



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Rosemalers,

Happy Spring! The transition to a new board of officers has been made. My thanks to the most recently retired board members, **Gro Marit Kleitsch** and **Kathy Anderson**, for all of their dedication and efforts on our behalf. I am pleased to now serve with **Carol Voigt** (Treasurer), **Marlene Echaniz** (Financial Secretary) and **Kay McKenzie** (Secretary AND Financial Workshop

Steward). **Julie Olsen** (who very graciously ran and was elected as Vice President) has asked to resign her position as other priorities in life made it difficult to continue, which all of us can understand. I thank her for the enthusiasm she brings to this *beautiful art form* that we all care so deeply about. I want to also mention our regional chairwomen. **Nina Kurrle** for the Island/Snohomish County, **DeDe May** for King County, **Lois Clauson** for Kitsap County and **Julie Ann Hebert** for Pierce County. Each of them have served our organization in more than one capacity. 2002 was successful due to the efforts of all of these folks.

The year 2002 went pretty well with our new changes in place . . . though I think we are still adjusting. You will find the By-Laws enclosed in this newsletter, the calendar which could be added to later in the year and published in the next issue of the Vine . . . and information about the **Fall Major Workshop** at the **Seabeck Conference Center** in late September with **Shirley Evenstad, VGM**. The facility looks to be delightful and I am sure Shirley will be a wonderful instructor. I know many of you are anxious to reserve your spot.

As we go forward as an organization, I hope each of you will consider what we need to do individually and collectively to help preserve Rosemaling for generations to come. In the coming months I hope to survey the membership for thoughts/solutions about some of the challenges that still face us as an organization. The information we derive from the survey will be help guide us in making sound decisions for the future. Please help us in this endeavor by sharing your ideas and giving of your time.

I hope to see you at the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Scandinavian Cultural Center at PLU. Our program will be feature the new video by **Ethel Kvalheim** and some comments from **Florence Buck**, one of our founding members

— In friendship, **Pat Smaaladen**

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The **Acanthus Vine** is published 4 times a year approximately two weeks prior to the coming meeting. News items that any member deems interesting or beneficial to our members is welcome. Send as **Word Doc** attached to e-mail, if possible, to **Barb Smith** (address above-left); or surface mail to **Pat Smaaladen**.