



VIKING HALL 349-1613
www.sofnalaska.com

December 2018 desember



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SONS OF NORWAY BERNT BALCHEN LODGE – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

SPENNENDE!

Spennende! That’s Norwegian for “exciting” and boy has this been an exciting year for our lodge (and for your Dane of a president). And if 2018 was not spennende enough for you, here comes 2019! As your president-elect for 2019 (yes, we are still looking for a Norwegian to retake control of the lodge, but in the meantime you’ll be putting up with me for another year) we have lots of really exciting things to come in 2019. First a big shout out to our members – looks like we are on track to not only meet but substantially beat the 9% new member growth target for 2018 – a wonderful sign that people like what we are doing and want to join us. Keep on asking friends and family to join, and given the holidays just around the corner, perhaps gift a membership to someone you love.

So, on to 2019. Once again we have a great board and are a very fortunate lodge to have so many members involved in the board. As always, any member is invited to attend our monthly “Viking Council” board and member meetings, immediately followed by “Hygge time” or happy hour, where we each bring something small to share – in liquid form or otherwise. We install our new slate of officers at our first meeting on January 10th, so come and wish us good luck as we start the new year.

2019 looks to be an exciting year for a number of reasons. First of all, we have our 75th lodge anniversary coming up in August. No specific plans as of yet, but a committee is looking at what we should do to celebrate this milestone. This will also be the year that Anchorage celebrates it’s 50th anniversary of being a sister city with Tromsø, Norway, and our own Ruth Kvernplassen is representing that relationship as current sister city commissioner, so we plan to celebrate that relationship sometime this coming year as well.

And if that is not exciting enough, we plan to hold our regular events schedule but perhaps with some new additions or some slight twists on things. Nothing big to announce yet, but there are committees looking into things like *Viking Football at Viking Hall*, *Cycling without Age*, and ways to further improve our already popular events and attract more new members. We have also been selected as the host lodge for the 2022 District 2 convention and we have a committee looking at that big event. Conventions take lots of planning and local lodge involvement, so please ask to be part of this exciting opportunity, we have not hosted a district convention in over 30 years and the entire district is really excited about coming back to Anchorage in 2022.

I’ll close this month with very merry wishes for a wonderful Christmas with your friends and family and a Happy New Year 2019. I personally can’t wait to see what all we have accomplished this time next year as the exciting times continue at Bernt Balchen!

Hope to see you at the great events this month.

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

GOD JUL! Nordic Christmas Brunch

Sunday, December 2nd 11 am to 2 pm at Viking Hall



Please join us for a traditional Scandinavian Family Christmas Brunch with pickled herring, Jansson’s temptation, cucumber salad, meatballs, rutabagas, cured ham, potato sausage, low bush cranberries, lefse, cardamom bread, cookies and much more.

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

Adults: \$25 Ages 12 – 18: \$15 Ages 6 – 11: \$5 Ages 5 and under: FREE

Please call 349-1613 for reservations

We are looking for donations of 2018 salmon for this event. If you would like to donate salmon or HELP with this event, please call Merlin 575-6420 or Anita 301-4215



Lefse Making Thank You

Although Ted Birkedal has moved on to his new home in California I know I speak for him as well as myself when I give a huge thank you to everyone who helped at the three lefse making sessions held this fall. I hesitate to try and list names as I'm sure I would leave someone out. However, I must give mention to Sig Restad and his family for continuing to provide the potatoes for this important Bernt Balchen Lodge fundraising effort. The lefse at the Bazaar bake sale sold out and there were more available to sell after the third rolling.

Please consider volunteering when lefse making comes up again next fall. There are many steps where help is needed in the process that starts with raw potato and flour and ends with a delicious lefse. Information will come your way via the Lodge newsletter as well as on the website, e-blast and facebook.

Once again, tusen takk to everyone who helped make this year's fundraising a success.

Chairs Ted Birkedal and Cynthia Olnes



2019 LODGE OFFICERS

Here is a listing of the officers elected at the November 8th Board Meeting. Tusen Takk for serving!

President - Tom Falskow	Assistant Marshal - Marcus Biastock	Sunshine Chair - Cindy McDowell
Vice President & Member Secretary - Linda Bustamante	Trustee - John Olnes	Newsletter Chair - Ruth Kvernplassen
Treasurer - Carol Carlson	Auditor - Patrick McCormick	Publicity Chair - Sarah Sandbak
Counselor - Martha Andrew	Auditor - Sarah Sandbak	Librarian - Christie Ericson
Secretary - Anita Persson	Cultural Director - Christie Ericson	Viking Hall - Jacob Mathiesen
Marshal - James Greeley	Foundation Director - Amanda Saxton	Viking Hall - Lee Sandbak
	Sports Director - Martin Hansen	Viking Hall - Patrick McCormick (Alt.)



SUNSHINE REPORT



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Greetings are sent to our members celebrating a birthday who are at least 75 years young!

John Barstad	Carolyn Korman	Anstice Tibor
Eva Bilet	Wallace Smith	James Tibor
Louis Gjosund	Barbara Stinson	Carl Pearson

"Happy Birthday!"



"Gratulerer med dagen!"

If you know someone who needs a little sunshine

Call 696-0725 (cell - 862-1143)

or email Cindy McDowell:

ccmcd38@hotmail.com

==== MEMBERSHIP NEWS! ====

Membership in Sons of Norway is about ENRICHMENT

Since the beginning, Sons of Norway has maintained its dedication to the personal and financial well-being of its members. More than a century later, that devotion remains at the heart of the organization and fuels a collective passion for personal and cultural enrichment.

Welcome New Members!

Karsten Rodvik	James Strandberg	Carolyn Leman
Martha Voshell	Ken Swank	Linda Anhorn
Leslie Gustafson	Cody Jacobson	Laura Hughes

Correction! Rayne Litera was listed incorrectly as Wayne. Welcome to our Lodge, Rayne!

A BIG Thank You to current members for paying your dues!

Find out what is happening in our lodge

You can see our *Flyer* in "full color" on our Website:

<http://www.sofnalaska.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BerntBalchen

Instagram: [@sonsofnorwayanchorage](https://www.instagram.com/sonsofnorwayanchorage)

LUTEFISK AND LEFSE DINNER!

Everyone had a fabulous time at the Lutfisk and Lefse Dinner!

Thank you to all the volunteers - cooks, servers, set-up and clean-up crews. We couldn't have done it without you!

Thanks to Tom Falskow for signing up more members to share the food and fun!

Special thanks to Co-Chairs: Tom Falskow and Patrick McCormick

All Photos Courtesy of Glenn Soby



Did you have a chance to visit the Library downstairs?

Our Librarian Christie Ericson has everything catalogued and available for members to check out books and other materials. You could learn about Lutefisk!

www.librarything.com/profile/VikingLibrary



Scholarship News

Sons of Norway Foundation is the charitable arm of Sons of Norway and offers generous scholarships and Grants.

Complete criteria, eligibility requirements and application process is available on the website:

www.sonsofnorway.com/foundation

Questions may be directed to the Foundation at:
scholarship@sofn.com

The Scholarships available for members and their families are:

King Olav V Norwegian-American Heritage Scholarship

Its purpose is to fund activities in which the American and Norwegian heritages are explored, studied and shared by qualified scholarship recipients. Awards up to \$2,000. Deadline for submission of completed application is January 15, 2019.

Oslo International Summer School

Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 is awarded to attend the Oslo International Summer School. Deadline for submission of application is January 15, 2019.

Helen Tronvold Norwegian Folk High School Scholarship

The scholarship objective is to provide cross-cultural experiences for youth to attend one of the many Folk High Schools in Norway. Awards of up to \$3,000. Deadline for application is January 15, 2019.

Helen Tronvold Adult Learner Scholarship

The scholarship objective is to provide cross-cultural experiences for adult Insurance members. Awards of up to \$3,000. Deadline for application is January 15, 2019.

Lund Fund Scholarship

The scholarship is for study abroad experiences through accredited, post high school, educational institutions. Awards of up to \$2,500. Deadline for application is January 15, 2019.

Doug Warne – Rolf & Wenche Eng Scholarship

Scholarship creates an opportunity for qualified applicants to attend educational institutions in Norway and assists with the costs of tuition, room and board. Awards of up to \$3,000. Deadline for application is January 15, 2019.

Astrid Cates & Myrtle Beinhauer Scholarship

Eligibility: Those who have a certificate of completion from high school and are enrolled in post-secondary training, vocational/trade school or college.

A recipient is selected from each of Districts 1 – 6. Awards are \$1,000. Deadline for application is March 10, 2019.

Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship

Eligibility: Must be a female who a full-time undergraduate who has completed at least one term of her studies as a major either in chemistry, physics or in chemical, electrical or mechanical engineering. Financial aid is based on need. Deadline for application is April 1, 2019.

Oren & Marie Winjum Scholarship

Scholarship is to assist with college tuition costs for American citizens of Norwegian and/or German heritage. Award is \$2000. Deadline for application is March 10, 2019.

Carl M. Saltveit Scholarship

International Summer School 2019

University of Oslo – Oslo, Norway

The Carl M Saltveit Scholarship Fund will provide tuition, room and board to one qualified applicant to attend the International Summer School at the University of Oslo. Carl

Scholarship News continues on Page 5



Pictured farthest right:

Christie Ericson, our lodge Librarian and Cultural Director, is a past recipient of this Scholarship.

Scholarship News

Scholarship News

Carl M. Saltveit continues...

This permanently endowed fund provides one scholarship annually to encourage and facilitate attendance at the International Summer School and pays for Basic Tuition and the cost of room and board in the university dormitory.

Extra classes, optional trips and airfare are the responsibility of the recipient.

The Scholarship is named for Carl M. Saltveit Sr. in honor and remembrance of his contributions to the Norwegian community through Grieg Lodge #15 in Portland, Oregon, his work in Norwegian war relief, educational exchange and services to immigrants and visitors from Norway. He also served as an International Director of the Sons of Norway. Applications (including all supporting documents) must be postmarked no later than January 15th, 2019. Contact Amanda Saxton at Viking Hall 349-1613 for more information on how to apply.

Camp Counselor Scholarship

This opportunity will look great on a college student's resume and sounds like a great experience.

Contact Amanda Saxton, Foundation Director at Viking Hall 349-1613 for more information and links to the application.

You can also find the links at: <http://www.sofnalaska.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2019-Camp-Counselor-Award.pdf>

YOUTH CAMP INSTRUCTOR/COUNSELOR GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway, Educational Foundation will award a grant to a person or persons who can provide a positive camp experience for young people participating in the District Two Youth Camp Program.

Instructions to the applicant:

Complete this form in blue or black ink.

To be eligible for the Youth Camp Instructor/Counselor grant, the applicant must be either:

- 1) a student who is accepted by or attending an accredited college/university in a Scandinavian Studies Program, **OR** 2) a student who is accepted by, or is attending any other college/ university program with an interest in Scandinavian heritage and culture, **OR** 3) any member in good standing of Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway, who demonstrates a knowledge or interest in Scandinavian heritage and/or culture.

All applicants must supply:

1. A current transcript if currently enrolled in school
2. A 200-250 word essay describing your accomplishments to date, involvement in community activities and/or in Sons of Norway, why you have an interest in Scandinavia, and educational or career goals
3. An application for Camp Instructor/Counselor to a District 2 Youth Program as well as a copy of your application and/or a receipt of your application from the program

A \$500 award is available for each camp. More than one person may receive an award, but the maximum award is \$1,500 per year. All award checks are made out to the school except for applicants who are eligible under option number 3. Preference is given to applicants participating in at least two camps. The award will be sent following successful completion of camp.

- Mail the completed application form to the Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway, Educational Foundation address above. To be eligible for consideration, the application must meet all the requirements **AND** be received by March 29, 2019. The Educational Foundation cannot accept applications by e-mail or fax.

The winners of the Youth Camp Instructor/Counselor grant will be asked to attend Leif Erikson Lodge's September meeting, and comment on his/her instructor/counselor camp experience.

1. Full name: _____
2. Street address: _____
- City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
3. Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____
4. At which youth camp(s) will you be an instructor or counselor? _____
5. Please list the Sons of Norway lodge of which you are a member: _____
6. Attach a separate sheet, with your 200-250 word essay.
- 7a. Attach an official current transcript from either the high school or the college/university you are attending.
- OR**
- 7b. Attach a copy of your acceptance letter from the college/university you plan to attend if you have not attended the college/university yet.

I hereby certify the above statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's signature _____

All applicants will be notified of the Educational Foundation's decision.

Mail completed application form to:

Leif Erikson Lodge 2-001, Sons of Norway
Educational Foundation
2245 NW 57th Street
Seattle, WA 98107
206-783-1274 (Leif Erikson Hall Office)

The Educational Foundation Trustees make the final selection of the award winners.

Criteria for selection are:

- Academic performance
- Evidence of ability to succeed at providing a positive camp experience for young people
- Content of the essay
- Ability to follow the instructions on the application

If you have any questions, contact:

Heidi Ludeman (Larsen), 360-927-1194 or heidi.ludeman@gmail.com
OR
email: leif Eriksonlodge@qwestoffice.net



Sons of Norway Lucia 2018

Be sure to attend one of the most popular Scandinavian events in town, our Lucia Family Christmas Party, December 9th at 3:00 pm.

The Lucia Committee is seeking volunteers to help during the Christmas program. From making sandwiches to pouring glogg to cutting spruce boughs, there are many opportunities for supporting this fun family-focused event.

Crystal and the Lucia Committee are looking for the rice porridge making experts.

If you have an old family recipe and would like to donate a batch for the Lucia Celebration please contact Crystal at 907-245-0495 or crystal_enkvist@hotmail.com

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Lucia Rehearsal #2

Sunday, December 2 4:00 pm

Lucia Christmas Celebration

Sunday, December 9 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Annika Enkvist, 2018 Lucia



Annika Victoria Enkvist is the daughter of Urban and Crystal Enkvist. She is a sophomore at Dimond High School where she plays percussion in the symphonic band and is a member of the cross-country running and Nordic ski teams.

Annika has earned letters in academics and band. She is also a recipient of the James Parcel Jazz Excellence Award in 2017 and the Charles Nagel Award for Attitude and Musicianship in 2018.

She is proud of her Swedish heritage and is studying the Swedish language online through a university program in Lund. She is a dual citizen of the United States and Sweden.

Annika is the granddaughter of Lars and Carin Enkvist of Balsta, Sweden and James and Carolyn Crouch of Anchorage. She has participated in the Lucia Festival for many years.

Don't miss out on the fun!



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 our program at the lodge, a procession is headed by one girl wearing a crown of candles (or lights), while others follow in the procession with 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, singing around the Christmas tree, and enjoying authentic Scandinavian rice pudding, open-faced sandwiches, and desserts. Santa Claus makes a special appearance at this event and hands out goodies to all attending children.

DITT og DATT!

Call for Rice Porridge Makers for Lucia Family Christmas Party!

The Lucia Committee is looking for volunteers to make rice porridge for the Lucia Family Christmas Party coming up on Sunday, December 9. If you are able to help please contact Crystal at: 907-245-0495 or crystal_enkvist@hotmail.com.

Call for Salmon for the Nordic Brunch!

Was 2018 a successful salmon fishing year for you? Is your freezer overflowing with this year's catch? Anita and the Brunch committee would like to help you with that. They are looking for donations of 2018 caught salmon for the Nordic Brunch. Please contact Anita at 301-4215 to arrange for your donation.

Viking for Kids

"Viking for Kids" pages are now available from the SON website at:

www.sofn.com/member_resources/cultural_programming/family_matters

They are under the heading of "Family Matters" and go all the way back to 2013.

Mark D. Agerter, International Vice President
Sons of Norway

Photo Credits....

All Scandinavian Bazaar photos in November's Flyer were courtesy of Anita Persson.

Nice job!

District 2 - Zone 6 News

As the new Zone 6 Director, I've been busy getting up to speed on my new position and learning all about the lodges in Alaska. Earlier this year I sent out a letter of introduction and am making plans to visit the Alaska lodges: Island Viking (Kodiak), Bernt Balchen (Anchorage), Svalbard, (Juneau), Fedrelandet (Petersburg), Midnatsol (Ketchikan), Arctic Viking (Fairbanks), and Norske Venner (Sitka). In August I attended the Sons of Norway International Convention in Bloomington, MN and got to meet members from all over the U.S., Canada, and Norway. In September I also attended my first District 2 Board Meeting at Trollhaugen Lodge in Stampede Pass, WA. It was also my first visit to Trollhaugen, which was a beautiful setting for the three-day meeting.



Christie Ericson

Bernt Balchen will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2019 and will be planning something special to commemorate the event.

The Zone 6 lodges have been busy preparing for various events, including annual bazaars, lutefisk and meatball dinners, lefse making, Julefest/Christmas parties, and much more. Perhaps the most exciting news is that Bernt Balchen Lodge successfully bid to host the 2022 District 2 Convention in Anchorage. The last time the convention was in Alaska was in 1986 – 32 years ago!

Other upcoming events include:

Bernt Balchen Lodge 2-046 (Anchorage)

Dec. 2 – Nordic Christmas Brunch, 11 am to 2 pm

Dec. 9 – Lucia Family Christmas Party, 3-6 pm

Svalbard Lodge 2-033 (Juneau)

Nov. 10 – Holiday Bazaar, 9 am to 3 pm - Fundraiser

Dec. 8 – Meatball/Lefse Making in advance of the Julefest Dinner

Dec. 29 – Julefest Dinner

Island Viking Lodge 2-145 (Kodiak)

Nov. 5 – Meeting at the Marian Center, 7pm; Charity of the month: Technology upgrades for Grades 1 and 2 at Kodiak Christian School

Fedrelandet Lodge 2-023 (Petersburg)

Nov. 18 – Harvest Potluck/Ski for Light Night, 5 pm

Nov. 25 – Decorate the Hall

Dec. 1 – Christmas Bazaar, 10 am to 3 pm

Dec. 12 – Pickled Herring Contest, 7 pm

Dec. 16 – The Julbord, 5 pm

- Christie Ericson



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

Non-Profit Organization
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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.*



EVENTS FOR DECEMBER

**2nd
 Sunday**

11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Nordic Christmas Brunch

4:00 pm
Second Lucia Practice

**4th
 Tuesday**

10:00 am - Noon
Needle Crafts & Rosemaling Class

**9th
 Sunday**

3:00 - 6:00 pm
Lucia Family Christmas Party



**13th
 Thursday**

7:00 pm
Board/Membership Meeting
(Viking Council)

**18th
 Tuesday**

10:00 am - Noon
Needle Crafts & Rosemaling Class

***Merry Christmas
 Happy New Year!***



God Jul!

SUPER BOWL RAFFLE



***Ticket sales for the Sons of
 Norway 2019 Super Bowl
 Raffle are coming to a close
 with only a few left to sell.***

*If you have not purchased your tickets yet please
 contact John Olnes (562-2794) or the Viking
 Hall office (349-1613).*

Tickets will also be available at lodge events.

*The raffle is the primary source of funds for the
 Sons of Norway Bernt Balchen Lodge Language/
 Heritage/Higher Education Scholarships.*

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
 LIII game on TWO big screen TVs at Viking Hall on
 Sunday, February 3, 2019.

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

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