



Viking Journal

Vikingen

*Forska som om du skulle leva evigt!
Search as if you would live forever!
Lev som om du skulle dö i morgon!
Live as if you would die tomorrow!*

**Volume 120, No. 2
June 2020**

Chief's

Corner



*Melinda Worden
Grand Chief*

Hello Fellow Vikings,

Hope all of you are safe and healthy while enduring this corona pandemic. As this was all beginning, I made a trip to Florida. We went to Hudson, Florida, and spent some time with friends from Ingjald #65. Bill Peterson gave a nice tour as we visited others. We then went down to Englewood, FL, Lemon Park, and enjoyed some time with The Vikings South group. Steve and Char Eckstrom hosted this event. I know that Vikings South has been doing their Chicken BBQ for quite a few years. We really enjoyed ourselves in the company of some people we haven't seen in a while. We finished off the vacation down in Ft. Myers, spending time with the family and had a few beach days before everything shut down. While we were gone, I kept in touch with my Mom, and she really wanted me home! We stayed a couple extra days and started our way back North. I must say, it seemed a little creepy when we were traveling home, we were often the only car on the road with occasionally a tractor trailer. Never have I experienced that – I felt like I was in a movie, and not a good one!

Our Executive Council had to change plans, unfortunately, for our April meeting. We were going to meet in Kenosha at Sigurd Lodge #30, home to Vice Grand Chief Rod Ottum. Instead, we had a conference call. I must say that I enjoy our meeting together, rather than on the phone. We on Council are thinking of making that meeting up, but as you know, we are waiting for things to get better. We have not yet made a definite plan.

Surrenders are still our main topic of discussion. There are some surrender forms still trickling in, and we are all working diligently to exit the insurance business. We are trying some new angles to finish this up. As we exit the insurance business in 2021, we will be adding a Finance Committee to the executive council. We have now been in contact with a few of the lodges to help them with changes and challenges, and I am happy to say that all lodges are in good standing and helping with their home lodge surrenders. Remember, "A good Viking, is an uninsured Viking!" Please think about surrendering if you have not yet.

Viking Scholarship chair, Bob Grinnell, announced that we have six Grand Lodge Scholarship winners. Three are from Linne' Lodge #57, two from Ingjald # 65, and one from Ring Lodge #18. Congratulations to all recipients. They have all been notified and Lodge chiefs will present the awards. Thanks to Bob and his committee. Good reason to become a Viking!

Britt Hichue and the Language Camp committee have announced two campers received language camp grants this year. Congratulations, to Travis Wasen from Linne Lodge #57, and Elias Carlson, from Ring Lodge #18. Always receive great comments about camp, and thanks to the committee for a job, well done. Another good reason to be a Viking!

Can you believe we are getting closer to our next Convention already! Information will soon be appearing in the Journal. And on that note, it also means that all Vikings should start thinking about who you would like to see as our next "Viking of the Year." You're sure to find deserving individuals from all of our Lodges. This is a great honor! The winner will be recognized, and given a medallion, for all they do for the good of our organization. You have plenty of time, "Don't delay, nominate your Viking of the Year today!"

Summer will soon be upon us, and lots of beautiful days. Get out and enjoy the warmer weather! Hope we are all open for business, and back to a somewhat normal life. See you all soon.

Melinda R. Worden

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Letter from the Chief	cover story
Welcome Aboard	2
Language Lesson	2
Milestones	2
Language Camp Update.....	3
IOV Seeks Financial Manager	3
Viking of the Year Rules/App.....	4-6
Administrator's Corner	7
Scholarship Update	7
Linne' Lodge Update	8-9
Midsummer Traditions	9
Sigurd Lodge Update	10
Insurance Surrender Form	11



VIKING JOURNAL

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Official Publication of
the Independent Order
of Vikings
*A Fraternal Benefit Society
on Legal Reserve*

The *Viking Journal*
is published four times
a year. The deadlines for
the issues of the *Journal* are
listed below.
Please make a note!

SUBMIT ARTICLES TO:
admin@iovikings.org

SUBJECT LINE:
IOV Journal Article

Deadline for Submissions

February 1, 2020
May 1, 2020
August 1, 2020
November 1, 2020

Publication Dates

March 1, 2020
June 1, 2020
September 1, 2020
December 1, 2020

Website:
www.iovikings.org

Facebook:
Find us and like
**Independent Order
of Vikings!**
(This is a closed group, so
you must request to join.)

Welcome Aboard

The following are new members who were admitted to the Viking Order since the previous *Viking Journal* was published. We welcome you one and all to the Viking Order and sincerely urge you to attend your respective lodges and join in all of the activities planned for you. Remember . . . It's great to be a VIKING!!

NEW MEMBER

SPONSOR

INGJALD #65

OAKLYN JADE DARTS
HARPER ROSE FRANCISCO
DENNIS LEE SUNDSTROM
JESSICA MORTON
DAN SALERNO
JANET LIDDELL
EDITH ROSE ZENNS-WALL

TERA DARTS
TERA DARTS
JO ANN MARIE BORG
DEVON CLARK
GREGORY S HEDLUND
ELIZABETH MARIE BELL
THOMAS WILLIAM WALL

RING LODGE #18

JAVIE A LENTS

LOUIE LEE



MILESTONES

To let you know that our many thoughts are with the members and families in this time of sorrow.

Lodge	Member Name
Orvar Odd Lodge #24	ROBERT LARSEN
Ingjald Lodge #65	ADELBERT R KRASINSKI
Ingjald Lodge #65	RICHARD W SANDQUIST
Ingjald Lodge #65	DONNA TAFT
Ingjald Lodge #65	DANIEL S ANDERSON
Grand Lodge	BRIAN MUNCH
Thor Lodge #9	WILLIAM NELSON



HÖGSATTA KÄMPAR

All Lodges are asked to submit membership reports that include the passing of our Viking brothers and sisters. Submit to the Fraternal Administrator for inclusion in the Vikings Journal.

LANGUAGE LESSON

Say: vara i god hälsa
Translation: be in good health

Language Camp Update

On behalf of the I.O.V. Language Camp Committee I would like to say thank you to all five of the applicants for your interest in attending the Concordia Language Camp. I wish we could send all of you to this amazing place; unfortunately we can't do that at this time. We typically are able to fund two 2-week sessions at camp each summer.

Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus, Concordia has cancelled the first session of camp and we are waiting to see how the rest of the summer rolls out. Our committee has been in communication with the applicants and scholarship winners. If necessary, we will extend this year's scholarships to the 2021 camp season. We will provide an update in the September Journal with (hopefully!) reflections from some summer campers.

Language Camp Committee:

E. Britt-Louise Hichue (Britt) – Linne' #57 - Chairperson
 Peggy Schaefer – Linne' #57
 Robert Greenwald – Ingjald #65

Looking Ahead: IOV Will Be Seeking A Financial/Investment Manager



The Executive Council of the Independent Order of Vikings (IOV) is working diligently to exit the life insurance business. As I am sure you have heard many times, this is a necessity to ensure that we can maintain our IOV identity and retain our assets. We hope to end our insurance business no later than 12/31/2021. Currently our Insurance Administrator, United Trust Group (UTG), manages our investment portfolio. When we are finally able to exit the insurance business, we will no longer contract with UTG for these services.

If there is an IOV member that is a Certified Financial/Investment Professional and would like to be considered to manage the IOV portfolio, please contact one of the members of the IOV investment committee. We will put together a process to review proposals but would like to start by building an interest list.

The Investment Committee members are:

Bob Greenwald - ert@netsync.net, (716) 664-6200 Office, (716) 665-2457 Home
 Bill Peterson - billsite34@hotmail.com, (716) 499-0247
 Bob Grinnell - cgrinnell@aol.com, (231) 773-0490

IOV Executive Council:

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minward65@hotmail.com

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papaottum@gmail.com

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margaretschaefer@yahoo.com

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margaretschaefer@yahoo.com



VIKING OF THE YEAR

Do you know of someone or perhaps a few people in your Lodge who deserves to have their name added to the following list?

VIKING OF THE YEAR WINNERS

1987	Ray Knutson	Elida	#25
1988	C. Henry Widegren	Drake	# 3
1989	Agnes Trillcott	Stenkil	#92
1990	Hjalmar T. Lindskoog	Brage	# 2
1991	Ruth Ann Matthews	Linne'	#57
1992	Carl A. Larson	Stenkil	#92
1993	Rey I. Carlberg	Harald	#13
1994	Raymond Carlson	Linne'	#57
1995	Henry Stenquist, Jr.	Edmund	#91
1996	Mauritz Erickson	Linne'	#57
1997	Norma Sundberg	Orvar Odd	#57
1998	Alfred Majors	Linne'	#57
1999	Charles Niarhos	Harald	#13
2000	Allen E. Johnson	Ingjald	#65
2001	Alex J. Arvia	Harald	#13
2002	Juanita "Toots" Porter	Ingjald	#65
2003	NO ONE NOMINATED		
2004	Esther Irene Sundberg	Clara	#118
2005	Wayne H. Bailey	Linne'	#57
2007	Gordon Lindgren	Neptun	#35
2009	Timothy Fagerstrom	Ingjald	#65
2011	Joel Lunden	Linne'	#57
2013	Kathleen Heyvaert	Clara	#118
2015	Helane Bergklint	Linne'	#57
2017	Elisabeth "Betsy" Lynch	Ingjald	#65
2019	William Jandt	Linne'	#57
2021	???		

That deserving person will be recognized at the Convention in June 2021 with expenses paid by the Grand Lodge.

VIKING OF THE YEAR 2020-2021 RULES

Dear Sister and Brother Vikings:

The Viking of the Year Committee is searching for one outstanding candidate from all of our Sister and Brother Vikings who have not received recognition for outstanding service, accomplishments and dedication to a Subordinate Lodge in the Viking Order. The award also considers their contributions to Local and/or State activities.

THE RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- ◆ Nominees must be members of the Independent Order of Vikings in good financial standing.
- ◆ One award will be presented every two years at the convention.
- ◆ The Viking of the Year Committee appointed by the Grand Chief will administer the award.
- ◆ The award will be a plaque, medallion and expenses paid to the Convention.
- ◆ The nomination form is available via the Vikings website, iovikings.org, and is also in this Journal.
- ◆ An individual may win the Viking of the Year only once.
- ◆ Previous nominees are eligible to be re-nominated in succeeding years.
- ◆ Grand Lodge Officers and Executive Council Members are not eligible to receive the award.
- ◆ Nominations must be sent to the IOV Fraternal Administrator, PO Box 27186, Lansing, MI 48909 and must be postmarked prior to midnight January 15, 2021.

HAVE SOMEONE IN MIND FOR VIKING OF THE YEAR 2021?

Please submit the nomination to the Fraternal Administrator postmarked before MIDNIGHT JANUARY 15, 2021. Nominations may be submitted any time before the deadline.

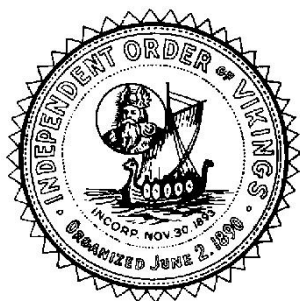
We all know a Viking Member that is worthy of this award. Please take the time to nominate him or her.

**PLEASE DON'T LET A DESERVING VIKING GET MISSED
BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT SOMEONE ELSE WAS DOING IT!!**

Fraternally Yours,

VIKING OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE

Thomas R. Jandt, Chairman
Melinda Worden
Barbara Hendry



2021 Viking of the Year

Nomination Form

Please use a separate sheet of paper if more space is needed to properly explain or describe the attributes of the nominee. Clearly identify the question being answered. All nominations must be POSTMARKED no later than January 15, 2021.

Nominee's Name: _____

Nominee's Mailing Address: _____

Nominee's Lodge & Number: _____

Nominee's Effective Membership Date: _____

Please list IOV offices, positions held, and other volunteerism within Lodge/IOV:

Describe what the individual has accomplished or contributed to Lodge or National IOV:

MAIL completed nomination form and supplemental information to:
VOTY Committee – c/o IOV Fraternal Administration – PO Box 27186, Lansing, MI 48909

List other special qualities, achievements, or awards of the nominee that promote the Lodge and IOV within the community:

Biographical Information: Please provide family history, Viking background and other matters of interest for publicity purposes, including family members who are IOV members:

Nominators Name: _____

Nominators Address: _____

Nominator's Lodge & Number: _____

Date Submitted by Nominator: _____

Date Received by IOV:

Postmarked:

Administrator's Corner

Just a few quick items this quarter...

1. Grand Lodge Members

As we are sorting out the membership files, we find we have several people listed as "Grand Lodge Members." For various reasons, not all of them have received dues invoices over the years. We are cleaning up the Grand Lodge membership and invoicing process and will be sending a letter out to these folks later this summer, confirming if they wish to remain a Grand Lodge member after the insurance program closes. If YOU are a Grand Lodge member, and have not received your 2020 dues invoice, you may send your check for \$15 per member to the Fraternal Administration Office (make check out to IOV). As Grand Lodge membership has been tied to insurance policies over the past, the Executive Council and Convention delegates will need to approve guidelines for future members. We will keep you posted as this process unfolds!

2. Email delivery of IOV Journal

Don't forget! You can receive the Journal in COLOR if you get it by email! Each quarter, we will send you a link to the newsletter in the IOV website so we don't clog up your email. (If your email address bounces back to us, we will move you back to the print mailing list.) If you wish to receive the Journal by email, please send a note to us: admin@iovikings.org. You can also find recent past copies of the Journal on the website www.iovikings.org.

3. New Lodge Officers

Please remember to send your updated Lodge Officers any time you hold elections or fill a vacancy. I need the officer name, title, mailing address, email address and phone number. Almost all our communication with lodges is now done by EMAIL. This saves time and money – please make sure we have an email contact for your officers!

4. Lodge Newsletters

Please add the Fraternal Administrator to your lodge newsletter mailing list! Email news can go to admin@iovikings.org and print newsletter can be sent to: IOV Fraternal Administrator, PO Box 27186, Lansing, MI 48909
Happy Spring!



Robin Lynn Grinnell, IOV Fraternal Administrator
admin@iovikings.org - 989-292-0482

Scholarship Committee Update

CONGRATULATIONS to the six winners of IOV's 2020 Grand Lodge Scholarships:

- Jack Brinkley, Ingjald #65
- Margaret Gosselin, Ring #18
- Julia Gotaas, Linne' #57
- Emme Jensen, Linne' #57
- Kylie Schnars, Ingjald #65
- Robert Swanker, Linne' #57

Scholarship packets have been sent to the chiefs of their home lodges, for local presentation. We have requested photos and an update on their future plans from each of the scholars, to be shared in the September Journal.

We had eleven eligible applicants this year, which was great to see. It also made the decision a tough one! We are happy to have a panel of objective (non-Viking) educators who review and score the applications. It is inspiring to see the great work of our Junior Vikings, and their commitment to education!

We wish good luck and much success to all of our 2020 graduates!

The Scholarship Committee,
Bob Grinnell (chair)
Rod Ottum
Bill Peterson
Mary Beth Liskey



DID YOU KNOW?

There are many ways to learn more about Scandinavian history and traditions. Have you looked at the Real Scandinavia website? www.realscandinavia.com In addition to culture and travel, this website shares snippets of history that shines some light on our Viking traditions. For example, the original Gripsholm is a castle in Sweden!

LINNE' LODGE #57

Muskegon, MI

Hello from Linne' Lodge #57!

I pray that all of you are safe during this Covid 19 outbreak. We in Muskegon have lost a few members to the virus.

As with your lodges, our lodge is closed till at least the 15th of May. I've been watching the news and I won't be surprised if that date is extended. All we can do is PRAY and hope it is defeated.

We got a little fun in before the virus hit. The end of January was Winterfest. What a weekend that was! In February, we had the Super Bowl Party. It was a great game and the party, put on by Bill Musgrave and his committee, was wonderful. Later in February the Pool Tournament put on by Chris and Lexi Jandt was held. Dan Morrison and Mike Medendorf repeated as champions. In March the St. Patrick's Day party was put on by Jen Reckell, Shawn Perry and others. Because of the virus they had take-outs for anyone that wanted them, as well as the dinner at the lodge. It was an excellent dinner, and then the lodge closed down. A big thank you goes out to the Trustees and Officers of the lodge who took control of the situation with the shutdown.

I hope all of you and your families are doing well during this pandemic. Hopefully, we'll be able to get back together shortly.

Fraternally,

Thomas (Tom) Jandt, Past Chief, Linne' Lodge #57



St. Patrick's Day



Winterfest

LINNE' LODGE #57

Muskegon, MI



SuperBowl Party

Scandinavian Midsummer

Source : www.ingebretsens.com

Midsummer, an observation of the longest day of the year, is celebrated in each of the Scandinavian countries. Midsummer, originally a pagan holiday, is celebrated on the day of John the Baptist and is now held on the weekend closest to the summer solstice.

In Sweden the celebration takes place around a maypole that is trimmed with garlands of flowers. The word majstang (maypole) has nothing to do with the month of May. The custom att maja means to decorate with green leaves and branches, and at midsummer this is done freely. The maypole is raised on an open grassy area and the celebrants join hands and dance around it to tunes played on an accordion or fiddle.

In Finland everyone goes to their favorite lake shore where they build a bonfire, which is lit at midnight, and they dance. Since midsummer was originally a pagan holiday, a number of superstitions are associated with the celebrations. It is very important to have birch in the house to guarantee future happiness. The Finns also hang birch wreaths on their cows' horns to protect them. When the cows return home in the evening, the wreath becomes part of their meal. In Norway and Denmark midsummer is also known as Sankt Hans Aften and is celebrated on the eve of John the Baptist Day. In Norway customs date back to pagan times when tribute was paid to the powers of the sun god with bonfires signifying the defeat of darkness. Often there is a procession that begins in the early evening that is led by a musician. It is a tradition to light a bonfire and to dance. Hot dogs, or pølser, are popular midsummer fare around the fire. On this evening the magic creatures such as trolls and huldurs are invisible partners in the merrymaking.

In Denmark bonfires are also an important part of the celebration. Danes gather for a picnic, and after dark a bonfire with an effigy of a witch on top is set ablaze. A rocket-like firecracker is concealed in the witch's clothing which, upon ignition, represents the witch's return to Bloksbjerg, a mountain in the Black Forest and the home of the devil.



What to Drink on Swedish Midsummer

Source: www.thekitchn.com

No midsummer table will be complete without snaps. No, this is not the peppermint version you put in hot chocolate. This is aquavit, often flavored with classic Scandinavian spices like caraway and anise. Beyond snaps, serve a light beer. For the non-alcoholic crowd, a cordial, like one made from lingonberries or elderflower, is in order, which you can easily make festive by adding sparkling water.

Traditional Elder-Fashioned Cocktail, served on the rocks:

- 2 parts bourbon or straight rye whiskey
- 1/2 part St. Germain
- 2 dashes angostura bitters
- Orange peel, for garnish



SIGURD LODGE #30

Kenosha, Wisconsin

Hi all,

As I write this on the first day of May I hope everything is going well. Right now, we are in the midst of the coronavirus so hopefully it has eased up at by the time you read this. That being said, life must go on. It has been a very quiet time here at Sigurd, as I assume at all the other respective Lodges. Back in March we were supposed to have our Spring Swedish Pancakes and Sausage Breakfast, but that had to be cancelled as well as our meetings. We were supposed to have the Grand Lodge Executive Council meeting here in Kenosha on April 25th but due to Covid-19 we had to have our meeting in high technology, (which I'm not really acclimated with) by Zoom. We had a very good meeting with most of the discussion focused on insurance surrenders. I have noticed that a lot of those still holding policies are individuals whose parents or grandparents purchased a policy for them when they were very young. In fact, I talked to a gentleman in Florida who is in his 40's and did not know he had a policy. He checked with his parents in the Boston area and discovered they had purchased a policy for him when he was a newborn! I also spoke to another gentleman in Florida, who was listed as belonging to Manhem Lodge in Highland Park, IL which had disbanded quite a few years ago. When I contacted him, he said his grandparents had bought him a policy when he was very young. I found a couple of policy holders who are deceased, and no one had filed a claim - in fact one lady passed away in 2009. These are some of the things we are dealing with. All in all, we are making progress. We are still hoping for help from the lodge leaders to track down former members. As far as the coronavirus goes, we had one of our members who lost his stepson due to the

disease; his step grandparents are also members. We would like to extend our sympathy to Colleen and Mark Kane as well as Joyce and Jerry Jacob on this tragic loss. Please keep them in your prayers, also please keep Barb Hendry from Herald Lodge in Tinley Park in your prayers, too.

We haven't been able to do much planning for the 2021 Convention due to the virus, but once we get the ok to have meetings again we need to get to work. June 2021 is only a year away. Check the September Journal for updates. Our next Grand Lodge Council meeting will be in Tinley Park October 17th and I believe they plan on having a night at the races event on Saturday evening which is a very good time. This would be a great opportunity for members to visit another lodge!

Back in March Linda Roberts had to have surgery on her knee again but is doing well as of now.

Everyone have a great summer and stay safe!
Rod Ottum, Correspondent

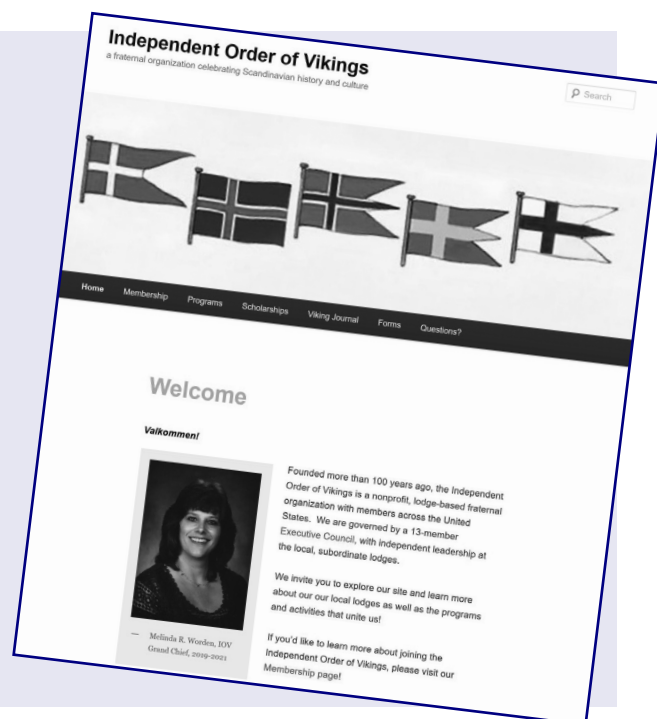
I.O.V. on the WEB!



Hey did you know that the I.O.V. has a Facebook page???

For all of you "Tech savvys" out there check out the **Independent Order of Vikings**
If you are not "following us" on Facebook how will you know what other Vikings are doing?
Log in today and request permission to become a follower.

Also, check out the web page at www.iovikings.org
You can read the Journal and see the pictures in color!!



Independent Order of Vikings

Fraternal Administration

PO Box 27186

Lansing, MI 48909

**INSURANCE SURRENDER FORM – please provide address and phone number****Name of Insured:****Policy Owner:****Policy Number:****Address:****Phone:****PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE RETURNING**

In consideration of and exchange for the Cash Value of Policy Number listed above issued on the life of the Insured listed above, I (we) hereby surrender said policy for cancellation. In accordance with the terms of the policy, it is hereby agreed that any indebtedness thereon to the Company will be deducted from the Cash Value. Said Cash Value is accepted in full settlement and complete satisfaction of all rights, claims and demands under said Policy. It is expressly represented and warranted that no other person, firm or corporation has any interest in said policy except the undersigned and that no proceedings in insolvency or bankruptcy have been instituted or are pending against the undersigned.

Unless attached, I certify that the policy contract has been misplaced, lost, or destroyed.

Executed this _____ day of _____, in the year _____.

Signature of Owner

Signature of Witness (non-related adult)

Check any that apply and provide date/documentation if available:

___ Policy holder is deceased. _____

___ Policy has already been surrendered on date: _____

___ I would like to donate the cash value of my policy to the Independent Order of Vikings:
 ___ scholarship fund ___ language camp scholarships ___ burn camp fund

___ I do not plan to surrender my insurance policy (*please explain*).

___ *Please add me to the Do Not Contact list.*

Independent Order of Vikings

Fraternal Administration

P.O. Box 27186

Lansing, MI 48909

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IMPORTANT DATES:

June 30, 2020 Lodge Quarterly Reports due to Fraternal Administrator
August 1, 2020..... September 2020 Journal content submissions due
January 15, 2021 Viking of the Year Nomination Deadline
June 16-19, 2021 Vikings Convention, Kenosha, WI

PLEASE HELP US CLOSE THE IOV INSURANCE PROGRAM!

If you haven't yet done so, surrender your policy today! You can maintain your Vikings membership by paying dues through your home lodge. The form can be found on page 11 of this newsletter.

RETURN surrender forms to:

IOV Fraternal Administration - PO Box 27186 - Lansing, MI 48909.

THANK YOU!