

# Restauration Lodge #548

June 2004

www.sofn-cedarrapids.org

Volume XXVIII number 6

**Next Social Meeting:  
June 8, 2004**

**Meeting time: 7:00 p.m.**

## **Edvard Grieg: Son of the North**

By Carolyn Rushton

Edvard Grieg today is still Norway's most important composer and during his lifetime he was its most famous pianist and conductor. We are all likely to be familiar with his "Peer Gynt" compositions, but have you heard:

- His art song, "Jeg Elsker Dig" that became the most frequently sung Norwegian wedding song?
- His world-famous "Concerto in A Minor?"
- His wife, Nina, sing "Solvieg's Song?"
- A recording of Grieg himself playing one of his own lyric piano pieces?
- That Grieg had an Iowa connection?

Come and learn more about the life and music of Norway's favorite son, Edvard Grieg, through a program of slides and selected portions of recordings.

**First Lutheran Church  
Luther Fellowship Center  
1000 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401**

**The next board meeting** will be June 15, 2004 at 7:00 P.M. at First Lutheran Church in the Youth Room.

**Kaffe Tid** will be June 16, 2004 at the home of Gladys Aakre, 1410 32<sup>nd</sup> St. NE, Apt. C2, Cedar Rapids, IA. Call Gladys at (319) 351-6780 if you plan to attend.

## **Grant Awarded for Rosemaling Course**

A grant of \$595 has been awarded to our Restauration 1-548 Lodge by the Sons of Norway Foundation for the purpose of supporting a course in "Introduction to Rosemaling." Congratulations and thanks to Lois McCormick and Rhonda Kekke who prepared the grant application.

A big thank you to those who were able to represent our lodge at the Vesterheim Museum Work Day, May 1st. They are: Sara and Larry Knutson, plus grandson Reid, Sue Shimon, Earlene and Veryl Lekwa, Bob Thorkildson, Lloyd Holecek and Dean and Ann Gesme. The museum really does appreciate our annual special event.

## **Address or Phone Number Changes**

For any changes of address or telephone numbers, please contact Sue Shimon. She can be reached either by phone, 364-7735; email, [rjshimon@aol.com](mailto:rjshimon@aol.com); or by U.S. mail, 1931 Oak Knolls Court SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-3962. It is important we know of any changes of address (either traditional or email) or telephone numbers. This is especially critical now that the newsletter is being sent electronically.

**The deadline** for July newsletter submissions is Tuesday, June 29, 2004. Please have all articles to the newsletter editor by then.

If you submit via email please mention SON on the subject line. I will try to always send an acknowledgement that I received your email intact. If you don't get one within a day or two, please resubmit your article. My address is [<jonrwhite@hotmail.com>](mailto:jonrwhite@hotmail.com).

### **A Call for Participants:**

Did Grandpa Lars give you his beautifully carved, wooden-handled knife? Did Auntie Ingeborg leave you her prized rosemaled trunk and her Hardanger lace tablecloth? Did you stash a few “modern” arts and crafts in your suitcase on your trip home from Norway, knowing full well you weren’t going to get any antiques through customs? Did that interesting “thingamabob” you picked up at that estate sale turn out to be a real Norwegian artifact?

If the answer to any of these questions is “yes”, we would like to have you participate in our July 13, 2004 program, “**Sharing Our Norwegian Folk Arts.**”

Dale Fitzgibbons will be the moderator and interviewer for this “show and tell” event. Bring your precious and/or ordinary, but interesting, Norwegian or Norwegian/American objects, along with whatever knowledge you have of their origins, and enhance our understanding and enjoyment of our shared Norwegian heritage.

Mange tusen takk fra Carolyn Rushton.

---

### **Sons of Norway International Folk Art Exhibit and Competition**

Opening on August 18, 2004, in Washington, D.C., a Folk Art Exhibit and Competition will be part of the International Sons of Norway Convention.

Any Sons of Norway member may enter as well as their children or grandchildren. Children 15 years old and under are eligible for exhibition only.

Items may be designated “for sale” by the entrant, but only two items may be entered in each of the 10 categories and they must have been completed in the last two years. Complete details on categories, regulations and prizes are available on the Sons of Norway website ([www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com)) or by calling 800-945-8851. In addition, your lodge cultural director will have registration forms; identification labels and complete details available at the June lodge meeting.

If you or a lodge delegate cannot deliver your items, they can be sent to the exhibition coordinator and, if you or a lodge delegate cannot pick them up at the end of the exhibition, items can be mailed back to you. You will be billed for postage and insurance.

The registration deadline is July 12, 2004.

---

### **Sons of Norway Restauration Lodge 1-548**

President David Christ called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM in the Youth Room of 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church, in Cedar Rapids, on May 18, 2004.

The following Board members were present: David Christ, Dean Gesme, Ann Gesme, Paula Schulte, Sue Shimon, Carolyn Rushton, Ann Larson, Sara Knutson, Larry Knutson, Jon White, Wally Sundet, Ding Sather and Bob Thorkildson.

The Secretary’s minutes from the last Board meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Ding Sather reported that the Lodge has \$1929.68 in the checking account.

Paula Schulte, the Financial Secretary, handed out the membership status for May 2004. We are holding steady at 175 members. The May receipts were \$913.

Social Director Sara Knutson had no report for this month.

Cultural Director Carolyn Rushton announced the plans for the next Social Meeting on June 8: she will give a talk on Edvard Grieg. Kaffe tid will be held at Gladys Aakre’s home.

Newsletter Editor Jon White declared the deadline for the June newsletter would be May 26<sup>th</sup>. Most of the Lodge members are having no problems with the new email distribution of our newsletter. A few are having problems, which are being worked on.

Counselor Dean Gesme submitted a bill of \$50.46 for pop and pizza consumed at the Vesterheim Labor Day.

## **Old Business:**

Syttende mai recap: the comments were very good for the venue, the meal, and the speaker. David requested that a report be written describing the banquet, what went right (and wrong), and the final budget. Most people felt the Touch of Class treated us very well.

## **New Business:**

The next Board Meeting will be held at 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM on June 15 in the Youth Room.

Sons of Norway 1<sup>st</sup> District Convention Resolutions: the board reviewed the resolutions that will be put before the delegates this June for comments and approval. The results will be passed along to our delegates. Dave Tesdahl will be paid \$142 for the registration fee while the other two delegates (Lloyd Holecek and Fred Amundson) will each receive \$304 (motion: Dean Gesme, second: Jon White). Dave's other expenses are to be paid for by the Sons of Norway Insurance Company.

## **Comments for the Good of the Order**

Ann Gesme remarked that everyone needs to seek new members. Always!

The Board meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Bob Thorkildson, Lodge Secretary

---

## **PRESIDENT CHRIST'S CORNER**

### **Transportation in Norway**

With gas in Norway now around \$6.00 a gallon I started thinking about transportation in Norway. Norway is long but narrow with a population (4.5 million) not much bigger than Iowa's. Over the last few decades many roads have been built and many ferries have been replaced with bridges and tunnels. Norway has gotten so good at building tunnels that many of the mountain roads have been replaced with tunnels, some over 20 miles in length. However, much of Norway's population is concentrated in a few large cities. Even though the rest of the population is scattered throughout the remainder

of the inhabitable countryside (remember only three per cent of Norway can be farmed), a drive of more than 20-40 miles is uncommon. Speed limits on most roads are less than 50 miles per hour, and thankfully so as roads are often narrow and twisting.

It has become common to travel between the major population centers by air. This is driven both by time and fuel cost. From Oslo to Bodø takes a day by train but only a couple of hours by air. This has had a negative impact on the rail system.

Besides automobiles and airplanes, there are buses, railroads and boats. Buses and boats are run by private firms but they and the trains coordinate their schedules so that you can treat them as a single system. For instance the train gets into Narvik about an hour before the boat leaves for Svolvær. Even the small local planes cooperate. If the train is running a few minutes late, the conductor will call to ask the plane for the Lofoten Islands to wait.

One thing that is quite different in Norway is school buses. There are none. Instead of having school buses the children are issued passes on the regular buses. The population in rural Norway is strung out along the roads. There is not a grid like we have here in Iowa. When you have valleys and islands that are mountains there are few options on where you can put your house. Also the elementary schools in rural areas can be small so they can be close to the population. The school in Henningsvær has 65 students in 10 grades and it is not the smallest. If you live out in the country you are given a stipend to rent an apartment in town to attend what we would call high school.

Many small villages have a little store where you can buy milk and bread. You can walk or bicycle to fetch your day to day necessities and many older people do. In the winter snow is left on the roads so people can use their kick-sleds and skis.

But unfortunately Norway's use of the automobile continues to increase. We Iowans would not be much at home in Oslo where you even have to pay a toll to enter town with your car. My recommendation is spend your time out in the country.

**Calendar of Coming Events:**

**June 8**  
**June 15**  
**June 16**

**Social Meeting**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Kaffe Tid**

Elected Officers:

President-David Christ	351-7717
Vice President-Ann Gesme	362-6910
Counselor-Dean Gesme	362-6910
Secretary-Robert Thorkildson	436-4542
Treasurer-Ding Sather	393-7310
Financial Secretary-Paula Schulte	396-1076
Cultural director-Carolyn Rushton	351-8604
Social committee-Sara & Larry Knutson	395-0621
Greeters: Judy Argo	247-2479
Sharon Mow	366-3202
Marshall-Lloyd Holecek	377-4438
Jon White	393-9430
Trustees: 3 year-Wally Sundet	393-6971
2 year- Sue Shimon	364-7735
1 year- Tom Brennom	377-7473
Auditors: Ruth Christ	351-7717

Jean Oxley	364-5340
Wil Mickelson	743-0575
Sports/Recreation/Youth-Bill Windus	365-1533

Appointed Officers:

Foundation-Lois McCormick	377-2890
Historian-Lois McCormick	377-2890
Kaffe Tid-Mary Durspek	377-4480
Language Facilitators:	
Ann Gesme	362-6910
David Christ	351-7717
Librarian-Ruth Berger	365-4979
Musician-Carolyn Rushton	351-8604
Newsletter Editor-Jon White	393-9430
Publicity-Marlis Windus	365-1533
Scholarship-Ruth Christ	351-7717
Sunshine-Ann Larson	373-1891

Sons of Norway representatives:

David Tesdahl	286-9447
---------------	----------

Lodge web site:

[www.sofn-cedarrapids.org](http://www.sofn-cedarrapids.org)

Sons of Norway  
Restauration Lodge #548  
2119 Lincolnshire Dr SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403-1606

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
Permit #274

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

- My name was misspelled
- My address was wrong
- I received more than one  
(please enclose label(s))