

A TRIP INTERRUPTED

by Joanne Impallaria

Last July into August, I took a cruise on the Baltic Sea on the first larger ship commissioned by Viking Cruises. It was named the Viking Star and held 930 passengers plus crew. It is a beautiful ship with spacious cabins and every cabin has its own balcony.

Our cruise started in Stockholm, Sweden and then we traveled to ports in Helsinki, Finland, St. Petersburg, Russia, called the Venice of the North because of all the canals, and Tallin, Estonia. If you don't know where Estonia is, like I didn't, it is west of Russia and formerly was part of the USSR.

Our ship arrived in Tallin a few hours later than expected. The captain announced on the intercom that the ship was experiencing propulsion problems and therefore the late arrival. After going on excursions in Tallin for two days, the captain announced Viking was flying in experts from Germany to try to diagnose the problem with their brand new ship.

In the meantime my friend, Jo Janke, and I were enjoying the wonderful food, entertainment, service, accommodations and free tours. To keep the passengers entertained during this unexpected stay in Estonia, Viking added excursions into the interior of the country. Jo and I saw this as a real plus since neither one of us expect to go back to Estonia. However, Viking started eliminating ports in Poland, Germany and Denmark. That was disappointing.

The German experts diagnosed what parts had to be replaced but the parts need to be made yet so Viking Star would not be leaving Tallin anytime soon.

Viking Cruises gave us the choice to fly home early from Tallin or fly aboard a Charter jet to Bergen, Norway and stay in a hotel for four nights. Everything would be paid for by Viking including food and excursions, as well as accommodations. To Jo and I, this was a "no brainer" and we chose to fly to Bergen, Norway.

While in Norway we travelled by coach bus with a guide to the fiords area of Flam. Not only did we see the fiords, mountains and waterfalls of this area, but traveled on a ferry and later a train into the mountains where snow was still present on the peaks.

In Bergen we traveled up a mountain on the funicular to see views of the port and waterways. The town itself is very picturesque with its bright painted buildings attached to each other like Amsterdam.

We had such a wonderful trip; the "icing on the cake" was Viking Cruises gave us back 50% of the cost of the trip and also a 50% credit toward another Viking Cruise. Talk about damage control. That was unexpected.

I am looking forward to my next Viking Cruise, hopefully to the Mediterranean.

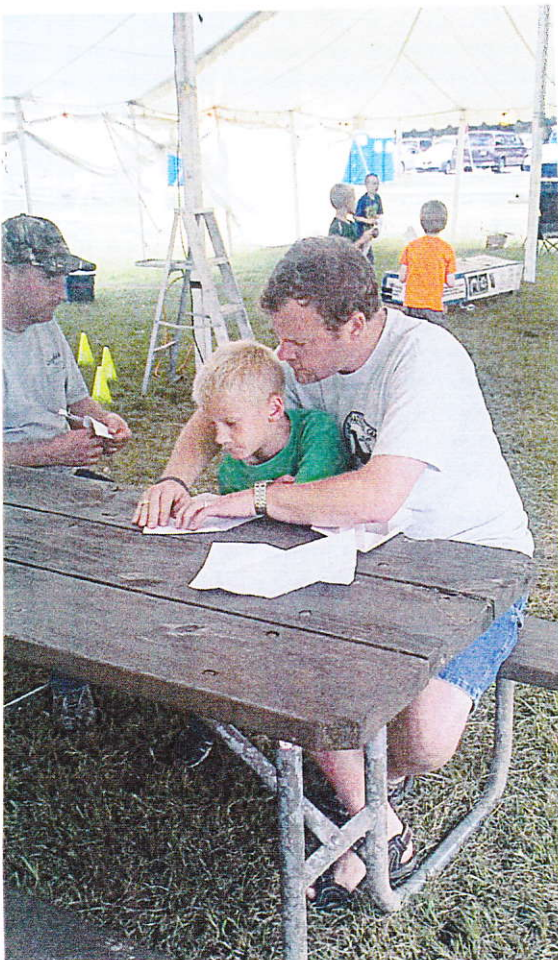


CADETS



This year has started off strong with the kick off campout at Davis Creek. This first night was a little soggy but things dried up nicely and it ended up being a great weekend! I'm sure we all arrived back home full of great memories. The skating party was the first meeting in November and the boys were able to enjoy the roller rink & burn some of that energy. Hopefully no one returned home with too many bumps or bruises. The Cadets have been working on a yo-yo project for most of the year which is almost complete, so expect some yo-yo masters arriving soon! For the final meeting of 2015, the boys will be helping with a service project that the Gems are leading called Phil's Friends by making blankets. This is an organization that helps people with cancer.

Cadets is still booming with an average of 15 to 16 boys attending every meeting. We would like to thanks all the great counselors taking time to guide these boys. However, we are always looking for counselors as our club has doubled since last year with a lot of boys from the community that recently joined. Hope everyone has a great holiday season!



GEMS ZUMBA CLASS



BIRTHDAYS

- December 1 Miedema, Melinda
- December 2 Aring, Carolyn
- December 2 Miedema, Linda
- December 2 Sanner, Emma
- December 2 Van Kuiken, Marilyn
- December 11 Boersma, Alice
- December 15 Aring, Shirley
- December 20 Voss, Barry
- December 21 Pickard, Brittany
- December 22 Hill, Ruth
- December 22 Jackson, Pauline
- December 22 Loggins, Phyllis
- December 28 Stegenga, Scott
- December 29 Huisjen, Mike
- December 30 Stegenga, Christine
- December 31 Wagenaar, Marilyn



- Jim & Lori Koditek December 1, 2001
- Jason & Yvette Adamus December 10, 1997
- Jim & Linda Miedema December 19, 1970

NEWS REVIEW

STAFF

- Joyce Davids
- Gay Ebbens
- Idell Ebbens

May the presence and power
Of God from above,
The joy and the wonder,
His blessings and love...
May the hope of the season,
The beauty and cheer...
May the promise of Christmas
Be yours through the year.





A BIBLE CAKE

A Bible must be handy in the kitchen to make cake a success.

- 4½ cup 1st Kings..... Chapter 4 vs. 22
- 1 cup Judges..... Chapter 5 vs. 25
- 2 cups Jeremiah..... Chapter 6 vs. 20
- 2 cups 1st Samuel..... Chapter 30 vs. 12
- 2 cups Nahum..... Chapter 3 vs. 12
- 2 cups Numbers..... Chapter 17 vs. 8
- 2 Tbsp. 1st Samuel..... Chapter 14 vs. 25
- A pinch of Leviticus..... Chapter 2 vs. 13
- 6 tsp. Jeremiah..... Chapter 17 vs. 11
- 2 tsp. Amos..... Chapter 4 vs. 5
- Season to taste with:
- 2 Chronicles..... Chapter 9 vs. 9

DECEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<p>*DENOTES WEEKLY ACTIVITY *9:30am: Worship Service Junior Choir follows service *10:45am: Coffee Fellowship *11:00am: Sunday School</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30pm: Junior Bells 6:30pm: GEMS & Cadets 6:30pm: Celebration Singers 8:05pm: Worship Team</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:15am: Women's Bible Study</p> 	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>6 *</p> <p>AM: Communion & Baptism</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>7:00pm: B.O.B.</p>	<p>8</p> 	<p>9</p> <p>6:30pm: Celebration Singers 8:05pm: Worship Team</p>	<p>10 11</p> <p><i>Glory to God IN THE HIGHEST, And on EARTH PEACE, GOODWILL towards men. Luke 2:14 NKJV</i></p>		<p>12</p> <p>7:00pm: Men-Of-A Chord Candlelight Christmas Musical</p> <p>GEMS Mother/Daughter Christmas Party</p>	
<p>13 *</p> <p>Congregational Mtg. following the service</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>7:00pm: B.O.B.</p>		<p>16</p> <p>6:30pm: GEMS & Cadets Christmas Party 6:30pm: Celebration Singers 8:05pm: Worship Team</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:15am: Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>8:00am: Men's Prayer Mtg.</p>	
<p>20 *</p> <p>AM: Children's Program during service 6:00pm: Celebration Singers Concert</p> <p>News Review articles due</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30pm: Worship Team</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10:00am: Christmas Day Service</p>	<p>26</p>	
<p><i>For unto you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11</i></p>							
		<p>Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm</p>	<p>Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00noon</p>	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>			
<p>27 *</p> <p>No Sunday School</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:30pm: Worship Team</p> <p>Office Hours: 9:00am-12:00noon</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</p>		

