



Norseman News

Leif Ericson Viking Ship *Norseman*

Vol. 13 No. 3

Summer 2005 Edition

www.vikingship.org

What's Inside

President's Message2

Coming to a Website Near You!2

Crossword Puzzle3

AMANI Festival Carlisle, PA4

May 17th Festival Brooklyn, NY4

Focus On: Marty "Fairknees"5

Living History Event at Fifer Middle School5

Rune Scratchings6

Volunteers Needed7

Note of Thanks!7

And the Winner Is!7

Help Save Expenses ...Cover

LEVS

Mission Statement

1. To educate Americans about Leif Ericson as the first European to discover and settle on the North American continent.
2. To promote knowledge and a realistic historic image of Viking people as merchants, navigators, shipbuilders, artists, explorers and warriors.
3. To provide sail training and practice in recreating the experience of traveling on water as Vikings did a thousand years ago.

Distributed 4 times a year

April Events Review

by Dave Segermark

On Monday, **April 4th**, Steven Clarke, Dave Segermark and Karen Johnson traveled to the Westtown School in Pennsylvania for a long-standing Living History event for the 5th grade students. Steven led the talk, with Karen and I helping out, then the class moved outside to take a look at the ship, where I took the lead. These students were well versed in the Viking culture, as our organization has been visiting this school for majority of the past six years.

On Friday, **April 15th**, LEVS attended the Meals on Wheels "Evening with the Masters" Silent Auction at the Bank One Building near the Riverwalk shops in Downtown Wilmington, DE. We donated a membership for the silent auction (\$30) and saw it auctioned off for \$320! The winner will be a member for one year and has the right for a ride on the *Norseman* with three guests sometime this summer.



Some items on display at the Living History event in Westtown.



Wolf Sutton (seated) and Steven Clarke at the Swarthmore Rotary Fun Fare.

Thanks to Jim Thornton for the exposure, and to Karen Johnson, Gene Martenson, Steven Clarke and myself for manning the *Norseman*!

Sunday, **April 17th** was the Swarthmore Rotary Fun Fare, an event that we have been involved in for a number of years through the sponsorship of Gene Martenson. There was a short parade, then we set the *Norseman* up on the Swarthmore Railroad Station overpass on Route 320! I am sure that there were a couple of double takes from drivers passing under the bridge! Thanks for manning this event goes to: Dave "Wolf" Sutton, Karen Johnson, Aaron and Maia Holt, Steven Clarke, Magnus Hedemark, Marty Martinson and Gene Martenson and of course, me too.

LEVS Norseman News

The *Norseman News* is distributed 4 times a year through mailings, our web site, and handouts at events. Our readers consist of mainly Scandinavian-Americans including members, friends and others who have shown interest in our mission, Vikings and Leif Ericson.

Reproduction of the *Norseman News* is prohibited without prior written permission.

Newsletter Editor

Karen Johnson
neditor@vikingship.org
If you would be interested in downloading current issues of the *Norseman News* from the website after an email notification, please email the editor.

The Norseman News is now accepting ads!

Advertising rates are:
Insert, supplied by advertiser . . . \$300/issue (8.5X11" 1 or 2 sides)
Full page ad \$200 (7.5"x10")
Half page \$125 (7.5"x5")
Quarter page \$75 (3.65"x5")
Business card ad \$25 (3.5"x2.5" or 2.5x3.5")

Paper submissions of artwork will not be accepted. All artwork must be grayscale or black and white. Please submit electronically as a BMP, TIF, EPS, or JPG to the newsletter editor. For layout services, add 50 percent.

We reserve the right to reject any advertising at our sole discretion. Deadlines for submission are Jan. 15 (Spring Issue out in Feb.), Apr. 15 (Summer Issue out in May), Jul. 15 (Fall issue out in late Aug.) and Oct. 15 (Winter Issue out in mid-Nov.).

Please make checks payable to LEVS, Inc. and mail to the address listed on the cover.

The President's Message

To all Viking Enthusiasts:

Our highest priority is to invite new active members to take part in the Viking activities sponsored or attended by Leif Ericson Viking Ship. Our (LEVS) many activities include interesting historical events; enjoyable festivals; and sailing aboard our Viking longship *Norseman*. If you are not sure how you can fit in --- you're still welcome. We will teach you if necessary and probably you could teach us as well. In any event you can easily learn "on the job."

We realize it is not always easy to have free time for entertainment but we have also found that activities where we intermingle with the public are indeed rewarding in that we meet many really nice people. We find it fun to demonstrate the cultural habits of the original yesteryear Vikings.

It is really true that there are many opportunities to take part in our



organization. They are sufficiently varied to attract people of different talents and skills. We are modern day Vikings who thoroughly enjoy presenting the life styles of the earlier Vikings that discovered North America back in the year 1003.

Therefore you, yes YOU, are invited to join with us! You can join through the internet, by snail mail or email, or even in person. You will find that you are very welcome and will have fun.

Skol! Marty Martinson, President

The LEVS website will soon have an online store!

Soon you will be able to purchase our merchandise and even join or renew your membership through the site. By ordering online, the process is sped up, so that you will receive your merchandise sooner than by ordering via mail.

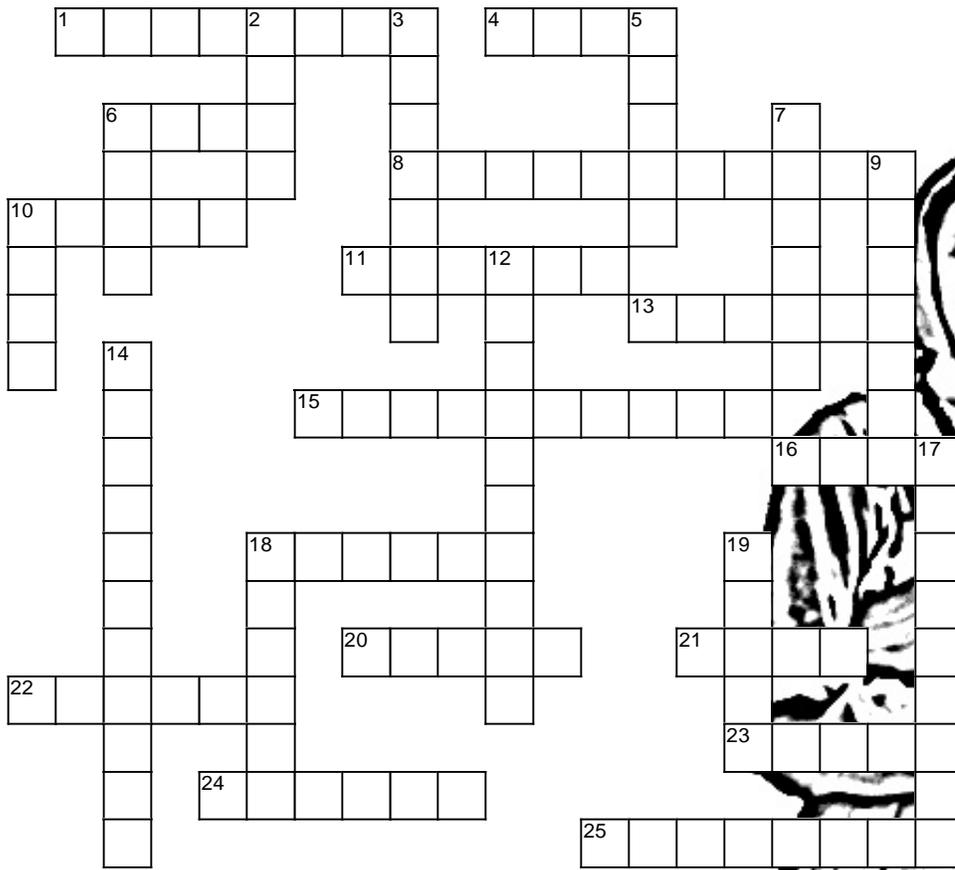
Are you disappointed at events because you couldn't use your credit card to purchase our items? Through PayPal you will be able to use your credit cards to make purchases. PayPal uses "powerful encryption methods to help protect your sensitive information", so your transactions will be secure.

Go to www.vikingship.org, and choose the "Merchandise" link at the top of the page. There will be a message on the first page once the online store is "open for business".

Don't use the internet? Don't worry, the paper catalog will still be available in our newsletters and online.



All About Viking Clothing



Across

- 1 Worn over the legs of viking men
- 4 Made from wool soaked in hot soapy water and worked into a mass
- 6 Thread or fabric made from sheep fur
- 8 Technique not unlike knitting used in making socks, gloves and other items
- 10 Leg _____ were worn wrapped around men's lower legs; used for protection against brambles, etc.
- 11 Used in colder weather, _____ were used to keep warm
- 13 Style of weaving bands by using thin, square cards
- 15 Decorative sewing found on fabric
- 16 Shoes were often stuffed with _____ or straw to keep feet dry & warm in the winter
- 18 Plant used to dye fabric red
- 20 Main garment worn by women
- 21 Device used to weave thread into fabric
- 22 Head decoration often worn by non-Christian viking men and women; often made of tablet woven bands
- 23 Thread or fabric made from the flax plant
- 24 Tool used to hold thread while sewing
- 25 Jewelry used to support apron dresses

Down

- 2 Thread or fabric made from worms and imported from Asia
- 3 Tool used to spin fibers into thread
- 5 Long shirt worn by viking men
- 6 Plant used to dye fabric blue; related to the indigo plant
- 7 Head covering used by christianized viking women; also used by nuns
- 9 How the women hold up the items described in Down 17.
- 10 Plant used in some areas to dye fabric yellow
- 12 Over dress worn by wealthier Viking women
- 14 Tree whose nutshells are used to dye fabric dark brown or black
- 17 Some viking women used _____ to cover their legs
- 18 Short cloak used by women, depicted on figurines of Valkyries
- 19 Weight on top or bottom of spindle to ensure a longer and more even spin

Amani Festival, May 7

On Saturday, very early in the morning, four hearty souls departed Wilmington for the wilds of Carlisle, PA and the Amani Festival, a multi-ethnic festival which was celebrating its 11th anniversary. Its organizer had been wanting the *Norseman* to come to their festival for many years, finally getting on our schedule in 2003! Last year we were scheduled to be there, but because of illness with a driver/crewmember, we had to cancel. This year we had five folks signed on so when one called in ill, we were still able to complete our mission! Many thanks to Erik Hinrichsen, Steven Clarke, Karen Johnson and Dave Segermark.

Sales were mild, as expected in a multi-ethnic situation such as this, however interest was great! We were positioned at one end of the festival, to draw folks from the main stage, at the other end. We were pleased at the number of folks who stopped to look, ask questions and admire our *Norseman*. (The pony rides behind us might also have been added incentive to come down our way.)



The Norseman served as an anchor point at one end of the street, and drew plenty of crowds our way.

17th of May Event in Brooklyn, New York

On Saturday May 14th, an intrepid crew comprised of Harold Graden, Len Gustafsson, Karen Johnson, Marty Martinson, Karl & Mitch Spalin, their granddaughter Ericka and Dave Segermark converged on Brooklyn, New York for the Scandinavian East Coast Museum's "Viking Fest" in Owl's Head Park on the North shore of Brooklyn! Hundreds of people stopped by to admire our *Norseman* on display, and to purchase our "Leif Landed First" merchandise and books about Vikings and Leif Ericson.

Marty, Harold and Dave stayed over and Karl returned to assist as the *Norseman* took part in the "17th of May" parade celebrating Norway's 100th anniversary of Independence from Sweden.



Children gather around the Norseman, while Capt. Dave answers questions

The parade was impressive; the route started at 90th Street and traversed the heart of Brooklyn on 5th Ave for over thirty blocks to

Leif Ericson Park! There were thousands watching as the *Norseman* drove down the street, under the banner of the Scandinavian East Coast Museum, with their two Viking Essay Contest winners aboard, Anna Kospetas and Jonathan Kelly. The title of their essays were "What My Life Would Have Been Like if I Lived in the Viking Age."

Somewhere along the way, Jeannie Widman and two of her orchestra folks jumped aboard to provide a musical background for us! Too bad that they were totally overshadowed by the Boy Scout Band which was right behind the ship!

It was a great weekend for all Norwegians and Scandinavians!

Focus On: A. "Marty" Martinson AKA Marty "Fairknees"



Marty Martinson might be retired, but you won't see him sitting around, relaxing. Having been our President for the last two years, this "Scandihoovian" (mostly Swede, with Norwegians and Danes in the family) has been busy within our organization. Marty is an outspoken gentleman who would love to see our organization have a more broad public reach - not just to people of Scandinavian descent or who are already interested in Viking culture.

"We're preaching to the choir during many of our events," said Marty, "I'd rather see us get out to those that don't know about Vikings."

Marty's description of a perfect event is being able to teach children about Leif Ericson and the Viking culture, however his favorite events have been visiting L'Anse Aux Meadows in Canada, Stockholm in Sweden and St. Petersburg in Russia, as well as the events where our organization has participated with the American Sail Training Association (ASTA) tall ships.

In all of these deep water, saltwater, or heavy weather events, Marty served as Captain because of his many years of marine experience; particularly sailing vessels.

Marty has been boating since he was six years old, and found out about our organization through Gene Martenson. In 1991 he joined the organization as a crew member, and immediately participated in our events. The strangest two questions he has ever gotten at events have been: "Does the ship float?" (yes) and "Do you sail the ship across the Atlantic?" (no).

"I also correct visitors' misconceptions during events. Vikings were more agrarian than fishermen; more organized than chaotic; and family oriented. They weren't particularly cruel, they were courageous," explained Marty.

Marty would love for others to join our organization and discover for themselves the fun that the crew have at our events, "What I love most about being on the crew is the opportunity to sail as well as visit interesting places."

Come meet Marty at one of our events - he's the one without leggings (hence the "Fairknees" moniker)!

Gene H. Martenson, CLU, ChFC | Locally in Swarthmore, PA
Registered Representative | Tel: (610) 328-4666
40 Monument Road | Fax: (610) 328-4669
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 | ghmartenson@aol.com



YOUR FUTURE. YOUR WAY™
www.AXAonline.com

AXA Advisors, LLC

(Member NASD, SIPC)

1290 Avenue of the Americas, NY, NY 10104 GE-20182(b) (9/02)

Fifer Middle School - Camden, DE Living History Event

It wasn't technically summer yet, but the heat had arrived on Monday, June 6th when some of the LEVS crew participated in the Living History Event for the 8th grade students at Fifer Middle School. Dave "Wolf" Sutton, Steven Clarke and Karen Johnson met with Dave and Mary Segermark at the school, and set up two areas - one near the ship and another near Steven and Wolf's displays. A group of Civil War soldiers had set up camp nearby, and inside there was a fur trapping couple, a Native American, and a woman who taught about women's clothing styles from the Civil War through the Victorian era.



Wolf, showing one type of axe used by the Vikings.

From 8:30 in the morning through 12:30 PM, eight groups of students rotated through each group to learn a bit about history at that time. Dave and Mary taught about the various styles of Viking ships, where the Vikings traveled, and about our ship. Karen, Steven and Wolf discussed the more general aspects of Viking lives, including the music, women's roles, trading, their homes, and of course, the weapons.

After the sessions were completed, the crew was treated to a lunch supplied by the school, and all of the reenactors got a chance to chat with each other.

Rune Scratchings

by Dennis Johnson, "The Old Swedish Viking"

On the route of a new planned highway bypass around Waterford, Ireland, remains of a Viking settlement have been discovered. Artifacts found include a Viking sword and shield, pottery fragments, and iron nails and rivets. Waterford, together with Dublin, Cork, and Limerick were all Viking trading outposts. Authorities are now trying to decide on an alternate route to permit more complete excavations of the site.

ᚱ

In the summer of 2004 a group of Swedes undertook to recreate a Viking Voyage of nearly a thousand years ago to "Sarkland", or Baku in Azerbaijan. This voyage is a re-creation of the voyage of Ingvar the Far-traveled, who made the same journey in the years 1036-41 with thirty ships. The original journey was described on runestones in Sweden, in the Icelandic Sagas, and in the Georgian Chronicle. The ship used for the re-creation was the *Himningläva*, about 10 meters (35 feet), six oars, built for the trip by Håkon Altrock. The three month journey through Russia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan was filmed by Swedish Television and shown on European Channel STV in March, 2005. Watch for the program on US Television.

ᚱ

Daily food for most Vikings was fairly monotonous but healthy, with lots of stews, bread, and porridge. Drinks were Ale and Mead, the latter more among richer Vikings. Meat was usually infrequent in common households. Vegetables included cabbage, parsnips, leeks, wild turnips, and wild celery (no potatoes). Meat was generally boiled, roasting on a spit was reserved only for great feasts. Local fish and game supplemented the diet, salt was scarce and the only sweetener available was honey. On board ship, food was usually cooked in kettles over a fire built in a large cauldron hung from an iron tripod. Contrary to opinion, drinking horns were not used; they dated to earlier times. Most utensils and dishes were of wood - forks were unknown.



ᚱ

A new visitors' center has opened in Wieringen, Netherlands, devoted solely to the Viking heritage of that nation. Look for more information on www.vikingen.nl

ᚱ

Stamp collectors among Viking Enthusiasts should check out the new Top of The World stamp issues based on Nordic Mythology. Issues began in 2004 and will continue through 2008 among the eight participating Nordic countries, Greenland, Finland, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Åland, and the Faeroe Islands. The theme of the stamps features Nordic Gods. For more information see www.topoftheworld.nu

ᚱ

Transport and travel in the Viking Age was mainly by ship, most larger settlements and trading towns being near water. Few roads existed overland, and travel was mainly on foot or on horseback. Horse-drawn sledges were used in winter, there is little evidence of wheeled vehicles in the Viking period. Carts such as the Oseberg Cart, found with the ship, were highly decorated and felt to be mainly ceremonial in use. As Christianity spread, roads began to be built to enable people to travel to the new Churches. Runestones were often used to identify the donors of roads or bridges built for this purpose.

LEVS Work Party Volunteers Needed!

You don't need to be a crew member to help out the organization, in fact you don't even need much skill! We are looking for people who are willing to help out on various Saturdays or Sundays (or even during the week days for those who are able). In general, we need help with: counting our current merchandise, painting the shields, cleaning the ship, repairing the boxes, etc. We could also use people with mechanical/electrical, woodworking and other skills.

On Workparty days, we meet at 9:00 AM and work 'til approximately 3:00 PM, with a (long) break for lunch at a local restaurant. Although we do work, we definitely stress the PARTY



aspect as well! The work parties are at the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard at 1124 East 7th Street in Wilmington, Delaware. The following are the remaining dates for this season.

Saturdays

July 2; August 27; October 15

Sundays

**June 26; August 7;
August 28; October 16**

Please check with Dave Segermark at info@vikingship.org for the most up-to-date schedule, or if you would prefer to help out on a weekday.

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS, PLEASE NOTE: If your school offers credit for students who volunteer, we would like information on how to be added to the list. We are a non-profit 501(c)3 educational organization. Please contact Dave at info@vikingship.org.

A NOTE OF

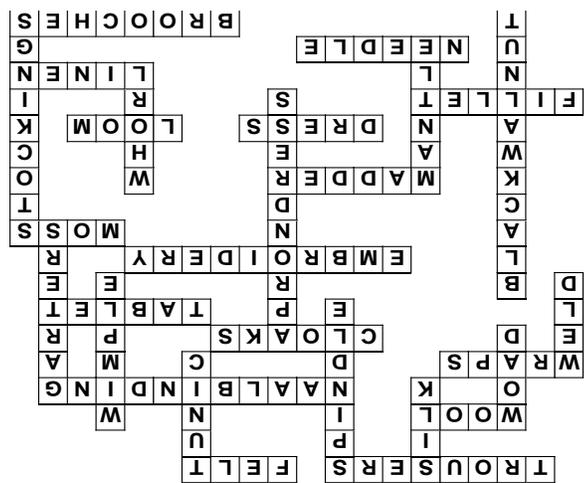


When our truck incurred some unexpected expenses in addition to the costs our organization had planned for, Ivar and Sally Christensen willingly and unexpectedly donated a generous amount to cover the costs. Thank you, Ivar and Sally!



At the Meals on Wheels event in Wilmington, Delaware LEVS offered one membership to the highest bidder, and this year's winner was **Dorothea H. from Erdenheim, PA!** Congrats- we're looking forward to sailing with her soon!

we've got a winner!



Puzzle Solution



Ceramic Keepsakes

Creating memories to last a lifetime

Baby ❖ Adoption ❖ Birthday
First Communion ❖ Graduation ❖ Wedding
New House ❖ Anniversary ❖ and more...

Karen Johnson,
Owner & Artist
610.299.7685
www.ceramickeepsakes.com

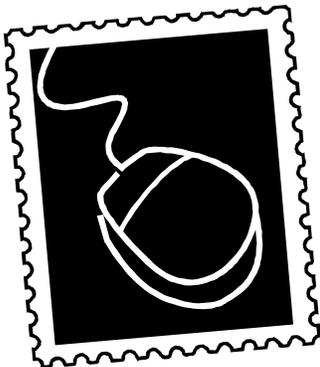
Norseman News

Leif Ericson Viking Ship
4919 Township Line Road #303
Drexel Hill, PA 19026-5017
www.vikingship.org
info@vikingship.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Glenmoore, PA
Permit No. 28

Summer 2005 Edition!



Help Us Save Expenses!

Our organization is reaching a wider audience, which is great, however the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter has gotten proportionately more expensive.

If you can, please help us lower our expenses in the following ways:

- **Join us or renew your membership!** The newsletter is supposed to be a benefit for members only, but we have continued to mail newsletters to folks who have let their membership lapse or to non-members who have purchased our merchandise, because we want you to have our information. This puts a strain on our administrative costs...
- **Let us know of your new address if you have moved or are planning on moving!** Because we have the address correction service, we are being charged \$.70 per mailing that is returned to us.
- **Choose to receive the online newsletter.** You will be sent an email announcing the new newsletter with the link to the website, so you can download the file.

You'll be the first to receive the newsletter and see what's going on! To sign up - neditor@vikingship.org.

- **Purchase an ad!** You could advertise your business in our newsletter, which reaches people across the nation, and help us out as well! The charge for advertising will help cover the cost of printing. Check the sidebar on the left of page 2 for more information.
- **Choose to be removed from the list.** If for some reason you are no longer interested in receiving the newsletter, don't just throw it out! Please contact me and I'll remove you from the list. Thank you for helping us out in this, even though we'll be sad to "see" you go.

Email is the quickest way to contact me. My email address is neditor@vikingship.org. If you mail in your changes (for moves, to receive the email version, or for removal), please note that it might take up to three mailings for the change to take effect because the mail is sent to our main mailbox. **Thank you in advance for all of your help!**

The Editor