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EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2, DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

Tacoma, Washington

January-February 2014 - VOL. 27, NO. 1



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COMING UP!

JANUARY 2

We start the New Year with our **installation of 2014 officers**. Remember that family members are welcome to attend and help us honor and thank our leadership. Among the returning officers, Mardy Fairchild and Diane Nelson will preside for a second term as president and vice president. Performing during the ceremony will be the **Twelve Bells Ensemble**. Members are encouraged to wear their bunads or other Nordic clothing. (Note that the January Family Renewal Shelter donation suggestion is warm mittens, socks, or underwear.)

FEBRUARY 6

We look forward to a **demonstration of felting**, led by Linda Nyland, whom most of us know as the manager of the Scandinavian Shop at Garfield Book Company at PLU. Helping her demonstrate the technique will be Judie Miller and Mardy Fairchild. They will have Ideas for unique hand-made gifts and show how to make them.

By Melody Stepp

2013 GTPP Laureate Sallie Shawl Was Invited to the Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony

Embla #2 is a supporter of and one of the three founding entities of the Greater Tacoma Peace Prize (GTPP). You can hear all about Sallie's trip to Oslo (which included attendance at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony) at "Soup with Sallie", a luncheon to be held on Sunday, February 23, 1:00 p.m. in the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU. The cost will be \$18 per person. Contact Janet Ruud (253-988-6825 or ruudj1norw@aol.com) or Toni Simpson (253-858-7975 or simpsont49@hotmail.com) for further information and to

reserve your place. Toni and Janet are Embla's representatives on the GTPP Committee.

Sallie, right, and Linda Frank were pictured on page two of the December 13 issue of the Tacoma News Tribune.



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

And by the way, Your 2014 Dues Are Due



Embla Lodge #2 dues are due for 2014! Only \$30! (Note to "dual" lodge members! If you are a member of two lodges, but you joined the other lodge first, your Embla dues are \$18.) Please mail your dues to our new Financial Secretary, Kari Stackpole: 1807 N. Bennett St., Tacoma, WA 98406-2825. If you have any questions, contact Kari at 253-627-7806 or polstacker@aol.com.

2014 Embla Directory

Please let Marilyn Mahnke or Mardy Fairchild know if there is anything (ANYTHING!) in the Embla directory that needs to be changed or corrected. If you see something that needs to be "fixed" - even if the correction isn't your personal information - let us know. A hard copy of the membership directory will be available at the February lodge meeting, so get the corrections in NOW! *Tusen takk!*

By Chris Engstrom

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President's Message



Were you planning to have Thanksgiving at your house or going somewhere else? For many years, I had Thanksgiving dinner at my house, but as my family grew things got very, very crowded at my little house, so I finally was able to convince my son and daughter-in-law to take over hosting Thanksgiving dinner at their house. Although the location has changed, I still do a lot of the cooking, which I really don't mind doing since I love to cook. I just really appreciate having the dinner held in a larger home with a much larger kitchen to work in. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas!

I hope you enjoyed our Embla Lodge December Christmas Party! It has always been so much fun, and I love singing round the tree! With the addition of a visit from our very own *Julenisse* and Assistant (Lisa Ottoson and her brother), I think we provided the children with something special to remember too!

2014 promises to be a very busy, fun year. We have a lot to look forward to including the Norwegian Heritage Festival at PLU in April, a very special 125th *Syttende Mai* celebration in May, the upcoming Grand Lodge Convention in Minnesota during the summer, a memorable Summer Luncheon in July, our 4th year sponsoring the Nordic Festival in October, and of course all of the other celebrations we share throughout the year.

I asked many of the chairs/coordinators who served last year to continue in 2014, and I hope they all will agree to carry on. They are certainly a dedicated group of women who generously share their skills and talent. We will, however, need to fill a few positions including chairs/coordinators for the Norwegian Heritage Festival, the Summer Luncheon, and the Nordic Festival. If you would like an opportunity to share your talents and help our lodge in any way, please contact me.

I wish to once again thank my Embla Lodge sisters for electing me President for 2014. It is an honor to serve such a great organization! I feel blessed to have met so many wonderful women who share my Norwegian heritage! *Tusen takk!*

See you all at our lodge meetings!

Godt nyttår! Mardy

PAST PRESIDENTS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Past Presidents of Embla group met at C.I. Shenanigans on Monday, December 9th. We all had a wonderful time as we exchanged gifts and celebrated Harriet Swieso's and Marilyn Mahnke's December birthdays.

By Judy Willison



Front: Delphine Johnson, Harriet Swieso, Carol Kemp
Rear: Mardy Fairchild, Esther Van Noy, Janet Ruud, Karen Bell, Marilyn Mahnke, and Judith Willison

Birthdays

GRATULERER med DAGEN to the following Embla Sisters who are celebrating their Birthdays in January and February!

January

- 1 - Elaine Anderson
- 3 - Esther Oliver
- 10 - Kirsten Roberts and Donita Zblewski
- 12 - Lynne Stallcup
- 17 - Lynn Coleman
- 19 - Helen Garner, Christine Beasley, and Bergliot Hammerstrom (who will be 105!)
- 20 - Dena Iverson
- 27 - Barbara Kirkwood

February

- 4 - Gerda Hunter
- 7 - Chris Engstrom
- 8 - Verle Congdon
- 25 - Nancy Lopez
- 28 - Melissa Rude
- 29 - Sarah Callow



Wishing you all a year of health and happiness!!

By Marilyn Mahnke

JULETREFEST at **EMBLA**

Embla's Christmas party and potluck was awesome! Serving as hostesses for the event were: Gerda Hunter, Judith Willison, Marilyn Mahnke, Norma Borgford and Janet Ruud. Not pictured was our 5th and most important helper - Kaylee Hurlbut - who did a terrific job as usual! Poinsettias were on all the dining tables and a wreath and candles on the serving table. It was a beautiful event!

By Judith Willison



December hostesses: Gerda Hunter, Judith Willison, Marilyn Mahnke, Norma Borgford and Janet Ruud



The beautiful *Juletre* (Christmas tree) decorated by Bill and Melody Stepp

If you have photos of the **children** at our Christmas Party, please send them to us! ruudj1norw@aol.com or secallow@comcast.net

Tusen takk, too, to our November Hostesses!



Assistant Lisa Ottoson helps *Julensse* Mark Ottoson (Lisa's brother)



Gail Harris, Mary McGoran, Elaine Anderson, Nadine Lewtas, Melody Stepp, and Sharon Groeneveld

EMBLA'S SALES TABLE AT AREA BAZAARS

We Daughters of Norway in the Pacific Northwest are always busy in November. Embla participated in Christmas festivals in Pt. Townsend, Bellingham and Whidbey Island. We had the best year in sales at all three events.

Chris Engstrom and Torun Parker also sold items at the Tacoma Lutheran Home, and Melody Stepp had a small table for Embla at the PLU Sweater Exchange, where she sold our new scarves and calendars.

The *Håndverkerer* group still meets on the third Thursday of the month at Chris Engstrom's home at 11:00 for a potluck and working on various items for sale at our *Håndverkerer* table. If you have any ideas on items you think will sell, please let us know. Our next big event will be the Norwegian Heritage Festival at PLU in April, 2014.

Tusen Takk!!!

By Marilyn Mahnke



Marilyn and Chris at the sales table at Esther Moe Lodge



Spotted selling their own handcrafted items at the Tacoma Lutheran Home Bazaar – Elene Emerson and her sister, Sonja

Mini-Norsk Lesson

Just in case you are confused/wondering...

en håndverker is singular and means "a hand worker"
håndverkeren OR *den håndverker* means "the hand worker"
håndverkerer is plural and means "hand workers"
håndverkerene means "the hand workers"



Håndverkerer at the December meeting: Janice Kelly, Norma Borgford, Chris Engstrom, Marilyn Mahnke, Sarah Callow, Karen Lynn, Sharon Groeneveld and Amy Vogel



Chris and Marilyn at the sales table in Bellingham

ROSEMALING GROUP

We have been hit and miss with our Rosemalar group gatherings. Some members have not been able to come for various (and very good) reasons, while others have been very faithful attendees. None the less, we have managed to get several projects done lately.

Christmas ornaments and gifts have been our main focus the past several weeks. Our instructor Julie Ann Hebert outdid herself again with several beautiful wooden Christmas trees. Every week she'd have a new one finished and of course all of them just as stunning!



Marilyn Mahnke, Sarah Callow, Julie Ann Hebert, Gail Harris, Judie Miller, Mardy Fairchild, and Carol Voigt



Marilyn Mahnke and I

continued painting the wooden ornaments we started at the Western Rosemalers workshop we attended in October.

Sarah Callow keeps very busy painting small little boxes but never said who they were for other than she was making them as gifts. Finally, at our recent Leikarring Christmas dinner party, I found out who she was making them all for – the Leikarring dancers! What a treasured gift to receive!

Gail Harris finished several lefse sticks, all very different and all beautiful! I was hoping to get one of those too, but unfortunately, she had other plans for them. Gail has also been working on large project but I better not say what it is in case it's a gift for someone who might read the *Nyheter*.



Juleen's decorated Christmas cookie tree

At one of our recent gatherings, we took a "field trip" to the home of Julie Ann's daughter, Juleen, to see her glorious cookie Christmas tree. What an artist she is! Her tree, which had to be ten feet tall, was loaded with handmade cookies, each one baked and decorated by Juleen! With inspiration taken from the cookie tree, at our next meeting we attempted to paint some cookies ourselves. Julie Ann had baked several dozen cookies for us to paint and others brought cookies they had made too, so we had many cookies to paint. Our cookies didn't quite look like Juleen's professional cookies but they did turn out pretty cute, I must say.

By Mardy Fairchild



EMBLA'S SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

You might like to join or find out more about one of the groups listed here. See also the articles about *Håndverkerer* (page 4), *Rosemaling* (page 5), and *Kaffeslabberas* (page 7). A great way to get to know some of your sisters better!

GENEALOGY

The Genealogy Group meets the second Thursday of the month at 3 PM at the Garfield Book Store. We meet monthly and share information, help each other, and enjoy talking about our Norwegian heritage. You are most welcome to join us!

By Clarene Johnson

MOROKLUBBEN

How do you like the new name for Embla's social group? *Moroklubben* means "The Fun Club"! Perfect! In December the *Moroklubb* went to Flower World in Snohomish, had lunch at the Maltby Café, and then continued the fun to Molbaks in Woodinville for plant buying and to enjoy the beautiful holiday displays for Christmas. If there are fun social things you would like to suggest, please contact Chris Engstrom (253-752-5361 or swedechris@msn.com).

By Chris Engstrom

LEIKARRINGEN

Fifteen of our Leikarring members met for dinner at the Clubhouse Grill on December 9 in Tacoma, and exchanged small gifts. We always enjoy getting together, and everyone had a wonderful time! Leikarring meets the second and fourth Mondays at 5:30 p.m. at Lutheran Community Services (223 N Yakima Ave). We review and practice the dances we know and learn the steps for new dances.

By Judy Willison and Sarah Callow

COOKING CLASSES

Our popular Norwegian Cooking Classes are scheduled for 2014 at the Scandinavian Center at Pacific Lutheran University and the dates are as follows.

Spring Classes: Wednesday, March 12; Tuesday, March 18; and Saturday, March 29.

Fall Classes: Tuesday, October 7; Wednesday, October 15; and Saturday, October 25.

Save the dates now and come and join the fun! We meet at 10 a.m. and at noon we have a taste testing of the foods that were demonstrated, and you take home all the recipes! The cost is still just \$5! No registration necessary.

We would love to have you provide one of your delicious Norwegian recipes and also demonstrate it! Please contact Judy Willison (253/838-4232 or jwillison@comcast.net) if you would like to volunteer!

By Judy Willison



FRANK & ERNEST



KAFFESLABBERAS



Tina Riffle and Kari Stackpole

Kaffeslabberas!!! What on earth is that? I had never heard the Norwegian word before! My friend Sven, who retired as the editor of the newspaper "Fedrelandsvennen" in Kristiansand, Norway, suggested the name for our group. After looking up the word on the Internet, Torun Parker emailed her cousin in Norway for more information and the decision was made. So what



Torun Parker, Judith Willison, Joanne Gray,
and Karen Bell

is the definition? - coffee with friends and lively conversation - the perfect name for our Norwegian language group! Yes, we speak a mix of Norwegian and English, learning words as we go along. We look forward to greeting more Embla members at our get-togethers in January, where at *Kaffeslabberas*, you'll find lively Norwegian/English conversation and coffee with friends (Wednesday, January 8, and Friday, January 24 at 2:00pm at Kari Stackpole's house).

By Kari Stackpole



SUNSHINE REPORT



Condolences

Edna Senter passed away on August 13th in California just before her 95th birthday. She had moved to West Covina several years ago to be close to her daughter Kandy. Edna was initiated on December 7, 1989, with her sister Ruth Foster (who has also passed away). Edna loved to tell stories to her daughters' friends when they went to see her. She told of Embla's "doings" and of her trip to Norway. Edna took great pride in Embla Lodge #2.

Arleigh Virgil passed away on October 6th in Puyallup just short of being 100. Arleigh was initiated on July 2, 1987. Unfortunately, Arleigh had a stroke on her right side about ten years ago. This did not stop her from coming to all the summer luncheons, and she won the "prize" for being the oldest member attending several times. Her daughter Lenore took wonderful care of her all that time.

Members Florence March and Evangeline Billingsley lost their nephew Mark Hjelseth on December 5th to cancer.

Wishes for a Speedy Recovery

Vonnie Stone and Judie Miller were in the hospital for surgeries.

Amy Vogel had a broken leg and Toni Simpson broke her shoulder. They both have avoided surgery.

Susan Burt (a former Embla member) broke her leg.

June Radich had been hospitalized earlier this year, but she is now back at home.

Congratulations!

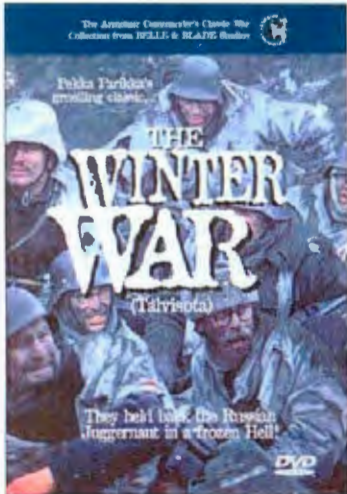
At the Christmas party, Harriet Swieso was the lucky winner of the beautiful tablecloth (Hardanger embroidery) that Kari Stackpole brought back from her aunt in Norway.

Wishing all members and their families a very healthy Happy New Year!!!

By Marilyn Mahnke

FILM REVIEW: *Talvisota* (The Winter War)

Talvisota was the last of this year's films in the Scandinavian Cultural Center's film series "War, Occupation, and Resistance", which was coordinated by Peter Grosvenor, Associate Professor of Political Science at PLU. It was shown at the SCC on Sunday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m., and many Embla sisters were in attendance.



The film was released in 1989 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the "Winter War" between Finland and Russia, which began in November, 1939 (after Germany had invaded Poland in September), and lasted 105 days. These two countries have a long history of bitterness between them, having fought against each other in three wars, and the Russo-Finnish winter war was particularly brutal.

It's a very somber film about a Finnish reserve unit of volunteers and their experience in the war. It's based on the journals of the 23rd regiment. This film places the viewer in the middle of the war. Russia had demanded Finnish territory. The Finns were outnumbered by the Russians in soldiers, tanks, and air power, and there was terrible slaughter, but they "won" the war, since they didn't cede their territory to the Soviets.

This film showed the strength of the Finnish people and that no one really wins in war. Professor Grosvenor answered questions and led a discussion after the movie. [Be sure to watch for information from the Scandinavian Cultural Center about the next Scandinavian Film Series.](#)

By Julie Touchette

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