



September 2008

The Desert Viking

Message from the President

I'm proud of what our lodge has accomplished so far this year; we've succeeded in making the lodge more dynamic and interesting. I believe we are meeting the cultural and social needs of our members in a variety of ways and this has been due to the hard work of many of our officers. Creating an active and fun program takes imagination, enthusiasm and energy, so if you've enjoyed the events this year, thank our lodge officers for their hard work. In order to improve our cultural and social initiatives, we will be distributing a questionnaire at an upcoming meeting. This will allow you to rate what we've done as a lodge so far this year, as well as offer suggestions for what you might want to see in the future.

There are some officers who have elected not to continue a second term in spite of the board's success as a team this year. This is unfortunate, but there are a variety of reasons, which I respect. Therefore, I am asking everyone to think about serving in one of the following positions: Treasurer, Social Director, and Cultural Director. I want to increase the momentum we've achieved this year, so if you have ideas and enthusiasm for one of the positions I've mentioned, don't wait to be called by the nominating committee—talk to one of the lodge officers and volunteer for next year!

Additionally, our two fundraisers are fast approaching and require committees. The Nordic Fest committee is partially formed, but needs a chairman. The Lutefisk dinner committee needs a chairman to form a committee. I will be passing around sign up sheets at the next business meeting, so think ahead of time about

taking this opportunity. We need your help!

On another topic, the “Walk to Bergen” campaign has kicked off! If you remember, the goal is to walk, run, bike, swim or otherwise move from the Tri-Cities to Bergen in a year. You don't have to do it yourself; we'll cumulatively log lodge miles. So remember to bring your mileage sheets to the September meeting so we can tally up everyone's miles and move our marker on the progress map.

I hope to see you at this month's meeting. We will hand out some medals and awards to lodge members and our speaker, Rolf Skorge's story about his trip around the world is sure to be entertaining!

Hilsen,
D.J. Watson



Tubfrim challenge update

The lodge collected over 9 pounds of stamps for Tubfrim, or about three times what our goal was! I would like to thank all of those who contributed to this cause. But don't stop tearing off those stamps, just because the challenge was met. We will collect stamps year-round. Also used phone cards and used cell phones, and printer cartridges.

All of these items can be used by various charity groups and some will even bring money back to our lodge.





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Nominating committee looking for nominees

Nancy Holter will be in touch with most of you in the next month, as she is chairman of the nominating committee and we are in desperate need of officers who are willing to take an active part in the lodge. If you are curious to know what an officer's duties are, you can look in your directory (the red one), there is a synopsis of officer's duties in there. If you want more detail, go to the [Sons of Norway website](#), go to the members' area and look under lodge management, guides for leadership.

Holy Fermented Cod Batman!

**Lutefisk dinner is
scheduled for
February 7, 2009!**



President	D.J. Watson
V. President	Greg Holter
Secretary	Vernie Tiwater
Treasurer	Cliff Blegen
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

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 <http://www.sol-land.org/>.

September Cultural Program

Past President of Sol-Land Lodge, Rolf Skorge, will be talking about his adventure of sailing around the world in a 41-foot ketch. Skorge learned to sail while growing up in Norway.

October Cultural Program

Lodge member Marilyn Hanson will present her program on the Stave Church in Moorehead, Minnesota, which was hand-built by her cousin.





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There is one official flag-flying day in Norway this month:

- September 22 - Princess Märtha Louise's birthday (1971)

About Princess Märtha Louise:

Princess Märtha Louise was born on September 22, 1971, to the then Crown Prince Harald and Crown Princess Sonja. At birth, she was not in line to the throne, because until 1990, only males could inherit the Norwegian throne (Salic law).

In 1973, Märtha Louise was joined by a younger brother Haakon Magnus. In 1990 the Norwegian constitution was altered, granting full cognatic primogeniture to the Norwegian throne, meaning that the eldest child, regardless of gender, takes precedence in the line of succession. This change only affects those born in 1990 or later. Females born between 1971 and 1990 (i.e. only Märtha Louise), were given succession rights, but their brothers would be before them in the line of succession, meaning that Prince Haakon still took precedence over Märtha Louise in the line of succession.

After the births of her brother's two children, Ingrid and Magnus, Märtha Louise was relegated to fourth in line. The princess is also in the line of succession to the throne of each of the sixteen Commonwealth Realms, as a great great granddaughter of King Edward VII.

On May 24, 2002, Princess Märtha Louise married author Ari Behn (born 1972 as Ari Bjørshol; he later took his grandmother's name). On April 29, 2003, the princess gave birth to a daughter, Maud Angelica Behn, and on April 8, 2005 she had another daughter, Leah Isadora Behn. On March 13, 2008, it was officially announced that Märtha Louise was pregnant with a third child due in mid-October 2008.

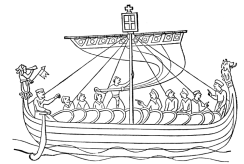
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Martha_Louise

Tidbits:

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 9:30AM 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.





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Editorial

I have been a member of this lodge for 17 years, now. There are fewer than 10 active members who have been members longer than I have.

About 10 or 12 years ago this lodge was in big trouble. It was stagnant, no growth, few activities. In fact, we cancelled the lutefisk dinner because it was “too much trouble”. Then a couple of members decided there had to be a better way and Chris Brevick took up the presidency, Greg was VP and things started to happen. They didn’t accomplish it by themselves; it took all of the active lodge members to make it happen. But this lodge has gone from a nobody to one that is recognized, not only District wide, but also at the national level as an example of how a lodge works. We have an exemplary Nordic Fest, a much anticipated Lutefisk dinner and we supply teachers and mentors to many other lodges in the area. We have had tremendous social and cultural chairmen this year; we actually have a youth group for the first time in at least 17 years. We have members working towards badges and medals, and our newsletter has drawn praise from around the district. But all of this is in jeopardy. Keeping a lodge a going concern takes lots of work, it takes time and effort. Too much effort to leave it to 2 or 3 or 4 people. Our lodge has over 100 members, but you can count on two hands the members who regularly give of their time and effort, year round, to keep the lodge functioning. We all benefit, but not all of us pay. We are losing our social and cultural chairmen and the chair of the Nordic Fest committee because they cannot get people to help and they know they are unable to do everything by themselves. Other hard working members, and important resources are leaving the lodge. If we want to continue to be a part of a great lodge, we MUST be willing to contribute to it. And it is a fact that a large load carried by 20 or 25 is much less of a burden than that same load carried by 3 or 4.

Our adult members range in age from 33 to 97, but the average age is 68. We have 16 members who are younger than 55, and 41 who are 75 or older. What the older members could do 10 – 15 years ago is not what we should be asking of them now; we ALL need to share the burden of work. I am challenging you to step up. Unfortunately, I will not be at the Sept. meeting to talk to you in person, I will be teaching at Trollhaugen. I will publicly state here, that I will take over the job of ticket manger for the Lutefisk dinner. Now, you find something that you can do for the lodge. If you feel you can’t take on an entire job, find someone who is willing to share it with you; committees are NOT made up of one person, but a group that is willing to work toward a common goal. Please make strengthening our lodge YOUR goal. If you don’t know what is needed, please talk to one of our officers, they will be more than willing to tell you what needs to be done, both immediately and throughout the coming year.

Nancy Holter

Scandinavian Heritage Festival

The Scandinavian Heritage Festival Participants, Exhibitors and Vendors are pleased to invite you for three full days of festivities with Scandinavian cultural exhibits, demonstrations, art and crafts, music, food, folk dancing and Scandinavian gift items. Each day there will be ethnic entertainment, Dancing and Singing. A festival raffle with Grand Prize of two round trip tickets to Scandinavia have been donated by SAS and SHF. Additional Scandinavian items to be raffled!! Need not be present to win. Drawing held Sunday, Oct 5th at 5:00 pm.

Dates: 10/3/2008, 11:00 AM - 10/5/2008, 7:00 PM

Location: Puyallup Fair & Event Center, 9th & Meridian,
110 9th Avenue S W, Puyallup, WA 98371 USA

Web Site:<http://oktoberfestnw.com>





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Walk to Bergen - Update:

Bring your walking logs to the September meeting so we can mark our progress map.



Here is a reminder of the rules for our Walk to Bergen challenge:

- You can use any activity that can be measured in mileage: walking, running, cycling, swimming, etc.
- If you choose to earn one of the sports medals at the same time—such as Gangmerke, Sykkelmerke or Idrettsmerke—the mileage counts for both. For instance, if you walk 2 miles in a day, you can put 2 miles on your Gangmerke mileage log *and* 2 miles toward the walk to Bergen.
- The total miles (4100) is for the whole lodge, so everyone participating need only do the best they can and we will add up *everyone's* miles and apply them to the total.

If you have any other questions please contact DJ Watson (628-3391 – president@sol-land.org)

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!

Edythe Johnson	9/2
De'Anna Reiten	9/2
Marlys Stachofsky	9/10
Karen Dodson	9/18
Anton Lodmell	9/25
Joann Lande	9/30



Nordic Fest needs a Chairman

This is a really big year because Nordic Fest is scheduled for next fall, but it must get off the ground now. And the first thing we need for that is a chairman. Yes, it is a big job, BUT maybe we can actually get a committee of 10 or 15 people who can share the work, so that the chairman will want to remain the chairman for the next cycle, too!

Then there's the story about the Norwegian who was building himself a house. One of his friends came by and asked why the heck he threw away every second nail? "They have the nail-head in the wrong end," the man replied. His friend became furious with him and shouted, "How stupid can you get? Don't you realize that those nails were made to be used on the other side of the house???"





Upcoming Events

Marilyn Hansen has offered to do a **rosemaling class** while she is here in October. The classes would be Oct. 17 and 18, with the possibility of a continuation on the 19th. Cost has not been set yet, but there is a limit of 15 students, so if you are interested, please get in touch with Jim Lande (582-0168) as soon as possible.

We are considering **cooking classes** for January. These could be used towards a cultural skills pin, or a mentor badge, if you wish. We will be making about five types of cookies and possibly lefse. Details have not been set, yet, but everyone is invited to come, so please contact Carrie Hallquist (628-9669) or Nancy Holter (375-0919) for more information or to sign up.

Barnas Norsk Klubb (Youth Club)

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.

In September we will discover who the Vikings were and why they are important to us. For October we will do a little of our own rosemaling/painting - so the kids should wear play clothes. We can put smocks on them but I would hate to ruin someone's best clothes. In November we will learn about Trolls. And in December the Nisse will visit. We look forward to seeing you there!

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Reading Circle begins September 24th!

We're finally getting underway with our reading circle! We will be focusing on Norwegian and Norwegian American authors. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 24th, at 7:00pm, at Sara and DJ Watson's house. Their address is 4195 Norris Street, Richland (628-3391). Please let them know if you plan to attend so they can have enough chairs available.

If you plan on attending the first meeting, please bring a list of books that you would like to recommend as reading selections. If you don't have any recommendations, please come anyway so you can participate in the vote for the first book selection. At this meeting we will discuss how the reading circle will work (if you have never participated in one) and where/when we will meet next. If you cannot make this meeting, please let us know and we will keep you updated so you can attend the next one! This will be very informal and fun, so please come and see what it is all about.





Recipe of the month: LEEK SOUP (Purresuppe) / Serves 6-8

3 T. butter
3 leeks, sliced
5 potatoes, medium
2 carrots, medium
1/4 cup (1/2 dl) flour
1 quart (liter) beef broth
2 egg yolks, slightly beaten
1 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
Fresh parsley, chopped



Melt the butter in a large heavy bottomed saucepan. Cut the leeks in half lengthwise and wash thoroughly. Slice. Dice the potatoes and carrots and add with the leeks to the saucepan. Cook five minutes while stirring occasionally to prevent vegetables from browning. Add flour stirring constantly; remove from heat and add broth all at once while continuing to stir. Reduce heat and let simmer until vegetables are tender. Beat egg yolks into a soup tureen. Pour soup over egg yolks, a little at a time, stirring constantly. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Sprinkle with fresh parsley. Serve at once.

A Finn, a Swede and a Norwegian found themselves deserted on a small island. A Cannibal tribe lived on the island, and they imprisoned the three men. The cannibals gave each of them a final wish. First they asked the Norwegian. The Norwegian wanted to see his wife once more. The cannibals went to find the wife. After he saw his wife, the Norwegian was eaten, and the cannibals made a canoe out of his skin. The Finn wanted to smoke one more cigarette. He got his cigarette. After he was finished, he was eaten and his skin was used to make a canoe. Then came the Swede's turn - he wanted a fork. He started to punch holes into himself, and yelled: "YOU WON'T MAKE A CANOE OUT OF ME!"

Skrinet med det rare i

Det var engang en liten gutt som gikk på en vei. Da han hadde gått et stykke, fant han et skrin. "Det er visst noe riktig rart i det skrinet," sa han ved seg selv. Men hvordan han snudde og vendte på det, var han ikke god for å få det opp; "det er nok noe riktig rart det," tenkte han.

Men da han hadde gått et stykke til, fant han en liten nøkkel. Så ble han trett og satte seg ned, og så tenkte han det skulle være moro om nøkkelen passet til skrinet, for et lite nøkkelhull var det på det. Så tok han den lille nøkkelen opp av lommen sin; først blåste han i nøkkelpipen, og så blåste han i nøkkelhullet; så satte han nøkkelen i nøkkelhullet og vred rundt; "knepp!" sa det i låsen, og da han tok i lokket, var skrinet åpent.

Men kan du gjette hva det var som lå i skrinet? - - -

Det var en kalverumpe.

Og hadde kalverumpa vært lengre, hadde eventyret vært lengre også.

The Chest With Something Rare In It

Once upon a time a little boy was walking down a road. After he had gone a piece he found a chest. "For sure there is something rare in this chest," he said to himself. But however he examined it, he found no way to open it. "That is very strange," he thought.

When he had gone on a piece he found a little key. So he stopped and sat down, and he thought it would be good if the key fit the chest, for there was a little keyhole in it. So he put the little key into his pocket. First he blew into the key's shaft. Then he blew into the keyhole. Then he put the key into the keyhole and turned it around. "Snap!" went the lock. And then he took hold of the lock, and the chest opened.

And can you guess what was in the chest? --

It was a calf's tail.

And if the calf's tail had been longer, this tale would have been longer as well.

Source: Peter Christian Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe, [Skrinet med det rare i](#), *Norske Folkeeventyr*.



Upcoming Calendar of Events:

September 19: *General Heritage meeting*, 6:30pm, Kennewick First Lutheran Church, Hwy 395 and Yelm, Kennewick

September 19-21: *Adult Heritage Retreat:* Trollhaugen – See newsletter or website for details.

September 6, 13, 20, 27: *Hiking Vikings*, 9:30am, Columbia Park near the Playground of Dreams

September 24: Reading Circle, 7pm, DJ and Sara Watson's house, 4195 Norris Street, Richland, 628-3391. All are welcome. Please come prepared with book suggestions!

October 6: *Board meeting*, 7pm, Room 5 in Kennewick First Lutheran Church, Kennewick

Hosting duties for September and October:

Ken and Margaret Leaf are the chairmen for September and **Cliff and Audrey Blegen** are the chairmen for the Oct. 17 meeting.

In November we will have a presentation on Fjord horses, and December will be the Christmas party.

In January we are hosting a pianist who will perform at Kennewick First Lutheran Church on Jan 30. We are looking for someone who can offer housing for him on the 30th and possibly on the 29th. Please call Jim Lande (582-0168) if you are able to help.

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