

The
Flyer



VIKING HALL 349-1613
www.sofnalaska.com

March
2018
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Nordic Culture

Congratulations to our Cultural Director Christie Ericson for the two outstanding cultural events already this year. If you missed the showing of “Kongens Nei” we have a copy of the DVD for loan out to members and I hear there is already a waiting list! Also, this past month we hosted the 4th annual Nordic Language Fair and it was a blast again with lots of new faces visiting our lodge to hear some history and culture around our shared Nordic languages.

Lillian Anderson rightly pointed out that culture and language are interrelated and that one cannot really understand a culture fully unless you also understand the language and history of the language. She made mention of the idea of “koselig” or as we Danes would call it “hygge”. Words are that difficult to translate into a single English word since “kos” and “hygge” are really more a way of being and not simple to just translate as Google translate would suggest that they mean “cosy”. Koselig and hygge are the idea of being in a state of complete contentment with life. To some, this could mean sitting by the fireside with a good book watching the snow fall outside and having a warm cup of coffee or tea to sip on. To others, it might mean a perfect day spent outside hiking the trails to a pristine mountain lake with your best friend and dog. There are several books out now suggesting that Americans need to learn how to be “koselig” and have more “hygge” in life, just like our fellow Scandinavians already have.

Not a simple task you say? Scandinavian countries have it a bit easier in some ways, as has been pointed out in numerous articles, as there are some things in life that they tend not to have to worry too much about – healthcare, education and retirement. Their societies believe that these three things are entitlements to all members of their societies and thus the governments in their countries fund all three of these generously. Imagine how much more “hygge” that might create if that was not on your worry list!

Sons of Norway is generally thought of as a cultural organization, and that is the primary reason most people join and attend our events. We do, however, have two other very important arms of our organization that provide benefits to people in need. The founding fathers of Sons of Norway established it as a fraternal benefit organization, to provide life insurance to their families should something happen as most of the early immigrants worked dangerous jobs in fishing, construction, forestry and such. Today Sons of Norway is still one of the largest fraternal benefits organizations and we have our own financial representative in our lodge who is willing to meet with any member to discuss financial planning matters. Glenn Jacob is a member of Bernt Balchen living in Palmer and can be reached at (907) 746-5857 or glenn@wfsalaska.com should you desire to have some financial advice. Members can contact him for a free financial review with no obligation to purchase any product or service.

The other arm of our organization is our outreach to help others. We do this funding assistance to those in need through the Sons of Norway Foundation at the international level, and through our own scholarship fund at the local lodge level that has provided thousands of dollars to members, young and old alike, to attend cultural/heritage programs as well as continue with higher education needs. April is the month when the local lodge scholarship applications are due (*see more information on page 6*) and we will announce the recipients at the 17th of May events.

So let’s all work together to create some “kos” in our lodge this coming year. Helping out or attending an event is great fun and who knows, you might meet someone new and create a new lifelong friendship that will most certainly lead to more “hygge” in your life!

Fraternally yours, Tom Falskow
President, Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge



SUPER BOWL!!



The enthusiastic crowd attending the Sons of Norway Super Bowl Party enjoyed a great game and wonderful food. Wayne Johnson's Lapskaus stew was a hit with many complements to the chef. A special thanks to Sandra Hanson who traveled from warm country to help with the event. Once again the game was shown on two screens – the 70" HDTV and the 100" Projector Screen. We congratulate all winners and especially the BIG winner Karl Moe.

Here are all the 2018 winners!

#1	\$200	Tracy Smith
#7	\$50	Amanda Hagan
#13	\$100	Jeanne Ostnes
#45	\$50	Robert Weimer
#66	\$25	Mike James
#75	\$50	Karen Ruud
#90	\$100	Beverly Smith
#105	\$25	Janel Ireton
#121	\$50	George Haugen
#150	\$200	Peter Schulte
#165	\$25	Linda Bustamante
#180	\$25	Peter Schulte
#195	\$100	Carolyn Crouch
#210	\$50	Matthias Medina
#225	\$25	John Lovett
#240	\$100	John Olnes
#250	\$25	Lee Peterson
#270	\$50	Mel Johanson
#299	\$250	Karl Moe
#300	\$1,000	Karl Moe



Thank you to all those who supported our Lodge Scholarship Fund by purchasing raffle tickets. The Super Bowl Raffle is the primary source of funds for the Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge No. 2-046 Language/Heritage/Higher Education Scholarships. *See more about those scholarships, how to apply and deadlines on page 6.*

Without all those who pitched in to help with ticket sales, food preparation, and set-up and clean-up this event could not take place. Thank You.!

Event Co-Chairs – Wayne Johnson, Sandra Hanson, Jane Moe Newby, John Olnes

Photos by Glenn Soby

SUNSHINE REPORT

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

“Gratulerer med dagen!”

Janice Blanchard

Phillip Ramstad



Sigmund Restad

Gordon Severson



Frederick Steinhouer

Robert Stinson



Sigmund and Frederick are both celebrating their 90th Birthdays

“Happy Birthday!”



If you know someone who needs a little sunshine -
Please call **696-0725 (cell - 862-1143)**
or email Cindy McDowell: ccmcd38@hotmail.com

Libraries, Archives, and Museums Fair

On February 9th, Viking Library participated in the first Anchorage Libraries, Archives and Museums (LAM) Fair which was held at the UAA/APU Consortium Library. Over 20 organizations from the Anchorage area participated and shared information on their collections.

Attendees were able to visit with librarians, archivists, and curators, and there were talks and workshops on subjects ranging from care of home photographs to Alaskan photo, audio, and scientific resource collections. Lodge Librarian and Cultural Director Christie Ericson showed off the new online Viking Library catalog and shared information about the Sons of Norway organization and Norwegian Americans in Alaska.

The Viking Library catalog, which is currently up to over 700 books cataloged (and still growing!), can be browsed here:

<https://www.librarything.com/catalog/VikingLibrary>




4TH ANNUAL NORDIC LANGUAGE FAIR




On February 17, we held our 4th annual Nordic Language Fair at Viking Hall. This event, which was free and open to the public, featured presentations by speakers on languages spoken in the Nordic countries. Our own Bernt Balchen Lodge Norwegian teacher, Lillian Anderson, gave an overview of the Norwegian language. UAA librarian and native Icelandic speaker Anna Bjartmarsdottir spoke on both the Icelandic and Swedish languages. Unfortunately Hanna Eklund, Honorary Finnish Consul and president of the Anchorage Suomi-Finland Club, was not able to make it due to illness, but club member Aino Murtomäki was able to stop by briefly and answer questions. Mange tusen takk to Tom Falskow for filling in as our Danish speaker at the last minute.



In addition to a wide variety of community members, UAA exchange students from Finland, Sweden, and Norway attended, as well as staff and students from the UAA Multicultural Center and the UAA Black Student Union. It was great to meet so many people and exchange ideas for potential future programs and events.

And of course, you can't talk about language without talking about culture and food! Thanks to the great volunteers who brought Nordic treats for attendees to sample. Anita Dale's kransekake was spectacular! And thanks so much to Linda Bustamante for making vafler during the event. They smelled heavenly and were a big hit—especially with the kids. Also, an extra special thank you to Cynthia Olnes for helping set up for the event and all those who helped clean up. We're already coming up with great ideas for next year's event!

Christie Ericson, Cultural Director



Photos by Christie Ericson and Ruth Kvernplassen



SKI FOR LIGHT 2018

The 43rd annual Ski for Light (SFL) International week was held January 21-28 at the beautiful Tahoe Donner Cross-Country Ski Center near Truckee, California. Members attending were Robert and Ann Denholm, Anita Dale and John Olnes. John Olnes received recognition as a 20-year SFL guide, having attended every international event since 1999. Alaskans from Juneau and Kodiak also attended as well as over 250 others from across the US and eight foreign countries.

Ski for Light has long relied on Sons of Norway for volunteers and financial support and has received enthusiastic support from the Sons of Norway leadership as indicated by their attendance and active involvement in the organization. Eivind Heiberg, Sons of Norway CEO, attended this year's SFL board meeting. International President Jon Tehven also attended and joined in the week's activities. Jon presented SFL with a \$1,000 check from International on Friday's Norway Night. Bernt Balchen lodge members were also recognized for preparing and mailing out the Sons of Norway lodge appeal letter each fall. This fundraising is a substantial source of funds for SFL and our lodge contributes each year.

Ski for Light, Inc. is an all-volunteer not-for-profit corporation that was founded in 1975. It was created by a group of Norwegian-Americans who were familiar with a program in Norway, the Ridderrenn, and the success that program had enjoyed over the years in teaching blind/visually-impaired and mobility-impaired people the Norwegian national sport of cross-country skiing. Please visit the Ski for Light website at sfl.org for more information.



Ski for Light guide John Olnes and first-time skier, Mo Salama from Houston, take a photo on break along the Tahoe Donner ski trails.



Ski for Light guides John Olnes and John Klemaseski receive the 20-year patch.



International President Jon Tehven and Ann Denholm hand out medals to the finishers of the Race/Rally.

*Above photos courtesy of John Olnes.
All others courtesy of Anita Dale.*



Harald Vik, blind skier and cyclist with his two guides.



Fun times in the Balloon House room.



SKI FOR LIGHT 2018



SKI FOR LIGHT 2019 EVENT

The 2019 Ski for Light International Week will be held from Sunday, January 27, 2019, through Sunday, February 3, 2019, at Snow Mountain Ranch in Granby, Colorado. The skiing portion of the SFL week takes place on the 100 kilometer trail system of Snow Mountain Ranch. They will also be staying on the grounds of the property, so ski trails are just a short distance from the lodge. Additional information, including costs and online applications, will be available starting July, 2018, at the SFL website: sfl.org



Bernt Balchen Lodge member and SFL Volunteer, Robert Denholm with his skier David Cleveland.



Harold Vik and Gloria Tehven.



At the Finish! A big accomplishment!



Sumo Wrestling in the Ballroom!



John Olnes at the Banquet.

Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge Scholarships

The 2018 scholarship applications for both the Language and Heritage Scholarship and the Higher Education Scholarship are available at the Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge. (Viking Hall, 8141 Briarwood Street, Anchorage, 9 am -1 pm, Tuesday-Friday)

Sons of Norway
Bernt Balchen Lodge #2-046
4410 Commercial Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Language and Heritage Scholarship Application

Due Date: Application to Scholarship Committee at Bernt Balchen Lodge: May 1st

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Class: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Are you a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046? Yes _____ No _____

Relationship to a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046: _____

Member's Name: _____

Please attach the following:

1. Essay describing your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what the Sons of Norway has meant to you.
2. Essay of "Why I want to attend a Language/Heritage Program"

*The above is the list of requirements for a Language Scholarship. Each requirement will be considered when choosing a recipient. However, the primary criteria for selection for the above scholarship your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what Sons of Norway means to you.

• Scholarship recipients are due to Lodge May 1st, will be announced, and announced at the 17th of May Celebration.

You can also find the applications available for download on:

www.sofnalaska.com

Sons of Norway
Bernt Balchen Lodge #2-046
4410 Commercial Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Higher Education Scholarship Application

Due Date: Application to Scholarship Committee at Bernt Balchen Lodge: May 1st

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Class: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Are you a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046? Yes _____ No _____

Relationship to a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046: _____

Member's Name: _____

Please attach the following:

1. Essay describing your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what the Sons of Norway has meant to you.
2. Essay based on the question: "Why I should receive a Higher Education Scholarship."
3. Name of High School and Date of Graduation (please include a transcript of grades with the transcript, if available)
4. List of extra-curricular activities and honors

*The above is the list of requirements for a Higher Education Scholarship. Each requirement will be considered when choosing a recipient. However, the primary criteria for selection for the above scholarship your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what Sons of Norway means to you.

• Scholarship recipients are due to Lodge May 1st, will be announced May 1st, and announced at the 17th of May Celebration.

The *Language and Heritage Scholarship* is available for persons of any age who are interested in attending or participating in Norwegian language or heritage programs.

The *Higher Education Scholarship* is available for persons entering a school of learning beyond the high school level.

Application deadlines are May 1st. Scholarship recipients will be chosen by May 10th and announced at the 17th of May Celebration.

If you have any questions concerning the application process and procedures, please contact Amanda Saxton at 349-1613 or by email at sonacak@gmail.com.

Please mail or drop off application packets to:

Sons of Norway
Attn: Scholarship Committee
8141 Briarwood St
Anchorage, AK 99518

Application Requirements for Language and Heritage Scholarship

1. Name, date of birth, and address
2. Name of program to be attended
3. Membership in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046, or a relation to a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046
4. Essay describing your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what the Sons of Norway has meant to you
5. Essay of "Why I want to attend a Language/Heritage Program"

Application Requirements for the Higher Education Scholarship

1. Name, date of birth, and address
2. Name of High School with transcript included
3. Date of graduation or expected graduation
4. Membership in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046, or a relation to a member of Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046
5. Extra-curricular activities and honors
6. Essay describing your involvement in Sons of Norway Lodge #2-046 and what the Sons of Norway has meant to you
7. Essay of "Why I should receive a Higher Education Scholarship"

Several other scholarships are also offered by the Sons of Norway Foundation and District 2.

Go to www.sofn.com/foundation and www.sonsofnorway2.com to get a full description for each scholarship and application details.

DITT og DATT!

Wood Working Seminar

The March 10th Woodcarving Seminar will be held at the Northway Mall. The price is \$25. Contact Cindy McDowell at 862-1143 to sign up!



Oytun Students visit Viking Hall



Long Walks in England, Scotland and Wales

Join us at the next Board Meeting for a talk on walks in England, Scotland and Wales. Expect photos of pastoral splendor, ancient abbeys, and big English breakfasts!

Presented by Deborah Hansen.

This meeting we will be welcoming new members.

March 8th, Potluck starts at 6:30.



3rd Annual Spring Silent Auction

Proceeds to Convention Delegate Fund

Saturday, April 14th

This year delegates from our lodge will be attending the District 2 and International Sons of Norway conventions. Each delegate pays their own travel, lodging and registration expenses. In an effort to assist with a portion of these costs, the proceeds from the Silent Auction will be set aside in a special convention delegate fund.

The Silent Auction will be held from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. during the Norwegian Fish Dinner on Saturday, April 14. Wood crafted items will again be featured and we hope to have a fine selection of Scandinavian/Nordic items as well. Please consider donating any gently used Scandinavian/Nordic items for the auction.

Bring your donations to Viking Hall (open 9:00 am - 1: 00 pm, Tuesday-Friday) or call Cynthia at 562-2794 for more information or to arrange a drop-off time outside of office hours.

Thank You in advance for your support!

Meet the World Bridge Builders

Bernt Balchen Lodge has always been an eager participant in the annual cultural exchange in our city.



Celebrating Cross-Country Skiing Traditions

It's all about the Wood and Wool!





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

Non-Profit Organization
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 Anchorage, Alaska
 PERMIT 505

EVENTS FOR MARCH

<p>6th <u>Tuesday</u> 10:00 am to Noon <u>Needle Crafts &</u> <u>Rosemaling</u></p>	<p>8th <u>Thursday</u> 6:30 / 7:30 pm <u>New Member Welcome & Potluck</u> <u>Board/Membership Meeting</u></p>	<p>17th <u>Saturday</u> 10:00 am to 1:00 pm <u>Lodge Officers</u> <u>Training</u></p>	<p>20th <u>Tuesday</u> 10:00 am to Noon <u>Needle Crafts &</u> <u>Rosemaling</u></p>
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EARLY WARNING!

Saturday, April 14th

***Norwegian Fish Dinner and
 3rd Annual Spring Silent Auction***

*Proceeds from the Auction go to Convention Delegate Fund.
 See page 7 of this Flyer/Ditt og Datt for more information.*

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.



Please consider helping those who are less fortunate.

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

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