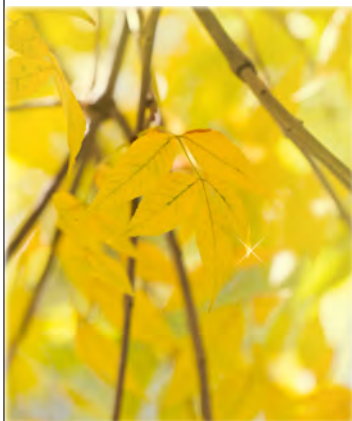




VIKING HALL 349-1613
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September
2015
september



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SONS OF NORWAY BERNT BALCHEN LODGE – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Steinar Hansen: An Exemplary Norwegian-American

I would like to devote my message this month to the recognition of one of our own, Steinar Hansen. Steinar is the last person in Bernt Balchen Lodge who would seek recognition, but he deserves it, nevertheless. So, here it comes.

Steinar Hansen was unanimously nominated for a Bridge Builders of Anchorage Excellence in Community Service Award by at the June 11, 2015 Board/Membership Meeting of Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge. He now joins Marit Kristiansen and Eva Bilet, who are also recipients of Bridge Builders Excellence in Community Service Awards (2013 and 2014). Steinar received his award at the Bridge Builders Unity Gala on August 22, 2015 at the Marriott Hotel in front of over 400 guests and other honorees including First Lady Donna Walker, a vocal supporter of Bridge Builders.

The mission of Bridge Builders is to build “a community of friends” among all racial and cultural groups in Anchorage. The specific purpose of the Bridge Builders Unity Gala is to honor those who have made significant contributions in their respective ethnic communities.



Steinar Hansen flanked on the left by his son Bjarne Hansen and his wife Jacqueline, and on the right by his daughter Anita Persson and her husband Lloyd Persson.



Steinar Hansen and Governor Walker

Steinar Hansen was born in Lillehammer, in eastern Norway in 1933. As a child he moved to western Norway and grew up in a small town near the city of Alesund. He attended a technical college in Sweden and earned a degree in Construction Engineering. He also served his required term in the Norwegian army. Through a relative he heard about employment opportunities in Anchorage, Alaska and he immigrated to the United States in 1960. In 1961 he married his wife, Reidun (also born in Norway), and brought her to Anchorage as well.

In 1962, soon after his return to Alaska, Steinar Hansen joined the Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge in Anchorage. He was recruited by Eva Bilet who brought both Steinar and Reidun into the lodge. Steinar saw Sons of Norway as a “second family” and embraced its mission in giving his all to the organization. In 1967 he was elected President of Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge. His quiet leadership was greatly appreciated by the members and he was elected to two more terms in 1968 and 1969, respectively.

The end of his last term as President did not end his work on behalf of Sons of Norway. In 1980, from August to December of 1980, he oversaw the construction of the present-day Viking Hall; whose upper floors alone measure 4500 square feet, the home of Bernt Balchen Lodge in Anchorage. Though he was paid for this work as a construction contractor, Steinar Hansen did the work for a very low price, simply enough to cover his expenses. Later on, when Sons of Norway faced a default on their mortgage for Viking Hall, he stepped up as one of ten guarantors who put up \$25,000 each to cover the loan. If it was not for Steinar Hansen, Sons of Norway would not have Viking Hall to call their “home”.

As a volunteer and expert carpenter Steinar Hansen has volunteered again and again to maintain and improve Viking Hall. He was part of the team of volunteers that added the arctic entry to Viking Hall several years after its initial construction. Also, he put in the protective and decorative wooden chair railings around the walls of the hall and constructed the exquisite, slide-out utility drawers in the industrial kitchen. Over the years he has also volunteered to replace the carpet in the hall and paint its exterior. One of his biggest volunteer jobs was to remove the old plywood roof-line trim from Viking Hall and replace it with a handsome blue metal trim. This work was often done at a two story height and was both difficult and very dangerous. He also served as the President of Viking Hall Inc., the organization that oversees the physical maintenance and improvements of Viking Hall proper. As John Olnes, one of the later presidents of the lodge, said, “If something needed to be done at Viking Hall, Steinar would do it”.

President’s Message continues on Page 2

A "Son of Norway"

President's Message continues from Page 1



Steinar Hansen and his wife Reidun at the May 17th Celebration on the Park Strip (May 17th is the Norwegian Independence Day)

In keeping with that commitment Steinar has attended many Sons of Norway District 2 regional conventions as a delegate on behalf of Bernt Balchen Lodge. Delegates are only partly reimbursed so delegates cover the rest of their costs at their own expense.

Steinar Hansen has also been a volunteer at many Sons of Norway traditional food events. For years he served as lead for the Norwegian Fish Dinner where he cooked superb smoked and black cod for 100+ members and guests. Still today, he cooks hundreds of eggs for the members at the Sons of Norway Mothers' Day Brunch.

He is also known for his skill in traditional Norwegian wood craft and he makes elegant lefse rolling pins, birch bowls, and birch wood boxes in the traditional Norwegian style. His woodwork was on special display for King Harald V of Norway to see when he came to Viking Hall on May 27, 2015.



Steinar Hansen displaying the traditional Norwegian birchwood boxes and items he crafts with his hands.

Because of his craftsmanship he was in charge of building the Viking Ship Float that Sons of Norway used to use in the annual Fourth of July Parade. It has since been retired after many seasons of use.

Steinar also volunteered repeatedly over the years to teach a beginning-level class in Norwegian. As a fluent speaker he was also a very good teacher of the language. And he has passed his love of Norwegian culture and tradition on to his children and grandchildren. All are active members of Sons of Norway and are devoted to carrying on the traditions. Tim Andrew, an active member and local school principal has remarked on Steinar Hansen's "quiet pride" in being a Norwegian-American. Martha Andrew, our current Vice President of Bernt Balchen Lodge and the District 2 Secretary for Sons of Norway has noted that Steinar Hansen "embodies all of the characteristics that Norwegians most admire". He is known for his modesty, fairness, and tremendous strength of character. There is no doubt that Steinar is an exemplary Norwegian-American and ambassador for Norwegian culture and character.

Steinar Hansen (third from left) and fellow members of Sons of Norway beginning fish preparation for a traditional Norwegian dinner at Viking Hall.



*Fraternally yours, Terje "Ted" Birkedal
President, Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge*

COME JOIN THE LEFSE MAKING CREW THIS FALL

Lefse Making for Bazaar: September 11-13 and October 2-4 Friday-Sunday

Lefse Making for Lutefisk Dinner: November 6-8 Friday-Sunday

(Hours: Friday 3-6 pm, Saturday and Sunday 9-6 pm)



For those new to lefse making, there are several steps between raw potatoes, flour, and salt and a package of ready-to-sell lefse 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 sessions consist of the following activities:

- Friday:** Wash, boil, peel, and rice potatoes; set up lefse making stations (griddles, cooking and rolling boards, rollers, etc.); set up cooling, sorting, and packaging areas.
- Saturday:** Mix potato and flour loaves; shape in balls, roll and cook lefse; wash, boil, peel, and rice potatoes; sort and package lefse; clean up work stations.
- Sunday:** Mix potato and flour loaves; shape into balls; roll and cook lefse; sort and package lefse; break down the lefse-making stations and return griddles, cooking and rolling boards, etc. to the storage area; and clean up work stations.

Even a couple of hours of your time will help so please contact one of the lefse making committee Co-chairs, Ashley Brusven 350-3328 or Ted Birkedal 351-6095.

**** If there is sufficient interest we will be a Youth Lefse Making Session from Noon to 5 pm on Sunday, November 8th. Parents can call Ted Birkedal at 351-6095 to reserve a spot for their children. (Note: If we have few calls we will cancel this special lefse making session)**



Faar-i-kaal Dinner



Sons of Norway

This traditional lamb and cabbage dinner (pronounced "fore-ee-kole") only comes around once a year and is always a crowd pleaser. So bring the family and enjoy this wonderful Norwegian comfort food!!



The Menu! Lamb & Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes, Carrots, Fresh Rolls, Dessert and Beverages

Reservations: 349-1613

Saturday, September 19th ~ Enjoy Cocktails at 5:30 pm and Dinner at 6:00 pm. Music will be provided by the popular local band, **"The Polka Buzz!"** This event is held at Viking Hall.



Adults—\$22 • Ages 12 to 16—\$10.00 • Ages 5 to 11—\$5 and, • Under 5 years—Free



BE A PART OF SONS OF NORWAY LUCIA 2015



The Lucia Committee welcomes all lodge members to our upcoming Lucia Christmas program in December. Children ages 4-18 who have parents or grandparents that are members of Sons of Norway are welcome to participate in the Lucia program and talent show at the event.

Santa Lucia or Saint Lucy's Day is the Church feast day dedicated to Saint Lucy, and is observed on December 13. Its modern day celebration is generally associated with Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. In traditional celebrations, Saint Lucy or Santa Lucia comes as a young woman with lights and sweets, marking the return of longer daylight to winter darkness. It is one of the few saint days observed in Scandinavia. In some forms, including the program at the Bernt Balchen lodge, a procession is headed by one girl wearing a crown of candles (or lights), while others follow in the procession, girls holding a single candle and boys holding a star.

The Lucia tradition at the Bernt Balchen Lodge celebrates our Scandinavian heritage through music, food, and language. It is one of the most popular events at the lodge. Children learn and sing Norwegian and Swedish songs, often accompanied by harp and piano. Families are treated to a talent show, sing around the Christmas tree, and enjoy authentic Scandinavian rice porridge, open-faced sandwiches and desserts. Santa Claus makes a special appearance at this event and hands out goodies to all attending children.

The head of the procession is selected each year by the Committee. Please contact a committee member if your daughter is interested and appears to fulfill the selection criteria found separately in this newsletter.

Upcoming dates to remember:

Rehearsal - Sunday, November 22nd from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Rehearsal - Sunday, December 6th from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Program - Sunday, December 13th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

This event has become a tradition in many local Scandinavian families, and we hope that you will make time for this event on your calendar this year, too.

Lucia Selection Criteria

Every year during December, Bernt Balchen Lodge sponsors the Lucia Celebration. These are the criteria we use each year to choose the Lucia:

- Parents (or grandparents) must be members in good standing of the Sons of Norway.
- The girl's parents (or grandparents) must have been members for at least the past three consecutive years.
- In order to be eligible to be the Lucia, the girl must have participated in the last three consecutive Lucia Festivals.
- The person chosen to be Lucia must be unmarried, and be between the ages of 15 and 18.
- If she has met the preceding qualifications, the Lucia is chosen based on ranking in High School (a senior would be chosen over a junior) and age (the oldest eligible girl). In some circumstances, a combination of these criteria may need to be taken into consideration.
- If more than one girl qualifies to be Lucia based on the criteria immediately above, selection of the Lucia from the eligible girls will be made at the Lodge's October meeting.
- The Lucia's name will be announced in the November Newsletter.
- The Lucia Committee will be in charge of the Lucia Festival. The parent/grandparent s are responsible for the two (2) Lucia practices and will work in cooperation with the Committee to plan and make arrangements for the Festival.
- The Lucia is encouraged to participate in the next year's Lucia Festival as Mother Elf.

Any deviations from the above will be reviewed by the Lucia Committee.

Carol Kalander - 355-3800, Lucia Committee Acting Chair

4th of July Parade!

Great day for a
parade and so proud
to see our members
and banner in it.

Great job Merlin!



DISTRICT 2 NEEDS YOU!

Nominating Committee Candidate Information

Would you like to serve on the District 2 Board?

The 2014 International Lodge determined that each District shall elect a Nominating Committee to identify candidates to the District Board and District International Director. Refer to Charter and Constitutions Paragraphs 3.7.7, 2.11.4.1, 3.11.5.1.

The District 2 Nominating Committee elected for 2016 are Marit Kristiansen, Erlene Stevenson and Ingrid Hueneker.

The Committee's task is to identify, review and recommend eligible candidates for the office of International Director, District Lodge Officers and Directors. All Candidates must be a Benefit Member. The term for District officer is two years, International Director is four years. Each Candidate shall complete the Candidate Application Form.

The positions up for election at the 2016 District 2 Convention are:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Counselor
Social/Publicity Director
Cultural/Foundation Director
Youth Director
Sports Director
Zone Director – *one from each of the 6 Zones*
International Director
Alternate International Director

If you, or a member you know would be a good candidate, please contact Marit Kristiansen at 907-562-5172, marit@gci.net.

What are the duties of each office?

Upon request, we will send you a description of the duties for any office.

Each candidate must be willing to attend two Board meetings each year, write a report for the Dynamic 2 Newsletter and expect to spend several hours per month on District issues. Some offices require a greater time commitment i.e. President, Secretary and Treasurer. Officers and Directors receive per diem and mileage/airfare for approved activities.

The Committee is beginning to seek out candidates now because all candidates MUST be elected a delegate to the 2016 convention. Delegate elections are held in February.

Here are some general attributes for being a Board Member:

No felony conviction

Flexibility

Dedicated, disciplined

Ethical, honest

Competent

Fair & impartial

Decision maker

Inquiring mind

Motivator

The Nominating Committee will not endorse one candidate over another, but rather review the candidates' credentials and present all eligible candidates to the District Lodge delegates for election.

Welcoming Speech to His Majesty, King Harald V of Norway

Presented by Terje “Ted” Birkedal, President of Bernt Balchen Lodge, on the occasion of King Harald V of Norway’s visit to Viking Hall on May 27, 2015.

Your Majesty, on behalf of Sons of Norway of Alaska I, Terje Birkedal, as President, would like to welcome you to Alaska and Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge No. 2-46. We are so honored to have you as our guest. Our lodge was established in 1944 when you were still a little boy living in exile during World War II in Washington DC with your mother, Crown Princess Märtha.

We would also like to welcome Ambassador Kåre Aas, Norway’s Ambassador to the United States and the rest of the Norwegian delegation. I would like to recognize that everyone I have worked with associated with the Norwegian Embassy and the Norwegian Foreign Ministry are among the most hard working and responsive people I have ever worked with—and I have 36 years of experience in government service.

Norwegians have a long history in Alaska. Beginning in the late nineteenth century they came as miners, mushers, fishermen, canners, carpenters, and mechanics. One of the most famous of the early Norwegians in Alaska is miner and musher Gunnar Kaasen of Burfjordalen, Norway. In 1925, he and his lead dog Balto ran the last leg of the Iditarod Trail in the midst of a storm to deliver the much-needed diphtheria serum to Nome, Alaska. Also, a number of the younger early Norwegian migrants to Alaska married into the Alaska Native community and today there are many of their descendants with names such as “Harald” or even “Trygve”. Sven Haakonsen, an Alutiiq Native Alaskan from Kodiak, provides a good example. The descendant of both Norwegian and Danish seafarers; he was a McArthur Foundation Fellow, the former director of the Alutiiq Museum on Kodiak, and now a noted professor of archeology with close ties to the Smithsonian Institute.

Today, there are approximately 32,000 persons of Norwegian descent spread across the cities, towns, and villages of Alaska. We make up 4.3% of the state’s population; roughly the same percentage of Norwegian-Americans as that found in Oregon. Many are members of Sons of Norway and we have nearly 1000 adult members in the seven lodges that make up Zone 6, the Alaska zone of District 2 of Sons of Norway. These are Fedrelandet in Petersburg, Midnatsol in Ketchikan, Svalbard Lodge in Juneau, Bernt Balchen Lodge in Anchorage, Arctic Viking Lodge in Fairbanks, Norske Venner Lodge in Sitka, Alaska, and Island Viking, in Kodiak. Five of those lodges are represented among the guests who are here tonight. Our largest Alaska lodge is Fedrelandet in Petersburg with 367 adult members. Petersburg, a fishing town of barely 3000 souls, is known as Alaska’s “Little Norway”.

Sons of Norway was established over a hundred years ago. Its mission is to promote and preserve the culture and heritage of Norway, to celebrate our relationship to other Nordic countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members. Our lodges sponsor events to do just that, many centered around the enjoyment of traditional Norwegian food. Tonight, following this reception, we will be enjoying the comfort of my mother’s pølse lapkaus from Stavanger. The potatoes and carrots used in the dish were generously donated by long-term member and Matanuska Valley farmer, Sig Restad.

But we are not just about food, we also feature Norwegian language classes, craft workshops, cultural heritage events, and much more.

In the rear of Viking Hall we have examples of traditional Norwegian rosemaling and wood craft made by the members of Bernt Balchen Lodge. (Here the President points to the west end of Viking Hall where there are displayed examples of rosemaling by Anna Decker, carved birch bowls and boxes by Steinar Hansen, and the traditional wood-carved figures of Cindy McDowell).

We would now like to share some Norwegian and American musical culture with Your Majesty. First up, will be Sons of Norway members Hedwig Faber and Anne Adasiak-Andrew together with their accompanist Debbie Pankow. They will be singing a Norwegian song in your honor. Hedwig Faber, one of the singers, just donated this piano to the Lodge in memory of Janet Stotts who had played for our lodge members on many occasions.

Following their song, the AS Band will perform, which is made up of members Lloyd and Sevrin Persson and Stephan and Anya Otterson who will play a distinctly American number.

Following the two musical numbers I understand that Ambassador Kåre Aas would like to make some remarks. After Ambassador Aas’ remarks I would like to invite Your Majesty to join me, before you leave tonight, in meeting some of the Sons of Norway members that have assembled here tonight.



Photo courtesy of Sven Gj. Gjeruldsen, The Royal Court of Norway

Conversations with His Majesty King Harald V

On the Occasion of the Reception of His Majesty on May 27, 2015

By Tim Andrew and Ted Birkedal

Many of our members who attended the reception for His Majesty, King Harald V of Norway, did not get to speak directly to him. However, he did make an effort along with Ambassador Kåre Aas to speak with a number of our members. Perhaps you are curious what was said at the three tables that King Harald was able to visit for a few moments during his visit? With the help of our recollections, we will try to reconstruct to the best of our ability what was said and done at each table.

At all three tables Ted Birkedal, Lodge President, asked those sitting there to introduce themselves to His Majesty. There was one exception to this rule. He was expressly asked by Ambassador Aas to introduce His Majesty to Erling Johansen, the Honorary Norwegian Consul



Photo courtesy of Glenn Soby, Sons of Norway, Bernt Balchen Lodge

for Alaska and mention his receipt of the Norwegian Order of Merit for his service. This he did at the first table before having the others seated there introduce themselves. The folks seated at this table included Erling Johansen, Eva Bilet, Anton Meyer, Sandra Hansen, Anna Decker, and Ed Swearingen. The introductions took up a fair amount of the allotted time at each table. One of the more interesting conversations at the first table were between His Majesty and Eva Bilet. She pointed out to King Harald that he was the third Norwegian King that she had met in her lifetime. As a small girl in Trondheim she had the honor of presenting King Harald's grandfather, King Haakon VII, with a flower. Then in 1975 she played host to King Harald's father, King Olav V, during his visit to Anchorage. The King laughed at her "Tale of Three Kings" and his pleasure is clearly apparent in the photos of their conversation.

The next table we visited was occupied by Marit Kristiansen, Martha Andrew, John Olnes, Wally Smith, Sally Dwyer (a District 2 Officer and representative of Fedrelandet Lodge in Petersburg, Alaska), and Curtis Watkins (the Zone Director for District 2 in Alaska and a representative of Arctic Viking Lodge in

Fairbanks, Alaska). Sally was able to mention a few words about Petersburg and Curtis the same about Fairbanks. Ted Birkedal mentioned that Wally had been a major ski coach for Anchorage schools and he was able to also mention John Olnes' long-term support for Ski for Life. In addition, it was made clear to His Majesty that Marit Kristiansen had recently served as President of Sons of Norway International.

During these table visits Ted Birkedal had strict instructions from the Embassy to limit each visit to no more than three minutes. Ambassador Aas not only helped to move the conversations along at each table, but he calmly assured Ted with a tap on the arm or with the quiet words, "It is alright Terje", implying that we would be allowed more time.

The final table visited by His Majesty was what we called the "Kids' Table", but it was actually occupied by five teenagers from 12 to 17 years of age. Also, sitting with them to give moral support was Tim Andrew, a long-time member and school Principal. We wanted His Majesty to visit this particular table because we had heard he likes kids and also supports world-wide charities for children. This table proved particularly popular with the King and we spent a good deal more than three minutes at this table with Ambassador Aas' blessing. Ted Birkedal explained to the King that all the teenagers were active youth in Sons of Norway.

The teenagers at the table were Hawken Wanamaker, Leif Darnell, Hanna Persson, Eric Andrew, and Jessica Zimmer. After they stood up and introduced themselves to His Majesty they all sat down again. His Majesty then asked each of say a little about themselves. Next, he asked them what they wanted to do when they grew up. Each answered and the answers ranged from teaching to business. Eric Andrew did not know exactly what he wanted to do with his life, but said he would like a career in which he could apply math and science. Eric Andrew then asked His Majesty if he could ask a question. The King agreed and Eric asked him what the hardest thing about being King was. His Majesty replied, "What's easy about it?" and then went on to explain that he thought that the amount of travel was significant. Nonetheless, His Majesty went on to say that he enjoyed meeting so many different people—including the President of the United States.

Leif Darnell, then asked His Majesty what he would be if he were not the King of Norway. His Majesty replied that is was a very good question. The King then on to say "I should probably have been a teacher". He went on to say that he really enjoys teaching.

Ted Birkedal then mentioned that Tim Andrew was a teacher and school principal. His Majesty then asked Tim about his career in teaching. Tim explained that he had been born in Anchorage and had served the Anchorage School District for 21 years. Tim said that he had just finished his first year as a grade-school principal and offered that teaching is a very challenging profession. The King agreed with this remark.

Ambassador Aas then asked the teenagers if anyone had been to Norway. Three raised their hands. Hanna mentioned she had been to Norway once when she was three and another time when she was seven. Hawken shared that he was going to Norway in July of 2015. Eric said he had also gone to Norway, but could not remember at that moment where he had gone in Norway. At that point Tim Andrew helped out by pointing out that Eric and his family had started in Oslo and while on the drive to Bergen they had diverted to Sognedal where they had a cousin.

Next, the King asked the teenagers if they were visiting Norway this summer could they bring warm weather because it had been cold so far this year. Tim, said that it was lovely when he visited Norway and joked that he and his family had called at the Palace, but the King had not been home at the time.

The King mentioned that he had recently been to Antarctica visiting a Norwegian research station on the continent. Eric asked how the food was and the King replied that it was "very good". Tim then asked if he saw evidence of climate change on his trip to Antarctica. His Majesty then replied with a humorous answer. "Yes, but unless you've been there before you would never know. It is all just snow and ice."

Ted Birkedal then asked Tim to tell about the gift that we had given His Majesty (this had been given to Embassy staff on the previous day, one never directly give gifts to the King of Norway). This token gift consisted of a DVD of the History Channel reenactment of the story of Jan Baalsrud, one of the great heroes of the Norwegian Resistance in World War II. Along with an explanatory letter to the King we had also included a copy of Viking Magazine with an article about how a number of members of Bernt Balchen Lodge had participated in 2003 this made-for-TV show, entitled *Defiant Courage*. Tim went on to explain to his Majesty how he had been recruited to play the lead, Jan Baalsrud, and how some of Bernt Balchen's "best" had volunteered as extras in the show. His Majesty offered that he had personally known Jan Baalsrud. Tim told His Majesty that he was aware of the annual memorial trek that followed in the footsteps of Jan Baalsrud's escape from the Germans. The King remarked that if Tim made the memorial trek he would not be required to swim across the freezing fjords like Baalsrud.

At this point in the conversation, either Ambassador Aas or Tim Andrew brought up the "Murder at Bernt Balchen Lodge" mystery plays that Ted Birkedal has written. His Majesty seemed interested and so Ted told of one of the most recent plays called "The Ambassadors Come to Dinner" where he first intended to kill-off the Swedish Ambassador, but not the Norwegian one. However, the Honorary Norwegian Consul, Erling Johansen, thought it might reflect badly on the Lodge if we killed the Swedish Ambassador in the play. Ted explained to His Majesty that in the interest of good relations between Norway and Sweden he just poisoned the Swedish ambassador, but not so much that he would not recover in the hospital. He then told the King that instead of the Swedish ambassador he killed himself off (as the crazed President of the lodge) at the end of the play with poisoned aquavit administered by one of the other murderous officers of the lodge. We told His Majesty that Tim played the sharp-witted detective Nils Skarpnese that eventually solves the cases at Bernt Balchen Lodge.

At this juncture Ambassador Aas gave the signal that it was finally time for His Majesty to leave. Rather than the allotted three minutes at the "kids" table we had spent close to fifteen minutes. Apparently both the King and the Ambassador were having a good time at this last table (as Sven Gj. Gjeruldsen's [the Palace photographer] photograph's attest)

His Majesty rose to leave with Ambassador Aas and Ted Birkedal. At this point all the guests in Viking Hall also stood in honor of the King and clapped in appreciation for his visit. Outside, Ted Birkedal again shook hands with His Majesty and invited him to return to Bernt Balchen Lodge anytime he might be in town. The King and the Ambassador were then driven away by the United States Secret Service.



Photo courtesy of Sven Gj. Gjeruldsen,
The Royal Court of Norway



SUNSHINE REPORT

SEPTEMBER

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

Grethe Berge	Kjell Kristiansen
Kaare Elde	Marianne Lang
Ronald Flugum	Norma Link
Douglas L. Iverson	Louise Maakestad
Sandra Hanson	Annelise Moss
	Fred Walatka

If you know someone who needs a little sunshine, call Cindy McDowell:

696-0725 (cell - 862-1143)

Or, email at: ccmcd38@hotmail.com

"Gratulerer med dagen!"

Norwegian Language and Culture Class 2015-2016

Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge will be offering a Norwegian Language and Culture Class in 2015-2016. The class will be taught by Lillian Anderson who is a native speaker and expert on Norway.

The class will be scheduled for Sunday Evenings. The first class will be October 4, 2015. The cost of the class will be \$20.00 payable to the Sons of Norway. It will be held at Viking Hall which is located at 8141 Briarwood Street.

The class will be divided into two tiers. The first part of the class will be for beginners while the second part will be for more advanced students in Norwegian. These classes will purposely overlap to allow for interaction and conversation in Norwegian among all the students.

Beginners: 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM Advanced: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Beginning texts in Norwegian will be provided free of charge to any students that want them. Anyone taking the advanced section of the class will need to personally purchase the text for that part of the class. This book is *Norsk, Nordmenn, og Norge: Antologi 2* by Kathleen Stokker. It is available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, or the University of Wisconsin Press for \$19.95. We also recommend that all students purchase a Norwegian-English dictionary for use in the class.

If you are interested taking the class please call Viking Hall at (907) 349-1613 and give your name and which class tier you would like to attend (you may leave a voice mail). Also, you may just show up at the first class and sign up.



Sons of Norway
8141 Briarwood St.
Anchorage, AK 99518
907-349-1613

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US Postage
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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.

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

10	Thursday	7:00 pm	Board/Membership Meeting
11	Friday	3:00 - 6:00 pm	Lefse Making for Bazaar
12	Saturday	9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Lefse Making for Bazaar
13	Sunday	9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Lefse Making for Bazaar
15	Tuesday	10:00 am - Noon	Needle Crafts and Rosemaling Class
19	Saturday	5:30 pm	Faar-i-Kaal Dinner

**Coming in October.
Register early!**

WOODCARVING WITH THE LAST FRONTIER WOODCARVERS AT THE VIKING HALL

Saturday, October 17th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

\$20.00 covers the wood, tools to use, carving instructor, choice of project and a great lunch.

We are working on class projects but will have the bark face, bark house, woodburning, a chain, a relief, rollin' bears and Santa in cottonwood bark.

Stop by the "Woodshop" store in the Northway Mall to register and see the projects first come, first served.

Class size is limited.

Store hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Monday - Friday. Saturday and Sunday, Noon until 5:00 pm

Call Cindy at 862-1143 or 696-0725 to register or to get more information. Let's Keep Those Chips Flying!!!

All events take place at Viking Hall, 8141 Briarwood St., unless otherwise noted.

Please send articles or event information
for the next Newsletter by September 20th to: sonancak@gmail.com Attention - **Ruth** Subject Line - **The Flyer**