



Friends of the Viking Ship, NFP  
**2020 Annual Report**



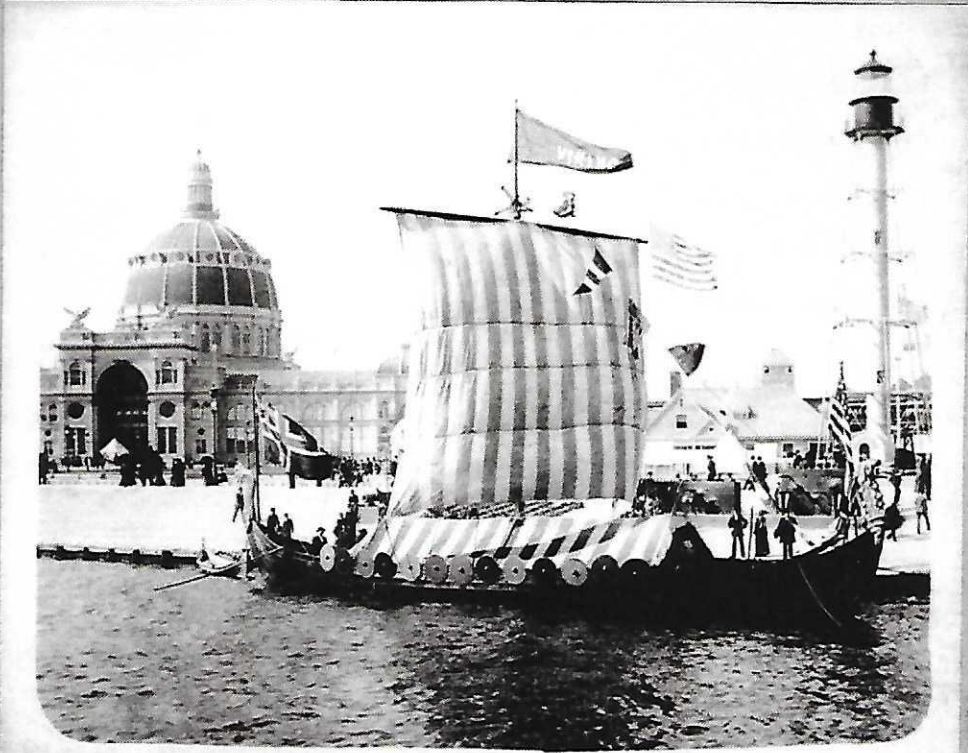


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WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION, 1893



COPELIN  
PHOTO

308 DEARBORN ST.  
CHICAGO



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# FRIENDS OF THE VIKING SHIP, NFP

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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The purpose of Friends of the Viking Ship, N.F.P. (FOVS) is: to facilitate the preservation of the 1893 Viking Ship as an important artifact from the Columbian Exposition, and to advocate its public display in a permanent museum setting with adequate security and climate control. To accomplish this goal, FOVS will raise funds for its protection and preservation, and for interpretation of its history. FOVS will also seek appropriate partners who share our mission of securing an optimal long-term home.

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## OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### 2020

Marta Temmer, President  
David Nordin, Vice President  
Andrew Woods, Secretary  
William Scheiderich, Treasurer  
Bruce Andresen  
Samira Bamberger  
Roar Broch  
Tom Cleveland  
Pat Hanson  
Jamie Larson  
Bjørn Rektorli

### 2021

Bjørn Rektorli, President  
David Nordin, Vice President  
Samira Bamberger, Secretary  
Linnea Scherer, Treasurer  
Bruce Andresen  
Roar Broch  
Tom Cleveland  
Pat Hanson  
Jamie Larson  
Andrew Woods

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## HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS

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Paul S. Anderson, Honorary  
Consul General of Norway (Ret.)  
Hon. Perry J. Gulbrandsen (Ret.)  
Gunny Harboe  
Donald Hoganson  
William Nissen  
Peter Orum  
Elizabeth Safanda  
Perry C. Straw Jr.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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### *Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

In 2020, FOVS was only able to host two physical Open Days due to COVID-19 limitations – one each during September and October. On the two 2020 Open Days, we were unable to open the Gift Shop due to the risk of exposure to the virus. We were able to have two virtual days, however, in June. One was a recorded video which we hosted on our YouTube channel and posted on Facebook. The second was a Facebook Live event where viewers asked questions, and we answered live. These new virtual events for FOVS were enabled by Dave Nordin, Perry Straw, and Bruce Andresen. These helped our reach across the globe!

Shortly before Thanksgiving, we conducted a 2021 membership drive by sending out 300 membership renewal letters. We received around 75 renewals, as a result. We also increased the membership dues and gave a book as a welcome gift to all new and renewing members.

We began to apply for grants as part of our strategy. We did receive one grant in 2020 that was intended to help FOVS plan for incorporating the 1893 Viking Ship into school and homeschool curriculums. We were able to hold the meeting and make the grant actionable in early 2021.

We mailed one issue of Ship-To-Shore in February of 2020. We still intend to continue the issue at some time yet in 2021 or early 2022. We are searching for volunteers to help us with the actual production of the newsletter.

Our greatest challenge in 2020 was our inability to be open on planned Open Days due to the Coronavirus. As many of our volunteers are either in high-risk categories themselves and were uncomfortable attending, or the State of Illinois prohibited us from being open, we simply could not show the ship as planned. This meant a decrease in our typical Open Day revenue, visibility, and ongoing goodwill with the community.

We are planning to continue our strategic planning sessions in 2021 with a priority to determine a permanent location for the ship. As the governmental guidelines in effect determine our ability to show *Viking* in person, we will accommodate to be flexible, with Open Days scheduled as in previous years. Due to COVID-19, the Board has successfully moved to conducting all meetings on Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marta Temmer, President

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

## PROFIT AND LOSS January - December 2020

	TOTAL
Income	
43300 Direct Public Support	
43320 Membership Dues	
43322 Individual Membership	1,090.00
43324 Family Membership	2,300.00
Total 43320 Membership Dues	3,390.00
43330 Corporate Contributions	2,500.00
43340 Individ, Business Contributions	8,631.20
Total 43300 Direct Public Support	14,521.20
46400 Other Types of Income	
46420 Polo Shirts	
46424 Polo Shirts - Mens XL	25.00
Total 46420 Polo Shirts	25.00
46430 Book Sales - Folo	40.00
46445 Book Sales - Rasmussen	360.00
46460 Viking Coloring Book	15.00
46470 Shipping Charge	36.00
Total 46400 Other Types of Income	476.00
49000 Special Events Income	
49100 Open Day Contributions	
49110 Adult Entrance	290.00
49120 Teen Entrance	3.00
Total 49100 Open Day Contributions	293.00
49200 Tours	720.00
Total 49000 Special Events Income	1,013.00
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	0.00
Total Income	\$16,010.20
GROSS PROFIT	\$16,010.20
Expenses	
61000 Administration & Operations	
61010 Postage, Mailing Service	0.00
61030 Office Supplies	684.77
61040 Accounting & Filing Fees	25.00
61085 Communications & Internet	0.00
61090 Misc Administration Exp	79.00
61095 PayPal Fee	62.74
61096 Square Fee	13.23
Total 61000 Administration & Operations	864.74

PROFIT AND LOSS  
January - December 2020

	TOTAL
61100 Program-Ship Preservation/Locat	698.00
61105 Liability Insurance	444.20
61111 Postage, Mailing Service	400.00
61115 Property Insurance	973.00
61120 Storage Facility	224.71
61125 Equipment and Maintenance	316.14
61185 Communications & Internet	3,056.05
<b>Total 61100 Program-Ship Preservation/Locat</b>	<b>3,056.05</b>
61200 Program-Presentation/Education	2,260.00
61235 Newsletters	537.80
61236 Postage, mailing Service	1,110.00
61270 Porta Potti Rental	316.14
61285 Communications & Internet	4,223.94
<b>Total 61200 Program-Presentation/Education</b>	<b>4,223.94</b>
61300 Fund Raising	218.10
61310 Postage & Mailing	158.07
61385 Communications & Internet	376.17
<b>Total 61300 Fund Raising</b>	<b>376.17</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$8,520.90</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$7,489.30</b>
Other Income	815.37
42000 Interest on Money Market	\$815.37
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$815.37</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$815.37</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$8,304.67</b>



# Friends of the Viking Ship

## BALANCE SHEET

As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10003 Fifth Third Checking	32,320.21
10008 Fifth Third Money Market	212,568.93
10010 PayPal	0.00
10020 Cash	200.00
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$245,089.14</b>
Accounts Receivable	
11000 Accounts Receivable	0.00
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Other Current Assets	
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
12100 Inventory Asset	0.00
12101 Inventory Asset-1	10,854.71
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$10,854.71</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$255,943.85</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$255,943.85</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
210001 Chase Ink Credit Card	998.45
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$998.45</b>
Other Current Liabilities	
24200 Accrued Expenses	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$998.45</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$998.45</b>
Equity	
30000 Opening Balance Equity	245,346.40
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	1,294.33
Net Income	8,304.67
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$254,945.40</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$255,943.85</b>

# AUDITING COMMITTEE REPORT

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## *Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

To the Board of the "Friends of the Viking Ship":

We have audited FOVS accounts for 2020 as reported to management. The audit included a review of FOVS balance sheets as of December 31, 2020 and related Profit and Loss statements for the year.

Please refer to the below summaries of Financial Reports.

In our opinion, the financial statement in all material aspects confirms a fair representation of the financial position as of December 31, 2020 and its operation.

### **Audit of key Balance sheet items:**

- Confirmation of year-end cash balance to bank statements, \$32,320.21.
- Confirmation of Money Market account balance, \$212,568.93
- Inventory sub ledger to general ledger reconciliation.
- Book to physical inventory was conducted in January 2021
- Confirmation of credit card liability to credit card statement
- Review of payments subsequent to year-end order to verify possible unrecorded liabilities on December 31, 2020. No such liabilities appear to exist.

### **Audit of key Profit and Loss items:**

- Net profit of \$8,304.67 was below 2019 and below budget for the year.
- Revenue was down from 2019 due to the COVID pandemic. The 2020 projected revenue budget was \$104,165.00. The actual revenue for 2020 was \$16,010.20.
- Gross profit from sales of merchandise fell from \$5,084 in 2019 to \$476 in 2020. This was due to the COVID pandemic which resulted in very limited open days at the ship. Inventory is in good shape.
- Membership was on track with the budget. Membership revenue was \$3,390. Only \$610 less than the budgeted amount of \$3,400. 2020 Membership dues did rise compared to the 2019 actual of \$1,850. This may have been attributed to the change in membership due dates.

- Overall, 2020 expenses of \$8,520.90 were \$2,211.88 below 2019 expenses of \$10,732.78. Lower expenses were due to dealing with the COVID pandemic and how to effectively market the FOVS virtually.
- The 2020 year-end cash balance in the money market term account was \$212,568.93 yielding an annual interest of \$815.37.
- Year-end cash balance ended at \$32,320.21.
- Inventory sales were flat. Inventory will be re-stocked
- Net equity increased by \$8,304.67.
- No extraordinary expenses or purchases were found.
- Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the FOVS organization had limited activity in 2020.

Submitted by Tom Cleveland and Samira Bamberger,  
Auditing committee



# MUSEUM AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

## *Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

The COVID-19 virus pandemic had profound effects on our museum affairs operations in 2020.

The Centers for Disease Control, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Kane County Health Department mandated closure of cultural sites of all types to public visits, including the 1893 Viking Ship, for most of the year. When we were temporarily able to be open under their mandates in September and October, we followed recommended measures to both reduce the spread of infection and protect the ship for future generations. No more than 25 people in the shelter, and no more than 12 at a time on the viewing platform, were allowed. All present had to be masked. Each visiting adult, both on his or her behalf and on behalf of minor children, had to sign an agreement acknowledging the potential risk and waiving all claims pertaining to COVID as a condition of viewing the ship. Tours stopped when indoor public museum gatherings were again prohibited under new guidelines announced for November and December 2020.

Although we had public Open Days in September and October, our gift shop was not open and there were no gift shop sales for those days. This was to prevent handling of gift shop merchandise by unrelated people becoming a potential means of COVID-19 transmission on our site. In addition to the two public Open Days mentioned, we gave private tours on August 18, September 22, and October 2, 12, 26, and 28. We also gained and trained a new docent for our Open Day tours.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we continued to work to improve the quality, creativity, and reach of our programming. On June 21, 2020, we recorded our first walk-around [virtual tour of the ship](#) as a Facebook presentation, and had record tour attendance (in virtual format) of over 500 viewers. The following week, on June 27, we presented a Facebook Live tour. This allowed for spontaneous audience questions and answers in real time during the virtual tour, just as occurs during a live tour. This presentation had

thousands of viewers, with questions from throughout the United States, Mexico, Holland, and Denmark, and clearly showed the reach of online programming for us. Although we encouraged donations during the presentation, they were modest-- showing the need to develop a pricing strategy for future online offerings.



SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2020 AT 10 AM CDT - 10:30 AM CDT

Facebook Live Q&A at the Viking Ship

Live Facebook Live

Live Video

In addition, we successfully applied for, and won, a competitive grant from Illinois Humanities. This was to conduct a collaborative meeting of area public, private, and home school teachers on how to maximize the benefit of a field trip to the ship to meet teachers' objectives and curriculum requirements. We also applied for a highly competitive grant from the Kane County Riverboat Fund. As first-time applicants to this funding source, we were not successful. But we learned a great deal about the grant process and applied



those lessons learned to win the Illinois Humanities grant. The Viking Ship is a cultural amenity with immense value and public benefit appeal and going forward we will pursue grants on a more regular basis. The Riverboat Fund grant sought was for restoration funds to recreate all of the *Viking's* now missing original shields, and commission hand-carved replacements for the lost, carved dragon headed tent supports and captain's stand which were part of the ship's original features. These objectives we will continue to pursue.

Respecting the ship's future permanent location, prospects for a Chicago location continued to fade in 2020, while those of a permanent Geneva location grew brighter. There was no progress on the promising-sounding location near Navy Pier first announced in the fall of 2019, and there was no progress on setting a meeting with the Chicago Maritime Museum. Their location was closed for nearly all of 2020 due to catastrophic flooding and damage to its exhibit space. In addition, CMM did sign a 5-year extension of its lease for its existing space, which has no room for the *Viking*.

We did, however, receive a definite, if preliminary, offer from Good Templar Park for a new permanent location on a lot in the Park nearer to East Side Drive. The City of Geneva and the Geneva Chamber of Commerce continue to expand on and promote Geneva's unique Scandinavian character as a tourism draw as well as a source of community pride. These opportunities will be fully explored in 2021.

The summary of visitors to the ship in 2020 is as follows:

- June 21 Facebook-500 (virtual-approximate)
- June 27 Facebook Live-2400 (virtual-approximate)
- Aug 18-Private tour-Romanian home school group of 15
- September 19-Open Day, 32
- September 22-Adult bicycle club,13
- October 2-private tour,2
- October 17-private tour, 32
- October 12-private tour, 5
- October 20-Open Day, 33
- October 28-private tour, 10
- October 26-two private tours, 3 and 5

Respectfully submitted,

David Nordin  
Vice President  
Chair, Museum Affairs

# MAINTENANCE AND COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

## Maintenance

This has been a challenging year for everyone. As a board, because we elected to have fewer open days and not start open days until June, it might be assumed that our spring preparations in late March or early April could be postponed. However, in order to be prepared for private tours we made our spring preparations in a timely fashion. We had a workday at the ship on March 7th, June 3rd, and October 26th. We also assisted on the day of the video tour at the ship.

The new cover continues to be more durable and resilient than those of the past. There have been some unusually strong winds this year with gusts in excess of 60 mph, but the cover continues to hold. Despite that, the shelter has sustained damage and has required some work. On August 10th we received word from Heather Snyder, the custodian at Good Templar Park, that once again there was



an end wall panel that had blown off the shelter due to high winds. Perry Straw, Dave Barrows and Bruce Andresen were able to re-secure the same panel to the shelter, as most of the fasteners in the wood pulled out due to rusting of the threads or decayed wood. The fasteners in the pipes have very small washers, and the panel pulled itself thru the fastener hole. By placing a much bigger washer on the latter fastener, those areas were made secure, and by using better wood fasteners with the same large washer, the

former areas were made secure. We also removed a bird's nest from one of our overhead fans which now does not oscillate any more. On our October 26th workday, the right side of the front door was made secure with the new fasteners and washers.



There are still plans to replace deck boards so that we have a full complement that fit in the ship. In addition, we will continue to re-secure the end panels to make the shelter more secure. The coffee maker has been removed and soon the flags will come down, signaling the end of another season of tours at the *Viking*.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce W. Andresen and Perry C. Straw Jr., Co-Chairmen, Maintenance

## Collections

This subcommittee cares for, catalogues, arranges access to, and annually reports on FOVS artifacts and other property. It considers, executes, and documents strategy and practice for acquiring, divesting, and caring for FOVS property. Digitization of the list of collections plus items in the collection itself is the responsibility of this subcommittee. I keep a file of pictures of the ship and properties, as well as an email log.

This subcommittee also is responsible for managing the ways FOVS collections complement or amplify collections held by other organizations that may relate to our own collections.

### **Recent additions to our inventory:**

There were no new items added to our collection since last year's annual report. We are generally discouraging new additions until we're able to secure a permanent location with heating, ventilation, and air conditioning to provide a controlled environment in which to store them.

Sincerely,

Andrew Woods, Chair



# GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Friends of the Viking Ship NFP*

The Governance Committee is responsible for the health and functioning of the organization and board. The committee coordinates and proposes new members to both committees and the board, conducts orientation, produces board materials, oversees accounting, and organizes independent financial audits. In a broader sense, we work to ensure that our organization adheres to our by-laws as well as key standards of accountability in everything we do.

It is extremely important to us at FOVS that all our members and donors know that we are an organization committed to using the resources we have in the most responsible and professional ways possible. One way to demonstrate this is accreditation by the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance (BBBWGA), which evaluates



charities based on 20 BBB Standards for Charity Accountability that address four charity areas: governance, results reporting, finances, and truthful and transparent communications. We have been accredited by the BBBWGA since our initial application in 2017 and will apply for renewal again later in 2021.



One significant accomplishment to call out for 2020 is achieving the GuideStar Gold Seal of Transparency. GuideStar Seals of Transparency indicate that a nonprofit has provided key information to its Nonprofit Profile. This recognition shows commitment to transparency. By providing up-to-date information on our mission, programming, financial health, and strategic goals and objectives, we seek to inform and educate potential donors.

As important as transparency is for a non-profit, perhaps equally important is its effectiveness in achieving its stated goals and objectives. In 2021, one of our key activities will be to perform an effectiveness assessment.

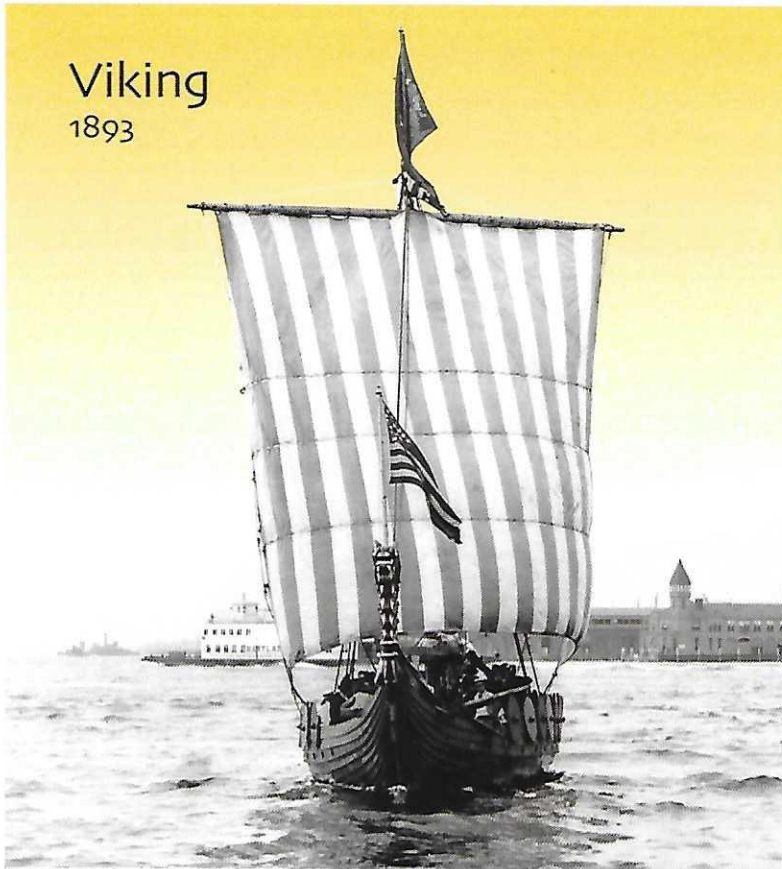
As required for BBB accreditation, at least once every two years, FOVS reviews our goals and objectives toward achieving our mission and completes a performance and effectiveness assessment of our programs based on that review. At the conclusion of this process, FOVS will revise the goals and objectives, as needed, for the upcoming term and will suggest means of measuring them. Continuous improvement is always something we strive for!

Respectfully submitted,  
Jamie Larson, Chair





Viking  
1893



"The 1893 Viking Ship—and the story of its unique voyage to the first Chicago World's Fair—will transport visitors to an earlier age of discovery, inspire them with its display of human ingenuity, and evoke reflection on the history of exploration and migration across time."

## Friends of the Viking Ship, NFP

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