

### September Lodge Meeting Viking Longship Lecture: Things We Think We Know Friday, September 21, 2012 7 p.m. potluck, 8 p.m. program

Please arrive with potluck dishes by 6:45 p.m. At **Christ Lutheran Church**, 3810 Meredith Drive Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Directions: <u>www.norwaydc.org/directions</u>

A number of things we take for granted about Viking Age ships and boats may, or may not be true. Beyond the common "truisms" that Vikings did not have horns on their helms (maybe), Bruce Blackistone will discuss such topics as sail shape, raising and lowering the mast, "rowing chests," and a number of other things we tend to accept as conventional wisdom in our current understanding of the Viking era.



### **About Bruce Edward Blackistone**

Bruce Edward Blackistone describes himself as "a retired National Park Service employee, part-time blacksmith, and seasonal Viking ship captain." He has been involved in early medieval reenactment since 1969, and has skippered various replica longships (of varying degrees of historic accuracy) since 1972. Bruce blames it all on his mother, who sent him to the Kirk Douglas movie, The Vikings, in 1958 because she thought it would be "educational."

He is also the author of the epic parody *Beowabbit.*, and thus is a footnote in modern Anglo-Saxon literary circles.

### **Inside This Issue**

September Lodge Meeting	I
Viking Ship Cruise	2
In Memory of Einar Gomo	2
Norwegian Heritage Festival	3
President's Letter	4
Irene Levin Berman	5
Nordic Dancers Fall Season	5
Host an Exchange Student	6

Author Carla Danziger6
In Memory of Patricia Klove7
Sunshine Committee7
First Day of School in Norway8
Genealogical Classes at LOC9
Norwegian Dance Workshop10
In Mem. of Suzanne Wildenradt .10
World's Oldest Organisms
Reading Circle12
_

Membership12
Book Review: Oleanna
District 3 President's Message14
Scandinavian Noir in Translation.14
Lodge Calendar
Other Area Events
3D LOV Letter17
Directions
Lodge Officers

# Live Your Heritage: Viking Ship Cruise

We have arranged for a voyage on the Sae Hrafn (Sea Raven), the Longship Company Viking ship located in Avenue, MD, at noon on October 20th. We are hoping for at least a four-hour cruise with a shore break in the middle. The fall colors should be great and the temperatures pleasant.

The rowing is not strenuous and we will hoist the sail, but also plan to have a towboat available if the wind gods are not favorable. Take this chance to live your heritage! Sorry, no pillaging on this voyage. Avenue, MD is about an hour and 40 minute ride from the Lodge. More information to follow. Contact Henry at 703-815-3467 or henry.hansen@cox.net.

See also: Sailing with the Longship Company www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsSthLD-DD8





*Clockwise from top:* Sae Hrafn rowing in from Drum Point, interior of the Sae Hrafn, looking aft, Sae Hrafn under sail on the Patuxent River 2010.

# In Memory of Einar Gomo

#### October 1, 1921 - July 20, 2012

Einar was born in Beistad, Norway, son of the late Johan Gomo and Julie Bratberg Ostras. He later became a naturalized citizen of the United States, and was a member of the Sons of Norway Washington Lodge in years before 2000. Einar worked at the Corcoran Gallery of Art until his retirement.

His survivors include his wife, Cornelia, and two sons Wayne (Ann), of Kernersville, NC, and Erick (Suzanne), of Woodbridge, VA., along with children John and June Gomo.



# **Norwegian Heritage Festival**

### Hosted by Sons of Norway

Saturday, October 6, 4:00-7:00 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center 3740 Old Lee Hwy, Fairfax, VA 22030





### Musical Storytelling: KorLuren

Their roots are nordic folk music but they have been bridgebuilders to other cultures and musical genres both in their music life and their work life. Their projects have taken them to South Africa, South America and the Balkans. They have sung for Kofi Annan and at the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights. They have started studentteacher exchange programs and they have shared the best of nordic culture with immigrant youth in Norway.

Wherever they have been, they have shared their nordic musical roots with local artists they have met and have taken back with them folk music from other cultures which they have incorporated in their repertoire.

Their latest project they will present their latest project which is called "Himmelbrevet" . . . an epic verse similar to "Draumkvedet" and based on a young girl's mystical experience in a local village near the Swedish border a few hundred years ago.

**Left:** KorLuren. **Right:** Anne Elisebeth Skogen; photo credit: Johan Åkre

KorLUREN put the story to verse, in the local dialect, and composed music to go with it, in a folk music style. For this project they engaged three professional folk musicians. It has been so successful that these three will accompany them on the tour to the US.

### Oral Storytelling: Anne Elisebeth Skogen

Skogen is a Norwegian storyteller living in Suldal, Ryfylke, close to the city of Stavanger. She works as an artist and storyteller and has a Norwegian storyteller education from Oslo (university level).

She will perform an oral story telling about the first Norwegian emigrant ship, Restauration (1825), and its passengers, the sloopers. The performance is based on both literature and original sources.

Skogen has done storytelling performances at many locations, including The Norwegian Seamen's Church in New York, Mindekirken in Minneapolis, various schools and organizations, and aboard a replica of Restauration at a costal festival in Egersund, Norway.

#### "A heavenly evening" with KorLUREN and friends

In addition to the Oct. 6 event, KorLuren will have an informal concert followed by dancing at Norway House on Friday, October 5. The concert will be held from 8-9 pm. Bring a goodie to share.

November we're co-

sponsoring a lecture

by Irene Berman at

George Washington

University in con-

juction with the

Royal Norwegian

Embassy and the

other area Norwe-

gian organizations.

We're joining the Norwegian Sea-

man's church at

their Bazaar in

Maryland Veteran's

Day weekend. No-

vember will feature

our annual Nordic

Feast complete with

lutefisk and lefse.

Look for youth

dancing lessons in

November too!

# **President's Letter**

#### Dear Members,

It has been a busy summer. We had two great lodge picnics at Norway House. The major accomplishment of our summer was the submission our lodge's application to the Internal Revenue Service requesting that they retroactively restore our tax exempt status. Special thanks to Clarissa Peterson for spearheading this project.

I hope you've had an enjoyable summer and are ready to explore Viking/Nordic culture with us.

We have an exciting lineup of Fall events scheduled. Bruce Blackistone of the Longship Company will present our Friday September 19th lodge meeting program on Viperformance about the first Norwegian emigrant ship to the US, Restauration (1825) and its passengers the Sloopers. Saturday's activities will be held in the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax City from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

The Norwegian musical group KorLuren will kick off the Norwegian Heritage Festival weekend Friday night at Norway House. They will perform a concert from 8:00-9:00 p.m. followed by dancing. Saturday, KorLuren will present their latest project — "Himmelbrevet" an epic verse with music in a folk music style and will share their musical talent as well as provide opportunities for dance.

We're planning to once again have a booth at the Fairfax City Fall Festival on Saturday, October 13th. Please email Susie Fosaaen at <u>fosaaens@</u>

<u>earthlink.net</u> if you can volunteer for a few hours that day.

king Longships – Things We Think We Know. Bruce's talks are always educational and entertaining. We'll join the Longship Company for a cruise aboard their Viking ship replica, Sae Hrafn, on October 19th.

The weekend of October 5-6th we're hosting a Norwegian Heritage Festival in Fairfax City. The timing coincides nicely with Leif Erikson Day – Leif Landed First! We have some top notch entertainment direct from Norway! Don't miss



On the subject of Viking ships:

The **Oseberg ship** (Osebergskipet) was discovered in a burial mound at the Oseberg farm near Tønsberg in Vestfold county, Norway. It now resides in the Viking Ship Museum in Oslo. Parts of the well-preserved ship date from approximately 800 A.D., but the ship is thought to be older. It was excavated in 1904-05.

Photo credit: Hofio006 via Creative Commons.

out on this opportunity. Anne Elisabeth Skogen of Suldal, Ryfylke, Norway is our featured storyteller at the Festival. She will present a program titled "With Restauration through Hell Gate to The Promised Land". Anne created this oral storytelling I hope you will join us for some or all of the exciting activities we've planned for you this Fall.

Hilsen, Kristin

### Irene Levin Berman: "We Are Going to Pick Potatoes," Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story

The Norwegian American organizations of metropolitan Washington together with the Royal Norwegian Embassy present Irene Levin Berman, author of "We Are Going to Pick Potatoes," Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story. The event will be held at The George Washington University (location TBA) on Wednesday, November 14, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

A reception and book signing will follow the program. Space is limited. Registration will open October 15, visit <u>http://ireneberman.eventbrite.com</u>/ to register.

"We Are Going to Pick Potatoes", Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story is not just a narrative of the Holocaust but also a remembrance of growing up Jewish in Norway during and after World War II. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.



Irene Levin Berman, a child Holocaust survivor, was born and raised in Norway. Nazi Germany invaded Norway in 1940 and by fall 1942 the deportation of Norwegian Jews had begun. Irene, age 4, and her family escaped to neutral Sweden. Of Norway's 2000 Jews, almost 40% were deported. Seven members of Irene's father's immediate family were among the 771 victims murdered in Auschwitz. Years later Irene married an American and has lived in the United States most of her life. In 2007, she began her journey into the past in order to tell the untold story. To learn more,

visit norwayandtheholocaust.com and norway.org.

Sponsoring organizations for this event include Sons of Norway, The Norwegian Society, The Norwegian Ladies Club, and the Norwegian Church of Washington.

### **Nordic Dancers Fall Season**

The Nordic Dancers of Washington, D.C., begin their fall season Wednesday, September 12, at 7:30 at Highland View Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland, and, with the exception of the weeks of Thanksgiving and Christmas and New Year's Day, will meet regularly on Wednesdays until June.

Come and learn traditional folk dances of Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, and Sweden. Newcomers are welcome; no prior dance experience is necessary.

For more information, contact Chris Kalke at 301-864-1596 or <u>ckalke@verizon.net</u>, or see the website <u>sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc/</u>.

The Nordic Dancers welcome children and their

parents to participate on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30.



### Host a Norwegian Exchange Student

Submitted by Hal Stavland

AFS is an international non-profit volunteer-based organization working for peace through student exchange.

AFS Norway has a number of Norwegian exchange students (from ages 16-17), still in Norway, waiting for a host family in the US to host them. AFS USA are having trouble finding host families for them all — this is why AFS Norway now steps in using our contacts in the United States.

The Norwegian exchange students will be in America for about 10-11 months, attending high school while they live with their host families. Both the student and the host family will learn a lot about other cultures during the stay, and grow tight lifetime lasting bonds. I personally lived in America as an exchange student when I was young, and I still go back every now and then to visit my host family, friends and teachers.

Please contact me (Hal Stavland) if you would like to receive more information.

Preferred way of contact is email: <u>halvor.stavland@afs.org</u>.

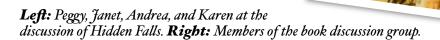
If calling, please note time difference in Norway.

Office number, ask the receptionist for Hal: (011) 4722 3179 00 (9 a.m.-4 p.m. Norwegian time, which is 3 a.m. - 12 p.m. ET)

Cell-phone: (011) 4799 1053 96 (9 a.m.-11 p.m. Norwegian time, which is 3 a.m. - 5 p.m. ET)

# Hidden Falls Author Carla Danziger

*Hidden Falls* was the August selection for the Book Discussion Group of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Springfield, and the author Carla Danziger was invited to the discussion. Participants were very enthusiastic about Carla's book, saying that it was not only a well-written mystery but also a very interesting source of information about Norway. We should be proud of our lodge member's literary success!



VOL. 48, NO. 7

CARLA DANZIGER

### In Memory of Patricia (Barrett) Klove

Patricia Barrett Klove (Pat) died July 24, 2012, age 87, born Oct. 7, 1924. She joined Washington Lodge in 1978; she was a leader among us for about 30 years until ill health forced her to retire from active duty. She served as Distribution Manager of the lodge newsletter for about 15 years, heading a volunteer staff of 6 persons to prepare the mailings each month.. She was chair of the Stitchery Booth She moved back to Washington, D.C. and did physical therapy at George Washington University Hospital for four years. In 1950 she was married to Robert Charles Klove, a geographer, who was the Assistant Director, Geography Division, U.S. Census Bureau. They first met at National Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., the church in which Pat grew up. Husband Bob was Norwegian on both

at the annual holiday bazaar for 25 years. Her hobbies centered in needlework (Hardangersom and stitchery), gardening, and traveling.

She was born in Washington, D.C., the first of two children of Alfred and Vernye (Schaffer) Barrett. In the late 1800s her grandmother Barrett emigrated to USA from Switzerland and grandfather Barrett from England. On Pat's mother's side her ancestors arrived from Germany, Scotland, and other European

countries before 1775. Since at least one of her direct ancestors fought in the American Revolution, Vernye was eligible and became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, as did her daughter, Pat.

Pat grew up in Wash., D.C., and graduated from old Central High School (now Cardoza). She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in biology and English at Western Maryland College, Westminster, Maryland. Her graduate studies were in physical therapy at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, where she stayed for a year after graduation to work in Duke University Hospital.



sides of his family. He died in 1995.

With the birth of 3 daughters, Pat enjoyed being a full time homemaker and mother. When the children were grown, she resumed her career and worked 5 years at the Arthritis Center, Washington, D.C., a private doctors' group, and then retired.

Pat, Bob and the children lived at Fort Washington, Maryland, where they joined Southminster Presbyterian Church and where Pat became a Deacon and

Presbyter. Later they moved to Lake Barcroft, Falls Church, Virginia.

They had three childrenr, Kathryn Klove, of Fort Washington, Maryland, Martha Embrey of Clifton, Virginia, and Nancy Klove of Atlanta, Georgia, Pat is survived by 3 grandchildren.

She died in Springfield, Virginia, and was buried at Fairfax City Cemetery, Virginia.

(by Frank Jones, Lodge Historian, from personal inteviews with Pat Klove in 2000, and with daughter, Kathryn, 2012.)

# **Spread a Little Sunshine**

Please keep our **new Sunshine Committee Chair, Frank Jones,** informed about members who are ill, undergoing surgery, recuperating, or homebound for an extensive period. We will send them best wishes from the lodge as a whole. Our members care about each other and like to reach out to their friends who may need a little sunshine in their lives. Contact Frank at 703-243-5770 or <u>care@norwaydc.org</u>.

### a little in English... First Day of School in Norway

School is starting soon for children all over the world. In Norway it is the same, the royal family makes themselves ready for Princess Ingrid Alexandra and Prince Sverre Magnus to go back to school.

Prince Sverre Magnus began Jansløkka school in Asker last year. The Prince was accompanied by his parents and by his grandmother, the Queen, on his first day at school.

Once getting to school, the Prince met an "older student", his sister, Princess Ingrid Alexandra.

Princess Ingrid Alexandra (8) started school two years ago and this fall will begin in the 3rd grade. Her first day of school in 2010 was historic, in such a way that it was the first time an heir to the throne attended the local school.



**Photo:** Jansløkka primary school, Asker, Norway.

As expected, there was a

large attendance when Princess Ingrid Alexandra began Jansløkka school in Asker. In addition to mom and dad, the king and grandma (Mette-Marit's mother) Marit Tjessem were along for the first day of school.

Princess Ingrid Alexandra was the first in the Royal Family who started Jansløkka school. Crown Prince Haakon and Princess Martha Louise attended Smestad, a good distance away from their childhood home in Skaugum. Smestad was also King Harald's elementary school, but because of the war, his first day of school was in the United States.

The king was very pleased with his grandchild's first day of school. "It has been a nice day. I think it's nice Prince Haakon and Princess Mette-marit have chosen differently", he said when he met the press. "Although the school now has a student with royal blood it does not change the procedures of the first day of school.

### litt på norsk... Skolestart i norge

Skolestart kommer snart for barn over hele verden. I Norge er det det samme, kongefamilien gjør seg klar til at begynner på skolen igjen Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra og Prins Sverre Magnus dratilbake til skole.

Prins Sverre Magnus begynte på Jansløkka barneskole i Asker ifjor. Prinsen ble fulgt av sine foreldre og av sin bestemor Dronningen på sin første

skoledag.

Vel framme møtte Prinsen også en "gammel elev", søsten Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra.

Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra (8) begynte for øvrig på skolen for to år siden, og går denne høsten i 3. klasse. Hennes skolestart i 2010 var historisk, i så måte at det var første gang en tronarving gikk på sin nærskole.

Som ventet var det stort

oppmøte da prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra begynte på Jansløkka barneskole i Asker. I tillegg til mamma og pappa var også kongen og mormor Marit Tjessem med pa første skoledagen.

Prinsesse Ingrid Alexandra var den første i Kongefamilien som be- gynte på Jansløkka skole. Kronprins Haakon og Prinsesse Märtha Louise gikk på Smestad, en godt stykke unna barndomshjemmet Skaugum. Smestad var også Kong Haralds barneskole, men på grunn av krigen ble hans første skoledag i USA.

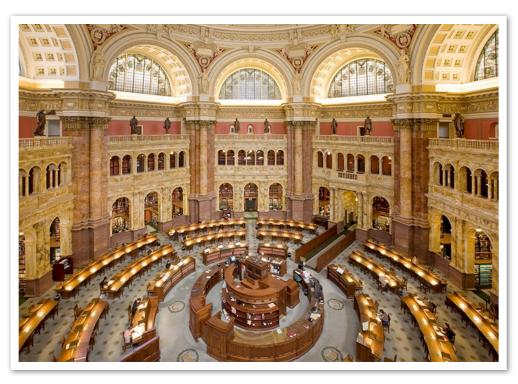
Kongen var svært fornøyd med barnebarnets første skoledag. "Det har vært en fin dag. Jeg synes det er fint kronprinsparet har valgt annerledes", fortalte han når han møtte pressen. "Til tross for at skolen nå får en elev med kongelig blod, endres ikke rutinene for den første skoledagen."

Courtesy Sons of Norway Newsletter Service. Adapted from various sources.

# Genealogical Research Orientation Classes at the Library of Congress

The "Resources for Genealogical Research at the Library of Congress" course, taught by reference librarians, is designed as a basic introduction for genealogical researchers using the Library of Congress collections.

Each session includes an introduction to genealogical research: what it is and what it involves; the resources and facilities of the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: compiled family histories, local histories, city directories, telephone books, the refer-



ence collection, how to search the Library's online catalog, and an overview of automated resources on the Internet.

How to locate published census schedules and indexes, ship passenger lists, military service and pension records, military lists and registers, cemetery records, church records and registers, court records, land records, and registers of births will be included.

A tour of the LH&G Reading Room will conclude the class. The orientation classes are offered by the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room reference staff on the following Wednesday mornings:

- •September 5 and 19
- •October 10 and 24
- •November 14
- •December 5 and 19

Orientation sessions will run from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Research orientation sessions will commence in the Local History & Genealogy Reading Room, LJ G42 of the Thomas Jefferson Building.

For additional information, or to register for a class, call the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room at (202) 707-5537 Monday-Saturday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. You can also register via an online registration form. www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/signup.php

If you don't already have a Reader Registration Card, you must come to the Library by 9:30 a.m. the day of the class to apply for a card (picture identification required). www.loc.gov/rr/readerregistration.html

The Reader Registration Station is located in Room LM 140 on the first floor of the Madison Building, near the Independence Avenue entrance. The Madison Building can also be entered on the ground floor through the C Street SE entrance.

# Norwegian Dance Workshop with Norwegian Master Dancer/Musician, Ulf-Arne Johannessen

On **Saturday, September 15**, Scandia DC is welcoming Norwegian master dancer/musician Ulf-

Arne Johannessen from Ål in Halingdal.

Ulf-Arne won the King's Cup and hardingfele couple dance competition at the Landskappleik (Norwegian National Competition) in 2009 for his Hallingspringar and also won the competition for laus (halling) dance. He has been touring the world with the FRIKAR dance team and with the 2009 Eurovision Song Contest winner Alexander Rybak as well as in other dance and drama programs. In addition he has taught Hallingspringar at numerous workshops in the US and in Norway. He is also a fine player of the two-row button accordion.

 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon - Tworow accordion workshop, at Loretta's Great Room, 6807 Westmoreland Avenue, Takoma Park, MD, \$35 - con-

tact Loretta (<u>lorettakelley@fanitull.org</u>) if you plan to attend or wish additional information.

• I:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Hallingspringar dance workshop, at Seekers Church, 276 Carroll Street NW, Washington, D.C., \$30, pay at the door (cash preferred)



• 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Scandia DC 3rd Saturday Dance (Greenbelt Community Center Dance

Studio, 15 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD), \$7 (\$3 for Scan- dia DC Spelmannslag members), pay at the door. 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. -Hallingspringar highlights taught by Ulf-Arne. 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm -Scandinavian open dancing (Live music by Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelley, and Ulf-Arne)

Loretta Kelley (hardingfele) will provide the live music for the afternoon dance workshop and for the 3rd Saturday teaching. Andrea Hoag will lead the Scandia DC Spelmmanslag practice from 7-8 p.m. followed by the spelmannslag set.

Come and learn Hallingspringar, a fun, easy couple dance from southeastern Norway with a long and proud history! Visit <u>www.ScandiaDC.org</u> for more details.

The following YouTube video shows Ulf-Arne as he performed his winning dance performance: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8abvrMUru9M">www.youtube.com/watch?v=8abvrMUru9M</a>

**Photo credit:** <u>Frode Inge Helland via Creative Com</u>.<u>mons</u>.

# In Memory of Suzanne Wildenradt

Lodge members are saddened to learn of the death of Suzanne Wildenradt, daughter of lodge member Charles Solem. Suzanne died of breast cancer in California where she lived with her husband Carl and teenage daughters Natalie and Annika.

Charles Solem and his wife Marcia live in Alexandria. Charles is the nephew of Margaret Solem DeRoche. Suzanne is also survived by two brothers Thomas Solem and Chris Solem of Virginia. Condolences go out to the Wildenradts in California and Solems in Virginia.

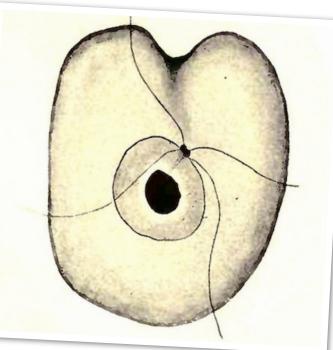
### World's Oldest Organisms Found in Norway

Scientists with the University of Oslo made a surprising discovery 20 years ago in a lake just south of Oslo, but it wasn't until just recently that scientists learned just how unique the discovery was. An

elusive, single-cell microscopic algae-eater from Lake Ås has been declared one of the world's oldest living organism.

The organism, known as Collodictyon, evolved nearly a billion years ago and is described as being single celled, 30-50 micrometers long and containing 4 tail-like propellers. While Collodictyon is generally considered a type of eukaryote due to it's structure, the organism does not genetically match any of the known five types of eukaryotes (animal, plant, fungi, algae or protist) in exsistence.

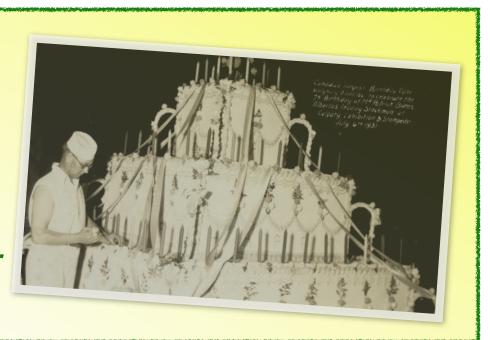
"We have found an unknown branch of the tree of life that lives in this lake. It is unique," says Dr. Kamran Shalchian-Tabrizi, researcher from the University of Oslo. "It is quite fascinating that we can still find these kinds of organisms after so many years."



Researchers hope that the study of these microscopic organisms will provide insight into what life on Earth looked like hundreds of millions of years ago. Collodictyon have not been discovered anywhere else in the world, but Lake Ås.

Adapted from various sources. Courtesy of Sons of Norway Newsletter Service.

Happy Birthday to lodge members with August & September birthdays



# Upcoming Reading Circle Selections

### September: Biography of Amundsen

The Reading Circle will discuss *The Race to the End: Amundsen, Scott, and the Attainment of the South Pole*, by R.D.E. MacPhee at its meeting on Tuesday, September 25.

The discussion, which will begin at 7:30 pm, will be held at Nor-

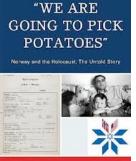
welcome!

way House, 3846 Meredith Drive, Fairfax,

Virginia, 22030. For additional information, contact Christine Foster Meloni at

cfmeloni@hotmail.com or 703-922-7142. Everyone is





IRENE LEVIN BERMAN

### November: "We are going to pick potatoes"

The selection for November is "We Are Going to Pick Potatoes," Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story by Irene Levin Berman. This book is Berman's memoir of her experience as a Norwegian Jew during WWII.

The discussion will be held on Tuesday, November 27, at Norway House.

### Join Sons of Norway or Give a Gift Membership

Current Dues: Individual \$49.50 (International \$30 + District \$8.50 + Lodge \$10.00) Spouse \$ 42.50 Youth: \$19.75 Your children & grandchildren: FREE!

Children 15 years of age or under who have a parent or grandparent who is a SofN member may sign up for a free Heritage Membership.

Youth ages 16 through 23 who have a parent or grandparent who is a SofN member may be a free Unge Venner member.

For more information or to sign up online visit <u>www.norwaydc.org/membership</u>.

If you don't have internet access, call (800) 945-8851.

#### Norway's Crown Prince Haakon Magnus — "His Modesty"

Check out this blog post from Carla Danziger: <a href="http://www.carladanziger.com/blog/?p=142">www.carladanziger.com/blog/?p=142</a>

### July Reading Circle Meeting: Hunger by



# Hunger by Knut Hamsun

Members of the Reading Circle met at the home of Tim Christenson to discuss Nobel Prize winner Knut Hamsun's novel *Hunger*.

A potluck dinner preceded the discussion.

Photo credit: Caroline's Cakes via Creative Commons.

### Book Review: Oleanna by Julie K. Rose

#### By Carla Danziger (Reprinted from Amazon.com)

*OLEANNA*, named for the protagonist of author Julie K. Rose's novel set in western Norway at the turn of the 20th century, offers a profound rendering of one woman's struggle to free herself from the past, exert her independence, and redefine her identity.

In her Author's Note at the end of the book, Rose

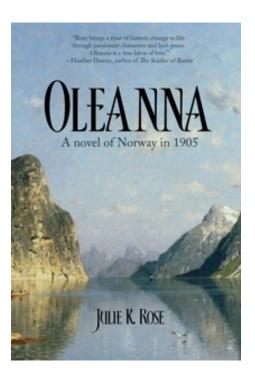
says that her great-grandfather Johann Tollefson Myklebust emigrated to the United States in 1902 from Norway, leaving behind two sisters, Oleanna and Elisabeth, to tend the isolated farm in Sunnfjord. Unlike so many of us who focus on the stories of our immigrant ancestors after they arrived in America, Rose became intrigued by what it may have been like for those great aunts who were left behind.

Rose's thorough research through family stories and correspondence, several publications about life in Norway at the time, and her own 2004 travel to the Sognefjord region, informed her ability to immerse

herself in the Norway of more

than 110 years ago, create empathetic, realistic, and believable characters and, at the same time, imagine the challenges they might have confronted. Among those characters, in addition to Oleanna and Elisabeth are Elisabeth's precocious son Torjus; John who goes to America; Anders, an artist, farmer and eventual love interest; Uncle Gunnar, and several others.

Oleanna is deeply attached to her family's farm on the fjord, and at one point she reflects: "the water, the water. How long ago had her father's people carved out this little corner of land, claimed it from the lake's rocky edges and the forest's dark fence? They had wandered the pilgrim's road to



Trondheim, but came back, caught by the high mountains and deep fjords of Sogn. But why here?"

That same water claimed her mother's life and Oleanna still grieves for her. At her mother's grave with Anders: [she] whispers "`I miss you so much.' She covered her face as the broad, warm darkness of grief spread through her. Her shoulders shook and the tears came through gasping sobs. She could feel Anders kneeling nearby and leaned into

> him."... Oleanna asks Anders if it ever gets easier. "'The grief can come on you all at once,' he said.... `You will be working outside, or walking to church, or looking up at the sky, and you'll remember something about them...'"These remarks are especially poignant when one reads in Rose's Acknowledgments that she became interested in her Norwegian family because of her mother, who, sadly, died a few months before Rose started her novel.

> Oleanna and Anders' romance is cut short by his departure for Bergen, where fervor for Norway's coming independence is running strong. Feeling forsaken Oleanna remains on the farm

until she, too, goes to Bergen more in search of herself than Anders. She stays with her Uncle Gunnar and his friend Katrine, a political activist, and contemplates where she belongs. It takes time for the reader to realize that Oleanna's struggle for her freedom, identity and place in the world parallels that of her Norwegian compatriots, especially the women who are campaigning for women's suffrage in the "New Norway."

While some readers may find parts of *OLEANNA* slow, it is in the genius in Rose's plotting and in her use of Norway's history, her wonderful descriptive settings, and likeable characters that have led me to the conclusion that Rose is indeed a gifted writer. I hope we'll be hearing more from her.

# District 3 President's Message Fra Presidenten, Gail Ekloff

One duty I must fulfill, as past VP. Notification came from International regarding a Founders award that we should have presented to Fredheim. Lodge at the District convention. Fredheim Lodge #3-242 had 38% growth in. 2011 and received a Founders Award with a \$100.00 Congratulations.

This year's conventions are behind us! I hope everyone took time to enjoy July and the crazy weather Mother Nature has sent our way.

I'm working hard to form committees to address the uncertainty of Land of the Vikings. It is my hope that we can all come together to support the District and the LOV board with their future events.

I am cognizant of the new VP Mary Andersen's presentation at the convention on the LOV strategic Planning committees Long Range Business Plan. We are currently taking steps to prepare for the "what-if's" at Land of the Vikings.

In the next few months the board will develop our goals for the District. We'll review these goals at the Board Meeting and form a strategic plan that hopefully makes 2013 a success for our district!

All lodges and zones should be taking advantage of the Sons of Norway website and the 3D website to list your meetings and share your special events. If any of you have questions regarding how to use the web site please feel free to contact the 3D Publicity Director, Ron Martinsen, he will be glad to guide you in your efforts.

Finally, please make sure your new 2013 Lodge calendars are sent to Ron and the new 3D secretary, Julia Nilsen. (Zone directors should send theirs as well.) This will enable us to spread the word about the events



a n d meetings each lodge will have.

I know that time is precious to us all, but please try and make it a priority to visit a nearby lodge once during the year... maybe it should be a goal for all of us!

Over these next two years the District motto will be; Communicate — Collaborate — Achieve. So let's get started!

Mange Takk Alt for denne gangen Gail

# **Scandinavian Noir in Translation**

Norbert Fuegenschuh, Marie Hansen, and Christine Meloni, members of our lodge, attended "Scandinavian Noir in Translation, An Evening with Translator K.E. Semmel," hosted by OneMorePageBooks in Arlington on August 23.



Semmel read excerpts from his translations of Norwegian Karin Fossum's *The Caller* and Danish Jussi Adler-Olsen's *The*. *Absent One*, and he then responded to questions from the audience.



*Left:* Marie, Norbert, and Christine. *Right:* K.E. Semmel.

# Lodge Calendar

September Board Meeting Monday, Sept. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Norway House

#### September Lodge Meeting

Friday, September 21, at Christ Lutheran Church 7:00 p.m. potluck, 8:00 p.m. program:Viking longship lecture. See page 1 for details.

#### **Reading Circle**

Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Norway House

# "A heavenly evening" with KorLUREN and friends

Friday, October 5 at 8:00 p.m. at Norway House. See page 3 for details.

#### **Norwegian Heritage Festival**

Saturday, October 6, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, Fairfax. See page 3 for details.

#### **Booth at Fairfax City Fall Festival** Saturday, October 13

Reading Circle

Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at Norway House

Norw. Language & Conversation Group Every Wednesday, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Norway House

Norwegian Holiday Festival & Bazaar Friday, November 30-Saturday, December I

### **Other Area Events of Interest**

#### Scandinavian Craft Fair

Saturday, September 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Volunteer Fire Hall, 574 Westcolang Road, Lackawaxen Twp (Bohemia), PA 18435 10th Annual Scandinavian Fair featuring original arts and crafts, gifts, baked goods, imported food, music, lunch, and more. Free admission. Sponsored by Bernt Balchen lodge. Flyer: <u>3dsofn.org/eventscalendar/</u> flyers/928f4d91-aff5-4a89-82eb-c0237c721252.pdf

#### **Norwegian Church Service**

Sunday, September 9 at 3:00 p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 7730 Bradley Blvd. (at the corner of Seven Locks Rd. & Bradley Blvd.) The service is conducted in Norwegian by Pastor Hilde Barnes of the Norwegian Seamen's Church, NY and supported by the Norwegian Church Choir.All are welcome. "Kirkekaffe" (coffee and fellowship hour) after the service. For information, call Lasse Syversen at 301-641-7908 or <u>lasse@flagship.com</u>.

# Edvard Munch: The Scream Heard Round the World

Thursday, September 13 from 6:45-8:45 p.m. Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, Wash, DC Munch's art forged new paths into personal and psychological realms, breaking long standing taboos about subject matter. Recently, a copy of his "The Scream" broke auction records. See what makes his art so intriguing. Art historian David Gariff will talk about the importance of the great Norwegian artist Edvard Munch at the Smithsonian. General admission is \$40, Resident Members \$30, Senior Members \$27. smithsonianassociates.org/ticketing//tickets/reserve.a spx?performanceNumber=224961

#### **Norwegian Dance Workshop**

Saturday, September 15 10:00 a.m.Two-row accordion workshop 1:00 p.m. Hallingspringar dance workshop 7:00 p.m. Scandia DC 3rd Saturday Dance With Norwegian Master Dancer/Musician, Ulf-Arne Johannessen. See page 10 for details. www.ScandiaDC.org

#### Icelandic Movie: NÓI

Monday, September 24, 8 p.m. St. John's Church

Wisconsin Ave. & Bradley Blvd., Chevy Chase, MD American Scandinavian Association monthly meeting. Is he the village idiot or a genius in disguise? 17 year old Nói drifts through life on a remote fjord in the north of Iceland. Nói dreams of escaping from this white-walled prison with Iris, a city girl who works in a local gas staion. But his clumsy attempts at escape spiral out of control and end in complete failure. Only a natural disaster will shatter Nói's universe and offer him a window into a better world. www.scandinavian-dc.org/Main.htm

#### Swedish Movie: Flickorna (The Girls)

Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA Three women are part of a travelling theater group. The themes of the play they perform - marriage, women emancipation, war - are also becoming a part

#### CAPITAL VIKING

of the lives of the women, and the border between theater and life is becoming blurred. 1968, 96 min. Subtitles in English. Presented by Sweden House. Info: Erland Magnusson at 703-356-3274 or <u>erlandmag@msn.com</u>.

### Euro Night 2012: A Captivating Cultural Journey of European Traditions!

Friday, September 28, from 6:30-11:30 p.m. La Maison Française at the Embassy of France 4101 Reservoir Rd NW, Washington, D.C. Featuring more than 20 European Union embassies, each showcasing its respective culture, traditions and culinary specialties. Throughout the evening, enjoy live music while taking a tour around Europe, feasting on national dishes and drinks from the open bars - A great way to discover European traditions! Proceeds from this event will help support the numerous and varied cultural activities at the participating European embassies. Admission \$30. Tickets: http://euronight2012.eventbrite.com

#### Per Kirkeby at The Phillips Collection

October 6, 2012, to January 6, 2013 1600 21st St NW, Washington, DC. One of Europe's most celebrated living artists, Per Kirkeby (Danish, b. 1938), is a painter, sculptor, geologist, filmmaker, writer, and poet. The most comprehensive display of his work in the U.S. to date, the exhibition features an eclectic selection of 26 richly layered paintings and 11 striking bronze models. Kirkeby's art does not fit into a single style or movement; he believes that art, like science, is constantly in flux. www.phillipscollection.org

#### Drakt/Costume Class at LOV

October 10-14, 2012 Land of the Vikings, 461 Big Valley Rd Susquehanna, PA 18847 Make your very own Drakt/ Costume or a new Blouse for your bunad or make adjustments to your present bunad. See page 17 for details.

#### **Kids Euro Festival**

October 17-November 13, 2012 Various locations in Washington, DC. Free performances, workshops and screenings for children: storytelling, puppetry, dance, magic, cinema. Presented by the 27 European Union Member States. For location and times of all events, visit: www.kidseurofestival.org/

#### **Longship Company Viking Ship Cruise**

Saturday, October 20 at 12:00 p.m. Avenue, MD (1 hour, 40 min from lodge) Contact Henry at 703-815-3467 or henry.hansen@cox.net. See page 2 for details.

#### Irene Levin Berman: "We Are Going to Pick Potatoes," Norway and the Holocaust, the Untold Story

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7:00-8:30 p.m. The George Washington University, location TBA Reception and book signing to follow program. Space is limited. Registration will open October 15. See page 5 for more details. <u>ireneberman.eventbrite.com</u>

#### Nordic Dancers of Washington, D.C.

Most Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., through June Highland View Elementary School Silver Spring, Maryland Come and learn traditional folk dances of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Newcomers are welcome; no prior dance experience is necessary. The Nordic Dancers welcome children and their parents to participate on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30. For more information, contact Chris Kalke at <u>ckalke@verizon.net</u> or 301-864-1596.

sites.google.com/site/nordicdancersdc/

#### Holiday Festival & Bazaar Volunteers Needed

We've started the Holiday Festival & Bazaar planning for 2012 and will need volunteers in order for this to be our best Festival ever — culturally as well as benefitting the Lodge financially. In the months leading up to the bazaar, volunteers can help with: publicity, inventory, ordering, scheduling cultural performers, logistics, pricing items, and many other tasks.

If you can spare a little time, or a lot, email Susie at <u>bazaar@norwaydc.org</u>.

#### **October Newsletter Deadline**

Please submit all newsletter items by Saturday, September 22, as the newsletter editor will be traveling at the end of the month. Editor Clarissa Peterson <u>editor@norwaydc.org</u> or 202-285-9585.

#### CAPITAL VIKING



### **Directions to Norway House** 3846 Meredith Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030

\*\* Please park in the Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

(entrance directly across the street from the Norway House).

From Beltway or I-66: Go west from Beltway on 66. Take Exit 60, Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.) south toward Fairfax. Proceed about a half mile. Turn right on Rt. 50 west



(also Rt. 29, Lee Highway, and Fairfax Blvd.). Stay in the right lane. Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (which is between a Merchants Tire store and a Texaco gas station). Turn left immediately behind the gas station into the church parking lot.

From Rt. 50/29: Go west from the Beltway about 5.33 miles. After crossing Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Rd.), stay in the right lane. Just after the 3rd traffic light, turn right on Meredith Dr. (which is between a Merchants Tire store and a Texaco gas station). Turn left immediately behind the gas station into the church parking lot.

From far western suburbs: From I-66 East, take Exit 52, Rt. 50, east, toward city of Fairfax. Proceed about one mile. Turn left at Fairfax Blvd., which is where Rt. 29 joins Rt. 50 (which itself angles left). Turn left after a Texaco station onto Meredith Dr. Turn left immediately behind the gas station into the church parking lot.

Metro & bus: From Ballston Metro station (on the Orange Line), take either the IC or IZ bus toward Inova Fairfax Hospital. The bus will go down Lee Highway/Fairfax Blvd. (Rt. 50/29). Get off about 40 min. later at Meredith Drive (after Warwick Ave.).

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#### **About Capital Viking**

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#### Address Changes

Did your email address, mailing address, or other information change? Please notify lodge database manager Clarissa Peterson at editor@norwaydc.org or 202-285-9585.

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#### Lodge Website

www.norwaydc.org

#### Find Us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/123693707650 322/

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Please see the website for a full list of officers and committee chairs: www.norwaydc.org/officers/.