



The Desert Viking

Message From the President

I think 2008 is off to a great start for Sol-Land lodge. I was very happy to see the great turn out at our lutefisk dinner in February. Things seemed to run more smoothly than 2007 as everyone got used to the new service style. We had some enthusiastic volunteers and all of our guests seemed to really enjoy themselves. For next year, some improvements are going to be made to the lutefisk cooking trailer and I think we can improve on getting volunteers for set up and clean up. I want to extend my appreciation to Cliff & Audrey Blegen, Max Krieter and Dick Anderson for clean up and especially to Ken & Margaret Leaf for the long hours they put in to make the dinner a success.

The rest of 2008 is shaping up to be memorable. Our cultural director, Jim Lande, has lined up some cultural programs that will be thought-provoking, educational and downright fun. Our summer picnic with the Walla Walla lodge is looks to be very exciting and our lodge's 40th anniversary celebration is in the initial planning stages.

I am also thrilled with our lodge's new youth program. We have an energetic and imaginative team putting together activities that I am sure the kids will love. If you know of someone who would like to visit our lodge and has children, or if you have children or grandchildren of your own, invite them to come to one of our meetings. With a dynamic youth program, there should be something to interest members of all ages

More importantly, getting the next generation interested in our heritage will ensure that our lodge will celebrate it's 100th anniversary!

Fraternally,

DJ Watson



**PLEASE NOTE MEETING DATE
CHANGE : MARCH 14, not MARCH 21.**

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 DJ Watson (628-3391), the secretary is Vernie Tiwater (628-9987). 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. You can also check out our lodge website at www.Sol-Land.org.





In Memoriam

Orris Otheim

Oct. 21, 1919 - Feb. 23, 2008

Orris "Orrie" A. Otheim, 88, of Kennewick was an active member of Sol-land lodge.

He was born October 21, 1919 in Westby, Montana. He met Doris Hostvedt at a dance when he was 21 and they were married on November 23, 1941 in Minot North Dakota.

Orris served in Europe during World War II.

In 1948, he and Doris moved to Kennewick, where they eventually owned Otheim's Western Auto. Retiring in 1979, they spent their winters in Arizona.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Doris and is survived by his children, Gary and Kathy Otheim, Paul and Val Otheim, Bonnie and Jeff Durham, and Eric and Kathy Otheim. He is also survived by his sister Violet and her husband Ray Saarela along with 10 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren and good friend Vi Williams.

The members of Sol-land lodge mourn the loss of our friend and will miss him.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!

March

Kari H Allen
Bernard Borgen
Don O Erickson
Sybil N Frederick
Bjorn H Fristad
Juanita Jacobs
James C Lande
Kenneth P Leaf
Serena M Tilton

April

Clifford R Blegen
Shirley M Carlson
Ernest A Copstead
Linnea J Hillesland
Celia P Kohler
Alma M Lewandowski
Joseph A Molvik
Dorothy B Schlosser
Rolf O Skorge
Norma H Winters



Sol-Land Lodge Youth Activities

If you would like to get your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or any other young friend involved in the Sons of Norway activities, inquire about our youth program. Activities will be held monthly and kids will learn about Scandinavian heritage and traditions, do arts and crafts and maybe learn a Norwegian or Swedish song or two. If you or someone you know is interested in participating, talk to D.J. Watson (628-3391) or Carrie Hallquist (628-9669), our Youth Director.





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Herring Burgers

Ingredients:

- 1 2/3 pounds fresh herring
- 7 ounces (or 1 large) boiled potato
- 3 teaspoon potato starch
- 2 cups fish stock
- margarine or butter

Clean, fillet, wash and dry the herring. Grind the fish once, then grind with the potatoes. Stir in salt and potato starch. Gradually add fish stock.
Form round burgers and fry in margarine 2 minutes per side
Serve with fried onions, browned butter and vegetables.

Norway Geography Trivia

Test how much you know about Norwegian geography (answers below):

1. Norway has the deepest lake in Europe. What is its name and where is it?
2. What is the North American equivalent of a Norwegian fylke?
3. Norway has the lowest population density in comparison to the rest of Europe. True or false?
4. In what cities are the four universities found in Norway?
5. How many thousands of lakes are there in Norway?
a. 50,000 b. 200,000 c. 450,000

1. Lake Hornindalsvatnet—1981 feet
2. Counties / provinces
3. True
4. Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim, Tromsø
5. B.



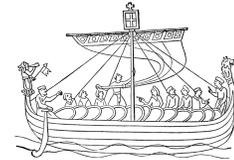
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Norwegian Word Find

K N S N Ø R Y G
J A K K E G Ø E
S V J A I U M N
E N E L L T L S
M Ø R K Ø D U E
V I F R Y S E R

See if you can find these words associated with winter in Norway:

- Snø - snow
- Kald - cold
- Mørk - dark
- Genser - sweater
- Jakke - jacket
- Lue - stocking cap
- Skjerf - scarf
- Skitur - ski trip
- Vi fryser! - we're freezing!



Looking for Host Families

Mari and Christian are Norwegian exchange looking for host families to stay with during the 2008-2009 high school year. Hosting one of these young people will provide a great opportunity for a Sons of Norway member to learn more about Norway and to share our culture with the young students.

Mari is a sixteen-year-old young woman who lives with her parents in Stord, Norway. It has been Mari's dream to attend an American high school and experience American culture living with a host family.

Christian is a sixteen-year-old young man who lives with his parents in Tonsberg, Norway. Christian hopes to learn all he can about American culture and to become more independent during his American high school experience.

Mari and Christian will arrive in August for the 2008-2009 school year and need to have host families identified in the next two or three weeks.

Any Sons of Norway member interested in hosting Mari or Christian should contact Shirley Mellick at 627-3825 for more information.





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Tidbits:

Trollhaugen

Donna Gilberry and Joe Molvik are holding a bunad/woodcarving weekend, April 4-6. The woodcarving can count toward the woodcarving cultural skills pin. The bunad class will be for any type of bunad, or blouse that Donna has patterns for, but space is limited to a total of about 9 people. Please call Donna for more information. (509-452-9790, donnamg.wa@netzero.net)

The dates for the spring adult retreat are May 2-4. Cost is \$115 if registered early, \$125 otherwise. Many people signed up during the last retreat, so space is limited. Please call Ginger Fields (734-7876), Nancy Holter (375-0919), or Doreen Parker (360-538-0572) for more info or for applications. Sol-Land lodge does provide some partial scholarships to this event. Call Ginger or Nancy for more information.

Request for Recipes

DJ Watson has requested heritage recipes for the web site. He particularly wants those that have a story associated with them. You can see examples on the lodge's website at <http://www.sol-land.org/culture/recipes.htm>

Bunad Patterns for lending

Ginger Fields has some generic bunad patterns for men, women and boys. If you wish to borrow them, please give her a call (734-7876).

The board is suggesting that the lodge pick a specific charity to support each year. A request is being made for suggested charities; board's suggestions include Habitat for Humanity, Hospice House, and Ski for Light, if members have other suggestions, please bring them to the meeting.

Lodge Picnic June 14 - "Country Fair with Scandinavian Flair"

This year Sol-land Lodge has the pleasure of hosting our annual joint picnic with the Walla Walla's Blå Fjell Lodge. It is going to be at Charbonneau Park in the large round picnic shelter at the West end of the park (directions will be forthcoming). We are going to have games, prizes and contests (and of course great food) to make the day a little more interesting. Some of the planned activities include: a pie judging contest, a bean bag toss for the kids, Bocce (lawn bowling), the Viking game of Kubb, and a joke telling contest. So, dust off your best *Ole and Lena* joke, find your best picnic pot-luck recipe and practice baking great-grandma's award-winning pie. Invite your relatives and encourage other lodge members to come. Let's make this picnic one to remember!

President	D.J. Watson
V. President	Greg Holter
Secretary	Vernie Tiwater
Treasurer	Jim Schlosser
Membership Secretary	Vernie Tiwater
Social Director	Sara Watson
Cultural Director	Jim Lande
Counselor	Nancy Holter
Editor	Nancy Holter
Foundation Director	Cliff Blegen
Publicity Director	Audrey Blegen
Youth Director	Carrie Hallquist
Sports/ Rec Director	Ken Leaf
Music Director	JoAnne Bjerke
Librarian	Lucinda Twedt
Calling Committee	Laurie Tyssen
Historian	Adah Knapstad





Cultural Skills Pins Program Easier than you think

The Sons of Norway cultural skills program consists of 14 categories of cultural skills (such as cooking, Norwegian music, hardanger embroidery, etc.), each consisting of three levels of difficulty. A cultural skills pin can be earned for completing one or more levels of a particular skill.

Our social director, Sara Watson, is organizing resources for lodge members that want to earn their Norwegian cooking cultural skill generalist pin. Participating members need to bring an authentic Norwegian dish to each of the next five heritage meetings and have 2-3 people evaluate it. Official evaluation forms and camera will be provided for the required documentation. To fulfill the other requirements, a cooking class, cookie exchange or another of the optional activities will be arranged in the near future.

Existing or planned lodge resources can be used for other Cultural Skill awards such as: *reading Norwegian authors* (a monthly book discussion club), *Figure Carving* (April 4-6; see the Tidbits article about Trollhaugen on the previous page), *Rosemaling* (setting up a class), and *Norwegian Language and Culture* (the Norwegian language class resuming in April). Members interested in the *Music and Musicians of Norway* can attend a concert of Scandinavian music on March 15 (see calendar on back of newsletter).

A lodge notebook of official brochures and hard copies of the requirements for all the pins is in the works. Members with internet access can also download them from the Sons of Norway website (www.sofn.com); they can be found in the “members only” section under “member resources”.

Members interested in earning their Norwegian cooking pin should contact Sara Watson, who will provide the evaluation forms at the potluck.

What is “GANGMERKE?”

“Gangmerke” is a walking medals program instituted by Sons of Norway to encourage sports & fitness activities for its’ members. Pins are awarded upon completion.

Instructions

- **FIRST:** choose the pin that you would like to earn.
- **SECOND:** read the Record Form to find out what your goals are for each session and record them.
- **THIRD:** have someone initial your recorded efforts.
- **FOURTH:** *when your Record Card is complete, submit it to your lodge Sports & Recreation Director.

Who Can Participate?

Members of all ages and abilities are invited to participate in this program. It promises to be a fun, challenging and rewarding experience.

How often can you earn a pin?

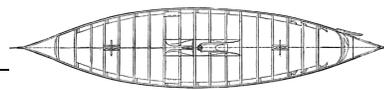
You can earn more than one pin each year, but they must be earned in consecutive order. You must first earn the bronze pin, next the silver, then the gold, and finally the enamel.

Remember, you must restart at zero every time you begin earning points for a new pin. Members must complete the requirements for each level within 365 days.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GANGMERKE

Age	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Enamel
0-14	100 mi	195 mi	292 mi	390 mi
15-39	150 mi	300 mi	450 mi	600 mi
40-54	127 mi	255 mi	382 mi	510 mi
55-69	105 mi	210 mi	315 mi	420 mi
70+	100 mi	180 mi	270 mi	360 mi

What is the difference between a canoe and a Norwegian? A canoe sometimes tips.



Upcoming Calender of Events:

March 2: 40th Anniversary of Sol-Land Lodge's formation!

March 14: Sol-land Lodge general meeting / cultural program: Greg Holter on *genealogy and looking for your roots*

First meeting of the Youth Lodge during the cultural program: "The Runaway Pancake"

March 15: "Cool Blue: Music of Scandanavia", by the Mid-Columbia Symphony (943-6602) at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick.

April 3: Norwegian Language Class 7:15, Sol-land Lodge, rm. 5

April 4-6: Bunad making / wood carving weekend – Call Donna Gilberry (509-452-9790) for info.

April 10 and April 14: Norwegian Language Class 7:15, Sol-land Lodge, rm. 5

April 18: Sol-land Lodge general meeting /cultural program: *Dramatic interpretaions of Scandinavian myths and folktales* (by Richland High School drama club)

April 21 and April 28: Norwegian Language Class 7:15, Sol-land Lodge, rm. 5

May 16: Sol-land Lodge general meeting / cultural program: Lynn Berg on *Hardanger Fiddle making*

March host, Jim Lande

April Host, Ginger Fields



Sons of Norway Sol-Land Lodge 2-086

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