**ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE NORWEGIAN-KOREAN**

**FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION 2019.**

**The period from the General Assembly 18. September 2018 to the General Assembly**

**7. September 2019**

**There are more than 600 members in the Association by September 2019.**

**There were about 300 members when the Association was started in 2009.**

**BOARD MEETINGS.**

There have been 4 Board meetings.

Topics have been: planning for various meetings for the members; the membership meeting 29. November 2018, planning of the social event 9. February 2019, plans for the food-making class, plans for the General Assembly 2019 and 10 years Birthday Party, and other events. Important topics always are the preliminary plans for the coming seasons.

**ACTIVITIES**

**1.** **18. September 2018.General Assembly.**

The General Assembly took place in Filmkafeen with about 30 people present. The first part of the meeting was the formal General Assembly with annual report and elections. Elections: Lucie Paus Falck, Didrik Bakke Dukefoss and Karina Castberg were re-elected for two years

 (Marita Nordbø, Egil Aksnes and Jennie Steidel were elected for 2 years in 2017.)

The Embassy representatives to the board are Councellor Hong Sok-kwang and Administrative Officer Jeong Seungeun.

After a coffee break, our friend Petter Mæhlum gave an enthusiastic orientation about the Korean kitchen. He also brought several food samples which were greatly appreciated by the attendees.

**2.** **28. November 2018 membership-meeting, with two very different topics**

Magnus Botnedal had called his lecture: from Gangnam to Aker Brygge. A Norwegian perspective on Korean work culture.

Hege Nygaard talked about the topic of her Master’s degree: Identity Building.

Venue: Filmkafeen

There were about 35 people present.

**3.** **Saturday 9. February 2019 “Social event” in Filmkafeen.**

There were about 100 people attending this very tasty and successful social event with Korean food catered from TinTin restaurant. The Embassy generously supported the event economically, and the attendees payed a rather small fee. Several guests from the Korean Embassy spent the evening with us.

**4.** **Thursday 9. May “Taste of Korea”, food-making class**

Venue: Filmkafeen, with 16 participants. Petter Mæhlum was an inspired instructor, and helpers were Karina Castberg, Jennie Steidel and Egil Aksnes.

The food-making classes are always met with great interest, and we often end up with a waiting list.

**5.** **Further information**

The monthly Newsletter from the Korean Embassy is distributed to the members of the Friendship Association.

12. June 2019. President Moon visited Norway. Many of our members were invited to various events in that connection.

During 2019. 60 years of Diplomatic Relations between Korea and Norway are in focus. The Board was invited to a launching ceremony in the Embassy 28. February

Website:[norsk-koreansk.no](http://www.norsk-koreansk.no/)

Facebook: facebook.com/norskkoreansk

Info from Korea: [www.korea.net](http://www.korea.net/)and [www.arirang.com](http://www.arirang.com/)

The Norwegian Embassy in Seoul: [www.norway.or.kr](http://www.norway.or.kr/)

The Korean Embassy in Oslo: <http://overseas.mofa.go.kr/no-en/index.do>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/koreanembassyinnorway>

**FINANCES.**

The Norwegian-Korean Friendship Association is an organization with no membership fee. Consequently, as always, there is not much to inform about when finances are concerned. However, the Association was given a start capital from the former Norwegian Korean Forum in 2009. The expenses have been for the website, for renting localities for the meetings, and for small gifts to lecturers at the meetings.

We thank the Korean Embassy for their generous economical contributions.

By 1. January 2019 the bank account was NOK 19 507, 76

**The Board of the Norwegian-Korean Friendship Association**

Lucie (Paus Falck), Karina (Castberg), Didrik (Bakke Dukefoss), Egil (Aksnes),

Marita (Nordbø), Jennie (Steidel).

September 2019