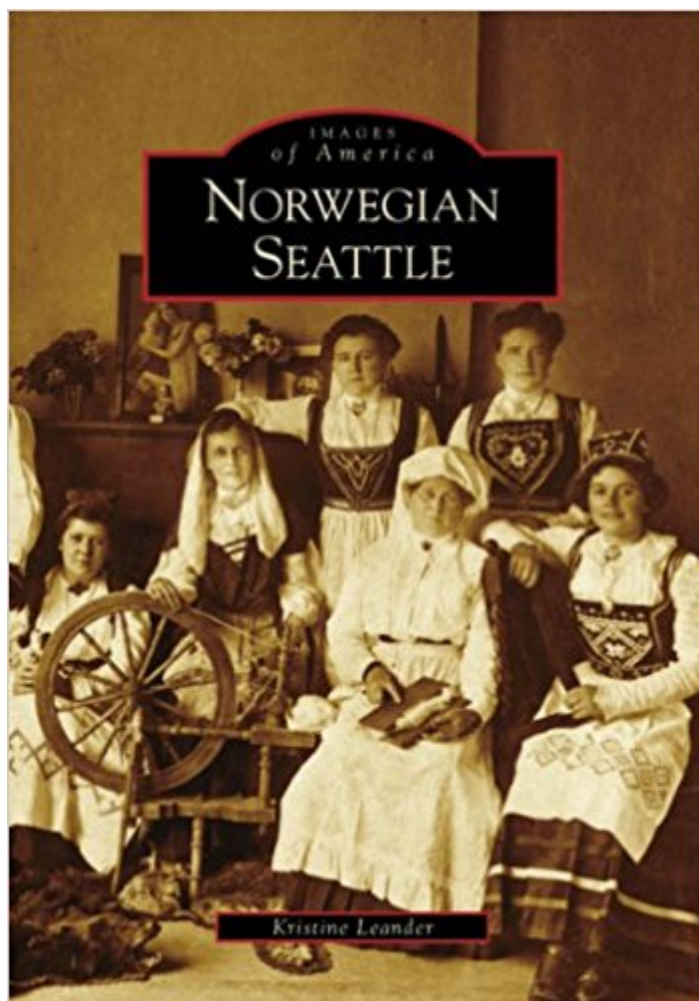


The book was found

# Norwegian Seattle (Images Of America: Washington)



## Synopsis

The Norwegians who immigrated to Seattle were a sturdy stock. Perhaps it was due to their ancient history as determined Viking seafarers or their more recent experiences as tenacious fishermen, farmers, loggers, and carpenters. From the first Norwegians to arrive in 1868 through today, Seattle's Norwegian American community has maintained a remarkable cohesiveness. They participate in Sons and Daughters of Norway and other clubs; enjoy lutefisk dinners, lively music and dance groups, and the annual May 17 parade; boast elaborately knitted sweaters and historic costumes; and labor over language classes and genealogy. The result is a pride of heritage unique to the Norwegian Americans in Seattle and a sinew that binds their community.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Title: Arcadia Books Publisher: Swedish Cultural Center Newsletter Date: September 2008 You've seen "Swedish Seattle," the Arcadia book compiled by Paul Norlen and pictured to your left. Arcadia Publishing is the largest publisher in America of historical nonfiction books and the Swedish Cultural Center now has another association with several local Arcadia books. Turns out that the long tables at the Center are perfect for laying out the approximately 225 photos during the planning process. In the spring, Cultural Director Kristine Leander compiled "Norwegian Seattle," available in early November, using the long tables at the Swedish Cultural Center. (Members will recall that Kristine's background is Swedish American, but she lived in Norway for several years.) More recently, club members Celeste Smith and Julie Albright compiled "Private Clubs of Seattle," also using the long tables at the Swedish Cultural Center. Next time you're in a

bookstore and see an Arcadia book, you can think about the Swedish Club! • Swedish Seattle • is available at local bookstores or by sending \$24 for the book and postage to Swedish Cultural Center, 1920 Dexter Ave N., Seattle, WA 98109. When you order from the club, we receive part of the proceeds.

Title: New book shows off 'Norwegian Seattle' Publisher: Ballard News Tribune Author: Alison Ingham Date: 11/10/2008

Kristine Leander, a local author and cultural director for the Swedish Cultural Center, has recently published the book "Norwegian Seattle." The book is part of a series called "Images of America." The series uses pictures from the past to illustrate a community's journey to the present. Leander is a Swedish descendant but after living in Norway for a couple years during the '80s, she fell in love with the culture. Upon returning to Seattle she embraced the Norwegian community. "When I heard about the possibility to write this, I thought it would be cool," said Leander. She also loved the idea of the photography involved with the project. She started the book in January and finished in June. The illustrations start from the 1870s and the era of the early pioneers, go through both world wars, the history of some popular Norwegian centers and museums, and end with the most recent examples of the Norwegian presence in Seattle. The book consists of 127 pages of black and white photos. "I had to do a lot of background research. I went to people I knew who had family photos or family scrapbooks," said Leander. She also visited the University of Washington and looked through its historic photos. "Since the book was going to be published, I couldn't just guess," she said, in regard to obtaining the details of each photo. "I had historians in the community look over the photos and captions to make sure everything was accurate." The flow of the book came naturally, as Leander started with the oldest photographs and ended with the most recent. "I thought it wrote itself, by way of organization," she said. Her degree in anthropology also came into play, and she studied the photos like an anthropologist would. She asked herself, "What were the forces of that time?" and tried to include those observations in the book. "Norwegian Seattle" has a lot of information and history about Ballard. According to Leander almost all Norwegian activity in the Seattle area has been centered in Ballard since a solid community was formed over a century ago. One of the biggest Norwegian events is the 17th of May parade. "It is a big deal in Norway, so it's a big deal here," Leander said. "Ballard has one of the biggest 17th of May parades outside of Norway." The parade celebrates when Norway's constitution was signed and has been celebrated in Ballard since 1889. There will be several opportunities for the public to meet the author and have their book signed. The first chance will be Saturday, Nov. 15 from 1 - 3 p.m. at The Nordic Maid in Poulsbo. During the second signing two descendants of men featured in the book will join Leander and tell stories of their family history. The presentation will be held at the Nordic Heritage Museum on Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. The final signing will be held at

Strictly Scandinavian Gifts in Gig Harbor on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 1 - 3 p.m. In addition to the Nordic Museum, copies of Leander's book can be found locally at Scandinavian Specialties and Epilogue Books. Leander noted that the book "could make a great Christmas present."

Kristine Leander is the granddaughter of Swedish immigrants. Drawn to Norway by its history and beauty, she studied there for several years. Upon returning to Seattle, she became active in the local Norwegian American community and completed her Ph.D. based on her research in Norway. She currently serves as president of the Leif Erikson International Foundation and as cultural director of the Swedish Cultural Center.

Images of American Norwegian Seattle displays the many black and white photos that provide an artful look at the history of Norwegians that found their way to Puget Sound. For me, it was a profound experience to see the photos of actual experiences and strength of these people that worked with such tenacity to enrich life in the North West. I would highly recommend this book with the valuable history provided. The photographs add richness and beauty that are to be appreciated

Historically life in Norway had always been rugged and hard. In the early Nineteenth Century many young Norwegians began searching for opportunities elsewhere. Land was scarce, families were large and the rule of primo geniture was in place. Norwegian emigration to the United States had begun as early as 1825 when Cleng Peerson (1783-1865) met a group in New York who subsequently settled in western upper New York State. Peerson was to be for most of his life an active participant involved in bringing Norwegians to the United States. In 1834 Peerson met another group who went to settle in Illinois. Later emigrants went to Minnesota, North Dakota and Wisconsin. In 1854 the Legislature of the State of Texas granted Peerson 320 acres of land west of Clifton, Texas in the area that became known as Norse, Texas. That same year the first seventeen Norwegian settlers came to that area of Texas and began the Norwegian settlement of Bosque County, Texas. Peerson died there in 1865. In 1853 the first European homestead had been taken up in the Ballard, King County area of Seattle, Washington. The first Norwegians came in 1868 and other Scandinavians who were mariners, fishermen, and carpenters also located there. By 1900 Ballard had a population of 4,568 and in 1907 with approximately 17,000 people Ballard agreed to annexation by Seattle as Seattle had sufficient water and Ballard did not. The State of Washington Supreme Court had ruled that Seattle did not have to share its water with Ballard, so annexation was the solution. But the Scandinavian and Norwegian character of Ballard remained, evolved and

continues to be present today. This book details that history.

LOVE! LOVE! LOVE! fast shipping. my sister, good . this price is valuable.

I've seen several Arcadia books and this one is the best so far. The author has an eye for beautiful photographs. There is a lot of local Norwegian American history. If you've got Northwestern Norwegian roots, you'll learn about them in this book.

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