

# Vikingskip

www.vesterdalen.org



april 2024

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

Vol. XLI No. 4

## Hilsen Fra Presidenten



Hello Vesterdalen Lodge Members, Spring has arrived and it is getting lighter each evening – so we hope to see more of you at our monthly meetings, with more light to make it easier to drive. We have had some wonderful dinners (thank you so much to our social committee, the Nelsons) and very interesting programs (thank you, Karen). We are also gearing up for our first Nordic Fest in years – and we could use more workers to help set up, clean up, possibly help in the kitchen. Please contact Karen T. or me to let us

know you would like to help. We plan to have some fun events during the day, including a photo opportunity with props, possibly a kid's scavenger hunt, Vikings from the Bothell Lodge, a silent auction (see separate article), along with the vendors, food, demonstrations and bake sale. We hope you will attend.

I will be sending out a survey to our email membership list to determine what the lodge members may want to see in our future. Do you like the meeting day (or night)? Do you like the programs? Would you like more social time? Would you like some heritage classes? If we decided to change the meeting day, would another night work better (Friday night?) or would you prefer a Saturday morning, possibly. What has kept you from attending our meetings? Do you want to hear less business at the meetings and just read about the business items in the newsletter? Are you reading the newsletters? This is the kind of information that would be helpful to the board, as we try to rebuild attendance at our meetings. What is keeping you from attending meetings? Please respond to the emailed survey and help your board make decisions that will encourage more attendance and fellowship in the lodge.

We have an excellent board this year and they would like to hear from the general membership to help us improve our lodge. Thank you for being involved in Vesterdalen Lodge. Everyone's contribution is valued and appreciated. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting, as we will have another very interesting, and unique, program, given by Jim Larson.

Ha en god dag,

*Vernene*

## Lefse Helpers Needed!!!

Don and Kathleen Olson will be making lefse in their home for Vesterdalen's Nordic Fest. Helpers are needed! The dates are April 13 and April 18. Please call Don and Kathleen at 253-740-2033 if you are willing to help.



## Upcoming Meeting

**Monday, April 15, 2024**

Messiah Lutheran Church

410 "H" Street NE • Auburn, WA 98002

**6:00 PM Social Time - Sloppy Joes**

**Cole slaw and ice cream**

**7:00 PM Lodge Meeting**

**Jim Larson "Beer in Norway- Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow"**



Don't miss our own **Jim Larson** talk on "Beer in Norway: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" at our April meeting.

Let's talk beer! Although many of us know that beer is a particular hobby of Jim's (there have been noises made about a tasting), I'll bet you didn't know that Jim has completed two different programs of study in brewing and distilling.

Jim began with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, and then attended Chicago's Siebel Institute of Technology for the brewing sciences. He went on to study at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland, attaining a Master of Science in Brewing and Distilling. Jim's talk will touch on farmhouse brewing in Norway: "1000 years ago beers (in Norway) didn't taste like beers today," he said. "They didn't have hops in them; they were made from barley."

Because beers in Norway used regional yeasts, or kveik, beers tasted different as one moved around Norway. "Stavanger Kveik yeast probably totally different than the yeast for Kirkenes," he said.

"There are breweries out there (today) playing around with brewing these ancient beers," he said.

We have many beer lovers in the lodge; let's hear more at our April meeting!

*Karen T., Culture Chair*

## Sunshine Report

A get-well card was sent to **Sherry Fleury** who has been in the hospital. We received a call from **Pat Braaten** thanking us for a get-well card and reporting that she's looking forward to getting back to Vesterdalen meetings.

### April Birthdays:

- 1 Pat Braaten, Samantha Pitman
- 2 Nancy Sommerfield
- 3 Ruth Dahlin, Lawrence Scheurer
- 5 Kathy Meckle, William Healy
- 6 Jim Engan
- 9 Carole Wrolstad
- 10 Ruthanne Henderson, Sylvia Cavness
- 12 Sonny Bellcour, John Nyseth
- 13 David Sommerfield
- 18 Lisa Carlstrom Yagen, Zachary Jones
- 20 Sarah Thompson
- 21 Thalia Kirst
- 28 Patty Unzen
- 29 Florence Amundsen, Jorunn Ruff, Charlotte Erickson



The board voted to send special birthday cards to members on milestone birthdays 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, etc. There were two milestone birthdays in April.

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.

*Diane Fatland, Sunshine Chair*  
dianefatland@gmail.com 206-947-8776

## Kultur Hjørne

### Nordic Fest May 11

Hi! Our lodge will be putting on our first Nordic Fest since 2018 coming right up on May 11th! Nordic Fest is a great opportunity to introduce community members to the lodge! It also functions to highlight and celebrate Norwegian and Nordic culture. And, last but not least, it is a great fundraiser for our lodge!



Committee members have been working hard figuring out food, vendors, new innovations, and interesting demonstrators. We are relying on so many of you great bakers to contribute items to the ever-popular bake sale, headed up by Nancy Sommerfield. David Eidsaune will be donating/making split pea soup, and the Olsons will be donating lefse for the "Viking" dog coverings: they will be hosting three lefse-making parties at their home; so please contact them to join the party! Sande and Marv Nelson will be demonstrating riskrem and the Fatlands will be demonstrating waffler. David Eidsaune is working up a great layout. Other committee members such as Dotty Erickson have provided great guidance and photos for the press release. Amanda has designed an amazing flyer based on Andy's previous design and is hard at work sending out the flyer far and wide for publicity. Vernene has arranged for a great meatball vendor.

We have some great vendors: some returning and some brand-new. I'll bet that many of our lodge members will want to shop, themselves, for special gifts or things they just can't resist!

*Karen T.*



### Nordic Fest Bake Sale

Your baked goods are needed for our Vesterdalen Nordic Fest on May 11, 2024.

If you would like to donate goodies, please contact Nancy Sommerfield at 206-612-6389 or nsommerfield@comcast.net. Thank You!

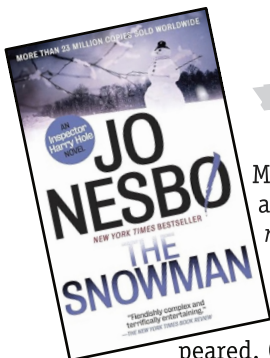
Visit the following website to find local Nordic events.

**WWW.NORDICSEATTLE.COM**

**The Scandinavian Hour**  
with Seth Tuffeland is on KKNW 1150 AM  
on Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:00 AM  
Listen anytime at:  
<https://www.thescandinavianhour.org>



## Book Club



The Sons of Norway book club will meet at Maggie's on Meeker in Kent on May 14, 2024, at 11 AM. We will be discussing *The Snowman* a novel by Norwegian crime-writer Jo Nesbo. One night, after the first snowfall of the year, a boy named Jonas wakes up and discovers that his mother has disappeared. Only one trace of her remains: a pink scarf, his Christmas gift to her, now worn by the snowman that inexplicably appeared in their yard earlier that day. Inspector Harry Hole suspects a link between the missing woman and a suspicious letter he's received. The case deepens when a pattern emerges: over the past decade, eleven women have vanished—all on the day of the first snow. With brilliantly realized characters and hair-raising suspense, international bestselling author Jo Nesbo presents his most chilling case yet.

*Kari Waller*

## Social Directors' Report

### At the Last Meeting

In March, thirty members plus 3 via Zoom and 4 guests enjoyed a delicious supper of salads of all kinds and descriptions on a beautiful early spring evening at Messiah Lutheran Church. The variety of dishes was creative and very tasty. Thanks to all those who prepared the food for our nourishment and enjoyment!

### At the Next Meeting

The supper will be provided by the lodge and it is hoped people will be encouraged to venture out and share in the company of friends and guests. And to hear what promises to be an interesting and unique program from one of our own.

### About the Door Prizes

As you realize, Vesterdalen is just now beginning to rise from the ashes of our COVID coma. Because major expenses stayed the same during our years of quiet, the treasury has become so depleted that some things have been asked to change.

Do you remember buying the chances for door prizes? Well, we have decided not to purchase door prizes any longer, but give you the opportunity to donate some things for the drawings. Not real big, perhaps small enough to put in a paper bag. People will then buy tickets for your mystery donated items and the money will go into the treasury. This will not make a big difference but it will be a positive rather than negative effect on the budget. Thank you for considering what you have that you might like to donate as door prizes. Please notify Marv or Sande Nelson before you bring your donated gifts so we have just 3 things each month. Thank you very much.

See you soon!

Social Directors Marv and Sande Nelson plus John Fatland.

## Visit Fika in Puyallup on April 6th

What is Farm 12? Farm 12 is a heritage farm in Puyallup run by a nonprofit. In their greenhouse, Farm 12 makes hanging baskets for sale. They have a restaurant, and a more informal cafe called Fika. We're meeting there on April 6th at 1:30 p.m. as Fika closes at 3.

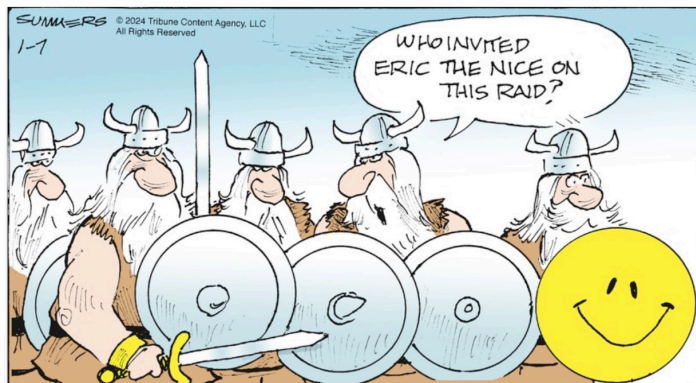


This is just for fun! Please note that there is a bit of an abrupt speed limit change right around Farm 12 and sometimes a speed trap, so make sure that you watch your signs!

Fika [www.farm12.org](http://www.farm12.org)

3303 8th Ave SE, Puyallup, WA 98372

(253) 697-9486



## Sports Director's Report



Members joined David Eidsaune on a recent walk

## Last Month's Speaker



Lori Ann Reinhall gave a great presentation about the ship *Restauration* — often called "The Norwegian Mayflower."

Lori Ann began her career as a translator, and knows several languages, including French, German, and Norwegian (from our conversation with her at the table before her presentation). After a career in high tech, she is now editor of *The Norwegian American* newspaper.

A thank you to Diane Fatland for alerting us to this great talk by Lori Ann.

In 1825 a group of 52 Norwegians left Norway for the U.S., many of them Norwegian Quakers. The *Restauration* sloop was much smaller than the *Mayflower*, and the ship was so crowded that the captain was fined when the ship finally reached New York.

The *Restauration* did make stops in Portugal and the West Indies. As the only food the pilgrims brought with them on the three-month voyage was hardtack and beer, the stops along the way probably allowed them to bring on a bigger variety of food.

Amazingly — and perhaps an indication of Norwegian sturdiness — no one died or became seriously ill on the voyage!

Lori Ann visited a replica of the *Restauration* in Norway that has been reconstructed by a group of diehard volunteers. The group plans to honor the voyage by undertaking a similar trip in the replica ship - also launching on July 4th — in 2025, the bicentennial of the voyage. The modern trip, however, will have a safety boat following it, and different shifts of sailors will take their turn on the boat. Several events — including a big party when the *Restauration* reaches New York — will occur, and perhaps our lodge can participate in events that will undoubtedly happen via the Nordic Museum.

Lori Ann also mentioned small Norwegian communities in Illinois and Texas established in part by the leader of the voyage, Cleng Peerson. Thank you, Lori Ann!

Karen T.

What's going on around here?

Check out Sons of Norway's District Two web site!

<http://sonsofnorway2.com>

## Kalender

Annual Calendar is at [www.vesterdalen.org](http://www.vesterdalen.org)

### april

- 1 Board Meeting via Zoom .....6:30 PM
- 6 Lunch at Farm12 in Puyallup.....1:30 PM
- 15 Social .....6:00 PM  
Lodge Meeting in person and via Zoom.....7:00 PM
- 20 Norway Day at Olympia Fairgrounds .. 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

### mai

- 6 Board Meeting via Zoom .....6:30 PM
- 11 **Nordic Fest**..... 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- 14 Book Club at Maggie's on Meeker .....11:00 AM
- 17 Syttende Mai Celebration in Ballard
- 20 Social .....6:00 PM  
Lodge Meeting in person and via Zoom.....7:00 PM

### juni

- 3 Board Meeting via Zoom .....6:30 PM
- 17 Social .....6:00 PM  
Lodge Meeting in person and via Zoom.....7:00 PM



## Auburn Little League Team

Vesterdalen Lodge is again looking forward to sponsoring an Auburn Little League team. The season is underway with the process of assigning players to teams. We will have more information about our team at the end of February. Teams will begin practice in March and hopefully games will start at the end of March. We will update you with schedules as soon as we learn more so you can save the dates. It's wonderful to sit out in the chilly/sunny spring weather and watch them play.

*Jim and Carol Larson*

## Little League Schedule

Come on out and cheer on our team!

Date .....	Time .....	Location
Wed. April 3 .....	6:00 PM .....	Algona
Sat. April 20.....	10:00 AM .....	YMCA 2
Wed. April 24 .....	6:00 PM .....	YMCA 2
Sat. April 27.....	10:00 AM .....	YMCA 2
Wed. May 1 .....	6:00 PM .....	Algona
Sat. May 4.....	TBD .....	TBD
Wed. May 8 .....	6:00 PM .....	YMCA 1
Sat. May 11 .....	10:00 AM .....	YMCA 2
Wed. May 15.....	6:00 PM .....	YMCA 1
Sat. May 18 .....	10:00 AM .....	Algona
Wed. May 22.....	TBD .....	TBD
Wed. May 29.....	6:00 PM .....	YMCA 1
Sat. June 1.....	12:00 PM .....	YMCA 2

Algona Field - 402 Warde Street, Algona  
YMCA Fields - 1620 Perimeter Road, Auburn

## 2024 Vesterdalen Officers

- President ..... Vernene Scheurer ..... 253-848-7231  
president@vesterdalen.org
- VP/Membership ..... Don Olson ..... 253-862-6138  
dondc@reachone.com
- Secretary ..... Nancy Sommerfield ..... 206-612-6389  
dnsommerfield@comcast.net
- Treasurer ..... Kathleen Olson ..... 253-939-0909  
Kathleenj@reachone.com
- Fin. Secretary ..... Dotty Erickson ..... 206-356-1858  
dortaerick@comcast.net
- Publicity ..... Amanda Reding..... 509-881-7639  
publicity@vesterdalen.org

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

## Silent Auction!

Vernene is heading a silent auction for Nordic Fest - Do you have something you can donate??

A silent auction is a great fundraising tool. Either items — such as a quilt, sweater, or a jewelry set — or experiences such as a trip, a plane ride, a round of golf, or a timeshare stay — are donated. A simple sheet of paper is placed next to the item, and a minimum bid set, with lines for greater bids in certain increments after.

For instance, say someone wants to donate a basket of different chocolate items. The minimum bid might be \$25 with bidding in \$10 increments. Or, for a round of golf for four with a \$100 meal at the golf course restaurant after, the minimum bid might be \$300 with bidding in \$50 increments. Silent auction items can be just about anything: at recent auctions I have attended, items have ranged from pottery to quilts to wine to dessert tastings at a local cafe to an immersion mixer. In other words, the item doesn't have to be a standard "gift," but things valued at the least, say, \$25. This is a great opportunity to give items to a good cause: the lodge!

Please note that part of the fun of a silent auction is to provide items in different price ranges so that everyone can participate. So if you'd like to donate a smaller but nice item, feel free!

In addition to lodge members donating items, do you know of a merchant who wouldn't mind donating an item?

Also, we want this to be a great community event! Do any of you live down the street from a school, a senior living facility, or any other place to put up the flyer?? Please contact Amanda for flyers you can print out and put up!

Hopefully most all lodge members can help at the Nordic Fest itself. It's going to be fun! Please contact Vernene or Karen to sign up.

*Karen T.*

