

The Lutfisk Wrapper

Vol. 26 Issue 2 - February 2020

VASA Order of America - Harmoni Lodge # 472

Meets: 3rd Sunday of the month

Hollywood Senior Center

1820 NE 40th - Portland, OR 97212

Harmoni Homepage: www.harmonilodge472.org

Harmoni US Postal Address: PO Box 13282 Portland, OR 97213-0282

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President's Message:

Dear Harmoni Members,

This is the first time I've had to write a President's Message in several years, so I decided to crib by pulling up the last February message I wrote: Good news! Some things have remained wonderfully constant these last few years, especially this: THE CRABS ARE COMING! More details inside this issue of the Lutfisk Wrapper, please act immediately to get your reservations and money in, if you haven't already. **Deadline is February 11th**.

Harmoni knows how to get things done. At our January meeting, your 2020 slate of officers were nominated, elected, and installed in about the time it takes to drink a cup of coffee. There were two items of main interest in this election: First, most of our officers agreed to serve another term, and second, our Chairman for the last several years – and for quite a few years earlier than that – decided it was time to take a breather. Elisabeth Mendenhall has been looking after the well being of Harmoni Lodge with such dedication and care... we are tremendously in her debt. Characteristically, she closed out her term of office with a round of thanks to the lodge officers and others that showed she truly knows and values all the work that's done to make Harmoni what it is. And after that flourish, she and Craig jetted off to the South Pacific, which sounds like a great opportunity for her to focus on other matters for a bit. We look forward to seeing them both again shortly.

What's next after the crab feed? At our March meeting, Christine Smith will share a presentation of the 2019 Tour the VASA Youth Group took to Sweden – when they were dancing in Sweden on Midsummer.

Thoughts for the April and May meetings are welcome. Bingo anyone? And if you'd like to see an activity outside of the usual and regular get-together, I understand from the latest audit that we did well financially last year, so we might consider making use of some of our money for a broader range of events.

In Truth and Unity,

Charlie



Calendar of Events:

Feb. 16 **Harmoni's Annual Crab Feed!!!**
(Sun.) **Hollywood Senior Center - 5p**
Guest Social Time 5p
Crab Dinner about 5:30p

Mar. 15 **Harmoni Bus/Social Meeting**
(Sun.) **Hollywood Senior Center - 4p**
Presentation of Vasa Youth Group
Dancing Tour to Sweden – 2019!
Christine Smith presenting

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Harmoni 2020 Dues Now Past Due!

Judy Rust, membership coordinator and Financial Secretary will be contacting any members who have not paid their 2020 dues.

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Remember that a pile of money awaits you if your name is pulled from the magic Scandinavian jar, and you are attending the monthly Harmoni meeting.

(Can you believe it?? Charlie Toblen's name was drawn (again) at the January meeting, and he was in attendance! Congrats to Charlie for his exceptional luck! Next chance: 2/16/20 ed.)

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Harmoni Officers 2020

Check out your new Harmoni officers for 2020, listed on the last page, and remember to thank them for offering their time and talent for Harmoni Lodge.



February Happy Birthdays!!!

1 Maude Eriksson
4 Ulla Hanson
5 Andrew Toth, Jr.
7 Margot Toth
10 Ellen Jacobson
20 Minna Ostlind
23 Joyce Nielsen

Ja, må du leva! Ja, må du leva!

Ja, må du leva!

Uti hundra år!

Ja, visst ska du leva!

Ja, visst ska du leva!

Ja, visst ska du leva!

UTI HUNDRADE ÅR!

HURRA! HURRA! HURRA! HURRA!



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Harmoni Sweets for the Swedes

Craving something good to eat???

*Check with **Nancy Tuttle** to sign up for your favorite month/celebration event in the coming Harmoni year. Give her a call at: 503 659-4027 to schedule (Birthday? Anniversary?).*

It's even more fun to host with a Harmoni friend!



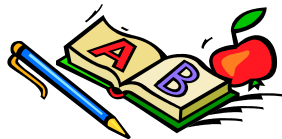
Scholarships Available!!!

Vasa Order of America Pacific Northwest District 13 will be offering two (2) \$1,500 scholarships for 2021. The competition is open to all members of District #13 who have joined on or before April 1, 2019. The scholarships are available to pay for post high school education including Community Colleges, Universities, Technical Colleges and Trade School. There is no age requirement and prior winners may apply.

The application and more information is available from Harmoni's Recording Secretary, Abbe MacFarlane, and the application must be signed and sealed by her, certifying the applicant is a member in good standing. She can be reached by phone, text or email: 971-235-2960 or amacfar@aol.com.

The applicant should attach the form to an original typed essay (less than 1000 words) about some topic related to Vasa Order of America (suggestions for topics are available.)

Harmoni's Recording Secretary, Abbe MacFarlane, should receive applications by **MARCH 25, 2020** in order to sign and forward to the District. The winners will be announced at the District Spring Board meeting in April.



Meeting Schedule: February 16

Meet at Hollywood Senior Center:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 3:30 pm | Set up tables |
| 4:00 pm | Officers meeting -
(everyone is welcome to attend) |
| 5:00 pm | Social time – Guests Arrive |
| 5:30 pm | Crab Feed!!! |

A New Harmoni Member!

A warm Harmoni welcome to new member, Quentin Davis, husband to Teri Davis, and dad to Tori Davis. We're so glad to have you aboard! Quentin's address matches his ladies, but his birthday is August 22. Step up and introduce yourself at your next opportunity.



A Special Piece of Correspondence

The daughter of former member, Bert Taule, Sandra, recently sent a package to Harmoni Lodge, along with a special enclosure. She explained that while they were going through Bert's effects recently, they found Bert's Harmoni Lodge polo shirt, which Sandra laundered and returned, hoping that another Harmoni Lodge member might enjoy wearing the shirt. It was unanimously agreed to present Bert's shirt to our newest member, Quentin Davis, in memory of Bert.



Auditors and Trustees Report

The Harmoni Auditors reported that the review of Harmoni's 2019 books was completed, and that the books were in good order. Harmoni Trustees reported that it had been a very good year indeed on the stock market for Harmoni Lodge.

Support For Trollbacken Culture Camp

Harmoni has again voted to support Trollbacken, Swedish Language and Culture Camp. Go campers!

Midsummer Changes

Nordic Northwest is continuing to change the make-up of Midsummer at Oaks Park on June 13, and the League of Swedish Societies is pursuing a separate Midsummer at Foothills Park in Lake Oswego on June 20th. Details will follow as they develop.

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A New Address for Andrew

Please note and make changes to your roster:

A new address for Andrew Toth Jr.:

1406 SE Condor PL, Gresham OR 97080.

His phone number remains the same.



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Around Town with our Members:

Jan Ekberg took a nasty fall recently and spent some time in two emergency rooms. She suffered fractures in her face, and has a sore hand. Husband, Glenn said she kind of looks like a raccoon, but should be all healed by our next meeting. They're still looking for the t-shirt saying: "you should have seen the other guy" ... ++

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Greetings from Elisabeth and Craig (Mendenhall)!

We are cruising around New Zealand in the Pacific Ocean. We visited Sydney, Australia for a few days and suffered in 107 degrees. In southern NZ it was around 60 and raining. There, we felt right at home. We are now heading north and weather is getting warmer. Pool time!

This is an interesting cruise with mostly Australians and a lot of people from England. Sometimes it's a little hard to catch what they are saying because of a different accent. But they probably have the same problem with me!

No formal nights any more. Just chic dress up, but that's kind of the same for women. Guys just don't have to wear suit and tie anymore.

It was a little choppy one night but otherwise very smooth sailing.

See you all at the crab feed.



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There was also an email update from member Joyce Neilsen:

We leave for Yuma this weekend and will return the end of March. We hear from friends already there that the sun is shining and highs are in the 70's. We are looking forward to enjoying the warm weather and visiting with friends.



jn

Astrid Hanke had a great birthday this year. Friends invited her out for dinner, she received a lot of cards, flowers and phone calls from family in Sweden. A very good day!

Anna and Hans Lundin report they both are feeling well these days. Hans medical therapy is completed and he feels quite good about it. They are both looking forward to the Crab Feed at Harmoni.

Lisa Toth and five of her good friends (all the same age) spent seven days in Puerto Vallarta Mexico this month. A wonderful trip with super good weather, swimming, boat trips to other islands, snorkeling - just a great visit with good friends. (By Mother Toth: *these girls are getting old!!!*)



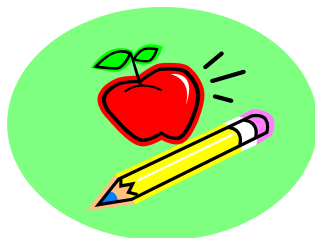
More:

Around Town with our Members:

Elisabeth Wallberg and her husband Roger also spent time in Mexico this month, but in Cancun. This trip was awarded to Elisabeth by her company because of the great job she is doing for them. Congratulations, Elisabeth! They had a wonderful time eating, swimming, and just relaxing.



An elementary school classroom in Lake Oswego studied Sweden and Swedish Culture, borrowing a lot of material from **Ross Fogelquist's** home. They created a display and presented it at their school. They showed a video of Sweden, and shared stories about the Vikings and Swedish Christmas traditions. Ross reports a great job was done by both teachers and students.



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Thanks to this month's newsletter contributors: Glenn Ekberg, Abbe MacFarlane, Elisabeth Mendenhall, Joyce Neilsen, and Margot Toth. The deadline for the **March 2020** newsletter will be Friday, March 6, 2020.

Email your news to:

anntohlen@yahoo.com,

call (503) 236-0200, or send via US Mail to:

Ann Tohlen

474 NE Hazelfern Place

Portland, OR 97232

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Harmoni Lodge #472 Officers 2020

Chairman	Charlie Tohlen
Vice Chairman	Ann Tohlen
Past Chairman	Elisabeth Mendenhall
Rcdg. Sec.	Abbe MacFarlane
Asst. R. Sec.	Nancy Tuttle
Treasurer	Andy Toth
Asst. Treasurer	Glenn Ekberg
Fin. Secretary	Judy Rust
Asst. Fin. Sec.	Teri Davis
Chaplain	Margot Toth
Master of Ceremonies	Astrid Hanke
Outer Guard	Alan Tuttle
Historian	Margot Toth
Musician	Astrid Hanke
Auditors:	Janet Johnson Astrid Hanke
Trustees:	Carl Thompson Glenn Ekberg Don McTaggart

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