

VIKING HALL 349-1613
www.sofnalaska.com

October | November
2012
oktober | november



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16TH ANNUAL Scandinavian Bazaar

October 13th, 2012 | 10am - 4pm

Viking Hall | 8141 Briarwood Street

Please join us for a cultural experience!

We will have demonstrations for rosemaling and amazing food including the popular lefse, pølse, krumkake and waffles for sale.

Our **Kitchen** will be serving the best lunch in town. Delicious traditional soups and open faced sandwiches.

The **Bake Sale** table features Lefse and a huge variety of home-made cookies, cakes and breads.

The **Silent Auction** will have many Scandinavian/Nordic items and more.

There will be many Scandinavian items for sale including top quality hand made:

- ♦ Jewelry
- ♦ Knives
- ♦ Artwork
- ♦ Blankets
- ♦ Woodcarvings
- ♦ Rosemaling
- ♦ Table linens
- ♦ Knitted hats
- ♦ Scarves
- ♦ Clothing
- ♦ Sweaters
- ♦ Christmas decorations
- ♦ Books
- ♦ Silk florals
- ♦ Jams
- ♦ Soaps
- ♦ Tye dyes
- ♦ Beadwork
- ♦ Children's furniture
- ♦ And much more!



LUTEFISK & LEFSE DINNER

(AND THOSE TASTY MEATBALLS TOO!)



One Night Only!

Saturday, November 17th – Two seatings

4 pm - 6:30 pm – First seating

7 pm - 10 pm – Second seating

*Be sure to make reservations for the dinnertime
of your choice before the seats are all taken!*

Dinner Prices:

Adults \$25 (non-members \$30)

Ages 12-16—\$12 Ages 5-11—\$5 Under 5yrs—Free

Call Viking Hall at 349-1613 for Reservations

SAVE THE DATE—Watch for the reminder postcard in early November!!



Viking Hall News

Viking Hall is now into the busy fall Sons of Norway schedule of events and rentals.

Ed Swearingen finished replacing the light fixtures in the library and now all the lighting upstairs and down have had ballast replacement or new fixtures. The fixtures now use less energy and provide better lighting. Other work recently completed includes replacing the exhaust fan in the kitchen. The exhaust fans in the main hall had been replaced in August. The new fans work much better and no more extra clicking and clacking. Ed does a wonderful job keeping our electrical system in good shape and

deserves a tusen takk from us all.

In addition to the upgrades to library lighting, work is complete on painting the library ceiling and north wall and repairing the northwest corner where foundation leaks had been fixed. The new look brightens the room and makes it very welcoming. Replacing the corner shelving is next.

We are also looking for volunteers to arrange and replace the past presidents pictures.

The new carpet in the main hall, rubber base in the kitchen and refinishing the base trim in the main hall are other major improvements to our hall. Thanks again to the many members that had a

hand in accomplishing these tasks.

Volunteers are always needed to close for rentals. Contact the Viking Hall office if you can help with this important effort. Thanks to Ted Birkedal and John and Cynthia Olnes for recent closings.

John Olnes
Viking Hall President

Cast Your Name in Stone!



If you would like to commemorate an event in your life and "cast it in stone" an inscribed brick can be permanently placed at the base of the hall flagpoles. The inscription can be up to two lines with 20 characters (including spaces) on each line.

Each brick is \$100 with the proceeds going toward the Building Maintenance and Improvement Fund. Contact the Viking Hall office at 349-1613 to order your brick.

Lutefisk and Lefse Brigade needs your help!!!

November 17th marks our annual **Lutefisk and Lefse Dinner** event – our most popular dinner event of the year. Last year we once again served over 300 happy guests at the dinner and we can't do all that work without some great help.

Firstly, a huge thanks to all that helped out with last year's dinner preparations and the event itself.

Secondly, **we need your help** and that of many oth-

ers again this year, so please contact either **Tom Falskow (222-5320 or lise@gci.net)** or **Patrick McCormick (344-2119)** to find out more.

From lefse making to meatball rolling to sauce making to vegetable peeling to helping with the dining room guests, the more help that we can get, the merrier.

Thanks!

Your lutefisk dinner co-chairs,
Tom and Patrick



We are now accepting donated



Scandinavian/Nordic items for the Silent Auction to be held during the

Scandinavian Bazaar October 13th

Gently used sweaters or bunads, candle holders, linens, knitwear, artwork, Christmas decorations and rosemaling are all items that have done well in previous years.

Please call Anita @ 336-3013 for more information or bring your items to the Viking Hall office

Thank you for your support!

Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge President's Message

We are well into our busy time of year when we have many events for all of our members. I was at the District 2 board meeting so missed the Faar-I-Kaal dinner but I'm sure it was wonderful as always.

We are looking forward to electing lodge officers for 2013. If you are interested in running for an office, contact a member of the nominating committee. We need a Sports & Recreation Director to organize fun activities for members and families, i.e. mall walking, miniature golf at the castle, games nights at the lodge, skiing, ice skating, etc. We need a Youth Director to plan things for our younger members. District 2 Youth Director Seth Tufteland is available as a resource and we have lots of SON materials for youth activities. OR – if you just want to help with lodge activities, let me or an officer or event chair know that you are interested. Even a little bit of your time can make a big difference in our lodge activities.

Speaking of helping out, how about

giving me a call or an email to say you might be willing to help with our Pumpkin Carving Party on Sunday, Oct. 28th. Carving helper, hall set up, clean up, refreshments – help is needed for all of it. Not difficult but should be lots of fun.

Be Brave and Daring!! Try something new – woodcarving is great fun and they have awesome carvers to teach you how to create your own piece. Or why not learn to bake lefse? New members often say they want to learn but don't seem to get around to it. Now is your chance – call and sign up for a time that's convenient for you and you will leave the hall feeling like you know how to roll and bake lefse. Don't put it off – just do it.

Have you asked anyone lately if they would like to join Sons of Norway? When new members are asked why they haven't joined sooner, the most common response is that no one asked them. We don't mind tooting our own horn in

telling others what we do at Sons of Norway but we seem to have great difficulty in moving to the next obvious step when someone expresses interest in it – we just can't seem to ask if they want to join. We have applications readily available – just ask at the office or ask an officer for one. We'll help you fill out the necessary information on it, then you can help the new member complete the new applicant's information and turn it in to the office or an officer. Tom Falskow, our VP and Membership Chair, can answer any questions you might have. If we work together to bring in new members, our lodge will continue to be healthy and a boon to all of us.

Don't forget the fun of the bazaar – it's a good way to do some Christmas shopping while you benefit your lodge.

Fraternally,
Mickey

GOT A PUMPKIN?????

If you have a pumpkin and want to carve it for Halloween, come on down to Viking Hall on Sunday, Oct 28th at 2 pm for the Pumpkin Carving Party.

We are asking that you clean out your pumpkin before the party. If you have your own carving materials, please bring them.

We'll have some patterns and a few carving materials available. Younger kids need to bring their grown-up along too.

We'll have refreshments – those tarantula cookies may show up – and a few fun activities to enjoy too.

Please give Viking Hall (349-1613) a call to say that you will be there so that we know how many to plan for.

For those who are itching to help with the party, please give me a call or email. Any help at all would be appreciated. Any activity with our kids is fun so do join us!

Mickey
563-8006 / 1stuffda@gci.net



God Jul!



Scandinavian Christmas Brunch

*Sunday, December 2nd – 12pm to 3pm
at Viking Hall*

*Please join us for a traditional Scandinavian family
Christmas brunch with pickled herring, Jansson's Frestelse,
cucumber salad, meatballs, rutabagas, cured ham, potato
sausage, low bush cranberries, lefse, cardamom bread, riskrem
with red sauce for dessert and many other holiday delicacies.*

*There will be a beautiful display of Scandinavian
holiday decorations as well.*

Adults: \$20 Ages 12 – 16: \$10 Ages 5 – 11: \$5 Under 5yrs: free

Advance reservations required, 349-1613



**Please join us at Viking Hall
for a
Cultural and Heritage Evening:
A Showing of the Movie "Troll Hunter"**



**Friday, November 2nd
7pm**

On Friday, November 2, 2012, we will be celebrating the culture of Norway by showing "Troll Hunter", a recent Norwegian movie that captures the spirit of traditional Norwegian troll folklore in a modern setting. This critically acclaimed movie directed by Andre Ovredal brings to life the trolls of such nineteenth century illustrators as Theodor Kittelsen and the beloved stories of Asbjørnsen and Moe. As *Underwire* wrote in its review "Troll Hunter" "will indulge your childhood wish for fairy tales to come true, while comforting you with the notion that if your wish had been granted, it would not have ended well."

"Troll Hunter" serves up a mock documentary of a search for trolls in the Norwegian countryside. The weather of Norway and its craggy but beautiful landscape are "characters" of movie. The movie is both funny and scary and is done in a "tongue and cheek" style. However, the movie is not for very young children, for real Norwegian trolls are not nice! Real Norwegian trolls do not like people, except as food!

So, come and get a good introduction to authentic Norwegian troll culture plus some great humor and have a scare to boot. The film is not gory in any way, but we recommend it only for adults and children 10yo and above.

There is no charge for this evening event.



**PUMPKIN
CARVING
PARTY**



OCTOBER 28th

**VIKING HALL
2 PM**

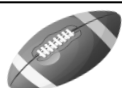
**BYOP – BRING
YOUR OWN
PUMPKIN**

**CLEAN YOUR
PUMPKIN AT
HOME**



**FUN
&
REFRESHMENTS
CARVED PUMPKIN
DISPLAY**

**ADMISSION: \$3
RESERVATIONS ARE
HELPFUL
349-1613**



Sons of Norway Super Bowl Raffle 2013

Ticket sales for the Sons of Norway 2013 Super Bowl Raffle are now underway. The raffle is the primary source of funds for the Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge #2-046 Language/ Heritage/ Higher Education Scholarships. The intent is to provide scholarships every year for deserving applicants and to continue to develop a fund for the future.

The Raffle will again have 20 winners with a top prize of \$1,000. Only 300 tickets are sold so the chance to win is very generous, one in fifteen. Tickets are selling for \$25 each or a special deal of 5-for-\$100. Your ticket also entitles you to a free Lapskaus (Norwegian stew) dinner during the showing of the Super Bowl XLVII game on a

giant six-foot screen at Viking Hall on February 3, 2013.

If you would like to help sell tickets for this worthwhile event or purchase a ticket please contact a member of the committee—John Olnes (562-2794), Sandra Hanson (243-2132), Jane Moe (274-1357) or Wayne Johnson 248-3030). Tickets can also be purchased at the Viking Hall office (349-1613) during business hours (9am-1pm, Tue-Fri).

Tickets will also be available during upcoming lodge events. Raffle committee members will staff a ticket sales table so please stop by and purchase your ticket(s) if you have not done so already.

Raffle Committee



Those attending the Musical Afternoon on Sunday, September 9th

were treated to a wonderful selection of songs. The vocalists, Hedwig Faber, Janet Stotts and Mary Olsen performed individual pieces, as well as collaborated during the performance. Janet also provided the piano accompaniment along with guest pianist Sue Ann Roesing. Bernt Balchen Lodge extends a huge thank you and we hope to have them back next year.

Sunshine Report



Greetings are sent to the following members celebrating a birthday in October or November who are at least 75 years young.

"Happy Birthday"
"Gratulerer med dagen!"

Carol Hall
Doris Iversen
Richard E. Johnson
Nuna Kjera
Alice Lehnert
Arnold Link
Ronald D. Martinson
Gene Moe
Stuart G. Nerland
Carol Olson
Carol Restad
Glenn Soby

If you know someone who needs a little sunshine, please call Cindy McDowell 696-0725 (cell - 862-1143) or email at ccmed38@hotmail.com.



Let's keep those chips flyin!
Join The Last Frontier Woodcarvers
at Viking Hall for



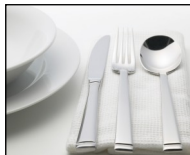
WOODCARVING
Saturday, October 20th
9am - 4pm

\$20 covers wood, tools to use, carving instructions, choice of project and a great lunch.

Projects will be posted on the bulletin board at Viking Hall.

Don't miss out this year!
Reserve your spot now as seating is limited!

For more information or to sign up give Cindy a call - 696-0725 or 862-1143. You can also leave your name and phone number at the Viking Hall office-349-1613.



Kaffeslabberas
Coming up the following Thursdays
October 18th & November 15th
11:30 - 1:30 @ Viking Hall

The best place in town for lunch!

Come and enjoy the wonderful soups and sandwiches at a very reasonable price. Please call ahead to Viking Hall @ 349-1613, but we always welcome drop-ins.



Thursday, October 4th
Board Meeting
7 pm

Thursday, October 11th
Potluck
6:30 pm

Business Meeting
New Member Welcome
Nominating Committee Report
7:30 pm

Thursday, November 1st
Board Meeting
7 pm

Thursday, November 8th
Potluck/Program
6:30 pm

Business Meeting
Election of 2013 Officers
Announcement of 2012 Lucia
7:30 pm

Board Meetings & Business Meetings Open to All



Visit the Velkommen Café

While shopping at the Scandinavian Bazaar, be sure to stop by the Café and treat yourself to a delicious lunch. The menu includes our popular Pølse—reindeer hotdog wrapped in lefse, with Swedish mustard!

You'll also be delighted with the open face sandwiches, homemade soups and delectable Scandinavian desserts.

Only Once a Year!
October 13th at Viking Hall

To assist in the Café please call Gayle @ 243-7946

Cultural Corner-Norway's Online Newspapers: Touchstones to Contemporary Norway

Have you ever wondered about what is going on in contemporary Norway? What are Norwegians doing today? Perhaps you have read about Norwegian customs of old or heard older relatives tell the family history how your people arrived in the United States from Norway. But what if you want to know about Norway today? Norway is still there and very different from the Norway of your ancestors of long ago.

Beyond reading the *Viking*, the official journal of the Sons of Norway, there is a fun and interesting way to keep up on what is going on in the Norway of today, and you do not need to be able to understand written Norwegian to take advantage of it. Many, if not most, of Norway's city newspapers publish a free daily online version of what they publish each day on paper. If you wish, pick the newspaper that is published in the district or region where your Norwegian roots are deepest. Once you know the name of the newspaper that you would like to read you can use "Google" to locate the online version. With Google you will see a "Translate This Page" message slightly to the right and below the name of the newspaper. Click this message and Google will translate the online newspaper for you. The translations are not always perfect and you will find occasional phrases or words that do not make sense, but you can easily get the gist of the story or news item nonetheless without being fluent in Norwegian. Most of the online items are local or national stories that connect you to what Norwegians are doing or are concerned about in their daily lives.

I usually visit the online versions of *Rogalands Avis* and *Stavanger Aftenblad* for these are the major newspapers in Stavanger, Norway, my hometown in Norway. Today, August 13th, both newspapers reported on whether or not the mass killings of last July in Norway could have been prevented by law enforcement. There are also articles on the local football team, the *Vikings*, an aggressive carpet sales-

man, and a police crackdown on speeding jet skis among other things. There were also opinion essays by local bloggers, weather reports, and even the television listings for the day. One of the best features of these online newspapers are the color photographs that illustrate the stories. One can see local politicians at work, local citizens at play, or city or country scenes.

If you are interested in the major Oslo newspapers go to the online versions of the Oslo *Aftenposten* or the *Aftenbladet*. Today, the main news item was "Hooray! It Will be Nice Weather Tomorrow". Norwegians, like Alaskans, count the nice summer days on their fingers. For the Bergen area go to *Bergens Tidende* or any of the several newspapers published in that large city on Norway's west coast. If you want the news from further north you can visit the online site for Trondheim's *Adressavisen* or Tromsø's *Bladet Tromsø*. A full list of major Norwegian newspaper names can be found at <http://www.w3newspapers.com/norway/>.

If you are interested in practicing reading in Norwegian these online newspapers give you a way to read first in Norwegian and then turn to the translation to find words or phrases that you do not understand. It is relatively simple to go back and forth from Norwegian to the English translation, or vice versa. *Viking Magazine* recommended the generic online Norwegian newspaper Klar Tale (<klartale.no>), but I had trouble getting Google to translate beyond the headlines. A welcome feature is the Klar Tale podcast which gives the news in clear spoken Norwegian. Listening to the Klar Tale podcast is a good way to improve your understanding of Norwegian.

Go ahead, try visiting Norway's online newspapers as a way of getting in touch with today's Norway!

Terje "Ted" Birkedal
Cultural Director

Norwegian Language & Culture Classes Fall 2012 through Spring 2013

Norwegian language classes will be offered during the Fall of 2012 and the Spring of 2013 at **Sons of Norway's Viking Hall on Sundays**. The classes began in September and will run until late May 2013.

Beginning Norwegian I: This class is for the first-time student or someone who took Beginning Norwegian I and wants a review. **It will be taught at 5:30 pm.**

Beginning Norwegian II: This class is for those students who have completed Beginning Norwegian I or have some basic knowledge of spoken Norwegian. **It will be taught at 7 pm.**

The yearly fee for each class is \$20.00. To sign up email sonancak@gmail.com or contact Viking Hall via phone between 9 am and 1 pm, Tuesday-Friday at (907) 349-1613. Please give your name and the class for which you wish to sign up for.

Rosemaling Classes

The word rosemaling is used to describe a form of decorative flower painting that originated in Norway in the 1700s. Rosemaling classes with Anna Decker **meet twice a month on Tuesdays**. Below are class dates for October and November.

October 9th & 23rd, 7-9 pm
November 13th & 27th, 7-9 pm

Classes are open to all experience levels and new individuals are always welcome to attend.

Contact Anna at 694-2051 for more information.

Come Join the Lefse Making Crew!!

There will be Lefse making sessions in October and November in order to have plenty for the **Scandinavian Bazaar** and **Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner**.

For those new to lefse making there are several steps between raw potatoes and flour to a package of lefse ready for sale at the Bazaar. For those not interested in "rolling" there are other ways to help with this important Lodge event. The typical 3-day lefse making session, Friday-Sunday, consists of the following.

Friday: Wash, boil, peel and rice potatoes; Set-up lefse making stations (griddles, boards, rollers, etc.); Set-up cooling, sorting and packaging areas

Saturday: Mix potato & flour loaves; Shape into balls; Roll & cook lefse; Wash, boil, peel and rice potatoes; Sort and package lefse; Clean-up

Sunday: Mix potato & flour loaves; shape into balls; Roll & cook lefse; Sort and package lefse; Break-down lefse making stations and return griddles, boards, etc. to storage area; Clean-up

Even a couple hours of your time helps make the day fly-by so please contact one of the lefse making committee co-chairs, Anna Decker 694-2051 or Ted Birkedal 349-9996, to let them know how you would like to help.



Lefse Making Sessions this Fall

Lefse Making for Bazaar: October 5-7, Fri-Sun

Lefse Making for Lutefisk Dinner: November 9-11, Fri-Sun

Friday 3-6 pm / Saturday 9 am-6 pm / Sunday 9 am-6 pm



ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!

Fundraising for our lodge...



The **Scandinavian Bazaar** is fast approaching and Bernt Balchen Lodge is hoping you will join us for a fabulous day of great food, handcrafts, silent auction and other Scandinavian items for sale. This event is the most important fundraiser of the year for us and we are hoping to make this year our biggest yet.

Let's all pitch in...

The Bake Sale table is always a big hit with all of the wonderful lefse, cardamom bread and other homemade goodies for sale, but we need more members to donate to bring it to its full potential.

If we all do a little, it will make a BIG difference!

Call Anita @ 336-3013 or Gayle @ 243-7946 with questions or if you'd like to help in the kitchen.

**Please bring your favorite cookies, cakes and breads to the Bazaar
October 13th from 9:30am - 2pm**

Please have items packaged and ready to sell.
We will also have labels & can help with pricing.

Nominating Committee

Our nominating committee is hard at work. If you receive a call from one of them, please give thoughtful consideration to serving on the board as an officer or as a committee chairperson.



Fra Biblioteket

New titles are frequently added to our collection of crime novels by Scandinavian authors. There are also new books on Norway, many with stunning photographs. We urge you to stop by the library the next time you are at the Lodge for an activity.



Do you have an old DVD player you would like to donate to the Lodge library? If so, please bring it by Viking Hall.



Sons of Norway
8141 Briarwood St.
Anchorage, AK 99518

907-349-1613

Non Profit Organization
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Anchorage, Alaska
PERMIT 505

October Events

4 Thursday	7 pm
5 Friday	3-6 pm
6 Saturday / 7 Sunday	9 am - 6 pm
11 Thursday	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
13 Saturday	10 am - 4 pm
18 Thursday	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
20 Saturday	9 am - 4 pm
28 Sunday	2 pm

Board Meeting, all welcome
Lefse Making for Bazaar, pg. 7
Lefse Making
Potluck
Business Meeting, New Member Welcome
Scandinavian Bazaar, pg. 1
Kaffeslabberas, pg. 5
Woodcarving, pg. 5
Pumpkin Carving Party, pgs. 3 & 4

November Events

1 Thursday	7 pm
2 Friday	7 pm
8 Thursday	6:30 pm 7:30 pm
9 Friday	3-6 pm
10 Saturday / 11 Sunday	9 am - 6 pm
15 Thursday	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
17 Saturday	4 - 6:30 pm 1st seating 7 - 10 pm 2nd seating
18 Sunday	1:30 pm

Board Meeting, all welcome
Cultural Evening: Showing of Movie "Troll Hunter" pg. 4
Potluck & Program
Business Meeting, Election of 2013 Officers
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Lutefisk & Lefse Dinner
First Lucia Practice

Weekly & Biweekly Events

Sundays - Weekly	5:30 pm / 7 pm
Tuesdays - Biweekly	7-9 pm

Beginning Norwegian I / Beginning Norwegian II, pg. 6
Rosemaling with Anna Decker—Oct 9 & 23 / Nov 13 & 27, pg. 6

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Our lodge continues to donate canned goods, non-perishable foods and money to the local food bank.

Please bring your food or monetary donation in to Viking Hall.

*All events take place at Viking Hall
8141 Briarwood Street,
unless otherwise noted.
Please send articles or event information for the next newsletter by the 15th to sonanacak@gmail.com or call Cynthia at 562-2794 with newsletter questions.*