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Hovedstad Lodge 2-094

May 2025



Board Meetings

Third Tuesday at 6:30

Zoom Board Meeting

All members are invited

Regular Meetings

September – May
4th Monday each
month at 6:30 PM

Columbian Hall

6794 Martin Way E
Olympia, WA 98516

Need directions?

Have a question about an upcoming meeting or event?

Contact Jim This
360-870-5820

**Summer Potluck
Pavilion at Jubilee
August 17, 2025**

3:00 PM

Fra Presidenten



Hallo!

Thank you to Joanne and all the amazing helpers that made Norway Day a huge success. The community “ate up” the bakery goods and the buffet line options. Joanne announced that both the Sons and Daughters would receive checks for \$4300. This is a wonderful way to share the Norwegian tradition with our community.

I hope everyone was able to enjoy some of the celebrations around Syttende Mai – including our dinner on Monday. Thanks to Deirdre for making the arrangements (and yummy desserts). I hear the food was delicious and the entertainment delightful.

Eleven lodge members made the trek to the Viking Fest in Poulsbo on May 17th on a bus chartered by the Lodge. I understand everyone enjoyed the day very much. We plan to do more of these group outings in the future.

While we won't be chartering a bus – don't forget to make plans to go to the Trollhaugen Steak Fry on July 19th – starting at 10:00 am. There will be horse-shoe and Kubb tournaments, a lot of good food (your choice of steak or salmon) and fellowship. The cost is \$35 per person. Reservations can be made through Bill Hicks – 425.672.0194

We will not have a membership meeting in June or July. Our next major event will be the Summer Picnic on Sunday, August 17th, starting at 3:00 pm. We will gather at the Pavilion picnic area in Jubilee (where we were last year). The Lodge will provide chicken, potato salad, rolls and water. We will ask everyone to bring a side dish or dessert for six people – specific assignments will be made in July.

Congratulations to our two scholarship recipients for 2025:

Zoe Bissonnette was awarded a scholarship to Camp Trollhaugen

Joseph Waldon, Mark and Nancy Sterk's grandson, was awarded a scholarship to Grand Canyon University.

Gledelig sommer!

Jim

**Hovedstad Lodge
2025
Executive Officers**

President, James This
360-870-5820
jthis@jlthis.com
Vice President, Jon Halvorson
360-790-5349
halvo@comcast.net
Secretary, Betsy Hagen
360-789-8607
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Treasurer, Joanne Gray
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joanne@moholtusa.com
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360-459-3982
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Program Directors

Cultural Director-
Sue Girsch
sgirsch@jlthis.com
Social Director
Deirdre Bissonnette
deirdrepfundt@gmail.com
Foundation Director-
Joanne Gray

Support Directors

Marshals
David Lee and Terry Larson

Trustees
Terry Larson—3 Yr.
360-688-1857
Mark Sterk - 2 Yr.
208-298-7047
Kevan Hagen - 1 Yr.
360-918-6588

Hostess Coordinator
Patty Osier

Greeters
Barb Murphy and
Cameron Osier

Editor
Kevan Hagen
360-918-6588

Hovedstad Lodge No. 2-094
Business Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 28, 2025 6:30 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Jim This at 6:35 p.m. There were 21 members present and two guests. Approval of the March Meeting Minutes: The members of the March business meeting were approved by acclimation. FINANCIAL REPORT: Joanne gave the treasurer's report. Terry reported the Edward Jones account at the end of March. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No unfinished business was addressed. NEW BUSINESS: Joanne gave a report on Norway Day 2025 stating that we had accomplished another successful event. Checks for the proceeds will be presented at the Syttende Mai dinner in May. Plans are under way for 2026. Scholarship Program: Linda Fialkowski gave a report on the scholarships that have been awarded. Zoe Bissonnette was awarded a scholarship to Camp Trollhaugen and Joseph Waldon, Mark Sterk's grandson, was awarded a scholarship to Grand Canyon University. There will be a field trip to Viking Days at Poulsbo May 17th. Reservations should be made by the end of April. Jim introduced to topic of storage of the Hovedstad Lodge supplies and records. CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: Mark gave his Norwegian Language lesson focusing on greetings. Sue presented a program on Norwegian counties. PROGRAM: Jon Halvorson and Linda Fialkowski gave a program on "Finding Your Roots" ANNOUNCEMENTS: Our Constitution Day Dinner will be held May 19th at Ricardo's Next Meeting-August Picnic: Location and Time TBD Trollhaugen Steak Fry: July 19th District 2 Golf Tournament: August 2nd at the White Horse Golf Course. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM Respectfully submitted:
Joanne Gray, Acting Secretary





Hovedstad Member Spotlight

Margaret Tudor



I am Margaret Tudor and I have been married to David Tollefson for almost 49 years. As a Ph.D. in Environmental Science Education (U. Wisconsin) I worked as an environmental educator at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for 20 years. Then until retirement I served for 10 years as Executive Director of the Pacific Education Institute (PEI). PEI brings environmental studies into K-12 science through teacher workshops focusing on taking students outdoors for Field Investigations.

I grew up in Australia, and married David at 24. I have mostly a UK heritage, but my DNA composition is 30% Scandinavian. So, I gather the Vikings historical UK adventures have left a Scandinavian imprint on my otherwise English genes.

As a graduate assistant at the University of Hawaii I worked for AID on water and solid waste programs for rural Indonesia.

I play the piano, and I am now learning to play the drums. I like to bird/animal watch and appreciate immersing myself in all environments.

We joined the Lodge after, as a member of Lacey Rotary, Ken Fialkowski encouraged our involvement in Lodge activities. After taking time to attend Lodge events I decided to sign up as a member with my husband. We have been members for about six years.

I appreciate the friendship the Lodge members offer, and learning about the Norwegian heritage. I love the Norwegian events, and look forward to learning more about the Norwegian foods. The Lodge members worked wonders to keep us together during COVID by having outdoor gatherings.

A person with a Scandinavian background can appreciate learning more about their heritage and culture as a member of the Lodge. Scandinavian food is also a draw!



Ancient Accessories

Jewelry played a big role in Viking life, serving as decoration, status symbols and even currency. Both men and women wore brooches, arm rings, pendants and beads. Brooches especially were useful, as they kept cloaks and other fabrics together. Some were simple, while others featured elaborate metalwork, often in the shape of animals, gods or mythological symbols. It was especially fashionable at the time to have a brooch with designs inspired by patterns devised in the British Isles, where the Norwegian Vikings often traded. Thor's hammer pendants were especially popular, worn as symbols of protection and devotion to the Norse gods. Other pieces of jewelry, often made with walrus teeth, featured runes or animal designs which were believed to offer spiritual strength or good fortune. Beads made of glass or amber were strung into necklaces and woven into hair as a sign of status.

Arm rings, often made of silver or gold, weren't just accessories—they were used as a form of payment. Silver was one of the primary forms of currency during the Viking Age, so having this material on hand was important when traveling across the world.

Warriors were sometimes rewarded with arm rings as a mark of loyalty and honor. These rings could be broken into pieces for trade, making them both beautiful and functional.

Source: **Viking Magazine** Contributed by Sue Girsch



Norway Day 2025



The 17th Annual Olympia Norway Day held at the Thurston County Fairgrounds got off to a roaring start with folks lined up well before the event opened for our famous Bake Sale featuring authentic Scandinavian baked goods as well as unique Easter goodies. The Nordic Café lines were lengthy with folks anxious to partake of the popular Meatball Sundaes, Pølse med lompe (hot dog wrapped in lefse), and Ertesuppe (yellow pea soup) just to name a few of the distinctive offerings.

Our visitors were entertained by musicians and dancers performing at their best while enjoying the merchandise and crafts provided by an assortment of cheery vendors.

Not to leave out our youngsters, a fishing booth was set up to entertain them while their parents enjoyed the fun and festivities.

Outside the magnificent fjord horses casually nibbled on the new green grass while ignoring all the admiring glances from the visitors and Vikings displayed their talents much to the delight of their audience.

Mark your calendar for April 18, 2026— we'll be waiting for you!

Joanne Gray, Norway Day Chair



Brad Bare and John Gray checking folks in



Stryker Forge



Our capable kitchen crew



Lots of vendors, including Bonnie Bosier of Borton Overseas and Linda Fialkowski of Linda's Gently Used Treasures



Entertainment—The Andersons, and The Winter Band

Syttende Mai Dinner

Members of Sons and Daughters of Norway from the Olympia area gathered on May 19th at The Hub at Ricardo's Restaurant to celebrate Norway's Constitution Day! Approximately 50 of us enjoyed each other's company as we feasted on Chicken Parmesan or Veal Piccata. Hovedstad Lodge Vice President Jon Halvorson led the program, sharing the history of Constitution Day. We heard an update on the upcoming 200th anniversary of the sailing of the sloop Restauration, which sailed from Stavanger, Norway, bringing the first wave of Norwegian immigrants to America. A replica of the Restauration will celebrate the anniversary by sailing across the Atlantic, launching on July 4th in Stavanger Norway and arriving in New York on October 9th, Leif Erickson Day. Learn more about the Restauration anniversary at <http://www.vesterheim.org>. Joanne Gray awarded checks to the Olympia Sons and Daughters Lodges, the proceeds of another successful Norway Day in April. Scholarships were awarded by committee head Ken Fialkowski to two students—Zoe Bissonnette, who is attending the Trollhaugen summer camp, and Joseph Waldon, who is headed to college at Grand Canyon University in the fall. We were entertained by Jeff and Jane Anderson, playing the fiddle and accordion. The event was organized by Deirdre Bissonnette, who also provided delicious Norwegian desserts! This celebration brings the Hovedstad Lodge season to culmination. The next event will be a summer picnic on August 17th.



Lively entertainment by the Andersons



Yummy desserts provided by Deirdre Bissonnette



Joanne Gray awarding generous proceeds checks from Norway Day



Thanking the Norway Day kitchen crew—
Mike Zagorin and Todd Hughes



A HUGE thanks to Deirdre Bissonnette for
organizing the event and providing desserts!



Scholarship recipients Zoe Bissonnette and Joseph Waldon

Mark Your Calendar

June 20-22 – Astoria, OR Midsummer Festival

www.astoriascanfest.com

July 13 — SON Border Festival Picnic, Peace Arch Park, Blaine, WA,
11-3 <https://www.leiferiksonlodge.org/event-details-registration/border-festival-picnic>

July 19 — Steak Fry at Trollhaugen, 10 am

August 2 - District 2 Golf Tournament, Kingston, WA

August 17 — Hovedstad Lodge Potluck Picnic, Pavillion at Jubilee, 3 pm

September 22— First Hovedstad Lodge meeting of the fall! 6:30 at the Columbian Hall



[www.facebook.com/Hovedstad Lodge #94](https://www.facebook.com/HovedstadLodge#94), Sons of Norway
Check out our new website! <https://olysonsofnorway.org>



**Sons of Norway
District 2
Golf Tournament
August 2, 2025**

Join us at
White Horse Golf Course
in beautiful Kingston Washington
whitehorsegolf.com
10:00 am warm up, tee off at 10:30 am

To register contact Alisha: alishaanunson@gmail.com
or text 360-271-7302, by July 1, 2025 to reserve your spot.

Cost per player \$140*
please mail payment to Alisha Anunson at
2159 NE Norrland Ct
Poulsbo, Washington 98370
A confirmation email with directions
and payment receipt will be sent to you.

*price includes cart rental, and snacks for the course.

