

Vikingskip



www.vesterdalen.org



november 2025

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

Vol. XLII No. 10

HILSEN FRA PRESIDENTEN



Happy Fall, fellow lodge members- As Thanksgiving approaches, many of us reflect on things we're thankful for. The holiday is a nice reminder to slow down and appreciate the people and moments that make life meaningful, but gratitude doesn't belong to just one holiday or time of year - it is something that connects us across cultures and throughout the year. Many indigenous peoples in North America, have traditions that center on deep respect for the land and its inhabitants.

Gratitude is expressed not just for what nature provides, but for being part of it - a mindset of balance, reciprocity, and stewardship. In Norway, this sense of connection to the natural world is also woven into everyday life through friluftsliv, the love of being outdoors and finding peace in nature. Whether walking in the woods, hiking mountains, or simply watching the seasons change, Norwegians share that same appreciation for the rhythms of the earth.

Both cultures remind us that gratitude isn't limited to a table or a meal. It's found in the people we care about, the gifts we've been given, and how we give back in return. This shows up throughout the year in our communities as we support and appreciate one another with our words, actions, and reciprocity. Gratitude at its core is about connection - to each other and to the world around us.

Are you thankful for someone in our community? Let them know at our November meeting! I hope to see you there. Med vennlig hilsen og takknemlighet,

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, November 17, 2025

Messiah Lutheran Church

410 "H" Street NE • Auburn, WA 98002

6:00 PM Potluck

Bring foods to share such as
salads, fruits, hot dishes,
desserts

**7:00 PM Program -
Norwegian Trivia**

Join us for our November 17th Vesterdalen Lodge meeting. We are having a trivia night, a fun and games night for all of us. We can learn some new stuff and test our skills about our lodge and our Norwegian heritage.

Just to give you an idea, here goes:

What is Uff Da?

- A. An expression of surprise.
- B. An exclamation when one makes a mistake.
- C. What Ole says to Lena.
- D. All of the above.

Carol Larson

The Mission of Sons of Norway

is to provide quality insurance and financial products to our members, promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, and celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries.



*Tormod Svensson & John Fatland
dished up the Fårikål at the October meeting.*

SUNSHINE REPORT

Get well greetings were sent to **Bill Taylor** who has had hip surgery.

November Birthdays:

- 3 Shirley Olson, Joanna Antrim
- 4 John Lee
- 8 Sherry Fleury
- 13 Stephen Johnson
- 15 Karen Tofte
- 16 Odyann Sullivan
- 19 Nancy Heavey
- 21 Sharon Bersaas
- 23 Clayton Nasset
- 24 Linda Kleppe-Olson, Hannah Ronhovde
- 25 Steven Winsor
- 26 Tom Bellerud
- 27 Dianne Snell
- 29 Karen Brown
- 30 Wendy Olson



The board voted to send special birthday cards to members on milestone birthdays 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, etc. There were 2 milestone birthdays in November.

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

Need some Lutefisk?

Forgot to catch the cod or ran out of time to dry the fish and make the ashes? You can buy lutefisk for your own home:

Northern Fish 56th Street

3911 South 56th Street,
 Tacoma, WA 98409.
 Phone: (253) 471-4900
retail@northernfish.com
 Monday – Friday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
 Saturday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Sunday: Closed

ScanSelect, Inc. dba Scandinavian Specialties

Fresh lutefisk in December, frozen all year long
 6719 -15th Avenue NW
 Seattle, Washington 98117-5508
 1.877.784.7020
 206.784.7020
www.ScanSpecialties.com

January, 2026 Lutefisk Dinner in Poulsbo

Saturday, January 31, 2026. Poulsbo Lodge 2-044, Sons of Norway, is having its annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner with accompaniments white sauce, bacon and drippings, butter, potatoes, carrots, pickled beets, lefse, ice cream, krumkake, and coffee. Price: Tickets go on sale January 1 online. Seating by reservation. Come enjoy our view of beautiful Liberty Bay! Poulsbo Sons of Norway, Grieg Hall, 18991 Front Street, Poulsbo, WA 360.779.5209 www.poulsbosonsofnorway.com

Area Lutefisk Dinners on page 4 is edited by Christine Anderson, member of Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway; Norden 2-002, Sons of Norway; and Embla Lodge #2, Daughters of Norway. cmadance@earthlink.net

KULTUR REPORT



Vesterdalen's Former Viking Ship

Our former Viking ship is getting lots of use in its new life in Couer d'Alene. Its name is Selma, after the legendary lake monster from Lake Seljord in Telemark, a creature in Norwegian folklore. The lodge repainted the shields on the side and painted the picture of Selma near the front of the ship.

It has been in numerous parades and is typically used for the Couer d'Alene High School Homecoming, as their mascot is the Vikings. It is being housed at the Dave and Cindy McManus home, who are very active members in their lodge and are board members in District 2. The lodge loves the ship and is so grateful to us for the generous gift. It is nice to see it so loved and well taken care of, and being used!

Vernene

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

Preparing for Baseball - 2026

Auburn Little League team sponsorships are opening soon and we will enter our bid for a Viking team as soon as they do. At the same time, we are also preparing our application for a 2026 Sons of Norway Foundation Grant for Helping Hands to Children to cover Vesterdalen's sponsorship. Keep your eyes open for more news about our team and their schedule next year.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

At the Last Meeting

Seventeen members enjoyed the wonderful Norwegian meal cooked by **Tormod Svensson** and helper **John Fatland**. Four members were on Zoom. **Liese Greensfelder**, author of the book "Accidental Shepherd" gave a very interesting review of her book.

Upcoming Meeting

Our November 17 meeting will be a potluck. Please bring foods to share such as salads, fruits, hot dishes, or desserts.

Sally Nesheim Celebration of Life

Sally Nesheim, a LONG time member of Vesterdalen and the principal piano player for years, passed away in August. Her Celebration of Life (NOT a service) will be held:

SUNDAY, Nov 16th, from 1-3 pm. Stop by and share your memories and have a coffee and a dessert at Norden Lodge, Tacoma (15th/Martin Luther King Way).

The family would love to see whomever can come and share your thoughts about our mother.

Thank you so much.

Patty Ronhovde

questions? 253-820-6556

pattyronhovde@yahoo.com



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29

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 1150 AM on Saturdays, 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Listen anytime at:

<https://www.thescandinavianhour.org>



SPORTS DIRECTORS' REPORT

Thank you to Tormod and the Cultural and Social Committee for a fascinating October meeting with delicious food and desserts!

Sports Medals.

Congratulations to **John Nyseth** and **Dave Eidsaune**, who have both earned sports medals! More details to follow!

Walk in the Park

Sunday November 9th, noon. Walk in Nelson Nature Park, Edgewood: Join fellow lodge members on a short walk through this ADA-accessible park. A few different paths covered with wood chips wind through an urban wooded area. The paths are flat but there is one short somewhat arched bridge. Afterwards, for whomever has time to eat, there are a few good options for casual meals within a few miles of the park: Starbuck's, Longhorn Barbecue, or Acorn Brewing.

Nelson Nature Park: 2228 118th Ave E, Edgewood, WA 98372.

Please RSVP to Karen T., (see directory); we'll want at least a few of us there, so make sure you RSVP to ensure we're going!

Holiday Market

Saturday, November 15th, 11-3pm: Holiday Artisan Market at Auburn's Postmark Center for the Arts!

From Auburn Arts & Events: "White River Valley Museum and Postmark Center for the Arts are partnering in an Auburn holiday shopping experience! Find locally-made edible goods at White River Valley Museum, then hop over to Postmark Center for the Arts for unique hand-made arts and gifts. Visit both spots for an array of one-of-a-kind food and art items!

Arts and handmade items: Postmark Center for the Arts, 20 Auburn Ave | Performance by Allison Preisinger | Holiday Craft Activity | Cider & Cookies

Food and edible items: White River Valley Museum, 918 H St SE."

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2016535725749169/>

The Postmark Center is a beautifully refurbished post office within a few miles of Messiah Lutheran. Parking is in back; there is an overflow lot that the Postmark Center may use but contact me as I don't remember the name. Vendors at last year's craft fair were great! Depending on interest, we may be able to meet in at least one location and do a little shopping together. Please RSVP to Karen T., (see directory)

Karen T., Sports Director

Visit the following website to find local Nordic events

WWW.NORDICSEATTLE.COM



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.

KALENDAR

The entire annual calendar appears at www.vesterdalen.org

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
 29 Kaffe Stua at Fika Café 1:00 PM

December

- 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 next month's newsletter for more details.
 27 Kaffe Stua at Fika Café in person 1:00 PM



Saturday, November 8, 2025, 10AM-4PM: Bazaar at Trinity Lutheran Church in Parkland with vendors, artisans of handcrafted items, quilts and textiles, bakery including Scandinavian goodies, nearly new treasures, silent auction (closes at 3PM), Bistro is open for lunch from 10AM with lunch starting at 11AM. Trinity Lutheran Church, 121st and Park Ave, Parkland/Tacoma. Free admission. (I highly recommend the lunch!)

Saturday, November 8, 2025, 10AM-2PM: Bit of Norway presented by Solveig Lodge #31, Daughters of Norway. Norwegian heritage with waffle bar, bazaar items, vendors, sweaters, capes, rosemaling, bakery, and kaffestue (coffee shop) at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 19030 8th Ave S, SeaTac, WA. For more info: Carla: 206-949-9919 or Judi: 206-719-3305

Saturday, November 8-Sunday, November 9, 2025: Viking Days in Tacoma at Norden Lodge 2-002 at Normanna Hall 1106 S 15th St, Tacoma WA. Food crafts, pea soup, meat ball sundaes, tastings, dancers and of course Vikings! All veterans enjoy a food punch card for your service to our country on Sunday. More info to follow. <https://norden2.org/>

Saturday, November 8, 2025, 8AM-3PM: Mount Cross Bou-tique and Quilt Sale. Mt. Cross Lutheran Church, 8902 40th St W, University Place WA (south of Tacoma). Bake sale includes lefse and other Nordic goodies. For more info contact office@mountcrosslutheran.org Call for more info: 253.564.2200

Saturday, November 15, 2025: Nordic Sweaters and other things, exchange and sales at Scandinavian Cul-tural Center at Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Avenue S., Tacoma, WA 98447

2025 VESTERDALEN OFFICERS

President	Amanda Reding.....	509-881-7639
	president@vesterdalen.org	
VP/Membership	Don Olson	253-862-6136
	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	Vernene Scheurer	253-221-7059
	publicity@vesterdalen.org	

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

Friday-Sunday, November 21-23, 2025

Julefest, a Nordic Holiday Celebration at the National Nordic Museum, 2655 NW Market Street, Seattle, WA 98107. Julefest is modeled on an European Christmas market with a Northwest twist. Admission varies. Mem-bers and children are free. For more info: 206.789.5707 <https://www.nordicmuseum.org/julefest>

Sunday, November 30, 4PM: Julegudstjeneste: Norwegian Christmas service of Lessons and Carols with spiritual songs and scripture readings in Norwegian. A reception follows with Norwegian cookies, punch, and coffee. The event is free, open to the public, and takes place in the Scandinavian Cultural Center on the first floor of the Anderson University Center. Sponsored by the Scandinavian Cultural Center and Norwegian Program, Anderson Uni-versity Center, Room #100, Tacoma, WA 98447. PLU, 12180 Park Avenue S., Tacoma, WA 98447 <https://www.plu.edu/scancenter/>

Saturday, December 6, 2025, Bothell Lodge 2-106 Sons of Norway, Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner Five seatings, 11:30AM, 1PM, 2:30PM, 4PM, 5:30PM: served buffet style. Lutefisk, meatballs, boiled potatoes, coleslaw, lefse, ice cream, cookies for dessert. Choice of coffee, tea, or milk. Prices \$40 for adults, children 5-12 are \$12, under 5 are free! Lutefisk@BothellSonsofNorway.org or call 425.485.9085. Payment is at the door with Cash, Check, and Cards accepted. Reservations re-quired! Reservations open on October 1st and close De-cember 1st or until sold out. When you make your reser-vations, you are making a reservation for one of the 5 seatings. Bothell Sons of Norway, 23905 Bothell-Everett Highway, Bothell WA 98021.

Saturday, December 13: Jul Banquet at Scandinavian Cul-tural Center at Pacific Lutheran University, 12180 Park Avenue S., Tacoma, WA 98447. <https://www.plu.edu/scancenter/events/#nordic-christmas-fest>

Friday, December 19, 2025, 5PM-9PM: Lutefisk Dinner buffet style at the Swedish Club, 1920 Dexter Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109. Check their website for more information <https://www.swedishclubnw.org/program-calendar>.