



MAY 2015

VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

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Fra Presidenten,

Take the VOTS Train!!

All Aboard -- the VOTS train is moving on down, moving on down the road!! It's a late Spring, heading into Summer, and VOTS Lodge and its members are headin out! Here and elsewhere in this newsletter you will read about some great activities and programs the lodge is initiating.

First, our search for a Culture Director has ended. Linda Turmo and Darla Berdal have agreed to serve as team leaders for getting our cultural programming underway and moving forward. Volunteers will be sought to coordinate specific cultural topics that are offered by Sons of Norway.

Those who attended our April lodge event heard from Joan Schrader on her hardanger embroidery project and saw the workmanship she demonstrated in performing the requirements for this cultural emphasis. Great job Joan!!

I have agreed to mentor anyone wanting to be involved in the stamp collecting emphasis of the cultural program. There are four programs designed specifically for children, so maybe you have children or grandchildren who would be interested in participating.

The Culture Committee will be presenting topics and opportunities at future lodge events for you to learn of and participate in.

Although the Lodge will be putting emphasis next year in expanding the lodge's sports and athletics program, we have already started to initiate greater exercise and well-being through hikes being led and coordinated by lodge Vice-President Wendell Liemohn. Read Wendell's report later in this issue.

And Francis Turmo, our award-winning genealogist, is preparing a lodge pictorial directory to make it easier to place names with faces at lodge events, especially useful for new members.

He's off to a good start and will have members' pictures to date in the directory at the next lodge event. You may send him your favorite photo electronically or

have him snap a picture at our next lodge event.....the annual Syttende Mai celebration at Asbury Place Pavilion in Maryville. Find the driving directions in this newsletter's event blurb. Spring brings beautiful cook-out and picnic weather so I hope to see everyone on the 17th of Mai!

Come on aboard the VOTS express -- we're goin' places!!

Cheers,

Clark Brekke



Celebrate Syttende Mai with the Vikings of the Smokies



Make plans to join the Lodge members on May 17th to celebrate Norwegian Constitution Day. This is a family friendly celebration - so bring the whole gang!

Event begins at 2pm - we will plan to eat at 3pm

The picnic menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs and buns, baked beans and ice cream which will be provided by the Lodge, however, feel free to bring an alternative meat to grill if you prefer.

Norwegian Constitution Day is the official National Day of Norway, celebrated on the 17th of May. Among Norwegians, the day is referred to simply as "Syttende Mai" (17th of May) or Grunnlovsdagen (The Constitution Day)

A noteworthy aspect of Norwegian Constitution Day is its very non-military nature. All over Norway, children parade with an abundance of flags. Each elementary school district arranges its own parade with marching bands between schools. The parade takes the children through the community, often making stops at homes of senior citizens, war memorials, etc.

The longest parade is in Oslo, where some 100,000 people travel to participate in the festivities. The Oslo parade includes close to 100 schools, marching bands, and passes by the Royal Palace, where the Royal Family greets the people from the main balcony.

We are asking for members to bring side dishes such as potato salad, coleslaw, tossed green salad, 3 bean salad, or fruit, or a dessert of cookies, brownies or cup cakes.

Beverages provided will include coffee, iced tea and lemonade, but lodge members may choose to bring your own - No alcohol please.

Bring your Norwegian Flags, and join us in a short parade to celebrate! Croquet and other yard games available.

RSVP reservations to Emilie Collins at 670-3773 or email tn_bestemor@comcast.net no later than the Thursday May 14th!

Remember the pavilion is covered - so this is a rain or shine event!

Driving Directions to Asbury Place in Maryville 2648 Sevierville Road, Maryville, TN 37804.

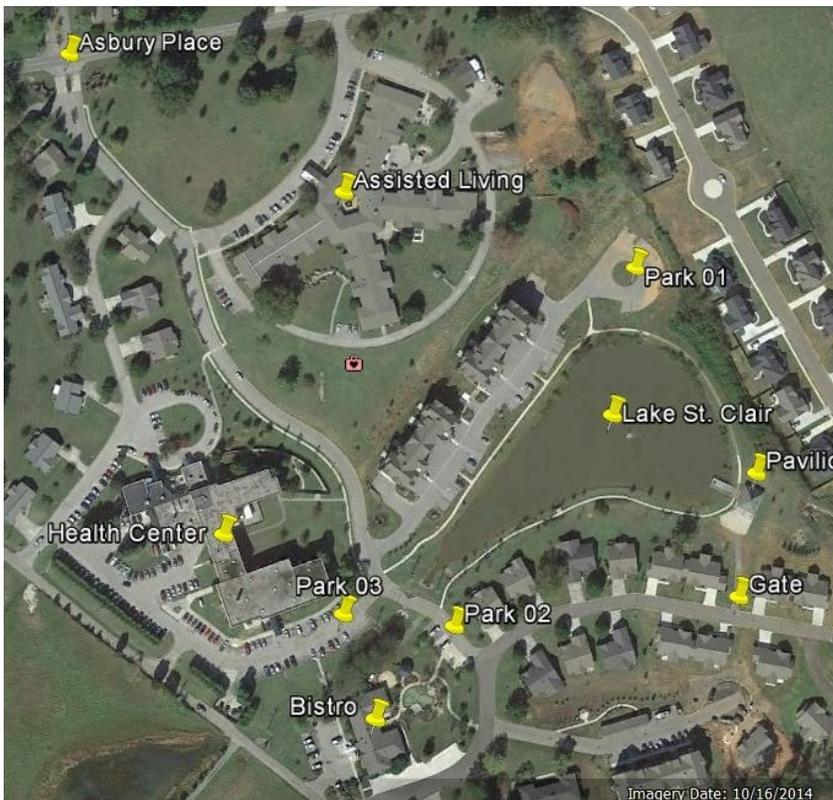
From Kingston Pike in Knoxville using Pellissippi Parkway towards Maryville

1. Pellissippi Pkwy (I-140/TN 162) 13.3 miles
2. Take exit 14; turn right East Broadway Ave (TN-33) 2.1 miles
3. Turn left onto Brown School Rd 1.2 miles
4. Turn right to stay on Brown School Rd 0.3 miles
5. Turn left onto Sevierville Road 0.5 miles
6. Turn right at entrance to Asbury Place; proceed to the stop sign
7. Continue down hill to second left, Wilder Chapel Lane 0.2 miles
(The first left is St. Clair Lane; Wilder Chapel is past the lake.)
8. Proceed to the entrance to the pavilion area 0.1 miles

The pavilion is at the east end of Lake St. Clair. There is a gate on Wilder Chapel Lane that leads to the pavilion. The gate should be open. There are only three spots to park vehicles next to the pavilion. These spots should be used for handicapped or for unloading supplies.

ADDITIONAL PARKING IS AVAILABLE

#1 There are two buildings under construction adjacent to this spot, but several cars should be able to park there. It's a short walk around the east end of the lake to the pavilion from here.



#2 There is also parking near the Bistro and the #3 health center.



Reminder about the Vikings of the Smokies Photo Directory

If you have not yet provided Francis Turmo with a photo or allowed him to take your photo - please do so! You may submit information and photo via email

to turmoFJT@charter.net or he will be taking photos at the next Lodge event, or you may supply your own by bringing a copy to the lodge event or mail a photo to be scanned to Francis at the following address: Francis Turmo, 108 St. Clair Lane, Maryville, TN 37804

Viking Volunteers are needed for the Adopt a Mile Program

Saturday, September 26 & Saturday November 21.



Meet in the gravel parking area on Boring Road in front of Boring horse stables. This road is level and an easy walk. Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and bring gloves - everything else will be provided. The road clean up takes about an hour.

From the Treasurer

April's expenses exceeded income by \$21.42 . There was \$20.25 income from our share of membership dues, while our expenses were \$41.67 for monthly expense (accrual) for the SON biennial District 5 conference.

.Respectfully submitted,

Trygve Myhre