

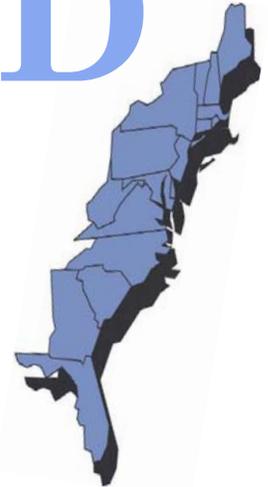


# SONS OF NORWAY

# 3D



## APRIL 2012 Third District Today 3D-100 years young



The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.



### Fra Presidenten, Ralph Peterson

Greetings from sunny Virginia Beach. I can handle this weather, just keep it coming. Some of you may have received my email advising that we have had a change in management at LOV. The previous managers did not seek to renew their contract when it expired and the LOV board has employed Nils and Lauren Floden as interim managers. Some of you may remember Nils and Lauren as they were managers at LOV about 30 years ago. We wish them all the best in their endeavors.

In that same email I announced that the Board of Directors voted to become an affiliate member of the American Camp Association (ACA). The board felt that by joining ACA we could improve on an already great camping program by utilizing the legal and training services offered by the ACA. We do not plan on seeking accreditation this year but we will be documenting all the standards that apply to our camp and we will look at seeking accreditation in 2013. There may be some additional costs involved but they will be covered as the plan is to increase the one week camp fee to \$300 in 2013. This will still keep our camp fees in the lower end of the spectrum and allow us to do more for our campers.

I hope that you are familiar with the District 3 Charitable Trust. If not, check out the D3 District Web Site for more information <http://www.3dsofn.org/charitabletrust/index.html>. You can also read about it in our District Bylaws page 12 <http://www.3dsofn.org/forms/documents/BYLAWS2010-2012.pdf>. In addition there is a donation form on the web site <http://www.3dsofn.org/forms/index.html>. District 3 is the only SON District that has a charitable trust. It has helped out hundreds of families since it went on line in 1971. The stock market has not kept up with our needs so we could use some help in improving our cash position. One of our 2011/2012 District goals was to have all the lodges in D3 make a donation to the trust. In 2011 only 17 lodges made a donation. I hope that number greatly increases in 2012. The Trust funds come from investment earnings; lodge and individual donations so please keep the Trust in mind when you are planning your annual charity giving. April is designated as Charitable Trust month in District 3. We hope that you will be able to make a donation then, but if not, please think of the Trust sometime during the year. We will shortly provide you with a Charitable Trust form that can be used when planning estate donations to the Trust. The new SON Single Premium Whole Life policy is also another method where you can give a significant donation at a reduced cost.



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February was the first month in a very long time that we signed up more new members than left voluntarily. Unfortunately, we had several members enter lodge eternal so while we had a slight loss of membership we may have started turning the corner. Keep up the good work in recruiting. The planning for the 2012 convention continues. The package information should be on the web site by the time you see this note. Check this site for more information. <http://www.3dsofn.org/convention/index.html> For those of you who may be planning on bidding for the 2014 International Convention the International board has engaged Par Avion Inc to assist in planning the Convention. Most of their services are free to the lodge. If you want to utilize the services of a Convention planner for a District event you do not need to utilize Par Avion but you could. If you are interested I would be happy to talk to you about hosting the conventions. Fraternaly,Ralph Peterson,President

## Vice President Gail Ekloff



People have been asking me the past few months the significance of the solje. I must admit, I didn't know so I did some research!

The solje (originally spelled slje) was made out of silver; it showed wealth and prosperity of a family. The Norwegians believed that silver cured sickness in human and animals, improved crops and protected against storms and evil spirits. The primary reason rural Norwegians wore the solje was to ward off huldrefolks; they are under world creatures that tried to strengthen their gene pool by marrying or stealing human babies. Marriages and baptisms were the most common time for huldrefolk to attack. Before a baptism most rural

Norwegians kept a small solje on the blanket they wrapped the baby in to protect it from being stolen. They also used the "spoons" or dangles for added protection by reflecting evil away. They believed when worn in church the solje became more powerful so it was usually handed down from generation to generation. I will keep looking to see if there is more information on how the design of the solje came about. Perhaps they symbolized the region they came from or matched the shield their husband used in battle. It will be interesting to see how many different solje's will be seen this June at the convention when guest and delegates wear their bunads. The solje is a beautiful pin to wear with American clothes too!

I've enjoyed researching this Norwegian tradition and I hope this gives you a better understanding of the meaning behind the solje. Alt for denne gangen, Gail

**Remember: 2 A's - Ask & Advertise - to get a member. 2 M's - Mentor and Mingle to keep a member.**

## Kathy Dollymore PR Director



Here in the Northeast we see daffodils, tulips and other Spring flowers coming out of their Winter hibernation. Words like "fresh," "new," "warmth," "bloom," "rain," "egg," "flower," and "awakening" are part of my vocabulary now instead of "snow", "cold", "shiver", "dreary", "boots" and "blankets".

Why not make part of your vocabulary: **Paskris/Fastelavn's Ris** (Srovetime/Easter branches) **Glad Pask/Paske** (Happy Easter) **tulipaner** (tulips) and **solskinn** (sunshine). The sun is in the sky longer and the smell of newly cut grass is in the air. Now is the time to share your lodge, time to encourage membership through friends and relatives. Let them see what we as Sons of Norway is all about. Advertise your meetings and invite the public to the special programs. God påske!! Some of the other April days to celebrate are: Earth Day, National Library Week, National Karaoke Week, National Pet Parent's Day, Sense of Smell Day, DNA Day and National Chocolate-Covered Cashews Day.



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Did you know you can find out what is going on in other lodges by clicking on About Us and then lodges on the 3D website. This will take you to the Sons of Norway page which contains all of our lodges. Lodge names highlighted in blue means they have their own website; check out what they are doing and if you are travelling in the area, drop in and say hello!!

## Kristin Stone Cultural Director



Is your lodge participating in the Sons of Norway cultural skills program? Given that most new members join because they want to learn more about Norwegian heritage and their own family heritage, it just makes good sense. The cultural skills program is open to all Sons of Norway members, both through their lodges or as individual participants. Under the coordination of our District Cultural Director Kristin Stone of the Washington Lodge, during the Convention attendees will have a first-hand look at the varied talents of members and others displaying their **Folk Art**. View the Folk Art Competition and Cultural Skills Exhibition Guidelines and Rules at the 3D website.

**Cultural Director Kristin Stone at a program given at Washington Lodge on the Norwegian Bunader**

## Gene Olson Sports & Recreation Director

Gene Olson – mais@comcast.net

Come on, lets get with it. The 2012 District Bowling Tournament on.

**All local Lodge Presidents and ALL Zone Directors. PLEASE PROMOTE THIS ACTIVITY.**

It is always enjoyed by those who do participate. Teams are made up of 5 members per team. The teams can be made up of men only, women only or mixed teams. Teams are to bowl 3 games and submit the score sheets to me, listing names (PRINT) and male, female or mixed team. Each team must also submit a check of \$25.00 per team made out to 3D Sons of Norway Bowling Tournament.

So far I have been in contact with very few Lodges who have shown an interest.

The Bowling Tournament is on until March 31, 2012. Do not forget to promote our Sports Medal Challenge.

PLEASE send me a copy of the order form you send to International at the time Sports Medals are ordered. This Program ends May 31, 2012.

PLEASE GET THIS INFORMATION INTO LOCAL LODGE NEWSLETTERS.

## Counselor's Corner

*By Mary B. Andersen, 3D Counsel*

The Charitable Trust - *taking care of our own.*

Ahhhhhhhh, April. Mention the month of April and what comes to mind - spring flowers, taxes and the Charitable Trust.

April is The Charitable Trust fund raising month. Think back to when you joined the Sons of Norway and your lodge. You were probably surrounded by a fraternal chain of lodge members. You were told that you could trust your fellow lodge members as brothers and sisters. The fraternal chain is a symbol of everlasting friendship. Union of our hands signifies union of our hearts, aims and efforts. As our noble ancestors, when they finished their historic task of drafting the Norwegian Constitution at Eidsvold on the 17th of May, 1814, pledged each other unity and fidelity until the Dovre mountains should fall, so the circle surrounding us signifies that we, in our endeavors within Sons of Norway, shall stand "United and True, Until Dovre Falls."





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The fraternal circle is exemplified by the work of the Charitable Trust. The Charitable Trust provides assistance to our fraternal brothers and sisters in time of need. The need could be as simple as helping with the very high cost of prescription drugs or it could be a little help getting back on your feet from a devastating loss. You may only need assistance for a few months or sometimes a little longer. It is comforting to know that the Charitable Trust is available to assist.

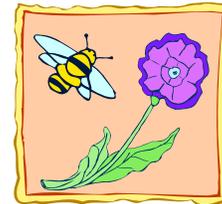
Last year it was announced that April would be the Charitable Trust month. To reduce expenses, we are not doing a mass mailing as last year. Rather we are asking that you pool your individual donations that you may have been putting aside since last April and make a collective contribution from your lodge. Your contributions should be sent to our Financial Administrator, Rannveig Klinge, 55 Laurel Avenue, Hamburg, PA 19526-8721.

The Charitable Trust needs your continued support especially in these economic hard times; if you can, would you please make a donation to the Charitable Trust.

Don't forget about paying your taxes. Preparing taxes requires assessing your financial status. As you think about your financial status, think about a legacy gift for the Charitable Trust. A legacy gift provides future support; we will have more information about legacy giving on our website but you might want to start the conversation now with your financial planner.

Thank you for keeping the Charitable Trust in your heart.  
God påske, Mary

PS: don't forget to stop and smell the flowers, it's Spring!!



## [From the Secretary Marci Larson](#)

I have sent an e-mail to our lodge secretaries and presidents asking for a copy of their latest lodge bylaws for our district files. In many instances, this information has not been updated with the District, so I'd appreciate getting it at your earliest convenience. Also, as a reminder, it is not necessary to send the District Secretary a copy of your lodge annual financial statement. If you do, I put it in your lodge file, but that requirement was changed at the 2010 International Convention.

The lists of delegates to the District Convention are coming at a steady pace. If you are reading this newsletter and your lodge is not sending delegates, please reconsider because we are celebrating our District Centennial so this will be a memorable time. Delegate and non-delegate registration forms are being sent and they are available on the district web site/convention site. Once again, if you need a copy of the registration form, let me know or the Convention Registrar Don Ohnemus, Hampton Roads Lodge, at [donemus@verizon.net](mailto:donemus@verizon.net). The convention reports book will be e-mailed to the delegates and each lodge at least 45 days prior to the convention, which is about May 1 with a couple days to spare. Delegates will be given a printed copy when they arrive at the Convention.

As always if you have questions please let me know at [mlarson@northfloridatpo.com](mailto:mlarson@northfloridatpo.com)



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**WHEN YOU REVIEW YOUR OVERALL FINANCES  
HAVE YOU ALSO REVIEWED YOUR LIFE INSURANCE NEEDS?**

**Len Carlson, FIC, CLU, Director of Agencies  
Sons of Norway, 612-821-4609**

Life insurance helps protect and support those you love should the unexpected happen in the future, but it also is an opportunity now to make an investment. A policy for a child can be a tax-deferred option for growing funds. For adults, a policy is a way to grow funds for a child's education with tax-deferment on the growth, or a way to prepare for retirement with tax-deferred accumulation and flexible options.

**The Top 3 Reasons to buy Sons of Norway Insurance:**

1. The priceless gift of financial security for your loved ones.
2. Your money is GUARANTEED unlike the stock market.
3. Sons of Norway fraternal activities and lodges are strengthened with every life insurance policy purchased.

**Here is a list of Sons of Norway's Life Insurance Products**

**Universal Life** — a permanent policy that offers flexibility in both the premiums you pay as well as the death benefit. This means that you can increase or decrease each to meet your needs.

**Whole Life** — a traditional product offering a fixed premium with guaranteed cash values and death benefit.

**Single Premium Whole Life** — another traditional product where just one up-front premium is paid. This product also has guaranteed cash values and death benefit.

**Term Insurance** — we offer 10, 15, 20, and 30 year Term depending on your age. Term is a great product for young couples starting out when financial obligations are high and the budget is limited. Term also works well for anyone with a temporary need.

**Viking Voyager** - a children's policy where you have a choice of paying a small annual premium or single premium. Choice of face amounts are \$10,000, 15,000, or \$25,000. Issue ages are 0-17, coverage goes to age 26. No matter what stage of life you are in, there are needs that you have; in most cases, needs you haven't thought about that can be taken care of by purchasing one or more of these Sons of Norway life insurance products.



## **ZONE NEWS**



**ZONE 1:** Kris Rasmussen Director

**ZONE 2:** Judy Mack Director

**Zone 2 Happenings**

April 22, Zone 2 will hold their spring meeting in Cumberland, ME at 12:30 PM hosted by Maine Nordemenn. All are welcome.

April 22, The Zone 2 Memorial Service will be held in Cumberland, ME 2:30 PM hosted by Maine Nordmenn. All are welcome.

March 17, Morgensolen Lodge held an open house featuring *Stambandet*.

April 12, Maine Nordmenn's program will feature Dyk Eusden, Bates College professor who will present "Experiences Guiding Garrison Keillor's *Cruise Norway*"

April 13, Norumbega Lodge will hold their annual potluck dinner. Entertainment will feature the Tee Shirt Contest which is a fundraiser for the lodge's scholarship fund.

April 14, Hartford Lodge will hold the annual Roast Pork Dinner. Lars Neilsen, Norwegian Immigrants Association will be the speaker.

May 18, Dovre Lodge will observe their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at their May meeting featuring a concert. They meet at the Scandinavian Home in Cranston, RI. Some members may travel to Brooklyn with Norumbega Lodge.

May 20, Norumbega Lodge travels to Brooklyn for the 17<sup>th</sup> Mai Parade. Contact Luana for more information



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## ZONE 3: Barbara Bensen Director

### ZONE 3 THIN 'N THAT'S

It is difficult to believe that we have set our clocks ahead an hour, that we have embraced Spring, and that we are now in the second quarter of 2012. Time flies when you are having fun, and that is the case in Zone Three. Both Nor-Bu and Nansen Lodges had their annual LOV Weekend in February. Everyone was hoping for snow, but Mother Nature had her own ideas. However, the members still enjoyed themselves. Nansen's Junior Lodge resumed their meetings in March, and Nansen Lodge is offering Nansen Scholarship Awards to students looking to extend their educational skills. They are also hosting the Zone Three Scholarship Dinner/Dance on April 15th at 2:00pm. This is our annual fundraiser and it's a wonderful opportunity to visit with members from other Lodges, while supporting a worthy cause. Noreg had a terrific St. Valentine's Day Dinner/Dance. Music was provided by their Music Sunday group and the guests had a fun time dining and dancing. Fredheim Lodge held their St. Valentine's Day celebration after their Business Meeting. In March, the color of the day was green and everyone was Irish. Most of our Lodges served corned beef and cabbage dinners, and some Lodges had Irish Dancers or Bagpipers performing at their event. I had the opportunity of attending Fredheim's St. Patty's Day festivities, and both my husband and I had a delightful time. On April 21st, Nor-Bu is having a Member Round Birthday Celebration. A pot luck supper will be served that evening. Noreg Lodge is bringing back their Scandinavian Smorgasbord which will be held at their Lodge on April 21st. Watch for details. Additionally, Noreg Lodge has a young runner whose goal is to be an Olympiad. The Lodge was a proud sponsor of their Youth Member, Robert Petersen, who participated in the Chevron Houston, Texas Marathon. He placed 3rd out of 4,500 entrants. Quite an accomplishment for a young man.

While Spring takes hold of our landscape once again:  
 The alders by the river shake out their powdery curls,  
 And pussy willows display their gray silvery pearls.  
 The daffies are dancing gently in the breeze,  
 Delighted to shed the long Winter freeze.  
 Birds fly above, sweet songs they sing,  
 Happily announcing, once again it is Spring.  
 Good Paske and Happy Easter to everyone.



## Zone 4 - Karin Gudbranson McCadam, Director

Spring has sprung with colorful flowers blooming and sweet song birds singing, all in time for Easter holidays and a busy season for the Zone 4 lodges. **Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup>** is the Zone 4 Scholarship Dinner at Land of the Vikings and **Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>** is the Zone 4 Memorial Service hosted by Fram Lodge in Cairo. Since Zone 4 lodges gather together twice in April, several lodges do not have meetings planned outside of these events. You are welcome to visit any of our lodge and zone events! **God Paske!**

**Fram Lodge** has an eventful month. **April 1<sup>st</sup>** (no joke!) is a program on "Norway Now" from the Viking Magazine, followed by delicious smørbrød and dessert. Fram hosts the Zone 4 Memorial Service at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Cairo **April 28<sup>th</sup>** at 2pm with Fram member Bob Christensen as musician. Also, Fram Lodge has secured the musical offerings of the Wesley Ringers, a bell choir from McKownville Methodist Church in Guilderland. Afterwards, a wonderful meatball dinner will be served, followed by a Zone 4 business meeting.



**Hudson Valley Lodge (HVL)** has a **Family and Friends Fun Day** planned for **April 6<sup>th</sup>** at noon at Ascot Park, Kingston. You are encouraged to bring your own lunch and beverages and be prepared to join the mini-golf competition. So, if you



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are in the area, drop in and introduce yourself to the happy crew from HVL. HVL is also taking reservations for their bus to Brooklyn for the Syttende Mai Parade on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Norrøna Lodge** takes the month of April to "Celebrate Our Birthdays" on **April 21<sup>st</sup>** at 4:00pm with wine and cheeses at the home of fellow member Bertha in Paramus, NJ.

**Norsemen Lodge** has been meeting in their new location at the Atonement Lutheran Church, 1 Center St. Oneonta, NY. Norsemen members have been busy every month bringing in canned and dried foods for donation. In March they donated over 100 pounds of donated food to one of the local food banks. Norsemen has the right spirit!

**Oslo Lodge** members gathered in March to focus on Viking history, life and apparel. Several members constructed Viking costumes in preparation for their participation in the Central New York Scottish games in August and the Central New York Scandinavian Day in October. Several members are working to retro-fit a duck boat into a Viking "ship" to be used in parades, et cetera.

**Scandinavian Heritage Society (SHS)** hosts the Viking auction for the Zone 4 Scholarship Dinner at Land of the Vikings. SHS has a general meeting **April 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**Troll Lodge** is gearing up for May as every year they march in the 17th of May parade in Brooklyn. This year is no exception! Troll has many activities planned for this year, with a special celebration in the fall when the **Lodge celebrates its 45th Anniversary on September 29th at the Chalet-on-the-Hudson in Cold Spring, N.Y.** We hope that many Sons of Norway members will reserve the date and plan to join the fun!

## **ZONE 5: Gail Martinsen, Director**



March had one common denominator in Zone 5 for the month of March, corned beef & cabbage! Practically every lodge served their members a delicious meal of corned beef and cabbage. From all reports the meals were enjoyed by all. Sarasota was original; they served "Norwegian/Irish Stew" better known as lapskaus. Our lodges had a variety of interesting and fun entertainment after their meetings. Gulfstream's President, Ingrid Hammen asked her members to bring good Irish jokes to share at the March meeting. Also, they had a parade with every member wearing green and prizes were given to those participating. And, the Gulfstream members all joined in an Irish-Sing-Along. Port Orange is planning to have a bingo game after every meeting with prizes from now on. Vikingworld showed a DVD on Viking History at the March meeting. They, also, had a silent auction to help raise funds for their lodge. At Gulf Coast Vikings, their "Egyptian Viking", Salah Batrawi exhibited his favorite photos to the members and guests. The Gulf Coast Vikings are busy working on earning their Sports Medals. Erin Link and Lukas Welsh, both 8 years old, entertained the Sun Viking members with a wonderful Irish dance! Boy, their feet really moved! Suncoast members received a prize if they came to the meeting dressed in green and they learned all about Saint Patrick, who he was, etc. Gateway to Florida enjoyed a lunch and show at the Alhambra Dinner Theater. They saw "Hello Dolly" starring Sally Struthers. Gateway to Florida has The Shepherd of the Woods school as their Adopt-A-School. In March, they were a Diamond Sponsor at the school's fundraiser. Scandia celebrated their 20th Anniversary in March with a special catered dinner which included (surprise) corned beef and cabbage! One of Scandia's members is H.W. "Tim" Timrud. Tim is originally from Brooklyn and in February 1945, he was a marine. He participated in the Battle of IWO Jima. On February 25th, 2012, he and 2 other IWO Jima Vets, plus some Navy Support Vets were honored at a smaller version of the Marine Corps War Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. The smaller version was commissioned by the original sculptor, Felix de Weldon to be placed in the park at the foot of the Midpoint Memorial Bridge connecting Fort Meyers and Cape Coral. February 25, 2012 was the 67th Anniversary of the battle. All of Zone 5 lodges are busy preparing for their April meetings with Easter celebrations and our upcoming 3D Centennial Convention. Hopefully, many of our talented members will consider



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entering their beautiful works in the Cultural Competition or Exhibit at the convention. Don't forget a donation for the Viking Auction at the convention. If you plan to bring the item to the convention, please let me know so I can be sure your donation is recognized! Thanking you in advance for your donations.

**Have a Very Happy Easter! God Påske!!**

## ZONE 6: Carol Goral, Director



Zone 6 had their Memorial Service at Gloria Dei, Old Swedes' Church in Philadelphia on the 17th of March. The beautiful location, beautiful weather and great attendance marked the day as very special. Twenty one members of our Zone were remembered in our service. About 64 people attended. Many thanks go to our Vice President, Gail Eckloff for a fitting and moving Memorial Address. Gene Olson gave the tribute and Rev. Cheryl Hensil gave the invocation and benediction. Members of all lodges wore their bunads for the candle procession. All who attended were moved by the ceremony.

The next Zone function will be the caucus meeting which will be held at Fredriksten Lodge on May 12. All delegates are urged to attend so that we can adequately prepare for the convention in Virginia Beach. The following weekend we will be represented in Brooklyn at the parade. Spring is a very busy time! Fredriksten Lodge will celebrate their 100th Anniversary on April 28. It looks like it will be very well attended and we are very happy to share in the celebration.

## ZONE 7: Edward McCarthy, Director

Norsk Carolina #679 has a busy schedule for March. They will be presenting a program on the Norwegian Odd Nansen and his WWII concentration camp diary. In February they had a program on how Valentines Day is celebrated in Norway. They learned and practiced several Norwegian Valentines Day phrases and sentences. They are experimenting with different times, dates and locations for their meetings to better suit their members. The lodge will be joining with Southern Star #630 for the St. Patricks Day padrade in Myrtle Beach. Southern Star #630 will be having a square dance demonstration with members invited to join in at their March meeting. They will also be joined by Norsk Carolina Lodge for the annual St. Patricks Day parade in Myrtle Beach Hampton Roads #522 will have busy month. The lodge "Song Birds" will be singing Norwegian songs at the Japanese Cherry Blossom Festival in Virginia Beach. On March 31st the lodge will have an anniversary dinner and dance to celebrate its 40th birthday. This will coincide with the celebration of the 50th year of the Norwegian Lady. It is expected that the Norwegian ambassador to the United States will be the featured speaker.



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## MEMBERS OF NOR-BU LODGE HONORED FOR SERVICE

### **Christening of D/S Hestmanden brought together 240 krigsseilere from World War II**



*Lori Vedvik Special to the Norwegian American Weekly*  
Olav Vedvik and Alfred Ulvesoy in front of the Hestmanden.  
Photo courtesy Lori Vedvik.

On Nov. 22, 2011, Olav D. Vedvik, 90, and Alfred Ulvesoy, 88, long-time residents of Rockaway Township, N.J., met His Majesty King Harald!

Olav, Alfred, and approximately 240 other *krigsseilere*, or war sailors, were invited to Kristiansand, Norway, to be part of the christening of the D/S Hestmanden. This ship survived World War I and World War II and has been refurbished as a floating museum. The King was part of the celebration and personally honored each war sailor with a shake of the hand and a smile. The event included a special luncheon with the King, as well as musical entertainment and various speeches.

Olav and Alfred sailed together as Merchant Marines and became great friends. Olav, who immigrated to America first, helped to find Alfred's first apartment in Brooklyn, N.Y. They bought property in Rockaway Township, N.J., in the early 1950s when there was very little development. They were familiar with the area as a result of the Norwegian BUL Cabin in Lake Telemark, a great getaway for many Scandinavians. As best friends, they built houses next door to each other and have been neighbors until just this past year when the Ulversoy's moved to Denville, N.J.

During his interview, Olav described that fateful night in the North Atlantic, when his ship, the steamship "Keret" was torpedoed in the middle of the night by a German submarine. Within minutes the ship sunk and 13 lives were lost. Olav was lucky as he had just come on deck, the crewmen below had no chance to survive. There was no time to drop the lifeboat and they jumped into the ocean. They managed to right a lifeboat and secure a raft. As the raft pitched in the waves, the U-boat appeared, came close to the survivors, and called out: "Which vessel did we sink?" "Keret of Bergen," answered the crew. "Thank you and goodbye," called the German officer, and the submarine disappeared in the dark. The survivors were left in the dark rough sea.

Miraculously, the next day they were rescued by a British ship and taken to Nova Scotia. They had one chance to catch the rope thrown to them, as the British ship could not take the risk of stopping. Olav spoke of the friends he lost, and that afterward he just got back out on another ship and carried on. When the interviewer asked, "Did anything good come out of the war?" he responded with, "Yes, I met a girl in Brooklyn!" That girl was his beloved wife of 64 years, Elvy, who passed away in March 2010.

Alfred Ulvesoy reminisced about the war years he spent as a Norwegian sailor. One of the days that stand out more than any other was Sept. 8, 1943. Alfred, who had just turned 20 the month before, had been sailing since the Germans invaded and occupied Norway in 1939. Alfred's ship, the Toronto, had just finished off loading more war supplies to help the Allied effort during the invasion of Italy. They were docked in the port of Syracuse, Sicily and lunch was ten minutes away as they readied the ship for the next port of call.

Out of nowhere three German bombers came over the mountains and unloaded their bombs on a Liberty Ship that was anchored less than 1,000 feet away from Alfred's ship. One bomb landed less than 200 feet away from the Toronto with no damage done. Even though the Toronto was empty of cargo, it did have on board over 200 Italian POWs and a general as well. Alfred could not believe how quickly the Liberty Ship was lost as this horrific event unfolded right in front of his eyes.

The Hestmanden, Olav, Alfred, and all the other war sailors deserve our thanks and honor for the heroic and unselfish actions of that time. This event in Kristiansand has helped ensure they will always be remembered!

**This article was originally published in the Jan 27, 2012 issue of the Norwegian American Weekly. For more information about the Norwegian American Weekly or to subscribe, call us toll free (800) 305-0217 or email [subscribe@norway.com](mailto:subscribe@norway.com).**



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## Don't forget to.....

The SON Foundation has given out multiple awards and grants this year to individual Lodges for special events, activities and for the Communities they are in. The SON Foundation also helps with hardship and other special needs after disasters or crisis.



\*\*\*\*\*



**TUBFRIM:** Please remember to save used postage stamps for Tubfrim. Please cut the stamps from envelopes with scissors, leaving a 1/4 inch margin of paper around the stamp for ease of handling. Picture post cards should be left whole. Tubfrim also collects used telephone cards. The money realized from the sale of stamps benefits disabled children and youth in Norway.

## LAND OF THE VIKINGS

This land is your land, this land is my land. Come and enjoy, bring your family & friends. You don't have to be a member to enjoy all that LOV has to offer. Be sure to check out LOV on the 3d web site [www.3dsofn.org](http://www.3dsofn.org) or [www.Landofthevikings.org](http://www.Landofthevikings.org)



Managers: Nils and Lauren Floden  
461 Big Valley Road  
Susquehanna, Pa 18847  
Call - 570-461-3500  
Or E-mail to:- [vikingland@tds.net](mailto:vikingland@tds.net)  
<http://lov.3dsofn.org>

### Save the date - June 8th Lobsterfest at LOV

Come for the weekend or just the day. Silent Auction donations accepted  
Fun, games and good food Make your Reservation early  
Call - 570-461-3500 Or E-mail to:- [vikingland@tds.net](mailto:vikingland@tds.net) <http://lov.3dsofn.org>



**Land of the Vikings (LOV)** is located on 150 acres in a peaceful valley in Northeastern Pennsylvania, 35 miles east of Binghamton, NY, and is surrounded by 5,000 acres of state game land.

Land of the Vikings offers fun for the whole family. Hunting, fishing swimming, golf, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and hiking are just some of the activities available on the premises or nearby. Land of the Vikings is open year round and has all-inclusive packages at reasonable rates.

**LOV** is ideally suited for group retreats such as sports clinics, seminars, family reunions, weddings, or anniversaries, providing privacy in a relaxed and comfortable setting.

**LOV** also offers cultural and fitness programs such as rosemaling, folk dancing, wood carving, children's summer camp, Ski for Light, and Sports for Health.