



SONS OF  
NORWAY

# The Desert Viking

January 2021

Sol-Land Lodge

Kennewick, WA

Happy New Year!!

Looking forward, we need to be making plans for celebrations, programs, events that we can hold once restrictions are lifted. We will need committees for Taste of Scandinavia, people who have ideas for fantastic programs, other people who can present those fantastic programs, members to plan and carry off magnificent celebrations!! Our lodge depends on the participation of all of our members, so let us hear from you.

We have acquired a few new members in the last year, one heritage member and seven adults. We can't wait until we can properly welcome them into the lodge. We also had 4 adults and a heritage member that joined in 2019, and if my memory serves, we did not welcome them officially, either. Think of the celebration we can have!! Rennae Rosenberg is our Social Director and I'm sure she'd love some help with the planning.

Don Wick has moved to Heron's Key in Gig Harbor to be closer to his family. We will miss his smile at our meetings. If you want contact information, please let me know.

While they are fresh in your mind, PLEASE turn in your volunteer hours for 2020. I recognize that we haven't had bake sales, meetings, classes, etc., but there HAVE been at least a few activities this year. Number of 'events' (how many language classes, how many days you worked on the books, etc.), how many total hours, and whether those hours were for the lodge or the community or both. I need those hours by the middle of February. ((509) 375-0919, [sol.land.lodge@gmail.com](mailto:sol.land.lodge@gmail.com))

We have a nice web page <http://www.sol-land.org/>, if you haven't checked it out, you should. We have just renewed the domain name, so we have a place for people to "find" us and see what our lodge is about. We also have a Facebook page. We post information about our lodge and others, but also items of interest we find. <https://www.facebook.com/Sons-of-Norway-Sol-Land-Lodge-2-086-960288740667762/>. If you have something to contribute, please let us know. ((509) 628-3391, [sarawatson@pobox.com](mailto:sarawatson@pobox.com), (509) 375-0919, [sol.land.lodge@gmail.com](mailto:sol.land.lodge@gmail.com)).

Even without meetings to prepare for, the board has duties year 'round. We are working on items we need to do for International: Rewriting the By-laws to include the new language, doing the Lodge of the Year forms, and completing the Audit and D-17 IRS reports.



## Groups and Classes

With the colder weather, it is harder for our groups to meet in safety. If you are interested in the Norwegian Conversation group, please contact Gretchen Makinson ((509) 943-1264, [glmakinson@aol.com](mailto:glmakinson@aol.com)) or Lisa Bartholomew ((509) 943-7690, [jbarth8924@aol.com](mailto:jbarth8924@aol.com)) for information. If you are interested in Joe Molvik's carving class, he said in December that he had room for at least one, maybe two more, please contact him for information ((509) 582-5820, [atelierjm@charter.net](mailto:atelierjm@charter.net)). The "knitting" group has not met since lock down began, but maybe when the weather gets warmer again, we will begin again. Please contact Nancy Holter ((509) 375-0919, [sol.land.lodge@gmail.com](mailto:sol.land.lodge@gmail.com)) if you would be interested.

Sol-Land Lodge holds a monthly meeting on the third Friday of the month. We have a potluck dinner beginning at 6:30pm. Guests are not expected to bring food just to come and enjoy themselves! The cultural program begins about 7:30. We meet at Kennewick First Lutheran Church on the corner of HWY 395 and Yelm. We have a board meeting on the last Monday of the month, beginning at 7:00pm, also at Kennewick First Lutheran. If you wish to come to a meeting, but do not have transportation, please contact us and we will arrange it for you. If you are interested in a 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 visit our lodge website at [www.sol-land.org](http://www.sol-land.org).



## Officers for 2020

President - Greg Holter  
 Vice President – Darlene Roberson  
 Secretary - Nancy Holter  
 Treasurer – Lucinda Twedt  
 Counselor - Virginia Fields  
 Social Director - Rennae Rosenberg  
 Cultural Director - Gretchen Makinson  
 Assistant Cultural – Ron Rolla, Joe Molvik  
 Sports Director – Lisa Barthlomew  
 Foundation Director - Nancy Holter  
 Publicity Director - Kristie Edwards  
 Editors - Sara Watson/Nancy Holter  
 Musician - Linnea Hillesland  
 Librarian – Maureen Woodward/Gretchen Makinson  
 Marshall - Brad Horst  
 Assistant Marshall - Dave Payson  
 Greeter - Donna Smitt  
 Assistant Greeter - Ginger Fields/Elaine Shepherd  
 Sunshine Comm. - Darlene Roberson  
 Scholarship Chair - Dick Nordness  
 Tubfrim Chair – Laurie Tyssen

### Zone Seminars 2021

Zone Seminars are held in 'odd' years and this is an odd year in many ways. Plans are underway at the District level to figure out the how/where/when. Please give serious thought to attending the Zone 5 seminar this year. They are a great way to meet members of other lodges, to get involved with the organization, to sort of find out what makes Sons of Norway 'tick'. If you would like some information about previous zone meetings, please contact one of the board members.

On a sadder note, we have heard that Ed Lund died in November. Ed and Doris contributed many hours to our lodge, and he loved to be a viking. He is pictured here with baby Alec Watson at Walla Walla's Nordic Heritage Day in 2012.

He will be greatly missed.



## By-laws Change

We will be sending out a copy of the new by-laws to each member in the near future, so we can hold a vote on accepting them. We have incorporated the new sections to add two items of importance. One will help our lodge ensure proper oversight with compliance issues and the other will establish guidelines for a local lodge in the event of lodge dissolution. These additions come from advice by International counsel in order to help lodges protect themselves from a legal standpoint and to provide guidance in the unlikely event of a lodge dissolution. Other than these 2 parts, which International has provided for us, there are no changes to the by-laws we just recently approved. Technically we are supposed to also read them aloud at a general meeting, but unless I hear a request for this, I think we can bypass this step. If we really need to do a read-aloud, we can set up a Zoom for it. Please let me know ASAP, so we can get these accepted and sent off. Please watch for your copy, either by email or snail mail and respond within the time given in the correspondence.

### Skiing in the PNW

Ski for Light is an organization that provides guides to allow vision- and mobility-impaired skiers to get out on the slopes. District 2 lends support to the organization, partly by giving them access to Trollhaugen during ski season (in 'normal' years, that is). D2 also provides donations to the organization. These are collected around the year, but particularly during the District convention. There was no convention in 2020. Our lodge annually provides a donation to the organization, but we are asking members who feel inclined to donate, to donate either through the parent organization's web site (<https://www.sfl.org/>) or regionally to Ski for Light PNW, Roger Young is our 'local' contact. (509-633-0981, [rvictoryoung@hotmail.com](mailto:rvictoryoung@hotmail.com)).

Speaking of skiing, D2 is having a virtual Ski Race this year. **During the month of February**, please record how many miles you cross country ski. This event is open to all ages and experience levels. Send your miles to District Two Sports Director: Laurie Berg, [Laurieberg.lb@gmail.com](mailto:Laurieberg.lb@gmail.com). Be sure to include your full name, age, and your lodge information. The cut-off date for submitting miles is **March 16<sup>th</sup>**. Awards will be given and the results will be printed in the Dynamic 2 newsletter.





## Changes to the Sports Medals Program

The beginning of the year is a great time to start (or return) to the Sports Medals program.

The Sons of Norway Sports Medal Program is a fun and engaging way to stay active while enjoying the Norwegian tradition of *friluftsliv* (*outdoor life and recreation*)! It's uniquely designed to reward healthy habits at every age, activity level and exercise preference. They have added two new medals for the overachievers in our lodges.



First, **Idrettshelt** [*ee-dretts-hellt*] –the sports hero pin– is the 5<sup>th</sup> level within any sports medal category. Members must have completed the bronze, silver, gold and enamel pins in a sport category prior to starting on the *Idrettshelt*. Earn double the point or mileage value of the **enamel** level to qualify for an *Idrettshelt* pin. Tracking cards for this medal may be requested from your lodge sports director. Record your mileage or minutes and return the card to your sports director to receive your pin.



Next is **Hederspris** [*hay-dersh-prees*], the outstanding achievement award. This pin is for members who've earned bronze, silver, gold and enamel medals in any **three** sports medal categories.

**There are programs for skiing, swimming, biking, walking, and for nearly any type of exercise. You can get more information and download your recording cards here:**

[https://www.sofn.com/member\\_resources/cultural\\_programming/sports\\_medal\\_program/levels\\_requirements/](https://www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/sports_medal_program/levels_requirements/), or contact one of the board members for help.

### Sol-Land Lodge Scholarship

The year of 2020 has been a year of cancellations of all types due to COVID-19, however not this year and not with our Lodge scholarship. The board of directors of Sol-Land Lodge #2-086 voted to continue our offering of a scholarship for the 2021 / 2022 school year. The scholarship will be awarded to a current member, relative of a current member or descendant of a charter member of Sol-Land Lodge #2-086. Relatives include, a son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, adopted child or a stepchild. The Committee will consider exceptions to the above-named relatives/descendants on an individual basis.

The scholarship is awarded based on information detailed on the application forms and is to be used for undergraduate college education or training at a technical school. The award money will be sent to the school registrar and applied to tuition only.

Lodge members and their family members may apply for the scholarship by contacting our scholarship chairman and asking for an application packet. The deadline for submittal of the application is April 15, 2021.

For more information or to request an application packet contact Richard Nordness at 509-948-2433 or by email at [rnordness@hotmail.com](mailto:rnordness@hotmail.com).

### Some interesting lodge names and their meanings

**Ivar Aasen** Over the years, there have been several lodges named for Ivar Aasen, the self-taught linguist who founded Nynorsk, the "New Norwegian" written language, based on rural dialects.

**Arne Garborg** There have also been several lodges named after Arne Garborg, an author and political activist who figured prominently in Norwegian politics in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

**Bjørgvin** (1-10) The Old Norse name for Bergen, which linguistic reformists wanted to restore, much as Christiania had been changed to Oslo.

**Heimsyn** (1-15) A Nynorsk word that describes the act of looking at or around one's new home; also, an obscure book by Ivar Aasen.

**Henrik Ibsen** There have been about 9 lodges named for Henrik Ibsen, Norway's greatest playwright.

**Leif Erikson** Every district has had at least one lodge named for Leif Erikson, the legendary Norse discoverer of America. Erikson and the Vikings were heroes to the early Norwegian immigrants, who wanted to prove to native-born Americans that they too had a claim to their new country.

**Mjølner** (2-34) Mjølner was the name of Thor's magical hammer, from Norse mythology.

## 126<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!

January 16 is the anniversary of the founding of Sons of Norway. It was started in 1895 by a group of Norwegian-Americans living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They gathered together in the midst of a terrible economic depression to create an organization for Norwegians to support one another and to maintain their ties to “the old country.”

One thing that the founding members focused on at their first meeting back in 1895 was what to name this organization.

It came down to a vote between ‘BRØDRE AV NORGE’ (Brothers of Norway) and ‘SØNNER AV NORGE’ (Sons of Norway). By a vote of 14 to 2, the name we use today won.

The name was inspired by a line from a famous song by Eskild Pedersen:

*Sønner av Norge, det eldgamle rike,  
Synger til harpens den festlige klang.*

This translates to:

*Sons of Norway, the ancient kingdom,  
Sing to the harps with festive sound.*

If you would like to watch a video about SoNs history, check this one [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v\\_eZDMuubQk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_eZDMuubQk)

sweater weather?



more like wrap-up-in-a-blanket-and-never-leave weather.

chibird



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