



Norseman News

Leif Ericson Viking Ship *Norseman*

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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 3 times a year

A Note from the President

Hello everyone!

Our *Norseman* has had the honor of visiting many interesting places over her 16 years! Each place that we visit creates its own stories and I would like to share one of many stories of our first public event with the *Norseman*.

Our maiden voyage occurred on July 4th, 1992 in New York Harbor to help celebrate the 500th anniversary of Columbus' (Ivar C., note intentional misspelling) "discovery" of America in 1492. The *Norseman* served as the lead ship in the "History of Sail" portion of the parade into New York for the festivities of the day and weekend!

Some of us spent three days living on board tied next to a barge that successfully hid most of the *Norseman*, located on the East River not far from the South Street Seaport Museum where our friend, the *Danmark* was berthed. Living on board the *Norseman* is not for the weak hearted! As we don't have any facilities (read bathroom or shower accommodations), we had to take advantage of the porta-potties lined up on the streets nearby. Our friends on the *Danmark* heard about this and sent word that our crew could use their facilities onboard. This was much appreciated (and utilized) for the



Sailing in NYC Harbor in 2002, ten years after our maiden voyage.

duration of the event.

It seemed as though most of New York City and New Jersey viewed the *Norseman* that weekend! We sold most of our "T"- shirt stock and, thanks to the quick thinking of Harold Graden making use of a cardboard box and one of our prettier crewmembers (one of Gene Martenson's daughters, I believe) holding it, collected quite a lot in donations from the generous folks that came by. This helped sustain some of the repairs that were needed after the weekend was over.

It seemed as though most of New York City and New Jersey viewed the Norseman that weekend!

Since that maiden voyage, we have traveled to many other places, notably: Stockholm, Sweden; Labrador and Newfoundland, Canada; St. Petersburg, Russia; as well as Ashville & Cleveland, OH; Georgetown, TX; Jamestown, NY; Mt. Jewett, PA, Budd

Continued on Page 2

LEVS Norseman News

The *Norseman News* is distributed 3 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.

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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.).

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

Focus On: Victor Berg Our Youngest Crewmember

Victor Berg Jr. age 15. - I have been a crewmember for over a year now. I have fun helping to row and listen to the Captain. We raise and lower the sail with knots I've learned to tie. I made new friends who teach me and I in turn tell our visitors. I have learned a lot of Viking history and made new friends.

At school programs I am dressed in a tunic, trousers, shoes and helmet. Captain 'Wolf' Sutton carved my wooden spoon and cup. He also made a scabbard for my throwing axe and Saxe. My flint and striker are necessary as well as the eating knife and axe for chopping wood.

Boys would carve wooden objects and tools; girls would spin and weave wool. Boys would learn with wooden swords and shields. My sword is just for show. But I am learning to throw the spear.

We have no fields to care for or animals to feed. Our time is spent telling stories and playing board games. Hnefatapl can be simple or really take strategy. We have fun working together. I enjoy Viking history and I have really good people teaching me.



Don't forget to renew your membership! You'll get a friendly reminder from Hilde Lindstrom when your membership is about to expire.

Memberships are also a great gift idea for anyone that likes Viking history, likes to sail, or both!

A Note from the President, cont'd...

Lake, NJ, and many other locations near and far, each making another story! In these trips we learn more about the history of Vikings and Leif Ericson so we can transmit this to our public according to our mission statement.

Our mission is fairly simple: "To educate all Americans about Leif Ericson as the first European known to have explored and settled on the North American Continent, to promote knowledge and a realistic historic image of Viking people as merchants, navigators, shipbuilders, artists, explorers and warriors and to provide sail training and

practice in recreating the experience of traveling on water as the Vikings did a thousand years ago."

It is my opinion that our volunteers serve the mission of Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc. admirably and with feeling! We now further our mission by going to schools to give "Living History" presentations.

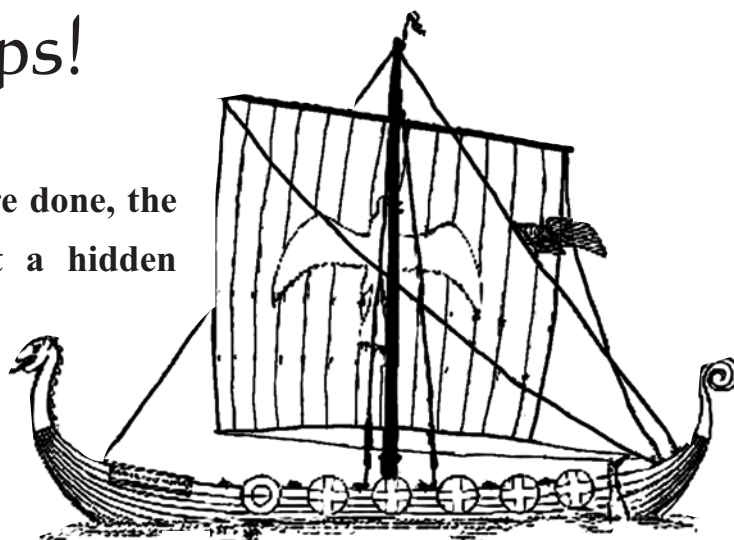
Please support us with your donations and consider becoming one of the group! We are NOT a closed society and encourage new, active memberships!

**Dave Segermark,
President LEVS, Inc.**

All About Viking Ships!

A Word Search & Puzzle

Find the words in the grid. When you are done, the unused letters in the grid will spell out a hidden message. Pick them out from left to right, top line to bottom line. Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions.



O S E A S E R P E N T U R B N
 A A D R A O B R A T S T I R S
 T T N A M E S R O N U I E L T
 I A S T A C K L E N T T H E P
 A S I E A T T E R N S O F T H
 R P H L R D A E H E R U G I F
 Y A S E G O O K S T A D S D H
 A I O T E P F M Q Q L G M R Q
 R C F R R T K N A R R A L A L
 D K G B L A S L Y W S E Y O M
 A Y C G R B K K Y T E F A B Y
 R B L G K A C E L K A L T R Y
 M B I T N O C H D E K O S E M
 G J N N L I T E R Q S N K E K
 O W K B F Z G I S H X G C T L
 T K E M T L N G R C W S A S L
 R J R G I G N O I M Y H B Z U
 O N P A W K U B W R J I D L H
 P Z S P L D T W L Y W P H X Z

- BACKSTAY OARS
- BLOCK PORT
- BOW RIGGING
- BRACES SAIL
- CLINKER SEASERPENT
- FAERING SHEETS
- FIGUREHEAD SHIELDS
- FORESTAY SHROUD
- HULL STARBOARD
- KEEL STEERBOARD
- KNARR STERN
- LAPSTRAKE TACKLE
- LONGSHIP TAIL
- MAST YARDARM
- NORSEMAN

Hidden Message:

A Tale of a Tail, and a Wonderful Sail

No, this is not the beginnings of a child's fairy tale, but rather an update on our ship...

Three years ago, while the we were traveling to Ashville, OH, the *Norseman's* tail – which had been affected by years of wind, weather, and rough traveling on the highways – finally wiggled loose of its braces and fell off the ship.

Luckily for us (and anyone driving behind us), it quickly bounced to the side of the road, and was recovered by Maia and Charlotte, who were traveling with us in a separate car.

The rest of that year, we unfortunately were tail-less, as we didn't have the manpower or the wood needed to even repair the broken tail. Over the winter, we repaired the tail as best we could, however we needed to find a more sturdy solution.

One of the design flaws of our previous tail was that, although it looked captivating on the water, when driving at high speeds the tail proved to be unsteady. The size of the tail also made it too large to take in and out during travel.

Crewmember Steve Clarke came up with the design of having a "stern post" inserted into the hollow end of the ship that will be a permanent setting for our future tail, which has yet to be created. Crewmember Karen Lesley found a source for the wood at her relative's house, and we were able to get the wood cut into chunks through a local Amish man. Steve then shaped one of the wood pieces so that it would fit into the end. During a work party early this season we were able to secure it and stain it so that it blends with the rest of the ship. By itself, the stern post makes the ship look complete, but we hope to have time in the future to create a removable tail.

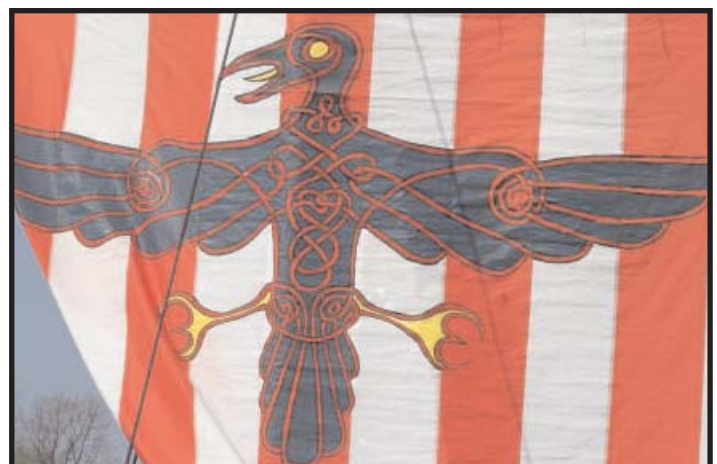
Steve has also been working on our new sail! Last year he unveiled the new raven design on the red and white striped sail – it's a more stylized design than on our previous sails. We gladly used the sail last season even though Steve had not had time to fill in the raven design with color. Earlier this season he completed his design, and it looks marvelous! We've had quite a few complements on the new design at our events.



The Norseman, sans tail.



You can see our new "stern post".



The georgous, hand painted sail.

Pictures from Ashvilles Viking Fest!



From top left:
*Maia playing with
a baton game*

*Hilde & "Og"
enjoying a sail*

*Charlotte & Karen
at the tent*

preparing to sail

*Dave & Aaron enjoy
some characters.*



Coming soon to your area?

Presenting Our Living History Lecture

As part of our mission to educate Americans, we have developed a short presentation which speaks of the Viking culture and history including some basic facts about the ships as well as our group.

The presentation includes a PowerPoint slideshow which is rich in detail and visuals, and at times we can also bring artifacts from our volunteers that further bring history

to life.

We are looking for places to make this presentation (and folks to spread the word in the local area). Scandinavian meetings (like Sons of Norway) are wonderful; we'd also like to organize meetings for the general public.

If you have any interest in having us come to your area, please send an email to Dave

Segermark at info@vikingship.org or call 410-275-8516.

You don't have to host the presentation at your house (unless you want to), however we would need you to find out some basic information regarding your local libraries, community halls or churches.

Please help us to spread the word that "Leif Landed First!"

Did You Know?

Vikings were probably the first to make and use skis and ski poles.

They also skated using shin bones!

A Review of Brooklyn, NY

What a weekend! We had a beautiful Saturday in Brooklyn... sunshine, crowds of Scandinavians (and lots of others, too!) coming over to look at the *Norseman* and talk to us about Vikings! Sales were good at our merchandise booth and the day was declared a



Hilde, with New York's finest.

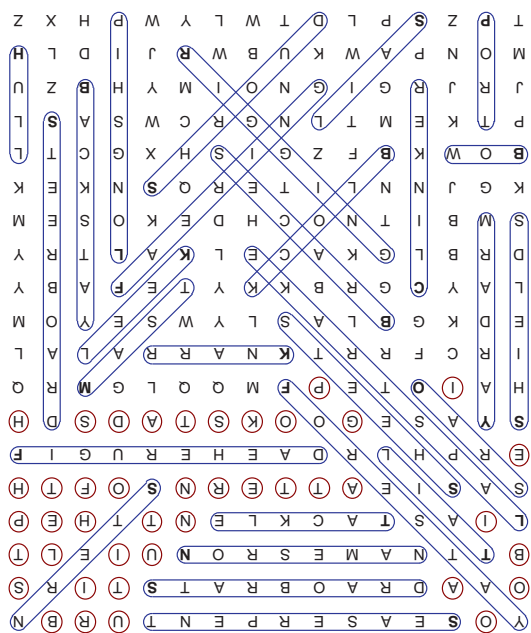
success. We enjoyed our dinner at the Danish Club after parking the *Norseman* and then headed to our lodging at the "Golden Gate Inn" in Sheepshead Bay section of Brooklyn!

Sunday was a "hurry up and wait day", having to move the *Norseman* out of the parking lot before parishioners arrived to go to church at 8:00! Then we had a hearty breakfast at a nearby diner and then the wait... until we could go to our location to set up for the parade. We watched the parrots in Leif Ericson Park for awhile, talked to each other and passers by, who wondered what was going on (definitely NOT Scandinavian... or Norwegian!) Then we moved up to 90th St. and 5th Ave to set up. Before we knew it the parade was over and we were headed home. Of course, we started with a bright, sunny day which deteriorated to a downpour as we were driving home! The rain held off (mostly) until the parade got started.

Special thanks to crewmembers Charlotte Berg, Harold Graden(!), Karen Johnson, Hilde Lindstrom, Marlyse & Bengt Lindblad, Karl Spalin and Dave Segermark!

Our ship was built in the pattern of the Gokstad ship.

Hidden Message:



Puzzle Answer

Join Us for Our Leif Ericson Day 2008 Celebration

The Vikings will be landing in Marcus Hook, PA, this year on **Sunday, October 12th**, to commemorate the landing of Leif Ericson and his crew in the new world, more than 1000 years ago. Again this year we have selected the location at Market Square Memorial Park, which provides the picture perfect setting for our Viking crew to sail our own replica 40 ft. Viking Ship *Norseman* into a protected cove of the Delaware River, as we celebrate this most auspicious occasion.

In the order of rotation thru the Scandinavian countries, **this year's featured country will be Norway**. Invited guests are scheduled to be dignitaries representing the Norwegian Consulate General's office, all of the local Honorary Scandinavian Consulates, and 7th District PA Congressman Joe Sestak, as well as respected members of the local government, the Scandinavian community and the business world.



Included in the festivities of the day will be a luncheon at the Holiday Inn Select in Claymont, DE, which is less than a 10 minute drive from the river event. There will be additional celebrations and surprises highlighting this segment of the total excitement of the day.

Please mark your calendar now and reserve this date to join us as we commemorate the accomplishments of Leif Ericson, the first recognized European explorer to land in North America.

There will be more detailed information in the next issue of this newsletter, and a personal invitation regarding the agenda for Leif Ericson Day 2008 will be mailed out in the near future.

We hope you will set aside October 12th and come out and support this Scandinavian tradition, which is open to all nationalities, and to all ages. Thank you.

Joe Jeantet, Chairman Leif Ericson Day 2008

Upcoming Events!

- **July 18 - 20** ~ Jamestown, NY: Jamestown Scandinavian Festival
- **August 16 & 17** ~ Earleville, MD: Crewmember Event! Sailing on the Sassafrass
- **August 28** ~ Mohnton, PA: Cardia Learning Center Living History
- **August 31** ~ Budd Lake, NJ: ScanFest at Vasa Park
- **September 20** ~ Wilmington, DE: Fundraiser for Boys and Girls Club of DE
- **October 10** ~ Wallingford, PA: Sons of Norway presentation
- **October 12** ~ Marcus Hook, PA: Leif Ericson Day Ceremony & Banquet



Norseman News

Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc.
P.O. Box 393
Swarthmore, PA 19081-0393
www.vikingship.org
info@vikingship.org



Summer 2008 Edition!

Don't Miss Our Fun Crew Day on the Sassafras!

Let's all get together for a fun sail up the Sassafras!

Yet again, Captain Dave Segermark is offering to open his waterfront home on the Sassafras River in Earlvile, MD as a "base" for a sail-training weekend. We sail both Saturday and Sunday. If you plan to sail, wear deck shoes or sneakers, plus appropriate clothing for the weather (hat, rain gear, etc.).

Food will be provided - we'll work up a menu that should work for everyone. Those that want to will then sail to a nearby location to camp out. There's room for about 10 "less tough" folks (that don't want to sleep outdoors)



at Dave & Mary's!

If you aren't a crewmember but would like to join us sailing, please fill out the membership form on the backside of the catalog form and send it in. If you

don't feel like sailing, come anyway - you'll get more of the food! This is a great way to introduce family or friends to LEVS in a completely relaxed environment.

RSVPs are required for this outing. Call 410-275-8516 or e-mail your RSVP to info@vikingship.org, please. Directions and details will be given once you RSVP.