

Gratulerer! med dagen Norge! 17.mai | Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001 Sons of Norway | Seattle, WA

17.mai hilsen fra presidenten

Happy Spring!

I hope you all had a nice Easter with family and friends.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made Heritage Day another successful event at our Lodge. The Fun Run was attended by about 140 people of all ages. Many awards were given, and many participants stopped in to check out our Hall. Unfortunately, we ran out of some food items early, but we are working to figure out how many people we can expect.

As always, Sheila has a good handle on our programs and the food for our membership meetings. Please see her column and our calendar to find out what's going on.

I just want to mention that our May meeting should be very exciting. We have Olivia Gunn, Assistant Professor at the University of Washington, Scandinavian Department, doing a presentation about the origin of 17.mai. It will be an interactive presentation, so bring your questions.

This year, Diana Malone is Chair of the 17th of May committee. If you plan to walk with us in the parade, please make sure you complete a Hold Harmless Agreement (available on our website and at our next meeting).

If you were involved in the initial building of the Leif Erikson Hall, you are invited for free to our June membership meeting. Christine Anderson will show slides and videos of the building's construction in 1986.

This year, there is a District 2 convention, hosted by Poulsbo and held mostly at the Bremerton Convention Center. We have all the representatives we are allotted, but we would like to have some additional alternates in case someone is unable to make it. Let me know if this is something you would consider.

Fortsatt god vår! Gratulerer med dagen, Norge - 17. mai!

Anne-Lise Berger

President

Leif Erikson Lodge



Dinner / Membership Meeting for May 2026

13 May 2026 / Wednesday Social 5:30 PM / Dinner 6:00 PM /

Program 6:30 PM Business Meeting 7:30 PM



The Sølje Sisters will offer their fabulous music for the social hour and dinner. After dinner, our own Beth Kolle will teach us one or two simple dances with the musicians' help, getting us all ready to celebrate Syttende Mai in just four days. At this meeting, we introduce and honor our past presidents, an event always special. We will also announce the persons of the year, and earned membership pins will be given, so you know there will be many photo opportunities. We will have a dynamic, interesting speaker for our program to talk about why the 17th of May is celebrated. She is Olivia Noble Gunn, an Associate Professor and the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in the Norwegian Studies Program at the University of Washington and we are fortunate to have her come talk to us. This will be great information and emphasizes all the good reasons we will celebrate this coming weekend with the LEL open house, music, singing, dancing, Bergen Place events and the big parade at 6pm. Hurra, Hurra, Hurra!

Dinner Meny/Menu:

Baked Cod with Lemon and Herbs, Boiled Potatoes, Cucumber Salad, Green Salad with vegetables, Assortment of breads and rolls with Chef Eldon's home-made Knekkebrød, always a treat. Dessert will be Strawberry Shortcake.

Dinner is \$30 and includes your beverage of choice. Please RSVP by noon on Monday, May 11th by calling the Lodge at 206-783-1274. We look forward to seeing you on May 13th.

Sheila Bartanen,
Social and Cultural Director



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 2026

President: Anne-Lise Berger / alberger49@gmail.com
Vice President: Diana Malone / maloned10@gmail.com
Counselor: JoAnne Rudo / joannerudo@hotmail.com
Social Director: Sheila Bartanen / sheilajr14@hotmail.com
Secretary: Eva Phillips / evamariephillips@gmail.com
Asst. Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Theresa Nilsen / pearcity@comcast.net
Cultural Director: Sheila Bartanen
Publicity Director: Isabel Bartholomew
Membership Secretary: Wendy Forselius LEL.memberships@gmail.com
Musician/Sports Dir: Kathleen Lange / tatter59@me.com
Foundation Director: Jerry Thorsen - jthorthor@gmail.com
Asst. Musician: Beth Kollé / bethkollé@icloud.com
Youth Director: Vacant
Librarians:
An-Magrith Erlandsen / an.magrith@gmail.com
Diana Malone / maloned10@gmail.com
Historian: Christine Anderson cmadance@earthlink.net
Trustees:
Gail Engler
Sandra Conry
Chris Varnes

Other Divisions of Leif Erikson Lodge

Leif Erikson Lodge Building Association

President: Daniel Nye / danielnye@seanet.com

LEL Educational Foundation:

President: Heidi Ludeman
Secretary: Jessica Olsen - Apodaca
Treasure: Lorie Lind
Trustee: Christine Anderson
LEL Rep: Diane Malone
leleducationalfoundation@gmail.com

NORNA

Judy Gray & Chris Heins

LEIKARRINGEN

President: Paul Everitt

LERA - Norway Park Officers

LERABoard@NorwayPark.net
LEL Lodge Rep. An-Magrith Erlandsen
LEL Lodge Rep. Erik-Bjarne Witzøe
LEL Lodge Rep. Doug Warne

New Phone Number, Email, or Address?

Let us know! Email Wendy at LEL.memberships@gmail.com. Or go to the SON website - www.softn.com and update your Member profile. Please remember to forward your mail if you are gone for an extended period.



TUBFRIM

Thank you to all the lodges that collect stamps for Tubfrim, one of Norway's Special Projects that sells used postage stamps, with proceeds supporting financial aid to improve the quality of life for children with disabilities and youth.

Clip the stamps off envelopes or packages received in the mail, leaving a ½-inch (1.50 cm) margin to protect the stamps. When you get a pound of stamps, write your name, address, phone number, lodge, and lodge number on a 3" by 5" card, then place the card with the stamps in a zip-lock bag. Or complete the Tubfrim form available in the office. Forever Stamps are acceptable. Please don't send stamps with damaged perforation, edges, etc. They will be thrown away. The cards are to be delivered with the stamps at Bothell Lodge and will be entered into a drawing.

The stamps will be delivered to Bothell Lodge to the Tubfrim coordinators for District 2, SON, who will arrange to have them shipped to Norway with no cost to the district except for boxing materials. This is a simple and easy way to contribute to one of the Sons of Norway's charitable projects.

For Leif Erikson Lodge members, deliver your stamps to the LEL office. Gail Engler is the point of contact and will deliver your cards of stamps to the Bothell Lodge. Call ahead to make sure someone is at the LEL office to accept the stamps. 206-783-1274. Currently, the LEL office is open on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00-2:00. Tusen takk!

Vikingen



Leif Erikson Lodge No. 2-001 Sons of Norway 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 98107-3134 **Editors:** An-Magrith Erlandsen an.magrith@gmail.com and Erik Bjarne Witzøe Erik.Bjarne@gmail.com **Phone:** 206-783-1274. **Email:** an.magrith@gmail.com & erik.bjarne@gmail.com. The submission deadline for Vikingen is **the 14th of each month**. Please send articles or calendar items to both editors. 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 Erik.Bjarne@gmail.com or englergail32@gmail.com or call the LEL office and leave a message at 206-783-1274.

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.

Velkommen til Kaffestua!

Hipp Hipp Hurrah fra Kaffestua!



Please join us in **May** on all

Wednesdays and Fridays from 10-2 pm.

We will also have **1st Saturday Kaffestua**
on **May 2nd from 10-2 pm.**

No other Saturdays will be open in May.

Hurrah for Syttende Mai!



LEBA & The Norwegian Club UPDATE

The Boards of Leif Erikson's Lodge's two operational legal entities, Leif Erikson Building Association (LEBA) and The Norwegian Club (TNC), are having a busy Spring. On behalf of the LEBA and TNC Boards I am pleased to report that, based on our most recent March meetings, excellent

progress continues on our goal to improve the well-being and success of the Lodge. Repairs and needed improvements are being made to Lodge facilities on a timely basis. Improvements are also underway to improve and beautify the entrance to the Lodge, and to modernize and improve access to the Library. The Lodge and its facilities are being kept working properly, and in clean and orderly fashion by the hard work of our excellent caretaker, Mike Rife, and by the volunteer Lodge Members who assist him. This is perhaps a good opportunity to remind Lodge members that if you observe repairs or improvements that are needed at the Lodge, please place these requests in writing in the "Repairs Needed" Box outside the Main Office for attention.

LEBA and TNC Board members have now begun work on encouraging and soliciting private and public donations to support the Lodge and its good works. With the creation of our new non-profit 501 (c)(3) entity, the Lodge now has the opportunity to accept donations that can be fully tax-deductible under relevant law. For further information on donations and support for the Lodge please contact any Board member. Thanks for your continuing support of the Lodge and its affiliated entities. LEBA and TNC. Here's to a great rest of April and here comes May: **"du skjønne du milde!"**

Daniel Nye
Board President
LEBA/The Norwegian Club

Lagre Datoen! Save The Date!

- Sheila Bartanen

Poulsbo, Saturday, May 16th: Viking Days celebration, and our own Leikarringen will be in the parade, which starts at 2 pm.

Sunday, May 17th: Come celebrate Syttende Mai in Ballard. Join our various groups and don't miss your chance to Be In The Parade. The Parade starts at 6 pm, and the Lodge will have walking participants and special car entries. Our new Lodge Queen will be featured, and the parade will also include The Norwegian Ladies Choir, Leikarringen, Barneleikarringen, and Seattle Manskor. At Bergen Place and in our Lodge Open House, we will have Leikarringen, Barneleikarringen, Norwegian Ladies Choir, and Manskor performing, as well as a number of musicians to add to this very festive day. There will be an open house at the lodge-more information and details about that elsewhere in the Vikingen.

Sons of Norway District 2 Convention hosted by Poulsbo and held both in Poulsbo and Bremerton from May 27 through May 30th.

On June 10th, our membership dinner and meeting will celebrate the 40th anniversary of our lodge building. We will honor the individuals who worked and volunteered to build our Lodge.

June 13th: Norway Park Sankt Hans Celebration, which will feature The Norwegian Ladies Choir and LEL Leikarringen as well as many games, festivities, food, and even a bonfire! See details in this Vikingen.

June 23rd, Tuesday: The wonderful and exciting Stoughton, Wisconsin, high school Norwegian Dancers will present a program at our Lodge at 6 pm. An open dance for all will follow their program. The lodge is sponsoring this free event, and we hope to see you.

June 28th, Sunday: Come celebrate an authentic, traditional Skandia Midsommar at St. Edwards Park in Kenmore, beginning at 11 am. There will be music, dancing, vendors, food trucks, make flower crowns, help raise the Midsommar Pole, dance, and sing around the pole. There are many ways to celebrate and enjoy this community-wide special event.



Eidsvollsbygningen (Eidsvoll Manor House) where the Norwegian Constitution was drawn up in 1814. Norge.

Troll Saga

Nyheter På Norway Park

Hipp! Hipp! Hurra! God Syttende Mai!



Norway Park 1966 - 60 years ago!

Upcoming at Norway Park - Articles by Erik-Bjarne Witzøe (LERA Lodge Rep.)

May is Norway's month, celebrating Constitution Day on the 17th. On the 17th of May - Sunday, a small celebration is planned, the Children's 17. Mai Parade will commence at 2 PM for members who don't plan to participate in the Ballard festivities; meet at Bekkestua prior. The Ballard Parade will be at 6 PM, as the weekend time of 4 PM has been permanently changed to 6 PM going forward.

Sankt Hans - Midsommer Celebration arrives earlier this year on the 13th of June, Saturday, to beat the burn ban. The bonfire is essential by tradition and a cultural-historical part of Midsommer, so let's give a hipp! hipp! hurra! for the return.

Due to Memorial Day Weekend, the Berg Pavilion Rummage Sale will be held on the 30th & 31st of May. Contact Terry Buholm at 206-406-2029 for details.



Syttende Mai 2025 with the Norway Park participants in the Ballard parade



Norway Park Summer Rates are now in effect

Attention, all Leif Erikson Lodge members need to pay \$5.00 each at the gate to get into the lower lake area. If there's no attendant at the guard shack, just drop your donation through the slot in the door. Make sure to show your current membership card to get into the park. Please double-check your membership before you come. Also, remember this is a family park, so let's all be respectful and polite. Tusen takk! Velkommen til oss!

Leif Erikson Recreation Association Contacts for 2026

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



Caretaker: Michael Kojetinsky 360-919-3473
Office Manager: Berit Smith OfficeManager@NorwayPark.net
Pavilion & Bekkestua Rental: Berit Smith 360-820-2625
President: Nils Qvigstad - Nils.Qvigstad@NorwayPark.net
Vice President: Tom Zabriskie - Tom.Zabriskie@NorwayPark.net
Secretary: An-Magrith Erlandsen - An-Magrith.Erlandsen@NorwayPark.net
Treasurer: Grace Schroder - Grace.Schroder@NorwayPark.net
Financial Sec: Charles Hinton-Charles.Hinton@NorwayPark.net
Caretaker Liaison: Tom Zabriskie - Tom.Zabriskie@NorwayPark.net
LEL Lodge Rep. An-Magrith Erlandsen-An-Magrith.Erlandsen@NorwayPark.net
LEL Lodge Rep. Erik-Bjarne Witzøe - Erik.Witzoe@NorwayPak.net
LEL Lodge Rep. Doug Warne - Doug.Warne@NorwayPark.net
Board Member Bjorn Lunde - Bjorn.Lunde@NorwayPark.net

NORWAY PARK Sankt Hans MIDSOMMER 2026

13 June - Saturday | Lower Park - Berg Pavilion

- 11 AM - 7 PM - Alletiders Kafe • 12 PM Prize | Cake Walk
- 1 PM - Barneleker - Kid's Field Games • 3 PM - 4 PM - Bingo
- 4:15 PM - Leikarringen Dance Group & Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle
- 5:30 PM - Vocals & DJ Thor from Iceland
- 8:15 PM - Bean Count Winners • 8:30 PM - Raffle Drawings.
- Dusk - The Bonfire tradition returns! (Schedule subject to change)

Leif Erikson Lodge Members & their guests are invited
Admission \$5 (Children under 12 free)



Bibliotek



FOLK COSTUMES OF NORWAY



May 17th - Norway's National Holiday - is celebrated with a parade, music, ice cream and **Bunads**, the traditional Norwegian dress. Almost everyone wears a bunad in Norway on 17th of May, as it reflects their unique heritage and the area where their family hails from. There is also the Festdrakt - a less traditional bunad - a bunad you would wear to parties but today it's a bunad where you can be creative in your own personal tradition.

Our library here at the lodge traditionally pulls out "**Folk Costumes of Norway**" during the month of May. So come on down and check out this spectacular coffee table book in English chock full of bunads from all over Norge.

- An-Magrith Erlandsen

Leikarringen Liasons



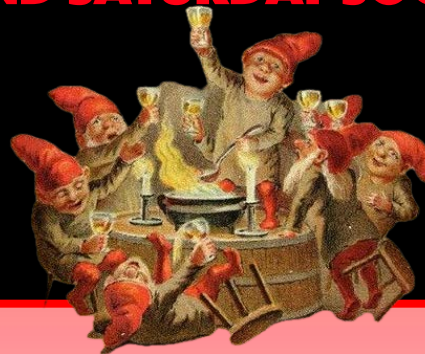
March is now "in the books" and saw successful performances for the Heritage Day festivities at both Leif Erikson and the Bothell lodges. Now it's time to start getting ready for the "big ones" in May. We anticipate participating in the Viking Day event's parade in Poulsbo on the 16th and then, of course, the all important Syttende Mai celebration in Ballard.

I imagine that after a couple collective miles on those two concrete paths that our feet will be ready for some relief!

We'll be prepping for our programs as usual in the L.E.L. auditorium on Tuesday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 and any and all are invited to join us or just drop by to see what's involved. Hope to see you some time!

- Paul Everitt

SECOND SATURDAY SOCIAL



The **SECOND SATURDAY SOCIAL HOUR** this month is **Saturday May 9th 2026**.

This will be the last Social hour until September, so be here at Leif Erikson Lodge - 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

Bring some finger food snacks for the food table and receive some FREE Raffle Tickets for the food-provider's raffle as a small thank you.

Great prizes for the main raffle only \$1.

Did you know Social Hour charges only \$5 per person for **supper and 2 drinks**? *Everyone gets one free door prize ticket* and the prize is unusual, interesting and or useful. What more could you ask for? So mark your calendar now! Cheers!

- Doug Warne

Bløtkake

Baking Class



To Syttende we're going be **Bløtkake baking**

For only \$10 you'll get to learn how to make **Theresa's Bløtkake (Norwegian Cream Cake)**, which we serve at many of our largest events!

The class also occurs during our **Saturday Kaffestua**, so you'll get to enjoy some open face sandwiches, heart shaped waffles, and coffee while you wait for your cake to bake! After you're finished, you get to take home your very own cake.

Call the office at 206-783-1274 to sign up.

Only 6 spots are available!

Celebrate Mai coming up, offering a special **class at Leif Erikson**



På Norsk



Syttende mai - Norges nasjonaldag feires med barnetog, musikk, is og bunad ... Hva er den vakreste delen av høytiden? Jo, bunadene selvfølgelig! Nesten alle bruker bunad i

Norge, da den gjenspeiler ens unike arv og området der familien kommer fra. Vi har også Festdrakt - hvor man kan være kreativ i sin egen personlige bunad.

-An-Magriith Erlandsen



The Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway, Educational Foundation Scholarship winners!



Sonja Edmondson - Queen Award
Else Ludeman - Princess Award



Cramer - Camp Normanna Award
Lachlan Canestaro - Camp Nidaros Award
Sybil Canestaro - Camp Nidaros Award

Youth Camp Instructor/Counselor
Grant applications are due May 29, 2026,
so get those applications in!

Scholarship applications can be found on our website.

Volunteers Needed for 17 Mai Open House!

17 Mai is our next big event, and we'll be having our Open House from 12:00 to 4:30 PM on a Sunday this year! We need volunteers to help set up and take down, cashier, bus tables, wash dishes, and more.

The parade starts at 6:00 PM this year!

If you'd like to volunteer, **email**
leiferiksonlodgevolunteers@gmail.com

or **call** the office at 206-783-1274.



Harry Solheim at 105 is the oldest member of the lodge! Here with lodge president, Anne-Lise Berger, at Kaffestua April 26th.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS



GRATULERER MED DAGEN!!!

Our members are:

Our Junior members are: Sonja Longaker, Calvin Daly, Leo Marinos, Magnus Hansen-Luzac, Avery King, Knut W. A. Knutsen, Mavrick and Lilah Waters, Knight Moore, Maggie Litz, Evangeline Richardson, Lucas Edmondson, Makenzee Glenn, Bastian Wyatt, Jazzlyn Berns, Annika Wilson, Jonas Nyhammer.

Michael Comiskey, Judy Cooper, Per Arnevik, Kristine Ekman, Marilyn Hazelton, John Lange, Victoria Sangrey-Hunter, Stephen Mork, Kirsten Woxland, Laila Sharpe, Daniel Nye, Arne Berg, Susan Erga, Nils Quigstad, Heidi Ashby, Eric Ahlness, Monica Wade, Megan Knight, Ola Mork, Irina Mork. Matt and Christina Waters, Jenna VanSanford, Kenzie Heerspink, Evan Brekke, Thor Buholm.

Our Senior Members are:

Elizabeth Orville, Eva Nyhammer, Joan Carson, Per Nilsen, Julie Freeman, Robert Simenson, Gunn McArthur, Vidar Warness, Terje Lehren, Eli Stelhut, Penny Meenderinck.

Our most Senior Member is:

Betty Edwards - she is 103!
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!



NEW MEMBERS LIST as of 2-11-26

Felecia Soeldner
Douglas Sundberg
Mark A Bankson
Dawn R Bankson
Alana J Koetje Morris
Eva Tallaksen
Alexandros Marinos
Adrian Zephyr Marinos
John Helle Otto.
Tara Michelle Dorrance
Lindsay Scott
Kay Quall
Vincent Samaowic



Mary Witt
Ruth Winter
Anna Kate Kingshott
Kyle Thomas
Kingshott
Mackenzie, Avery and
Kayleigh Kingshott
Kari Edmondson
Ryan Edmondson
Sonja Edmondson
Soren and Lucas
Edmondson
Inger Haakenstad
Anne M Rutledge

REINSTATED

Kenny John
Evan E Mathews
Kathy Buholm
Elizabeth Campbell
Lisa Greenough
Thomas Pirie
Nancy Anne Samuels

TRANSFERRED

Taylor Gavin Lee

AFFILIATE

Renée Lund
Inger Persson

ORDER LEL NAME TAGS

You can order your **Leif Erikson Lodge Name Tags** by contacting **Bernie Bowers** at

Bernieb3@comcast.net. **Nametags are \$15.00.**

Mail a check made out to Leif Erikson Lodge.

Mail it to LEL, ATTN: Bernie, 2245 NW 57th St.,
Seattle, WA 98107

Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle



www.nlcofseattle.org
NEW SINGERS WELCOME

Rehearsals: Tuesdays 7:15 - 8:45pm
At Leif Erikson Lodge, 2nd Floor

Zoom meetings led by Joseph To, Director
Contact: norwegianladieschorus@gmail.com

Renewing and preserving our Norwegian Heritage
through song since 1936



TENOR / BASS
VOICES
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STANDING CHORUS
IN SEATTLE

REHEARSALS
MONDAYS AT 7PM

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98107-3134



Address Service Requested

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

Hva Skjer? May 2026 Calendar

- 02 May - Sat. First Saturday Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- 02 May - Sat. Blotkake Baking Class 10 AM - 2 PM
- 03 May - Sun. Barneleikarringen - Nordic Folk Dancing LEL 2 PM - 3 PM
- 06 May - Wed. LEL Board Meeting 6 PM - 8 PM Zoom
- 09 May - Sat. Second Saturday Social Hour 5 PM - 8 PM
- 12 May - Tue. Norway Park - LERA Board Meeting 7 PM at Bekkestua
- 13 May - Wed. Scandi Woodcarving Class 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- 13 May - Wed. Membership Dinner & Meeting, doors at 5:30 PM
- 16 May - Sat. Third Saturday Kaffestua CLOSED
- 17 May - Sun. Hipp Hipp Hurra for Syttende Mai!
- 17 May - Sun. Syttende Mai Open House 12:00 - 4:30 PM
- 17 May - Sun. Syttende Mai Parade 6:00 PM
- 20 May - Wed. Scandi Woodcarving Class 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- 27 May - Wed. Scandi Woodcarving Class 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

- Every Tuesday: Leikarringen Practice 5 PM - 7 PM
- Every Wednesday: Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- Every Wednesday: Norwegian Language Class 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
- Every Friday: Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- Every Friday: Open Library 10 AM - 2 PM

Ballard Health Club Silver Fitness class meets at LEL on Monday, Wednesday, Wed & Friday, 10:00 AM 11:00 AM. Contact Rachel for details. marianne@ballardhealthclub.com
 Exercise class led by Audrey in the main hall on Wednesdays from 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 Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeifEriksonLodge>