



Sons of Norway | Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001 | Happy Valentines Day | God Valentinsdag 2025

## Hilsen fra den nye Presidenten Anne-Lise Berger A message from our new Lodge President

There has been a lot of concern about the future of the Lodge, which has been without any leadership for the past few years. After being approached by many of our members, I felt I could not stand by and watch the lodge cease to exist, so I agreed to be your President. I have been a member for over 40 years, and the Nordic community has been my life since I came to this country in 1977. Now, it is time to give back to this wonderful community, and I will focus on making sure Leif Erikson Lodge is successful, relevant, and sustainable.

We are off to a good start. Our new board was installed last week, and we are lucky enough that several board members will stay on, some will take on a different role, and some fantastic new board members are joining us. Ken will continue to serve as Vice President, so we have all the officer positions filled.

I am excited about the coming year after deciding to take on this role. I have many ideas about programs and events, so please keep checking Vikingen, our e-news, and our website for upcoming events. I want to make sure we have a vibrant lodge and have programs that are interesting for everyone. It is especially important that we get younger people involved.

It is essential to bring in more programs about Norway today and the role Norway currently has on the world stage. This way, we can start building bridges between old Norwegian traditions and the new traditions and cultural changes that make up Norway today.

I hope to have soon a committee to work on our online presence and to make our website more user-friendly.

Our February meeting will again be focused on Dance and Romance, which can include your Valentine, be it a significant other or your children or grandchildren. More details soon, but you can look forward to an elegant evening with good music, food, and some salsa dance lessons.

To be sustainable, we must encourage young people to carry our traditions forward. The first program to that end will be in March - our Heritage month - when we will have families in our community share their Nordic values with us. It will be an interactive event, and our Honorary Consul Viggo Forde will participate in the program.

Because of all our board members and volunteers, we have sustained the lodge through COVID-19 and some challenging years without leadership. A massive Thank you goes out to everyone who made that happen. We are so lucky to have so many people who care about keeping our Lodge going, and I look forward to working with you to make the coming year a success.

Anne-Lise Berger  
President

## Membership Dinner and Meeting

"Dance of Romance"

Wednesday the 12th of February 2025

Social 5:30 PM | Dinner 6:00 PM / Program 6:45 PM

Meeting 7:00 PM

We're excited to welcome Theresa Nilsen, our treasurer, and her dance partner Gleb Makorov, to demonstrate four classic dances: Waltz, Tango, Fox Trot, and Viennese Waltz. Gleb will lead a short workshop on dance afterward, so bring good dance shoes!

**The Dinner Menu** is as follows: Risotto with prawns, sautéed vegetables, cabbage-apple salad, bread & desert: cheesecake.

**\$25.00 for dinner. Please RSVP by noon on Monday, February 10.**

Additionally, as February 6th is Sámi national day, during social hour there will be an opportunity to learn the lyrics of the Sámi national anthem in North Sámi. During the membership meeting, we will then sing the Sámi anthem with the other national anthems.

Lihkku sámi álbmotbeivviin!

Gratulerer med samanes nasjonaldag!

Happy Sámi national day!



## INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Leif Erikson Lodge acknowledges our lodge stands on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish people past and present, and honors with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish people.

# Leif Erikson Lodge Officers 2025

- President:** Anne - Lise Berger / [alberger49@gmail.com](mailto:alberger49@gmail.com)  
**Vice President:** Kenneth Bartanen / [kbarten@msn.com](mailto:kbarten@msn.com)  
**Counselor:** Vacant  
**Social Director:** Vacant  
**Secretary:** Eva Phillips / [evamariephillips@gmail.com](mailto:evamariephillips@gmail.com)  
**Asst. Secretary:** Vacant  
**Financial Secretary:** Wendy Forselius / [wforselius@yahoo.com](mailto:wforselius@yahoo.com)  
**Treasurer:** Theresa Nilsen / [pearcity@comcast.net](mailto:pearcity@comcast.net)  
**Cultural Director:** Petter-Anne Hutchings / [pa.hutchings@icloud.com](mailto:pa.hutchings@icloud.com)  
**Publicity Director:** Vacant  
**Membership Secretary:** Wendy Forselius  
[LEL.memberships@gmail.com](mailto:LEL.memberships@gmail.com)  
**Musician/Sports Dir:** Kathleen Lange / [tatter59@me.com](mailto:tatter59@me.com)  
**Foundation Director:** Jerry Thorsen - [jthorstor@gmail.com](mailto:jthorstor@gmail.com)  
**Asst. Musician:** Beth Kollé / [bethkollé@comcast.net](mailto:bethkollé@comcast.net)  
**Youth Director:** Armand Luzak / [armandluzak@gmail.com](mailto:armandluzak@gmail.com)  
**Librarians:**  
**An-Magrith Erlandsem** / [an.magrith@gmail.com](mailto:an.magrith@gmail.com)  
**Diana Malone** / [maloned10@gmail.com](mailto:maloned10@gmail.com)  
**Historian:** Christine Anderson 206-784-6181  
**LEL Educational Foundation:** Lorie Lind & Jessica Apodoca  
[leleducationalfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:leleducationalfoundation@gmail.com)  
**Sunshine Committee:**  
**NORNA**  
**Judy Gray & Chris Heins**  
**LEIKARRINGEN**  
**President Sheila Bartanen.**  
**LEIF ERIKSON BUILDING ASSOC.**  
**President Daniel Nye** / [danielnye@seanet.com](mailto:danielnye@seanet.com)  
**Trustees**  
**Gail Engler**  
**Sandra Conry**  
**Chris Varnes**  
**LERA - Norway Park Lodge Reps.**  
[LERABoard@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERABoard@NorwayPark.net)  
**LEL Lodge Rep. An-Magrith Erlandsen**  
**LEL Lodge Rep. Erik-Bjarne Witzøe**  
**LEL Lodge Rep. Doug Warne**  
**SON Lodge-Financial Benefits Counselor:** Bill Nelson / 425-784-6433



The January Installation Ceremony at Leif Erikson Lodge

## Sons of Norway Cultural Mission:

Promoting and preserving the heritage and culture of Norway and other Nordic countries. Leif Erikson Lodge is committed to complying with this mission in all that we do.

## New Phone Number, Email or Address?

Let us know! Email Wendy at [LEL.memberships@gmail.com](mailto:LEL.memberships@gmail.com). Or go to the SON website - [www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com) and update your Member profile. Please remember to forward your mail if you are gone for a longer time period. If you have a new email, contact the office at [leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net](mailto:leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net).

## Vikingen

Leif Erikson Lodge No. 2001 Sons of Norway 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 981073134 **Business Manager:** Gail Engler **Co-Editors:** An-Magrith Erlandsen and Erik Bjarne Witzøe **Phone:** 206-783-1274 **Web page:** [www.LeifEriksonLodge.org](http://www.LeifEriksonLodge.org) **Email:** [leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net](mailto:leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net) **Email:** [LEBArentals@qwestoffice.net](mailto:LEBArentals@qwestoffice.net) **Membership Meetings:** 2nd Wednesday beginning at 7:30 pm **Deadline for Vikingen** is Saturday following Membership meeting. The Vikingen has been published since 1945. Leif Erikson Lodge was founded on May 13, 1903.

You can sign up to receive the Vikingen via email. If you prefer to receive a hard copy newsletter let us know at [leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net](mailto:leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net) or call the LEL office and leave a message; 206-783-1274.

Not receiving the e-news? Sign up for e-news by emailing [leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net](mailto:leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net). This email comes out several times a month and provides an update to Lodge events and activities, as well as links to the Vikingen, renewing your membership and volunteering at the Lodge.







## Nyheter fra Norway Park!

By Erik Bjarne Witzøe

Maybe it's cold outside, yet Spring is just in the next month, and things are warming up with activities this February at Norway Park.

Sunday, the 16th of February, The Annual Stockholders Meeting will occur at Leif Erikson Lodge, doors at 11 AM. The 2025 Budget proposed By-Law modification to the Waterworks Project and its continuing progress. As a stockholder, a packet was mailed out, questions? contact Berit at 360-820-2625, or email OfficeManager@NorwayPark.net.

Are you a stockholder at Norway Park? We have three vacating LERA Board positions opening up. We seek those with much pride and interest in its cultural Norwegian history and mission; we also need board members who are good consensus builders and team players. LERA Board member's terms are three years, and they are always in good standing with membership. While at the Stockholder's Meeting, you can verbally nominate your choice of candidate during the nominating process.

## Leif Erikson Recreation Association Contacts for 2024

### LERA - Norway Park

22128 State Route 9 Lot 220  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274  
(Pavilion: 24020 Pavilion Drive)

Norway Park Website: [www.norwaypark.org](http://www.norwaypark.org)  
Craig & Olga Miller [Craig@nextidea.io](mailto:Craig@nextidea.io) [Olga@nextidea.io](mailto:Olga@nextidea.io)

Caretaker: Michael Kojetinsky 360-919-3473  
Office Manager: Berit Smith OfficeManager@NorwayPark.net  
Pavilion & Bekkestua Rental: Berit Smith 360-820-2625

President: Madeline DeLia - [LERAPresident@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERAPresident@NorwayPark.net)  
Vice President: Greg Rasmussen - [LERAVicePresident@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERAVicePresident@NorwayPark.net)  
Secretary: An-Magrith Erlandsen - [LERASecretary@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERASecretary@NorwayPark.net)  
Treasurer: Arne Voie - [LERATreasurer@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERATreasurer@NorwayPark.net)  
Financial Sec: Grace Schroder - [LERAFinancialSecretary@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERAFinancialSecretary@NorwayPark.net)  
Caretaker Liaison: Tom Zabriskie - [michelle.zabriskie@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.zabriskie@gmail.com)  
Lower Beach Liaison: Linda Briggs - [Lindabriggs83@live.com](mailto:Lindabriggs83@live.com)  
LEL Lodge Rep. An-Magrith Erlandsen - [LERASecretary@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERASecretary@NorwayPark.net)  
LEL Lodge Rep. Erik-Bjarne Witzøe - [LERABOARD4@NorwayPark.net](mailto:LERABOARD4@NorwayPark.net)  
LEL Lodge Rep. Doug Warne - [dwarne3400@aol.com](mailto:dwarne3400@aol.com)

## A Message from the LERA President



Greetings, Fellow Lodge Members,

Each year, we gather at the Sons of Norway Leif Erikson Lodge No. 1 in Ballard to review our current state of affairs at Norway Park and discuss our future. Norway Park thrives after over 60 years thanks to the many unsung volunteers contributing to our well-being. When the decision was made to update our beloved Berg Pavilion, many lodge members from Seattle traveled to assist with the painting. Our board members have also dedicated many hours beyond attending our board meetings. I want to acknowledge the diligent work of our Treasurer, Arne Voie. For the past three years, Arne has worked hard to create a sustainable budget model for the Park that will support us in the future. Thank you, Arne, for your countless hours managing our finances.

This year, we will have more robust committees due to the participation of many new community stockholders. Thank you for choosing to get involved. All other stockholders should consider attending a Water Works meeting to stay updated on this group's efforts and plans. Our Safety Committee addresses many important issues, including community safety, emergency exits, and fire safety. Again, I encourage you to attend the safety meetings to stay informed and contribute.

I look forward to seeing you at our stockholders' meeting. Thank you for allowing me to serve our wonderful Norway Park community. I am grateful to everyone who wants to keep Norway Park a healthy and growing community.

Warm regards,

Madeline DeLia

LERA Board President



The January Installation Ceremony at Leif Erikson Lodge

*Velkommen til Kaffestua*



Hello from Kaffestua  
Happy Valentines Day!



We will be open all Wednesdays and Fridays in February 10am-2pm except Friday, February 7th. We are closed that day.

First Saturday Kaffestua is February 1st and  
3rd Sunday Kaffestua is February 16th.  
Same hours, 10am-2pm.

## LEIKARRINGEN LIASONS

You are invited to celebrate the **65th Anniversary of Leikarringen** on **Sunday, February 23rd from 1 to 5 pm** at our Leif Erikson Sons of Norway Lodge.

This free event will have music from the Norwegian Ladies Choir, Jakob Bean a talented young accordion player, the Six Feet Back Band and Hale Bill and the Bopps.

There will be dance performances from **Barneleikarringen** and **Leikarringen** with plenty of time for community dancing to these great music groups. There will also be opportunities to chat, review our scrapbooks and history, remember our past and continue to dance into the future. We will have lunch and enjoy delicious desserts made by our talented dancing bakers.



If you would like to join us please RSVP by February 14th to Ken Bartanen at 206-612-0053 or [kbarten@msn.com](mailto:kbarten@msn.com).

The **Welcome Ceremony for New Members**,

will take place at the members meeting on

**February 12, 2025 at 7:30 pm.**

*All new members are welcome to join!*

You may come just for the meeting, or you may make reservations for a dinner, at 6:00 pm.

(Please call the office to make a dinner reservation, \$25, by noon on Monday, February 10.)

*We hope to see you and officially welcome you into  
the Leif Erikson Lodge.*

## SPORTS

Ski races are happening!

*(but keep praying for MORE snow!!!)*

**Feb 1st at Trollhaugen** Leif Erikson Lodge is the “host” and I will need helpers on the day (prep/serve lunch, set up race, clean up) AND I could use bakers (cookies, etc) ahead of time even if you don’t want to drive up.

Usually the “race” is mid morning followed by lunch.

Cost is \$10 for the day and \$5 for lunch only.

Sno park pass info:

<https://parks.wa.gov/passes-permits/permits/sno-park-permits>

### Fly fishing!

Fly tying and practice casting is coming in February. We start with activities at the Lodge, then plan some trips to lakes.

Contact Kathleen Lange [tatter59@me.com](mailto:tatter59@me.com) for more information.



## Norsk Hilsen!



På grunn av svartedøden og reformasjonen forsvant mange stavkirker. I 1650 var det rundt 270 stavkirker igjen, og i løpet av de neste 100 år forsvant 136 av dem. I dag gjenstår bare 28 av dem.

Norges eldste stavkirke er **Urnes Stavkirke** i Luster i Sognefjordsområdet. Kirken fra rundt 1130 står på UNESCOs verdensarvliste og tilhørte en rik familie.

**Borgund Stavkirke** i Lærdal (omkring 1180), også i Sognefjordområdet, er den mest besøkte og mest fotograferte kirken. Den er også stavkirken som har vært best bevart, og det er funnet flere runeinnskrifter på kirkens vegger.



New LEL Officers being sworn in for 2025

## Vice President's Message

This last year in office has been delightful to get familiar with everyone and be more involved. It was great to participate in the Ski Races at Trollhaugen. The Heritage Day event was also fun to work in the kitchen after running in the Leif to Leif fun run. Then there was Syttende Mai, a great time dancing with Leikarringen in the parade and welcoming visitors to the lodge.

We attended the District 2 convention in Coeur d'Alene, ID, from late May to early June. Meeting other lodge members and handling business for our larger Sons of Norway organization was excellent.

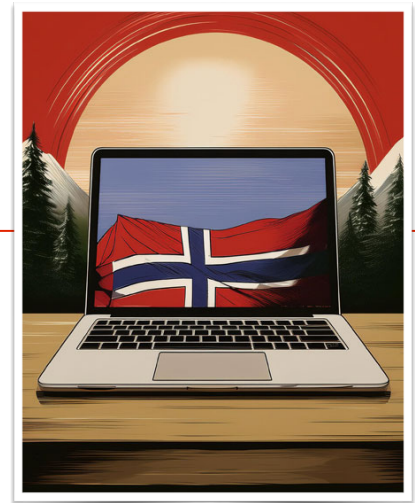
We learned and participated in remarkable changes at the larger Sons of Norway level, along with many delegates from our lodge.

We participated in the Ballard Seafood Fest, and it is always fun to help in the lodge booth set up by volunteers to showcase our Leif Erikson lodge to the many people coming to Ballard. Many members participated in the annual cleaning up of the lodge, and we got to know each other better doing this critical task.

Later in the summer, going to Norway with the Norwegian Ladies Chorus was lovely for many reasons. It also helped me learn how many people associated with the lodge trace roots to the old country. The October Bazaar offered great food and helped raise the proceeds to support our lodge. We cannot wrap up our year in review without mentioning the Crab Feed, which raised a significant amount for our scholarship funds. Sharing Julebord and the Children's Christmas party was also a joy.

This year has been a wonderful experience full of joy and fun learning more about our Norwegian culture and sharing all of this with our members. You all have made it a memorable year to cherish.

Tusen Takk!  
Ken Bartane



*Gratulerer med Dagen!*



**February Birthday Greetings**

Happy Birthday to all our members with February birthdays! Aaron A., Alexis C., Farid C., Anne C., Synnove D., Barbara D., Joanne F., Rolf G., Laura H., Linda H., John K., Darrin L., Leslie L., Laurie L-G, Lisbeth M., Marit M., Gordon N., Terry O., Ernest S., Arnie V., Linda W., David W.

**Our youngest members are**

Nellie B., Kendrick B., Liv C., Gavin D., Josiah D., Elise G., Clara H., Trent H., Lina L., Quinn R., Frances S., William W., Julia W.,

**Our senior members are**

Rosemary A., Asbjørn B., Robert J., Bill K., Elaine K., Kristine L., Desiree O., JoAnne R., Kristine R.

Our most senior member this month is Anne R.

**Gratulerer !**

We're sorry we can't list all the Birthday celebrants as there is just not enough room in our newsletter!



**Gratulerer med dagen!**



**LEL Leif 2 Leif 5 Km Run & Heritage Day**

Mark your calendar for the 22nd of March 2025, Saturday, for the annual Leif Erikson Lodge Leif 2 Leif 5 Kilometer walk and run from the lodge to Shilshoe, and later, the Norwegian Heritage Day, following the traditional queue-up of activities. Watch for more updates soon.



**The Winner is ... This Syttende Mai Pin for 2025**



On sale soon, the annual Syttende Mai pin for 2025 Designed by LEL Member Erik - Bjarne Witzøe.

**Leif Erikson Lodge Trivia Night**



**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19th 7PM  
ZOOM MEETING  
915 582 1189**

**JOIN US TO TEST YOUR NORDIC KNOWLEDGE**

**PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP SCORERS!  
GRAB A CHAIR, GRAB A DRINK, AND JOIN US!**



# Bibliotek



## "God Dag Alle Sammen!"

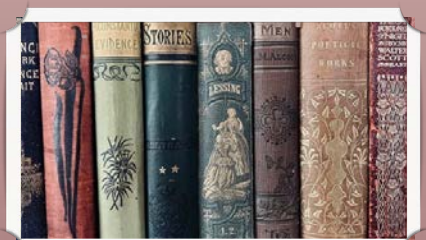
My name is Diana Malone, and I'm a new librarian for the lodge working alongside An-Magrith Erlandsen. We're very excited and have many plans for the library this year! These include beginning the cataloging of our books and making them available online, as well as expanding our collection of Norwegian language learning books and bilingual children's books.

### *The library will now have more regular opening hours.*

Starting in February, the library will be open **every Friday** from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**, the **first Saturday** of each month from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**, and before member meetings from **3:00 PM to 5:00 PM**.

*I look forward to welcoming you to the library!*

Tusen takk,  
Diana Malone



## *Fra Evelyn Elliot og Kari VanSanford*

In December we hosted LEL's annual Children's Party with Karmøy Club and Seattle-Bergen Sister City Association.

With a delicious array of Norwegian fare including open-faced sandwiches, waffles, and krumkake, there were games, accordion music, a Norwegian Christmas troll story, traditional singing and dancing around the Christmas tree, a visit from the Julenissen, a photo booth for family photos and pictures with the Julenissen, a dancing performance and lessons by the Barneleikeringen, and raffles.

We had a great turnout and a lot of fun! Many thanks to all who volunteered to make this possible and to Bernice Chouery who set the framework and ran this special event for so many years!

*Godt Nyttår og Tusen Takk for 9 wonderful years!*



### Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle



www.nlcofseattle.org  
**NEW SINGERS WELCOME**  
Rehearsals: Tuesdays 7:15 - 8:45pm  
At Leif Erikson Lodge, 2nd Floor  
Joseph To, Director  
Contact: norwegianladieschorus@gmail.com  
Renewing and preserving our Norwegian Heritage through song since 1936



TENOR / BASS  
VOICES  
JOIN THE LONGEST-  
STANDING CHORUS  
IN SEATTLE

REHEARSALS  
MONDAYS AT 7PM

LEIF ERIKSON LODGE: 2245 NW 57TH ST.  
SEATTLE, WA 98107 • WWW.SEATTEMANSKOR.ORG

### MEASURING OUR SUCCESS BY YOUR SUCCESS.



BALLARD 206.397.3110  
2244 NW 56th St., Seattle, WA 98107





# SONS of NORWAY

LEIF ERIKSON LODGE 2-001  
2245 NW 57th Street Seattle, WA  
98107-3134

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## Address Service Requested

Please notify Wendy Forselius of any changes in Name, Address, or Phone Numbers. Please also let her know of a death of a family member LELmemberships@gmail.com

## Leif Erikson Lodge Calendar February-March 2025

- 01 Feb - Sat. 2025 District 2 Ski Events at Trollhaugen (See Media)
- 05 Feb. - Wed. Leif Erikson Lodge Board Meeting at 7:00 PM - Zoom
- 08 Feb - Sat. Thorrablat, 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM National Nordic Museum  
[icelandseattle.com](http://icelandseattle.com)
- 11 Feb. - Tues. LERA Board Meeting at Bekkestua 7:00 PM
- 12 Feb. - Wed. Membership Dinner Meeting- Social 5:30 PM | Dinner 6:00 PM /  
Program 6:45 PM /Meeting 7:00 PM
- 16 Feb - Sun. LERA Stockholders Meeting at Leif Erikson Lodge, doors 11 AM
- 19 Feb. - Wed. Leif Erikson Lodge Trivia Night on Zoom 7:00 PM
- 23 Feb. - Sun. 65th Anniversary of Leikarringen from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, LEL.
- 22 Mar. - Sat. Leif Erikson Lodge, Leif 2 Leif 5 Km run and Heritage Day

Ballard Health Club Silver Sneakers class meets at LEL Mon, Wed and Friday, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM. Contact Marianne for details. [marianne@ballardhealthclub.com](mailto:marianne@ballardhealthclub.com)  
Exercise class lead by Audrey in main hall Wednesdays 11:15 AM 12:00 PM. 1st class free, \$5.00 after that. LEL Zoom information: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9155821189> Meeting ID: 915 582 1189; Dial in by Phone: 1 (253) 2158782.

Please check the LEL website, e-news and Facebook for updates to the Lodge calendar and activities. [www.leiferiksonlodge.org](http://www.leiferiksonlodge.org)  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeifEriksonLodge>

### 2025 District 2 Ski Events



Email mile submissions to:  
[alishaanunson@gmail.com](mailto:alishaanunson@gmail.com)



Yes, 2025 in-person ski race at Trollhaugen Feb. 1st.  
Registration 8:30-10.  
Race at 10:30

If you cannot make it to Trollhaugen on Feb 1st, here is another way to participate!

For the whole 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: Alisha Anunson. Be sure to include your full name, age, and the lodge that you are a member of.

The cut-off date for submitting miles is March 15<sup>th</sup>. Once all miles have been submitted, they will be tallied, and Alisha Anunson will disperse participation awards. Results will be printed in the Dynamic 2.

Miles can be tracked for all skiing, not just miles done at Trollhaugen.