left.

I will lead the committee, but would love to have 3-5 others who are willing to help organize the various areas and get additional helpers.

Signups will be at the April meeting. This will be another fundraiser for our lodge, but it is always enjoyed by the community, and by those from other towns and lodges. Please join me in helping to make our 2023 Nordic Fest a success!

Vernene

volunteered and are helping with the planning (Dotty E, Tom B and Karen T). This event is a big event for us and requires many hands. Please help if you can.

Vernene

What's going on around here? Check out Sons of Norway's District Two web site!

<http://sonsofnorway2.com>



Sunshine Report

A thinking of you card was sent to Jorunn Ruff as she wasn't feeling well and needed her appendix removed.

May Birthdays:

- 4 Gerry Anderson
- 8 Mark Olson
- 11 Allie-Mae Jones
- 12 Casey Byrne
- 16 Sandra Amoldt, Sidoni Erickson
- 17 Carole Anderson
- 18 Jim Larson
- 20 Jackie Cole
- 21 Kathleen Olson
- 25 Dan Lysne

Two members 80 years and above will receive birthday cards in May.

Please email or call when you know of a member who needs some Vesterdalen sunshine. Your help is needed to reach everyone. Thank you so much.

Nancy Sommerfield, Sunshine Chair
 dnsommerfield@comcast.net 206-612-6389



2023 District 2 Youth Camp Program

The 2023 Youth Camp Sessions are coming up quick! If you know of any kids between the ages of 9 and 15, be sure to take a look at our camp website for more info about each camp and to find an application. All camps are accepting applications, and we couldn't be more excited for another round of Norwegian-filled fun!

*Covid-19 vaccinations are recommended for all staff & campers to keep everyone safe.

Visit <https://www.sofncamps.com/>

Camp Trollhaugen
 Ages 13-15
 June 25-July 8
 Contact: Chris Hicks
 (425) 672-0194

Camp Normanna
 Ages 9-12
 July 23 - August 5
 Contact: Seth Tufteland
 (206) 605-4112

Camp Nidaros
 Ages 9-12
 July 9-July 22
 Contact: Hannah Thom

Raffle!

It's never too early to start selling raffle tickets, especially if it is for a beautiful Norwegian sweater! This sweater came from Alesund, Norway. It was a gift to Rolf Gronvik of Enumclaw in the mid 1980s from three of his sisters still living in the family home, just outside the city of Alesund, on Gronvika near the Borgund Church. Rolf came to the United States in 1929, being the only 1 of 10 children to leave Norway. Today, while Rolf and all of his 9 siblings are gone, he has 5 nephews and 3 nieces, several of which are living on or near Gronvika. A few months back we had a program on Tacoma's Sister City, which happens to be Alesund! Ticket sales will start at our May meeting and you can purchase 1 ticket for \$5 or get a price break when you get 5 tickets for \$20. The drawing will be held at our fall Torsk Dinner!

Dotty Erickson



Kultur Hjørne

A fascinating look into the Back Roads of Norway

James and Ruthanne Henderson presented a wonderful glimpse into their recent trip to Norway at our April 23 meeting. Their trip included forays through secluded and rustic countryside and they also visited friends and a farm which had been in Ruthanne's family for 14 generations.

Driving through hills and vales, they often saw herds of wild deer roaming around — the deer are protected in Norway. However, Ruthanne and James also visited a game farm where attendees are taught how to hunt and ensure that all of the animal is used.

James and Ruthanne also visited many smaller museums: often located on a family's farm. These included one with a connection to Ruthanne's family and owned by a filmmaker, where every room was decorated with special collectibles and antiques.

They visited a series of 18 locks located in the Telemark region as well as an island accessible only by a small ferry where there are no roads and everyone travels everywhere by boat.

The scenery, of course, was spectacular and varied: from an area of trains and waterfalls — a very distinctive scenery from the fjords for which Norway is well-known — to a perfect picture of a rainbow after a day of heavy rain. Thank you to the Hendersons!

Karen T., Culture Chair

Still Looking for a Home

Our Vesterdalen Viking Boat Parade Float still needs to find a new home. We have not had any response from our lodge but other lodges have expressed their interest in taking it off our hands. We prefer not to do that, but we must keep that possibility as an option.

John Nyseth built our Parade Float, has stored it at his house and has pulled it in almost 50 parades. But now it is time to move it on to a new home and a new loving caretaker. The boat is on a trailer and when the mast is down it will fit inside most garages. The disassembled dimensions are about 8 feet wide by 16 feet long by 7 feet high.

This is a beautiful representation of a Viking Ship and one that our Lodge can be proud of. If you have a garage or other building where we can store it or if you know of another place, please let one of the Trustees (Jim Larson, Don Jensen and Dianne Snell) know. It would be ideal if you are also able to pull it in parades but that is not necessary.

Jim Larson, Trustee



Welcome New Members!

Karen Brown

David Sommerfield

Social Directors' Report

At the Last Meeting

Our April meeting started with lots of wonderful desserts. Thanks so much for everyone who contributed! The lucky winners of the \$10 door prize were Dianne Snell and Nancy Heavey. It pays to be present at our meetings! Raffle ticket winners were Don Jensen, Dianne Snell and Jim Engan.

Upcoming Meeting

Join us for a potluck dinner. Bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to share. We will be celebrating the 17th of May which is Norway's Constitution Day. Helpers are needed for setup and cleanup! Please contact me at 253-293-0611. Setup will be started at 5 p.m. Potluck at 6 p.m.

Jorunn Ruff, Social Chair



Vesterdalen Sponsored Auburn Little League Baseball Team

Our Auburn Little League baseball team, the Vikings, is having a great season. And check the Viking design – by Andy – on their new sweatshirts. These 7, 8 and 9 year olds have a busy schedule with three games each week. They would love to have some more Norwegians – or anybody – come to their games and cheer them on. So check the May schedule and pick some times to come out and join the fun. Bring warm clothes because it can still get chilly. Most fields have bleachers but your portable lawn chair is probably more comfortable. So come join our team and have some fun!

Jim Larson, Trustee

S/N Foundation comes through!

The Sons of Norway Foundation has announced that it has awarded us a \$500 grant to support an Auburn Little League baseball team! We submitted our application last December. It was in the Foundation's category "Helping Hands to Children" and it was approved by the Board of Governors and the Grant Committee. Vesterdalen Lodge had already approved including this support in our 2023 budget so the grant will cover our expense! We extend a very hearty thank you to our Foundation.

Jim Larson, Trustee



Bunads

Bunads are the traditional regional clothing of Norway. With a resurgence of nationalism and increasing wealth in Norway, the wearing of bunads for special occasions has become standard throughout Norway. Bunads always have a regional connection, whether by birth, ancestry or where one currently lives. Traditionally given by parents, grandparents, or godparents for confirmation, a bunad is worn throughout the lifetime for occasions such as baptisms, weddings, funerals, holidays like Christmas and 17 Mai. While girls are usually fully grown by the time of confirmation, their bunads are still tailored so that they can be let in and out as the wearer has life experiences that change her shape. Boys are sometimes delayed in receiving their bunads until they are fully grown.



We met a 19-year-old young man in Valdres who told us that he would probably not get his bunad until he returned from his national service in a couple of years.



Since bunads are custom-tailored, they can cost between \$2,000-\$10,000 U.S. dollars depending upon the individual pattern and amount of work involved. In addition to the clothing, a bunad includes the silver (solje,) shoes, bag, headwear and embroidery specific to the region. Chinese-made knock-offs are available, but they are considered taboo and are strongly frowned upon.

When we were visiting family in Valdres, there happened to be a convention of the "Norsk institutt fra bunad og folke-drakt" at the hotel where we were staying in Fagernes. We were able to view bunads from all over Norway and even sit in on workshops and displays for people whose careers were tailoring custom bunads. Today, the most popular bunad is the East Telemark, made popular by Queen Sonja, who is from the same town (Drangedal) that my grandfather came from. Queen Sonja's grand-daughter was confirmed this past year and her bunad was embroidered in the East Telemark style by Sonja herself.

Ruthanne Henderson

Let's make Lumpe for Nordic Fest!

Familiar with a "hot dog" wrapped in lumpe? If not, you can experience it at the upcoming Nordic Fest. Lumpe is a first cousin of lefse without the sugar and a few other variations.



You have an opportunity to participate in making lumpe by contacting Marv Nelson at (360) 825-6771 or via e-mail at mrvnel@earthlink.net. We will be baking on May 12 and 13 from 10 AM and another session later in the month.

Kalender

Annual Calendar is at www.vesterdalen.org

May

- 1 Board Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM
- 12 Lumpe Baking see article 10:00 AM
- 13 Lumpe Baking see article 10:00 AM
- 15 Social - Potluck Dinner & Videos 6:00 PM
Lodge Meeting in person and via Zoom 7:00 PM
- 17 Syttende Mai

juni

- 5 Board Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM
- 7 Norwegian Independence Day
- 16 Nordic Fest held at Messiah Lutheran Church 3:00-8:00 PM
- 19 Social 6:00 PM
Lodge Meeting in person and via Zoom 7:00 PM

Upcoming Events

May 17, 2023 - Celebrate Syttende Mai at Leif Erikson Hall - 2245 NW 57th St. Seattle, WA 98107 - 1 PM to 5 PM - Norwegian food and festive entertainment. Everyone is welcome!

May 17, 2023 - 17th of May Parade - Ballard 6 PM.

June 16 - Vesterdalen Nordic Fest 3-8 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church, Auburn, WA

July 15, 2023 - Annual Steak Fry or Salmon at Trollhau-gen. All activities start 10 am. Horseshoe & Kubb tournament.

When ordering specify whether you would like steak or salmon. Hotdog kids meal for \$5. Happy Hour (BYOB) 2:30 pm. Dinner 3:30 pm. Tickets \$30. Reservation deadline is July 7, 2023. Dinner reservations contact Bill Hicks 425-672-0194 or email Hicks1015@msn.com. For overnight reservation email Trollhau@outlook.com

August 19, 2023 - District 2 Golf Tournament, Leavenworth Golf Course, \$125 per player including golf, cart, lunch and banquet. \$30 per additional banquet plate for Guest. Lodging is on your own. Contact Laurie Berg - Laurieberg.lb@gmail.com. Deadline to register by August 1,

AUBURN VIKINGS MAY 2023 SCHEDULE				
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	HOME TEAM	VISITING TEAM
Thursday, May 04	6:00 PM	Real Life Church	Kent 1	Auburn Vikings
Saturday, May 06	10:00 AM	Sunset 2	Auburn Vikings	Chinook 1
Tuesday, May 09	6:00 PM	GSA 1	Auburn Vikings	Kent 3
Thursday, May 11	6:00 PM	Boise Creek 1	Chinook 2	Auburn Vikings
Saturday, May 13	10:00 AM	Sunset 2	Auburn Vikings	Chinook 4
Tuesday, May 16	6:00 PM	GSA 1	Auburn Vikings	Auburn Red Knights
Thursday, May 18	6:00 PM	GSA 1	Auburn Vikings	Kent 2
Saturday, May 20	1:00 PM	Ryan Brunner 3	Kent 4	Auburn Vikings
Tuesday, May 23	6:00 PM	Boise Creek 1	Chinook 3	Auburn Vikings
Thursday, May 25	6:00 PM	GSA 1	Auburn Vikings	Kent 3
Saturday, May 27	9:00 AM	Dwight Garrett East	Chinook 1	Auburn Vikings
Tuesday, May 30	6:00 PM	GSA 1	Auburn Vikings	Auburn Red Knights



Have a cup of coffee on us at May 9 Book Club!

Kari Waller has been doing a dynamite job of running our book club; Amanda, our historian, has also been a stalwart participant. Upcoming meeting: May 9, 11 AM, Maggie's on Meeker in Kent. We're reading "Where Roses Never Die" by Gunnar Staalesen. This month the lodge will cover your coffee! See you there!"

Karen T.

2023 Vesterdalen Officers

- President Vernene Scheurer 253-848-7231
president@vesterdalen.org
- VP/Membership Tom Bellerud 253-226-8011
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- Secretary Carol Larson cell 859-321-4577
larsonjw@aol.com
- Treasurer Linda Kleppe-Olson 360-825-4304
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- Financial Secy Dotty Erickson 206-356-1858
dortaerick@comcast.net
- Cultural Karen T. 206-359-1556
cafeventure@yandex.com or fotojourn@live.com

Rose Stevens - 1-800-210-0240
Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor

Member Spotlight: Clayton Naset



93-year old Clayton Naset has been a lodge member for seven or eight years, after he was encouraged to join by Sonny Bellcour and Carole Wrolstad, with whom he plays music.

A guitar player since the age of 12, for about 20 years Clayton has played with the Washington Old Time Fiddlers Association. The Fiddlers play four or five times a month for the residents at nursing homes and retirement homes (in fact, when we spoke,

Clayton was preparing for a gig that evening). Clayton uses three guitars, including an acoustic Cort, and an acoustic electric Pan.

Clayton also excels as a model shipbuilder artist: we have been lucky enough to have him participate in several different Nordic Fests (and he's agreed to participate in June!)

Additionally, his ship models are included in the collections of an array of museums: the Tacoma Maritime Museum, the Museum of History and Industry in Seattle (MOHAI), Seattle's Coast Guard Museum, Bremerton's Navy Museum (that model is now on loan to the Museum of Flight), and the Ballard Locks. All of Clayton's children and 12 grandkids have models, as well as the great-grandchildren. Wow!

Clayton started building model ships in 1969: he sends back East for the plans and buys materials from hardware stores and lumber yards. While a few ships have taken about five years to build — such as the eight-foot long aircraft carrier, the USS Nimitz. Most take about one-one and a half years.

And, in case you're wondering, while most of the models Clayton builds are modern ships, he's also built some Viking boats!

Clayton is active with the Puget Sound Shipbuilders Association; and it is through that group that several connections with museums have been forged.

Clayton hails from Minnesota, originally; he is Norwegian on both sides, with his mother's side from the Hadeland region near Oslo, and father's from Arnafjord -- a small fjord that feeds into the larger Sognefjord (Bergen area).

About the lodge, Clayton says: "It's just a friendly group of people; we all have a common interest." As well, he says the lodge is very well-run and managed. But what does he like most about Vesterdalen?

"Meeting all the members," he says. "That's the best thing — the camaraderie."

Karen T.