

Vikingen



Happy Spring - God Vår! | Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001 Sons of Norway | Seattle, WA

Hilsen fra presidenten

The new board is already very busy planning events and programs for the year, so I hope you keep checking our online calendar as well as the Vikingen and the e-news.

We will try to focus on more recent information from Norway in our meetings. If you have any ideas or suggestions for programs that would interest you, please let me know.

I hope you have enjoyed watching the Olympic Games. We certainly have, and we are so proud of all the athletes, but it is especially wonderful to see the Norwegians still at the top of the medal count. Winter sports certainly is still a part of life in Norway.

There is also sad news from Norway about our Royal family and the difficult times they are going through. We wish them all the best.

I am so pleased that Sheila Bartanen has taken on the role of Cultural/Social Director. She and her committee have been busy planning upcoming events. We are also trying out some new classes this year, and if you would like to learn how to make lefse, join me in a class taught by Janice Quam when she makes it for Heritage Day. Make sure to sign up online or by calling the office.

March 27th is the last day for scholarship applications, and our new King and Queen will be crowned when scholarships are awarded at the April membership meeting.

On April 17th, there will be another "Nordic Mixer". This time, the Finns are hosting, and we will be at the National Nordic Museum. This event has been very popular. It is a very relaxed event with music, food, and drinks, and the chance to make new friends in the Nordic community.

If you are a volunteer or board member, look for more information about a special thank-you event in late April.

May brings, as usual, many activities celebrating Norwegian Constitution Day, including our Open House, entertainment at Bergen Place, and the biggest Parade outside Norway.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Leif Erikson Hall, and we will celebrate at our June membership meeting.

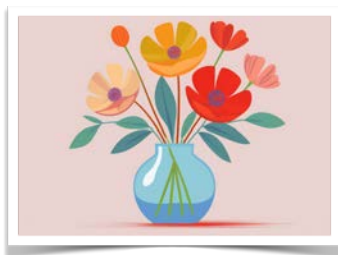
I am excited about the coming year, and I look forward to seeing all of you around the Lodge.

God Vår! Happy Spring!

Anne-Lise Berger

President

Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001



Dinner / Membership Meeting for March 2026

11th of March 2026 | Wednesday Social 5:30 PM | Dinner 6:00 PM /

Program 6:30 PM Business Meeting 7:30 PM



For our March 11th membership meeting, we will have Låth Carlson, the CEO and Director of the National Nordic Museum, as our guest speaker. He will discuss the current and future directions of the NNM and how it affects the local Ballard community and the various Nordic clubs in Seattle. We will also have our special new member welcome ceremony. This meeting will focus on Norwegian Heritage as we prepare for our Heritage Day Celebration and Fun Run on March 28th.

Meny / Menu: Fiskekaker (Fish Cakes) with gravy, Boiled Potatoes, Cucumber Salad, Green Salad, assorted breads, and Karamel Pudding for dessert. Our chef, Eldon, will include a vegetarian option, so if that is desired, please let us know when you sign up!

The price is \$30 for dinner, which reflects rising food costs and includes your choice of beverage, canned pop, or an adult beverage. Please **RSVP** by Monday, the 9th, at noon at 206-783-1274.

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 / sheilajrl14@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 - jthorhor@gmail.com
Asst. Musician: Beth Kollé / bethkollé@comcast.net
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

SON Lodge-Financial Benefits Counselor: Bill Nelson / 425-784-6433



Leif Erikson Lodge

**LEIF TO LEIF
5K FUN RUN**

MARCH 28, 2026
 9 AM START

VISIT RUNSIGNUP.COM

New Phone Number, Email, or Address?

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

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 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.

Leikarringen Liasons

Leikarringen had a successful performance for the residents of Fairwinds Brittany Park retirement home. Approximately 70 of the residents were quite interested and appreciative of our demonstrations and a number of them had questions and comments about the dances, our costumes, and Bill's Hardanger fiddle following the "show."

Now we will get to work on practicing up for March's scheduled events, the Bothell Sons of Norway Lodge's Heritage Day on March 7, and our own Leif Erikson Lodge's Heritage Day on March 28. Our practices/social get togethers are on Tuesdays in the Lodge auditorium from 5:00 - 7:00 pm, and all are welcome to join us to dance, or just listen to the great live music from our musicians Bill and Nancy. We are so fortunate to have our live musicians for these practices as well as the performances. *Hope to see you some time!*

- Paul Everitt



SECOND SATURDAY SOCIAL HOUR

THE NEXT 2nd SATURDAY SOCIAL HOUR

IS **SATURDAY MARCH 14th** !

We hope you will be here and maybe meet St. Patrick or even St. Uro **March 14th**, at Leif Erikson Lodge - **5:00 to 8:00 PM. Wear something GREEN** if you can!

Enjoy a Lite supper, including 2 drinks for only \$5, including wine, beer and soft drinks. (and coffee if requested)

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 \$1 each ticket.

There will be one simple and free, get-acquainted activity. There will be a surprise activity to help celebrate Saint Patrick's Day. The Kaffee stua usually buzzes with good conversation and fun. So, who needs green beer and corned beef? And the social hour at only \$5 per person is certainly cheaper. Another freebie prize is the evening Door Prize at the end of the party. Everyone gets one free ticket and the prize is unusual, interesting and or useful.

Members and guests invited: Members just drop in. Guests are most welcome and sign in on the guest list. Come and get to know your fellow member and meet new friends. TV hosts tell us that those who interact socially often with a variety of people statistically live longer. See you there Saturday February 14th and live it up.

- Doug Warne



The Dance of Romance! February's Membership Meeting!

February's Membership Meeting had an extra dazzle and charm for the month, celebrating love, LEL member Theresa Nilsen, with dancing partner Gleb Makarov returning to entertain guests with traditional ballroom moves. Gleb, also an instructor with many dance classifications, gathered a group of guests and, step by step, they learned a form of Salsa. It's a pleasure to see activities where guests can participate as a group at the lodge.





Troll Saga

Nyheter fra Norway Park March 2026

By Erik -Bjarne Witzøe
 LERA LODGE REP.

The slumber of the winter months gradually gives way to nature's regeneration in March. With the mild winter, we've seen early shoots of tulips and daffodils in late February. We are all looking forward to seeing the beautiful landscape transform in Norway Park.

As Norway Park transitions to spring, the first work party takes place on the 7th of March, Saturday, 9 AM - 4 PM at the Bekkestua.

Results From the LERA Stockholders' Meeting

The annual stockholders' meeting for LERA took place on the 15th of February, a sunny Sunday afternoon, at Leif Erikson Lodge in Ballard. With a quorum, three categories were discussed and voted on. First, Grace Schroeder (Treasurer) went over the 2026 LERA Budget, which was passed with an overwhelming yes vote and one opposition vote. Secondly, two proposed bylaws were presented and discussed: Bylaw #1, which added language regarding potential infrastructure damage throughout the park and addressed liability insurance issues. This bylaw did not pass. Bylaw #2 proposal was written to mirror the policy down in the lower Park regarding pet waste and leash law, which would cover the upper park. A 2/3 majority was vote was needed, but it did not reach that threshold. The final action was voting in new board members for a full three years. Only Charles Hinton was elected to a three-year term, and Greg Rasmussen will leave the board at the next LERA Board Meeting. Mange tusen takk Greg! You'll be missed. Tusen takk and a round of applause to all who assisted in any part of the meeting, as well as the special sheet cake and coffee! Takk skal du ha to our Lodge President Ann-Lise Berger for your attendance.

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: Bjørn Lunde-Bjorn - Lunde@NorwayPark.net
Vice President: Greg Rasmussen - greg.Rasmussen@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.Eriandsen@NorwayPark.net
LEL Lodge Rep. Erik-Bjarne Witzøe - Erik.Witzoe@NorwayPark.net
LEL Lodge Rep. Doug Warne - Doug.Warne@NorwayPark.net

Upcoming Events at Norway Park:



- 4 April - 2nd Work Party Bekkestua
- 25 April - Opening Fishing Day at the lake.
- 2 May - 3rd Work Party at Bekkestua
- 6 June - 4th Work Party at Bekkestua
- 13 June - Sankt Hans - Midsommer

The Annual LERA Stockholders' Meeting at Leif Erikson Lodge 2026



Norsk Hilsen



WINTER OLYMPICS Milan–Cortina Italy Feb 6–22, 2026

ANOTHER OLYMPIC TRIUMPH FOR NORGE !!!

With 80 athletes competing Norge took home the most medals and the most gold at **18 gold, 12 silver, 11 bronze**. It is no surprise as this is the fourth Winter Olympics in a row that Norge dominates. The greatest champion this time was cross-country skier **Johannes Høsflot Klæbo** breaking the record for the most gold medals by one athlete in a single winter game (6 gold medals), winning the 10km free, 20km skiathlon, sprint, 4x7.5km relay, team sprint, and the 50km classic. Klæbo is the World Ski Champion and the most successful Winter Olympian in history !!! He has a total of 11 gold medals in his Olympics career.

What else is Norge famous for besides cross country and slalom? Ski jumping of course! We had **Anna Odine Strøm** taking home two gold this Olympics in both individual and team ski jumping events, making her one of Norge's most successful athletes this Olympics, male or female. It must be noted that Woman Ski Jumping only made its debut in 2014 at the Olympics. Generations of female ski jumpers were not allowed to compete but now they are not only competing but leading! Norway's dominance was not confined to snow, as speed skater **Sander Eitrem** won gold in the men's 5000 metres with an Olympic record time of 6 minutes 3.95 seconds! **Maren Kirkeeide** won gold in the Women's 7.5 km Sprint. *Og mye mer, men vi får ikke plass til alle her!* In Norge winter sport is woven into the culture. Children grow up skiing to school. Local clubs nurture talent. Most importantly, it's **FUN!**

Hip Hip Hurrah for NORGE !!!

- An-Magrith Erlandsen



Kaffestua

Kaffestua will be open every **Wednesday** and **Friday**

in **March** from **10 am** to **2 pm**.

Also on **Saturday, March 7th** and **21st** from **10-2 pm**.



Bibliotek



By the time this article reaches you, the reader, the online catalog for our special little library in the basement of Leif Erikson Hall will have reached over 1700 books. This marks, roughly, the halfway point of our book collection after over a year of cataloging. If you haven't come to the library recently, you'll be surprised during your next visit. New furniture was donated this week by the kindly Mountain Pacific Bank. They recently left our little annex behind the Hall, and thanks to them our library has a new filing cabinet and desk. The basement has also had some changes, with new white paint coating the walls and light gray the floors. It really helps lighten up the trip to the library!

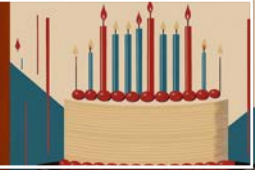
As always, the library is open every Friday and the first Saturday from 10am to 2pm.

Its doors also open two hours before member meetings, the second Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30pm.



Med vennlig hilsen,
Diana Malone
Assistant Librarian

Gratulerer med dagen!



Birthdays Greetings for March

Our Youngest Members are:

Brentley Bogue, Blakeley Broadhead, Will Durham, Ava Hopkins, Charles Parr, Espen Peterson, Jackson Porter, Harper Thostenson

Our Adult Members are:

Sonja Adams, Ronny Audette, Wesley Barker, Hayden Bell, Lennert Bensen, Andrea Bowen, Elizabeth Brekke, Grady Briggs, Marie Conlan, Nicole Bruzzichese, William Canestaro, Joshua Cooper, Pamela Cole, Karla Colando, Daniel Davies, Ashley Dougherty, Elaine Everitt, Kimberly Federmeier, Annalisa Fortune, Arnie Gunderson, Lynn Jenssen, Erika Larsen, Mark Lind, Karen Linde, Toni Lockett, Christine Ong, Shannon Parr, David Robel, Jack Robel, Douglas Ross, James Skrinde, Jon Shemerdiak, Meg Stecker-Thorsen, Terry Long Taylor, Cody Woodruff

Our Senior Members are:

Aase Aadland, Turid Eide, James Erickson, Mary Fraser, Osmund K ithammer, Kerstin Liland, Diane Nichols, Russell Oberg, Heidi Renz, Reidar Tynes

Our most Senior Members are:

Diane Adams, Norman Arno, Emily Kristjanson

Gratulerer !

(Beklager, det er ikke nok plass til   f  med alles bursdag)

Gratulerer med Dagen Alle Sammen!

NEW MEMBERS as of 2/11/26

Felecia Soeldner.
Douglas Sundberg.
Mark A Bankson.
Dawn R Bankson.
Alana J Koetje Morris.
Eva Tallaksen.
Alexandros Marianos.
Adrian Zephyr Marinos. child

REINSTATED
Kathy Buholm.

OBITUARIES
Aase Aadland
Luther Foley
Phyllis Holmes

TRANSFERRED
Steven Til Kittleson



Mange Tussen Takk! to all the volunteers at the Membership Dinners.

Norna Ladies Report

We will again be participating in the annual Leif Erikson Lodge Heritage Day on March 28. We will offer our handmade crafts for sale - for your own use or for gifts: embroidered kitchen towels, aprons, knitted items (slippers, children's sweaters, kitchen dishcloths), Swedish Weave placemats and bottle/gift bags, and other wonderful items.

Our monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, March 17, at 11:30 am, in Kaffestua. Plan on a potluck lunch. This is our combo Norwegian St. Patty's Day celebration.

Judy Gray
Co-President



The Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle
Scholarship Fundraiser
Sunday, March 15, 2026

4 p.m. Social and Silent Auction
5:30 - 8:30 pm. Dinner and Entertainment

Thrill to the tunes of Ballard High School's Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Culinary delights from our Nordic kitchen await.....fresh fish, Scandinavian meatballs with lingonberry sauce, salad, dessert and a no-host bar. Silent auction followed by a Live Auction with Auctioneer Extraordinaire, Tim Hunter, plus a raffle you won't want to miss.

Leif Erikson Lodge in Ballard
2245 NW 57th St.

Enjoy timeless melodies from our chorus and the Solje Sisters

Tickets are \$40 for dinner and entertainment. The majority of proceeds benefit NLC's Scholarship Fund. For reservations, please contact Nancy Hiraoka, nan.gran@comcast.net (206) 498-9693.




SKÅL
BEER HALL

VISIT BALLARD'S NORDIC BEER HALL

SONS OF NORWAY MEMBERS GET 10% OFF THEIR FULL BILL ON EVERY VISIT + \$6.50 AASS PINTS AT HAPPY HOUR!

5429 Ballard Ave NW
www.skallballard.com

The Sons of Norway has \$147,000 in scholarship funds available. Part of that money could be yours if you apply. Three women from our district applied and were awarded scholarships in their field of study.

Some programs are offered with no age limit. One of the most interesting programs is a summer at the University of Oslo in Norway.

Please let's get some of that money coming our way. If you have a son or daughter, niece or nephew, or a friend who could use part of these funds, please contact me, Jerry Thorsen, at the Leif Erikson lodge. e-mail: jthorthor@gmail.com. - "Last year" Tusen Takk! Jerry Thoresen



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



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JOIN THE LONGEST-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

Leif Erikson Lodge Calendar - March 2026

- 03 Mar. - Tues. **Every Tuesday:** Leikarringen Practice 5 PM - 7 PM
- 04 Mar. - Wed. **Every Wednesday:** Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- 04 Mar. - Wed. LEL Board Meeting 7:30 PM on Zoom
- 05 Mar. - Thurs. Norwegian 3A Class at LEL 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
- 06 Mar. - Fri. **Every Friday:** Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- 06 Mar. - Fri. **Every Friday:** Open Library 10 AM - 2 PM
- 07 Mar. - Sat. First Saturday Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- 07 Mar. - Sat. First Saturday Open Library 10 AM - 2 PM
- 08 Mar. - Sun. Barneleikarringen - Nordic Folk Dancing LEL 2 PM - 3 PM
- 09 Mar. - Mon. Lefse Baking Class LEL 10 AM - 4 PM
- 10 Mar. - Tue. Lefse Baking Class LEL 10 AM - 4 PM
- 10 Mar. - Tue. LERA - Norway Park Board Meeting 6 PM - Kaffestua (LEL)
- 11 Mar. - Wed. Membership Dinner & Meeting, doors at 5:30 PM
- 14 Mar. - Sat. St. Patrick's – Second Saturday Social 5 PM - 8 PM
- 15 Mar. - Sun. Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle - Scholarship Event LEL at 4 PM
- 17 Mar. - Tue. NORNA Ladies Meeting 11:30 AM - 1 PM in Kaffestua.
- 21 Mar. - Sat. Third Saturday Kaffestua 10 AM - 2 PM
- 25 Mar. - Wed. Scandi Woodcarving Class 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- 27 Mar. - Fri. LEL Educational Foundation Scholarship Applications Due!
- 28 Mar. - Sat. Leif to Leif 5 Kilometer Fun Run, 9 AM Start.
- 28 Mar. - Sat. Leif Erikson Lodge Norwegian Heritage Day 9:30 AM - 3 PM

Ballard Health Club Silver Fitness class meets at LEL Mon, Wed and Friday, 10:00 AM 11:00 AM. Contact Rachel for details. 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
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeifEriksonLodge>

Norwegian Smørbrød, Gul Ertesuppe (Yellow Pea Soup), Rømmegrot & Baked Confections!
Nordic Entertainment! Enjoy classic Scandinavian live music with local bands.
A Traditional Bunad Parade in the afternoon!

Leif to Leif 5K Fun Run
Starts and ends at Leif Erikson Lodge | Registration: \$20-adult \$10-age 13-18
Register & Check In begins at 8:00 AM, Run at 9:00 AM, Awards Ceremony - 10:15 AM
Register Online - www.RunSignup.com

Leif Erikson Lodge - 2-001 | Sons of Norway, 2245 NW 57th Street, Seattle, WA 98107
PH 206.783.1274 | www.LeifEriksonLodge.com