

RESTAURATION LODGE #548



April 2012 www.sofn-cedarrapids.org Volume XXXVi Number 4

The April social meeting will be Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 7:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

What is a Psalmodikon? Our program this month will be presented by Linda Shoesmith, a member from the Sons of Norway lodge in Davenport. The Psalmodikon is a one-stringed musical instrument which was developed in the 1820's in Norway and Sweden. When immigrants came to America, some brought Psalmodikons with them or constructed them after they arrived. They were used to teach hymn singing in churches or schools where other forms of instrumental music were not available.

Hosts for April are Wally Sundet and Ding Sather.

FRA PRESIDENT Like many of you I have memories of Norwegian spoken by my father and grandparents – usually when they didn't want children to hear a conversation. After a year of instruction through our lodge and playing with the Norwegian language program on the international Sons of Norway website, unfortunately I have more interest than time right now to meet my goal of learning my "native" language. I keep wondering how my Latin and German classes during high school and college could help me. Perhaps their value is in knowing that I passed those classes, and certainly, with my greater current motivation, Norwegian is attainable.

Curious about where Norwegian fits in the world of languages, I researched it in Mario Pei's, The Story of Language. German, Dutch, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, and Icelandic fill the official national roster of the Germanic family of languages. Modern speakers of Swedish, Norwegian and Danish can generally manage to understand each other. By comparing common English expressions to Germanic, Romance and Slavic equivalents, you will find that English falls into the Germanic family. Learning to speak English is generally easier for a Norwegian than a Pole or Spaniard. Norwegians, who once used Danish as their literary language, have undergone four major language revisions in the last century. I wonder what my grandparents would think if they made a visit to the "old" country today.

So, as I wait for a break in my schedule, there are some things I can do now. Returning to the Sons of Norway website is an easy one – and I can do it on my phone. Listening to the tapes and CDs with Norwegian spoken or sung can pass time in the car and sharpen my ear. I discovered a blog on my Kindle, written in English, about culture and language of Norway, which includes phrase training. For 99 cents a month, I get an update to the blog. In a later newsletter, I will share an example of the blog. Appreciating my heritage has the side benefit of keeping the brain active. Makes me wonder if Sons of Norway members live longer and happier!

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. 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 April meeting. 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 SofN Book Club is on April 18 at 1:00 in our new apartment- #3303 at Cottage Grove Place. *The book this month is Pioneer Churchman*, by E. Clifford Nelson. Lois McCormick will provide dessert as well as lead the discussion. Everyone is welcome, but please phone Ann at 362-2910 if you plan to attend.

Life Stories Monday, April 9 at 4 p.m. in our apartment - #3303. Please call Ann at 362-6510 if you plan to attend.

MINUTES of the March 13 Social Meeting, Restauration Lodge 1-548, Sons of Norway, Our Savior's Lutheran Church

- Meeting convened at 7 PM by President Cindy Charlson Monroe. Attendance about 30.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Singing of "America" and "Ja Vi Elsker" accompanied by Sharon Kay Stang on piano.
- Installation of Jon White as Culture co-director.
- Secretary's Report: Harold Williamson – Minutes of February approved as printed in Newsletter.
- Treasurer's Report: none
- Social Directors' Report: Anna Marie Klein – Syttende Mai banquet tickets available for \$15. Pork loin and cod are entrees.
- Cultural Directors' Report: Lois McCormick -
 - April program – Linda Shoemith will present program on the Psalmodikan, a norsk string instrument
 - May program – Syttende Mai celebration. Members encouraged to wear bunads or Norwegian sweaters. Also asked to bring Norwegian desserts. John Berquist, accordionist, will entertain.
 - Carey Trantham received an award for chip carving
- Membership Secretary: Alan Erickson – 139 members.
- Scholarship Report: Summer language camp scholarships awarded to Grace and Zachary Williamson

- **Sunshine Report:** card to Thelma Hottel
- **Sports and Recreation:** Veryl Lekwa – Award to Jean Reed for walking 980 miles in 4 years.
- **Book and Writing Groups:**
 - Book club on Mar. 21 at Gesmes
 - Writing club on April 9, 4 PM, at Gesmes
- **Insurance Representative:** Dave Tesdahl – Spoke about
 - Viking Voyager product for children.
 - Single premium life insurance
- **Announcements:**
 - Next board meeting, 3rd Tuesday, March 20, 7 PM, at President Cindy Charlson Monroe’s house.
 - Next social meeting, April 10, 7 PM at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.
 - Lutefisk Chef cap found. See Lois McCormick
- **Program:** Jon White introduced David Christ who presented program on Canals of Telemark

FYI:

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

Reminder: On June 14th, 2012, the District 1 Convention will begin in St. Cloud, MN. A folk art exhibition and competition is 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.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birth Day	Name	Birth Day
Quin M Cornell	4	Jennifer M Rand	20
Zachery E Williamson	7	Verna Jean Reed	21
Jeffery D Christ	9	Richard K Isaacson	25
Espen C H Anneling	10	Ann M Gesme	29
Patricia R Knutson	16	Isabelle McCormick	29

FYI: Titanic Norsk Passengers

Did you know that there were 31 Norsk passengers on the ill fated Titanic? There were 10 survivors in this group. All three women along survived as did one young boy, and six men.

ALMOND PASTE AVAILABLE

Lois McCormick has purchased a case of Almond Paste and is willing to sell some if you have a need. It is \$26.00 for a 7 lb. can or around \$3.72 a lb. She also can sell it by the cup. Call Lois McCormick at 377-2890.

FIRST DISTRICT BOWLING JAMBOREE

Hosted by Nordmarka Lodge 1-585 Saturday, April 28, 2012

Jesse James Lanes, Northfield, Minnesota (South of MN 19 on MN 3)

\$20 for six games (singles and doubles), \$10 for three (singles only)

Registration with coffee and donuts at 9:00 AM, Bowling begins at 9:30 AM

Lunch Buffet (Chicken and Ribs) with awards 1:00 PM, \$20

Hotels nearby: America's Best Value Inn next door, AmericInn 0.5 miles, Country Inn 1 mile

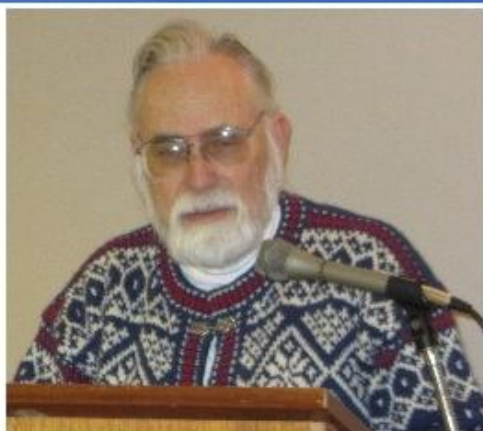
Contact Karl Hella, khella@wwdb.org, 651-983-1613 for information, send Preregistration to Karl Hella, 712 Nutting CT, Northfield, MN 55057.



Installation of Jon White as Culture Co-Director by President Cindy Monroe



Cary Trantham—receiving his award for chip carving from Lois McCormick



David Christ -- Lecturing on the Telemark Canal



Jean Reed receiving her Walking Award from Veryl Lekwa

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