

# Restauration Lodge #548

February 2007

www.sofn-cedarrapids.org

Volume XXXI Number 2

The February social meeting will be  
Tuesday, February 13, 2007 at 7:00 pm  
at  
First Lutheran Church  
Luther Fellowship Center  
1000 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401

Hosts: Mary Neuhaus, Ruth Berger. Jon  
White

Sarah Gunderson will be presenting the  
program at Restauration Lodge's  
February social meeting. The  
presentation will discuss the history of the  
stave churches in Norway. The stave  
churches have a distinctive Nordic-style  
construction with their roofs being  
compared to Viking ships. Furthermore,  
some of these churches have stood for  
more than 800 years and depict the finest  
artifacts of medieval art in all of Norway.  
This program will travel to different parts  
of Norway in order to explore several of  
these churches in more detail and to learn  
more about these beautiful structures

The main doors of the church will be  
locked at about 7:00 pm, for security  
reasons, but the Administrative door will  
remain unlocked until about 7:45 pm.



## REMODELING AT FIRST LUTHERAN

First Lutheran Church is planning to  
begin a remodeling project this spring in  
the Luther Fellowship Center and  
adjoining kitchen. The church will have a  
meeting to determine approval of the  
project on Sunday, February 11, 2007. If  
the project is approved, then the  
remodeling is scheduled to begin on  
Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. We would not be  
able to have the Sons of Norway social  
meeting in our regular meeting room if  
they begin the remodeling that same  
week. However, First Lutheran Church  
stated they would find another room for  
our lodge to meet on Tuesday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>.  
Thus, we will still be having the social  
meetings at First Lutheran Church, but  
we may be displaced to another room in  
the church for our meeting until the  
remodeling is complete. The church  
stated they will have signs posted  
directing the Sons of Norway lodge  
members to another room the day of our  
meeting.

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*Restauration Lodge is saddened to learn of  
the death of Sue Shimon in Boise, Idaho,  
where she and her husband, Randy, have  
been living. Sue was a long time member  
and board member of the lodge and a  
tireless worker for the lodge. Randy's  
address is: 9223 West Hills Gate Drive  
Star, Idaho 83669*

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## **PRESIDENT McCORMICK'S CORNER**

**Is it cold enough for you???? It definitely is for me. But it is never too cold to come out for a Sons of Norway meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the February Social meeting. We will be meeting in a different room because of some renovating the church is doing during the months of February and March. The way will be marked.**

**Because of the renovation that will be taking place, we had to move all the equipment and storage units that that we have. A big, big thanks goes to Ann and Dean Gesme, Ann and Ron Larson, Sara and Larry Knutson, Will Mickelson and Wally Sundet for helping to move all our materials. Most of the things were moved to Ann & Dean Gesme's garage. So until we get back into the usual meeting place at the church, we will have our meetings with minimal materials.**

**We had a very successful baking class in January and you may read more about it elsewhere in the newsletter. Thats all for now. See you in February!**

**FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING will be held on Tuesday, February 20, at 7:00 pm at Dean and Ann Gesme's, 2119 Lincolnshire Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids.**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE will be Wednesday, February 28.**

## **MESSAGE FROM THE CULTURAL DIRECTOR**

The Fellowship Hall at First Lutheran Church is undergoing some remodeling, so we will not have this large space available to us for the next few months. Thus, our lodge will NOT be having the silent auction in March as previously announced. The silent auction will be postponed until the fall. However, Fred Amundson has graciously agreed to give a presentation to our lodge for the social meeting in March. Fred's presentation is titled, "A Blending of Nationalities on the Dakota Prairie," and is an autobiographical account of being raised in a small community that had German, Polish, and Norwegian settlers.

## **ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER CHANGES**

If you have a change of address (either U.S. mail or e-mail) or telephone number, please contact Mavis Lovik. She can be reached by phone, 393-6679; or by mail at 2603 Falcon Drive, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 or by email, [maalovfalcon@msn.com](mailto:maalovfalcon@msn.com). It is important if you want to continue receiving your newsletter.

## **NEW OFFICERS FOR 2007**



**L. McCormick, D. Gesme, D. Sather, A. Erickson, A. Larson**

## **JANUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The January business meeting of Restauration Lodge was held January 16 at the home of Ann and Dean Gesme. Present were Wally Sundet, Mavis Lovik, Ann Larson, Ardy Erickson, Bob Thorkildson, Sarah Gunderson, David and Ruth Christ, Mary Durspek, Ann and Dean Gesme, Lois McCormick, Paula Schulte, and Ding Sather.

Lois McCormick opened the meeting at 7:03 PM with a welcome. Minutes from the January 9 social meeting were read and approved. Ding Sather reported that checking balance is \$1964.26 and savings balance is \$7501.26.

February social meeting hosts are Mary Neuhaus, Ruth Berger, and Jon White.

Syttende Mai arrangements were discussed. The speaker will be Blaine Hedberg.

A baking class on Kransekake was held in December with Lois McCormick as instructor. A class on Lefse and Waffler is scheduled for January.

The March social meeting program will include a silent auction and one or two short videos. Members are asked to bring items to sell. Newsletter issues and procedures were discussed.

The death of Sue Shimon was reported. David Christ moved, Ding Sather seconded, that a \$25 memorial donation in Sue's honor be given to the Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library. Motion passed.

Ruth Christ says that she anticipates at least one scholarship application before the February 1 deadline. Wally Sundet and Carolyn Rushford will be dealing with any Tusen Takk nominations. Bob Thorkildson will be updating the website. Ann Gesme reported that language classes continue to go well.

Relocation of Lodge material due to remodeling at First Lutheran was discussed. The remodeling may result in a temporary room change for the social meeting. Dean and Ann Gesme discussed retention and weeding of Lodge records.

Recent communications to the Lodge were passed around. Participation in the March 3 Younkers Community Day was approved. Next business meeting is 7:00 PM on February 20 at the home of Ann and Dean Gesme.

Following comments for the good of the order, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45. After meeting refreshments were provided by Paula Schulte.

David Christ, Secretary

## **JANUARY SOCIAL MEETING MINUTES**

President Lois McCormick called the meeting and welcomed everyone. 31 members were present with two visitors: Al & Sharon Stang. The Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of National songs followed. Sara Gunderson led the singing of a Norwegian song.

Vice President Ann Gesme installed the following officers: President-Lois McCormick, Treasurer-Ding Sather, Counselor-Dean Gesme & Social Directors-Ardy Erickson & Ann Larson. Awarding of the Tusen Takk Award was postponed.

Treasurer Report: \$2230.26 (checking) \$7501.26 (savings). Minutes will stand as printed in the Newsletter. Social Directors Report: Thanked Jan. servers. Feb. servers: Mary Neuhaus, Ruth Berger, Jon White. Cultural Directors Report: Feb. speaker will be Sara Gunderson on "Stave Churches". Mar. we will have a Silent Auction. Jan. 20 Baking Class on Lefse & Waffles. Newsletter Deadline for Feb. is Jan. 31st. Kaffe Tid will be held Jan. 17 at Ann Gesme's.

Library: new book "Norwegian Stave Churches" given in memory of Clair Munson by his family. Sunshine: cards will be sent to Harold Williamson, Myrtle Heuston, June Tow & Ruth Breidenbach. Scholarship: applications for scholarships are due to Ruth Christ by Feb. 1.

Next Board Meeting will be at the Gesme's on Jan. 16.

Comments for good of the order: Fred Amundson thanked everyone for the work on the Julebord, especially the lutefisk cookers.

Bill Cary spoke briefly on Vesterheim and the Genealogy Center. Insurance Rep. David Tesdahl gave a brief presentation.

Wil Mickelson received a 30 year membership pin & certificate. Sharon Mow received the gift of a Hardanger sun catcher from Jennifer Rand.

Program: A PBS documentary "Golden Door" on immigration.

Ann Larson, Acting Secretary

**NEW BOOK DONATED TO LIBRARY** The Brent Munson family gave our lodge a new book, "The Norwegian Stave Churches," in memory of Clair O. Munson. The author of the book is Leif Anker, with translation by Tim Challman. The book contains over 300 pages of information and beautiful pictures of these unique churches. The author begins by giving general information about the history of the churches and describes some of the carvings depicted on them. In addition, the book also goes into more detail about the 29 stave churches that still remain due to historical preservation. This book is now available for lodge members to check out from the Restauration Lodge Library.

**NORWEGIAN BAKING CLASS** On January 20, 2007, our lodge offered a baking class for any member interested in learning how to make lefse and Norwegian waffles. The class was attended by Cheryl Zapf, Joanne Oftedahl, Sue Johanson, Paula Schulte, and Sarah Gunderson. We would like to extend our gratitude to the instructors, Sara Knutson and Lois McCormick, who volunteered their time in order to share their expertise in this area. Sara Knutson was the instuctor for making lefse, and she shared good baking tips and suggestions, as well as allowing us to use her baking utensils. Lois brought five different Norwegian waffle recipes, and during the baking class we made four different batters in order to have a comparison of the different recipes! The class was a success and we had a lot of fun too!

Our lodge will be offering another baking class in the spring, but the exact date has not been determined yet. Be watching for the announcement in a future newsletter.



**BEST OF RESTAURATION** We will be trying a new feature in the newsletter – favorite recipes from our members. We will begin with a waffle recipe from our president

**Norwegian Waffle Recipe - Lois McCormick**

- 4 eggs
- 5 c. sour cream
- 1/2 c. plus 3 T. sugar
- 1/2 t. salt
- 2 1/4 c. flour
- 1 t. cardamom
- 4 t. vanilla

1. In a small bowl, beat eggs.
2. In a larger bowl beat the sour cream and then add egg mixture and beat again.
3. Add sugar, salt and flour and stir well.
4. Add cardamom and vanilla and stir well.
5. Bake - using approximately 1/3 c. batter in a heart shaped waffle iron. (Can be baked in a regular waffle iron also)



**GOD BEDRING** Myrtle Heuston fell and broke her femur the first of January. She is at a skilled nursing facility, but will be leaving to go to Fort Collins, Colorado, to be near her daughters, in early February. Myrtle will finish her therapy there, which will take a couple more months. Contact Ellie Reader for more information.

## **FYI**

There is a SON **bowling jamboree** in Morris, Minnesota, on Saturday, May 5. A lodge in a city as large as Cedar Rapids should send a few representatives, at least. This is not a tournament, just a fun experience. You need not be a SON member to participate, so send a child or grandchild, or friend. There's also a banquet and a place to stay with a swimming pool, so check with Verl Lekwa if interested.

[Morris is almost straight west of St.Cloud, not far from the western MN border.]

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Nordic Gala "It's Grieg to Me" , held at the Hjemkomst Center on February 24, will feature a silent auction, a buffet of delectable Norwegian smorbrod and desserts and the music of Edvard Grieg. Tickets for the event cost \$15. [www.ScandinavianHjemkomstFestival.org](http://www.ScandinavianHjemkomstFestival.org)

## **THANK YOU FROM S/N FOUNDATION**

A letter from S/N Foundation Director was received thanking all members for their donations. They were able to award over \$100,000 in scholarships and grants in 2006. This is an all time record.

**THANK YOU TO JENNIFER RAND** who has been playing the piano at the social meetings last fall and during the winter months as well. She has accompanied us at the start of our meetings with singing both the Norwegian and United States national anthems. In addition, she has also played the piano for our Norwegian song portion of the meeting. We have enjoyed Jennifer sharing her musical talent with us! Carolyn Rushton will be returning as pianist for the social meetings beginning in February. We thank both of these ladies for volunteering their time and sharing their talents with us!

## **King Harald's Story**

The authorized biography of Norway's King Harald V was launched, and became the center of a proverbial media frenzy. Former Aftenposten editor Per Egil Hegge received the weighty honor of writing the book, "Harald V", which reveals a private look at the reigning king's life.

Hegge has worked for the past two years on the biography, speaking repeatedly to King Harald V and interviewing all the adult members of the Norwegian royal family. The work also focuses on the monarchy and its situation in a modern society.

Hegge has had access to previously secret archives and private photographs. He has been allowed to select images from Queen Sonja's private album, and Aftenposten photographer Rolf M Aagard is the book's illustrative editor.

The book has been released by one of Norway's major publishing houses, Damm.

Hegge called the project "very exciting and it has been difficult", when Damm announced the title in their autumn list. The coverage of the drama behind King Harald's wedding to Sonja, and the similar tale of Crown Prince Haakon's decision to choose a controversial bride, featured prominently in first reports of the book.

Aftenposten's Norwegian reporter - Elisabeth Rodum  
Aftenposten English Web Desk

## **KAFFETID**

There will be no meeting in February.



## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

**February 13**  
**February 20**

**Social Meeting**  
**Board Meeting**

### Elected Officers:

President-Lois McCormick	377-2890
Vice President-Ann Gesme	362-6910
Counselor-Dean Gesme	362-6910
Secretary-David Christ	319-351-7717
Treasurer-Ding Sather	393-7310
Assistant Treasurer-Dean Gesme	362-6910
Membership Secretary-Mavis Lovik	393-6679
Cultural director-Sarah Eness Gunderson	319-330-3153
Social directors- Ardy Erickson	365-4926
Ann Larson	373-1891

### Sons of Norway representative:

David Tesdahl	319-286-9447
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### Lodge web site:

www.sofn-cedarrapids.org	
web master- Robert Thorkildson	319-721-9902

### Appointed Officers:

Auditors:	
Ruth Christ (1 year)	319-351-7717
Jean Oxley (1 year)	364-5340
Bob Thorkildson (2 year)	319-721-9902
Foundation-Wally Sundet	393-6971
Greeters-Sharon Mow	366-3202
Ruth Berger	365-4979
Historian--Paula Schulte	396-1076
Kaffe Tid-Mary Durspek	377-4480
Language Facilitator :	
Ann Gesme	362-6910
Librarian-Judy Argo	319-247-2479
Marshalls-Lloyd Holecek	377-4438
David Johansen	319-338-0414
Musicians-Carolyn Rushton	319-351-8604
Jennifer Rand	366-6659
Newsletter Editor-Bill/Mary Durspek	377-4480
Newsletter Mailer- Lois McCormick	377-2890
Publicity-Sandra Van Amburg	223-5331
Scholarship-Ruth Christ	319-351-7717
Sports/Recreation/Youth-Verl Lekwa	319-728-2847
Sunshine-Ann Larson	373-1891
Trustees	
Merle Kjonaas (1 year)	319-338-0414
Paula Schulte (2 year)	396-1076

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