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# VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

KNOXVILLE, TN

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

## President's Report

Greetings, as we enter the holiday season, our focus turns to family and friends, celebrating the reason for the season, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

This festive time of year is filled with worship, fellowship, family, presents, family dinners. If you are traveling, please be safe.

Here at the Lodge, we are enjoying the efforts of who decorated Farragut Park Christmas Tree with Norwegian flags to make our presence known to our neighbors.

We are planning now for Juletrefest which is only around the corner. Kudos to Bonnie who has pulled together all the loose ends to ensure success. We will have a fun time with traditional holiday foods, including meatballs torsk and some delicious desserts. . Please make sure to RSVP!

In addition, the Lodge is making arrangements to order lefse - so please contact [info@tnson.org](mailto:info@tnson.org) if you are interested in pre ordering for pickup at the Juletrefest. Details are available elsewhere in the newsletter.

As you may know, I will be stepping down as President so I may focus on my health issues. I want to thank our Board members for their unwavering dedication and support to the Lodge activities and events.

I want to also announce that **Trygve** - who for many years has steadfastly kept a keen eye on Lodge finances...(to the penny!!) will be retiring from the board at the end of the year and Darla Berdal has agreed to assume the position of Lodge Treasurer. We are still in need of a President and Secretary. The time commitment

is very manageable — just **eight board meetings** and **four Lodge events** per year. If you've ever considered taking a more active role, now is the perfect time!

A big tusen takk to the remaining board members including **Ole**, who has his finger on the pulse of membership, communicating with National about dues, new members, and providing member rosters. **Bonnie** who has taken up the role vacated by **Dee**, seeing to the details of meals, decorations, entertainment and guests. **Joleen** who has helped me to spearhead our planning of meetings, publishing newsletters, event flyers, and events with her vast experience and prior positions in the Lodge. **Tommy** has lent his support as vice president with his long-term membership in SONS. Thank you all so much for your support.

To our members, thank you for your membership and support for the events we have held. Without you it is not possible.

Merry Christmas  
Paul W. Abelquist

## JULETREFEST NEW MEMBER SPECIAL

*Anyone who joins the Sons of Norway Lodge as a new member during the Juletrefest on Sunday, December 14 will enjoy the Juletrefest buffet dinner at no charge.*

**STOP BY THE MEMBERSHIP TABLE  
TO LEARN MORE**



VIKINGS  
OF THE SMOKIES

# JULETREFEST

Please join the Lodge for our annual Juletrefest smorgasbord. The menu will include torsk and meatballs, buttered potatoes, vegetable side dishes, lefse, bread and butter and a selection of traditional desserts.

Sunday, December 14th  
4-6pm  
Messiah Lutheran Church

**\$15 PER PERSON**  
**\$25 PER COUPLE**  
PLEASE RSVP TO [INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG](mailto:INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG)

A limited amount of  
Lefse will also be  
available for purchase  
\$5 per bag

# PRE ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY LEFSE

## \$6 per package or \$10 for 2

The Lodge will again be ordering lefse for pickup at the Juletefest on Sunday December 14 at Messiah Lutheran Church.

If you are interesting in ordering lefse - please email [info@tnvikings.org](mailto:info@tnvikings.org) no later than December 5th.

### **From the Treasurer:**

Net income for Jan - Oct 2025 was \$574 compared to \$741 for the same period in 2024.

Total expenses for Jan - Oct 2025 were \$840, including \$305 (District 5 Convention), \$169 (SON liability insurance), \$167 (Juletefest), \$77 (Syttende Mai), \$64 (July 4th truck rental), and \$58 (Norwegian flags). Expenses for the same time period in 2024 were \$196 - an increase of \$64 - mostly due to the increase in liability insurance.

Our current assets are \$4,576 in the Regions checking account. This compares to \$4,691 in the bank for October 2024, a decrease of \$115.

The current liabilities are \$1,684, including \$1,484 accrual for the next District 5 convention and \$200 for Faith Lutheran usages. Our total equity is \$2,893 compared to \$2,674 last year, an increase of \$218.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Trygve Myhre**

# The Vikings of the Smokies Lodge is only as strong as its members!

Our Lodge depends on you!. Step up today - offer to serve in a position or help with upcoming events. Every hand makes a difference! Talk to a Lodge officer or sign up at our next meeting. Let's keep our Lodge strong!

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Many of these roles can be shared by more than one person, and most take no more than a few hours per quarter with the bulk of the time spent participating in the quarterly Lodge or Board meetings.

## The Elected Board Officers & their Duties:

**President** is the highest ranking Lodge officer, responsible for ensuring lodge compliance with the Sons of Norway Charter & Constitution while overseeing and guiding Lodge activities

**Vice President** leads Lodge membership recruitment efforts

**Secretary** takes minutes at Board meetings and keeps attendance records

**Treasurer** oversees Lodge finances.

**Social Directors** plan social activities for the Lodge.

**Cultural Directors** work with Social Director to plan activities to encourage Lodge member's appreciation for the culture of Norway through the Cultural Skills Program.