

# RESTAURATION LODGE #548



May 2012 [www.sofn-cedarrapids.org](http://www.sofn-cedarrapids.org) Volume XXXVi Number 5

**The May social meeting will be Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at  
6:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church,  
3634 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

Our Syttende Mai Banquet (Norway's Constitution 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

We need reservations by May 4th. Tickets are available from Anna Marie Klein or Mavis Hovden. 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.

**FRA PRESIDENT** After our last program on psalmodikons, I promised a few members that I would find the information about making this simple folk instrument. Basically, this wooden box with one string played by a violin bow was very popular when churches could not afford organs because of its simplicity both in design and playing. If you are interested in purchasing a kit or parts of a kit, you may wish to order from Floyd Foslien, 567 High Ridge Drive, Hudson, WI 54016. Pattern - \$10 Fret Wire - \$3 Tuning Peg - \$3.75 String - \$1.25 Fine Tuner with Tailpiece - \$10 Maple Fret Board with Frets - \$25 Sitka Spruce Top Material - \$12 Cherrywood Violin Bow - \$25 Rosin - \$3.50 My kit was purchased from Floyd and put together by a neighbor who builds guitars. Judging from the number of skilled woodworkers in our group, I suspect we may have our own group of players within the next two years. I will bring my psalmodikon to our meetings with music so members can play around or have a model to look at as they construct their own. I challenge our woodworkers to put together one! You will find tons of information on the Nordic-AmericanPsalmodikonforbundet website. The president is Beatrice Hole of Eden Prairie, MN. Sara Knutson is fortunate to have a psalmodikon that has been passed down in her family. She also has music!!

In the presentation last week, our speaker mentioned several museums have psalmodikons in their collections. While in Red Wing a couple of weeks ago, I stopped by their museum to see theirs. They had one Norwegian and two Swedish instruments. My sisters are contemplating how they can utilize some of our dad's walnut to create some family heirlooms. I will have a packet describing how to build psalmodikons available at our meetings. Happy music to each of you.

**BOOK CLUB** Book club is at Gesmes - 2115 First Ave SE., Apartment #3303 - on Wednesday May 16 at 1 p.m. Mary Durspek will lead the discussion on Odd Lovoll's book, *Norwegians on the Prairie*. Please phone Ann at 362-6910 to let her know whether or not you will be there.

**LIFE STORIES** Anyone interested in writing life stories meet at Gesme's, 2115 First Ave SE., Apartment #3303, at 4 p.m., Monday afternoon, May 8th. Please phone 319-362-6910 to let us know if you will be coming.

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth Day</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Birth Date</b>
Ardith B Erickson	1	Eileen M Kjonaas	13
Anna M Klein	2	Waldemar S Sundet	19
Ruth W Berger	4	David W Tesdahl	20
Miles Hsiao-ling Pei	5	Carolyn A Rushton	21
Marvel A Titone	10	Margot E Martens	27
Phillip L Hanson	12	Cheryl L Zapf	28

**MINUTES** of the April 10 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 was 25 members and 1 guest.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Singing of "America" and "Ja Vi Elsker" accompanied by Sharon Kay Stang.
- Secretary's Report: Minutes of March approved as printed in newsletter.
- Treasurer's Report: Ding Sather reported a checking account balance of \$2770.81 and a savings balance of \$8913.70.
- Social Directors' Report: Anna Marie Klein--Syttende Mai banquet tickets are still available for \$15, due May 4.
- Cultural Directors' Report: Lois McCormick—distributed new program booklets. May 8 program --John Berquist, accordionist and folklorist.
- Membership Secretary: Alan Erickson – 135 members.
- Sunshine: Cheryl Zapf – cards were sent to Dean Gesme, Beverly Reinertson and Bob Thorkildson. A thank you note was received from Thelma Hottel.
- Sports and Recreation: no report
- Language Class: Ann Gesme announced a Coe College Senior Vocal Recital to be given by Kathrine Black on April 20th. The recital is of special interest because of its several selections sung in Danish.
- Book and Writing Groups: Book Club will meet on April 18 at Gesme's home. Writing Club continues "Life Stories" on May 7, 4 PM at the Gesme home.
- Insurance Representative: Dave Tesdahl discussed the importance of individual financial reviews.

- **Announcements:** David Christ suggested the reading of an article in the April Viking Magazine concerning “Bygdelags”, June 14-18 in Eau Claire. Those interested in the July 29-August 11 Norway Tour should contact Carolyn Rushton.  
May 4 and 5, First Lutheran in Rock Island--Dalamaling and Rosemaling. Cindy Monroe is willing to loan from her collection of mystery books by Scandinavian authors.
- **Program:** Lois McCormick introduced Linda Shoosmith from Sorelva Lodge who presented a lecture-demonstration on the “Psalmodikon”.

## FYI

\* On June 14<sup>th</sup>, 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.

\* There is a Scandinavian festival in the quad cities being held May 19 & 20. For more information, contact Alan Erickson who has details.

\* Donna Benson, internationally known teacher of Rosemaling and Dalamaling will teach a class for beginners and more advanced students on May 4 and 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The class will be held at the First Lutheran Church Parish House lower level, 18th Avenue at 20th Street, Rock Island.

The cost is \$50.00 plus supplies. Rosemaling is the traditional folk painting of Norway and the Dalamaling is of Sweden. Ms Benson's area of special interest is Hallingdal style, in which she won her Vesterheim Gold Medal. She has also studied and teaches dalamaling. For reservations or additional information, call the church office, 309 788 9661. Space is limited.



←Psalmodikon demo at SON Meeting



Cindy Monroe at Psal. Museum

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](http://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