

Hardanger Nyheter

Sons of Norway
Hardanger Lodge #109
Kelowna, BC

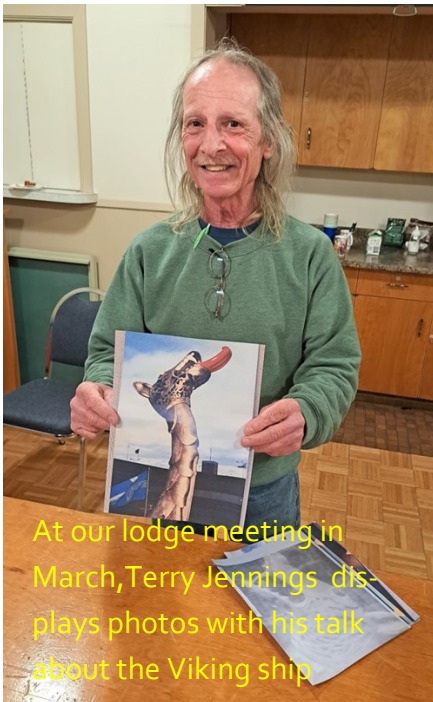


Since 1974

**SPECIAL NOTICE TO
HARDANGER LODGE
MEMBERS.**

President, Gloria Benazic will be out of town on our meeting night of April 17. She will conduct the general Lodge meeting via Zoom.

Lodge members will receive the Zoom URL via a separate email.



At our lodge meeting in March, Terry Jennings displays photos with his talk about the Viking ship

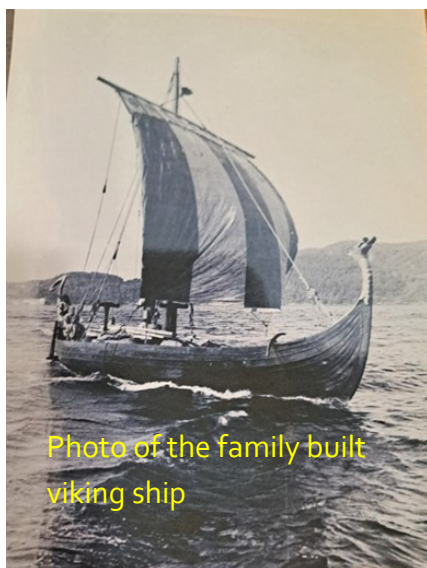


Photo of the family built viking ship

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Guest, Terry Jennens tells about the Kelowna built Viking ship

Our guest, Terry Jennens, shared his family's story of researching and building a Viking ship

He told how his father was a very skilled boat builder and was fascinated with viking ships. As a kid Terry spent his time with his dad and learned woodworking skills.

The whole family- mother, sister and brothers were engaged with the building of the viking ship and the sewing of viking style clothing and sail.

The ship took six years to build and when completed was put on to a trailer and taken on display to cities in the Pacific Northwest.

It was taken by a freighter to Norway, launched in Bergen and there a crew learned to sail the ship

The plan was to sail to the Scandinavian countries and then to L'anse au Meadows in Newfoundland.

However, this was not to be. The ship was eventually freighted back to Kelowna and now sits in a shed on Terry's Abbott Street property.

How Hardanger Lodge #109 Began

The first invitation to organize a Sons of Norway lodge in Kelowna was a letter from field manager, Tormod Rekdal.

Sometime in 1973, a letter to Ted Haugseth, who was a charter member of Rondane Lodge #71 of Prince George, BC and a friend of Rekdal, asked to have a survey taken here in Kelowna to ascertain if there was enough interest among people of Norwegian heritage to form a Son of Norway Lodge.

Back in 1972 a pharmacist by the name of John Moxness had written to the Supreme Lodge of Sons of Norway in Minneapolis regarding membership.

They wrote back suggesting that he could join lodge #1000, an association of members where there was no local lodge.

In 1973 Ted Haugseth received a letter from Rekdal asking for a survey so

Ted contacted John Moxness and they worked together on it.

The survey indicated that a Kelowna lodge was feasible so a letter was sent to Field Manager, Tormod Rekdal and the results eventually resulted in the formation of Hardanger Lodge #109

In the beginning (the conception of Hardanger Lodge #109)

Announcement of a recruiting drive. (Kelowna Courier October 1973)

A recruiting drive by the fraternal organization, Sons of Norway begins in the Kelowna area next week.

Two representatives of the group were in Kelowna Friday to discuss plans to set up a chapter of the organization here.

A meeting will be held at 7:30 pm Tuesday at Rutland Centennial Hall and all residents of Norwegian heritage have been invited to attend.

Sig Bakken of Prince George, assistant field manager for Sons of Norway, said the group is primarily concerned with perpetuating the Viking culture.

He said people of Norwegian ancestry, by joining the group will learn more of their history.

Sons of Norway was formed in 1895 in Minneapolis by 18 men of Norwegian background.

It since has grown to more than 300 branches across the United States and the three western Canadian provinces.

Announcement of the First Meeting

(Kelowna Courier May 1974)

The inaugural meeting of the newly –formed Kelowna chapter of the Sons of Norway will take place Saturday at the Willow Inn Hotel.

Norwegian vice-consul to British Columbia, Oscar F. Paulsen, will be among special guests on hand for the event, expected to attract up to 100 persons of Norwegian background.

Others expected to attend are Haakon Soros of New Westminster, the fraternal organization's supreme director for BC; Ralph B. Hagan of Prince George, president of the BC. zone; Tormod Rekdal of Vancouver, regional manager for the Lower Mainland; Anfin Haaheim of New Westminster, district secretary-treasurer; Gunnar Worolien representing the Norwegian language newspaper, *Morona*, Published in Vancouver and Ald Jim Stuart, representing the City of Kelowna.

**Charter Member who is still a member of Hardanger Lodge #109 is Ruthie Johnson of Falkland.
Congratulations to you, Ruthie!**

Rolling out Lefse



Guests to the home of Wilf and Bev Akerlund were Clea Haugo and her daughter, Svea. Clea remembers preparing lefse with her grandmother and wanted to share the experience with her daughter. They arrived one afternoon after school for a lefse making lesson. Six year old Svea did a fine job of rolling out and baking lefse. Before long we all had a taste of freshly-baked lefse with butter, cinnamon and sugar.



In Memory of Karen Moen who passed away at the age of 102



On March 20, 2024, Karen Moen passed away peacefully surrounded by family.

The Moen family left Norway in 1957 and came to Canada. They settled in Burnaby where Karen was a homemaker, Konrad was a millwright and the children started school. They had many friends who emigrated at the same time, and many good times together. There was always a good reason for a get

together. Karen and Konrad soon joined the Sons of Norway, a folk dancing group was formed and they entertained at many occasions.

Karen and her husband, Konrad joined Hardanger Lodge #109 in 1983 but Karen has been a member of Sons of Norway for 65 years.

They both instructed our Hardanger, Scandinavian Folk Dancers. We did many Scandinavian dances for a number of years and the group entertained locally

A private service will be held in Norway, during which Karen will be laid to rest with her late husband and parents.

Counties Go Separate Ways

In 2017, Norway's Storting voted to combine several fylker, and 19 counties became 11 regions in January of 2020. This administrative reform attempted to strengthen each region and improve coordination between municipalities, regions and state.

According to the website LifeinNorway.net, several of these combined regions decided that the set-up was not working and have rolled back the mergers as of January 1, 2024. Now there are a total of 15 counties.

Here is the current line-up of fylker:

Continuing as merged counties:

- Agder
- Vestlandet
- Trøndelag
- Innlandet

Splitting:

- Troms og Finnmark are breaking up
- Viken will revert to Buskerud, Akershus and Østfold counties
- Vestfold og Telemark will also roll back the changes

Unaffected by both 2020 and 2024 changes:
Møre og Romsdal

- Nordland
- Oslo
- Rogaland

Not everyone was in favor of the restructuring, including the police service, who will need more resources and officers to cover the increased number of counties.



Photo Credit: KDD/KARTVERKET, www.regjeringen.no

A Color-Coded City

On the southern tip of the island of Karmøy in Norway, lies a charming village known as Skudeneshavn. Skudeneshavn is a coastal town that features narrow streets, seafront wharves, and a unique cohesiveness. In 2018, the King adopted the cultural environment protection in Skudeneshavn that is protected by the Cultural Heritage Act. This act recognizes the value of historic areas and seeks to maintain their cultural significance. It is the reason Skudeneshavn is so well preserved. The conservation means that there are regulations in place for the maintenance and upkeep of building exteriors and outdoor areas. Skudeneshavn has had a rich color history in respect to their building exteriors and those same colors are now portrayed in the city's color code as a result of its status as a culturally protected environment. Any maintenance or painting to one's house must be in line with the city's guidelines in a specific color palette and with the right technique/tools. The colors include white, shades of green, red, and blue. There is no doubt that the protection creates an authentic experience and draws forward the rich history of the town.



Photo Credit: Ørjan B. Iversen, www.visitnorway.com

Barnehage on the Move

Pre-schoolers in Norway are some of the most hardy and adventurous kids around. Each weekday, kids in *barnehage* are prepared for anything the weather can throw their way.

Growing up in the rugged countryside and even in cities, kids experience *friluftsliv* at a young age, braving the elements wearing tiny safety vests with their care providers.

Around 400 Norwegian daycare centers go on daily adventure outings with their 11,000 charges. The hope, according to Kristin Oftedal of the Norwegian Trekking Association, is that they “learn skills and attitudes that they can carry with them for their whole lives.”

“We believe outdoor children are happy children,” she adds.

The aim is to teach children simple and nature-friendly ways to be outside together, play, experience, wonder, explore and learn about nature. Oftedal says

Study Finds Song is a Universal Language

A new American study claims that we can recognize a lullaby, no matter what culture the song is from.

After testing people from over 60 countries, two researchers claim that songs and music are a universal language.

They think we can hear the difference between a song meant for dancing and one meant to put a small child to sleep. This applies regardless of which culture the songs come from, and which culture the listener was brought up in.

“We show that our common psyche creates basic patterns in songs that transcend large cultural differences,” says Manvir Singh, doctoral fellow at Harvard University, in a press release.

He is one of the two researchers behind the music study, which has been published in the journal *Current Biology*.

Distinguishing Dance Songs from Lullabies

The Harvard researchers have done an experiment in which songs in different languages from all parts of the world were divided into categories based on how they were used in their own society. If the song was used for dancing in the community where it was sung, it belonged in the dance category. They also created separate categories for songs that were to be used in healing rituals, such as lullabies for a troubled child or pure love songs.

The researchers cut 14-second snippets from the songs and tasked 750 internet users with putting them into the correct category. Although there were only four real options, the subjects were given several to choose from.

The researchers had entered two trick categories, which allowed the internet users to claim that the songs were mourning songs or just telling a story.

Despite the deception, the subjects did quite well. It was easiest to recognize dance music, but the subjects were also able to recognize lullabies and healing songs.



Å være pling i bollen

Translation: To be a ping in the bowl.

Meaning: To be empty-headed/stupid (from the “ping”-like noise an empty bowl makes when you tap it).

Hva er i veien?

Translation: What’s in the way?

Meaning: What’s wrong?

Blandaball – Mixed Dumplings

A traditional dish from Møre.

Recipe source: [Recipe Reminiscing](#) and [Oppskrift.klikk.no](#)

4 servings

Main ingredients:

2.2 lbs / 1 kg fish fillets
(preferably pollock, haddock or sole)
2 lbs / 900 g raw potatoes
1 large onion
1 Tbsp. salt
1/2 tsp. Pepper
about. 2 Tbsp. coarse barley
about. 2 Tbsp. Flour
fried bacon crumbles

Typical sides:

bacon – either crumbled as topping,
or served in strips
boiled rutabaga
boiled carrots
boiled potatoes

Directions:

Cut the clean fish fillet into pieces.
Peel and cut potatoes and onions into pieces.

Shred fish, potatoes and onions in a meat grinder or food processor on coarse setting. Stir salt, pepper and flour into the mixture.

Form the mixture into round balls, and if desired, use your finger to make a hole and press pieces of bacon into the center of each ball.

Place the balls in simmering lightly salted water or fish stock, and let them simmer for 20-30 minutes. After 20 minutes, divide a ball in two to see if it is cooked through. Serve blandaball hot with sides of fried bacon and turnips, rutabaga, carrot and/or potatoes.

Leftovers can be pan-fried in slices or frozen.



Da Yokes on Yu

Government surveyors came to Ole's farm in the fall and asked if they could do some surveying. Ole agreed and Lena even served them a nice meal at noon time.

The next spring, the two surveyors stopped by and told Ole, "because yu were so kind to us, we wanted to give you this bad news in person instead of a letter."

Ole replied, "What's the bad news?"

The surveyors stated, "Well, after our work here we discovered your farm is not in Saskatchewan but is actually in Manitoba!"

Ole looked at Lena and said, "That's the best news I have heard in a long time. I just told Lena this morning that I don't think I can take another winter in Saskatchewan."

Ole and Lena collected \$125,000 after their house burned down to the ground.

Having never been away from home before they decided to go on a vacation. Ole decided to phone Suen to ask if they could rent his vacation home on the Fraser River in Abbotsford BC for a short term.

"Hello Suen, dis is Ole, Our house bernt down to de ground so me and Lena are going to take some de insurance money to have a vacation. Can we rent your cottage on de Fraser River for a vacation?"

Suen replies, "Dats funny, Only ting, Ole, is like you, I also lost my house. De came dis big flood and washed it away, My clothes and furniture, too. De British Columbia government Insurance gave me \$453,000."

Now if you have a Viking ship in your yard and don't know what to do with it, well here is a good idea. Make it into a couch.

