

The Lutfisk Wrapper

Vol. 26 Issue 8- September 2020

VASA Order of America - Harmoni Lodge # 472

Ordinarily 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,

A lovely mild September to you all! There are still a few things we can count on in this town, and the weather in September is one of the best. Other things, of course are not quite what you'd expect for this time of year. Sports of all types, the back-to-school routine, business in general, and not least our own lodge activities are all turned upside down. As we're unable to meet in person due to the pandemic, Harmoni will hold its first-ever Zoom meeting on September 20th at 4:30. We owe a round of thanks for this to Teri Davis, who is a practiced pro at Zoom and volunteered to set up the meeting for us. I had the opportunity to talk with many of you over the last week or so, and it looks like there is a good level of interest in giving Zoom a try. Please do join the meeting if you can – it will be wonderful to see you and hear your voices. There will be no agenda, and no business will be conducted other than the fundamental lodge business of bringing us together.

Most of our members are doing well. There have been no cases of covid-19 apparently, so we and those around us have been both appropriately careful, and lucky. I do hope no one gives in to "quarantine" fatigue: We need to continue to augment our luck with regular doses of prudence until one of those vaccines finishes approval and makes its way into our shoulders.

In Truth and Unity,

Charlie



Calendar of Events:

Sept 20 **Harmoni Bus/Social Meeting**
(Sun.) **Zoom Meeting 4:30p**
See set-up instructions on Page 3

Oct 18 **Harmoni Bus/Social Meeting**
(Sun.) **Zoom Meeting?? 4:30p**

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Covid-19 Procedures

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed our lives.
Please remember to:

Keep your distance, wash your hands, and
remember to wear a face mask when outside,
or inside, whenever you are around groups of
people other than your own household. Please
protect yourself, and our community.



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Friday Night Lectures?

Nordic NW continues to try to schedule live
lectures for Nordic cultural education.
Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic keeps
getting in the way. Consequently, the live
lecture, *Growing Up in Iceland* has been
postponed for September. This 'Growing Up in'
series was scheduled to continue with 'Growing
Up in Finland' in October, and then "Growing
Up in Sweden" on November 6, presented by
Marianne Bratt. Final lecture scheduling will
be determined based on safety concerns.

There are currently several previous tapings
(from various years) available for
listening/watching. Check them out on the
NNW website:

<https://www.nordicnorthwest.org/past-friday-night-lecture-series>

Pop some popcorn and take a seat in the best
seat in the house - your own home!



September Happy Birthdays!!!

- 1 **Pat McLean**
- 3 **Chris Ekberg**
- 3 **Janet Johnson**
- 7 **Jonas Nordwall**
- 14 **Craig Mendenhall**

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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**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. (Here's hoping for a
monthly meeting eventually...maybe we should try this at a
Zoom meeting...ed.)**

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Zooming Along – How does it Work?

Harmoni Lodge is entering the Zoom era. Thanks to member Teri Davis, our Zoom coordinator and meeting guru. Here are her directions:

The Zoom Meeting will start at 4:30 pm. (The link says 4:15 so you can start logging in before 4:30.) You should be able to click on the link highlighted below and go right to the meeting (or cut & paste that link into your web browser.) You do not need to download the Zoom app, though you can if you want to ahead of time, but it's not necessary.

Once you get to Zoom you need to enter their name and the Meeting ID, and then will be prompted for password. You can log in from a cell phone or a desktop or laptop computer. There are options once you get logged in to turn off your video and mute yourself. Make sure you know where the mute button is so you can 'unmute' and talk and be heard when you want to! And it's more fun when we can see each other, so don't be shy!

Topic: Harmoni Lodge Social Meeting
Time: Sep 20, 2020 04:15 PM Pacific Time
(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7651487428?pwd=R09JQkRicjIOSCtDdi93VTFRdE1idz09>

Meeting ID: 765 148 7428
Passcode: 54321



Hope to see you all there!

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A New Address for the Toths!

Find your Harmoni roster and please make the following change for Andy and Margot Toth, now moved from Portland to Vancouver, WA:

Andy & Margot Toth
11807 NW 26th Ave
Vancouver, WA 98685

Their cell numbers stay the same, but they have a new home phone: (360) 828-7884.



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Elsie Nordby 1931-2020

Our Vasa sister, Elsie Nordby passed away following surgery a few weeks ago. Elsie was a member of Vasa Nobel Lodge and very well loved within the Portland Scandinavian community. She was Scandinavian of the Year in 2001, sharing that honor with Steinar Fugelstad. She was the mother of Jeff Klein, current District Master of Vasa Pacific NW District 13. Jeff's sister, Linda Hovis is known to many of us for her excellent past volunteer coordination at Midsummer, and her many duties at the ScanFair booth of the League of Swedish Societies. The family will hold a small private service on the date of Elsie's 89th birthday later this month. A celebration of her life will be held when larger gatherings are allowed and the times are safer. Special memories of Elsie would be appreciated and can be shared with Jeff and Linda at:

jeklein@hevanet.com .

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Chairman Charlie Tohlen spent some time during the past two weeks, trying to reach all Harmoni members, just to check in and see how they're doing, and to pose the suggestion of a Zoom meeting for our usual meeting in September. Reaction was positive, so plan to tune in on Sunday, September 20, as we Zoom

away together. And here's what Charlie learned on his calls:

Around Town with our Members:

Harvey Edmark is busy working up a sweat renovating a rental in San Francisco during their hot fall weather.

Glenn and Jan Ekberg are having an uneventful summer, but are doing well, and so are their chickens, including hen Greta Garbo.

Maude Eriksson is at home and is still recovering from her stroke. Her speech is improving, and son Erik is helping to look after her.

Ross Fogelquist is very excited about the recent National Historic designation for Fogelbo, and he stressed what a large amount of work was needed to make this happen.

Millie Haffey is busy in her garden every day.

Doug and Ulla Hanson are doing well, and have been going to the beach once a month.

Janet Johnson is living in her new condo in Centerville. (New address will follow in the next newsletter.)

Judy Rust had a minor stroke and spent a few days in Providence Hospital before moving into Providence Rehab. Her speech is good, her mind is clear, and her phone is working. She can have only one visitor per day, but her phone is open!

Carl and Marian Thompson are settled in their new apartment and are now prepping their longtime home for sale.

Andy Toth has had his long delayed shoulder surgery and has now begun physical therapy.

Margot is dealing with lots of boxes in the garage following their recent move to Vancouver.

Nancy and Alan Tuttle are mostly staying busy around the house, but enjoyed an extended grandkid party at their home, which expanded to include neighborhood kids as well.

Elisabeth Wallberg's big news is that her son recently got married. Congratulations to Fred and his bride Lindsay.

According to son Roger, **Inger Williams** has been traveling a lot.

Chris Harris is very busy in his new career as a paralegal. He said his mother, **Alice** is doing well, living at The Fountains in Gresham.

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More:

Around Town with our Members:

The **Mendenhalls** are doing well. No fun activities or travel but staying healthy and trying to practice social distancing. No big get-togethers either but have had a couple of friends over for dinner a few times sitting outside and enjoying the warm summer evenings. After six months **Elisabeth** is still finding things to do around the house and the list does not seem to shrink because new items constantly get added. **Craig** keeps working on his old cars as well as helping "the kids" when needed. In the end of July, they did a camping trip to Diamond Lake and Crater Lake with daughter **Anna** and family. They are contemplating a trip to AZ the end of September to check on house there. Hopefully, the temperature in AZ has dropped by then.

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Even More:

Around Town with our Members:

A little more detail from **Margot Toth:**

Andy's shoulder surgery went fine, but it is still painful at times. It's difficult for him not to use both hands, but even that is getting better. His physical therapy has now started. Being unable to drive the car probably is the most difficult problem for him, and he is looking forward to October when he will be able to drive again.



The **Toth** and **Green** families spent some lovely days in Sun River, Oregon this month; enjoying the end of the summer before schools started up again. They rented a nice house and made daily trips to different small lakes in the area to swim and they enjoyed the water in many different ways. **Andy and Margot** were supposed to take a short trip to Pine Hollow, but were unable to go because of the White River Fire. Pine Hollow was under Level 3 Evacuation orders, meaning get ready to leave. The situation has now improved, but here's hoping the fires soon will be over.

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Hello from the **Tuttles!** We have been home tending to our yard and garden. Alan has been dehydrating tomatoes for soups and we also have corn, berries, sunflowers, zucchini, squashes and cucumbers. Lots of dahlias; so sorry I couldn't bring them to the meetings like in the years past to share. We did go on a camping trip in our trailer with our daughter from Redmond and her family. We camped close to Lebanon near Green Peter Dam.

Time has flown by - Caleb is now 6 ½ months and Brice 2 ½ years old. Now when I talk to Brice on the phone he will say "Hi Nana, have candy or cookies?" Yes, he too has a Swedish sweet tooth and I am the one to blame they tell me. Last week we had 3 of the grandsons staying with us. Two 8 year olds and one 6. They all had a great time sleeping and playing in the front room fort they built with blankets and card tables. We rode bikes, played games, built special projects with Papa and played with the 5 neighbor kids. Our house is so quiet now. Great special memories were made for all. Take Care Everyone.

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Thanks to this month's newsletter contributors: Teri Davis, Jeff Klein, Elisabeth Mendenhall, Nordic Northwest, Charlie Tohlen, Margot Toth and Nancy Tuttle.

The deadline for the **October 2020** newsletter will be **Friday, October 2, 2020.**

Email your news to:

anntohlen@yahoo.com,

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

Ann Tohlen

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Portland, OR 97232

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See You There!