

Varden Newsletter

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Editorial

Seasons Greetings! I am writing this on our first day of snowfall. I guess winter is here and it's time for the holidays. Varden Lodge is celebrating with a Christmas party on Dec.10th. This will take place at Alan Emmott Hall at 6650 Southoakes Crescent in Burnaby at 1:30pm (not 2pm as I mistakenly put in last month's Leiflette). There will be crafts for all ages, singing around the Christmas tree and a visit from Santa. If you are bringing a child, please bring a small present with their name on it for Santa to give.

Another celebration to look forward to is our meatball dinner on January 27th at the Scandinavian Cultural Centre. The dinner will not only consist of meatballs - there will be a salad bar, plus (as any good Norwegian knows) potatoes, and a lovely dessert. Need I remind you how tasty Norwegian meatballs are! So please come. Doors will open at 6pm. Tickets are now available at the cost of \$35 per person (children ages 6 to 12 years, \$15 and under 6 years there is no charge). If you require tickets or more information, please contact Susan Strang at sstrang49@gmail.com, phone number 604-363-7696. We are looking forward to seeing you!

A Little Christmas Greenery

This year instead of writing about Norwegian Christmas cookies, I am going to write about something equally as important - Christmas trees (specifically, Norwegian Christmas trees). Every year for the past 75 years the people of Norway give the United Kingdom a Christmas tree. The tree is lit up in Trafalgar Square for all to see. This is Norway's way of thanking the British for all their support during World War II.

However, recently something has gone wrong. Last year the British press has criticized the tree, calling it "scrawny" and that it lacked enough branches, so this year efforts were made to clean the tree more efficiently and transport it more quickly. Additionally, the Mayor of Oslo, Marianne Borgen, the Lord Mayor of Westminster in London and the British Ambassador went to the tree cutting ceremony in Sorkedalen in the Oslo Valley. The tree was then taken 200 km to the port of Brevik where it will be washed as to remove road dust and salt. Then shipped to England where a truck will take to Trafalgar Square in London.

Although Mayor Borgen did not comment on the criticism, she did say that the tree is 60 feet high and it was "healthy and lush". Borgen feels the tree represents "fellowship and hope", something we all need right now. Let's hope the tree helps in creating the Christmas spirit and I hope for this is in abundance for you. Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones!

November Meeting!

This meeting was a business meeting.

Education Grant

Varden offers an Educational Grant of \$700 for post-secondary studies to a child or grandchild of a lodge member. **The Deadline for this year is 04/30/2023.** Please send your application to Krista Solie at 604-540-2376.

December Birthdays

27th-Terry Mosdell

January Meeting!

There will be a business meeting on January 10th. Please see below for more info.

Sunshine Report

I hope no news is good news as I haven't heard much. I do know that Helen Mosdell celebrated her 96th birthday last month happily with her family.

January Birthdays

7th-Wilamina Wiles

19th-Jaxon Zaharoff

22nd-Michael Strang

24th-Sonja Carlson

-Deanna Zaharoff

29th-Jakob Tengs

Calendar of Events.

1. Varden Lodge's next meeting will be on the January 10th at 7:30pm. This meeting will be on Zoom. Susan will send out an e-mail with all the details.
2. Sleipner Lodge will be having its Christmas dinner on Dec.9th at the Scandinavian Cultural Centre.
3. Viking Lodge will be having its meeting and a Potluck Luncheon on Dec.1st at Tynehead Hall in Surrey. Lunch will start at noon the meeting will follow.
4. Varden Lodge's Christmas party is on December 10 starting at 1:30 PM.
5. Varden Lodge will be holding a Norwegian Meatball dinner on Jan. 27th, 2023 at the Scandinavian Cultural Centre. For tickets please contact- Susan Strang at sstrang49@gmail.com

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
