

# The Desert Viking

Jan 2007

## Lutefisk Dinner

Feb 3, 1 - 5

**IMPORTANT** changes in tickets this year.

Instead of "come and stand in line forever", we are going to change to assigned seating times and pre-sold tickets. Later in the news letter you will find an order form. On this form, you will provide your preferred seating time, and also your second choice. You indicate how many tickets you desire, include a check AND a self addressed stamped envelope with you order form and send to the address shown on the form. In return you will get your tickets indicating when you will be eating. Then all you have to do is arrive a few minutes before your seating and you can be assured you will not have to stand in line for more than a few minutes to get a seat. No more balancing plates from the serving tables, no more "saving seats" as you come in, no more exhausted feet. Please notice the deadline for mailing in your ticket requests. If you show up at the door with no ticket, you will be told when the next time is that there are seats available, and you can then purchase tickets for that time. Tickets may cost more at the door than by mail.

We have 200 pounds of lutefisk for sale. It is in 2 ½ lb. pkgs and is frozen. Cost is \$15 per pkg. Please call Ben Borgen (783-9723).

## Directory and Hosting Committees

The new directories will be going to the printer on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January. If you want your e-mail in the directory, please be sure that Nancy has it. If you are getting a "hard copy" of this newsletter, she does NOT have a working e-mail for you. Please send a note to her at [naholter@und-alum.org](mailto:naholter@und-alum.org). If there is a specific month you do or do NOT want to be a host, please let her know, also.

## Upcoming meetings

The Feb. meeting will be Feb 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. Potluck at 6:30. Meeting will be held at the Lutheran Church. Burdette Schlosser will be giving an illustrated talk on Swedish home interiors. The March meeting will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have a presentation by the author of *BOLD SPIRIT: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk across Victorian America*.

The cultural programs for April and beyond have not yet been firmed up. If you have any suggestions, please contact Jim Schlosser (783-6263). Syttende Mai and Midsommer are both coming up, so please share your ideas or requests.

## Dues Increase

Due to increases of the International and District dues, the individual dues are going up to \$42/year. A spouse will pay \$37. The initiation fee will remain the same, at \$10.

## Community and Fraternal Activities Tracking Process

In theory, we have been collecting charitable hours throughout the year. Knowing that this may be prone to error, here is the annual request for you to get your hours figured up BEFORE the January meeting. Audrey will have to submit the yearly Lodge of the Year form in February and she needs everyone's hours to show the District what a great lodge we really are. Don't forget attending meetings counts, as does peeling potatoes for the lutefisk diner, baking for bake sales and any charitable hours you have offered the community, whether "officially" or casually.



## General Information about the Lodge

Sol Land Lodge holds a monthly meeting on the third Friday of the month. We have a potluck beginning at 6:30 PM. Guests are NOT expected to bring food, just to come and enjoy themselves. The general meeting or cultural activity begins about 7:30. We meet at the Kennewick First Lutheran, on 395 and Yelm. We have a **monthly board meeting** on the first Monday of the month at 7 PM also at First Lutheran. The current president is Erik Neilsen (371-8403), the secretary is Audrey Blegen (783-3387). They can supply you with names and phone numbers for other officers if you need them. If you wish to come to a meeting, but do not have transportation, give us a call and we can arrange it for you. If you are interested in membership, give one of us a call; we can tell you what we are all about and how to go about becoming a member

### Lodge Website

Erik Neilsen has set up a web site for our lodge. The address is [www.Sol-Land.org](http://www.Sol-Land.org). If you have ideas for him, please call Erik (371-8403).

### Other Lodge Activities

Members of the lodge gather for cards twice a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, at 7PM at the First Lutheran Church. For more information, please call Bud Sleeth (586-0097). If there is interest, we could also have board games.

### New Viking treasures found

Archaeologists have made a major discovery in Western Norway, unearthing well-preserved Viking graves from the 9th century full of riches.

The Viking treasures were found at Frøyland in Rogaland County. Local newspaper *Stavanger Aftenblad* reported Monday that items recovered from the graves indicate they belonged to wealthy Vikings of the time.

In one of the graves, belonging to a woman, archaeologists found jewellery, many pearls, glass beads, scissors, a knife and other household utensils.

The archaeologists from the Archaeological Museum in Stavanger found traces from Viking times just a half-meter below the surface at their excavation site at

Frøyland. They've found a woman's grave, a man's grave and a child's grave, which they haven't yet examined. It's believed that two more graves are lying in the vicinity.

More than 50 items from the grave, found just after New Year, have been transported to the museum, including a large bronze buckle engraved with bear heads and ducks.

Both the male and female graves include Viking boats about seven meters long, and many of the vessels' nails have been recovered. Hemdorff said the graves are believed to belong to a family from the 800s.

### BOLD SPIRIT: Helga Estby's Forgotten Walk across Victorian America



Desperate. Determined. Unwaveringly confident. In 1896, a Norwegian immigrant named Helga Estby dares to cross 3500 miles of the American continent to win a \$10,000 wager. On Foot.

A mother of eight living children, she attempts to save her family's homestead in Eastern Washington after the 1893 depression had ravaged the American economy. Fearing homelessness and family poverty, Helga responds to a wager from a mysterious sponsor, casts off the cultural corsets of Victorian femininity, and gambles her family's future by striking out with her eldest daughter to try to be the first women to travel unescorted across the country: independent, audacious, alert, and armed with a Smith-and-Wesson revolver.

Almost a century later, author Linda Hunt recreates Helga Estby's story in *Bold Spirit*: her culture and time, her abiding love of America, her heartbreaks and resilient faith, and her challenge to Victorian constraints as she lived on the transitional edge of a new century of possibilities and changing beliefs about women.

For many modern readers, an enduring question remains about what happens when stories go unspoken between us and what keeps family stories alive. Helga's is a rag-rug history, woven from discarded remnants and submerged details, a once-forgotten saga that sheds insight into women's history and demonstrates the tenacious spirit of the human will.

Author Linda Lawrence Hunt will be at our March meeting. Please come and hear her speak about this incredible woman and her journey.

# Annual Lutefisk Dinner

Sons of Norway – Sol-Land Lodge 2-086

**February 3, 2007**

**at Kennewick First Lutheran Church,  
Yelm and 395 in Kennewick**

**Time: 1 to 4:40 PM by *advanced ticket sales***

**Adults: \$15, Children under 10: \$5**

Served family style

**Seating times 1:00, 1:20, 1:40, 2:00, 2:20, 2:40,  
3:00, 3:20, 3:40, 4:00, 4:20, 4:40**

Menu: Lutefisk, meatballs, gravy, potatoes, lefsa, salad

Order tickets BY MAIL using order form.  
Mail orders no later than January 22.

## Order Form

Select seating time  
preference:

1<sup>st</sup> choice \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> choice \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets desired

Adults at \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Children at \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide phone number &  
self-addressed stamped return  
envelope

Return no later than January 22  
detach & mail to

Sons of Norway  
814 N Ely Place  
Kennewick WA 99336  
(509) 783-6263

Sons of Norway  
703 Coast  
Richland, WA 99354

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