

Varden Newsletter

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December 2020

Editorial

Winter has come and this is the last issue of our newsletter for 2020. It was an unusual year to say the least, presenting us with new challenges. Sadly, this holiday season won't be as eventful as ones in the past. I shall especially miss our annual Children's Christmas party with the singing around the Christmas tree. One of the changes we experienced this year was the November Elections. I am happy to say our lodge successfully conducted our election through e-mail and our new president is Susan Strang. Leslie-Anne Frostad-Eriksson is now our Secretary, while Bruce Strang will serve as our Treasurer. Hopefully, at our January Zoom meeting, we can have an installation of these new officers conducted by our International President, Ron Stubbings.

Above, I mentioned that this year's holiday season will be different, sadly many of our events are cancelled. However, there will be a Sons of Norway virtual party on December 8th, 9th and 10th. There will be an e-mail each day telling members that day's events. I'm sure that they have something exciting planned.

One event, Varden Lodge is holding is our Zoom cooking class on December 6th at 4pm. We have had an excellent turn out of members many who have attended all the previous classes. If they complete this fifth class they will be able to get the cultural medal for cooking. What is really nice is that I have seen a cross section of members of all ages present even someone as young as eleven years old attended. I know from my own experience that I am enjoying myself and found the November class of making Norwegian Meatballs especially delicious. Let's hope in the future we can use this knowledge for our annual meatball dinner.

This brings me to our December class where we will be baking Berliner-kranser cookies. I decided to conduct some research about Norwegian cookies and to my delight, I found that Norwegians traditionally bake at least seven types of different cookies for the holidays, Berliner-kranser cookies being one of them. No one is exactly sure of why the cookies have a German name. Some feel that the recipe originated with German traders working in Norway but that could be a guess. However, cookies have been a big part of Norwegian Christmas celebrations for centuries. Even the poorest of families would save their cream and butter to make them. Berliner-kranser cookies are a bit different because they require a lot of eggs to make. The cookies need an egg white wash and are dusted with sugar before they are baked. However, what makes them special is that they are shaped into a wreath for the holidays. I think that after we bake them our homes will smell lovely. Hopefully, they will bring a feeling of warmth that comes with the season. With that I wish everyone a wonderful holiday!

November Meeting!

This meeting was a business meeting using Zoom.

January Meeting!

There be a business meeting by Zoom on Jan.12, 2021.

Education Grant

Varden offers an Educational Grant of \$700 for post-secondary studies to a child or grandchild of a lodge member. The Deadline for this year is 04/30/21. Please submit your application to Krista Solie at 604-540-2376.

Sunshine Report

Helen is at home recovering from her fall. Carol and Alice are both doing well, and as far I know everyone else is fine.

PS: I just wanted to remind you that there are also Foundation in Canada grants and bursaries for students. for information contact sofnic.ca

December Birthday

27th-Terry Mosdell

January Birthdays

5th-Cathie Block
7th-Willamina Wiles
20th-Jessica Underwood
22nd-Michael Strang
24th-Deanna Stubbings
28th-Jakob Tengs

Calendar of Events.

1. Varden Lodge's, Tuesday, January 12, 2021 business meeting will be by Zoom at 7:30pm. Susan will send an e-mail regarding it.
2. As of writing this, I was unable to find the date of Sleipner's next meeting.
3. Viking Lodge is unsure of the exact date but they will be holding a meeting in Janaury.
4. Varden Lodge's Susan Strang will be holding a cooking class on December 6th at 4pm by Zoom. She will be teaching how to make Berliner-kranser cookies. For further information contact Susan at sstrang49@gmail.com

