



EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2, DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

Tacoma, Washington

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Grand Lodge President to Visit Embla!

Please join us this Thursday, January 5th, when we will have the opportunity to show Grand Lodge President Ellen Hinds our Embla hospitality. She will do us the honor of serving as Installing Officer for our Installation of Officers.

Our entertainment for the evening will be the personable and talented Toby Hanson, accordionist (and leader of the Smilin' Scandinavians), who specializes in the authentic music of Scandinavia.

SEE YOU ON THURSDAY!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Godt nyttår, og takk for det gamle!

(literally, "Happy New Year, and thanks for the old one!")

Sisters,

I trust you had a lovely and blessed holiday season with your family and friends.

December was our Christmas party and potluck. I want to thank Melody Stepp and her husband for bringing and decorating the tree. It was beautiful! Ellen Campbell made lovely centerpieces as well as the candy-filled hearts for the children.

Darci Harris really made the event special for the children with the balloon animals. I was so delighted to see so many children attending our Christmas party! Next year hopefully, *julenissen* will find us

and we can have a children's craft room for their entertainment. I remember attending Embla's Christmas party as a child and what fun was had by all!

(Continued on page 2)



Sharon Groeneveld and granddaughters, Ashlyn and Emma



Our beautiful *juletre!*
 Thanks, Melody and Bill!



Kari Stackpole and granddaughter Cameron



Heidi Neideigh with her children Aidan and Hanna

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 HS
 1923
 D62

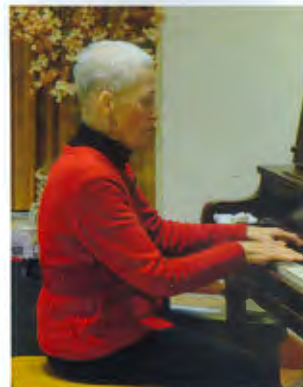
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont.)

The year 2011 has come to a close but was a great year for our lodge. The *Nyheter* (pronounced 'nee hater') was converted to electronic delivery, and I have heard good things about it. Please join me in thanking Janet, Sarah, Marilyn and Chris for editing and distributing it. Melody Stepp brought us great programs for our entertainment. I especially like the interactive ones shared by our lodge. The summer luncheon was well attended at Mountain View Community Center. Our trusty trustees - Judy, Kirsten and Ann - started raising convention monies by selling baked goods at our meetings. Our convention is coming to Bellingham this summer. Please consider being a delegate.

We sponsored a well-attended Nordic Festival in October. I want to thank our entire lodge for supporting and contributing to such a large undertaking. Our new resource library is a success, thanks to Esther Van Noy's cart donation and willingness to help our sisters find helpful informative literature. The entire board worked well together and I am grateful to all of you. Sharon worked diligently preparing the minutes and calendar. Marly managed the hostess committees, and Chris and Joan collected the monies and paid the bills - Whew!

Diane, Julie, Norma and Vonnie did a great job presenting the flags and helping our meetings run smoothly including welcoming our sisters and guests. And Elda Sulerud, our faithful musician (right), plays just about anything we ask of her, with or without music!

Judy and the past presidents are a wealth of knowledge and we are fortunate to have so many past presidents in our lodge. Marilyn Mahnke spread a lot of sunshine; now please include her in your thoughts as we wish a speedy recovery for her husband Martin. I am looking forward to 2012 as another great year for Embla Lodge #2.



Mange takk, Elda!

Karen Bell



Time to pay your dues!

If you haven't already sent in your dues for 2012 (post marked by midnight December 31, 2011) it's too late to win a beautiful tine box. However, it's not too late to get your name in the Embla Roster for 2012. Simply pay you dues at the January 5 Embla meeting or mail a check (\$30.00) to Joan Anderson.

NORWAY QUIZ

How much do you know about the land of our heritage? This quiz is taken from the *News Tribune* column "Super Quiz" by Ken Fisher. The answers can be found hidden on another page of the *Nyheter*. Submitted by Marilyn Mahnke

e.g. What is the capital city? (Answer: Oslo)

Freshman level

1. Most of the country shares a border with what country?
2. With what two other countries does Norway share a border?
3. What term describes the long, narrow inlets on its Atlantic coast?

Graduate level

4. Name any two seas bordering Norway.
5. What is the largest land animal of Norway?
6. Norway is one of several countries that have been called "Land of the _____"

Ph. D. level

7. What position is considered the head of state?
8. What is the *Storting*?
9. Export revenue from which products accounts for more than 20 percent of the DP?



PERSONAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY (and your chance to express yourself!)

Why don't you consider sharing or taking over the job as Embla's SCRIBE for the Daughters of Norway news magazine, *Døtre av Norge*? You would receive superb training (Candace will tell you what to do) and excellent compensation - the heartfelt thanks of all of your Embla sisters! Contact Candace Brown (253-752-6525) or <CandaceJBrown@comcast.net>



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY NEW ENGLAND/CANADA FUNDRAISER CRUISE

We set sail from New York on the Carnival Glory on the afternoon of Saturday, October 8. The kitchen crew had prepared a huge buffet feast for the passengers. We explored the ship and unpacked our suitcases in our staterooms. There was a safety briefing and then a sail-away party as we set sail past the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, and New York's financial district.

There were many onboard activities to choose from that day as well as throughout the cruise, including listening to live music, karaoke, dance lessons, participating in game shows, viewing fine art and attending art auctions, arts and crafts projects, gambling, bingo, live Las Vegas-type shows, comedy shows, miniature golf, swimming, basketball, spa treatments, etc. There was something for everyone.

The first port we visited was Boston, Massachusetts. We were dressed for cool weather, but it was around 80 degrees! There was lots of history to see within walking distance; however, there were shore excursions for those who wished to take a bus or trolley ride for a tour farther from shore. Points of interest: The Freedom Trail, the Old State House where the Boston Massacre occurred in 1770, Fenway Park, Paul Revere's house, Harvard University, the Cheers bar, Boston Tea Party ship, etc.

The second port was Portland, Maine, which is famous for its lobster and lighthouses. We walked along brick streets and admired the architecture of the historical buildings that house the shops and other businesses. Portland is a dog friendly city, and several shops had water bowls on their front steps for the many dogs that were out walking with their owners. There were many museums within walking distance of the pier too.

On the third day we visited Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. The temperature had cooled down to the 60s here. When getting off the ship we were given a warm welcome by volunteers who presented each woman with a rose, and the men were given pins from Saint John. This city had many shopping areas, which were all connected by walkways. There was an indoor farmers' market, selling everything you can imagine. One of the tourist attractions here is the Bay of Fundy. The waters at the foot of the Saint John River reverse direction during tidal changes. This rushing and gushing reversal is caused by the tremendous rise and fall of the tides of the Bay of Fundy – the highest tides in the world.

The next day was spent at sea. Ellen Hinds, our Grand Lodge President, had reserved a room for all of the Daughters of Norway cruisers and their guests to meet. Perralina Palm from the Reno, Nevada, lodge patiently taught all of us to line dance. We learned three different types of line dances. Bonnie Svardal from Thea Foss #45 taught us about astrology, and we had a group photo taken.

The next port we visited was Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Our ship docked near Port 21, which is Canada's equivalent to our Ellis Island. There was a nice boardwalk that went all along the water with shops, boats, and a light house to see. We ate ice cream at Cow's, which is advertised as Canada's best ice cream. We walked up to the historic Citadel Hill where in the late 1860's the Citadel reached its zenith of armed strength with a total of 68 heavy guns. The military power of the great stone fortress was the perfect deterrent. No attack was ever made on Halifax and no gun was ever fired in anger. We also walked through the 16-acre public gardens with beautiful flowers, old trees, a pond, statues and fountains, a gazebo, etc. In 2003 a hurricane damaged the garden, but volunteers have restored everything.



Perralina (flag shirt) and her students



Julie and others line dancing

The last full day of the cruise was spent at sea. There were many activities to entertain us, and there was a chocolate buffet at lunchtime! That night the live evening show included passengers who had auditioned earlier in the week. They sang to music performed by the ship's band and were accompanied by the ship's dancers.

Each evening during the cruise we ate dinner at a reserved table in the formal dining room. Our Daughters of Norway cruising group shared tables in the same area, so we got to visit with each other at least every evening. It was fun getting to know our Daughters of Norway sisters from other lodges. We all agreed to meet at convention in Bellingham in 2012.

Julie Touchette

GOOD BYE MY FRIEND, BARBARA ANN LEARY (August 27, 1934 - November 30th, 2011)

Our telephone does not often ring at 9:00 a.m. anymore, and when it does, I cautiously say, "Hello?" But the response is not the "Hey, let me tell you something..." of Barbara's energetic voice.

We first connected in 1974, when my family moved from the U.K. back to Tacoma, found the perfect house on 34th Street and enrolled our youngest at Willard Elementary School, where Barbara was the 2nd grade teacher. Oh, how lucky we were! Always Barbara's vivacious, generous personality, her vast knowledge of many subjects, but especially her love of children set the tone.

Aside from teaching school, Barbara was an accomplished pianist. She came to our house to teach piano to both of our daughters. Her lessons were always enriched by lots of music history and anecdotes about the composers.

Barbara loved people, her family, her community, her colleges (UPS and PLU); and she loved to travel - particularly in the European countries, especially Norway (of course), where she visited cousins. Everywhere she found new, interesting friends, who stayed in touch. Nothing would slow her down, neither health problems nor "old age." She and I enjoyed going to the opera ("Carmen") in October, before she passed away in November.

Barbara's mind stayed sharp to the end. Her knowledge of history, art, music, geography and politics was amazing. Stories of her childhood were fascinating: vivid descriptions of growing up on 6th Avenue during the Depression, the hot summer she spent in quarantine in the attic, recovering from polio...and many more. She was also a valued member of many organizations. In addition to Daughters of Norway, she belonged to the Democratic Luncheon Club, the Historical Society, a Music Sorority, a Retired Teachers' Organization, the Brown's Point Association and very likely some others that I don't know about.

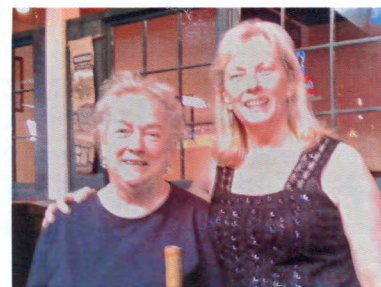
I shall miss our visits at her house, which usually included a treat of piano music, our outings to Seattle Opera and especially our 9:00 a.m. phone calls. All of my family will remember her well and are thankful for the friendship of a very special person. She is gone, but will not be forgotten.

by Barbara's dear friend, Margaritha Leuenberger

Barbara joined Embla on November 2, 2000. Her memorial service was held on Wednesday, December 7th, at Gethsemane Cemetery Chapel. Sympathy cards may be sent to the Leary family at 3801 N. Adams St., Tacoma WA 98407.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Daughters of Norway Endowment Fund, Julie Swenson, Financial Secretary, PO Box 656, Poulsbo, WA 98370-0656.

Editor's Note: I am so glad I asked Margaritha to write something about Barbara; she described her so well. I enjoyed going to the opera and ballet with Barbara occasionally as well, and I learned so much from her! I was honored that she invited me to go with her to Wagner's four operas of the "Ring Cycle" in Seattle in 2009 (photo above). She had so much knowledge about Wagner, about the music, the instruments, and the story. She told me all about it during our time together in the car. She'd say, "Oh, kid!" and I knew a great story was coming. I loved all 17 hours (!) and I didn't fall asleep once.



Barbara Leary and Janet Ruud at the "Ring Cycle" opera in Seattle

Janet Ruud

PAST PRESIDENTS

Nine of Embla's past presidents attended our annual Christmas luncheon, where we enjoyed each other's company and had our gift exchange. We also celebrated two birthdays – Marilyn Mahnke and Harriet Swieso. We are already looking forward to next year with new officers - Delphine Johnson as president and Marilyn Mahnke as secretary. Esther Van Noy remains our treasurer. Mardy Fairchild will be our hostess at our meeting in February. We held a brief meeting and voted to donate to the Family Judson Center Foundation in Gig Harbor and to the Grand Lodge Endowment Fund.

Getting to Know Our Embla Members

NEW MEMBER - Helen Gorenson - Eager to help at Nordic Fest

I joined Embla Lodge in November. I was raised in a good Norwegian family and am happy to say I am of this wonderful heritage. My father was from outside Stavanger, Norway, in the community of Marvik. My mother's family was from the Elverum, Hammar, area. I enjoy the Norwegian culture and had a three month visit there in 1960; also, I went from Bergen to Vadsø on a coastal cruise five years ago. I wish to go back. I feel so at home there.

I enjoy the foods, eat a little lutefisk, and have recently learned to make lefse. Next is *rømmegrøt*? Chris (Engstrom) asked me if I really knew what I signed up for at the Nordic Fest. You can't have lived as a Norwegian and not know how they like to celebrate that heritage. I love it all and will try to do my best to be a worthy member.

Helen Gorenson

I HAVE LIVED MY DREAM - Sue Bentz's Memorable Trip to Norway

I joined the Daughters of Norway, Embla lodge, in 2009 to further my continuing quest for information about my Norwegian heritage. My Mother's grandparents were born in small communities near Odda. Being a recent, second time, survivor of breast cancer, my dream to see the land of my forefathers had become very important to me. In May of this year I traveled with my husband to Norway. My sister and brother-in-law, from Burnsville, Va. were able to join us in Bergen.

On May 17th we joined the crowds on the streets of Bergen, to cheer on the parades for Constitution Day. Flags waving, and "hipp hipp hurras" were heard among the crowd of beautiful bunads and national costumes. Oh what a sight to behold! We rode the Funicular to the top of Mt. Floren, and took in the breath-taking view of the seven mountains surrounding Bergen. We traveled by train and bus to surrounding small towns, as far away as Myrdal. We cruised the fjords, and marveled at the beauty of Norway.



That following weekend we rented a car and drove to the small community of Løyning, two hours east of Bergen. This was where we would meet our cousin, Ingunn, for the first time. We weren't quite sure as to how we should greet her, but that doubt was soon quelled. Ingunn ran to us with huge hugs for everyone! She said, "I know you are Sue!" Ingunn and her friend, Ingvar (also our cousin!) took us to meet her four sisters and brothers-in-law. We were treated to a traditional Norwegian dinner. The baked goods were baked by the sisters in an old wood-fired oven. They had baked all week! What a treat! After our meal, and after much conversation, thankfully translated by Ingunn, we climbed the hillside to the farmland of my great-great grandfather. Time stood still for me. I could feel his presence. The silence of the countryside was only interrupted by

the musical sound of bells around the sheep's necks, grazing in the fields. Ingunn told us of the struggles my great-great grandfather, his wife, and five sons had endured, before immigrating to America in 1870. So many thoughts went through my mind, as I took in the beauty of the fjord below us. I felt I had "come home".

The following Sunday we attended church with Ingunn and her family. It was a picturesque, old log Church, nestled among the woods of the small community of Skare. We were to say our goodbyes here. I can only give a heartfelt thank you to Ingunn and her family for making my "dream come true." I surely had "come home."



FUN FUNDRAISING

I had a wonderful time in November, accompanied by several of our Embla members, attending Nordic/Scandinavian events.

The 12th Annual Scandinavian Fair (Nov. 5th) at the Hampton Inn in Bellingham, hosted by Nellie Gerdrum Lodge, is well-planned and well-attended. They have had 11 years to “fine-tune” this event, and there are about 15 vendors, good food (meatballs, pea soup, lefse), and a fabulous bakery (they spend 11 months baking for it). Carol Spencer and I had a nice table right inside the front door; we sell to Americans and Canadians who are all eagerly buying for Christmas.



Breakfast at the Swedish Club

The next day we were on the road at 6:10 AM to the Swedish Club in Seattle. Their Christmas Bazaar is held in conjunction with their Swedish Pancake Breakfast. In addition to delicious pancakes we had orange juice, ham, lingonberries and good Swedish coffee. We had a fabulous view of Lake Union with all the rowers and other boaters. They encourage people to visit each booth by providing the vendors with “Viking Dollars” that can be used to pay for ANYTHING at the Swedish Club – dues, drinks or food. They also had a Bakery.

The next weekend Mardy Fairchild and I were off to the 12th Annual Nordic Fest on Whidbey Island, hosted by Ester Moe Lodge. This is held in South Whidbey High School, where there is a complete kitchen, a large vendor area and entertainment area. They too have had 11 years to perfect their event. Since it is a large venue – vendors like Desiree of Sweden can be there. They sell baked goods and lefse. I bought delicious *Fyrstekake* Bars –



Carol Spencer at the Craft Sale Table

Yum!!



A commissioned tea towel for a grandmother (Sharon Groeneveld) with her twin granddaughters --

On November 18th Torun Parker and Norma Borgford helped me at the Tacoma Lutheran Home Holiday Bazaar. This event gives the residents at the whole Lutheran Home complex a chance to Christmas shop. They have Christmas music going all day and a dart game – Norma won a prize. Elene Emerson was there with her sister, selling Hardanger embroidery and other craft items.

November 19th was the Yule Boutique at PLU. Judie Miller brought lunch and spent the whole day there; Sarah Callow gave us each a chance to shop. This is basically a craft fair, so it is all the hard work of our *Håndverkerer* and Rosemaling groups that lets us have a table there. We just found out this year that we CAN sell our Cookies there, so this is a possibility for 2012. Finally, on December 3rd Torun Parker helped me at the Ladies Workout Express Holiday Festival.

Embla took in \$1829.25 at these events. We are sold out of just about ALL of our *Håndverkerer* items!! We netted \$1508.96 to Embla’s budget – enough to pay registration for all our delegates to convention.

Many thanks to each and every one of you who contribute your time and talents toward Embla’s FUN Fun(d) raising. I encourage each of you to participate next year.

Chris Engstrom

Ed. Note: *Tusen takk*, Chris, for your diligent participation (and “saleswomanship”) at these Nordic Fairs and Festivals! Embla is lucky to have you!

6. Midnight Sun 5. Moose (European elk) 9 8. Norway's parliament 9. Oil and gas	3. Fjords 2. Finland and Russia 1. Sweden Answers for Super Quiz
4. Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea, North Sea	

MEETING NOTES (just in case you missed the fun!)

November

We had a lot going on at our November 3rd meeting. We started off with a potluck dinner and a talk by Keith Galbraith about the work of the Family Renewal Shelter. We also had a sale of lovely Scandinavian items. Vice President Mardy Fairchild gave a review of our 1st Nordic Festival. All worked hard and it was very successful. Treasurer Chris Engstrom said we won't know our final financial gain until we do an inventory, but we did make \$800 from the sale of cookies and \$900 from selling our crafts. We honored our Past Presidents - Esther Van Noy, Carol Kemp, Marilyn Mahnke, Janet Ruud, Judy Willison, Delphine Johnson, Harriet Swieso and Mardy Fairchild, who received lovely flowers. (Iona Dhaese, Dena Iverson and Esther Carlson were not able to attend.) Also, President Karen Bell and Judge Judy Willison initiated our new member Laurie Rice, who is Karen's cousin.

The nominating committee (Harriet Swieso, Grace Bredeson and Kari Stackpole) presented the list of candidates for next year's officers, and the following women were elected: President - Karen Bell; Vice President - Mardy Fairchild; Judge - Judy Willison; Secretary - Sharon Groeneveld; Treasurer - Chris Engstrom; Financial Secretary - Joan Anderson; Cultural Director - Melody Stepp; Marshal - Diane Nelson; Assistant Marshal (appointed) - Julie Touchette; Head Trustee (moved up from 2nd year Trustee) - Kirsten Bell; 2nd year Trustee (up from 3rd year trustee) - Ann Martin; 3rd year Trustee - Melissa Hampton-Severson; Inner Greeter - Norma Borgford; Outer Greeter - Judy Miller; Musician (appointed) - Elda Sulerud.

Judy Willison reported that the Fall Cooking Classes were very successful and brought in \$200. Marilyn Mahnke reported that we made \$250 from selling the Norwegian and Swedish calendars.

December

We had our annual Christmas party on December 1st. There were many people present (about 60 members, 10 guests and 9 children). It was especially nice having the children present as they added a lot of joy and excitement to the party. Darcie Harris made balloon animals for the kids. We had a nice potluck with Norwegian dishes, cookies, rice pudding and even peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

Joan Anderson read us a Christmas story, and of course we sang carols and walked around the Christmas tree. There was the annual gift exchange and some goodies for the children. Tina Riffle won the Past Presidents drawing, which was a beautiful mangletre. Marilyn Mahnke, who donated stamps to the Tubfrim project, won a piece of beautiful Hardangar embroidery made by Elene Emerson. We thank Mardy Fairchild and her hostess committee of Judy Willison, Ellen Campbell, Soozie Palmer, Carol Erickson, Marilyn Mahnke and Karen Lynn for doing such a wonderful job of decorating and hosting.



Janet Ruud and grand-daughter Kaylee

Sharon Groeneveld

AUDUN TOVEN (1936 – 2011)

We don't generally include obituaries of non-members in our Embla newsletter, but Audun Trygge Toven is an exception. He could well have been an Honorary Member, if such a membership category existed. He was always happy to present programs for us, when he would enlighten us on everything from Norwegian authors to music to the monarchy. An engaging speaker, he could even make Norwegian politics interesting and comprehensible.

Many Embla members took Norwegian language community classes from him, and he was a wonderful teacher. I took Norwegian from him in my senior year at PLU, and I learned Norwegian, yes, but I also observed his teaching methods, which I later used in my own teaching. He encouraged me to continue further study in Norway and was a great influence on me my interest in my heritage. Many many others would say the same thing. We will all miss him.



At the *Syttende Mai* breakfast
PLU, 2011

by Janet Ruud

Memorial contributions can be made to the
Svare-Toven Endowed Professorship for Scandinavian Studies,
Office of Development and University Relations
Pacific Lutheran University,
Tacoma, WA 98447-0003

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Sympathy cards may be sent to
Trygge Toven (Audun's son)
11556 Cumpston St.
North Hollywood, CA 91601

LEIKARRINGEN

After a great year of practice, we ended the year with two performances and all had a wonderful time. We gathered together to celebrate our friendship at our annual Christmas dinner, where we exchanged gifts, lots of laughter and fun ideas for next year. If you would like to join us next year, please contact us and we will get you connected. We practice twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in Tacoma.

Judy Willison



Members of Leikarringen: Mardy Fairchild, Elda Sulerud, Janice Kelly, Judy Willison, Carol Voigt, Joan Anderson, Mary McGoran, Diane Nelson, and Judy Earle, in front on the right: Trudy Sorenson, Judie Miller, and Eleanor Baker

FIRST IMPRESSIONS AND NAME TAGS

First impressions are critical at a professional conference or networking event. People mind their manners and even check their teeth periodically, but may make a mistake when putting on their nametags.

The proper place for a nametag is near the right shoulder, which is the direct line of vision when two people shake hands. "It should never be on the left side. We shake with our right hands, and our brains want to stay oriented on that side," says business protocol consultant Cynthia Lett, director and CEO, The Lett Group, Silver Spring, MD. "People make eye contact, and then their gaze drops to your right shoulder, where your name can be read discreetly." "People are more likely to remember your name if they don't have to direct their eyes across your body to read it," she adds.

"Our own name should not be worn close to our heart," Lett says. "That place of honor is reserved for medals and affinity pins, such as a pink ribbon for breast cancer awareness."

-Dawn Klingensmith@CTWFeatures, reprinted from the News Tribune, submitted by Marilyn Mahnke

HELLO!
My Name Is....

Embla Lodge #2
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Scandinavian Cultural Collection
PLU Mortvedt Library
12180 Park Ave S
Tacoma WA 98447-0013

