



JANUARY 2022

VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

KNOXVILLE, TN

WWW.TNVIKINGS.ORG

Welcome to 2022 and Gott Nytt År!

Hopefully, 2022 will be kicking Covid to the curb and the Lodge can again resume our normal activities. We will be cautiously looking forward to planning in person activities, as weather, health and mandates permit!

As you may already know, after being on the board since the Lodge was chartered, and serving as Lodge president for the past four years, I will be stepping away from Lodge activities in 2022, but will continue to serve as newsletter editor and work on the website and hope to attend as many events as possible.

I want to congratulate and thank Clark Brekke for agreeing to serve another term as our Lodge President. Clark, working together with Dee, Linda, Trygve and Ole will guide the Lodge forward, and I know that others will pitch in to help as needed.!

The Lodge will install the new 2022 leadership team on Sunday, January 23rd at Faith Lutheran Church. Due to the on going construction, the kitchen is unavailable for use, so the Lodge will not coordinate the normal smorgasbord, but instead will provide light snacks and beverages for attendees.

I look forward to seeing many familiar - and maybe a few new - faces on Sunday, January 23rd,

Joleen

Please join us for the first Lodge event of 2022 as we install the Vikings of the Smokies Leadership Team!

Sunday, Jan 23rd
4pm
Faith Lutheran Church

Light refreshments will be served as we kick off a new year of activities and events

To ensure an accurate headcount for the refreshments, please rsvp to Linda Turmo (865) 233-7411 or turmolat@charter.net

Last CHANGE to donate stamps to Tubfrim!
Please bring any stamps you may have collected to the January meeting or make arrangements to get them to Clark Brekke for a final shipment from our Lodge.

The Sons of Norway will no longer participate in the Tubfrim stamp program, so the January meeting will be the last chance provide any stamps your have been saving.

Tusen Takk!

JULETREFEST 2021

Vikings of the Smokies celebrated the holidays with our annual Juletrefest celebration at Messiah Lutheran Church on December 12th. As always, the food was plentiful and the desserts outstanding!

In addition to the delicious smorgasbord and socializing, the Lodge members in attendance participated in a version of "Norsk Bingo" and enjoyed Christmas carols and door prizes.

St. Lucia and her companions offered gingersnaps to the attendees, while the Julenisse left small gifts for the children in attendance.



Congratulations to Jeanette Lively who was recognized for her 50 years of continuous membership in the Sons of Norway!



From the Treasurer:

Our net loss since January 2021 was \$224 (compared to a net loss of \$251 for Jan-Dec 2020). In 2020, we received \$808 income for membership dues, compared to \$678 in 2021. This difference is attributed to fewer members and changes in SON distribution rules.

The \$1,216 expenses included \$500 towards the District 5 Convention, \$241 for the July picnic, \$172 for SON liability insurance, \$122 for Jultrefest, \$61 for 60 birthday cards, \$34 for service pins, and \$25 for bereavement donation. This compares to \$1,164 expenses last year through December 2020.

Our current assets are \$5,469 including \$5,019 in the Regions checking account, \$375 for prepaid Cumberland County Playhouse tickets, and \$75 for playing cards resale or awards. This compares to \$5,194 for December 2020. The only liability is a \$1,723 accrual for the next District 5 convention, an increase of \$500 during 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trygve Myhre

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!

If you have not yet taken the opportunity to renew your SON Membership, please do so by either going to the [SON Website](#) or contact Membership Secretary [Linda Turmo](#)

Cultural Skills Pins and Sports Medals Update

Due to the increasing postage costs associated with ordering the Cultural Skills pins and the Sports medals, the Lodge has decided to present them twice yearly - at Syttende Mai and the Jultrefest.

The deadlines to submit your information April 15th and October 15th. For more information regarding sports medals, please contact [Olaf Storaasli](#) and for Cultural Skills pins, contact [Darla Berdal](#)



World's most beautiful ship arrives in US

JANUARY 4, 2022

The Statsraad Lehmkuhl docks in Miami, NYC, and Newport, R.I.

Called by many “the most beautiful ship in the world,” the 278-foot tall ship *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* has once again landed on the shores of North America.

With its home port in Bergen, Norway, the 107-year-old ship was named in honor of Kristofer Lehmkuhl, a prominent Bergen politician who served in the Norwegian parliament from 1903 to 1906.

The majestic sailing vessel has been outfitted as a floating research station as part of a global mission to raise awareness about environmental issues as part of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. Calling the project the One Ocean Initiative, the “floating university” will circumnavigate the globe during the course of 20 months.

One of the ship's major partners is the Norwegian Marine Institute, and professors, lecturers, and students from around the world have joined the research tour.

The One Ocean Expedition set sail from Arendal, Norway, on Aug. 8, 2021, with 30 ports of call on its itinerary,

A warm reception in Miami

On Dec. 7, the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* arrived in Miami, its first port of call in the United States. Once docked at the Maurice A Ferré boat slip, the ship was met by a delegation that included Norwegian Consul General Hilde Skorpen from Houston, together with a select group of distinguished guests, including Ragnar Meyer-Knutsen, publisher emeritus of *The Norwegian American*.

Skorpen remarked, “We are very pleased that it is making Miami its first port of call in the United States, particularly because [in] Norway and Miami, we are living of, and by the ocean, and a cleaner ocean is vital to our future.”

While the general public was not invited on board the ship in Miami, on shore, it attracted a large number of visitors, who came to admire the sheer beauty of the historic three-masted barque.

Welcome back to New York

The ship remained in Miami for four days, before continuing on to New York City. It was to be the fifth time the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* would visit New York, beginning with two visits in the 1950s. Notably, the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* was the first ship to come into New York Harbor after 9/11.

On Dec. 18, the tall ship sailed into the ONE°15 Brooklyn Marina at Brooklyn Bridge Park. Two tugboats were required for its approach, and eight line handlers were on hand to catch and tie the lines. The team at the 800-foot dock was equipped to bring the boat into the deep-water marina, which can accommodate nearly any vessel in the world.

Once docked in Brooklyn, the captain of the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl*, Jens Joachim Hiorth, spoke to the local newspaper, *The Brooklyn Reporter*.

Hiorth underlined the importance of the global voyage, which is meant “to draw attention to the challenges we are facing as a whole with climate change and to bring awareness to the ocean’s crucial role. The ocean is both part of the

problem, with pollution, acidification, micro plastics, and rising temperatures, and also most likely a very important part of the solution, if we handle it right.”

A COVID-19 Christmas

But the ship’s stay in New York was not to be without problems. On Dec. 19, it was reported that one of the crew had tested positive for COVID-19 at sea between Miami and New York. By Christmas Day, another seven people on board had been infected, the number increasing to 10 the following day. The ship was divided up, so that those infected could be put in quarantine. Public events on the ship, which were fully booked out within hours of the release of tickets, were canceled for the rest of the ship’s stay in New York. Fortunately, on Jan. 31, everyone on board tested negative for the coronavirus, so the quarantine could be lifted on the ship for the rest of its stay in New York

Historic Newport and beyond

On Jan. 4, the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl* continued on to Newport, R.I., where it was docked for four days. Newport is home to the Naval Station Newport, which houses the United States Naval War College, the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, and an important Navy training center. Rich in sailing history, Newport was the location of every challenge to the America’s Cup between 1930 and 1983.

On Jan. 8, the ocean journey continues on to Horta in the Portuguese archipelago of the Azores.

If you are interested in sailing on the *Statsraad Lehmkuhl*, there are still five legs open on the global tour, but more voyages may open up in the future. To learn more, visit the One Ocean Expedition website at oneoceanexpedition.com.

Article Courtesy

Photo: Isak Okkenhaug

One Ocean Expedition Statsraad Lehmkuhl sailed into the waters outside of New York City to spend Christmas there.

LORI ANN REINHALL

Editor-in-chief

The Norwegian American