

Restauration Lodge #548

April 2007

www.sofn-cedarrapids.org

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The April social meeting will be
Tuesday, April 10, 2007 at 7:00 pm
at

First Lutheran Church
Luther Fellowship Center
1000 3rd Avenue SE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401

Hosts: Wally and Marie Sundet,
Ding and Bev Sather, Gloria Larson

Bob Thorkildson will be our speaker for the April meeting. He will be speaking on Hans Neilsen Hauge who was an itinerant lay preacher in Norway at the beginning of the 19th Century. He ran afoul with the State Church of Norway, was imprisoned, but grew to be an influential individual in achieving personal freedoms and rights in Norway's lower classes. His influence was not only felt in Norway but extended across the Atlantic Ocean with American immigrants even after his death, which was before the Restauration sailed in 1825.

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

APRIL BOARD MEETING will be held on Tuesday, April 17, at 7:00 pm at the home of Dean and Ann Gesme, 2119 Lincolnshire Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids.

PRESIDENT McCORMICK'S CORNER

I want to thank David Christ for preparing a program at the last minute for our March Social Meeting. Our presenter Sarah Gunderson was ill. We learned a bit about the Lofoten Islands via several short movies. The Christ's daughter is married and lives in that area. So we had a real treat. Many thanks, David. We look forward to hearing Sarah Gunderson's program sometime in the future.

I just received my Winter 2007 copy of the Viking for Kids. This is a free booklet with lots of interesting Norwegian information. You can have it sent to young children or grandchildren. Contact Sons of Norway, 1455 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, Mn. 55408 or www.sonsofnorway.com.

We had our baking class on strull at Ann and Dean Gesme's. Both of them taught us how to make strull, which is like krumkaka, but the recipe is different. Carol Wohlleben, Cheryl Zapf, Paula Shulte, Sandy VanAmburg and I were present. Tusen Takk Ann and Dean.

We had two visitors join our membership at the last social meeting. They are Sharon and Al Stang of Iowa City. Velkommen.

I am looking forward to our 17 Mai celebration which our social and cultural committees are busy planning. A good speaker, a good meal and a pleasant place to have it.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE will be Wednesday, April 25.

President's Corner (cont.)

We have been invited by the Linn Co. Fair Association to participate in their heritage day during the fair in July. The fair is held in Central City. I will be organizing an exhibit booth and possibly selling Norwegian goodies. Keep these dates in mind - July 6-12. Would love to have several volunteers for whatever is planned.

The 2007 Membership list, Kaffe Tid schedule and 2007 Program schedule was passed out to members at the March social meeting. This month members who receive their newsletters electronically will be sent their copy. Members receiving their newsletter by mail will receive them with their April newsletter.

The next board meeting will be held at the Gesme's on April 17th at 7:00 p.m. Enjoy some of the spring weather we have and will be having. A little winter weather is mixed up in it, but take it all in.

2007 GOALS FOR THE LODGE

At the last board meeting the following goals were approved for our lodge this year.

TO:

Increase Membership by recruiting five new adult members

Hold four baking workshops for interested members

Plan Norwegian Heritage programs for all social meetings

Hold language classes for at least ten members from Fall to Spring

Keep Web site for Restauration Lodge1-548 updated monthly

Promote sports and recreation participation and enroll five members

Promote Adopt A School having five members volunteer at area schools

Sing and become acquainted with five new Norwegian Songs introduced at the social meetings

Provide time for the Insurance rep at the end of the social meetings

Plan a special membership event in the Fall of 2007

BLESSED EVENT!!



Elsa and Iris were born on Sunday, Feb 18th at 8:21 and 8:22 am respectively. Elsa Marie (with dark hair) weighed 6 lb 1 oz and was 18.75 inches long. Iris Lynn weighed 6 lb 5 oz and was 20 inches long. They are the daughters of Jennifer and Tim Rand and little sisters to Lena, who is two. Congratulations to all of the Rands!!

SYTTENDE MAI TICKETS Our Syttende Mai Banquet will be held on May 17 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (3634 First Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids). Social Hour will begin at 6:00 PM with a catered meal to follow at 6:30. The speaker will be Blaine Hedberg. The tickets will be \$20.00 each and will be available at the April and May Social meetings or you may call Ardy Erickson (365-4926) or Ann Larson (373-1891). Tickets must be purchased no later than May 8.

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. It is important if you want to continue receiving your newsletter.

MARCH SOCIAL MEETING MINUTES

President Lois McCormick opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Guest Karen Taylor was introduced. There were 33 members in attendance.

No changes were made to previous minutes. Treasurer's report. Checking end of February \$1594.31, on March 10 \$1740.38. Savings end of December \$7501.26

David and Ruth Christ were presented with the Tusen Takk award. David was also presented with his Golden Member certificate and pin.

Hosts tonight: Mavis Lovick, Cindy Monroe, and Ruth Berger substituting for Sarah Gunderson.

April hosts are Wally & Marie Sundet, Ding and Bev Sather, Gloria Larson. Bob Thorkildson will present the April program.

Syttende Mai speaker will be Blaine Hedburg from the Norwegian American Genealogical Center. Other details yet to be finalized.

Mavis Lovick reported we currently have 145 member of which about 10 are juveniles with insurance.

Ann Gesme reported on the Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library (NAGCNL) which separated from Vesterheim on the first of the year. Ann encourages all to join. Ten members at tonight's meeting are already members. Their website is <http://nagcni.org>. Ellen Vollebæk wife of Norwegian Ambassador Knut Vollebæk has joined the NAGCNL board of directors. Ambassador Vollebæk, will be the speaker at a dinner April 22, 2007 in Madison. Contact Ann Gesme if you might be interested.

Ann also announced that Jennifer Rand had twin girls February 18. Their names are Elsa Marie and Iris Lynn.

Sunshine cards have been sent to Harold Willimson, Myrtle Heuston and Bev Solberg.

Membership lists were distributed.

Kaffee Tid will be at Lois Mc Cormick Wednesday March 21.

Baking class at Lois McCormick's will be March 24. The subject will be krumkake or strull. Contact Lois to reserve a slot.

Next Board meeting is at Lois McCormick's 7:00 PM March 20.

Insurance Rep Dave Tesdahl spoke.

The program was a video on the Lofoten Islands presented by David Christ. David Christ, Secretary

MARCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Lodge President, Lois McCormick, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM at Lois' home, in Marion, on March 20, 2007.

The following Board members were present: Lois McCormick, Mary Durspek, Ruth Christ, Dean Gesme, Ann Gesme, Paula Schulte, Verl Lekwa, Sarah Gunderson, Ann Larson, and Bob Thorkildson. Karen Brunssen, Ann and Dean's daughter from Chicago, was a guest. Bob Thorkildson was designated acting secretary for this meeting.

The Treasurer's report was given with numbers from March 10th: the Lodge has \$1740.38 in the checking account and \$7501.26 in the savings account. The latter number was last updated in December of 2006 since Ding Sather has been out of town.

The Membership Secretary, Mavis Lovik, was not present but it was reported that we have two new members, Alan and Sharon Kay Stang from Iowa City.

Sarah Gunderson, Cultural Director, reported on the plans for next month's

social meeting. Bob Thorkildson will give a talk on Hans Neilsen Hauge. The baking class that was supposed to have occurred on March 24th has been re-scheduled for the 27th and will take place in Ann Gesme's kitchen at 6:00 PM. The topic will be krumkakke.

Ann Larson, Social Director, reported on the plans for the May banquet. The caterer will be A Taste Above and will be serving pork loin, baked cod, potatoes, vegetables, and a tossed salad. The proposed cost will be \$12.75 per person for the food plus \$10 delivery. The Lodge will make a donation to Our Savior's Lutheran Church for allowing us to hold the banquet in their basement hall. The price of the tickets will be \$20 which will include all of the items mentioned plus the cost of the speaker. Desserts will be brought by members of the Lodge. The clean up of the facility will be done by Lodge members.

The April servers will be the Sundets, the Sathers, and Gloria Larson.

Newsletter Co-editor Mary Durspek announced the deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter was to be Wednesday, March 28, 2007. These minutes are a day late! The editors are looking for more recipes from the Lodge members to put in the newsletter.

Other Reports:

Kaffe Tid will be held at Lois McCormick's house tomorrow and she will give a program.

Library: Ann Gesme mentioned that we need to clean out a lot of materials that have rarely or never been checked out from our Lodge library.

Language Class: Ann Gesme told us that there are 13 members and that they will meet through April.

Scholarship: Ruth Christ reported that two young people will be sponsored by the Lodge to attend Skogfjorden this year.

Sports and Recreation Director, Verl Lekwa will present the results of a survey he conducted at the next social meeting. He also plans to order more sports pamphlets from the home office and have them available at the social meetings.

Old Business:

We did not participate in Younkers' Charity Sale this March but will do so in the Fall.

Membership Growth Event – the Lodge will plan for an event to coincide with the Tolkeim program in September. Karen Brunssen made the suggestion that we try an "E-invite" party where we invite people to the event by email and ask them to bring something to eat and share with others. She said that this has been done in the past with great success and fun.

Lodge Brochure – Bob Thorkildson passed around a first cut of the new brochure for the Board to assess. Except for the bad grammar and spelling the brochure received a positive review.

New Lodge membership list, program schedule, and Kaffetid schedule that was sent in February is not correct and a new set will be emailed out in March.

BEST OF RESTAURATION

Strull

Mix together: 3/4 C. granulated sugar

1 1/2 C. flour

1/2 t. ground cardamom and/
or vanilla

Stir in: 1 1/4 C. whipping cream

Stir until well blended, then add 3/4 C. whole milk. Stir until blended and smooth.

Bake on krumkake or strull iron until lightly browned. Immediately form into cone or cylinder using a dowel or cone shaped tool. Can be shaped over the bottom of a glass to make a small bowl shape.

As we learned to make strull at our baking class, there are a few hints we learned as we went along.

Thanks to Ann Gesme for the above recipe.

TUSEN TAKK AWARD was given to Ruth and David Christ for their service (above and beyond the call of duty) to the Lodge over the years. Carolyn Rushton, last year's recipient, did the honors. Members may submit nominations to the Tusen Takk committee in the fall and then the award is presented in February.



David also received his Golden membership award and pin presented to him by President Lois McCormick.



New Era Begins for Norwegian-American Genealogical Research Center.

Beginning January 2007, following a nearly thirty year association with the Vesterneim Museum, the NAGC has become a completely independent organization. This change marks the beginning of a new and exciting chapter in the Center's history. The new name reflects its mission as America's foremost institution dedicated to collecting, preserving, and interpreting the resources for Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogical research. The building and its library in Madison, Wisconsin, still carry the name Naeseth Library, in honor of the Center's founder, Gerhard B. Naeseth.

Serving as Chair of the new Board of Directors is Dan F. Huebner, Decorah, IA. Among others on the board are Dean and Ann Gesme and Ellen Vollebæk, wife of Knute Vollebæk, Norwegian ambassador to the U.S.

One of the board's first decisions was the appointment of Blaine Hedberg as the first Executive Director of the newly-independent organization. Blaine's connection to the work of the Center dates from 1982, when he first volunteered to help Gerhard Naeseth; after a successful year of mentoring, he began officially working for the Center. In the succeeding years, Blaine has come to represent every facet of the Center's work. His experience is unparalleled: he has served as volunteer, assistant, researcher, tour leader, lecturer, teacher, and editor, as well as the Center's director from 1994 to 2001.

KAFFE TID will meet at Mr. Bean's on South 11th in Marion on Wednesday, April 18th at 12:30 pm for lunch and discussion. Please call Mary Durspek at 377-4480 if you plan to attend.



