



Leif Erikson coin produced by
the Norge Mint in 1997.

Bakke Land Posten

Texas Hill Country News

Sons of Norway - Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

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DONT MISS Leif Erikson Night with Sandy Straubhaar & her Viking Friends

How did Leif (Leiv, Leifur) spell his name ??

According to UT's Sandy Straubhaar it depends on where you are from. In Norway it might be Leifur Eiriksson. She says, "look in your phonebook." In the Austin phone book one can find Erichson, Erickson, Ericksson, Ericson, Ericsson, Eriksen, Erikson, and Eriksson. Uff Da! However, in Leif's day they didn't spell anyway (today we just can't spell). So don't worry about it. Sandy prefers Eriksen!!

Leif Ericson Millennium Coin Act

Congressman Marin Olav Sabo of Minnesota and others on the Leif Ericson Millennium Committee (LEMC) presented remarks to the US House of Representatives in July supporting the Leif Ericson Millennium Coin Act. The LEMC website is <www.leif2000.org>. The Coin Act was first proposed to the House on January 6, 1999, by Reps Jim Leech of Iowa and Bruce Vento of Minnesota. It gained sufficient votes for passage and now awaits approval in the Senate. If the Senate approves the bill 500,00 silver-dollar coins will be minted in the US. Similar mintings will be carried out by Canada, Norway, and Iceland. The pending legislation calls for each US coin to be sold for a surcharge of \$10. Proceeds would go to the Leifur Eirikson Foundation to help fund student exchanges between Iceland and the United States. The Leif Ericson Millennium begins October 9 in the US. [see "Coining a Hero" in *Viking*, October 1999, p14.]



This is the backend of a new truck seen at the Cleng Peerson Lodge Officer's meeting on August 30, 1999 at Luby's. Can you guess who the owner is? See back page for answer....
(Hint: Note the "N" for Norge sticker!)

VikingFest 2000 will be held at San Gabriel River Park in Georgetown Texas on April 29-30, 2000!!

Fra Presidenten

Sun City-Georgetown turned out to be a perfect place for the first September Scandinavian picnic. The pavilion was spacious and relatively cool, especially with the water-cooled megafans. The Sun City home tour was enjoyed by all who went. The grassy area down the steps was an ideal place for the competitions. The horseshoe and ring pits were first class. Winners of the competitions were: **Mike Nedrud**, first, Boot Toss—awesome tosses that no one came close to duplicating—he also avoided the Roosevelt tree; **Pat Austin**, first, Ladies Frying Pan Throw—she managed a secret roll on the rim of the pan; **Mike Knott**, first, Lutefisk Throw—Mike is scheduled for Cowboy tryouts; **Eddie Hogan**, first, Watermelon eaters. Eddie who is 77 said his secret was to swallow the seeds and all without breathing. Uff Da! Uff to you'all! Congratulation and many thanks to **Don Nedrud** for the idea and ultimate success of the picnic. Thanks especially to **Lois Patterson** who pulled things together on the Sun City side. Of course many others helped. **Mange takk to everyone!**

Although the Nominations Committee has not completed its work, it is trying hard to capture some new candidates for the **Year 2000 Cleng Peerson Lodge Officers**. History in the making! Elections will be at the November S/N meeting.

The November 15 meeting will be the **Second Annual Big Norwegian Auction (Stor Norsk Auksjon)**. We had too much fun last year not to do it again. **It takes work to solicit the contributed items** so please let us know if you can help or have ideas for obtaining auction items. A portion of the proceeds will again go to a charity.

The **October 18 Cleng Peerson Lodge meeting is Leif Erikson Night**. We are fortunate to have persuaded Prof **Sandy Straubhaar** in the Germanic Languages Department at UT to give the program. She will accompanied by friends and **ladies in armor** from a Living History Organization in San Antonio. Sandy says that this will **not** be a dry academic talk. This promises to be a night to remember! Bring the children, too.

Hilsen - *Carol Tweita DeBoe*

Watermark - Cleng Peerson - Father of Norwegian Emigration to the USA (Viking May 1996)

Sons of Norway, Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645, c/o Editor, 9900 Richelieu Road, Austin TX 78750

Høst kalender

- 10.oct(søn) **Leif Ericsson Celebration.** Norwegian Society of Texas, Ascension Lutheran Church, 2:00 pm
- 16.oct(lør) **International Children's Festival.** Fiesta Gardens. Austin. 10-5:00 pm
- 16 oct(lør) **Viking Fest 2000 Board Meeting.** Baylor Univ, Wiethorn Visitors Cen, Waco, 12:00, all invited
- 18.oct(man) **Leif Erickson Night.** Cleng Peerson Lodge. **Sandy Straubhaar & Friends in Armor,** Ascension Lutheran, 7:00 pm
- 21.oct(tor) **American Nordic Club Dinner, tres Amigos Restaurant & Cantina**
1801 Capital of Texas Highway, 7 pm, \$12.00 per person. Call Jens Busch at 512/288-0022.
- 23.oct CANCELLED!!! Pancake breakfast. :-(
- 01.nov(man) **Business meeting.** 7:00 pm
- 15.nov(man) **Second Annual Big Norwegian Auction & election of officers,** Ascension Lutheran Church, 6:30.
- 04.dec(lør) **Norwegian Country Christmas** tour and Lutefisk Dinner, Cranfills Gap
- 05.dec(søn) **Joint Christmas Party** with Norwegian Society of Texas, Ascension Lutheran.
- man=mandag (Monday), tor=torsdag (Thursday), fre=fredag (Friday), lør=lørdag (Saturday), søn = søndag (Sunday)**

Viking Answer Lady

www.realtime.net/~gunnora

Christine Ward, the **Viking Answer Lady**, is an historian interested in iron age Scandinavia. Christie has the fabulous web page referenced above. She lives in Austin and is also a member of Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645. Thanks to Sandy Straubhaar she may be participating in this month's Leif Eriksen Celebration at Ascension Lutheran Church on October 18!

News from Rita and Merrill Carlson

The Carlsons have been in Minnesota since the first part of July, mostly on a farm in the east central part of the state. During the first week of September they attended an Elderhostel at the North House Folk School up the north shore of Lake Superior. They attended two classes on Scandinavian Craft Traditions. Merrill made two tolleknivs with handles of Norway birch and Rita worked on knife sheaths of leather and birch bark plus basket weaving. From there they went back to brother Ron's farm to help with the corn and soy bean harvest. Merrill drove grain trucks and Rita a tractor to plow about 350 acres! They look forward to seeing everyone in Texas in November.

Ed. Thanks so much for telling us what you have been doing. *Bakke Land Posten* always appreciates news from our membership.

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New Scandinavian TV channel

September 23 was the kickoff date for a new Scandinavian subscription cable TV channel from Denver. The programs, most of which will be subtitled, will consist of news, films, drama, sports, entertainment, cultural and current affairs and will air in Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian, and Swedish. Many of the programs will originate with the national public broadcasting systems of the Nordic countries in addition to film and independent sources. The Scandinavian Channel will broadcast 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For more information contact deric5429@aol.com A survey of subscriber interests is solicited and periodic notification of upcoming events can be obtained at the web site <http://www.scanchan.com>

In Norway, Movies Must Pass a Nanny Standard, Part 2

(see Part 1 in the September *Bakke Land Posten*)

By Walter Gibbs, *New York Times* Oslo. July 7, 1999

Censoring entertainment is as natural as sweeping the streets in Norway. Because Norway's population of 4.4 million is smaller than that of many cities, its restrictive policies are no more than an irritant to the film industry, which regards Norway as a throwback. In 1980 the national authorities banned the Monty Python comedy "Life of Brian" because of content was deemed blasphemous. In neighboring Sweden, gleeful cinema owners ran advertisements under the headline "Too funny to be shown in Norway."

Since the Monty Python experience, Norwegian officials describe their position on films as progressive rather than backward. They hope that American lawmakers, shaken by a string of high school shootings, will take steps to dam the global flow of disturbing images in film and other media. Trond Waage, the Cabinet-level Commissioner of Children in Norway, said young people not weaned on American media lacked the detachment and irony to deal with harsh or manipulative messages. "Children are the holiest and best thing about our world, and we can see they are under attack," he said, calling on the United Nations to develop international media standards. He insisted that the "mental pollution" emanating from entertainment capitals was a matter of public health, not just morality. "I'm not moral," he said. "I'm furious."

Norwegian agencies that shield children from the media admit they are fighting a rear-guard battle. When a 5-year-old Norwegian girl was killed roughhousing with playmates in 1994, the action-packed American children's television series "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" got the blame and was pulled off the air. But satellite TV signals and the Internet continue to provide forbidden fruits.

Norwegian officials planning for the long term say schools must give youngsters the psychological means to make healthy choices. In the meantime the authorities must joust away at perceived threats. No private organization exists to defend artistic expression, and few people seem to think one is needed. Every town with a movie house has a public figure responsible for programming, but none have the clout of Ms Moraes Hanssen. When she shuns a foreign movie it is hardly worth importing because Oslo accounts for a third of the filmgoers in Norway. Filmmakers around the world know of her prickliness. She knows that a relationship between violent films and violent behavior is hard to prove and she knows that youngsters are savvy about film technology but she believes they need help identifying the good, the true, and the beautiful.

Saul Zions, the American producer of "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," "Amadeus," and "the English Patient," has never crossed the imperious Oslo cinema director. He said her methods would never work in the US, but were well suited for Norway. "I have known Ingeborg for many years and have admired her," he said. "She loves what she is doing, she knows what she is doing and she has a lot of courage. She deserves her freedom of speech."



Scandinavian Picnic

Sun City, Texas (Near Georgetown)

September 18, 1999



Don made sure that every detail of this wonderful event was attended to. He even prepared the horseshoe pits used during the tournament.



Pat was one of the first to sign up for the frying pan toss. Now we know why... She may have set a new Texas record!



The lutefisk toss was an odiferous event for winner and loser alike



The watermelon eating contest was such a sticky event that the photographer only dared to get this distant shot of one of the contenders.



**Sons of Norway
Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645
Austin, Texas
Instituted February 14, 1997**

Mission statement. The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote, preserve, and cherish a lasting appreciation of the heritage and culture of Norway and other Nordic countries while growing soundly as a fraternal benefit society and offering maximum benefits to its members.

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Gratulerer med Fodselsdagen!

Fer oktober

2 Vivian Sando	25 Linnea Ward
8 Thomas Amren	28 Cottie Israels
18 Irene Oaks	31 Wayne Hall
21 Michael Stauffacher	

**Norwegian Summer 2000 Language Camp for Students
in Grades 1-12, Concordia Language Village, Bemidji MN**

Would your child, grandchild, or another student like to learn to speak Norwegian? If so, please call **Dale Orbeck Van Sickle in Austin at 512/478-3300**. Registration has begun and the sessions do fill up fairly quickly. For more information contact:

**Concordia Language
Village**
800-222-4750 or
<http://www.cord.edu>



Nice paint job, Fred!!!

**DON'T MISS THE SPECIAL
Leif Erikson Celebration
Sandra Straubhaar and her Viking Friends
on Monday, October 18th
At Ascension Lutheran Church**

(6420 Hart Lane, Corner of Balcones overlooking MOPAC, between 2222 and Far West)

Bring godter og matbit --(goodies and snacks!!!)

Sons Of Norway

Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

c/o Editor

9900 Richelieu Road

Austin, Texas 78750

