



# EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2, DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

Tacoma, Washington

March-April 2014 VOL. 27, NO. 2

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## EVERYONE IS INVITED TO THE 2014 CONVENTION!

The following sisters will be delegates to the 2014 Convention: Mardy Fairchild (Head Delegate), Chris Engstrom, Diane Nelson, Julie Touchette, Janet Ruud, Marilyn Mahnke, Sarah Callow, and Ellen Campbell. Judy Rogers and Nadine Lewtas are alternates.

But you do not have to be a delegate to be a part of the fun! Convention will be held at the Radisson Blu Hotel by the Mall of America in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Did you know that the very first Daughters of Norway lodge was started in 1897 in Minneapolis? If you find that somewhat confusing, perhaps you'd like to learn more about the history of our organization... If so, read "Heritage, Sisterhood, and Self-reliance: the Evolution and Significance of the Daughters of Norway." Janet Ruud has some copies left, all of which will be taken to and sold at convention. Contact Janet [ruudj1norw@aol.com](mailto:ruudj1norw@aol.com) or 253-564-2832 if you want your copy now. The price is \$23.

### Convention Schedule

- Tuesday, July 15 Grand Lodge Executive Board Meeting
- Wednesday, July 16 Pre-Convention Vesterheim Day Tour
- Thursday, July 17 Cultural Fair, Scandinavian Butikk, Reception, Silent Auction
- Friday, July 18 Business Meeting
- Saturday, July 19 Business Meeting, Election and Installation of Officers, Closing Banquet

You can find out more about the great classes on Cultural Day and the rest of the schedule on the Daughters of Norway website – [www.daughtersofnorway.org](http://www.daughtersofnorway.org). Go to the "Members Only" section of the website. If you need the user name and password, contact Janet.

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## BIRTHDAYS!

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

### March

- 4 Arlene McDonald
- 11 Nadine Lewtas, Bodil Lovoll
- 16 Jan Runbeck
- 20 Asta Marie Marquardt, Elda Sulerud
- 22 Dorothy Gullstad
- 24 Janice Kelly
- 25 Marian Eberle, Alice Govig
- 30 Mary Elstrom Hobson, Carolyn Benson

### April

- 2 Annette Dennis-DePuydt
- 3 Evangeline Billingsley
- 4 Glenda Sharples
- 6 Marlene Beggin
- 10 Susan Goodspeed
- 12 Carmen Knudtson
- 15 Heidi Neideigh
- 17 Torun Parker
- 19 Sonja Yeager

20 Katie Anderson

- Apologies!
- The following were omitted in February. *Uffda!*
- 23 Marylu Wallerich
- 26 Marian Ward-Miller
- 29 Sarah Callow

Wishing you all a year of health and happiness!

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## SPRING...TIME



Don't forget to change your clocks on Saturday night, March 8, before you go to bed...  
Remember - **SPRING AHEAD - FALL BACK**

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERISM

[President Mardy Fairchild gave this speech at the Installation of Officers in January.]

When it seems society is focused on getting more, spending more and achieving more, it helps to think about the importance of volunteerism. It can get people to think beyond themselves and focus on the needs of others.

The broad definition of volunteering is offering to do work for no compensation, but people tend to do work for organizations that have some personal meaning for them that gives them fulfillment. But the importance of volunteerism is not just for that reason. Volunteers are greatly needed, and in fact, many organizations, like the Daughters of Norway, depend on them.

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization. Without them, we'd have no officers for our lodge. We'd have no hostesses to prepare the wonderful food we all enjoy before our meetings. We'd have no delegates at convention. We wouldn't have any cookies, lefse, or crafts to sell at fundraising events like *Norwegian Heritage Festival* or the *Nordic Festival*. We wouldn't even be able to hold these events without volunteers.

We have managed to provide excellent programs at our meetings because we have volunteers who support our aims and goals by giving of themselves, unselfishly donating their time and effort to promote and support Embla Lodge. In fact, without volunteers there would be no Embla Lodge and no Daughters of Norway organization!

I encourage each and every one of you to think of ways you can volunteer. How can you help our lodge and our organization continue to grow?

Volunteering not only helps our lodge, but there are personal benefits as well. You gain personal insight and knowledge, not only about our organization, but about yourself as well. You may have the opportunity to gain a new set of skills. By volunteering, you not only help boost our organization's visibility in the community but you help preserve our Norwegian heritage. It is also a scientific fact that doing good causes you to feel good by releasing good hormones to the body and the brain.

So while it is important to make monetary donations to maintain and support our organization, it is also important to realize that what you bring to the table is just as important. It is immediately apparent that once you start volunteering, you do get paid - in a different coin, that's true - but you do get paid!

I read this poem somewhere (author unknown)...

Many will be shocked to find, when the day of judgment nears,  
That there's a special place in Heaven, set aside for volunteers.  
Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and footstools,  
Where there are no committee chairs and no coffee to be served,  
No craft or bake sales needed, only the things that you deserve.  
By a finger snap you will receive cool drinks and gourmet dinners,  
The rarest treats fit for a king and humble volunteer winners.  
You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged and work for all they're worth?"  
Why, all those who reaped the benefits, and not once volunteered on Earth.

By Mardy Fairchild

## PAST PRESIDENTS

The Past Presidents' meeting and luncheon was held at the home of Janet Ruud on February 10. We enjoyed the luncheon and seeing all of Janet's Norwegian antiques and family treasures! At our meeting we decided to have a work party to make 50 sets of greeting cards, using the old post cards that Esther Van Noy has donated, and Mardy Fairchild will lead us in making them since she has already done so many of them by herself.

By Judith Willison

## Felting in February



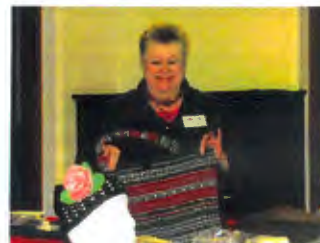
Linda Nyland Manager of the Scandinavian Shop at Garfield Book Co.

Felting has been around for a long time. At our Summer Luncheon last year, Linda Nyland was our guest speaker and gave us some highlights on the basics. Mardy Fairchild and Judie Miller took up this hobby immediately. They found stores for all the tools and went looking for old inexpensive wool sweaters at various thrift stores. At the meeting in February, Linda came back again speaking to the members. Mardy and Judie had lots of items that were passed around for all to see. They had a table of items for sale. Anybody who wanted to try the felting was able to do so for about 10 minutes. Check the craft table at our future meetings to see more items for sale...

By Marilyn Mahnke



Judie with a purse lining



Mardy with a bag made from a felted sweater



We had so much fun decorating gingerbread cookies at Christmas time (for tree ornaments and for eating) that we decided to do it again for Valentines. Marilyn and Julie Ann decorated some for the February Embla meeting. Judie, Sarah, Gayle and Julie Ann made some more for family and friends. Now we're planning to do it again on egg shaped cookies!

## ROSEMALING

By Sarah Callow and Marilyn Mahnke



## COOKING CLASSES

Our Embla cooking class committee (Ellen Campbell, Sharon Groeneveld, and Judith Willison) has chosen some great recipes for our March cooking classes in the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU. On Wednesday, March 12, Mardy Fairchild will demonstrate Chicken Stew with Beer; Esther VanNoy will be showing us how to make Cheese Biscuits (*Ostekjeks*); and Sharon Groeneveld will be making her delicious Dalesmen (*Døler*). On Tuesday, March 18, Marilyn Mahnke will be making a Meat Salad (*Kjøttsalat*); Beet Soup (*Betesuppe*) will be demonstrated by Janice Kelly; and Lemon Cardamom Almond Cookies will be made by Judie Miller. On Saturday, March 29, Ellen Campbell will be showing us how to make a salmon burger, Norwegian style; Dilled Red cabbage will be demonstrated by Diane Nelson; and Janet Ruud will be making a wonderful Oslo Kringle. Be sure to join us!! All classes are 10AM – Noon, and the cost is \$5 per class. There is no need to register – just show up!

Mark your calendars for the fall cooking classes: Tuesday, October 7; Wednesday, October 15; and Saturday, October 25, 2014. You won't want to miss any of these fun, informative, and yummy classes!

By Judith Willison



Carol Voigt and Judith Willison Sisters in Two Lodges

## EMBLA MEMBERS AT SOLVEIG LODGE INSTALLATION

When Carol Voigt (dual member of Embla and Solveig lodges) was installed as the President of Solveig Lodge, the Installing Marshal was Judith Willison (also a dual member of those lodges). After the installation of officers, a lovely buffet luncheon was served.



Judy Earle (right), Co-Cultural Director with Anita Bibby (not pictured) and past president of Solveig (AND member of Embla), looked so pretty standing before the beautiful arrangement she made for Carol Voigt's installation.



Leikarring Dancers at Kings Manor: Daniele Brown, Trudy Sorensen, Mary McGoran, Judie Miller, Suzy Johnston, Diane Nelson, Nadine Lewtas, Joan Anderson, Mardy Fairchild, Judith Willison, Janice Kelly, and Carol Voigt.

## LEIKARRINGEN

The Embla Leikarring has grown this past year to include fifteen (15) regular dancers. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at Lutheran Community Services in Tacoma to practice and perfect the dances we know and to learn new dances. It is so much fun getting together and kicking up our heels. We meet and are always happy to welcome new members!

The Leikarring is busy practicing for several performances scheduled for the next few months. First was the performance on February 15 at King's Manor, which is where Elda Sulerud is now living. Twelve of the Leikarring members danced *Fjellmarsj* (Mountain March), *Møllerdanse* (Mill), *Kryssedans med seks* (Pins), *Gilleråsen fra Nordmøre* (Duck & Dive), *Tretur fra Strandvik* (Wheel), and *Astri mi Astri*.

Our next scheduled performance will be at Solvig Lodge in Burien. They are holding a Silent Auction and Lunch on Saturday, March 8, at 10:30 a.m. and have asked Embla's Leikarring to come teach some of their members a few of the dances.

Although not definite at the time of this article, the Leikarring is also planning a performance at the Norwegian Heritage Festival on April 26 at PLU. And lastly, we have been invited to perform in Bergen Square for *Syttende mai* festivities in Ballard.

By Mardy Fairchild and Judith Willison

## KAFFESLABBERAS



I just received a very nice note from Judy Willison, who came to the "Kaffeslabberas" on Wednesday. She used the word *koselig* in her note saying she loved the fire and candles.

BUT what is *koselig*? It defines anything, a house, a conversation, a dinner, a person...anything that makes you feel a sense of warmth deep inside. A *koselig* visit to a home involves candles, good music, warm colors around you, a fire in the fireplace, and good food on the table with people that you enjoy. Very cosy! Another great word is *hyggelig* - a word with a similar meaning, meaning **comfortable**. *Koselig* is a single word expressing all... It's like an inner summer that Norwegians create to feel like it's warm all year long - even during the dark, long winters.

*Kaffeslabberas* meets two times a month for some coffee and Norwegian conversation. We use maps, dictionaries, childhood songs etc., and are having a very good time. Please call either Kari Stackpole (253-627-7806) or Torun Parker (253-759-7830) for exact days and time. It varies with plans that people may have.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

By Kari Stackpole



# SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2013 Jordan Paige Wicks received a \$1500.00 Grand Lodge scholarship. She is the niece of Christi Maplethorpe. Jordan attends WSU and is majoring in Arts and Sciences.

It's Scholarship Time Again!

Applications are now available for high school seniors who want to apply for Embla's \$500 educational scholarship. The applicant must be a 2014 high school graduate whose mother or grandmother is an Embla member, or be an Embla member herself. The applicant must be entering an institution of higher education such as a two- or four-year college, university, community college or vocational technical school, directly after high school graduation. The application is available at our March meeting or you may contact Scholarship Chair Sharon Groeneveld at 253-864-3041. The application needs to be filled out completely and returned to Sharon, along with an official transcript of high school grades, no later than April 1. *Mange takk* (many thanks) to Elene Emerson for her generous donation to our Embla Scholarship Fund!

There is also a scholarship available from Grand Lodge. There will be forms available at the March 6 meeting and they can also be obtained by going to the Daughters of Norway website [www.daughtersofnorway.org](http://www.daughtersofnorway.org) This scholarship requires that the applicant has completed one full year of college before applying. The application needs to be sent to the Grand Lodge before July 15.

I encourage all of those qualified to apply for the scholarship that applies to them. Not only does it help with expenses but also it is an honor to be chosen.

By Sharon Groeneveld

## HÅNDVERKERER (Handcrafters group)

A BIG *tusen takk* to Marilyn Carlson for making several dozen red aprons over the last few years. She has now retired, but here's another BIG *tusen takk* to Esther Van Noy, who stepped up to make them. Our supply of Norwegian aprons is now replenished!

Other members of the group have been busy too!

- Janice Kelly made some specialty aprons, pot holders and gnome-decorated dish towels, which sold immediately.
- New felted items made by Mardy Fairchild and Judie Miller will be available at our March meeting.
- Sharon Groeneveld continues to make those cute chicken pin cushions.
- Tina Riffle, Torun Parker, and Marilyn Mahnke are embroidering dish towels.
- The following sisters are knitting, crocheting or needlepointing: Karen Lynn, Norma Borgford, Sarah Callow, and Chris Engstrom.
- And, more Rosemaling items will be coming from the Rosemalers.

The *Håndverkerer* continue to meet at Chris Engstrom's home on the third Thursday of the month. Come join us for potluck and bring your ideas!

By Marilyn Mahnke

## LOCAL SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH SCHOOL IN NORWAY

Kapowsin 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Welcome Norway into their Classrooms

Thanks to a \$5,000 Century-Link grant, Kapowsin Elementary will be partnering with a school in Norway to expand students' world views. Kapowsin students will use Skype and email to get to know their peers in Norway. They are already learning a few Norwegian words to help them communicate. With the grant money, Kapowsin purchased eight Chromebooks to use in their library and three iPads to use in classrooms. One fifth grade class will learn about the environmental and cultural impacts of our society as well as assisting kindergartners to share their personal timelines and school activities with the Norwegian students.



This article was in the Dec. 2013 "Bethel Pride" newsletter (Bethel School District).

Submitted by Julie Touchette

# SLEKTSFORSKNINGKLUBB (GENEALOGY CLUB)

At the most recent *Slektsforskningklubb* meeting, our genealogy researchers delved into Embla's past. Thanks to the historical material from Marie Hayden we identified some of the people and photos we want to highlight during our Embla birthday party at the April meeting. Sue Bentz and I are working on a slide presentation, and having access to Marie's presentation as well as the scrapbooks is fantastic.



Marie Hayden "delving into the books"



Judy Rogers and Kaja Bennett

At the meeting, a new first year PLU student from Loveland, Colorado, stopped by and asked about our activities. She'd heard us talking about *Hardangersøm* and Lefse and rosettes and such. Being a Sons of Norway member, the words were all too familiar to her and we welcomed her to join us. Her name is Kaja Gjælde Bennett, and she's a member of PLU's student Scandinavian Club.

She's looking forward to coming to Embla 2 and Norden 2 meetings, and we took pictures of her with us for her to send to her mother.

Tina Riffle brought some more history material about Embla, including information about her mother and grandmother, which will certainly find its way into our celebration presentation. Judy Rogers shared a book of and about letters written from and to Norwegian immigrants, "In Their Own Words", and I brought some recently discovered information about a great-grandfather who has been a very difficult person to research. Our next meeting is the second Thursday of March (the 12th) at 3 p.m. If you want to be around people who don't roll their eyes when you talk about your 2 a.m. discovery of a long last aunt or any other relative, come join us.



By Melody Stepp

Tina Riffle, Judy Rogers, and Kaja Bennett  
"looking into the past"



## Embla's Library

More books have been added to Embla's Library! We have many interesting books about Vikings, Norway 1940-1945, Norway on videotape, and travel in Norway. There are three pages of stories, fiction, and non-fiction, including some of your favorite authors: O.E. Rolvang, Astrid Carlson Scott, and Sigrid Undset, among others. We have a full collection of Lauraine Snelling's series of books about Norwegian immigrant families in the 1880s in North Dakota.

The Library will be open at Embla's meetings from 5:30 to 7:00. Come see Esther and find a great book!

By Esther Van Noy

# SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Tacoma's sister city in Norway is Ålesund. The film representing Norway will be shown on Thursday, March 20. Doors open at 6:00 pm, a cultural program is at 6:15 pm, and the film starts at 7:00 pm. Admission is free. The location of the film festival has changed this year. It will be held at the University of Puget Sound in the Tahoma room, Commencement Hall, which is located on the corner of North 13<sup>th</sup> and Lawrence Streets.

The movie is called "The Other Side of Sunday" (Norwegian title: *Søndagsengler*). The film was the most-viewed film in Norway in 1996 and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 1997. Following is a synopsis of the movie from the Norwegian Film Institute.

"Each Sunday at five minutes to eleven, the vicar's young daughter sits in church. She has calculated that by the time of her confirmation she will have spent 640 hours in the uncomfortable wooden pew. She feels trapped in the joyless enforced Christian atmosphere that permeated Norway in the 1950s. Maria longs for life outside this prison. She wants to become something different than the church hags; the lumpy masses of grey, joyless women in hats and shapeless coats that occupy the pews behind the vicar's family in the church. She wants to be like the other kind of women around the country, the kind with perky breasts and sinful bodies, who won't get into heaven. She wants to live! Through her friendship with Mrs. Tunheim, an elder of the church, a proud and lovely woman and the only woman among the congregation who seems vital and alive, Maria is given the strength to disobey her strict father and the congregation and strike out on her own. Maria's path leads her away from the church hags and toward the youth of the fifties. With a group of youngsters she sneaks off on trips to the cottage and other forbidden adventures to discover a dizzying puberty."



To see the list of the other sister city films go to the website [www. SisterCityFilmFest.org](http://www.SisterCityFilmFest.org) or call 253-591-5117.

Julie Touchette

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

We celebrate March 17 in commemoration of St. Patrick's great and noble deed in driving the Norwegians out of Ireland.

It seems that centuries ago many Norwegians came to Ireland to escape the bitterness of the Norwegian winter. Ireland was having a famine at the time and food was scarce. The Norwegians were eating almost all of the fish caught in the ocean, leaving the Irish with nothing but potatoes.

St. Patrick, taking matters into his own hands, like most Irishman, decided all the Norwegians had to go. Secretly, he organized the IRATION (Irish Republican Army to Rid Ireland of Norwegians). Irish members of the IRATION sabotaged all the power plants in hopes the fish in Norwegian refrigerators would spoil, forcing the Norwegians to a cooler climate where their fish would keep. The fish spoiled all right, but the Norwegians, as everyone knows to this day, thrive on spoiled fish. Faced with failure, the Irishmen sneaked into the Norwegian fish storage caves in the dead of the night and sprinkled the rotten fish with lye, hoping to poison the Norwegian intruders, but as everyone knows, this is how lutefisk was introduced to the Norwegians, and how they thrived on the lye-soaked smelly fish.

Matters became even worse for the Irish when the Norwegians started taking over the Irish potato crop to make lefse. Poor St. Patrick was at his wits end. Finally, on March 17, he blew his top and told the Norwegians to "go to hell" - - and it worked, because all the Norwegians left Ireland and went to Minnesota.

[Editors' note: This was obviously NOT written by a Norwegian...]

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO EMBLA #2 MEMBERS!



When you have been a member of the Daughters of Norway for 25 years, you will receive a cool 25-year pin and congratulations from the Grand Lodge. We think that's a long time to wait for a little recognition! Therefore, we (the editors) would like to honor the following sisters who had milestone "anniversaries of joining Embla Lodge #2" during January, February, and March. We will make this a regular feature in each issue of the "Nyheter."

In January, Hazel Starkey became a **35-year** member of Embla!

In February, Gerda Shull marked her **30th** year as an Embla member!

In March, celebrating their 10-year anniversaries are Christine Beasley, Sarah Callow, and Tonia Simpson.

And would you believe that Grace Bredeson, Marilyn Carlson, Tina Riffle, and Kim Schenk have been Embla members for 15 years?

Last, but not least, there is one sister who has been a member of Daughters of Norway for a really long time.

**Candace (Candy) Rudsdil Johnson** will be getting special recognition from the Grand Lodge for being a loyal member of our lodge for FIFTY (50) YEARS!!! Wow! That is fabulous!

## HIPP HIPP HURRA! OG GRATULERER MED DAGEN!

[We have tried to recognize **everyone** who joined in the first three months of the year, but if we missed someone, please let us know. Thanks, Janet and Sarah, Eds.]

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## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Your annual dues are due on January 1 each year. If you have not yet paid your 2014 dues (\$30), please send now to Embla's financial secretary, Kari Stackpole, 1807 N Bennett, Tacoma. WA. 98406. Phone: 253-627-7806.

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### Embla Lodge #2 Daughters of Norway

534 Forrest Park Dr.  
Fircrest, WA 98466



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Scandinavian Cultural Collection

PLU Mortvedt Library

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