



Dynamic 2

Volume 32

Sons of Norway District 2

Fall 2021



District 2 Board Meeting Bothell Lodge, 09/25/2021



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President's Message - Jerry Erickson



I have been pondering for a while as to what to say in my fall 2021 message. This has been another year to remember and one our children will tell their grandchildren about. District 2 has worked its way through this time with Zoom meetings, Teleconferences and a few face to face meetings, with mask and social distancing. Our Lodges have used a number of these tools to meet and stay in touch with their members. To say the least, this time has been a tough time for all of us. On a positive note, using these tools we have been able to meet, have programs and even have meals that keeps us connected and our spirit alive. I have been able to remotely attend a number of Lodge events over the past few months and enjoy seeing members that I haven't seen for some time. We continue to use Zoom for our Board meetings and it's a great tool that is free to use for short meetings and events. In case this looks familiar it is almost the same thing I said last fall.

Officers have remained in place for another two years and we look forward to getting together next June for a great Convention in Portland. The Convention Committee from Grieg Lodge has already gotten together and restarted their planning for the Convention. Convention years also produce resolutions to be voted on at the District level. It will be interesting to see what resolutions come to our next Convention.

The Lodge of the Year scores are in for 2019 the following Lodges won;
Large Lodge: Edmonds Lodge 2-130, Edmonds, Washington
Small Lodge: Roald Lodge 2-039, Klamath Falls, OR
Family Lodge: Bothell Lodge 2-106, Bothell, Washington
There was no Small Family Lodge of the Year Award in 2019.

There were eleven Large Lodges who earned Gold in 2019, four earned Silver and two earned Bronze.

One Small Lodge earned Gold Lodge of the Year, one Lodge earned Silver and four earned Bronze.
Nine Lodges earned Gold Family Lodge of the Year, two earned Silver and four earned Bronze.

The 2020 Lodge of the Year and Family Lodge of the Year.

The Large Lodge of the Year winner is Sonja Lodge, Eugene, Oregon

The Small Lodge of the Year is Thor Lodge, Salem, Oregon

The Large Family Lodge of the Year is Bothell Lodge, Bothell, Washington.

The Small Family Lodge of the Year is Harald Haarfager, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

We have eight Large Lodges who earned Gold for 2020, four Silver and three Bronze.

Two Small Lodges earned Gold, and four in Bronze.

Family Lodges: we have five earned Gold, two Silver and four Bronze.

Not all Lodges submitted their paperwork for the 2020 Lodge of the Year awards, and I hope that we have more in 2021. Congratulations to the winning Lodges!

We will present these awards at the 2022 District 2 Convention in June.

Congratulations to all of these Lodges for a job well done.

We held District events this year that were well attended. The Ski Race took on a very different look as it was done on an individual basis and The Steak Fry at Trollhaugen went very well with about 125 people attending and the Golf Tournament went well in August. Once again, the Adult Heritage weekend has been cancelled. I hope that by February we can hold the District Ski Race at Trollhaugen.

Now is the time that local Lodges are forming nominating committees to seek new officers for the coming year. This is a challenge when, for the most part, Lodges have not met in person for a long time. Some officers have served for a long time, and I know the difficulty in finding new people to step up. Contact your members and ask them if they will consider serving. I wish you the best in filling your Lodge positions. Now is also the time to be thinking about who will be delegates to the District 2 Convention in June and also who may want to run for District Office as we will have several vacancies to fill in 2022. We have a District 2 Nominating Committee, and more information will be forthcoming on the procedures for submitting your nomination.

I want to thank you all for your continued work for the District. It's a difficult time we are in, and I think we all try hard to keep a positive attitude. Keeping in touch with each other and our members is very important, now more than ever. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Vice President's Message- Joanne Gray



It's been two nearly years since we began the COVID 19 dilemma, and it is gratifying to see how the lodges in District 2 have weathered the storm. Many of our lodges have developed creative ways to keep in touch with their members with phone calls, greeting cards and newsletters. Several lodges have conducted drive through pancake breakfasts, dinners, and bake sales. It is rewarding to see how well these drive thru meals have been received as our members are so eager to associate with other members, albeit at a distance. Zoom meetings are, seemingly, becoming the new normal and are an effective way to maintain communication. Hopefully, soon we will be back to some degree of normalcy in the near future with warmer weather and outdoor activities and vaccinations.

In the spring, we held our District 2 Zone Seminar via Zoom. This was an experiment that worked effectively and was well attended. It afforded multiple members from lodges to attend without the need to travel to a distant location. We had excellent speakers from Headquarters speaking on membership, Fraternal development, and marketing strategies. Additional topics included Programs for Lodges, Reporting Dates and Requirements, Cultural, Youth and Sports programs, Financial Products, updates on Trollhaugen events and news regarding The Scandinavian Hour. We had hoped to conduct a Zone Seminar in Alaska this fall; however, circumstances have made that impractical.

On a cheerful note, the Steak Fry took place July 17th at Trollhaugen. A Horseshoe Tournament and a Kubb Tournament were enjoyed as well. There was a lot of fun and good food packed into one special day. Steak Fry spirits were high. Erling Berg, a long-time champion and supporter of Trollhaugen, had a trail named in his honor by the Forest Service and a special trail sign was displayed.

Unfortunately, in the interest of safety, the Adult Heritage Retreat that was scheduled for September 17-19th at Trollhaugen was cancelled once again. Hopefully next year will see the Retreat returned.

Congratulations to Sonja Lodge, Eugene, Oregon 2020 Large Lodge of the Year winner; Thor Lodge, Salem, Oregon, 2020 Small Lodge of the Year; Bothell Lodge, Bothell, Washington 2020 Large Family Lodge of the Year and Harald Haarfager, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho 2020 Small Family Lodge of the Year.

Sadly, Norse Venner Lodge in Sitka, AK is closing their doors. They were not able to retain their membership. Hopefully their members will find another lodge to join. Membership numbers declining only slightly from last year which tells us that we are holding our own and still have a way to go to get our membership numbers back up.

Secretary's Message – Jane Bueing



Again, the last several months have been interesting with so many zoom meetings, some with great programs, videos of different types being shown, power points, virtual classes, friends, and families sharing and just happy to see faces. We have had some lodges have summer picnics being careful with distancing and masks. Other lodges wondering just what to do to keep the interest of our members. We can only continue to do our best. Myself, I think the District officers will need to continue to be available on zoom with the Lodges so that Lodges are aware of District Board, Trollhaugen and Camps.

The different lodges are certainly at different comfort levels with Zoom or online viewing of virtual meetings. If you are uncomfortable signing on to a virtual meeting, try asking a member of the lodge to help you get on to view the virtual meeting, or a virtual meeting with family, you will hopefully be enlightened to see faces. Of course, not the same as in person, but at least a smile will come to your face. It is important to participate to help lodges keep their spirits up until we are able to meet once again in person.

REMEMBER: Lodge Secretaries,

November is coming fast, and it is time to elect a new officer roster for 2022, as well as to report any changes in lodge meeting location and times.

Directly after the election has taken place, the Lodge Secretary should report the results by signing on to www.sofn.com and clicking on the 'Change Officers' option on their Profile Page. More detailed directions for reporting and submitting these changes has been sent via email as a PDF.

Even though not all lodges will be holding elections this November due to social distancing restrictions, all lodges should affirm or change their lodge officer rosters by December 31, 2021.

Any changes to officers' addresses, phone numbers, or email addresses should be sent by email to Fraternal@sofn.com and jmwraalstad@mac.com.

Please note that changes will not be live on the website until 1/15/2022.

Please contact Sherry Gorse at 612-821-4643 or fraternal@sofn.com with any questions.

NEW SECRETARY:

I am having to step down as District 2 Secretary due to family issues. James Wraalstad of Bothell 106 in Bothell WA has agreed to be the new District Secretary until the convention of 2022. His email address is jmwraalstad@mac.com. If you have any Secretarial or District questions, James will be glad to answer or find you an answer. Thank-you James.

Incoming Secretary's Message – James Wraalstad



I want to send my greetings to the entire district. It is my privilege to assume the duties of the secretary of the District 2 from Jane Bueing. I am very excited about stepping into this role and rub elbows with the other members of the board. As Jane reminded the lodge secretaries, it is important to submit the new officer information to the home office. I think that Vesterdalen Lodge is first to submit their updated information. This will go into the production of the District 2 Directory which I will be sending out after the new year. I am greatly looking forward to the district convention in Portland next year. I want to thank the board and the zone directors for their wonderful reports. It is very encouraging seeing all the lodges persevere in this difficult time trying to stay safe and healthy.

My very best wishes to Jane and Waldo.

Counselor's Message - Sally Dwyer



The life of a counselor is a lonely business. Our district seems to run without too many hiccups or need of advice. The one thing going is the living and breathing P&P document continual updating. So, here's what has/is happened this reporting period.

Chris and James have taken the several thumb drives of P&P information from at least 12 years of edits, updates and forms and transferred them to a terra byte gizmo. I have not been there physically this fall due to medical stuff but have been in the loop-letting the volunteer tech-experts work for D2. Thank you.

What does this mean? It means that when the project is complete, the P&P with the most current updates will be available to each officer in the district via their computer. Each person will have their own sign in for read or print out only. When that officer is no longer on the board, that privilege will disappear. Each time there is an update, notice will go out and changes noted.

Having a bulky and heavy notebook is no longer optimal and we are hoping this will work for our needs. It has been under discussion for a while and Chris and James are making it happen for all of us. I am looking forward to the next few months of editing, merging and forms scanning with them.

On a personal note, I will be moving to Juneau for 5 weeks starting the end of October for radiation treatments for my cancer continuing saga. I will have my cell phone, my sewing machine, my car and paints/brushes. I am attempting to view this like a winter retreat with daily blips at the doctors.

Cultural Director's message – Nancy Holter



Since I took on this position in April, I have been in contact with the Cultural Directors of most of the other Districts. We need to take advantage of others' brains to find more ways to offer new programs and classes to our members. I have also been in contact with most of the Cultural Directors of the lodges in District 2, but the responses have not been nearly as numerous. I can't help your lodges with cultural issues if I don't know what they are. Equally, I need your suggestions for successful programs so other lodges can benefit from your experience. I have been sending a list of programs, internet links for classes, videos, lessons, etc. to the cultural directors on a random schedule. Perhaps now that it is fall, I can get it on a regular monthly basis. If you have something to share across the district, please send it – remember to leave lots of lead time so I am not sending out a Christmas idea on Dec 10th, etc.

The District 5 CD offered to work to clarify the new directions for the Cultural Skills program; who to send things to, etc. She is working directly with International and will update us when she has more information. In the meantime, if members want to work on Cultural Skills pins, we will provide as much direction as we can.

The Folk-Art Competition and Exhibition will be held at the convention next spring. Members have 6 or 7 months to get their projects done, so it is definitely time to start! I would like this to be a fantastic display and fully expect the members to outdo themselves with their handiwork. Don't wait for the registration forms to appear before you start!

The librarian at Greig Lodge has informed me that she has quite a few books that they are willing to give to other lodges for their libraries. If you are interested in what they have, please contact Mary Hill (hillmarym@aol.com, cell phone (971) 280-4609).

Keep your lodge cultural directors aware of what types of programs and classes you are interested in, and what resources you might be aware of. It takes a community to create interesting and educational programs for our lodges, please be an active part of that.



Foundation Director's message - Darrin Lee



The Sons of Norway Foundation is dedicated to funding activities that preserve and promote our Nordic heritage, positively affect members, and make Sons of Norway communities a more vibrant place to live.

<https://www.sofn.com/foundation/>

October is Foundation Month at Sons of Norway. The “Together We Are The Future” fundraising campaign supports these efforts. Help us raise \$150,000 before January 15, 2022! Contributions of any amount and any gift vehicle count (cash, IRA QCDs, etc.) By contributing to the Sons of Norway Foundation, you are supporting programs that benefit your lodge, your community, and the young Sons of Norway members who will keep our Nordic legacy strong for future generations. Visit <https://www.sofn.com/give2021/> to learn more and donate!

In September, The District 2 Board of Directors proudly approved a \$10,000 donation to support the Foundation.

We ask members to help us celebrate and support the services that the Sons of Norway Foundation provides to members. The Foundation is here for our members in 3 ways!

<p>1) GRANTS</p> <p><i>We provide grants to our lodges and other partners to advance our core values.</i></p>	<p>2) SCHOLARSHIPS</p> <p><i>We provide scholarships to members and their children and grandchildren for post secondary education and cross-cultural exchanges. One scholarship makes many many years of membership well worth it!</i></p>	<p>3) PHILANTHROPIC GOALS</p> <p><i>We provide the opportunity to leave a legacy based on your interests and passions.</i></p>
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GRANTS Opportunities:

~\$20,000 - \$50,000 given out annually depending on applications. All due December 31st – please apply!

- Lodge Vitality Grant: Operational or small capital support for lodges, up to \$1,000
- Lodge Culture and Heritage: Focusing on Norwegian heritage and culture, lodges only, up to \$1,500
- Community Partnership: Norwegian heritage and eculture, non-members only, up to \$1,000
- Helping Hands to Children: Lodges that run programs or partner with local orgs for kids, up to \$1,000
- Helping Hands to Members: helps members affected by natural disasters or severe illness/injury, up to \$5,000

Learn more online here: <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/grants/>

SCHOLARSHIP Opportunities:

Applications open in October. Encourage students and members in your lodge to apply! With the rising cost of higher education, the Sons of Norway Foundation is here to help with 15 different scholarship opportunities. For many recipients, these awards are a life changing opportunity to explore educational passions here in the US or in Norway. Over \$100,000 awarded annually to students of all types!

- Americans studying domestically or in Norway
- Norwegians studying in the USA
- Adult learners
- Undergraduate, vocational/trade, graduate
- Members (or children and grandchildren of members) and non-members
- Norwegian Folk High Schools or Oslo International Summer School
- Major specific (elementary education, women studying engineering/science)

Most scholarships require Sons of Norway membership (can be under a parent or grandparent) but some do not. Some opportunities are unique, like the Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship that was created to honor a member's daughter after she passed away at a young age. This scholarship can fund full tuition for a female student studying certain engineering or science fields. Another unique scholarship is the Bernt Anker Scholarship, created by a member who wanted students without parents to have the same opportunities. This scholarship is open to members and non-members alike. Many of our scholarships are also open to non-traditional or adult students.

Learn more online here: <https://www.sofn.com/foundation/scholarships/>
You can also contact the Foundation with specific scholarship questions

How to Apply for a Grant or Scholarship?

- Online only: www.SonsofNorway.com/Foundation
- Grant and Scholarship Portal Opens: Every year in October
- Deadlines vary by opportunity – be sure to check the website often

Camperships

The Foundation provides over \$10,000 annually for youth to attend Norwegian camps through the Draxten Fund & Evenson Fund. The Foundation sends funds to each District, the District makes the awards. Camps are available everywhere:

- Skogfjorden (Concordia Language Village) – In District 1
- Camp Trollhaugen, Nidaros and Normanna – In District 2
- Land of the Vikings – In District 3
- Trollfjorden, Bjørnetann and Trollhaugen - In District 4
- Masse Moro – In District 5
- Camp Norge – In District 6

District 2 – Grants and Scholarships Received

Grants:

District 2 has received \$9400 in grants since 2019! The more applications we send in, the more opportunities we have to receive more funding. Here are the Grants we received in D2 in 2021:

- Community Partnership: Nordic Museum received a grant for exhibition-related programming for The Experimental Self: Edvard Munch’s Photography
- Helping Hands to Children: Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge 2-164 received \$500 to support the lodge’s farm to School Program
- Lodge Vitality: Columbia Basin Lodge 2-080 (Moses Lake) received \$1,000 to finish building a storage unit for their Viking ship parade float.

Scholarships:

These are just examples – over \$20,000 has been awarded to students in D2 since 2019!

- Carl Saltveit: \$3,270 To Karissa Stevens of lodge 2-001 to study at the Oslo International Summer School in 2022
- King Olav V Norwegian-American Heritage fund: \$3000 to Peter Brosten of lodge 2-001 to study at the University of Bergen
- Helen Tronvold Sholarhisp: Arne Grette of Issaquah, WA received \$2,900 to study at Valdres Folkehøgskole

How Can I Give?



Visit <https://www.sofn.com/give2021/> or see your October Viking Magazine, there’s a great article on the Foundation as well as an envelope that you can mail in your donation. By contributing to the Sons of Norway Foundation, you are supporting programs that benefit your lodge, your community, and the young Sons of Norway members who will keep our

Nordic legacy strong for future generations. The Sons of Norway Foundation is a 501c3 organization. Gifts are tax deductible in accordance with state and federal law.

How Else Can I Get Involved?

1) Become a District or Lodge Foundation Director <i>Be an ambassador for the Foundation’s grant and scholarship recipients, help raise funds, promote the Foundation’s values</i>	2) Apply for the Board of Governors <i>Take on a leadership role with an organization that is passionate about serving others and sharing our Nordic values</i>	3) Become a scholarship or grant reviewer: <i>Help the foundation make funding decisions by providing your expertise and time</i>
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Contact the Foundation today!

Darrin Lee
Foundation Director-District 2
425-241-2392
Email: Sofn.d2.foundation@gmail.com

Emily Stark
Foundation Manager
612-821-4632
Email: foundation@sofn.com
www.sofn.com/foundation

Youth Director and Historian's message - Doug Quammen



Here we are again, looking forward, looking back, trying to make sense of where we are and where we are going.

Again, this year, we had no camps operating. That's two years with no camps. This discontinuity can have a big effect throughout our programs. Campers look forward to the next years camp. Our staffers, generally ex-campers, are missing out too. We're missing out on the learning and growth that comes from participating in our camps. Novice staffers miss out on the experiences that would help develop them into experienced, confident staffers.

This year, as in the past couple of years, we planned and hoped for a 'normal' camp session. Unfortunately, I think we may never again see a 'normal' camp. The definition has shifted. Now we are concerned with social distancing and masking. Hopefully, there will be a vaccination for kids under twelve shortly. New health and safety guidelines have been implemented and more are on their way. Some of these new guidelines may cause a lot of angst. Some may cause a bit of spending. It comes down to safety and security, which is something we can't do without.

As always, we operate on the assumption that camp will be held. Because of our break in continuity, fewer senior campers at Trollhaugen transition to camp staff at Nidaros/Normanna. This may come down to fewer councilors for the junior camps. In the past, I've recruited young adults as councilors. Most survive.

District 2 has given \$1000 to the Sofie/Olsen Scholarship Fund, which generates scholarships from the interest on that fund. Scholarship and camp application forms will be available at the beginning of the year.

Meanwhile, the camp dates for 2022 are:

Trollhaugen June 26-July 9
Nidaros July 10-July 23
Normanna July 24-August 6

2023: Trollhaugen June 25-July 8
Nidaros July 9-July 22
Normanna July 23-August 5

We raised the camp fee from \$675 to \$700. Not a big change but I challenge anyone to come up with a better value for a two-week camp.

This year may be a challenge to staff the camps, so I hope you heed the call if you hear us calling for help.

Sports Director's message - Laurie Berg



This year has been interesting with the pandemic changing the way that we can participate in sports.

The ski race did not happen at Trollhaugen but in its place, we had a virtual Ski Race the whole month of February. Instead of a medallion, we gave out certificates. Participants logged their miles on skis and emailed them in. 5 lodges participated. I have been asked if this type of event could happen again even if the in-person race is possible at Trollhaugen. My thought is yes. What are your thoughts?

Horse Shoes and Kubb Tournament at the District 2 steak fry July 17, 2021

Even with Covid, this event was able to take place. Four lodges were represented and 15 people participated. KUBB was the game of choice but there were four who played horseshoes. Medallions were awarded to the ones with the highest number of wins. We are hoping to get more lodges to participate next year. I will be sending out information to the lodge sports directors to stir up interest in this fun competition.

Aug 14, 2021, D2 Golf Tournament. Cle Elum WA was the destination for this event. Golfing took place at Sun Country Golf course with 4 lodges who had teams in the competition. Tordenskjold men's team took the men's trophy and Normanna took the coed team trophy. Lunch was catered by Mikes Taven and was held in the covered pop-up area at the Golf course. Despite the heat and smokey conditions everyone had a great time and look forward to next year's competition.

Looking ahead. Tordenskjold lodge will be the host of the Golf Tournament on Aug 13, 2022.

Publicity and Social Director's Message - Robert Kodalen



This will be my seventh publication of the Dynamic 2. I hope you are enjoying what you are seeing. All of the officers have tried to make this enjoyable and informative during this Covid-19 epidemic. Hopefully soon "Covid" will be a word for the history books.

I continue to try and feature each lodge in the Viking Magazine especially for special events like anniversary pictures or other special celebrations.

Unfortunately, I am not getting the pictures I know are out there especially looking at the many wonderful newsletters. If I can help you in any way, please reach out to me.

September was the first month using the new form. Now it's one form with each picture. If this is confusing in any way, please reach out to me and I will help fill it out. I understand the need is a legal one. The new form emphasizes that the person submitting the picture is "granting permission

and consent to Sons of Norway and the Sons of Norway Foundation for the use of the following photograph(s) as identified below to promote the organization(s). Use may include but is not limited to print publication, publicity, advertising, and digital or online content”.

Also, if you don't do Facebook, I volunteer to post lodge fliers to the District 2 Facebook page. It's a great way to get the word out to District 2 members. Please email the flier to me with any directions.

I will not be doing a Newsletter Competition at our District 2 Convention. All lodges seem to do the best they can do especially during COVID. I am open to ideas how else to showcase our wonderful newsletters. Possibly ask the lodges to bring a newsletter for display purposes.

I ask you to now share this with your other lodge members. You'll see the next publication Spring of 2022.

Zone Director messages

Zone 1 – Regina Agerter



Greetings to the D2 Board. As you can see below several of our lodges have been busy in spite of the Pandemic!!

Grieg Lodge #15 The only things currently scheduled are their monthly lodge meetings. They will continue to hold them via zoom. They had hoped to start having pancake breakfasts, in person meetings and TGIFF's (Thank God It's First Friday get togethers!) but the surge in coronavirus cases due to the Delta variant made them put those plans on hold. They will not hold their lutefisk dinner in November either. They could not get a commitment from enough volunteers. The uncertainty of the pandemic made planning

impossible. When the infection rate and hospitalizations come down, they will re-assess what they can do.

Nidaros Lodge #16: This year's picnic was a potluck on Sunday, August 8 at the lodge. There will not be a meeting in August. However, there will be a meeting on September 19

Sonja Lodge #38: The members continue to meet via Zoom. The meeting nights always begin with a cultural program. Due to the recent Covid uptick, they will determine whether to meet in person on a month-to-month basis. There are few other activities at this time. Their Tuesday lunch bunch resumed in August however attendance has been light. They hope things will level out enough to make lefse this fall. They are considering adjustments necessary to have their lutefisk dinner in January, probably a takeout version. President Patti Jo Meshnik would appreciate input from other lodges that have made this happen.

Roald Lodge #39: They are considering a move to the Elks Lodge. They had a picnic in August and there were 23 people playing Kubb even though the temperature was in the 90's. They also welcomed 5 new members and Laila Griffith is planning to make lefse for a fundraiser.

Thor Lodge #42: Thor Lodge confirmed that they were struggling and requested that the D2 board help with a revitalization for their lodge. They had an in person meeting and close to 40 members were there. I am pleased to report that all of the positions were filled with volunteers and everyone wants to see the lodge continue. Several lodge members have stepped up to fill lodge positions. Barbara Coleman is the current VP and she is moving into the president's position. They have 2 members who are sharing the secretary position.

Zone 2 - Norma Jean Sands



Adaptations to the continued pandemic have been varied throughout Zone 2, which reaches from Bellingham south to Edmonds. Summer picnics were a common theme, but then things tightened up again. There are cautious strides into meetings and activities this fall.

Normanna Lodge 2: Normanna is our largest Lodge by far with over 1200 members. They have many regular events that they manage to keep going at Normanna Hall with spurts and stops according to the status of the pandemic. They held their Midsummer Fest picnic September 2 at Lake Riley, Normanna Park. They have a drive thru pancake breakfast the second Saturday of each month. They held their first in person Lodge meeting in a long while this September. A Taco dinner was served, followed by the meeting. They followed this with a lefse making event the next day and have plans for pickling of herring very soon. They also have a sewing club that meets twice a month at the Lodge and a bokklubben that meets once a month. The Lodge also hosts pinochle, dancing, and meat raffles each month, all advertised to be very "Family Friendly." And in November they will have their Holiday Bazaar with music, vendors, food, and boutique!

Fritjov Lodge 17: This Lodge has not utilized Zoom for meetings. The Board gathers in person. The planned September meeting for September was cancelled due to concerns about Covid, but they are planning to hold one in October. They did hold a summer picnic at the Iona Winery which some 40 people attended. As members like to gather in person, but are mindful of large gatherings, the Board is considering starting a series of small classes in November teaching lefse making, baking Norwegian cookies, pickling herring, making grav laks, etc. They are also considering opening a kaffe stua starting in late October. They usually hold their Lutefisk dinner in December; last year it was a drive thru, but members would like a seated affair this year. If so, they would consider paring down the seatings. They are gearing up for elections. The president is stepping down and the vice president will take her place, but they are looking for new folks to fill board positions for 2022.

Wergeland Lodge 21: This Lodge has not used Zoom nor met in person but have kept in touch by phone. In October they will hold their first in person Lodge meeting in quite a while. Members attending have got the vaccine and they will wear masks. They are looking forward to the meeting and to get going again!

Abel Lodge 29: Abel is our smallest Lodge. Rental of the Lodge has resumed and is currently helping their finances. Board members meet in person; all have been vaccinated. They have not had any Lodge meetings. They did have a summer picnic in which participants were either vaccinated or masked. They are hoping to get new members elected to the Board, but it is difficult getting interest in these times.

Edmonds Lodge 130: Edmonds continues to hold Board and Lodge meetings by Zoom. They did have a summer picnic at Lake Joy with about twenty people attending. Attendance at the September Lodge Zoom meeting was very low and interest in Zoom meetings is waning. But the Board is not ready to schedule in person meetings, which in the past always included dinner. The Lodge's three times a year pancake breakfasts are on hold. The Lodge has held several outdoor work parties to fix up our parade float Viking ship in anticipation of 17th of May and 4th of July parades again.

Whidbey Island Nordic Lodge 164: Whidbey Lodge has employed Zoom for Lodge meetings during the pandemic and have had many good programs. It was decided to continue with Zoom for September and October. Unfortunately, the September Zoom meeting had to be cancelled due to a power outage in the area! They did have one movie and pizza night during the summer, but the second one and the summer picnic were cancelled due to the Delta variant. Their second annual Nordic Day was scheduled for October 2nd but has been postponed due to Covid; maybe there will be something bigger and better in the summer! There have been some resignations from the Building Association Board, but they managed to find 4 new members. Some of the current Lodge Board members would like to not run again, but it is hard finding interest to serve on the Board. But they do find interest from their members in volunteering to help with events. They do have a bok klubb that meets by Zoom and that started up again in September after a summer lull.

Zone 3 – Andrea Torland



Hi Everyone!! Fall is already here and we are slowly coming back to life once again through virtual meetings and limited event activities. Throughout the time of COVID, Zone 3 Lodges have continued to operate on a virtual basis using ZOOM for regular member meetings, as well as some very interesting program presentations. I have certainly missed seeing all of you at the Lodge meetings and events. We remain hopeful for 2022 District and International Conventions, as planning is already underway. Be sure to read your VIKING MAGAZINE for all the updates on what is going on.

Please remember to send me your newsletters and include me in your ZOOM meetings! Let me know if you have questions or if I can assist your Lodge. We are all here for each other! Following are the reports from the Zone 3 Lodges.

VESTERDALEN LODGE AUBURN, WA: Thank you for attending our meeting last night. It is always good to hear from you and learn what is going on in the district.

Our Lodge did hold a summer Lodge picnic on July 19, at the Auburn Game Farm Park. We all brought our own dinners and the Lodge provided drinks, cupcakes and cookies. We had a few games available, two members provided some music ,and we had a “roast” for our newsletter editor and webmaster who was moving to Arizona full time. He will remain a member and will continue with his lodge duties. We also had a “fundraiser” where a member donated Tomtes, from the various Scandinavian counties, which members could purchase. We raised around \$150, and more will be available at our in-person meetings, eventually.

We are still meeting via Zoom, with great programs with speakers from around the country. Our Cultural director has done a great job finding interesting programs!

We are postponing our Lutefisk dinner this year, along with putting up a decorated Christmas tree at the White River Valley Museum until next year.

We are mourning the sudden death of our Lodge Treasurer, who had filled this position for nearly 10 years (not consecutively). We are grateful for a qualified member who stepped up to take over the position.

We all miss meeting in person but are waiting until the health department indicates it is safe for us all. We look forward to seeing what other Lodges are able to do this year and participating as we are able. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Vernene Scheurer, President - Vesterdalen Lodge

LEIF ERIKSON LODGE BALLARD: Greetings and best wishes from the board of Leif Erikson Lodge. In September, we welcomed members back into the hall for our first in-person member's meeting in quite some time. We were lucky to be joined by UW Associate Professor Lauren Poyer, who delighted the crowd with tales on the Kraken and other sea creatures from Norse mythology. As summer fades and we move into the fall season, we are excited to promote several upcoming events. In October, as is tradition, we will celebrate Foundation month at our monthly meeting. Longtime LEL Board Member, and current LEL Foundation Director Doug Warne, will prepare our dinner, and talk to us about the foundation. We will also have the privilege of a visit from Emily Stark, the Foundation Development Manager for Sons of Norway, travelling to the PNW from Minneapolis. Join us to hear about the scholarships and grants awarded in the past year and what is available currently. We will follow all local and state guidelines related to in person events at all fall gatherings, and have taken proactive measures to keep the lodge as clean and well equipped as possible over the summer months.

Fall also brings about our annual Bazaar, and this year marks the 115th Leif Erikson Lodge Bazaar. Due to the current public health situation, there will not be vendors and activities inside the hall, but we will have many fun ways to participate. In addition to our Golden Ticket Raffle, we are holding an online auction via the bidding owl website. You can bid on many fantastic items, experiences and Nordic favorites. Bidding opens October 9th and runs through October 23rd. Of course we haven't forgotten about the food! Order ahead for our Nordic meal to go. All food will be picked up on the afternoon of Saturday October 23rd from the Lodge garage.

Visit <https://www.biddingowl.com/LeifEriksonLodgeBazaar> to learn more. Please support Leif Erikson Lodge by participating in our Bazaar and other fall events to come. As we approach the holiday season, we will continue to track the changes in local and state rules and guidelines, and will always err on the side of caution by keeping the health and safety of our members as the top priority.

Seth Maristuen - President, Leif Erikson Lodge

BOTHELL LODGE: Greetings: BOTHELL LODGE GETS AWARD! The latest issue of The Nyheter from Bothell Sons of Norway Lodge 2-106 is available for reading or printing at:

<https://bothellsonsofnorway.org/Newsletter.pdf> Congratulations and THANK YOU to all the Bothell Lodge community! Bothell Lodge received the Sons of Norway 2020 Large Family Lodge for District 2. This is quite a proud honor for us! This award recognizes that given the severe tremendous challenges of 2020, we thrived! Thank you all for it took many to accomplish the results of 2020 that led us to attain this honor. Norway is the world leader in technology of converting ferry systems from fossil fuels to electric systems; one third of Norway's fleet is already converted. Washington State has the largest ferry system in the USA. At the end of September, Norway's USA Ambassador and her entourage met with Washington State Ferry leaders to share experiences, lessons learned and technology. This is a wonderful dialog that will transform these vital ferry systems. Expect tremendous changes in our ferry energy systems. Related articles are

found in Sons of Norway Viking magazines (e.g., recent “Ambassador's Insights”).

We continue our very delicious and successful pancake breakfasts and dinners with the latest ones on Sept. 11 and 19, respectively. A very special “Thank You” to all those that consumed our Pancake Breakfasts and Dinners! These YUMMY events provide connections with our community. Please let us know of your interests in joining our Lodge, Board or trustees or volunteering; please contact President Bob Steed at FRAGITS359@Yahoo.com.

Future events. These are tentative. For updates on all upcoming events, call 425-485-9085;

October 9 – Pancake Breakfast (Takeaway, 8 - noon)

October 21 – General Meeting at 7PM (social at 6:30) via Zoom only

October 24 – Monthly Dinner – (Viking Stew, Takeaway, 3 – 4:45 PM) Reservations required by

October 17 - dinner@bothellsonsofnorway.org

November 6 – Annual Bazaar and Bake sale 10 – 3 PM. In-person at Bothell Lodge

December 4 – Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner (11 – 4 PM, Takeaway only, Reservations required; Reserve your time for pickup by November 22nd via Email at Lutefisk@BothellSonsofNorway.org

Be Safe, Have Fun, Stay Healthy, Get Vax'd, Best Wishes and on Oct. 31: BOO! From your Bothell Lodge Vikings. Bob Steed, President Bothell Lodge

CASCADE LODGE MERCER ISLAND, WA: Until we can meet again in person, Cascade Lodge will be having ZOOM meetings. Our next (sixth) ZOOM meeting will be on Tuesday October 26th from 7 to 8 pm.

Our program for the evening titled “Eddic Poetry and pre-Christian Scandinavian Religion” will be presented by Timothy Liam Waters, a PhD candidate in the Department of Scandinavian and Programs in Medieval Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. Liam is presently writing his dissertation on space, place, and direction in the Old Norse mythic corpus. Details are contained in the attached Newsletter.

Nominations are now open for candidates for Officers of Cascade Lodge for 2022. ALL positions are open in the list of Officers – namely, all positions from President through Auditors. We encourage each of our members, to take a leadership role in our Lodge to help guide our activities towards those you have a passion and a willingness to participate.

Mark your calendar for an interesting and rewarding virtual get-together from 7 to 8 pm on October 26th. Med vennlig hilsen,

Ted Fosberg, Cascade Lodge Newsletter Editor

Zone 4 - Joanne Gray



Norden Lodge has put a hold on all in person meetings at this time. They will continue with Zoom meetings out of an abundance of caution until the current COVID situation improves. They are looking at doing drive thru dinners and drive thru waffle breakfasts but will not serve in person. They have cancelled their lutefisk dinner this fall. Their gnome program is on hold for the month of October but will resume in November. They have plans to paint the front of the building store front windows with Rosemaling which will remind folks that the Lodge is still functioning.

Grays Harbor Lodge has been relatively inactive for a while. They had a board meeting the night I spoke with Dixie to try and determine what path to pursue. They have, unfortunately, experienced graffiti on their building and homeless folks sleeping in their doorway. They are thinking about adding gates to their entrance to discourage trespassers. They will not have their bazaar in October and may plan on doing something in November.

Breidablik Lodge has been doing fairly well. They are keeping the lodge locked and not doing anything since the Delta variant has surfaced. Their meetings are through Zoom, and they are not resuming their breakfast meetings. They did have an outdoor picnic this summer. They have set up teams to come into the lodge and make lefse. Each team has two experienced and two new learners. Their lefse is sold by preorder. They had a collectable sale in June with vendors. They charged the vendors a booth fee and sold premade lunches prepared by members with food handler cards and who were vaccinated.

Helgeland Lodge membership has been in the process of reviewing what they plan to do in the near future. They had a booth at the fair several weekends ago and sold prepackaged fattigman and krumkake. In June they participated in the Puget Island garage sale and sold their famous pulled pork sandwiches. Their participation was about half of what it has been in past years. They also participated at the Bald Eagle Day and sold prepackaged pastries.

Oslo Lodge sponsored the Wednesday night event at the opening of the Daughters of Norway Convention. Called the Wednesday Night Furlough, Josh Farley, Kitsap Community's legendary story walk expert, lead the group around the Bremerton waterfront. After the tour, the ladies (and a few men) enjoyed a no-host bar, delicious dinner, and Harvey's hot butter rum cheesecake. Josh Farley then switched hats and became the Trivia host for the evening. The questions were tough, but our team managed to win one of the three gift baskets, with multiple items and gift bags for all at the table. The Daughters of Norway greatly appreciated the support of Oslo Lodge and for their sponsorship of the opening night event.

Olympic Lodge is doing all right and are delaying having group get togethers at this time. They made lefse to sell at an outdoor sale and it was well received. They are not having their dance classes at this time but several groups are making donations to use the lodge to practice their dances at the lodge. Those attending must be vaccinated.

Poulsbo Lodge has been busy. They are changing the name of their Christmas bazaar to Nordic Market to relate to their purpose more closely. It will be held the first Saturday of December along with their Julefest. They are having their Friday night dinners in the lodge with socially distanced tables. The room is large and easily accommodates separation of tables. They stopped their takeout dinners mid-August. At their last meeting they voted in 60 new members. Election of officers will take place in November with a number of officers agreeing to stay on in their current positions.

Hovedstad Lodge has had several well attended drive through dinners during the summer with members preordering their diner and then driving by and picking them up. Often the lodge members lingered to visit with other members as they we anxious to visit in person. The lodge recently had their summer picnic. It was decided at the picnic to resume meeting in person and also having a Zoom presence as well. Plans are being formulated to resume Norway Day in 2022, with a lot of pent-up interest in the event.

For the most part, the lodges are remaining positive and making the best of the COVID situation. They are finding creative ways to keep their membership involved and interested. Member retention is of concern but is being handled very well.

Zone 5 – Darrin Lee



Elastisitet! (Resilience)-The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness. We are doing it...almost there! First, gratulerer to Harald Haarfager 02-11 for winning Small Family Lodge of the year- 2020! The Lodges and its members in Zone 5, like others across the Sons of Norway, are definitely a resilient bunch! Zone 5 geographically is diverse and spread across 2 states (Central and Eastern Washington and Northern and Southern Idaho), and each in a different areas with restrictions approved by their government for Coronavirus. Each lodge is doing what its members and community feel

comfortable with to ultimately keep folks safe. Unfortantely no lodge is holding the traditional annual Lutefisk Dinner for the rest of 2021. Some examples of how the lodges have been getting together over the past few months and planned future:

Tordenskjold Lodge No. 5, Spokane, WA: The lodge has been meeting in person has been quite active with many member and community events. Since August they have done their monthly RAIDs at various breweries around Spokane. They attended a Spokane Indian's Baseball Game and

had Lefse Rolling, Viking Bracelet and Rosemaling classes. In September they celebrated their 114th Anniversary with a Dinner, another Lefse roll combined with Kubb, booth at the Fair and Adopt a Highway Litter Pick up. In October the last Lefse Roll will be done and since they aren't having a Lutefisk Dinner where the Lefse was used they are currently discussing selling lefse and almond cakes in December with proceeds to go to local charities. Annual lodge Julebord in December is still planned.

Harald Haarfager Lodge No. 11 Coeur d'Alene, ID: Congratulations again to the Lodge for winning Small Family Lodge of Year 2020! The lodge has been getting together in person for its monthly meetings for some time. Since August they did their bi-annual Adopt A Highway Litter Pick up and Beer Garden volunteering at the Idaho State Fair. In September they had a fun heritage potluck lunch where they showed the movie "Lutefisk Wars"! They are planning their Salmon Dinner Oct 16th and their annual Lutefisk Dinner in February 2022.

Odin Lodge No. 41, Yakima, WA: The Lodge has been holding its monthly meetings, but had to cancel Octobers, but will be resuming in November. After a lot of thought, they have decided to cancel their very popular annual Lutefisk Dinner but may have a future bake sale.

Columbia Basin Lodge No. 80, Moses Lake, WA: The Lodge participated in the Grant County Fair in August and had their Viking Ship was anchored in the Arts and Crafts building and won numerous awards.

Sol-Land Lodge No. 86, Kennewick, WA: While the Lodge has not met since last February, they have been sending out newsletters. They also have been continuing to collect things for their local charities.

Epleдалen Lodge No. 96, Wenatchee, WA: The Lodge has been having Lodge Meetings via zoom monthly for some time. In September they got together for a Potluck Dinner. They are currently still planning their postponed 50th Lodge Anniversary celebration that didn't occur last April.

Grondal Lodge No. 122, Boise, ID: The Lodge has been sending out regular newsletters via Facebook throughout Covid with members sharing very interesting stories about themselves. They had originally planned to meet in September but had to postpone due to new Covid restrictions. They are hopeful to have their Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations.

Elvedalen Lodge No 129, Clarkston, WA: The Lodge is meeting in October and is planning on doing its annual Thanksgiving Baskets they prepare and donate to the local schools in the area. They hope to have their annual fundraiser Scandinavian Breakfast in March 2022.

" Uansett hvor mye faller på oss, fortsetter vi å pløye fremover. Det er den eneste måten å holde veiene klare på" ("No matter how much falls on us, we keep plowing ahead. That's the only way to keep the roads clear.")

— *Greg Kincaid*

Zone 6 -Christie Ericson



Like most lodges throughout Sons of Norway, the Alaska lodges have been trying out creative ways to raise funds for their lodges and have been continuing to look for alternative ideas to stay in contact with their members during the pandemic. Many of the lodges have had outdoor meetings and get-togethers during the summer months, but those plans will change as the weather gets colder.

On a sad note, Norske Venner Lodge 2-119 in Sitka voted to disband this summer. Organized in 1984, the lodge was down to only 14 members, and they decided it would be in their best interest to disband. On the plus side, several of these members with connections to Petersburg will be transferring their memberships to Fedrelandet Lodge 2-23. Island Viking Lodge 2-145 in Kodiak is also continuing to struggle, and the pandemic has not helped their situation. If you know anyone in the Kodiak area who might be interested in learning more about their Norwegian heritage, encourage them to get involved with the lodge! It's also a great opportunity for young people to gain community engagement and leadership skills. And don't forget about the scholarship opportunities for members!

Zone 6 Lodge Updates/News:

Fedrelandet Lodge 2-23 (Petersburg)

- Continuing to hold monthly pancake breakfasts (Trying out pumpkin spice pancakes for September!)
- Have tentatively set the potluck season and holiday dates for this fall and early winter. Potato Ball Dinner (October 17), Harvest Potluck (November 14), Holiday Bazaar (December 3-4), Pickled Herring Contest (December 8). Events contingent on Covid situation.

Midnatsol 2-32 (Ketchikan)

- Not meeting due to COVID in the community, but looking forward to an upcoming meeting when cases subside.

Svalbard Lodge 2-33 (Juneau)

- Most public and social events suspended, but were able to meet several times over the summer for outdoor events.
- Zoom business meetings in April, August, and September. Business meetings usually the fourth Saturday of the month from 10-12.
- Knitting Circle meets twice weekly for knitting and company. Were able to meet a few times in person over the summer before Covid restrictions were implemented again. Otherwise have had Zoom meetings.
- Had a group walk at Jensen-Olsen Arboretum to enjoy the flowers (May 15)

- Held annual Solstice picnic at Sandy Beach on Douglas Island (June 19)
- Fun visit to the historical Last Chance Mining Museum (September 11)
- Fall plans include a possible Nordic Film Festival in cooperation with Juneau's Gold Town Theater at their temporary drive-in theater.

Bernt Balchen Lodge 2-46 (Anchorage)

- Continuing to hold monthly lodge meetings via Zoom
- Monthly outdoor Friluftsliv events (hiking, camping, berry picking, Kubb, etc.)
- Held Annual Fish Boil Dinner (August 16)
- Resumed in-person bi-weekly Strikkekafe knitting group in September (masked and socially distanced)
- Hosted Norwegian Ambassador Krutnes and delegations from the Norwegian and Finnish Embassies (September 15-18). Coffee Reception at Viking Hall, hike at Mt Alyeska, Fårikål Dinner.
- Held Fårikål Dinner, both dine in (socially distanced) and to-go (September 18)
- Lefse making (October 1-3 and 29-31). September lefse making was cancelled.
- Planning for Nordic Market (October 9). Indoor/outdoor booths, food to-go only.
- The Zoom language class went very well last year, but it will be moving to a self-study mode supplemented with conversation group meet-ups via Zoom. Contact Christie Ericson (907-602-0673 or christieakgmail.com) if you are interested in joining the Zoom Norwegian Conversation Group, Saturday mornings 10-11 AK Time.
- Lutefisk Dinner (November 6). Still deciding on whether to do to-go or in-person.
- Will not be holding annual Lucia program due to size of event and Covid concerns. Will be looking for alternate options to celebrate.

Arctic Viking Lodge 2-117 (Fairbanks)

- For Syttende Mai members walked from the Carlson Center to downtown and back holding Norwegian flags and adorned with other Norsk regalia. Afterwards members gathered at Pioneer Park for a picnic.
- Held monthly picnics over the summer, the most noteworthy was a gathering on June 20 to celebrate Solstice. They were also monthly outdoor activities--e.g. kayaking outing.
- Resumed monthly potluck-meeting and cultural presentation schedule on the second Friday of each month. In October they will have a booth to mark International Friendship Day. Will sell lefse, krumkake, etc., and participate in the International Fashion Show.
- Annual bazaar at the Fairbanks Lutheran Church will not be held. Not yet sure about status of other events (e.g. Lutefisk Dinner at the end of January).

Island Viking Lodge 2-145 (Kodiak)

- Hanging in there, but have not held any meetings during pandemic; members stay in touch with each other.

International Director's message – Chris Hicks



Your International board has been working hard to keep the Local lodges, Districts, and our financial products safe during these unprecedented times. With that in mind we have made some changes that have been talked about for some time but while not being able to meet in person it became evident that now was the time to make these moves.

The International board has met by zoom on a regular basis to keep things moving.

Those seated delegates to the Sons of Norway 2018 District & International Conventions, have been kept every busy this past couple of years. The elected member of the District Lodge and International Lodge of Sons of Norway for the biennial period had their terms extended through August 2022 as the District and International board members did. We have had to reached out to them a few times to conduct business in our District and International lodges. Thank you to all of those that have replied to our Emails.

At the 2016 International Convention, the International delegates approved a resolution whereby the International Board may use electronic communications during the biennium for referendums. In early 2020 the International Board asked the International delegates to approve a referendum that gives the same authority to the District Boards for conducting business with their district delegates between district lodge meetings. This allows them to handle their business affairs in a timely and efficient manner

The International board recently proposed a governance change for the organization. Several town hall meetings were held to help the delegates understand the changes. Sons of Norway has operated on a convention/assembly structure of governance—one in which the delegates to the International Convention serve as the supreme governing body of the organization. This model is bringing increasing risk to the organization, and nearly all fraternal organizations have now moved away from this type of governance model.

The referendum recommends we adopt a direct election structure of governance—one in which a board of directors elected by all benefit members serves as the supreme governing body of the organization. In addition to allowing our biennial conventions to exclusively focus on celebrating our culture and heritage, this recommendation also satisfies regulatory recommendations that we move to a governance model that is more adept to run the financial side of the business. This change also brings us in line with how fraternal organizations now operate.

Required Annual Lodge forms

All lodge leadership should be familiar with the Lodge D-17 and 990 forms as these are finance forms that need to be filled out soon after the 1st of the year. For those lodges that own a building there is also a D-18 that needs to be filed for the building association.

District 2 is clear for 2019 and 2020 forms we have 2 left (1 D-18 and 1 ACH) that should be completed by the end of the week.

Foundation updates

October Viking that just came out features the 2021 scholarship recipients. In 2020, the Sons of Norway Foundation distributed over \$144,000 in awards.

Congratulations to all the winners.

When you donate to the Sons of Norway Foundation, you are helping to strengthen our Nordic legacy and keep our vibrant communities thriving for generations to come. 2021 “Together We Are the Future” fundraising campaign will begin in October through the end of the year.

To find out more about the revised and new grants, go to sofn.com/foundation/grants

International Vice President’s message – Mark Agerter



It has been crazy busy for the last several months. Projects worked on include the approval of lodge bylaw updates necessitated by the board resolution that requires all local lodge bylaws to include the Dissolution and Distribution of Assets and Compliance clauses as developed by the Corporate Matters and Governance Committee (CMGC). These inclusions are needed in order to satisfy current regulatory and legal requirements. Of course, this has resulted in a flood of revised bylaws that have been submitted and need review by the CMGC and legal staff.

The second project that the CMGC and International Board has taken on is to craft and implement a referendum that, as of this writing, is in the process of approval by the International Lodge delegates. From studying comparative policies of other like organizations to writing the resolution to planning and participating in the Town Halls, discussions, emailing and calling delegates to answer questions as well as the many conference calls with the board....well, you get the idea. It has taken a lot of time, but ultimately, if the measure passes, it will have all been worth it. I want

to thank all of our international convention delegates who voted and understand the importance to Sons of Norway that it represents. I would also like to thank Chris Hicks for all the work she did in preparation and helping to run the town hall meetings. These were very successful and without her help would not have come off so smoothly.

In addition to these special projects, business as usual goes on. A few highlights:

- We are doing very well with our 2021 International Goals. We have already achieved 4 goals in just the first 8 months of the year. Goals, with current results, included New Insurance Members, 204% of goal; Total Life Premium sold 190% of goal; Annuity Premium at 102% of goal, New Members at 151% of goal. The only goal that is lagging is for Foundation Funds but most of those donations come late in the tax year so no real surprise there.
- Membership numbers in general for the entire organization are doing quite well. Organization-wide we have added 12,391 new members in 2021 alone as of mid-September for a total membership of 59,924, the highest total in years. District Two had 4 straight months of positive membership growth with a slight decline in August. Due to incredible growth in District Three, we are now the 3rd largest district after trading places with District One for largest district for some time. As of the end of August, D1 has 13,689 total members, D3 - 11,950 and D2 - 11,340. Hats off to D3 with some 3,975 net new members so far this year.
- Kudos to our own Poulsbo lodge who has surpassed Leif Erikson as the largest lodge in District 2 and all of Sons of Norway as of last May. Poulsbo currently has membership of 1,389 as of the end of August.
- As of this writing, 40 lodges throughout the order have met their recruiting goals in spite of not being able to meet in person. 572 members have earned the limited-edition recruiting pin by recruiting 920 new members.
- And lastly, in the “we told you so” category, in its very first year of internet availability, Viking for Kids has an open rate of 33.9% compared to an average open rate for all industries of only 21.33%. This means that 33.9% of the persons to whom it was emailed, opened and looked at it. As you may recall District 2 led the way to bringing back this popular publication with a resolution at the 2018 convention after its cancellation due to budget concerns and a perception that it was not widely read.

This is a great time to be a member of Sons of Norway. And it’s about to get better. As Covid abates and our lodges are able to begin meeting again, we will be able to enjoy the cultural and fellowship experiences that we all know and love. I, for one, can’t wait!



TUBFRIM
NO-3540 NESBYEN - NORGE



DISTRICT 2 IS STILL COLLECTING STAMPS

Thank you to all the lodges that collected stamps for Tubfrim, one of Norway's Special Projects that sells used postage stamps using the proceeds to help provide financial aid to help improve the quality of life for handicapped children and youth.

What can your lodge do? Got Scissors? Got Time? Lodge members can clip the stamps off of envelopes or packages received in the mail, being careful to leave a ½ inch margin to protect the stamps. When they get a pound of stamps, they need to write their name, address, phone number, lodge and lodge number on a 3" by 5" card and place it with the stamps into a zip lock bag. Forever Stamps are acceptable. Please don't send stamps with damaged perforation, edges, etc. They will be thrown away. The stamps will need to be shipped or delivered to Laurie Beach at Bothell Lodge, PO Box 492, Bothell, WA 98041. Laurie Beach of Bothell and Jane Bueing, Edmonds Lodge, are the Tubfrim coordinators for District Two and will arrange to have them shipped to Norway with no cost to the district except for boxing materials. Please call Laurie Beach at 425-736-0555 or email at beachlaurie@comcast.net or Jane Bueing at 425-882-2212 if you have any questions.

This is a simple and easy way to contribute to one of Sons of Norway charitable projects.



District 2 Youth Camp – Seth Tufteland

The Camp Committee made the difficult decision to not hold in-person camps again for the 2021 session. We understand that it may not have been the most popular decision for parents, but we must make sure we can maintain the health and safety of both the campers and the staff. We are planning on holding camp in-person again for the 2022 session.

The decision was made that all adults and campers ages 12 and older will be required to provide proof of vaccination to be at camp next year.

The dates for the 2022 Youth Camps are;

- Camp Trollhaugen- June 26 - July 9**
- Camp Nidaros- July 10 - July 23**
- Camp Normanna- July 24 - August 6**

The Camp Director(s) for 2022 are;

- Camp Trollhaugen- Matt and Ashley Huff**
- Camp Nidaros- Hannah Thom and Michael Baunsgard**
- Camp Normanna- Seth Tufteland and Melissa Rude**

The tuition for Camp for the 2022 session will be \$700.

Each of the Camp locations have some work to be done. Camp Normanna is having to work with Snohomish County Health Department on getting a health permit for camp. Will be some changes to the number of occupants in the cabins.

The camps are continually looking for ways to fundraise for both the camps and the Sofie Olson scholarships. We continue supporting the Sofie Olson Scholarship Fund by selling the Norwegian flag state stickers and camp T-shirt design decals.

I encourage you all to search YouTube and find activities to watch and learn. There are great resources on Instagram as well.

The Youth Camps have a YouTube Channel. Visit it here.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpum_byGWfzJftjhRyaeUQ





The Scandinavian Hour Radio Program

Since 1961, the weekly Scandinavian Hour radio program has been broadcast on the airwaves in Seattle, WA and has not missed a week. It has had the same host, Doug Warne, from 1961 to 2020. Now in 2021, Seth Tufteland is the new host and producer of this program. Bringing you music, news, and interviews from all the Nordic countries, the Scandinavian Hour has been a staple for the Nordic community in the Puget Sound area. We also include a monthly events bulletin for our Scandinavian Hour associates/partners. Scandinavian Hour associates/partners are clubs/organizations who donate \$200 or more to the program for the year. The benefits include unlimited advertising of their events on our monthly bulletin board, a history of your group vignette, a membership drive advertisement, and an opportunity to co-host a show. We also have regular advertising at \$50 a week for a 105-word ad. We are now able to expand beyond the borders of Puget Sound by streaming live online. Broadcast on KKNW 1150AM in Bellevue, WA from 9am-10am Pacific Time every Saturday morning, and re-aired at 6am Pacific Time both Saturday and Sunday mornings. You can stream online from our website www.thescandinavianhour.org from anywhere in the world. We have listeners from all over the US, Canada, and Scandinavia.

If your Lodge or group is interested in advertising or becoming a Scandinavian Hour associate/partner, contact Seth Tufteland at scanhourkknw@outlook.com.

Let your friends and family know about this radio program too! Our website features an archive of interviews, book reviews, vignettes, and bulletin board features. Find us at www.thescandinavianhour.org.

Seth Tufteland
Host/Producer
The Scandinavian Hour
KKNW 1150AM

Ski For Light - Puget Sound

The SFL Puget Sound Board will meet on October 31 to discuss what to do for this coming winter season. I will be doing polling in a week or 2 to see what the turnout will be now that the vaccine is widely available. In the meantime, I am forging ahead as if we will ski. I figure it's more work to plan than to cancel! Our 2022 schedule is as followed:

January 8

January 22

February 12

February 19

March 5

March 19

The dates for our extended program in Methow Valley (Mazama, WA) will be from February 27 to March 3.

Recent Outing: A handful of SFL folks did a campout at end of September at Fort Flagler State Park. We arrived at the park and were greeted by a beautiful, warm, sunny day and we encountered lots of deer. At one point, the deer and Impala (a service dog) stared at each other for quite some time. I fancied to think the deer said to each other that, that one doesn't look anything like us and Impala in turn said you guys look funny with that thing sticking up on your head!

We launched 2 tandems and 3 single kayaks at the park. It was quite a process getting everything and everyone setup for launching! The morning group spent several hours paddling to Mystery Bay and the afternoon group paddled from the bay back to the boat launch.

We did a guided tour of the park and saw several gun batteries dated back to World War II and learned that the US never once fired a single shot during the entire war! We saw some amazing historical buildings including a 12-bed hospital.

Our next outing is at Chambers Creek near Steilacoom or Lakewood on October 30. We'll spend the day hiking!

Deng Kong

President, Ski for Light Puget Sound

Trollhaugen

We are expanding our reach to B&B websites to find new managers. So if you know of anyone who would like to interview for the positions, please tell them to email Erick at qbalstad@yahoo.com or call 253/531-2823.

Trollhaugen board is having a zoom meeting on Oct. 6th at 7pm. Some of the board will travel to Trollhaugen that weekend to winterize the building.

Thank you for your support.

Erick Balstad

District 2 Convention 2022



The countdown has begun, and Grieg Lodge is just eight months away from hosting the District 2 Sons of Norway Convention **June 1-5, 2022**. After a two-year hiatus, our planning committee has reconvened and are busy again planning the details of the upcoming convention. Past host cities include Lynnwood, Washington; Coeur D'Alene, Idaho; and Eugene, Oregon. We are looking forward to our turn here in Portland, Oregon in 2022!

The Sheraton Airport Hotel will be the location for the four-day-long convention and all activities will take place there with the exception of the lodge showcase dinner which will be held at our historic Norse Hall on June, 2nd. The evening at the lodge will feature live music, building tours, and a delicious dinner. We look forward to connecting with our fellow delegates and hosting an enjoyable convention here in Portland: the City of Bridges (and Roses).

Information and details about the convention will be sent in January 2022. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Colby Westhead at colbywesthead77@gmail.com

Velkommen Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington lodges to Portland in 2022!

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District 2 Camp Website

<http://www.sofncamps.com/>

District 2 Web Site

<http://www.sonsofnorway2.com/>

District 2 Flickr page

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/130888324@N06/collections/>

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