



MAY 2022

VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

KNOXVILLE, TN

WWW.TNVIKINGS.ORG

President's Column

Welcome to the May VOTS Newsletter! This time of year the Lodge normally takes a summer hiatus - but don't misunderstand, while the Lodge will not hold its monthly meetings during June, July and August, but it does not mean that we are shutting down here at VOTS.

Well, the Lodge has plans to continue social events outside of regular Lodge meetings that will allow us to try new and different activities.

We hope to have one of these activities at least once a month during the summer, and they may include picnicking, local travel to interesting venues, educational, sports and just fun. Eating opportunities, such as a picnic, along with a game or entertainment event, is always a favorite excuse for VOTS members to get together.

We still have a pre-summer meeting coming up in the guise of our annual Syttende Mai celebration - which will be held a week later than normal - on May 22 at the Clubhouse of the Cottagers at Pryse Farm in Farragut (please see details and directions elsewhere in this newsletter).

Several weeks ago, a group of Lodge members attended the Cumberland County Playhouse while another group held a wildflower walk in the Smokies to get outdoors, visit the GSM National Park and view a good variety of wildflowers.

The Board has also set a goal for the Lodge to become more involved in service activities to the communities where it meets

For example, we will begin our gleaning of the Dixie Lee Farmers Market on Saturday, May 28, and every fourth (4th) Saturday into October for distribution of the unsold farm produce to local food banks.

Please consider coming to the training session on this Saturday at the Market at 11:15 am to learn the ropes on collecting the produce at the market's close. The Market is located

at the Renaissance Center on Kingston Pike across from First Farragut United Methodist Church.

Although there will not be official Lodge meetings during summer months, some Board members will be up to Lodge business, and we will be again participating in the Farragut Independence Day parade with the VOTS' newly renovated float and marchers (who are NOT renovated but rejuvenated!), along with the aforementioned social get-togethers. All of these activities will be made known to you through our VOTS newsletter, which will be available to you near the beginning of each summer month.

So plan on "comin' on down" to join in -- the water's fine this summer!!

Clark Brekke, Lodge President

Join Lodge members on Sunday, May 22 to Celebrate Syttende Mai!!!!

Vikings of the Smokies will be celebrating Syttende Mai with a social get-together beginning at 4pm at the Pryse Farms Clubhouse. The Lodge will provide a catered meal event for Lodge members. Please rsvp to [Linda Turmo](#) no later than May 18th.

Directions to the Cottages at Pryce Farms

From the intersection of Kingston Pike & Campbell Station Road

- Head west for 2.4 miles
- Turn left at the Traffic light at Old Stage Road
- Travel 0.3 miles and turn left onto McFee Road
- Continue 1.2 Miles to Pryse Farm Blvd
- Proceed past three driveways and turn left into clubhouse parking lot.

WANNA GET SOCIAL?

The Lodge is looking for a few individuals who are interested and willing to help plan our monthly social events for the Lodge. This position can be held by one or more people, and is a great way to meet Lodge members, contribute to supporting the Lodge and have fun!

The official guideline from the Sons of Norway for the Social Director is below.

“The responsibility of the social director is to plan activities that provide opportunities for personal enrichment and fellowship. A wide variety of programs is encouraged to offer throughout the year along with working with the Cultural and Sports Directors to include programs of interest to all ages

The social component of any program, (usually involves food) is welcoming and helps develop an atmosphere to nurture relationships and further ideas for future programs.

A Social Committee can be either a standing committee to oversee refreshments or recruit members for specific programs that plan for specific refreshments. More guidelines to consider with Social Director responsibilities can be found in the large Guide for Leadership.”

Please see Dee Bumpers for more details!

Vikings invade Cumberland County Playhouse

Nine lodge members travelled to Crossville, TN for lunch followed by a matinee performance of Agatha Christie’s “The Orient Express” at the Cumberland County Playhouse.



The group included including Clark and Elaine Brekke, Elizabeth and Trygve Myhre, Meredith Liehmon, Paul and Milly Abelquist, and Joleen and Bob Dewald.

Another theatre outing is planned for November, with more details available later this summer.

LODGE WILDFLOWER WALK THROUGH THE SMOKIES



On April 21, several lodge members gathered at the Nature Trail at Sugarlands Visitor Center near the Gatlinburg entrance to the park for a wildflower walk coordinated by Lodge President Clark Brekke.



The group began with a brief visit to an old, small but intimate cemetery of early settlers -- some of the gravestones are quite interesting. They then took to the trail, which was quite wide and mostly flat, making it a relatively easy hike, all the way to Cataract Falls..



After our walk and a trip to the Visitor's Center and Museum, several members then drove to the Metcalf Bottom picnic area to have lunch before heading home.

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 contacting Membership Secretary [Linda Turmo](#)

VOTS Lodge Shirt Order Blank

Item	Price	Sizes Available									Total Number	Amount Due
		S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	/	YM	YL		
Navy Blue Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$21							/				
Red Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$21							/				
Navy Blue Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$26							/				
Red Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$26							/				
Navy Blue Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$26							/				
Red Crewneck Sweatshirt	\$26							/				
Navy Blue Hoodie Sweatshirt	\$32							/				
Red Hoodie Sweatshirt	\$32							/				
Add \$2 for each 2XL and \$3 for 3XL												
Total Amount Paid												
CHECKS ONLY – Make checks out to The Vikings of the Smokies												
Name												
Address												
Phone												

Order deadline is June 15

Please make checks payable to the “Vikings of the Smokies” and mail with order form to:

**Linda Turmo
108 St. Clair Lane
Maryville TN 37804**

VIKING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FARMERS MARKET GLEANING PROJECT

The Lodge is participating in a community service "Gleaning" project at the Dixie Lee Farmer's Market. This project is organized the Society of St. Andrew, a non-denominational charity that gleans food from various donors to be distributed to local food banks for feeding the needy.

One source of the food is collecting farm produce from vendors at local farmers' markets who are willing to donate their unsold products rather than take their produce back home.

The Lodge needs 2-3 volunteers once a month to check with the vendors to determine what if produce is available for donation at the close of the market. Volunteers will then collect, weigh and transport to a central collection point for later distribution

VOLUNTEER TRAINING IS ON SATURDAY, MAY 14th BEGINNING AT 11:30.

If you are interested in being a VOTS volunteer on Saturday to pick up at the market, please give Clark Brekke a call (865/966-0608) or email (cjbrekke@gmail.com). The Dixie Lee Farmer's Market is located at the Renaissance Office complex on Kingston Pike between the Campbell Staton Road and Watt Road exits.

From the Treasurer:

Our net gain for January through April 2022 was \$262. This compares to a net gain of \$279 for January through April 2021. In January through March 2022 there was \$126 profit from the Children's International Festival and \$450 income for membership dues.

The \$314 expenses included \$167 towards the District 5 Conference, \$78 for Pizza & Movie, \$44 for Refreshments, and \$25 for Ski for Light. This compares to \$167 expenses last January through April for the District 5 Conference.

Our current assets are \$5,898 including \$5,778 in the Regions checking account, \$105 for prepaid Cumberland County Playhouse tickets, and \$15 for playing cards resale or awards. This compares to \$5,640 for April 2021. The only liability is a \$1,889 accrual for the next SON District 5 convention. (Nine members went to the Cumberland County Playhouse, and reimbursed VOTS \$170 for prepaid tickets. There is \$105 remaining in prepaid tickets.)

Our total equity is \$4,009 compared to \$4,250 for last year – a decrease of \$241 (5.7%).

Respectfully Submitted
Trygve Myhre