



# EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2, DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

Tacoma, Washington

March April 2016 VOL. 29, NO. 2

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## Programs....Programs.....Programs.....



Nancy Haley

In February, Nancy Haley gave a wonderful program on a new play about Thea Foss; we welcomed members from Thea Foss lodge as our guests!

In **March** we are going to highlight the various groups who get together outside of our lodge meetings to pursue interests within our heritage and culture. A representative from our *rosemaling* group, *håndverkerer*- our craft group, *kaffeslabberas* – our conversational Norwegian group, and our very own *leikarring* dancing group will speak about their interests and allow our members to ask any questions they may have.

In **April**, Karen Haas will present her one woman portrayal of Thea Foss and we'll celebrate our birthday!

Lisa Ottoson, our *syttende mai* representative, will give our May program along with Torå Hedges, who will sing for us! Tora is a senior at PLU from Oslo, Norway; she is majoring Vocal Performance with a minor in Hispanic Studies. She plans to get her masters in Jazz Performance in Copenhagen, Denmark.

By Karen Bell

## Embla's Birthday - History

EMBLA will be 109 years young in April, and thanks to all of you is going strong. Here's an interesting bit of history.

Quoting *History of Scandinavians in Tacoma and Pierce County* (written in 1926 by Hans Bergman):

Embla Lodge No. 2, Daughters of Norway, Tacoma, Wash., was organized April 27, 1907, with 15 members. 'The object of this lodge is to gather Norwegian women either by birth or descent, into an organization to help the sick and needy, also for sociability, and to preserve the Norwegian traditions.' The name of the Lodge as chosen by the members is to be Embla, which is taken from the Norse mythology, and signifies "Mother of the Human Race." The first social, which was held by the lodge, was a joint social with the Sons of Norway on June 7, 1907, and it was very successful. In June 1908, Embla affiliated with the Daughters of Norway Grand Lodge of the Pacific Coast. In July 1910 a ladies' chorus was organized with a membership of twenty- four ladies. In January 1912 a drill team was organized. This team put on some very impressive work on the fifth anniversary of the lodge. In January 1914 Embla, with five other Norwegian lodges, started to work for their own hall, and committees were appointed from each lodge. In 1923 Embla moved to their new hall, which is called Normanna Hall at South 15<sup>th</sup> and K St. Embla has done much good work, in that committees have been appointed to visit the hospitals and call upon any Scandinavians who needed a word of cheer or any assistance. Embla was very active during the war in Red Cross work and donated time and money for the cause, and also purchased Liberty bonds and War Savings Stamps. Christmas cheer was given the soldiers at camp Lewis by the Sons and Daughters of Norway at Eagle Hall in 1917 and gifts were presented to each soldier present. All officers of Embla work gratis, and much praise is due their untiring efforts.

Embla's first secretary was Thea Foss. The Thea Foss program presented by Nancy Haley at our February meeting was excellent. Karen Haas will be joining us once again in April for her one-woman portrayal of Thea.

Skol! to our 110<sup>th</sup> year and *mange takk* for all you do!

By Karen Bell

SIE  
HS  
1923  
D62



# President's Message



Diane with her husband Lindy

I feel privileged to be serving my second year as Embla's President. For those of you that are new members of Embla and may not know me I will give a brief background on my history with Embla and my Scandinavian heritage. I joined Embla in April 2006 and served as Marshal from 2007 through 2012 then I serve as Vice President in 2013 and 2014. My Norwegian and Swedish heritage has always been very important to me. My father was from Forde, a small town north of Bergen in Sunnfjord and my bunad is representative of Sunnfjord. My father and three other brothers ventured to America



Diane and Joanne Thompsen

with the eight other siblings remaining in Norway. My father came to America in 1926 at the age of 16. As a child I spent a lot of time with my father's brothers, cousins, aunts and uncles that also had emigrated from Norway. I currently have one living uncle and over 30 first cousins in Norway. My mother was a Swedish-Finn born in Tojby, Finland, which is a Swedish community near Korsnas. Her father had purchased land in Edgewood, Washington, in 1918 and was joined by his wife, my mother, and my uncle in 1922.

The reasons for deciding to become a member of the Daughters of Norway are different for each individual, but mostly I think we join because we share a bond of heritage. All of us have our own stories of a relative from Scandinavia. I joined not with any specific interest in mind except that I had strong Scandinavian memories from childhood. I only knew one person when I attended my first meeting in 2006, and now I have over 150 Sisters. Even though I did not intend to become as involved as becoming President, I am very glad that I did. What is great about Daughters of Norway is that you can do exactly that - be very involved or just be a member and take part only in that which interests you or for which you have time. The wonderful women in this great organization have become a big part of my life and they are the reason I continue to be involved. I cherish the friendships of each and every one of my Embla Sisters. I encourage all of you to take a chance and get as involved as you are able.

I look forward to serving in 2016 as your president for another year. This will be an especially busy year with

the Daughters of Norway Grand Lodge Convention in July in San Francisco. We have a lot of work to do with the Norwegian Heritage Festival in April and the Nordic Festival in October. I again would like the focus of the year to be to build strong friendships as "Sisters" and as always have fun with lots of merriment. I will continue to take the office of President very seriously and always do my very best to fulfill the duties of my office. Thank you so much for this opportunity.



Diane and Quinn Balstad



Diane and Lisa Ottoson

Sisterly, Diane Nelson

## Please Send Chris Engstrom Your Address changes

Would anyone who has an address change please let me know of the change as soon as possible? Send your address by email to [swedechris@msn.com](mailto:swedechris@msn.com).

Even if you receive the *Nyheter* by email we need to know your physical mailing address, so we can let Grand Lodge know regarding your *Døtre av Norge*. The Grand Lodge is charged for mail returns of the *Døtre av Norge* and we cannot ask the Grand Lodge Financial Secretary to cover ALL lodges.

Thank you, Chris Engstrom



# Sunshine



Speedy healing is wished for the following sisters.

**Elaine Anderson** was recently hospitalized with a slow heart rate and other issues and is now home recovering.

**Joan Anderson** has plantar fasciitis and is wearing a boot.

**Eleanor Baker** is finally home using a walker and a cane. She wishes to thank all those who sent cards and made phone calls.

**Cindy Bentson** has recuperated from her shoulder problem.

**Norma Borgford** was recently hospitalized for a seizure and then recovered at the Lutheran Home. She is now at home.

**Mary Findley** is recuperating after back problems.

**Carmen Knudtson** In the past few months Carmen has been hospitalized for work on her hip that she had replaced. She spent time in the Lutheran Home Care Center and is now receiving therapy at her residence at the Lutheran Home.

**Judie Miller** was recently knocked down by a dog; she had a concussion and injured her arm. She is going through physical therapy for her arm. Also, we send our sympathy to her, as her best friend "Sparky" passed away.

Some good news!

About five years ago, **Judy Earle** was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. She is now in remission. She will be demonstrating Kransekake at one of Embla's Cooking Classes in March. Don't miss it as she has it down to perfection!!!

**Carol Kemp** has fully recovered from having a tumor removed from her head.

Condolences to the family and friends of Elene Emerson

Our dear Sister **Elene Emerson** passed away on January 5, 2016, at the age of 93. She was born at home on the family farm near Wilbur, WA. After attending PLU, Elene taught at Collins School and Mary Lyon, both in Tacoma, for a total of 17 years.

Elene joined Embla on November, 1982. She was the TUBFRIM Representative for Grand Lodge for many years, as well as for Embla.

Elene volunteered at the Thrift Tröll Shop in Parkland, and when the Scandinavian Cultural Center opened in 1989, she was the Volunteer Chairperson for 4-5 years. She remained an active volunteer for many years. She received the Outstanding Service Award in 2007.

At a Daughters of Norway class, learned Hardanger embroidery and went and bought all the materials and started in. She was addicted. Elene taught many classes and won many ribbons.

Last year she became a proud great-grandmother.

Her memorial Service will be held at Kent United Methodist Church, 11010 SE 248<sup>th</sup> St, Kent on Sunday, March 6, at 1:30 PM.



Elene in her *Hardanger bunad* with some of her exquisite *Harangersøm* (2010)

By Marilyn Mahnke

## Embla's Norwegian Cooking Classes – Spring 2016

Here are the foods/dishes that will be demonstrated at our spring cooking classes. Classes are held at the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU from 10:00 am-noon. No need to register - just show up. Cost: \$5 per class.

### Wednesday, March 9

Potato Dumplings – Mardy Fairchild and Nadine Lewtas

Oatmeal Crackers – Marilyn Mahnke

*Toscakage* – Sharon Groeneveld

### Saturday, March 19

Brennsnut with *flatbrød* – Janice Kelly

Kransekake – Judy Earle

Scandinavian Egg Coffee – Cindy

Bendtson

### Tuesday, March 22

Butternut Squash Soup – Janet Ruud

Maria's Almond Cookies – Carlene Garner

And one more delightful dish!

By Judith Willison (206-919-1974)



## Who Were Those Gorgeous Beauties?

In the Nov/Dec 2015 issue of the *Nyheter* (page 4), you were challenged to name the women in this photo. Did you recognize anyone? They were the 1989 leadership of our lodge.



Front (l. to r.):

Judge - *Anne Christiansen*

Musician - *Iona Dhaese*

V.P. - *Karin (Jackson) Kelly*

Pres. - *Janet (Hurlbut) Ruud*

Cultural Dir. - *Thelma Lund*

Outer Guard - *Bodil Lovoll*

Back (l. to r.):

Secretary - *Laurianne Adam*

Assistant Marshal - *Wilma Olson*

Inner Guard - *Hildur Christianson*

Marshal - *Myrtle Drahos*

Treasurer - *Phyllis Melton*

Trustee - *Emilie Pedersen*

Trustee - *June Radich*

Not pictured: Assistant Secretary - *Mary Ann Aker*, Co-Cultural Director - *Bernice Rohrs*, and Trustee - *Dorothy Long*

Notes: Current member Jennifer Shook is the granddaughter of Myrtle Drahos. Current member Tina Riffle is the daughter of Emilie Pedersen. Karin Kelly is still a member of Embla; she now lives in Mexico. Bodil Lovoll is still a member of the D of N, now living in Norway. Laurianne Adam lives in Tacoma, but is no longer a member.

The other sisters (*in italics*) have since passed away. I think of these women with great fondness and respect. By Janet Ruud

## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Norwegian Heritage Festival April 23, 2016 ~ 11:00am-3:00pm



University Center—Main Floor  
Pacific Lutheran University  
122nd South Park Ave., Tacoma, WA

**Free Admission**

Musical Entertainment, Craft Demonstrations,  
Information Booths, Vendors,  
and featuring our Norwegian Café.

*Treat yourself to pølse med lompe, ertesuppe,  
rømmegrøt, smørbrød and lefse.*

Scandinavian Cultural Center open downstairs



## News from the Greater Tacoma Peace Prize

First, we want to thank Embla Lodge for its annual support of the GTPP since its inception in 2005. *Tusen takk!*

Second, we want to call your attention to two important invitations.

1 – **YOU ARE INVITED TO MAKE A NOMINATION!** We love to honor our local peace-makers, and the nomination process is now underway for the 2016 laureate. Anyone – how about YOU? – may nominate. You just need to remember that the nominee must be someone who has contributed to local, national, or world peace efforts and has an affiliation with the greater Tacoma area. Nominations must be received by March 31.

For further information and a nomination form, please see our website: [www.tacomapeaceprize.org](http://www.tacomapeaceprize.org).

2 - **YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A SPECIAL EVENT!** On Saturday afternoon, March 19, at 2 PM, the Greater Tacoma Peace Prize board will host "Tacoma's Laureate Presents," an event featuring Tacoma civil rights icon Mr. Thomas Dixon, our 2015 laureate. Mr. Dixon will speak on his very interesting life journey, as well as his recent journey to Norway, where he attended the presentation of the Nobel Peace Prize. Light refreshments will be provided. *The cost is only \$10, payable at the door. OR, there is no charge for those who become GTPP members.* We need to know how much food to order, so if you would like to join us, R.S.V.P. to Amanda Feller ([amanda@tacomapeaceprize.org](mailto:amanda@tacomapeaceprize.org)) or Janet Ruud ([janet@tacomapeaceprize.org](mailto:janet@tacomapeaceprize.org) or 253-564-2832).

We also want to say thanks to retiring board members Susan Young and Chris Ferguson for their dedicated service. Though they will be missed, we welcome Amanda Feller, PLU Associate Professor of Communication, and Bill Lincoln, founder and president of the Lincoln Institute, who join Tom Heavey, Lisa Ottoson, Janet Ruud, and me on the Board of Directors. We have recently obtained our 501(c)(3) status, and donations are gratefully accepted. Our website has details on ways in which you can contribute.

We look forward to reading your nomination and to seeing you on March 19!

By Toni Simpson, Member of the GTPP Board of Directors





**MEMBERSHIP  
ANNIVERSARIES**

March 10 years  
Karen Lease-Smith  
Arlene McDonald  
Diane Nelson  
Julie Touchette

March 15 years  
Ines Ottoson  
Lisa Ottoson  
Marian Ward-Miller  
Judith Willison

March 25 years  
Lavonne Kraft

March 45 years  
Karen Bell  
Harriet Swieso

April 20 years  
Dena Iverson

Congratulations, everyone!  
By Marilyn Mahnke

**BIRTHDAYS**

The following will be celebrating their birthdays in March and April.  
*Gratulerer med dagen!*

**March**

4 Arlene McDonald  
9 Hazel "Lea" Hickman  
11 Nadine Lewtas, Bodil Lovoll  
16 Jan Runbeck  
20 Asta Marie Marquardt, Elda Sulerud  
21 Diane Fatland  
22 Dorothy Gullstad  
24 Janice Kelly  
25 Alice Govig  
29 Mary Findlay  
30 Mary Elstrom Hobson, Carolyn Benson

**April**

2 Anette Dennis-DePuydt  
6 Marlene Beggin  
12 Carmen Knudtson  
15 Heidi Soule  
16 Denice Andersen  
17 Torun Parker  
20 Katie Anderson  
28 Lisa Stensgard

**Astrid Dorum  
50-Year Member of Embla**

President Diane Nelson and I visited Astrid to present her with her 50-Year Certificate and a pin for her 50 years of membership with Embla since June 17, 1965. She was very excited and proud to receive these items. At this time she plans to see us at the Summer Luncheon.  
By Marilyn Mahnke



Performance by  
**The Norwegian  
Ladies Chorus  
of Seattle**

Join Solveig Lodge, Daughters of Norway,  
on Saturday, March 12, 2016  
10:00 a.m.: Members' Meeting  
10:30 a.m.: Concert,  
**Silent Auction and Lunch**

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church  
158 So. 168<sup>th</sup> St., Burien

Call 206-242-9874  
for more information



**Sonoro Scandinavian Children's Choir**



**Open enrollment for new singers, ages 5-12**

- In partnership with PLU's Scandinavian Cultural Center
- For kids ages 5-12, of all ethnicities and skill levels
- Rehearsals on Tuesdays, 6:00-6:45pm, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Lakewood
- Tuition: \$30 monthly per child or \$100 per family (4+kids)

**Scholarships available!**

For more information, feel free to drop by our rehearsals!

Contact: Director Jeremy Shilley  
(253-307-1226) or  
jeremy.shilley@gmail.com  
Website:  
www.songsofsonoro.com  
Facebook page:  
Sonoro Choral Society.





# Embla #2 Installation



Front row: Suzy Johnson, Mardy Fairchild, Lisa Ottoson, Diane Nelson, Chris Engstrom, Kari Stackpole, and Sharon Groeneveld

Back row: Elda Sulerud, Carol Else, Carolyn Benson, Joyce Taute, Carlene Garner, Karen Bell, Wendy Neptun, and Kirsten Bell



Our wonderful Embla Leikarring danced for us at Installation



Janet Ruud and Mary McGoran  
Escort Team



Marilyn Mahnke-Installing Officer  
and Julie Touchette-Marshall

## NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome to the following new sisters!

### Carolyn J. Burkhart

PO Box 1061

Lakebay, WA 98349

Phone: 206-228-5904

Email: [carolyn.burkhart@yahoo.com](mailto:carolyn.burkhart@yahoo.com)

### Christine Sulenes

721 Dartmouth St.

Fircrest WA 98466-7237

Cell phone: 253-307-3828

Email: [Christine.sulenes@gmail.com](mailto:Christine.sulenes@gmail.com)

### Pamela K. Sulenes

721 Dartmouth St.

Fircrest WA 98466-7237

Cell phone: 253-376-0373

Email: [gjertinak@gmail.com](mailto:gjertinak@gmail.com)

### Denice C. Andersen

15806 - 65<sup>th</sup> St Ct E

Sumner, WA 98390

Phone: 253-863-4486

Cell phone: 253-948-7505

Email: [deniceandersen@yahoo.com](mailto:deniceandersen@yahoo.com)

### Nini C. Tayet

8707 Lake Steilacoom Pt Rd SW

Lakewood, WA 98498

Home phone: 253-581-3522

Cell phone: 253 686 3307

Email: [norsebynw@comcast.net](mailto:norsebynw@comcast.net)

By Chris Engstrom

Hello, Embla Members,

It's again time to remind you that membership dues are \$30 and need to be paid. As Treasurer and Financial Secretary, Chris Engstrom and I are responsible for the membership report to the Grand Lodge. I will be traveling to Norway and Spain for the next two months so please send your dues to Chris Engstrom (2053 N. Fremont Street, Tacoma, WA. 98406)

Joan Anderson will be in charge of receiving the dues at the meetings in March, April, and May. *Tusen takk. Vi venter å høre fra deg.* (Thousand thanks. We're waiting to hear from you.)

Please help us be on time with Embla's report to the Grand Lodge.

Hilsen, Kari Stackpole, Financial Secretary

**2016 Dues Are Due**



# Recap of the January and February Meetings

## JANUARY:

During the January meeting, the following were installed in their respective offices: President - Diane Nelson, Vice President - Lisa Ottoson, Judge - Mardy Fairchild, Secretary - Carlene Garner, Financial Secretary - Kari Stackpole, Treasurer - Chris Engstrom, Cultural Director - Karen Bell, Marshal - Kirsten Bell, Assistant Marshal - Wendy Neptun, Inner Greeter - Suzy Johnston, Outer Greeter - Carol Else, Head Trustee - Carolyn Benson, Two-year Trustee - Sharon Groeneveld, and Three-year Trustee - Joyce Taute.

Brown Bear car wash tickets continue to be available. The tickets cost \$5.00 each and are available from Secretary Carlene Garner.

Members are reminded that the 2016 Grand Lodge Convention to be held in San Francisco, in July. Members are reminded to reserve their hotel room and to secure an airline ticket.

Financial Secretary Kari Stackpole reminded members that dues are due.

## FEBRUARY:

President Nelson and Cultural Director Bell conducted a Memorial Service to remember the Embla Sisters who departed during the past year: Bernice Rohrs, Thelma Lund, Evangeline Billingsley, Marian Eberle, Bergliot Hammerstrom, Grace Bredeson, and Elene Emerson (January, 2016). As the service concluded, a memorial bouquet was arranged in memory of our dear sisters.

President Nelson announced the appointed chairs for the coming year: Calling Committee - Arlene McDonald, Crafts - Chris Engstrom, Cooking Class - Judith Willison, Embla Nyheter - Janet Ruud and Sarah Callow, Grand Lodge Scribe - Jeanne Medley, Historian/Scrapbook - Sue Bentz, Librarian - Ester Van Noy, Membership - Marilyn Mahnke, Scholarships (Grand Lodge and Embla) - Lisa Ottoson, *Syttende Mai* - Lisa Ottoson, Service Project - Carolyn Benson, Sunshine - Marilyn Mahnke, and Webpage/Facebook - Wendy Neptun.

Embla's annual summer luncheon will be held on July 9, at PLU. Marilyn Mahnke, Mardy Fairchild, and Janet Ruud volunteered to assist with the planning and preparations.

### Motions:

It was moved, seconded and adopted: 1) to hold a garage sale on September 2 and 3; 2) that Embla hold its annual Nordic Festival on October 8, 2016; and 3) that the 2016 budget be approved as presented.

Joanne Gray asked for volunteers to house one or more of the high school students in the dance group from Stoughton, Wisconsin, on the evenings of March 22 and 23, during their Pacific Northwest Tour. They will be performing in Tacoma on March 22.

By Carlene Garner



10<sup>th</sup> Annual Norway Day  
Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> 2016  
Thurston County Fairgrounds, Exhibition Hall  
3054 Carpenter Rd. SE  
Olympia, WA 98503

Our sisters at Prillar Guri Lodge in Olympia  
will hold their annual Norway Day soon!

## February Hostesses



February hostesses: Kirsten Bell, Janice Kelly, Nadine Lewtas, Sonya Nyhuis, Candace Brown, and Lisa Ottoson

## November 2015 Hostesses



(Sorry we didn't get this photo in the Jan/Feb Issue)  
Christine Anderson, Joan Anderson, Tournay Squire,  
Loraine Brese, Sharon Groeneveld, and Lisa Ottoson



# Embla's Memorial Service

Each February Embla honors those members who passed away the previous year. At our February meeting, A bouquet of beautiful flowers was placed on a table in the front of the meeting room, along with a candelabra, holding one candle for each departed sister.

The following sisters passed away in 2015:

Bernice Rohrs	February 17, 2015
Thelma Lund	March 17, 2015
Evangeline Billingsley	June 10, 2015
Marian Eberle	August 8, 2015
Bergliot Hammerstrom	November 25, 2015
Grace Bredeson	December 10, 2015

We also honored  
Elene Emerson January 5, 2016



Throughout the ages, flowers and other plants have been assigned symbolic meanings. In the bouquet for our sisters who have passed were:

- Pansies - which can withstand the chill of frost and also represent thoughts.
- Crocuses - which peek out early and represent youth.
- Dahlias - representing the beauty of autumn.
- Holly - which we enjoy at the end and beginning of the year, represent hope.
- Cattails - representing peace and prosperity.
- Gladiolus - tall and strong, representing strength of character.
- Carnations - for the aching heart.
- Hydrangea - for perseverance.
- Lilacs - representing the joys of youth.

*Throughout the year,  
the beautiful things in  
nature cheer us, comfort  
us, give us hope, and stir  
memories.*

By Marilyn Mahnke

## Embla Lodge #2 Daughters of Norway

534 Forrest Park Dr.

Fircrest, WA 98466

TACOMA WA 98403  
OLYMPIA WA  
01 MAR 2016 PM 3 L



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pacific Lutheran University  
ATTN: Kerstin Ringdahl  
Mortvedt Library  
12180 Park Avenue S.  
Tacoma, Wa. 98447

98447

