



EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2

DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

AUGUST 2009

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Editor — Marie Hayden

Photos: Judith Willison
and Marilyn Mahnke

EMBLA CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 3rd Thursday, 2009 6 pm Potluck, 7 pm Silent and Live Auction with the meeting to follow.

OCTOBER 1st, Thursday, 6 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Candace Brown, our Cultural Director, will present *Scandinavian Knitting*.

October 9, 10 and 11, Scandinavian Days at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. We need lots of cookies and crafts! Everyone is asked to sign up at the next meeting to help out on this busy festival.

Cooking Classes at PLU are on Saturday, October 17, Tuesday October 20 and Thursday, October 29.



Judie Miller, Karen Bell, Judith Willison and Sonja Nyhuis hold the beautiful flower arrangements made by Carol Spencer

PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

I hope you are all having a wonderful summer and are enjoying the hot weather. If you are like me, anything over 80 degrees is getting a bit too warm.

We are spending lots of time at our condo in Long Beach, Washington, enjoying our grandchildren as we visit lighthouses, waterfalls, ride bikes on the new 10-mile Discovery Bike Trail, and of course, walk and play on the beach and get our feet wet in the beautiful Pacific Ocean.

We also attend a delightful play every year, *Shanghaied in Astoria* which tells the story of a young Norwegian fisherman being shanghaied by his villainous boss to work on a fishing boat going out to sea, as his mother, Mrs. Olson, tries to find him, looks for husbands for her four blonde daughters who work in the fish cannery, and also attends the Midsummer Festival. The motto of this musical melodrama is, "try to stay calm, try to stay steady... but most of all... have your POPCORN ready!" as we are encouraged to throw popcorn at the villains!

I'd just love it if we could plan a social some summer and all

attend this hilarious Scandinavian play in Astoria, Oregon!

See you in September!

Judith Willison



Judith Willison, President and Summer Luncheon Program

SUMMER LUNCHEON

Norwegian women, from 12 years of age to 95, attended our Embla Summer Luncheon on July 25th at Pacific Lutheran University's Scandinavian Center. We were entertained by Candace Brown with lively banjo music, and Barbara Leary played the piano for our American and Norwegian Anthems. Mardy Fairchild led us in the Norwegian Table Prayer and I had the honor of welcoming everyone and announcing the Special Recognition of our members.

The Embla board members who were on the committee were: Karen Bell, Candace Brown, Chris Engstom, Sharon Groeneveld, Marilyn Mahnke, Sonja Nyhuis, Judie Miller, and Carol Spencer. We were provided excellent service by Patricia Henness and RJ from PLU Events. The catering team did a great job, and the salmon luncheon was delicious! (Some wondered where the beets were as they were listed on the menu – they were accidentally left on after we changed from meatballs to salmon – uff da!)



Esther Carlson, Arleigh Virgil and Lenore Virgil, enjoying the pretty table decorations

Embla members and guests who attended were: Elaine Anderson, Marian Asmussen, Eleanor Baker, Carol Baydo, Cassandra Cridlebaugh, Karen Bell, Norma Borgford, Grace Bredeson, Candace Brown, Candace Callaway, Esther Carlson, Lynn Coleman, Karen Curtis, Marian Eberle, Elene Emerson, Mardy Fairchild, Annette Falk, Donna Freberg, Helen Garner, Sharon Groeneveld, Edna Gruver, Pearl Gustafson, Marie Hayden, Dottie Holm, Clarene Johnson, Lori Kase, Carol Kemp, Carmen Knudtson, Barbara Leary, Evelyn Lundstrom-Weiss, Arlene McDonald, Bonnie Melton, Phyllis Melton, Vicki Melton, Inge Miller, Judie Miller, Sonja Nyhuis, Ines Ottoson, Lisa Ottoson,

Emilie Pedersen, Shirley Peterson, Olive Rudsdil, Doris Runbeck, Janet Ruud, Harriet Swieso, Esther Van Noy, Arleigh Virgil, Lenore Virgil, Caitlin Whitley, Judy Whitley, Betty Willard, and Judith Willison.



Nyheter Editor, Marie Hayden, Vicki Melton, Grace Bredeson, Phyllis and Bonnie Melton, visit before the luncheon

The table decorations were made by talented Judie Miller and each person at the table took home one of the corsages from the centerpiece as her luncheon favor.

Eight lucky people had the sticker on their program and took home the silk flower arrangement adorning each table.



Betty Willard, Carmen Knudtson, Ines Ottoson and Pearl Gustafson visiting at the luncheon.

Special Recognition is a tradition at our luncheons and eight people were presented with a beautiful fresh flower arrangement in a ceramic mug, created by the artistic Carol Spencer.



The first Special Recognition was for the **Oldest Member present**. This year the award went to **Arleigh Virgil who is 95 years old** – she'll be 96 in December. We all heartily applauded her and then acknowledged the other five members in attendance who are in their 90s! They all look wonderful – and we think their Norwegian heritage has contributed to their longevity! Those members are: Marian Eberle, Edna Gruver, Pearl Gustafson, Emilie Pedersen and Doris Runbeck.



The second recognition went to **Olive Rudsdil for the longest years of membership in Embla Lodge** – can you believe 66 years?? She doesn't even look that old!



Doris Runbeck is our newest member of Embla having joined this month. Pictured with her are Karen Curtis and Karen Bell.



The member with the most great-grandchildren is Grace Bredeson, with eight and one on the way.



Three generations of lovely ladies. Lisa Ottoson is the eldest grandchild in attendance. She is with her mother, Ines Ottoson, and grandmother, Pearl Gustafson. Lisa is the current SCC Council President.

Lynn Coleman takes home the centerpiece. She is the mother of Kim Moe, who is President of Helga Estby Lodge #47 in Idaho. Lynn attended the Lodge Institution, and met Grand Lodge President, Carol Kemp, and became a member of Embla also.



The youngest grandchild present was Cassandra Cridlebaugh, Carol Baydo's lovely 12-year-old granddaughter.



The Youngest member present today was Caitlin Whitley who is a beautiful 14-year-old and a member of the famous Whitley family – grandmother Anne and mother Judy, who make lefse for all our Norwegian events!



Twin sisters, Evelyn Lundstrom-Weiss and Eleanor Baker, traveled the farthest today (Burien and Renton) and are sharing the flowers.



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Clarene Johnson and Edna Gruver are welcome additions to our luncheon



Marian Asmussen, Marian Eberle and Elene Emerson enjoying their conversation

Our condolences to the family of Embla member, Mary Hudina, who passed away July 8, 2009. She joined Embla in 1971 and was 99 years old at her death.

Our condolences to Lisa and Ines Ottoson on the passing of Pearl Gustafson, mother to Ines and grandmother to Lisa. She is pictured twice in this newsletter as she attended the Summer Luncheon on July 25th and passed away on August 4, 2009. She joined Embla in 2001 and was a 94 year old member.

Our thoughts prayers are with both of these families at this time.

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Daughters of Norway
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JUST A MOM?

A woman, renewing her driver's license at the County Clerk's office, was asked by the woman recorder to state her occupation.

She hesitated, uncertain how to classify herself.

"What I mean is," explained the recorder, "do you have a job or are you just a ...?"

"Of course I have a job," snapped the woman.

"I'm a Mom."

"We don't list 'Mom' as an occupation, 'housewife' covers it," said the recorder emphatically.

I forgot all about her story until one day I found myself in the same situation, this time at our own Town Hall. The clerk was obviously a career woman, poised, efficient, and possessed of a high sounding title like, "Official Interrogator" or "Town Registrar."

"What is your occupation?" she probed.

What made me say it? I do not know. The words simply popped out. "I'm a Research Associate in the field of Child Development and Human Relations."

The clerk paused, ball-point pen frozen in midair and looked up as though she had not heard right.

I repeated the title slowly emphasizing the most significant words. Then I stared with wonder as my pronouncement was written, in bold, black ink on the official questionnaire.

"Might I ask," said the clerk with new interest, "just what you do in your field?"

Coolly, without any trace of fluster in my voice, I heard myself reply, "I have a continuing program of research, (what mother doesn't) in the laboratory and in the field, (normally I would have said indoors and out). I'm working for my Masters, (first the Lord and then the whole family) and already have four credits (all daughters).

Of course, the job is one of the most demanding in the humanities, (any mother care to disagree?), and I often work 14 hours a day, (24 is more like it).

But the job is more challenging than most run-of-the-mill careers and the rewards are more of a satisfaction rather than just money."

There was an increasing note of respect in the clerk's voice as she completed the form, stood up, and personally ushered me to the door.

As I drove into our driveway, buoyed up by my glamorous new career, I was greeted by my lab assistants — ages 13, 7 and 3.

Upstairs I could hear our new experimental model, (a 6-month-old baby) in the child development program, testing out a new vocal pattern. I felt I had scored a beat on bureaucracy! And I had gone on the official records as someone more distinguished and indispensable to mankind than "just another Mom."

Motherhood! What a glorious career! Especially when there's a title on the door.

Does this make **grandmothers** "Senior Research Associates in the field of Child Development and Human Relations"?

Are **great grandmothers** "Executive Senior Research Associates"?

I think so!! I also think it makes **Aunts** "Associate Research Assistants."