



May 2008

## The Desert Viking

### Message From the President

Our annual picnic with our friends at the Walla Walla lodge is fast approaching. We have a fantastic location picked out for this year's picnic -- if you haven't been to Charbonneau park, I think you'll be pleasantly surprised. I'm looking forward to spending a sunny afternoon in this beautiful park sharing some good food, good jokes, and fun games.

I'm also looking forward to breaking out the Kubb sets and showing everyone how to play this fun outdoor game. If you've never heard of it, Kubb is a Swedish lawn game that is part horseshoes, part strategy, and a great time. Our friends have really taken to this game, and I think our lodge members will too. If there is enough enthusiasm, our social director is thinking of implimenting a Saturday night Kubb club in the park.

Finally, I'd like to encourage everyone to wear their bunads to our next meeting as it is the day before Syttende Mai. This is an important day in modern Norway, and it would be fitting to celebrate this way at our meeting. Don't miss the upcoming meeting because we will have a fascinating and engaging presentation on Hardanger fiddles and how they are made by Lynn Berg of Eugene, Oregon.

Hilsen,

DJ Watson



COOLCLIPS.COM

### Directions to Charbonneau Park from the Tri-Cities:

Take Hwy 182 to WA-12 and turn left onto 124, just past the Snake River Bridges. Travel WA-124 and take a left onto Sun Harbor Drive. Curve toward the right onto Harbor Blvd., take a left onto Charbonneau Drive and follow to the picnic shelter. (Approx. 20 miles)

### Directions to Charbonneau Park from Walla Walla:

Take 13<sup>th</sup> Ave/WA-125 north until you turn left onto WA-124. Head east to Sun Harbor Drive and follow to Harbor Blvd. Take a left onto Charbonneau Drive and follow to the picnic shelter. (Approx. 44 miles)

### 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](http://www.Sol-Land.org).





# The Desert Viking

## Sol-Land Youth Lodge

Carrie Hallquist and Kip Campbell are holding children's meetings during the regular meeting. They will be focusing primarily on children 10 and under, as that seems to be the age of children we have. They will have activities, singing, stories, etc. Don't forget that junior membership is free until the age of 16, so get your kids (and grandkids) signed up.

Did you hear.....

About the Swede who was reading the phonebook, "Svenson... Svenson.. Svenson.. It's incredible how many phones that guy has."

## MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### **Happy Birthday!**

Peter Overdahl	5/8
Trygve Tilton	5/8
Audrey Blegen	5/21
Steve Tilton	5/23
Eva Najjar	5/26
Beth Anne France	5/28
Jim Schlosser	5/29



### Wild Salmon dinner and Norwegian folk dancing performance with Symra

August 12, Tuesday, 6 PM Dinner, 7:30 PM Performance and dance

Dance following with *Symra* and local musicians

Tickets \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and under until August 9.

After August 9, tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 12 and under.

Leif Erikson Hall, 2245 NW 57<sup>th</sup>, Seattle WA 98107

Contact: Karlyn Tomta, (206) 772-4545



On August 12, at 6 PM, enjoy a wild salmon dinner with the Norwegian folkdancing group, *Symra*, at Leif Erikson Hall, 2245 NW 57<sup>th</sup> Street, Seattle WA 98107. Following the dinner is a performance by *Symra*. The event is sponsored by Leikarringen of Leif Erikson Lodge No. 1; Leif Erikson Lodge No. 1, Sons of Norway; Frontier Bank; and *Norsk Folkedans Stemne*. Proceeds benefit the educational programs of *Norsk Folkedans Stemne*. Afterwards, there is dancing for everyone. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children until August 9. After August 9 tickets prices are \$25 for adults and \$15 for children. Send a check with a self-addressed stamped envelope to *Norsk Folkedans Stemne*, PO Box 17099, Seattle WA 98127 or by calling Karlyn Tomta, (206) 772-4545. Seating is limited so make reservations early.





## Things at a Picnic

S Æ D Q C H T U T T D W Æ V B V D Å U A  
P Æ Å F S M A D E I L I G Q D O Z V R D  
O J S A T H A Y R U X C I B P N W Ø P X  
O Q L Z S H V V E N N I N N E R G K Z J  
G N I D D U P L L E M A R A K Å K E Z V  
N S H V R Z Å N U E Å Q C X Å N A T B Q  
N C K F V R O P N D C J K F I Z S S W Æ  
P Æ G Y S V E W C P O X L R Z R N E Y C  
H Y G G S Z T R E S S E D K E H G M O V  
Q V Z U S F T K M P L V Y K D I Æ M R L  
Y P P B J C A B O C L V A Æ L O V A S K  
L Ø B G Ø K A Ø J I L S D A Å G F L D Ø  
P G R Y T E R E T T N G B F E C Æ L D L  
H U H Ø M K Å K M N V Z J T Ø S V I I S  
G O L K I G U W Ø G M P B E Q Z L D E S  
D B O M P W L R G B Q D T N S Ø Z O K E  
G E H B G T G N F K T D R S I T R B Ø R  
Å V E E P L E S A F T K I E O Z E A W G  
C Q C E Æ N N A V L A R E N I M L N U H  
N C L U T R P Å H R O D C M B Y E Z E Å

AFTENS  
BLØTKAKE  
DEILIG  
DESSERT  
DRINK  
EPLESAFT  
FRUKT  
GJESTENE  
GRESSLØK  
GRYTERETT  
GRØNNSAKER  
KARAMELLPUDDING  
LAMMESTEK  
MINERALVANN  
NABO  
OST  
VENNINNER

Did you know...?

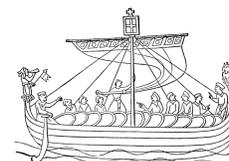
The Hardanger region grows nearly half of all fruit sold in Norway. Because of the soil there, cherries, pears and plums taste like no others in the world.

McDonald's restaurants in Norway sell a fresh salmon patty with dill sauce called McLaks®, and a soft tortilla wrap filled with fresh salmon chunks.

Facts found in *Viking for Kids Magazine*, Spring 2008.

### Recipe of the Month – Bill Berven's Kringla

- 1 stick margarine or butter
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 unbeaten egg
- 1 tsp. soda
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 C. buttermilk (not "light")
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 - 2 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 3 - 3 1/2 C. flour



Cream sugar and margarine or butter. Add egg and mix. Add soda to buttermilk and mix, then add to first 3 ingredients. Add vanilla and mix well. Sift baking powder, salt and 1/2 cup flour together, add to above mixture and mix well. Add remaining flour slowly until all flour is mixed in well. Cover and refrigerate. The kringla are more tender if mixed by hand.

I usually cool overnight, then put in freezer while preparing to bake.

When ready to bake remove a portion and roll into about 1 1/2 inches, by about 6 inches (use flour to keep from sticking if necessary). Place remainder back in freezer to keep cold. Cut off small amounts and roll into lengths about 1/4 inches by 8-10 inches and place onto baking sheet in figure eights. Do not grease baking sheet. Do not use any more flour than necessary when rolling.

Bake at 425°F. I bake for 5 minutes in middle or lower part of oven, then brown under broiler approx. 1 minute to slightly brown the top. Note: I leave the oven temp at 425°F, just switch from oven to broil. Time at bake is important to keep from browning too much.

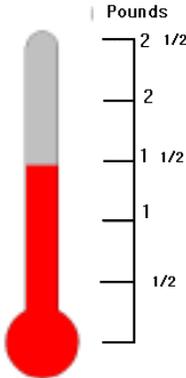




# The Desert Viking

## Tubfrim

Our lodge has set a goal of 2 1/2 lbs. of stamps collected each month through July. We collected 10 oz. of stamps at our March meeting, which brings us to 21 oz. total. Keep bringing in your stamps, and let's see if we can make our goal.



### Tidbits:

#### Heritage Retreat

Fall Adult Heritage Retreat  
Sept. 19-21, 2008  
Contact Doreen Parker @ 360-538-0572 or Chris Hicks @ 425-672-0194  
hicks1015@msn.com

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 these events.

#### 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).

#### Hiking Vikings

The "Hiking Vikings" meet at 10:30AM on Saturdays at the "Playground of Dreams" in Columbia park. <http://www.sol-land.org/hiking.htm> has a nice overhead picture with a pointer to exactly where we meet (gotta love technology!).

#### Lodge Web site

The lodge web site is: <http://www.sol-land.org/>. There are pictures from past events, recipes, a calendar of events, and other information. The site has been recently re-vamped with a new home page containing important links and a "Contact us" page with the officers' e-mail addresses.

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	Doris Olson

#### Sol-Land Lodge 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

We will be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Suggestions for when and how to celebrate would be helpful. Please contact our social chairman, Sara Watson (628-3391) if you have ideas, or are willing to help. Also, please contact Nancy Holter (375-0919 [sol.land.lodge@gmail.com](mailto:sol.land.lodge@gmail.com)) if you know of any charter members who are not still a part of the lodge, so we can contact them to invite them to participate.

A Norwegian and a Swede were at the movie theatre, and the Norwegian bet that the hero would die during the movie. The Swede didn't believe him, and they ended up betting 100 Kroner on it. When the movie was over and the hero was dead, the Swede began to give the money to the Norwegian, but the Norwegian interrupted him "I already saw the movie, so I knew he was going to die. Keep the money." The Swede replied, "oh, I also saw the movie before, but I didn't think he would be tricked twice."





## **Volunteers Needed for the Norway Project**

The objective of the Norway Project is to make all the families of Norway available in a free database. The project begins with the extraction of the "bygdeboks," to which extracted church records and extracted censuses will be added.

The books are typescript and designed with families readily recognizable and therefore extractable, so that one does not need to know how to read Norwegian. Extractors are allowed to work in areas where they have an interest, if they are able to understand the book for that area. We are asking for volunteers to extract the "bygdebøkker."

Roger Magnuson is the project manager for the Norway Project. To volunteer or for additional information on either project, contact Roger at [magnesonr@ldschurch.org](mailto:magnesonr@ldschurch.org) or toll free at 1-800-453-3860 ext. 2-5759.

## **Free membership for Nordic Heritage Museum**

Any member of Sons of Norway D2 or GL Daughters of Norway (and many other Scandinavian groups) who have NEVER been a member of the Nordic Heritage Museum may get a free one year membership. You just need to tell them which lodge you belong to. If you live in the Seattle area or plan to visit the area it is well-worth it to take advantage of this generous offer! To see what's happening there, go to <http://www.nordicmuseum.org/>.

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

**Mark your calenders for June 14<sup>th</sup> and plan to be at Charbonneau Park, east of Pasco, for our joint summer picnic with Walla Walla's Bla Fjell Lodge. The party will begin at 11am with the pot luck lunch at noon.**

### **Planned activities:**

**Pie Judging Contest – Bring your favorite pie and see if our noble judges (drafted on the spot) choose yours as the best of the best!**

**Joke Telling Contest – Share your favorite Scandinavian joke and see if it gets the loudest groans (of appreciation, of course) from the audience!**

**Games: Kubb, Bocce, bean bag toss – learn to play the viking game of Kubb, Bocce (lawn bowling) or see if you can beat the kids in the bean bag toss!**

**Bring your families and invite a friend for what will prove to be a fun time with our neighbors to the east!**

## **Baking needed for Convention**

We have been asked to provide 25 dozen cookies for the convention. These do NOT need to be Scandinavian, any type of cookie or bar is welcome. Please contact Vernie Tiwater (628-9987), Nancy Holter (375-0919) or DJ Watson (628-3391) to sign up and to set up delivery. The convention is June 18 - 22.





## On the Meaning of the Syttende Mai Celebration



Syttende Mai is Constitution Day – the Constitution that was ratified by the National Assembly at Eidsvoll in 1814, and has through some changes seen us through to today.

On May 17, 1814, the Norwegian Constitution was signed, giving Norway independence from its 500-year union with Denmark. The constitution followed the Napoleonic Wars, when a defeated Denmark ceded Norway to Sweden without

the consent of the Norwegian people. The constitution was created in Eidsvoll, Norway, by a group of Norwegian delegates with the intention of constructing an independent Norway. Sweden was displeased with Norway's actions and a war commenced.

After six months of hostility, a peace treaty was established and Norway and Sweden became separate kingdoms, with their own constitutions under the same monarch. The Norwegian people remained unhappy in this arrangement and sought full independence. Finally in 1905, all ties between Sweden and Norway were peacefully dissolved.

As a symbol the Constitution represents also two great themes, national independence and political freedom – democracy and the rights of citizenship. Norwegian patriotism of the 1800s tied these two aspects together as the idea "Norwegian freedom." Later on this concept of freedom took on new meanings, for example international peace work.

Syttende Mai is also a family day, but the difference from all other Norwegian holidays is first and foremost this: it is the only day the most important events take place out in the public space rather than in the four walls of the home. Syttende Mai has become a day for the children, even though it was not originally. The children's parades became a big success from 1870 on, and have become the most popular event on Syttende Mai. And with the children in the city center, many other things follow: ice cream, soda and sausages.

## Fun Facts About Scandinavia

1. The most popular souvenir in Sweden is the commonly seen "moose-crossing" warning sign along roads in Sweden. Swedes replace thousands of these traffic signs each year.
2. While Finland is called "The Land of the 1,000 lakes", the country has more than 188,000 lakes with 98,000 islands!
3. Now known world-wide, the inventors of Lego® toys got started in Billund, Denmark in 1932 manufacturing not Lego blocks but stepladders! Billund is now the home of Legoland Theme Park.
4. During Easter in Sweden, which is a well-known holiday here, children dress up and go from home to home asking for candy, similar to Halloween!
5. Sweden is known for innovation and inventions. It is the country that first offered the perfected zipper, the marine propeller, the fridge, the heart pace maker and even created your computer mouse. Not to forget IKEA and H&M merchandise.
6. Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, has sidewalks that are heated by geothermal heat in the winter. Maybe this takes care of snow-shoveling...
7. In Denmark, a flag is flown outside when it's someone's birthday. If you're not married when you turn 30, you will get a pepper shaker as a gift and men are called a Pepperman (in Danish: "pebersvend") while females will be a Peppermaid ("pebermø").
8. In Norway's dark winter during the Polar Nights, the sun is up for only 3 hours a day in some parts, a phenomena which affects and slows pregnancies of Norwegian women!





# The Desert Viking

---

## **Sons of Norway is excited to announce the 2008 International Folk Art Exhibition & Competition.**

As a part of the 60th Biennial Convention, Sons of Norway is inviting all members, both amateur and professional, to participate. The exhibition and competition, being held August 27-30 in San Diego, California, will highlight the talents of numerous folk artists in a number of different disciplines.

Whether a professional or just starting out, members are invited to share their work with the delegates, the International Board and convention visitors. Everyone who enters will receive a certificate of participation and a unique pin for their contribution. Ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in a variety of categories, a People's Choice award and the Best-in-Show prize for the judges' favorite overall item will be awarded.

Registration information will be available for download on the International Convention pages within the members' section of the Sons of Norway website.

Remember, members do not have to participate in a district folk art exhibit to participate in the International Folk Art Exhibition & Competition. It is open to all members. Please encourage members of your lodge to participate. Members can bring their own items to the convention, or send them with their local delegate. To guarantee a place in the event, preregistration is strongly encouraged.

Questions about the International Folk Art Exhibition & Competition?

Contact Colin Thomsen, 800-945-8851 ext 659 or [culture@sofn.com](mailto:culture@sofn.com)

### **Finland Offers the World's Weirdest Events**

#### **Wife Carrying World Championships**

Each summer, this weird event in Sonkajärvi, Finland, becomes more and more popular. The wife-carrying contest has been at a world championship level for over 13 years now.

#### **Mosquito Swatting Championships**

This is one of the weirder ones: Try swatting as many mosquitoes as you can, in 5 minutes. Can you swat 20 or 30? If not, learn from the pros at the annual Mosquito Swatting Championships in Finland.

#### **Ant-Nest Sitting Competition**

Let's sit on an ant nest! Well, if you're not quite up for that, just watch and enjoy the contestants suffer while they place their buttocks on an ant hill for as long as possible... (Various locations in Finland.)

#### **World Cup in Snowshoe Football**

Finland also has football (for USians: soccer)! No, not the regular kind, but the unique kind: Snowshow Football. Gooool! More Info

#### **Finnish Sauna World Championships**

Not quite as weird as other annual events in Finland, the Sauna World Championships test how long the competitors can tolerate a humid 110° Celsius in a Finnish sauna. A very popular annual event in Heinola, Finland, taking place each August.

Article found at: <http://goscandinavia.about.com/od/annualeventsinfinland/tp/weirdeventsfinland.01.htm>



## Upcoming Calender of Events:

**May 6, 13, 20 and 27:** Norwegian Language Class 7:15, First Lutheran Church, Room 5

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

Business will be conducted during dinner for this meeting so we can enjoy more time for our cultural program. Topics will include voting on VikingLand. Please see the March newsletter for more information on VikingLand.

**June 14:** Summer Picnic with Walla Walla Bla Fjell Lodge at Charbonneau Park – Directions on front page and at [www.sol-land.org](http://www.sol-land.org).

**June 18-22:** District 2 Convention in Spokane. Nancy Holter, Eric Neilsen and D.J. Watson, Delegates

### **Hosting duties for May and June:**

**Audrey and Cliff Blegen are the chairmen for May.** The May meeting is May 16, and we will be celebrating Syttende Mai. Those with bunads are encouraged to wear them to the meeting.

**Bud and Jacque Sleeth** are the chairmen for the June meeting, which is the picnic with Walla Walla. It will be held at Charbonneau Park, upstream of Ice Harbor Dam on June 14.

**Come to Social Hour with us!** We're encouraging a new social time before our potluck dinner meeting. Please come and visit with your friends beginning at 5:45pm. We'd love to see you there!



Sons of Norway Sol-Land Lodge 2-086

703 Coast Street

Richland, WA 99352