



# VIRGINIA VIKING

## SONS OF NORWAY HAMPTON ROADS LODGE NO. 3-522

President: Leonard Zingarelli Vice President: Mike Solhaug Secretary: June Cooper Treasurer: Ragnhild Zingler



### The President's Corner

I hope everyone that visited the Norwegian tall sailing ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl had a great tour and lunch on board. I know I did. Every time I get an opportunity to go on the ship, I always learn quite a lot and thoroughly enjoy it. One of the best moments on the ship is always talking with the Midshipmen. Like our young Midshipmen at our academies, they are smart, optimistic and hopeful for the future. It was once again a pleasure talking with them.

The first of our series of lodge meeting programs on Norwegian immigration was held last month, titled "The Greatest Migration in the History of the World." We had almost a record member attendance, which found this program to be outstanding. We had several members play the roles of Norwegians of the past and their role in this migration. I want to thank all of the participants for doing such a fantastic job at this role-playing. The rest of the year's programs will center on Norwegian immigration, history, and role-playing. Each month we will have these programs that you'll find very interesting. This will be a great way to find out more about your Norwegian heritage and culture. Sometimes we are very fortunate to get a guest speaker that presents a topic that is of very current interest to the membership. When we do, I will let everyone know about it. Our meetings are more than just business; they are a learning opportunity while sharing our Norwegian culture and heritage.

Again, you can view our lodge's schedule (with additional details) by reading it in our Virginia Viking Newsletters (cut it out and place on your frig), attached to my membership group e-mails once a month, and found on our web site ([hrson.org](http://hrson.org)) and Facebook page (Hampton Roads Sons of Norway Home-Facebook) .

As we eventually get into springtime, we have so many other functions happening. For example, besides our next lodge meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, we have the Norwegian Lady Ceremony on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at 1 pm. Please come and support each of these.

**Lenny**

#### March 17, 2019

Lodge Bowling Party at Little Creek Amphibious Base Gator Bowling Alley at 2:00 pm.  
Contact Bob Rumney at 490-3030 by March 14 if you want to go.

#### March 21, 2019

Membership Lodge Meeting at Bayside Presbyterian Church at 7:30 pm.  
Program: Island of Hope, Island of Tears, The story of Ellis Island

#### March 23, 2019

Norwegian Lady Ceremony on 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Virginia Beach  
At 1:00 pm, Reception to follow at the Virginia Beach Surf and Rescue Center on 24<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### April 4, 2019

Board Meeting at Bayside Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm

#### April 18, 2019

Membership Meeting at Bayside Presbyterian Church at 7:30 pm.  
The program is either "American Norwegian Dream" or "Vikings in Greenland".

## Fra Presidenten, Kathy Dollymore, 3rd District President

*Be civil to all; serviceable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.*  
Benjamin Franklin



As I write this President's letter, the cold days of February are finally giving way to the warmer days of Spring. I may be rushing the season but I am more than ready after the "polar vortex". That was quite enough for me! And to be "scientifically specific" Pennsylvania's official weather prognosticator, groundhog Punxsutawney Phil, says we're in for an early Spring. GO PHIL!!

I am happy that many of the lodges' members have taken up on my offer to call me. New officers are connecting and are looking forward to leadership training.

The calls to me are showing what a fraternal group we are. I'm proud to be a member of such a fine group. Now that being said, during these same calls, I have also heard about the struggles that the Lodges are having with membership and participation.

Our membership growth is a constant challenge. The conundrum that we face is not unique to our lodges, other Districts or even other organizations. For whatever reason, people today just aren't "joiners". We must find a way to change this mindset if we are going to continue to be a strong and viable Sons of Norway Lodge in the future. This also means that we need to make a concerted effort to make sure that we are not only bringing new members in the lodges, but also make efforts to retain those members who we raise as officers within our Lodges. Membership retention is a major issue. Maintaining the status quo is not an option. We spend an inordinate amount of time and effort bringing good people into our lodges, only to lose them to either non-payment of dues or lack of participation. Doing business, the way we have "always done things", is not the answer. Here is some information from International President Ron Stubbings:

*"In 2013, 2,934 new members joined Sons of Norway, and in 2014, 2,834 joined. Sounds great doesn't it! But there is an issue! Of those who signed up in 2013, 557 (19%) did not renew for a second year, and 640 (22%) did not renew for a third year. That is 41%! Of those signing up in 2014, 563 (20%) did not renew after the first year, and 597 (21%) did not renew after the second year, again 41%."*

Our Third District must continue to innovate to survive. How we respond to membership decline in the next 10 years will determine what the future looks like for the Tremendous Third and for the Sons of Norway." Let's each sign up a new member this month! Your 3D Board is there to help.

The LLST (Local Lodge Support Team) is ready to jump in and assist in issues your local lodge may have. If your lodge would like to contact the LLST Chair Dirk Hansen, email [hansenoaks@lowcountry.com](mailto:hansenoaks@lowcountry.com).

### **Gratulerer Med Dagen (Happy Birthday) To the Following Members in March**

Julia Abraham	Sarah Ammons	Larry Berg	Wilma-Fehrs Foss
Michael Fountain	Rosalind Gillett	Lynne Hudson	Vigdis Jolly
Kjersti Lee	Kyle Lindenberg	Lucia Liptakova	Kjell-Ove Skare
Tonya Snow	Barbara Stehlik	Kristine VanWerkoven	Odd Vinnelrod

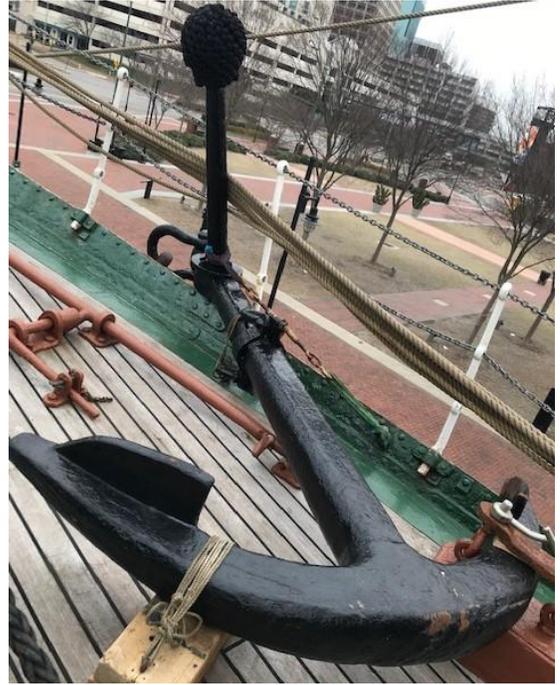
## STATSRAAD LEHMKUHL

The Sons of Norway was invited for lunch at the Statsraad Lehmkuhl and we had about 50 members in attendance. The food and company was great and we were able to communicate with the cadets on the ship who are on it for 2 ½ months which is part of their 3 years at the Naval War School in Bergen.

Statsraad Lehmkuhl is a three-masted steel baroque, built in 1914 in Bremerhaven, Germany as a training ship for the German merchant navy and originally called Grossherzog Friedrich August. She was used as a stationary school ship in Germany for most of the First World War, becoming a trophy of war at the end of the war. She was bought by the Norwegian Ship owners Association in 1923 at the instigation of Kristofer Lehmkuhl after whom the ship was named, in order to further sail training in Norway. **Kristofer Diedrich Lehmkuhl** (25 September 1855 – 23 October 1949) was a Norwegian politician from [Bergen](#). He was elected to the [Parliament of Norway](#) in 1903 and became the Minister of Labor in 1905 and from 1905-1907. He did not seek reelection in 1906. He gave name to the three-masted barque rigged sail vessel [Statsraad Lehmkuhl](#).

Statsraad Lehmkuhl started sail training in Norway, transferring to the Bergen School Ship Foundation in 1924 where she was run until 1966 with the exception of five years during the Second World War when she was renamed Westwärts. A Bergen ship owner bought the ship in 1967 to continue using her for sail training doing so at his own expense between 1968 and 1972 until the oil crisis in 1973 when she was laid up in Bergen Harbor. In 1978, she was donated to the Stiftelsen Seilskipet Statsraad Lehmkuhl – The Foundation for the Tall Ship Statsraad Lehmkuhl, which now owns and operates the ship. Below are some pictures from the ship.





Please join us for  
The Norwegian Lady Ceremony  
March 23, 2019, 1 pm

at the Norwegian Lady Plaza

*Near the Boardwalk on Atlantic & 25 St., Virginia Beach*

The ceremony will include flag raising, music and laying of the wreath.

*Supported by the Norwegian Lady Plaza Foundation,  
the Ladies Auxiliary of the Virginia Beach Fire Department,  
Virginia Beach Surf and Rescue Museum, Sons of Norway 3-522, and the  
Norwegian NATO & Military Service Members*

For additional information on the ceremony, call 757 581-3230



*128 years ago,*

the tragic shipwreck and dramatic rescue of the Norwegian Bark, *Dictator*, brought Virginians and Norwegians together.

*57 years ago,*

the Norwegian Lady arrived and stands as a testament to the friendship and sisterhood between Virginia Beach, Virginia and Moss, Norway.

*March 23, 2019,*

the annual ceremony brings together Norwegians, Americans and friends to commemorate this remarkable event in our local history.

Sons of Norway **Whole Life Insurance** products provide coverage for your entire life, with single or level premiums and guaranteed level death benefit. These permanent life insurance plans can provide you and your family with financial security no matter how long you live.



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# Virginia Viking

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Mona Denton  
3020 Watergate Lane  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452