

The Lutfisk Wrapper

Vol. 26 Issue 3 – March 2020

VASA Order of America - Harmoni Lodge # 472

Meets: 3rd Sunday of the month 4:30p

(Light Refreshments at 4pm)

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,

Harmoni has enjoyed another fine crab dinner, thanks to all who helped provide things to eat – and to the Harmoni treasury, which carried a share of the expense. My appreciation also to the willing hands which helped set up, tear down, and clear away.

This month we can look forward to a presentation by Christine Smith and her Vasa Youth dancers, who will share a bit with us about their trip to Sweden, and will then stick around for a light but festive dinner built around hot dogs. Please join with us to help show our appreciation for this group of ambassadors.

And all are invited to attend the officers' meeting, which will begin at 3:30. Input from all sides is always welcome.

Lastly, please remember, Vaffeldagen is the 25th of the month. We won't be meeting to enjoy them* as a group this year, so do conduct your own private ceremonies to tell one another about in April.

In Truth and Unity,

Charlie



* (waffles – ed.)

Calendar of Events:

Mar. 15 **Harmoni Bus/Social Meeting**
(Sun.) **Hollywood Senior Center - 4p**
Presentation of Vasa Youth Group
Dancing Tour to Sweden – 2019!
Christine Smith and friends presenting
Dinner – Hot Dogs & Mac O Cheese!

April 19 **Harmoni Bus/Social Meeting**
(Sun.) **Hollywood Senior Center - 4p**
Easter Potluck Celebration &
Bingo Night!

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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 2020 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!



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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.

(During last month's Crab Feed, Doug Hanson's name was drawn, but unfortunately he was not in attendance! Next chance: 3/19/20 ed.)

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Harmoni 2020 Dues Are OverDue

If you have not yet paid your Harmoni 2020 dues, you will be dropped from VASA and Harmoni membership.

Did you know that Harmoni must pay Grand Lodge Vasa dues for all Harmoni members? Talk to Judy Rust, membership guru, for reinstatement. (Judy's #: (503) 709-0291.)



March Happy Birthdays!!!

6 Elisabeth Mendenhall
14 Glenn Ekberg
16 Anna Mendenhall-Eckhardt
22 Kjersti Krueger
26 Rick Carlson

Ja, må du leva! Ja, må du leva!

Ja, må du leva!

Uti hundrade 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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Scholarship Forms Submitted???

Don't forget! VASA Order of America Pacific Northwest District 13 is offering two \$1,500 scholarships for 2021. 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. There is no age requirement and prior winners may apply. Details in last month's Lutfisk Wrapper!

Meeting Schedule: March 15

3:00 pm Meet at Hollywood Senior Center:
Set up tables
3:30 pm Officers meeting -
(everyone is welcome to attend)
4:00 pm Social time – Guests/Kids Arrive
4:30 pm Dancer Swedish Tour presentation
5:30 pm Dinner! Hot Dogs and salad
Dancer families join us

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Harmoni Lodge and the CoronaVirus

We are all concerned about the coronavirus, Covid-19, and how it might affect our members. Though there is no need to panic, there are precautions that are reasonable to follow to slow the spread of the virus. Checking the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) website, it is noted: **There is currently no vaccine** to prevent the coronavirus 2019 (COVID19), and the following is advised:

Take steps to protect yourself:

Clean hands often – use hand sanitizer.
Avoid touching mouth, eyes, nose with unwashed hands.
Avoid contact with sick people, and cut out all unnecessary handshakes, hugs, kisses, etc.

Take steps to protect others:

Stay home if you are sick.
Use a tissue to cover any of your coughs or sneezes – dispose of the used tissue, then clean your hands.

There is no need to wear a face mask unless you are ill; to protect others from your germs. There is a great global effort underway to develop a vaccine for this virus.

Harmoni will provide a hand sanitizing station in front of our dinner table, along with tissues for folks to use if necessary. Children don't appear to suffer so much from this virus, depending upon their general health conditions. These precautions will help protect our older, more vulnerable members. We look forward to seeing you on March 15th!

Coronavirus Details and Website

There is much information available about Covid-19 and the spread of this virus. To avoid undue concern or panic, please consider educating yourself about the virus on the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

(The above link should function for any Harmoni member accessing the Lutfisk Wrapper via email. Snail-mail recipients would need to access the link for information on their home computer or smart phone device by typing the above link address into their web browser (Safari, Google Chrome, Firefox, etc) – and accessing the www – World Wide Web – for details. If you do not have a home computer or smart phone device, free access is available at your public library. ed.)

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A New League Midsummer 2020

Our League of Swedish Societies representative, Judy Rust, reported that the League has decided to host a Midsummer Celebration on Saturday, June 20th at Foothills Park in Lake Oswego. The celebration will run from 2-5pm, and the League has wondered if Harmoni would like to sell pancakes at the event? General sentiment at the Officer's meeting in February was that the time to sell was too short and too late in the day for pancakes. This question will be decided at the Officer's meeting on March 15. Come if you wish to express an opinion (or contact your local Harmoni officer...).

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Harmoni Pancakes for Nordic NW

Harmoni has decided to sell pancakes at the Nordic NW Midsummer celebration to be held at Oaks Park on Saturday, June 13th. We will function as a regular vendor, and will be required to pay for our booth and provide commission to Nordic NW as any other vendor. There will be no additional distribution of funds from Nordic NW to Harmoni for our participation. We'll see how this goes...

Midsummer Changes

The Lutfisk Wrapper will continue to share updates and details of the various Midsummer celebrations scheduled for Portland as they develop. Astoria Midsummer is scheduled for Saturday, June 20th, the same day as the celebration set by the League of Swedish Societies in Foothills Park, Lake Oswego.

The Lake Oswego celebration is envisioned as more of a family event, with only one food cart vendor. Family games are expected to be organized by Scandia Lodge. OLCC certified folks and at least one Registered Nurse are required. If you meet those qualifications, and can volunteer to help, please let Judy Rust know. Can your business help sponsor the event, or pay to advertise in an event program? It is expected other volunteer hosts/guides might be needed to greet/direct attendees. This is a new, different kind of traditional Midsummer family event, and details are still emerging. Stay tuned.



Scandia Lodge Cancels Bus Trip

Due to concerns over the coronavirus, Scandia Lodge has chosen to reschedule their upcoming trip on April 16th to the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum, the Fort Dalles Museum and Sunshine Mill Winery. A new date for the bus trip is not known at this time.



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Harmoni Supports PSU Swedish

Following a donation request from the PSU Department of Language Studies, Harmoni voted to support the Swedish Language program there with a donation of \$500 for the 2020-2021 academic year. The program was successful in their outside grant applications, and Harmoni's donation will help keep the Swedish language program running at PSU.

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Easter Celebration Plus Bingo!

Harmoni will celebrate Easter at our April meeting on April 19, with a member potluck, (ham provided by Harmoni), followed by an evening of Bingo. Bingo cards will be available for just 25¢/each or 3 for 50¢. What a bargain! Come join the fun!! A general meeting will precede the potluck – bring your favorite Easter foods!



Around Town with our Members:

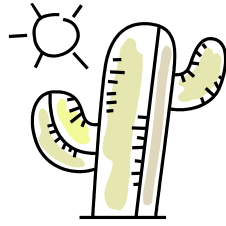
Charlie and Ann Tohlen recently visited the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center & Museum in The Dalles, and recommend it highly! Fort Dalles also looked interesting, but wasn't open yet for the season. (A Swedish homestead...)

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More:

Around Town with our Members:

Joyce Nielsen and her husband Kaare will be returning home from Yuma, AZ on March 15th. They have enjoyed their winter in the sunny desert!



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Ulla Hanson hosted a big party last month for Inger Person, the daughter of Arne Person (some Harmoni members knew Arne). It was great to have member **Ellen Jacobson** at the party. She looks great! Ulla reported it was a lot of fun to see Inger after many years and to visit with her family.

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On February 17, **Judy Rust** began a trip to the east coast. As she left the airport, it was cloudy and overcast. Flying from PDX to Minneapolis, they flew into a snowstorm! The next plane was an hour late leaving Minneapolis, as crews had to de-ice the plane. Then she flew to Fort Myers, Florida where it was 80 degrees. What a difference a day makes! Judy had a great visit with her sister and brother-in-law. They sat on the beach, walked on the beach, went shopping, and ate some wonderful meals. It was a welcome change from our damp and cool spring.



jr

Alan and Nancy Tuttle happily announce the birth of their new beautiful grandson, Caleb Robert, born February 18 in Bend, Oregon. He weighed 8 lbs 4 oz, and is doing just fine; growing and finding his voice more each day. Brice, Caleb's 2 year old brother, has finally acknowledged that this new little brother is here to stay. Brice enjoys giving Caleb rides on his infant play mats (when no one is looking), and likes to steal his brother's pacifier also!

The excited grandparents stayed three weeks in Redmond helping the growing family. Alan was busy spreading 8 loads of gravel, trimming trees and installing nook benches in the family kitchen. Many thanks to **Don McTaggart** for helping Alan construct the benches and drawers! Nancy was kept busy chasing Brice; who never walks, but runs. Pheww!! Brice turned two years old on February 22 and a fun party was held. Lots more trucks and cars for Brice!

Nancy and Alan also spent time visiting their son and his family in Redmond. Nana played baseball and lots of games with 8 year old Dylan and 5 year old Colton, while Papa helped install a new vehicle lift in their shop.

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Thanks to this month's newsletter contributors: Abbe MacFarlane, Joyce Nielsen, Judy Rust, Charlie Tohlen, Margot Toth and Nancy Tuttle. The deadline for the **April 2020** newsletter will be Friday, April 3, 2020.

Email your news to:

anntohlen@yahoo.com,

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

Ann Tohlen

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