

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE NORWEGIAN-KOREAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

The Annual report covers the period from the General Assembly 22. September 2022 to the General Assembly 18. September 2023

There are almost 800 members in the Association by August 2023

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

BOARD-MEETINGS.

There have been 5 Board-meetings.

The Embassy representative to the Board is Second Secretary & Consul Tae Soo Kim.

The veteran Arvid Fjære has been included as a Board member to secure a continued contact with the veterans.

ACTIVITIES

1. 22. September 2022. General Assembly.

The General Assembly took place at Voksenåsen Hotel.

The annual report was presented and was approved.

Egil Aksnes, Marita Nordbø and Jennie Steidel were reelected for two years.

After the formal procedures, John Y. Jones, who was responsible for the Peace Bell at Voksenåsen, told the story of the Peace Bell. It was given as a gift from the Korean village of Hwaechon commemorating the Norwegian participation in the Korean War, with the field hospital, NORMASH, the Norwegian Mobile Army Surgery Hospital.

The Peace Bell pavilion was built by Korean workers. This is a very interesting story.

Finally, a light meal was served, sponsored by the Korean Embassy.

About 50 people were present.

2. 3. March 2023. Social event

There were about 80 people, among them several children, who attended this traditional and successful social event with catered Korean food,.

Because of the bankruptcy of Oslo Scene where we had booked the venue for the event, we had to change venue on very short notice. We found a very nice place, Fagerborg Menighetshus. And all the people who had signed up for the event, responded positively even if they had to bring their own drinks for the meal.

Ambassador Kim and his wife and several guests from the Korean Embassy spent the evening with us. Ambassador Kim gave a short speech.

Korean food prepared by Elvebredden catering was served.
The Embassy generously supported the event economically.

3. Monday 24. April 2023. Membership meeting at Bakkekroen, “Korea today”.

Profesor Vladimir Tikhonov from the University of Oslo and councillor Yun Young Kim from the Korean Embassy gave interesting information on the topic: Achievements, Challenges, Opportunities. “Korean wave” – popular culture, political, economy, production, circulation, and the secrets of its global success.
The Korean Embassy gave a financial contribution.
There were 70 attendees.

4. 18. September 2023. General Assembly at Bakkekroen.

FINANCES.

The Norwegian-Korean Friendship Association is an organization with no membership fee. The Association was given a start capital from the former Norwegian Korean Forum in 2009. From 1. January 2022 the Norwegian Korean War Veterans Association ended its activities, and the amount on the association’s account was given as a gift to the Norwegian-Korean Friendship Association. This was a generous donation.

By 1. January 2023 the bank account was NOK 58924,19.

The expenses for 2022 was for the website, for renting localities for the meetings, and for small gifts to lecturers at the meetings.

We thank the Korean Embassy for its generous economical contributions to the meetings of the Friendship Association.

Other information

Website: norsk-koreansk.no

Facebook: facebook.com/norskkoreansk

Info from Korea: www.korea.net and www.arirang.com

The Norwegian Embassy in Seoul: www.norway.no/south-korea

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

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