



DECEMBER 2022

# VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

KNOXVILLE, TN

[WWW.TNVIKINGS.ORG](http://WWW.TNVIKINGS.ORG)

## President's Report!

Greetings, one and all - the holiday season is here.

Thanksgiving has passed, and the Christmas season is before us, a time for family from near and far to come together to share good memories, shopping for gifts for the little ones, getting together around the dinner table and giving thanks for our bounty. Most of all, paying respects to our Savior, Jesus Christ, for this is the reason for the season.

This coming Sunday, on December 11th, we will be celebrating Juletrefest at Messiah Lutheran Church in Knoxville. We plan on having authentic Scandinavian food and music, and our own version of the Santa Lucia festival of lights.

St. Lucia was one of the earliest Christian martyrs, killed in 304 because of her religious beliefs.

The day is celebrated by a young girl portraying St. Lucia leading the way in a procession, wearing a white gown with a red sash and a crown of candles. Traditionally, she carries a tray of saffron buns and is joined by Lucia handmaidens, star boys, and gingerbread men who all carry candles.

I hope to see you on December 11th, and may the miracle of Christmas fill your heart with wonder and joy, and may the new year bless you with health, wealth, and happiness.

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Paul Abelquist



You are invited to join Lodge members and their guests for the annual Vikings of the Smokies

## Jultrefest

Sunday, December 11th from 4pm-6pm  
Messiah Lutheran Church, 6900 Kingston Pike

If you are bringing any children or grandchildren with you -

### **PLEASE RSVP & PROVIDE**

the name, gender and age of all children attending no later than December 5th. This will ensure all children can participate in the program with the Nisse and receive an appropriate gift bag.

The Lodge will provide the main entree for the smorgasbord; however, all attendees are asked to bring a side dish, dessert or salad to share with the group.

Please tell Linda Turmo what you plan to bring when you RSVP at [turmolat@charter.net](mailto:turmolat@charter.net) or call 865-233-7411.

# Mission Accomplished!

## 2022 Gleaning Project a Success!

As part of the Lodge's objectives under its 2022 strategic plan (developed and approved by the Board), was increasing the Lodge interaction with the local community and more actively contributing to public service activities in the local community. This was accomplished with our participation in the "Gleaning Project".

### GLEANNING REPORT

Gleaning at the Dixie Lee Farmers Market by  
Vikings of the Smokies Volunteers  
May through October, 2022

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PRODUCE</u>
16.1	Cucumbers
9.1	Peppers
12.5	Eggplant
62.7	Okra
164	Tomatoes
41.0	Squash (incl zucchini)
5.5	Bread loaves
1.5	Cookies
6.2	Turnips & turnip greens
20.6	Lettuce & other greens
1.0	Radishes
.5	Carrots
7.5	Kale

Thank you to the VOTS volunteers including Clark Brekke (VOTS gleaning coordinator), Ole Kolberg, Darla & Alan Berdal, Dee Bumpers, Elizabeth & Trygve Myhre, Paul Abelquist, and Elaine Brekke!

The Shepard of Hope Food Pantry, which is hosted at Faith Lutheran Church, is a partnership with three additional local churches (Concord United Methodist Church, Farragut Presbyterian Church, and First Baptist Church of Farragut) who work together to sponsor and staff the pantry.

Our participation in that project included visiting the local farmers market at the close of business and collecting the leftover produce from the vendors, which resulted in the collection and donation of about 203 pounds of valuable food for those who benefit from local food banks.

Gleaners included 9 different VOTS Board members and their spouses through three hours of gleaning efforts, including their transportation to and from the "job site".

The Lodge tentatively plans on continuing the gleaning project by VOTS membership next summer when with even more participation by Lodge members!

## DON'T THROW OUT YOUR USED POSTAGE STAMPS YET!

Although the Sons of Norway International has discontinued its relationship with Tubfrim, District 5 is working to partner with a new organization to continue the Tubfrim program. Additional details will be available in January.

## From the Treasurer:

Our net gain for January through November 2022 was \$141 compared to a net loss of \$147 for January through November 2021. Income included \$126 profit from the Children's International Festival and \$899 for membership dues.

\$884 in expenses included \$478 towards the District 5 Convention, \$78 for pizza & movie night, \$124 for refreshments, \$49 for Syttende Mai, and \$25 for Ski for Light.

Our current assets are \$4,863 including \$4,848 in the Regions checking account and \$15 for playing cards resale or awards. This compares to \$5,506 for November 2021. The only liability is a \$1,680 accrual for the next SON district 5 biannual convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Trygve Myhre

# TROLLKRETSEN

## SCANDINAVIAN DANCING IS BACK

Meg Mabbs and Bill Gooch invite anyone who is interested in Scandinavian Dance to join them on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm at the Laurel Theater. located at 1538 Laurel Avenue in Knoxville.

Absolutely everyone welcome - beginners welcome - no partner needed!  
Bring friends!

For more information, please email [megmabbs@bellsouth.net](mailto:megmabbs@bellsouth.net)

# **Welcome New Lodge Members!**

**Gary Knutson**

**Ruth & Ken Jensen**

## **In Memoriam**

### **Vikings of the Smokies Lodge mourns the passing of Suzanne Coffey and Don Pederson**

Suzie passed away suddenly on November 21st, following the death of her husband Steven on November 2. Services for both Suzie and Steven will be held at 12:30pm on Friday, December 16, 2022 at East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, 2200 E. Governor John Sevier Highway.

Don Pederson, beloved husband of long time Lodge member Bonnie Pederson, died after a battling a lengthy illness on November 18th. Memorial services for Don are set for Tuesday, December 20th at 2pm at Messiah Lutheran Church.

## **LEFSE FOR SALE**

THE LODGE WILL HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF  
PACKAGED LEFSE FOR SALE AT THE JULETREFEST!

RESERVE YOURS NOW BY EMAILING  
[INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG](mailto:INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG)

**\$6 PER BAG OR 2 OR MORE BAGS \$5 EACH**