

The Nyheter *(sommer-lett)*



Volume 53, Number 7

BOTHELL SONS OF NORWAY 2-106, July 2025



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August Annual Classic Car Show and BBQ

This year, the Classic Car Show and Dinner will take place on Sunday, August 24. The fun begins at 2 p.m. with several classic, muscle and Volvo cars on display in the parking lot. It's a perfect outing for gearheads, families and others.

grounds with picnic tables for dining. Members, car aficionados and friends are welcome to join the fun.

Dinner reservations must be in by Aug. 17.

E-mail dinner@bothellsonsofnorway.org

or call the lodge at 425-485-9085.

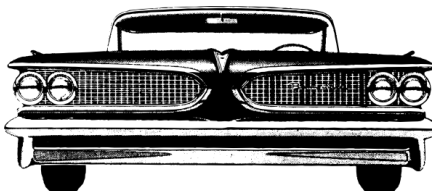


Nearly 25 classic cars such as this Chevy and Cadillac will be on display August 24.

To show your Classic Car, bring it to the event at Bothell Lodge by 1:30 p.m. There is no fee to enter and all classic car owners and partners receive a free dinner. However, plan ahead because those showing cars also must RSVP for dinner by the deadline!

Typically some 25 cars will be exhibited by members and local car clubs in the front parking lot.

Bothell Lodge provides a grilled steak or chicken with fixings and dessert at 4 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person for the BBQ dinner and reservations are required. Dinner is served in the back area of the lodge



The Nyheter

SON Bothell Lodge 2-106

PO Box 492, Bothell, WA 98041 — 23905 Bothell-Everett Highway

bothellsonsofnorway.org — E-mail: editor@bothellsonsofnorway.org

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SON Bothell Membership — Individual (\$84/year); Family (\$144/year);
Membership forms are by the Bothell Lodge front door.

2025 Lodge Officers & Trustees**Executive Board**

President	Patti Blegen	206-240-7073
Vice President	Open	
Counselor	Kay Schertzl	425-582-2211
Secretary	Trish Lundeen	425-483-5640
Membership Sec	Joan Wraalstad	206-963-8484
Treasurer	Bob Schertzl	206-619-2596
Asst. Treasurer	Jocelyn M. Rehbock	206-295-0034

Officers/Directors

Social Director	Laurie Berg	206-235-5558
Cultural Director	Laurie Berg	206-235-5558
Sports Director	Shaun Bornemeier	425-765-5185
Publicity Director	Susan Kelly	206-718-2710
Marshall	Marlis Pehling	425-488-4545
Asst. Marshall	Linda Christians	206-618-2636
Inner-Greeter	Sarah Calloway-Askan	425-750-6409

Support Officers

Librarian	Marlis Pehling	425-488-4545
Editor	Erik Elvejord	425-501-7236
Webmaster	Martin Ng	
Sunshine	Mary Anne Rehbock	206-498-3271
Musician	Ralph Federspiel	425-444-9080
Auditors	John McTernan	425-770-4173
	Rick & Lori Arnseth	865-414-7392
Foundation Director	Linda Christians	206-618-2636
Historian	Marlys Melrose	206-819-9669
Coord. Volunteer Hours	Laurie Beach	425-736-0555
Financial Counselor	Mike Dyal	425-243-4521

Trustees

2022-24	Elroy Christenson	206-362-5373
2022-24	Heidi Wiggins	206-330-9178
2023-25	Chris Hicks	425-672-0194
2023-25	Mike Nelson	206-498-2213
2024-26	Don Melrose	206-891-9668
2024-26	Ivar Thompson	425-736-4073
2024-26	Seth Tufteland	206-605-4112

District 2 Information sonsofnorwayd2.org
Trollhaugen Lodge trollhaugensofn.com

Upcoming Summer Events

No regular meeting in July.**July 4****4th of July Parade in Bothell****10:00 a.m. meet at Bothell Lodge to participate**

To join in the parade, meet at the lodge
to carpool or ride down to parade starting point in the
float. No picnic at the lodge this year.

**August 10****Bothell Lodge Night at Everett Aquasox****Baseball Game - Funko Field in Everett****3:05 p.m. Food at Pepsi Picnic Pavilion****Funko Field/4:05 p.m. game starts**

Cost is \$30 per person. To join the game contact Sport
Director Shaun Bornemeier ASAP for tickets at
bornemeiers@yahoo.com or call **425-765-5185**.

Tickets are limited. Meet at the game.

August 24**Classic Car Show and Steak****& Chicken BBQ****2:00 p.m. Show & Social****Time/4:00 p.m. Dinner**

Cost is \$10 per person. **Reserve by Aug. 17.** E-mail:
dinner@bothellsonsofnorway.org or call the lodge at
425-485-9085 and leave a message. Please let us
know if you would like steak or chicken.

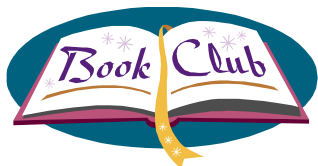
**Sept. 29/Oct. 13, 20 & 27****Rosemaling Class****9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Learn the skills of the decorative folk
painting called rosemaling, or rose
painting, in Norway. You'll learn how to create the
ornamentation, scrollwork and fine patterns for this
unique artform. Call Marilyn Hanson to register at
425-765-3694.

More fun classes coming this fall. Mark your calendar
for the Bazaar and Bake Sale on Nov. 1.

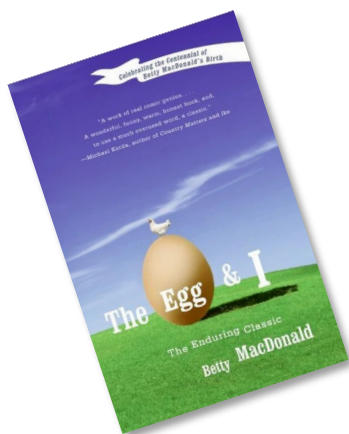
*Enjoy your summer and Happy July Fourth — Social &
Cultural Director Laurie Berg (also District 2 Youth Di-
rector)*

Lese Gruppe Meets Next in September: Updated Book List



Lese Gruppe's next meeting will be on Thursday, Sept. 11, at 10:30 a.m. at the Bothell Lodge. All are welcome!

At the June meeting, the group discussed "The Egg and I," by Betty MacDonald. It is a humorous and candid account of the author's early married life on a chicken farm in Washington State. MacDonald finds herself immersed in the trials and tribulations of farming while dealing with societal expectations of the time. Her sharp wit brings both laughter and reflection on the challenges she faced.



The following are reading selections for the coming months.

- * **September 11:** "West with Giraffes," by Lynda Rutledge.
- * **October 9:** "The Queens of Crime," by Marie Benedict.
- * **November 13:** "My Friends," by Fredrik Backman.
- * **December 11:** "The Christmas Train," by David Baldacci.

You don't need to read the book in order to join Lese Gruppe.

To check out books from the lodge library, please sign the logbook located on the counter in the Fireside Room.

For information, please contact Myrna Ramstad at (206) 365-6913.

Library Corner by Marlis Pehling, Librarian

We have been blessed with cookbooks from various lodges in the area. Norwegians are wonderful cooks and these recipes are absolute treasures. A couple of them have a recipe that I also have in my Betty Crocker



Cookbook. It is for a Danish Puff, which is an almond pastry asking for one teaspoon of almond flavoring — but I add three teaspoons to really boost the almond taste.

The results are delicious, and whenever I make it, the puffs disappear quickly. All these recipes in our books sound absolutely delightful and your guests will think so too. Happy eating!

To check out resources from the lodge library, please sign the logbook in the Fireside Room.

Trustee Corner by Mike Nelson

Don Melrose served as trustee for April and performed the duties as required. The trustee of the month for July will be Heidi Wiggins. Seth Tufteland serves in August.

Our trustee of the month checks the lodge inside and out at least once a week during the month. He or she looks for possible problems, water leaks, and doors or windows left open. The trustee also makes sure the heat is turned down and all lights are off.



Let's Go to the Ballpark with the Everett AquaSox



Join your fellow members at Funko Field for Bothell Sons of Norway baseball night on Sunday, August 10. Food is served at 3:05 p.m. and the game starts at 4:05 p.m. The [Everett AquaSox](#) battle the Tri-City Dust Devils.

Watch future Seattle Mariners play before they make the big leagues. Top prospects and former first-round picks that could make "The Show" soon are shortstop Colt Emerson and switch-handed pitcher Jurrangel Cijntje.

Current Seattle Mariners that previously played in Everett are Logan Gilbert, Cal Raleigh and Julio Rodriguez.

Cost is \$30 per person and includes **upper-reserved tickets and an all-you-can eat buffet-style picnic** in



Webbly, Everett Aquasox team mascot, will visit during the game.

the Pepsi Picnic Pavilion 60 minutes before the game (3:05 p.m.). We will receive video board recognition and a special visit from team mascot Webbly.

At this game, it's Root Beer Float Day: for \$10 you can enjoy unlimited root beer floats for the

entire game. After the game, all kids are allowed on the field at the first base gate to run the bases.

Tickets will be sent to attendees to arrive to the game on their own. But we all sit and cheer together.



Pitcher Nick Payero hurls the ball toward home plate in a recent Everett Aquasox game.

We have **ONLY 20 reservations, so grab your spot ASAP!**

Contact Sport Director Shaun Bornemeier for tickets at bornemeiers@yahoo.com or call **425-765-5185**.

Sunshine Report

Birthday cards were sent to Marion Vedell (June 7 – 97 years) Arthur Nelson (June 19 – 91 years) and Anne-Lise Deering (June 20 – 90 years). Gratulerer med dagen and Happy Birthday!

Congratulations cards were mailed to Diana Hicks and Katie Tufteland, who both received their bachelor's degrees. Great work and best wishes for your next steps.



Please let Mary Anne Rehbock know if someone could use a card of encouragement, congratulations or condolences. She is available at (206) 498-3271 or email her at marehbock@aol.com.

Immerse Yourself in Norwegian Culture and Crafts

Those interested in learning more about Norway and its traditions should plan on attending the September retreat at Trollhaugen Lodge. The Doreen J. Parker Heritage Retreat takes place over the Sept. 19-21 weekend and will include many activities that range from learning Norwegian songs to rosemaling. Participants also learn about folktales, trolls, cooking and other crafts. If instructors have the knowledge, the group may also learn the intricate skills of Hardangersøm, or Hardanger embroidery.



Photo: Max van den Oetelaar/Unsplash

The retreat was named in honor of Doreen J. Parker, a Grays Harbor Sons of Norway leader who passed in 2018. As the original organizer, she established the heritage retreats at Trollhaugen Lodge.

This year, organizers have set a goal of at least 25 attendees at the one and only heritage retreat of the year. Cost for the District 2 seminar is \$160 per person and includes room, all meals, coffee breaks and class supplies. Bring your own bedding, shower towels and toiletries. Space is limited.

Mail registration checks made out to "Heritage Retreat" to Paula Boerner, 201 29th Street, Hoquiam, Wash., 98550. Fee increases to \$170 after Sept. 1.

For more information contact Chris Hicks at 425-672-0194 or ChrisD2SofN@outlook.com or Nancy Holter at d2.cultural@gmail.com.

District 2 Summer Events

Border Festival

Peach Arch Park

July 13, 11 a.m., Program 1 p.m.

District 2 in the United States and District 7 in Canada once again join for Border Festival at Peace Arch Park in Blaine, Washington. Bring your own beverages, a lunch to share at your table and dessert to share with all.



Program includes flag ceremony, national anthems, entertainment, raffles and royalty. Parking is \$10 or a Discovery Pass. Contact Elaine Grasdock at viking1kg@gmail.com or

360-982-2965 for details.

Steak Fry/Horseshoe & Kubb Tournament

Trollhaugen Lodge

July 19, Register 9:30 a.m., Tournament 10 a.m., Dinner 3:30 p.m.

Come play horseshoes and lawn game Kubb during the morning of the Annual Trollhaugen Steak Fry. A donation of \$35 is requested for dinner and \$5 for tournament snacks. For more information on the tournament, contact Alisha Anunson at alishaanunson@gmail.com.



For Steak Fry tickets, contact Bill Hicks at hicks1015@msn.com or 425-672-0194. Indicate "steak" or "salmon" when reserving. Deadline is July 7.

For information on Trollhaugen, visit the District 2 website at sonsofnorway2.com.



White Horse Golf Course Tournament

Aug. 2, 10 a.m. Warm Up, 10:30 a.m.

Tee Off

Golfers are invited to the annual golf tournament at White Horse Golf Course in beautiful Kingston, a short ferry ride from Edmonds. Format is team scramble in men's, women's and coed divisions. Carts and snacks included. Cost per player is \$120. Contact Alisha Anunson at alishaanunson@gmail.com to sign up **by July 1**.

A Forgotten World War II Hero

By **Tanja K. Eie**

Below edited article reprinted with permission of the author.

In September 2018, I was in Norway to visit family and friends. One day I cycled from Drangeid, where I was staying, into Flekkefjord (in southern Norway) to explore.

Riding through town, I noticed a memorial plaque that I never recalled seeing in my many stays in Flekkefjord. Curious, I stopped to look closer. It read: "Gunvald Tomstad (1918 – 1970). For his efforts in the resistance movement, 1940 – 1945 (during WWII and the German occupation of Norway). Erected by the town of Flekkefjord."

I wondered why I had never heard of this brave man. As a history buff with a degree in history, I was intrigued and felt eager to learn more about him.

I searched on my mobile and read about Gunvald's war efforts. I also found a house photo and the road where his home was located, so I set out to find it.

Several miles later and after a steep incline that led to spectacular views of the fjord, I was getting closer. From the viewpoint, I thought that this definitely would have been a good lookout to spot German ships sailing or coming into the fjord.

I walked farther and spotted a bright yellow, traditional home with a beautiful garden surrounding it that matched the photo I found. While taking another photo with my phone, a woman came out and asked if I was lost. I explained that I was looking for Gunvald Tomstad's house as I had just learned about his contributions during

World War II. She invited me in for coffee to learn more.

This woman was Marit Tomstad, eldest of Gunvald's three children. As we chatted, she said she knew of my grandparents as respected members of the community. On the wall, I saw photos of Gunvald and his wife and family. I couldn't believe I was inside the home of this great World War II hero.

An hour later, Marit's brother and sister-in-law came to wish her happy 70 birthday. I politely excused myself but they insisted I stay. Both were proud to share their father's stories. A book had been written about their father called "Det Største Spillet" (The Biggest Gamble) by Per Hansson, followed by a movie in the 1960s.

Before I left, Marit asked me if I wanted to see the upstairs "secret room," which was where Gunvald hid his communications equipment, and where he and his good friend, Odd Kjell, planned their resistance operations.

We went upstairs to look. It was very small, and I saw a monstrous outdated piece of equipment

with dials and levers against the wall. This was the radio transmitter used to communicate with the British about gathered intelligence and German ship movements for bombing raids. I saw Gunvald's desk just as he left it, with books piled high and the pistol he had to protect himself.

As my visit ended, I thanked all for their hospitality. I write this to give him the recognition he deserves!



A World War II monument was erected for Norwegian resistance fighter Gunvald Tomstad in the town of Flekkefjord. Tomstad served as a double agent for the British war effort.

(continued on page 11)

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A War Hero Remembered

Gunvald Jørg Tomstad was an agent of the British Secret Intelligence Service and a Norwegian resistance member during World War II. From 1941 to 1943, he was a double agent while also operating a clandestine radio transmitter from his home in Flekkefjord. Locals called him the most dangerous Nazi in southern Norway, not knowing his involvement with the fascist Nasjonal Samling party and

paramilitary Hirden organization was just a cover to gather secrets. Citizens detested and feared him and even tried to kill him. Only a few closest to him knew his true mission, and many were also part of the resistance.

His home became a gathering place for the Gestapo and Nazi sympathizers, who did not know that their secrets were being transmitted by radio from a little room above them on the second floor. Gunvald sent information that helped destroy one of the world's largest battleships, Bismarck, and let London know about German ship traffic, military concentrations and so much more. He also possessed inside information of Nazi efforts to find and capture secret radio transmitters so was able to assist many fellow operatives to escape before raids.

He kept this up for two stressful years. When the Gestapo became suspicious, Gunvald barely escaped by fleeing

across the mountains in winter to Sweden and then flew to England. Upon returning to Norway after the war, he married Tordis "Fie" Rørvik, a resistance courier who stuck by him throughout the war. They had three children.

Gunvald's patriotism came at a tragic personal cost as he would later suffer from PTSD, ulcers and paranoia. He died from a perforated ulcer at 52 in May 1970.



Odd Kjell Starhelm, friend of Gunvald Tomstad, sends a message to the British from the covert room on the second floor of the Tomstad house. Photo courtesy of Marit Tomstad.

Unfortunately, even after Norway recognized Gunvald as a hero and not a traitor, many are still unaware of his contributions. Nevertheless, some Tomstad resistance items are on display at the Kristiansand Arkivet Peace and Human Rights Center museum.



Home of a spy: the Tomstad house near Flekkefjord. Gunvald's daughter, Marit, lives here today. Photo: Tanja Eie.

The complete article can be found [here](http://www.norwegianamerican.com) at www.norwegianamerican.com.

Calendar of Upcoming SON Events

(All events at Bothell Lodge unless indicated otherwise.)

July 4 - Friday - Bothell July 4 Parade - 10:00 a.m. Meet at lodge to head to parade.

July 13 - Sunday - Border Festival - 11:00 a.m. Begins; 1:00 p.m. Program. At Peace Arch Park, Blaine.

July 19 - Saturday - Steak Fry/Horseshoe & Kubb Tournament - 9:30 a.m. Registration; 10:00 a.m.

Tournament; 3:30 p.m. Dinner. At Trollhaugen Lodge, Easton.

August 2 - Saturday - District 2 Golf Tournament - 10:00 a.m. Warm Up; 10:30 a.m. Tee Off. At White Horse Golf Course, Kingston.

August 10 - Sunday - Everett Aquasox Game - 3:05 Food; 4:05 Gametime. At Funko Field, Everett.

August 24 - Sunday - Classic Car Show and BBQ - 2:00 p.m. Show; 4:00 p.m. Dinner

September 1 - Monday - Labor Day

September 4- Thursday - Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

September 8 - Monday - Vikings! - 6:30 p.m.

September 10 - Wednesday - Fiber Arts - 7:00 p.m.

September 11 - Thursday - Lese Gruppe - 10:30 a.m. - In Fireside Room.

September 13 - Saturday - Pancake Breakfast, Normanna Everett Lodge - Starts 7:30 a.m.

September 18 - Thursday - Lodge Night - 5:30 p.m. Singing/Music; 6:00 p.m. Social; 6:30 p.m.

Dinner; 7:30 p.m. Meeting

September 19 - Friday - Bunco Night- 6:30 p.m.

September 19-21 - Friday, Saturday & Sunday - Doreen J. Parker Heritage Retreat at Trollhaugen Lodge, Easton - 6:00 pm. Friday Start

September 29 - Monday - Rosemaling Class - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.



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Music, News, & Interviews for the Scandinavian Community