

Vikingskip



www.vesterdalen.org



oktober 2025

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

Vol. XLII No. 9

HILSEN FRA PRESIDENTEN



Happy Fall, fellow lodge members, Each year we recognize Leif Erikson Day, honoring the Norse explorer believed to be the first European to set foot on the mainland of North America.

According to the Icelandic sagas, Leif Erikson sailed west from Greenland around a thousand years ago and archaeological discoveries support these accounts. Leif Erikson day falls on October 9 not because the day marked his arrival, but because it is the anniversary of another important arrival: the Norwegian ship Restauration made it to New York on that day in 1825.

This connection ties together Leif's voyage with the later story of Norwegian settlement in the United States. Together, these milestones highlight the lasting connection between Scandinavia and America - Leif's exploration provides the first bridge between the two, while the arrival of the Restauration marks the beginning of a vibrant Norwegian-American community.

The day serves as a reminder of shared history, enduring traditions, and the cultural ties that continue to thrive across the miles and generations. This year, the Restauration replica sailed from Norway in July with plans to arrive in New York on October 9th, and Crown Prince Haakon of Norway and two Ministers from the Norwegian government will be there to welcome it.

While we aren't having an event specifically for Leif Erikson day, I hope you will join us at the October lodge meeting on Monday the 20th to celebrate community, culture, and good company.

Med vennlig hilsen,

Amanda

2026 Vesterdalen Board Positions Are Available!

Please say "YES!" when asked to fill an open position on Vesterdalen's Sons of Norway Board.

It's time to decide what leadership role each of us is going to assume next year. It is important that each of us pick up the leadership mantle at least once during our time as a member of Vesterdalen. "I have no experience" is this you? Very few of us have held office in other organizations. All are willing to answer any questions you may have.

Contact Vernene Scheurer (253-221-7059) or Marv Nelson (425-417-8382) to volunteer or ask questions.

Visit the following website to find local Nordic events

WWW.NORDICSEATTLE.COM

Upcoming Meeting

Monday, October 20, 2025

Messiah Lutheran Church

410 "H" Street NE • Auburn, WA 98002

6:00 PM Authentic Norwegian Dinner
by Tormod and Neeva Svensson.
Please bring a dessert or appetizer to contribute to the dinner.

7:00 PM Interview: Liese Greensfelder
Author of the book, "Accidental Shepherd" via video!



We are lucky to have recent members Tormod and Neeva Svensson, who generously offered to guide us in preparing an authentic Norwegian Fall meal, which will be served during our October meeting.

The planned menu is the Norwegian dish Fårikål – mutton and cabbage—along with boiled potatoes.

Accidental Shepherd: An Interview with Liese Greensfelder

A summer job turns serious when a young woman takes the reins on a remote farm—and learns far more than how to herd sheep

It's the Sons of Norway Main

Read for October. Discussions take place on Saturday October 25 at 12:00PM or Thursday October 30 at 5:00PM.

All members have the option of joining either meeting.

Interested readers should email SonsofNorwayBook-Club@gmail.com for the Zoom link. Include your lodge name and number. (Vesterdalen 2-131).

It's a very engaging book the Fatlands have enjoyed.



SUNSHINE REPORT

A Condolence card was sent to the family of **Sally Nesheim** who passed on August 25. Sally was our long-time pianist and we were grateful for her musical talent and willing volunteer spirit. A Condolence message was posted on **Patty DeCamp's** FaceBook page as she passed suddenly on September 7, 2025

October Birthdays

- 8 Barbara Olson
- 9 Jameson Warren
- 16 Beverly Winsor, Steven Gerde
- 19 Patricia Boyovich
- 23 Vernene Scheurer, Jarrett Sroka
- 24 Andy Wangstad
- 25 Neil Pitman
- 27 Marian Kerr



The board voted to send special birthday cards to members on milestone birthdays 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, etc. There were 3 milestone birthdays in October.

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

Crossings – 200th Anniversary of Norwegian Migration

2025 marks the 200th Anniversary of the first organized emigration of Norwegians to the United States. The single mast sloop, Restauration, left Stavanger on July 4, 1825, with 52 people on board. Often referred to as the "Sloopers," they arrived in New York City harbor on October 9, 1825.

Crossings Website

The Crossings website crossings.norwegianamerican.com is worth a look.

That site is linked to <https://utvandermuseet.no/2025> with even more material on the anniversary! We're hoping that the replica ship will arrive on October 9, 2025.

A Little Humor



Two Swedes and two Norwegians are traveling by train from Stockholm to Oslo. The Swedes only buy one ticket, but the Norwegians buy two. On the train, the Swedes lock themselves in the toilet. When the conductor goes by, he knocks on the door, asking for the ticket. They slip the ticket under the door, the conductor cuts it, returns it and moves on.

The Norwegians see this, and on the way back, the Norwegians buy one ticket, but the Swedes buy none.

On the train, the Norwegians lock themselves in the toilet. The Swedes soon knock on their door, ask for the ticket and the Norwegians slip it under the door. The

Swedes take the ticket, go to the next toilet and lock themselves in. Uff Da!!!

KULTUR REPORT

Link to video from LeMay's Car Museum

Erik Pihl sent the link to the video he hoped to play at Vesterdalen's September 15th meeting. The exhibition is starting on October 25th, 2025. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suFRnlFo9TQ>

Don Olson

A Little More Humor

One day Ole's wife Lena died. When Ole called the coroner he told them in a heavy Norwegian accent that they lived on Eucalyptus street. The operator (unable to understand) asked if he could spell it. Ole replied. "I'll just drag her over to "Oak"

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

At the Last Meeting

What a wonderful potluck we had at our September meeting! Lots of delicious food!! **Eric Pihl** gave a very interesting presentation about the LeMay American Car Museum in Tacoma.

There were 23 members present and four members via zoom and seven guests. Door prize winners were: **Jay Yourgliche**, **Andrea Torland**, and **Marv Nelson**. Winners of tickets to the LeMay Car Museum were **Pat Braaten** and **Chris Yourgliche** (Carol Larson's sister),

The museum tickets were donated by Eric Phil.

Upcoming Meeting

At our October 20 meeting, we are lucky to have recent members **Tormod** and **Neeva Svensson**, who generously offered to guide us in preparing an authentic Norwegian Fall meal, which will be served during our October meeting. The planned menu is the Norwegian dish Fårikål – mutton and cabbage—along with boiled potatoes. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to contribute to the dinner.

The program is a video of an interview - interesting!

Social Committee Tormod Svensson and John Fatland

What's going on around here?
Check out Sons of Norway's District 2 website
<http://www.sonsofnorway2.com>



**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 25**

**Kaffe
Stua**

at Fika coffee shop, part of Farm 12 restaurant complex in Puyallup: 1:00 pm. It is flat and very accessible for walkers, wheelchairs.

The Kaffe Stuas we've had thus far at Fika have been really fun and well-attended!

Fika is the cafe near the main restaurant. 3303 8th Ave SE, Puyallup, WA 98372 (253) 697-9486

Carol Larson for the Cultural Committee

The Scandinavian Hour

with Seth Tuffeland is on KKNW 11:50 AM on Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Listen anytime at:

<https://www.thescandinavianhour.org>



SPORTS DIRECTORS' REPORT



Oct. 26 - Take a boat trip at Seattle's Center for Wooden Boats.

A couple at my table at our September meeting brought up the Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle. It's a wonderful place. <https://www.cwb.org>. Once a month CWB has free public sails on the last Sunday of each month during which the public is invited onto boats sailed by volunteers around (primarily) Lake Union and possibly Lake Washington or Portage Bay. <https://www.cwb.org/>

It's very popular and very competitive to get a place on a boat, but a wonderful volunteer assured me that in October the Virginia V will be sailing along with other boats. As the Virginia V is larger, if we arrive by 9:30 a.m. (we should probably arrive by 9:15 a.m. just to be sure) we should get our tickets. In the interval before the boat sails around 11, there are a few casual options for coffee and food in the area.

Parking on Sundays is free at the nearby Valley lot—but it fills up quickly. I think the sailboat trip is around 1.5 hours.

Unfortunately, this probably won't be the best trip for wheelchairs and walkers as boats usually move around a bit when people embark and disembark. However, the Center itself is ADA accessible, although it is not a museum per se.

Please RSVP, as it would be nice to have a few of us there. If we don't have enough signed up we will think about another trip option.

See you on the water!

Karen T.



2026 Paulstad Classic Calendars

A limited supply of the beautiful 2026 Paulstad calendars will be available for sale starting at our General Meeting in October. Get yours before they are gone!

Call Dotty Erickson at 206-356-1858 with your credit card # and she will process your order.

Bluetooth

The name and symbol for Bluetooth are based on a Danish-Norwegian king, dubbed 'Harald Bluetooth'

He had three wives, and four children between them. One then became his heir. In other words, Bluetooth paired successfully



KALENDAR

The entire annual calendar appears at www.vesterdalen.org

Oktober

- 6 Board Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM
 9 Leif Eriksson Day
 20 Social in-person 6:00 PM
 Lodge Meeting in-person and via Zoom 7:00 PM
 25 Kaffe Stua at Fika Café 1:00 PM
 26 Boat trip - Center for Wooden Boats 9:30 AM

November

- 3 Board Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM
 17 Social in-person 6:00 PM
 Lodge Meeting in-person and via Zoom 7:00 PM
 2026 budget, officer nominations & election
 Member pin presentations
 29 Kaffe Stua at Fika Café 1:00 PM

Desember

- 1 Board Meeting via Zoom 6:30 PM
 5 **Julefest** Christmas Party 6:00 PM
This is our celebration of the holiday complete with a Norwegian Nisse & Santa. It begins with a potluck. Scandinavian desserts encouraged. See the newsletter for more details.
 27 Kaffe Stua at Fika Café 1:00 PM



October 7 - 200th Anniversary of Norwegian Immigration Celebration at PLU, Tacoma - musical performance

October 8 - Thor Heyerdahl Lecture - 7-9 PM, PLU, Tacoma

October 9 - 200 Crossings Commemoration Dinner & Program - 5:30-9:30, Leif Erikson Hall, Ballard - \$65 - buy tickets on Leiferiksonlodge.org website (under events)

October 11 - Embla Nordic Festival - 10-4 - Mountain View Lutheran Church, Edgewood WA

October 11 - Norsk Breakfast - Prep Class 8:00, Brunch 10:00, Ballard Lodge, \$25, Register at 425-485-9085

October 12 - Pancake Breakfast - 9:00 or 10:00 sittings - Norden Lodge, Tacoma - \$12

October 25 & 26 - Nordic Market - 10-4 (Sat) and 11-4 (Sun) - Leif Erikson Hall, Ballard - Food and Baked Goods, Crafts & Knits, Raffles & Silent Auction

November 1 - Bazaar and Bake Sale - 9:00-3:00, Ballard Lodge, Holiday vendors, Bake Sale and Mead Tastings

December 6 - Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner - 11:30-5:30 - Bothel Lodge, Please make your reservations at lutfisk@bothellsonsofnorway.org

Vernene, Publicity Chairperson

2025 VESTERDALEN OFFICERS

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Rose Stevens - 1-800-210-0240

Sons of Norway Financial Benefits Counselor



Visit the following website to find local Nordic events

WWW.NORDICSEATTLE.COM



"I've got it, too, Omar ... a strange feeling like we've just been going in circles."

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 provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.