

ZONE 5: Gail Martinsen, Director, February 2012



Out of the 13 lodges in Zone 5, nine had installations in January. Four of the lodges installed their president for another year. They are Gateway to FL, Kent Larson, Gulfstream, Ingrid Hammen, Sarasota, Mary Larsen and Sun Viking, Nellie Larson. The other 5 lodges installed new presidents. They are Gulf Coast Vikings, Harriet McCarthy, Lauderdale, Liva Willemsen, Scandia, Pat Rush, Suncoast, Phil Nelsen and Tampa Bay, John Hlivyak. CONGRATULATIONS to you all! I wish you all a very calm and productive year! Gulf Coast Vikings members, Shelly Cooper, Maxine Batrawi and Donna Clothier were featured in the December 18th issue of the Fort Meyers News-Press with a picture of them making lefse at their December meeting. What an honor! Congratulations to Gulfstream's President, Ingrid Hammen. She is the proud Grandmother of a little girl, Audrey June born on December 2, 2011. At Tampa Bay's installation meeting their Norwegian Smorgasbord was not only delicious, but also, the most beautiful table display! You would have thought that it was designed by professional caterers. After **6 terms** as Scandia's President, Don Rush is stepping down. Their new President is his daughter, Pat Rush! Their lodge is busy restoring their Viking longboat and in the process of getting a rowing crew together. I'm very proud of Port Orange! Their younger members are picking up their senior members to bring them to the meetings. Helping your fellow members is an important part of being a Sons of Norway member! And, what more can we say about Gateway to Florida's President, Kent Larson? He just signed up 5 more members in January and the month isn't even over yet!!! His recruiting ability is amazing!!! Sun Viking was honored to have visitors from 9 different lodges at their installation meeting, including 2 members from Saint Paul, Minnesota. It was wonderful meeting the members of all these various lodges. The children of Sun Viking's "Sma Vikingar Barnklubben" gave a wonderful presentation on Tvendagen (Saint Knut's Day) at the meeting. This month Vikingworld Orlando served pizza and showed a video "Christmas Concert from Norway". It was recorded by Oslo Center and featured Princess Martha Louise plus many Norwegian winter scenes. The Norsemen Harbour members enjoyed a fun pajama party at their last meeting. They all dressed in their favorite nighties or PJs and brought their favorite breakfast food to share. It sounds like a good time was had by all! Suncoast will be hosting Zone 5's Annual Memorial Service on January 29th. This service is always such a warm and beautiful ceremony honoring all of the departed Zone 5 members from the previous year.



Ha en fin Valentinsdag! Happy Valentine's Day!

