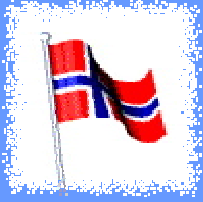


RESTAURATION LODGE #548



March 2012 www.sofn-cedarrapids.org Volume XXXVi Number 3

The March social meeting will be Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

David Christ will be speaking on the Norsjø-Bandak canals in Telemark. They were once described as the eighth wonder of the world. Why create a water route to the sparsely populated heart of Telemark? How were they built? Are they worth preserving? Come to the March lodge meeting and hear the answers to these questions.

FRA PRESIDENT I attended the Sons of Norway Officers Workshop with our neighbors to the north from Cedar Falls and Waterloo last Saturday. It's always refreshing to be with others who care about our heritage and share their successes. Mary Ann Johnson, our zone director, led the meeting. Although she has greatly enjoyed the opportunity, she is not running for the position this year. Barbara Erickson and I are attending the District One meeting in St. Cloud, MN, on June 15 and 16. Our lodge is allowed three delegates and we would like a volunteer to join us. Please contact one of us if you are interested. Although most of the time is dedicated to business, there are other interesting meetings and time to converse with members of neighboring lodges.

The international meeting of Sons of Norway will be held in Fargo on August 24-25. The proximity to us makes that an opportunity to consider. Watch for more information in the Viking or go to the S of N website.

Our Syttende Mai Banquet (Norway's Independence Day celebration) on May 8 at 6:00 will be one you will not forget. Tickets are \$15 and we encourage you to bring guests. Our program will be John Berquist, one of Minnesota's most respected folklorists. A native Minnesotan of Norwegian and Swedish descent, he plays the guitar, mandolin, 2 and 4 row button accordions and sings in a rich, warm baritone. His stories about the songs he sings are memorable vignettes about America's northern heartland. He has presented concerts and programs across the United States. We will be advertising this opportunity to the community and you will want to get your tickets early. We will close ticket sales when we run out of space. The Board members will provide authentic Norwegian desserts. Contact Anna Marie Klein or Mavis Hovden for your tickets.



John Berquist, of Minnesota and Chicago, has performed and studied Scandinavian folk music and traditions in the Upper Midwest for the last twenty-five years. He is a singer and performer on the two-row accordion (torader), guitar, and mandolin. John has presented concerts and programs throughout the US, including Minnesota Folk, Chicago Folk Festival, Ironworld, and Prairie Home Companion, and Artist in the

Schools Residencies in eight states. He has been a consultant for the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and for Skogfjorden Norwegian Language Camp

SYTTENDE MAI We need reservations by May 4th. Tickets will be available at the March and April meetings. For the Syttende Mai meal, the menu will be roast pork loin, potato encrusted cod, parsley buttered potatoes, vegetable of the day, salad, rolls and butter. Members are to bring Norwegian desserts. The cost of the tickets is \$15.00.

BOOK CLUB We will be meeting on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at 1 p.m. at Gesmes, Apartment #3303 --- NOT 3313 as before . The book for March is *Doctor Proctor's Fart Powder* -- actually a children's book, by the well known Jo Nesbø, Norway's most successful author of all time. He is the author of crime fiction and short stories, and one of Europe's foremost crime writers. It is a fun departure from our usual reading! Cindy Monroe will lead the discussion and also be providing the dessert. Everyone is welcome, but please phone Ann at 362-2910 if you plan to attend.

MINUTES of the February 14 Social Meeting, Restauration Lodge 1-548, Sons of Norway

- Meeting was convened at 7:05 PM by President Cindy Charlson Monroe. 26 people were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance, and singing of America and Ja Vi Elsker accompanied by Sharon Kay Stang on piano.
- Installation of officers: Dean Gesme installed the following:
 - Barbara Erickson as Vice President
 - Harold Williamson as Secretary
 - Alan Erickson as Membership Secretary
 - Lois McCormick and Jon White as Cultural Directors
- Treasurer's Report: Ding Sather – Checking \$3,853.43, Savings \$7849.71, all bill paid. Audit conducted and ok.
- Secretary's Report: Harold Williamson – Minutes as approved with one correction.
- Calendars: Lois McCormick – Refund received for unsold calendars. Unsold still available for sale.
- Name tags: Available from Lois McCormick
- Social Directors' Report: Anna Marie Klein
 - Syttende Mai tickets available soon.
- Cultural Directors' Report: Lois McCormick – Programs:
 - March: Telemark Canals – David Christ
 - April : Musical Instrument, Psalmodikan – Linda Shoesmith
 - May: Syttende Mai Banquet, Accordion player (John Berquist)
 - June: King and Queen of Norway, visit to Decorah and more – Cindy Charlson Monroe & Paula Schulte
 - July: Movie Night (The Falun-Roros Expedition)
 - August: no meeting
- Membership Secretary: Alan Erickson – 136 members (6 overdue)
- Sunshine Report: Carolyn Rushton was in hospital
- Book Club: "Northern Lights" to be discussed.

- Life Stories: Two sessions held. Next sessions: Mar. 8, 9-10 AM, Mar. 12, 4-5 PM.
- Scholarships available for Norwegian language camp.
- Sports/Recreation Report: Verl Lekwa – One award
- News from Norway: Tom Naesse – Trial on massacre starting.
- Language Class: Tom Naesse - Thursday s at 6 PM.
- Election of delegates to District 1 Convention in St. Cloud, MN, June 14-16.
 - Cindy Charlson Monroe and Barbara Erickson elected. Alan Erickson as an alternate.
 - Third delegate still needed. Motion made and approved that Board appoint an additional delegate and alternates.
- Other Business: Lois McCormick indicted the three categories of youth membership.
 - Juvenal, an insurance category (ages 0-21); Heritage (free membership if grandparent a member), ages 0-15, and ages 16-21 (have voting privileges)
- Stamps collected for Tubrim will be taken to District meeting and credited to Anna Bosking.
- Program: Introduced by Lois McCormick. Tom Naess covered “Norwegians in Hawaii”.

FYI:

Name Tags are available by calling Lois McCormick at 377-2890. The cost for each name tag is \$7.25.

Have you ever wished that you had a heart waffle maker (stove top)? Call Linda Erlandson at 377-5836. Linda has one she no longer needs.

On June 14th, 2012, the District 1 Convention will begin in St. Cloud, MN. A folk art exhibition and competition in planned. Three judges from the community will be judging the entries and awarding ribbons in each category. There will be a Best of Show award and a People’s Choice award. Lodge members may bring their folk art to the Convention or send it with a delegate. You may choose to Exhibit Only or enter the item(s) for Competition. An early registration form will be available at the lodge meeting. A form should be sent in for each item entered. Call Lois McCormick at 377-2890 for more information.



Norm Erickson

Most of you remember Norman and Floy Erickson, charter members of Restauration Lodge #548. The February "News from Vesterheim" included the article below:
In its 130 years filled with amazing exhibitions, world-class educational programs, and notable events, Vesterheim Museum has grown to become a thriving, well-respected

organization of international acclaim. That acclaim would not be possible without the support of our loyal members, many of whom have kept the museum thriving with charitable bequests. Norman E. Erickson, formerly of Cedar Rapids, was a supportive member of Vesterheim, illustrated by a charitable bequest and other gifts dating back to his first \$5 contribution in 1966. Norman passed away in September 2010, but his legacy is very much alive at Vesterheim. He lives on in the smiles of visitors to the museum each year and in the hearts and minds of those working to preserve a heritage and connect us all.

Norman Erickson Valhalla Society Member

Norman E. Erickson was born in Postville, Iowa, in April 1920. He grew up during the Great Depression in nearby Clermont, where he graduated from Clermont High School in 1937 and attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids, graduating in 1941. Just out of college, Norman went to work for the Iowa Electric Light and Power in the accounting department, where he worked until his retirement in 1984, with the exception of the time he proudly served in the Navy during WWII (1943 - 1946). He took full advantage of all the benefits offered to him by his employer and submitted copies of all his charitable contributions to their matching gifts program. In this way, he was able to double each gift he made to Vesterheim. In 1951, Norman married Floy LaVerle (Morgan) Erickson in Cedar Rapids. Together, Norman and Floy were very active in many local organizations and supported their community in many ways. Norman and Floy were devoted to their heritage. [In his years with our Sons of Norway 548, Norm contributed many items to newsletters in years past.] Through his membership in the Valhalla Society, Norman recognized that a bequest is a simple, easy, and effective means for donors to leave a legacy and make a difference in the lives of others for generations to come. For more information about planned giving, contact Steve Grinna, Director of Development, at sgrinna@vesterheim.org, or call 563-382-9681, ext.109.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birth Day		
Gerard Rushton	3	Molly M Stuefen	14
Robert J Erlandson	5	Merle K Kjonaas	15
Russell M Hansen	6	John Thomas Mathre	15
Kerith Lucille St Louis	6	Karl M Knutson	18
Dawn Grulke Hysler	8	Susan Christine Wheeler	20
Mary M Durspek	11	Dan M Legrand	23
Madison Stonewall	14	Susan M Johansen	27
Morgan Stonewall	14	Ingrid Naesse	28

LIFE STORIES There will be no meeting in March. Please check the April newsletter for more information.



Installation of Harold Williamson as Secretary



Installation of Alan Erickson as Membership Secretary



Installation of Barbara Erickson as Vice President



Installation of Lois McCormick as one of our Cultural Directors

Elected Officers:

President – Cindy Monroe 363-7420
Vice President – Barbara Erickson - 377-1707
Secretary – Harold Williamson 338-5658
Treasurer – Ding Sather 393-7310

Membership Secretary –
Alan Erickson 377-1707
Cultural Directors – Jon White 393-9430
Lois McCormick 377-2890
Social Directors – Mavis Hovden 393-3286
Anna Marie Klein 373-9260

Sons of Norway representatives:

David Tesdahl 286-9447

Lodge web site: www.sofn-cedarrapids.org

Web master: Robert Thorkildson 721-9902

Appointed Officers:

Auditors:
Verl Lekwa 738-2847
Ruth Christ 351-7717
Bob Thorkildson 721-9902
Foundation-Wally Sundet 393-6971
Greeters-

Historian-Paula Schulte 396-1076

Language Facilitators:
Tom & Ingrid Næsse 841-2311
Past President-Dean Gesme 362-6910

Librarian-Sherry Waite
Marshall-

Musician-Sharon Kay Stang 351-5133

Newsletter Editors-Mary/Bill Durspek 377-4480

Publicity-Ann Gesme 362-6910

Scholarship-Ruth Christ 351-7717

Sports/Recreation/Youth-Verl Lekwa 728-2847

Sunshine-Cheryl Zapf 363-5326