



FREYA FORUM

Freya Lodge #6-062 Newsletter

December 2017

Ord fra Presidenten

First of all we are sending our thanks to President Marne Olson, who is busy settling into her new home in Austin, Texas. She has led Freya Lodge through four wonderful and successful years and hers will be hard shoes to fill. All we can do is forge ahead and wish her and her husband, Ruben Armiñana, much happiness in their new home. She has promised to visit often and we look forward to seeing her soon.



We have just completed a very busy month, highlighted by our rescheduled and down-sized Vikingfest. It was a huge success, thanks to all of you who contributed your time, your talents and/or your baking skills.

It surprised me that when I asked people how they found out about the Vikingfest, nine out of ten said they read about it on Facebook! It is a whole, new world and it shows how important it is to “like” and “share” the announcements of our events when you see them. It spreads like ripples in a pond and reaches people who would never see an ad in the newspaper. And it is free, so please help us take advantage of it.

For anyone who is interested in knowing more about what goes on behind the scenes at Freya Lodge, we invite you to attend the board meetings, which take place the third Monday of each month, at 5:30 pm at the Hall. All members are invited to attend and we would love to see you there. The next one will be Monday, December 18.

We hope to see you at our two wonderful December events. The traditional Juletrefest on December 2nd has crafts for all ages, a delicious smorgasbord lunch and walking around the Christmas tree while singing Norwegian and English carols. The Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair on December 9th presents great local artists in a warm, European style Christmas Fair. A great opportunity to find unique and beautiful Christmas gifts.

2018 is going to be a busy year with the District 6 Convention taking place at the Graton Casino in Rohnert Park June 10 to 14. Further details on that will be in the January Freya Forum.

We wish you “God Júl og Godt Nytt År! “ Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to all!

Anne-Marie Winterhalder
Vice President and President Elect

Upcoming Freya Lodge Events:

- Juletrefest
Dec 2 @
11:00am
- Monday Morning
Crafts
Dec 4, 10a-1p
- Craft Fair
Dec 9, 9am-3pm
- Meatball Work-
shop
Jan 8, 10am
- Lutefisk & Meat-
ball Dinner
Jan 20 @ 4pm

Karen's Column



It is hard to believe that this is the last Freya Forum for the year and 2017 is drawing to a close. What a year it has been! From hosting a Norwegian playwright and his play, "Munch and His Mentor" in March, many special dinners, a delayed Vikingfest due to the firestorm that hit our beloved Sonoma County, and a fond farewell to our wonderful past President, Marne Olson as she and her husband moved to Austin, Texas, this has been another busy year for our lodge. We do miss you Marne, but wish you and Ruben all the best in your new home.

We start off this Christmas season with our Juletreffest celebration on December 2nd from 11am until 3pm. Come and enjoy making Scandinavian Christmas crafts and singing and dancing around the Christmas tree. A delicious traditional Julebord lunch will be served. Santa will be joining us in the afternoon so be sure to bring a small wrapped gift for Santa to give to your child. Please note: clearly mark your child's first and last name on the gift as there may be more than one Erik! Please, no large gifts as Santa's bag is only so big. December is a very busy month for everyone but this is a good time to take some time out to spend with your children or grandchildren and share a bit of Scandinavian heritage with them. Cost for this event is \$10 for adult members, \$13 for non-members and kids under 12 are free. Please check the flyer in this month's Freya Forum for more information.

Need that special gift for that certain someone, come and check out our Holiday Craft Fair on December 9th from 9am until 3pm. Come and see special one of a kind gifts for that last minute shopping and enjoy a glass of Scandinavian Christmas glogg! Norwegian waffles, coffee and a light lunch will be available for purchase.

To start the New Year off right, we will be hosting our annual Lutefisk and Meatball dinner on January 20th at the lodge. This is one event that you do not want to miss. Start thinking about making your reservations now as only a limited number of tickets will be sold. Go to Freyalodge.org and check under events to make your reservations. We will be using Brown Paper tickets again this year but your lodge covers your cost to use this service. There is also a telephone number you can call for Brown Paper tickets if you do not want to make your reservations on line. Remember, the first couple to make their reservations become our King and Queen of Lutefisk for 2018! Come and see the crowning and enjoy a very special Scandinavian dinner. Check the flyer in this month's forum for more information.

On January 8th we will be hosting a meatball workshop starting at 10 am at the Lodge. We will be making our very delicious meatballs for our Lutefisk and Meatball dinner which will be held on the 20th of January. Come and learn how to make these traditional meatballs and join in the fun!

See you at the Juletreffest on December 2nd! Come with your children, grandchildren and friends. Bring your singing voices and a good appetite. Enjoy a visit with Santa and welcome in the Christmas season with a bit of Norwegian tradition. God Jul to all!

Hilsen,
Karen Larson



Freya Board Contact Info

President: Marne Olson

Membership: Anne-Marie Winterhalder
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Secretary: Susan Potter
secretary@freyalodge.org

Social Director: Karen Larson
707-996-9889 tandkrlarson@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer/Editor: Lis Barca
707-495-5808 editor@freyalodge.org

Cultural Skills Director: Siri Fenson
707-303-7860 sirimax@att.net

Sunshine: Sandi Mc Connell
707-539-1021 sandrahedvig@aol.com

Norway Hall Association President: Darryl Laxo
707-838-2857 dlaxo@comcast.net

Gratulerer med dagen

Anne Bandy
Else Bratlien
Inger Crump
Roberta Cummings
Pamela Stutrud Groth
William Jacobson
Gloria Keller
Karen Larson
Darryl Laxo
Guy Markell
Peter Meirik
Lilianna Oehm
Lauren Proaps
Ellen Swenson
Maddy Tapparo
Edward Tollefson
Isaiah Shipley-Tuavale
Elizabeth Vandenberg

New Sons of Norway Dues Structure

Effective January 1, 2018 a new "simplified" dues structure will go into effect for Sons of Norway members.

The cost for regular membership will be \$60 per year
For Golden (30+ years) membership will be \$42 per year

There will be a new "Family" membership at \$95 per year.
A family can be husband and wife, or other adults living in the same household.

The adjustments to your bill will be made by Sons of Norway headquarters when your due date comes around, so all you need to do is pay the amount shown on your statement.

It will please you to know that part of the increase will come back to Freya Lodge for each member, which will help us somewhat in paying our monthly operating expenses.

If you have any questions about the new dues, please contact Anne-Marie Winterhalder, annemarie@thegrid.net, or Siri Fenson, sirimax@att.net

Genealogy

On a recent episode of Long Lost Family on TLC, a 47 year old adoptee was on a quest to find her birth mother.

With no access to her original birth certificate, which likely would have provided the names of her parents, she had her DNA tested through Ancestry.com. She struck gold by successfully connecting with her biological father and the two met in a very emotional reunion.

Her birth mother was not located. If you or someone you know is in the same boat, not finding the match you are looking for on Ancestry is not the end of the search.

Cast a wide net and test in multiple places! It is advisable to test at Ancestry as well as at 23 and Me. Once that is done, raw DNA results from these two companies can be uploaded to MyHeritage.com and FamilyTreeDNA.com without testing again. (Ancestry and 23 and Me currently do not accept DNA from other companies.) This would allow you to have your DNA in four places after testing twice.

The purpose of this is to increase the chances of finding a match in any of these databases. Ancestry seems to be the most well known but if your long lost family didn't test there, you won't find them.

In addition, raw DNA results can be uploaded to GedMatch.com which is a site used for analyzing matches and helping to determine how people are related. GedMatch accepts DNA results from all of these companies.

All DNA testing companies have their test kits on sale around major holidays. Additionally, any of these test kits can be purchased at Amazon.com and, if you are a Prime member, shipping is free.

You might find your Long Lost Family or long lost family might find you!

Submitted by Pamela Stutrud Groth

Rice Pudding (Riskrem)

Adapted from arcticgrub.wordpress.com

Makes about 4 portions

2 cups rice porridge*
2 tbsp confectioners sugar or to taste
2 tsp vanilla sugar or vanilla extract
1 ½ cups heavy cream or coconut cream
50 grams or ¼ cup toasted almonds, chopped (optional)

Whisk coconut cream or heavy cream with the confectioners sugar and vanilla sugar/extract in a stand mixer until fluffy. Fold the whipped cream with the rice porridge and sprinkle in the chopped almonds.



*Rice Porridge (Risengrynsgrøt)
1 cup short grain rice, such as Arborio
2 cups water
4 cups almond milk (or coconut milk)
1 vanilla bean pod, split in half
½ cup granulated sugar
½ tsp salt

Drain rinsed rice in a colander. Add water and rice to a pot and bring to boil. Lower temperature to a simmer and cook until all water has been absorbed. Add milk, insides of vanilla pod as well as shell, sugar and salt. Bring to boil while whisking constantly, do not allow milk to burn at the bottom. Lower temperature to simmer for 45 minutes or until porridge consistency. Pour into a bowl to cool for rice pudding or keep warm and serve with butter, sugar and cinnamon.

Welcome New Members:

No new members this month

Thanks for Renewing:

Tor Allen
Donald Bent
Gladys Boen
Pamela Johnson
Stacy Stjern

Norwegian Holiday Tradition – The Julenisse

The Christmas season is a perfect time to embrace your Norwegian heritage and share the culture with your loved ones. One way to do this is by incorporating a new or different tradition into your celebrations each year.

This season, why not invite an icon of Norwegian folklore, the Julenisse, into your holiday home? Both farm protector and bearer of Christmas cheer, the nisse is a charming, yet sly fellow whose legacy lives on in Norway and around the world to this day.

The classic tale declares that small gnome-like nisser hide in houses and barns to bring good luck or make mischief, depending on how well they are treated by the ones who live there. Try having fun with this family-friendly legend and hunt for the nisse living in your own home. Simply search for photos of the nisse on the internet, print them out and hide them around your home, then send your guests on the nisse hunt of the year.

Check out the 2010 November issue of Viking for a nisse cut-out, along with other Nordic games and activities you can enjoy over the holidays. You can also learn more about the nisse and its Norwegian legend in the 2012 December issue of Viking.



The Viking archive may be found online at https://www.sofn.com/viking_archive (member login required).

Freya Lodge Cultural Skills Classes

Possible classes coming up, so look for details in the January issue of Freya Forum newsletter. In the meantime, we congratulate Martha Garbesi and Max Fenson; both given pins for learning and completing required skills in the Sons of Norway Cultural Skills Program.

In November, Martha was presented with a Level 3 ‘Norwegian Literature’ pin. To earn this she read five non-fiction books by Norwegian or North American-Norwegian authors and wrote a report. The judges said that Martha delivered “an excellent work”.

Martha also received a Level 1 pin in Figure Wood Carving and so did Max. To earn this award, they each wrote about the history of Norwegian Folk Arts. Besides, they had to learn how to use a sharpening tool and carve something – in their case a three-dimensional star. Martha and Max had been part of the 10-student wood carving class taught in the spring by lodge member Bill Splaine.

A mentor in the CSP is someone who has instructed and guided nine lodge members (and friends) in learning a skill. Pamela Groth is congratulated for having done just that in Genealogy and earned a Level 3 Mentor pin.

Siri Fenson (Cultural Skills Program Director)

Host families needed for Swedish Students

Twenty students from Borås, Sweden will be attending the Santa Rosa Junior College March 28-May 4, 2018 and host families are needed in the Santa Rosa area. Hosts are required to provide a private room, three meals a day and transportation to and from the JC Monday through Thursday.

If you are interested in having a Swedish family member for a few weeks, please contact SRJC Faculty Coordinator, Melissa Kort at mkort@santarosa.edu



Craft Fair Baked goods and helpers needed

Please join us for the 3rd annual Freya Arts and Craft Fair on December 9th, from 9-3 This is a real fun and relaxing event! We have a great line up of artists and our Freya Bakery/craft store will be open.

Help is needed for the following:

- Bake and serve waffles in the morning
- Serve soup at lunch through the pass through
- Help set up raffle and sell tickets
- Assist in Freya Bakery/store
- Help shoppers with Christmas tree ornaments

Come and shop and have a bite to eat.
Enjoy the holiday cheer.

Be part of the fun - call or text Marit @ 707-495-0448

HERITAGE and UNGE VENNER MEMBERSHIPS



A chance to enroll your young children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren in Sons of Norway!

It's very easy to honor youngsters age 15 and younger by signing them up as **Heritage** members. The 'sponsor' has to be a Sons of Norway member in good standing. These children and teenagers have no voting rights and will not receive the Viking magazine, but shall get a Heritage membership card. There is no fee. An application form (available at all Freya Lodge events) needs to be filled out.

You can also enlist a child/grandchild/great-grandchild, age 16 to 23, in **Unge Venner** (Young Friends). No fee applies.

WWW.FREYALODGE.ORG

Thanks to Lis Barca our Freya Lodge website has a brand new look and is much easier to navigate.

If you haven't checked it out lately, please do! It is a great and easy way to look up old Freya Forum newsletters, check details on upcoming events and how to reserve them etc. Our new stylish logo designed by Zoe Barca is now proudly displayed there as well as on the events flyers.

Thank you Lis and Zoe!!



Officers for 2018

Congratulations to the following officers who were elected on November 4, 2017.

President – Anne-Marie Winterhalder

Vice-President – Siri Fenson

Secretary – Susan Potter

Treasurer – Lis Barca

Co-Social Directors – Karen Larson & Rebecca Thompson

Co-Cultural Directors – Marit Barca & Else Bratlien

Cultural Skills Director – Siri Fenson

Sports Director –

Publicity Director/Vikingfest Co-Chair - Anne-Marie Winterhalder

Editor – Lis Barca

Sunshine – Sandra McConnell

Greeters – Kathryn Norman, Natosi Johanna & Zoe Barca

Hall Association (3 year term) – Darryl Laxo & Lis Barca



Viking Pottery Holiday Sale

By Harald Eric Nordvold

December 9 & 10, 16 & 17

10 - 5 Saturdays and 12 - 5 Sundays

Also by Appointment

707-387-2216

Beautiful one of a kind functional porcelain and stoneware pottery. Slightly flawed seconds at 50% off.

Directions: Highway 101 to Santa Rosa. Take the Hearn Avenue exit and go West on Hearn Avenue 7 tenths of a mile. Turn right on Westwood Drive and go one block to Gloria Drive. Studio is on the northeast corner.

1531 Gloria Drive

vikingpottery1@earthlink.net

www.vikingpottery.net



Freya Lodge

Juletreffest

December 2, 2017

11am - 2pm

*Norway Hall
617 W Ninth Street, Santa Rosa*

Come Celebrate a Norwegian Christmas!

Christmas Crafts for the whole family

Julebord lunch buffet, cookies and coffee

Adult members \$10 Non-members \$13

Kids under 12 are free

Santa Claus will arrive with presents for all children.

*(Please bring a small, wrapped gift for Santa to give to your child,
with the child's first and last name CLEARLY printed on the gift.
There may be more than one Erik!)*

RSVP by November 28th

Karen Larson 707-996-9889

www.freyalodge.org



FREYA LODGE

HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

A VARIETY OF CRAFTS AND
SCANDINAVIAN BAKED GOODS

DECEMBER 9, 9-3PM

NORWEGIAN WAFFLES, COFFEE AND A
LIGHT LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

NORWAY HALL,
617 W NINTH STREET, SANTA ROSA



Norway Hall
617 West Ninth Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

For questions, 707-579-1080
or RSVP @ FreyaLodge.org

Freya Lodge, Sons of Norway

Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner

January 20, 2018 @ 4 pm.



The traditional Norwegian menu will include the very famous Lutefisk (*cod*), as well as delectable meatballs in brown gravy and all the trimmings, *lefse* (*potato flatbread*), almond cake and coffee.

Cost

- Adult member \$26
- Adult non-member \$32
- Children age 6-14 \$10.
- **ONLY 75 TICKETS TO BE SOLD**

Tickets available through Brown Paper Tickets

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3167779>

Or call 1-800-838-3006



Freya Lodge 6-062

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Culture, Community, Camaraderie

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