

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings from your Vice President! First of all, thanks to all our many Volunteers at our Lodge Bazaar! There were a few challenges during the weekend which were overcome but it was more than a little stressful getting it all accomplished. Many thanks to the Chairperson of each area who took charge and made things happen. The preparation work beforehand also paid off. Due to unforeseen circumstances I was not able to be at the Bazaar. Christine Anderson was the only Co-Chairperson of the Bazaar who could be there. Thank you Christine. I really appreciate everyone working together to make things happen. It just goes to show how necessary and important team work is!

Lodge elections were held in November. Thank you to all our Board members who have served in 2023 and many years before that. Unfortunately we are still in dire need of a President and Vice President, not to mention a Secretary and Foundation Director. Seth Maristuen had taken on a third year as President and I have been Vice President for this past year, having served two years as President. So, essentially we have been looking for a President for two years to take over the helm. In order for our lodge to exist, we need a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. We have not had a Secretary for the past three Presidents, forcing the President to take their own minutes. Thanks to Theresa Nilsen for doing double duty as the Treasurer for both LEL and LEBA. Ideally we should have two Treasurers but, nevertheless, Theresa is taking on both organizations. Tusen takk!

I am happy to report that we have a new Cultural Director, Kathy Buholm, who is looking forward to the year ahead at the Lodge! Thank you Kathy for stepping up! And also many thanks to JoAnne Rudo for being our Cultural Director for the past six years, and the many interesting and fun programs and events she created. Tusen takk! JoAnne's last hurra is Chairing Julebord on December 9th. We hope many of you will come enjoy the festivities.

The holiday season is soon upon us. Please think of others in need at this time who may need a helping hand or simply a kind word. It doesn't cost anything to show kindness.

I wish you all a God Jul!

Gail A. Engler

Vice President



MEMBER DINNER RSVP REMINDER

A reminder to make your reservations no later than December 11th, Monday at 5:00pm. Sign the list on the bulletin board, reserve online or call the Lodge: (206) 783-1274.



Leif Erikson Lodge is selling special Norwegian calendars for 2024, just in time for the holidays. Price is \$15.00 plus \$5.00 for postage if you want it mailed to you. Mail a check, made out to LEL, Leif Erikson Lodge, ATTN: Calendars, 2245 NW 57th St., Seattle, WA 98107. Supplies are limited so order now! Email Gail at vikingeneditor@gmail.com if you wish to pur-chase a calendar. Tusen Takk!

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.

LODGE OFFICERS

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NORNA Co-Presidents - Judy Gray & Chris
Heins

LERA

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VIKINGEN

Leif Erikson Lodge No. 2-001 Sons of Norway 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 98107-3134

Business Manager: Gail Engler

Co-Editors: An-Magrith Erlandsen and Erik-Bjarne Witzøe **Phone:** (206) 783-1274 **Webpage:** www.LeifEriksonLodge.org

Email: leiferiksonlodge@qwestoffice.net **Email:** LEBArentals@qwestoffice.net

Membership Meetings: 2nd Wednesday beginning at 7:30 pm Deadline for Vikingen is Saturday following Membership meeting.

Vikingeneditor@gmail.com

The Vikingen has been published since 1945. LEL was founded on May 13, 1903



YOUTH GROUP

God Jul! It the most beautiful and festive time of the year at the Leif Erikson Lodge. I love seeing our Christmas tree and all the decorations hung around the lodge. Kari and I are both excited to help Bernice Chouery with the Children's Christmas Party this year. We have been your Co-Youth Directors for the past 8 years and have really enjoyed it. We are looking forward to 2024 and some new projects. Take a peek at our upcoming events for

December 10, 2023. The Children's Christmas Party. From 2:00-4:00 p.m. @ LEL

the next few months.

January 10, 2024. Making and signing Valentines Day Cards. From 5:30-7:30 p.m. @ LEL

February 3, 2024. Cross Country Ski Races @ Trollhaugen Lodge. From 9:00 a.m. on.

March 23, 2024. Heritage Day and the Leif to Leif 5K. From 9:00 a.m. on. @ LEL

Tusen Takk,
Your Co-Youth Directors
Evelyn and Kari
As always, if you have any questions
please call or email us.

Evelyn Elliott
Elliottevelyn@yahoo.com
Kari VanSanford
(206) 850-8212
lelyouthseattle@gmail.com



NO SECOND SATURDAY HAPPY HOUR AT THE LODGE

We have had fun for the fall versions of the the Lodge Happy Hour. There was food, conversation, raffles and it all happened because of the volunteers who put it on.

Because the Lodge Christmas Party is scheduled for Dec. 9th, there is no December Happy Hour. Come join in to the Dec. 9th Julefest.

The next Happy Hour will be second Saturday of January which is the 13th with more of the same we have come to enjoy. Join in and bring a snack or two for the buffet and \$5 for food and two drinks. The time is set from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

No reservations needed; just show up and help the mood get Happy. Meet your fellow Lodge members and the friends they invite to see our beautiful Lodge.

LIBRARY NEWS

Happy December everyone! I'm putting together a regular schedule of library hours for 2024, which I hope to have finalized by next month. If you're curious about what kinds of books are in the library, feel free to stop by or reach out to me to set up an appointment.

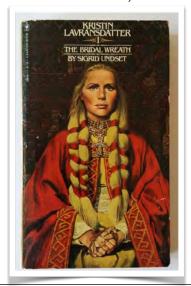
In the meantime the library is usually open during Kaffestua every First Friday of the month. The next date the library is open will be **January 5th, 10am - 2pm**.

Now that we've arrived at the end of 2023 I am starting to put together some reading goals for myself for 2024. I suspect I'm not alone in this, but I have many books at home that I have had for many years and never read. I'm hoping to read some of these books next year and then pass them along. One such book that I have is the **Kristin** Lavransdatter trilogy by Sigrid Undset. These books have been recommended to me numerous times and I've even found them at book sales (including our own Bazaar) and I've never managed to start reading. That is my personal reading goal for 2024.

Please let me know if you are also reading a book in this trilogy. I hope you have time to set aside a reading goal for 2024 for yourself, and please let me know if the Lodge Library can be helpful to you and your goal!

Next year I will be joined by An-Magrith Erlandsen as co-librarian. I'm excited to have her expertise, and I'm looking forward to another set of hands at the library. Look for a future Vikingen issue where she'll introduce herself.

Ariane Westin-McCaw, LEL Librarian



JULEBORD 2023

Saturday, December 9 | Leif Erikson Hall Appetizers 5:00 PM Dinner 6:00 PM

December is a dark time in Seattle and even darker in most of Norway. Colorful lights, the glow of candles, the smell of a freshly cut Christmas tree, gatherings with friends and family along with traditional holiday food are all an antidote to the winter and darkness that stretches ahead.

A most delightful way to celebrate the season is with the lodge's traditional Norwegian Julebord which is filled with an array of delicious food. There will be appetizers, many main dishes and for dessert, the classic rice pudding will be served along with hopes of finding the almond that provides luck to the winner and a coveted prize! For those who are vegetarians, there will be many choices on the table.

Four talented musicians from Fire Musikanter, will play traditional Nordic tunes along with beloved Christmas classics. Once the calories are a bit settled, we will dance around the Christmas tree. Expect some traditional Norwegian drinking songs throughout the evening and a reading of the well-loved, "The Night Before Christmas."

The bar will have upscale wines, craft beers, hard cider, aquavit, and soft drinks. There will also be a silent auction featuring some lovely items: Holiday baskets, restaurant certifi-cates, handmade Christmas decorations, kranskake, beautiful hand knitted child's sweater (Norwegian, of course) smørbrøds, and more. The silent auction will be a great place to do some of your Christmas shopping while helping the lodge. There is a good chance that you will be able to park in the bank's lot, next to the lodge.

Our traditional Norwegian Julebord is partially supported by the Ethnic Heritage Council which promotes and encourages ethnic culture and recognizes the value of our annual Julebord.

It is time to celebrate lightness rather than darkness! Come to the lodge's Julebord! Make your reservations by mailing your check for \$60 for adults and \$20 for children (under twelve) to Leif Erikson Lodge, 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 98107-3134 No fee or you may charge at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/6156308 Last day for registration is December 6, 2023.

God Jul!

JoAnne Hardt Rudo

Cultural Director



WOODCARVING CLASS

TRADITIONAL SCANDINAVIAN WOODCARVING WITH MARK OLSEN



Starting Wednesday, December 6th

December 6, 13, 20, 2023, 10:30AM-1:30PM

Traditional Scandinavian Woodcarving class at Leif Erikson Lodge Beginning Woodcarving

In this introductory class we will cover European-styled carving chisels and gouges, learn important carving techniques with wood and basic tool sharpening. The project design is a "Fleur-de-lis", a symbol used for centuries throughout Europe. This style of carving is called "Dølaskurd" and typical for Gudbrandsdalen. A basic set of tools is available to use in the class. The wood material is included in the class fee. Three class sessions, 3 hours per session / 9 hours total, \$125.00 plus \$25 material fee = \$150 total. To reserve your space call 206-330-5068. or email markcolsen55@ya-hoo. com



Cultural tour group to Pac Fish shipyard Nov. 17th

BAZAAR WINNERS!

Big Ticket Raffle:

1st Prize of \$1500 donated by Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001: Erik Johnston

2nd Prize donated by Seattle Symphony Tickets and Hotel Andra Stay, Value \$500: Sandra Conry

3rd Prize \$300 gift certificate donated by Scandinavian Specialties: Astrid King

4th Prize \$100 gift certificate donate by Skal Beer Hall: Tani Stenfjord

Center Table winners:

Decorated Christmas Tree donated by Leikarringen: Kristy Lunde

Norwegian Baking Basket donated by Leif Erikson Lodge Bazaar: Arlene Rand

Kransekake donated by Nancy Hiraoka: Peggy Yost Lefse making starter kit donated by Judi Jager: Heidi Buser

Wine therapy basket donated by Norna Ladies: Karen Torelli

Montana basket donated by Past Presidents Seth Maristuen and Gail Engler: Elisa Aarvik

Christmas / Jul basket donated by the Norwegian Ladies Chorus: Lisa

Gift certifcates for Happy Hour, Patty's Egg Nest, Kaffestua, Brown Bear car wash tickets donated by Doug Warne, Kaffestua, Leif Erikson Lodge: Yerkel Wine basket donated by Leif Erikson Building Associa-

tion: Martin Borve

Hair and personal care basket donated by Gail Engler: Joan

Crab feed dinner tickets donated by Leif Erikson Lodge Educational Foundation: Peggy Yost

Basket of Sweets donated by Norway Park/Leif Erikson Recreation Assocation: Noel Wannebo



DONATIONS: Thank you to Carol Smith, Christine Anderson and Sandy Conry for donating money towards the carpet cleaning. Thank you to Gail Engler and LEBA for paying the invoice of two piano tunings.

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM KAFFE STUA!



December 2023 Dates

We will be open Wednesdays,
December 6th & 13th
Also Fridays, December 1st, 8th, and 15th
Our hours are 10am-2pm

We are closed the rest of December for the holidays
There is NO first Saturday Kaffestua

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday Dec. 13, 2023 5:30 Social, Dinner 6:00 Program 6:45

Norwegian Ladies Choir Mini-Concert

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in the lodge! Come to our last membership meeting of 2023 and celebrate the season with your friends and lodge members. Traditional Norwegian holiday songs and classical Christmas tunes will be presented by the Norwegian Ladies Choir! After the choir's mini-concert, we will have the traditional parade around the Christmas tree.

Chef Malin has planned a most delicious dinner: Fish Chowder with saffron and dill served with bread/butter, salad and for dessert—Chocolate cake with cinnamon and cardamon ganache topped with fresh whipped cream.

Where else will you be able to find joyful live music, holiday merriment, comradery and a great dinner all for \$22.00? Remember to make your reservations by Monday, December 11. Sign-up on the bulletin board, online or call the office at (206) 783-1274.

I have been the Cultural Director for the last seven years or so and this will be my last time of arranging the Membership Dinner Programs. It has been a most enjoyable journey meeting the various people who provided interesting, fun and sometimes. thought provoking programs for our meetings. most rewarding part of serving as the Cultural Director, has been the gift of getting to know the incredible members of Leif Erikson Lodge. Thank you However, the most rewarding part of serving as the Cultural Director, has been the gift of getting to know the incredible members of Leif Erikson Lodge. Thank you!

JoAnne Hardt Rudo, Cultural Director

LEIKARRINGEN LIAISONS

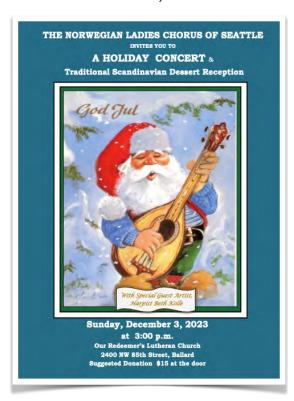
The big event for us and the Lodge is the annual **Bazaar** this past October. We all had such fun and enjoyment at this event, and were glad to donate time and energy to help make this a success.

I am so proud to say that all of our **Leikarringen** members contributed to the Bazaar. We contributed in the following ways:

The craft committee spent hours making Nordic ornaments and Christmas decorations. Those members who were out of town made things on their own ahead of time, others store the items at their home. The day of the event we were at the lodge selling the decorations, doing dishes, bussing tables, helping wherever needed; in addition to doing dishes (with special heroics on Saturday when the dishwasher was not working well) we made **Rømmegrøt**, heated the pea soup, kept the cooked food hot, and kept both chaffing dishes full of both items. We helped in any number of ways that came up in the kitchen as part of that crew, and helped support the serving staff keeping the tables stocked with food, with the coffee and tea going as well. We also worked to find a home for all the food, either eating at the event, taking home, end of day sales, and some even went to Kaffestua. The important thing is nothing was wasted and everything was enjoyed by all. Several members added muscle and were part of the set up with table decorating and take down crews. I had the privilege to be part of the planning committee.

Tusen Takk to everyone! It is our joy to be an integral part of the lodge, and to help at lodge events. We are so grateful to have such a fantastic place to practice!

Sheila Bartanen, President



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VIKINGEN DECEMBER 2023

BJARNE COLLECTS FOR BALLARD FOOD BANK!

Our own **Troll** has turned into a **Nisse** for the holidays! He is watching over the **Red Box** for collecting for the **Ballard Food Bank!**

On **December 13th** we will be collecting monetary and food donations for the last time in December!

https://www.ballardfoodbank.org/donation-details

Donations needed now:

1 lb and 2 lb bags of rice

Soups and chili

Peanut Butter

Individual cereals and full box cereals

8 oz. shelf stable juice boxes

Shelf stable milk boxes

Shelf-stable alternative milks

Meal in a can: chili, ravioli, spaghetti-o's

Pet food

Hygiene items (soap, shampoo, sanitizer, lotion, feminine hygiene

products, etc.)

Mac and Cheese* Granola bars'*

Individual packages of nuts or trail mix*

Single-serve instant oatmeal*

Snack size fruit cups (in their own fruit juices)*

Non-perishable, unopened cans and packages of food

Open or unopened packages of cat and dog food

Open or unopened hygiene items like shampoo and lotion.



VELKOMMEN NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members, voted on November 8, 2023:

Christina M. Greene, Don Moorehead, Petter-Anne Hutchings, Dina Malone. Affiliate Member: Ralph Federspiel

Please get to know your fellow Lodge members by joining us in the many lodge activities during the year and perhaps volunteering at an event.

IN MEMORIUM

Torstein Andreas Olsen passed away on October 28, 2023. Services were held at Philadelphia Church on November 11, 2023. Thor was born in Northern Norway and came to America at age 19. He is survived by his wife Pauline. They were regulars at Kaffestua and spent part of the year in Arizona. The Memorial will go to the Leif Erikson Lodge Educational Foundation.





As Norway Park wraps up its 60th year, the park transforms into a winter wonderland of inspiring beauty. Like a good Nordmann, you enjoy the best cup of richly dark coffee, perhaps with a freshly made heart shaped waffle, served with brunost on a frosty morning at your home or cabin in the upper park, while watching your fellow neighbors string up lights and decorating for the Christmas - Jul season.

So what is up at Norway Park? The Stockholder's Julebord in the Berg Pavilion, with Christmas tree centered in the middle for guests to enjoy while dining with a traditional Julebord spread, the tradition of caroling around the tree with English and Norwegian carols, with the aid of Video DJ Andy Jensen. Julenissen arrives with special gifts to at-tending children, after the Biblical Christmas Story. If you're a stockholder, the Julebord is the 2nd of December and must register by the 21st of November (see Nyheter Newsletter for details). Light up Norway Park, starts after Thanksgiving, The Sunshine Committee will be judging with a set of categories for residential Christmas decorating in mid December.



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!

Happy Birthday to all our members with December birthdays!

Celebrants include Keth A., Andrew B., Kathy B., Terry B., Ed-win C., Rachel E., Greta F., Susan G., Kari G., Grace G., Kailey H., Mari-Ann K. J., Einar J., Edward K., Casey M., Travis P., Fred P., Nancy S., Liv S., Silje S., James S., Sonja S., Kjersti S., Michael S., Konrad U.

Special greetings to those who turn 90-something including Randi B., Tryqve B., Harold D., Odd F., Oland H., Peter H., Irv-ing H., Phyllis M.

Our youngest members Kaia G., Elena H., Lucia J., Mikhail K., Harrison P., Teresa P., Ava R., Natalie W.,

Our most senior members for December are Randi B. and Irving H.

Gratulerer med dagen!



Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001

2245 NW 57th Street Seattle, WA 98107-3134

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

LEL CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2023 | JANUARY 2024

December 3 -Norwegian Ladies Chorus Christmas Concert, 3:00pm, Our Redeemers Lutheran Church

December 6 - LEL Board Meeting 6:00pm/White Elephant Christmas Party 6:30pm

December 9 - Julebord; 5:00pm. \$60.00. RSVP to LEL or buy tickets on Brown Paper Tickets

December 10 - Children's Jule Fest; 2:00pm-4:00pm

December 13 - Social 5:30pm; LEL Dinner, 6:00pm, Program, 6:45pm; Business Meeting-7:30pm (RSVP for dinner by Dec. 11th)

December 16 - Vikingen Deadline (for January 2024)

December 24 & 25 - God Jul!

January 3 - LEL Board Meeting (Zoom) 7:00pm

January 6 - 1st Saturday Kaffestua, 10:00am-2:00pm

January 10 - LEL Membership meeting / Social 5:30pm; LEL Dinner, 6:00pm; Officer Installation 7:00pm; Business Meeting - 7:30pm

January 13 - Second Saturday Events: Movie- 3:00pm; Happy Hour- 5-8pm

January 13 - Vikingen Deadline (for February)

January 17 - LEL Trivia, 7:00pm, via Zoom

Ballard Health Club Silver Sneakers class meets at LEL Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00am - 11:00am. Please contact Marianne for details. marianne@ballardhealthclub.com Exercise class lead by Audrey in main hall, Wednesdays, 11:15-12:00. 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) 215-8782. Please check the e-news and Facebook for updates to the Lodge calendar and activities. www.leiferiksonlodge.org; Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeifEriksonLodge.





