



NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2 0 2 4

VIKINGS OF THE SMOKIES

KNOXVILLE, TN

WWW.TNVIKINGS.ORG

President's Report

Dear Lodge Members -

Another summer has come and gone, school is in full swing and our neighbors in N.C. and states to our south have been devastated by two hurricanes causing irreparable damage and loss of life and property. Our hearts go out to all those affected.

Halloween has just passed with many children canvassing door-to-door for sweet treats and adorning some cute and strange costumes, and the holiday season is already upon us!

As many of you may know, the decision to cancel the October general meeting was made due to low member participation. The Board decided to focus energy on the upcoming December Juletrefest to be held on December 8th at Messiah Lutheran Church.

The flyer has been distributed to all members; and your participation is requested. The smorgasbord promises to be delightfully tasteful. We have invited Pastor Cerniglia of Messiah Lutheran to give a brief history of the St. Lucia festival in Europe, and possibly, the Messiah children to participate (a work in progress).

At the meeting we will pass out a brief survey soliciting your input and desire as it relates to the future direction of our Lodge and I hope members will provide feedback on the upcoming activities and

Simply put, we need your participation and volunteerism in local events to keep the Lodge going. For too long, it has been the same few people doing all the heavy lifting.

We need "younger" members to get more involved and take on positions of leadership as well as participating in our long standing community volunteer efforts which include the Farragut Adopt-A-Mile in Farragut, The International Children's Festival and the Gleaning Project.

The Adopt A Mile is a two-hour fresh air walk in Farragut once a quarter to keep Boring Road free of trash. Volunteers determine the day and time and all equipment is provided.

The International Festival is a one day event coordinated by the Children's Museum in Oak Ridge, held in February, The Lodge has traditionally set up an information table, and demonstrated how to bake lefse and provided samples for the festival attendees.

The Gleaning Project is in cooperation with the Farragut Farmer's Market's at Dixie Lee. The time commitment is approximately one hour on two Saturday mornings a month from May to November. Left over and unsold produce is gathered from the farmers for the Society of St. Andrew. A bit of history... St. Andrew has collected over a billion pounds of produce since its inception in the 1970's; and this season VOTS volunteers collected 532 pounds for the effort.

As a Lodge, we collectively need to make decisions on what community activities will be supported moving forward, in addition to which yearly events will continue to be organized. We invite your participation and enthusiasm to grow our Lodge. Submit ideas that all may have fun doing.

Until we meet again... I want to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and a joyful holiday season as we head for the Christmas holiday.

Fraternally yours,

Paul W. Abelquist

PRE ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY LEFSE NOW!

PLEASE EMAIL INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

ORDER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 30

\$5 PER BAG

PICK UP AT JULETREFEST ON DECEMBER 8TH PREFERRED

CASH OR CHECK ONLY, PLEASE



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 8th
4-6pm
Messiah Lutheran Church

\$15 PER PERSON
\$25 PER COUPLE
PLEASE RSVP TO INFO@TNVIKINGS.ORG

Lefse will also be
available for purchase
\$5 per bag

From the Treasurer:

Net income for the year to date is \$741, compared to a net income of \$0.12 for the same period in 2023.

Total income from Jan- Oct was \$938, including \$642 for SON membership dues, \$234 for food donations for recent Lodge meeting, \$86 from the International Festival, \$55 donations, with \$81 in expenses for Syttende Mai. Last year's income from 2023 Jan-Oct was \$886, which included \$666 for SON membership dues, \$127 for the International Festival, and \$92 for the baking class.

Expenses totaled \$196 with \$275 towards the next District 5 Convention , \$75 for Juletreffest, \$46 for website domain, \$30 for service pins postage, plus an \$200 overcharged liability for Messiah Lutheran facility usage, and \$30 income for the July 4th picnic.

This compares to 2023 Jan - Oct expenses, which included \$453 insurance, \$305 towards the District 5 convention, \$251 for SON insurance, \$250 for Masse Moro, \$113 for Syttende Mai, \$25 for bereavement, plus income of \$38 for the July 4th picnic, \$64 for refreshments, and \$170 for the Torsk dinner.

Our current assets are \$4,691 in the Regions checking account. This compares to \$4,958 for September 2023, a decrease of \$267 (54%), while total equity is \$2,674 compared to \$3,753 last year – a decrease of \$1,079 (29%).

Respectfully submitted,
Trygve Myhre

Two Grammy-nominated fiddlers come together as “Thirteen Strings From Scandinavia”



[Loretta Kelley](#) is a master of the Norwegian Hardanger fiddle, while [Andrea Hoag](#) is equally renowned for traditional Swedish fiddling.

Loretta and Andrea will be presenting a concert at the Laurel Theater on **Tuesday, December 10th** as part of their tour celebrating their latest album, “Hambo in the Garden”.

For tickets, or for more information on the event, please contact Bill Gooch.