

# SynNor Brevet

Published monthly by

**Synnøve-Nordkap  
Lodge #1-008**

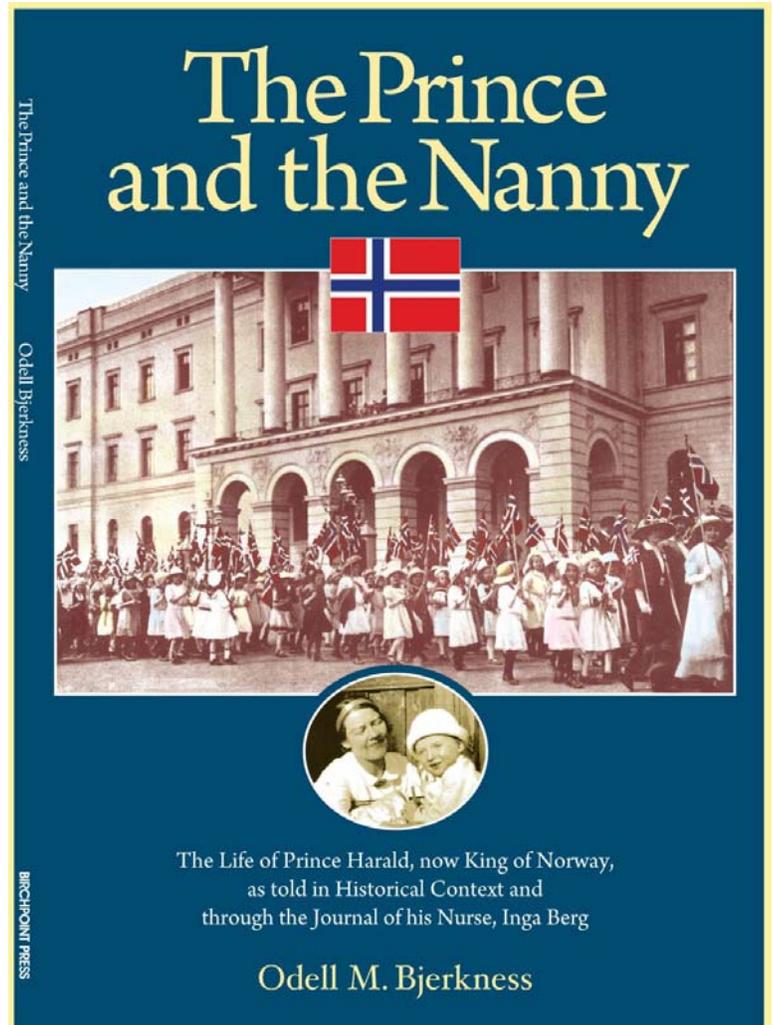
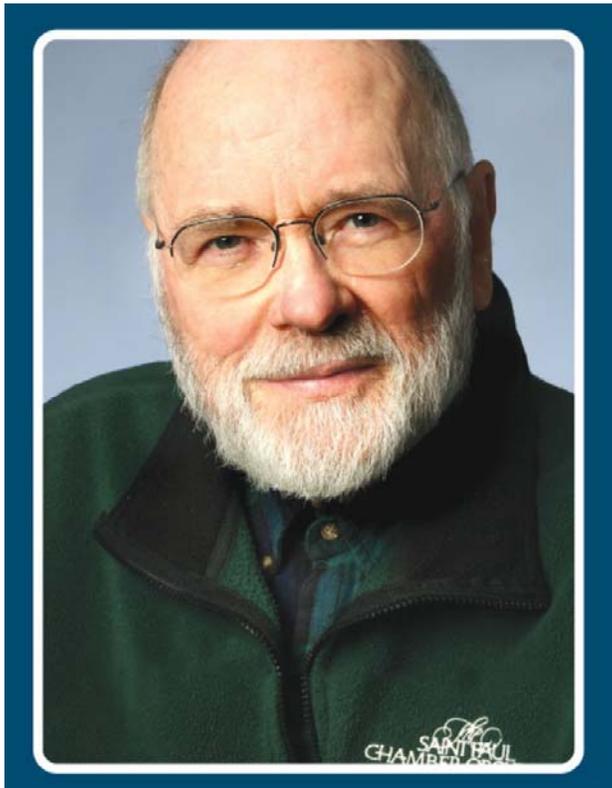
**WEB SITE:** <http://synnove1.com>



**May 2010**

**Number 10:5**

**Voice Messages: 651-762-7872**



**Join us Tuesday May 11 at 7:00 PM for an interesting look at the early life and times of Norway's King Harald, as related by Odell Bjerkness, Professor Emeritus of Concordia College, Moorhead. Odell's aunt, Inga Berg, was the Crown Prince's nanny. We'll get an introduction into King Harald's early life and into the history of the Norwegian monarchy since Norway became fully independent in 1905. See page 6 inside for more information.**

# Scandinavian Culture and News

## Questions and Answers with Congressman Keith Ellison

Congressman Keith Ellison from Minnesota is a member of the Friends of Norway Caucus in Congress, a forum for dialogue and exchange of views between the United States and Norwegian politicians on issues, interests, priorities and policies between Norway and the United States and globally.

### ***How did you find out about the Friends of Norway Caucus?***

Minnesota has nearly 1.5 million Norwegian Americans who have proudly called it their home for generations. About 70 percent of the 5th Congressional District is comprised of folks with Norwegian, Swedish and German heritage. Naturally, I assumed there must be a Norwegian Caucus in the Congress. And if there wasn't -- I would start one! As it turns out, I found out about the Friends of Norway Caucus from my constituents.

### ***Why did you join the Friends of Norway Caucus?***

It was a natural choice since many Minnesotans are inextricably bound to their Norwegian heritage. Additionally, Norway has long been a facilitator of peace and diplomacy -- two causes about which I care deeply. Norway also sets a great example of how a country can sustain both a vibrant economy and a high quality of life for all of its citizens.

### ***What are the areas of concern to your constituents in regards to Norway? In what ways do they wish to have links to Norway?***

My constituents are passionate about environmental issues and Norway is on the cutting edge of green energy research and climate change advocacy. Norwegians and Minnesotans agree that climate change is a global challenge.

I wish to strengthen the relationships I made on my first visit to Norway in 2007. That trip was an enlightening experience because it reinforced the many new opportunities to strengthen the bond between Minnesota and Norway - economically, socially and politically.

### ***In what areas do you think Norway and the United States should cooperate?***

We should cooperate in efforts to build dialogue and strengthen diplomacy with other countries around the world. We should also cooperate in developing our respective green energy industries.

### ***Who is your favorite Norwegian politician?***

I admire Gro Harlem Brundtland, former prime minister of Norway. In addition to mastering Norwegian politics, Mrs. Brundtland is also a diplomat, physician and an international leader in sustainable development and public health. She is now making great strides in the fight to stop climate change.

### ***Why do your constituents of Norwegian ancestry care about Norway now that they live in America?***

Minnesotans hold their heritage, with its rich culture and traditions, close to their hearts. Most Minnesotans share common progressive values with their Norwegian kin, tirelessly striving for a peaceful global community. Many still have relatives who live in Norway and they wish to preserve family ties.

There are also connections to Norway through our educational institutions such as Augsburg College in Minneapolis, which was the first seminary founded by the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. Another prominent connection is the Sons of Norway organization in Minneapolis, which helps promote and preserve Norwegian heritage and culture. Minnesotans are enriched by their connection to Norway.

From: *News of Norway*, spring 2010

KV

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge normally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM At First Lutheran Church		
463 Maria Avenue (at 8th Street East, 2 Blocks North of Metro State University)		
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106	Voice messages: 651-762-7872	(See back cover for officers)
Web Page: < <a href="http://synnove1.com">http://synnove1.com</a> >		
Sons of Norway International: < <a href="http://www.sofn.com">http://www.sofn.com</a> >		

# Lodge News

## *Fra presidenten*

Dear Members,

We had such a delightful Membership Dinner on April 13<sup>th</sup>. A large group (108 reservations) had a wonderful chicken Kiev meal from Magnolia's. And then we settled our meals with a lot of laughter as Janet Letnes Martin entertained us with "Lutheran humor." Laughter is always in order, especially when that laughter is self-directed. Janet's style of humor makes us look at our childhoods and/or parents and brings us to bygone days as we see humor in past actions. I had to check to see if my mascara had run to my cheeks because I laughed so much.

We have three new members (SO FAR) as a result of the Membership Dinner. I am looking forward to hearing that others decided to join after having a bit of time to think things over.

The days are getting longer, the grass is getting greener, Spring is in the air, and that means Festival of Nations is right around the corner. Our Lodge is going to be really busy with Cooking Day on April 26<sup>th</sup>, Set-Up Day on April 28<sup>th</sup>, Festival on April 29<sup>th</sup> through May 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is a lot of work, but it is also a lot of fun. It is one of my favorite times because I am able to spend several hours interacting with fellow Lodge members sharing our lives and learning more about one another—another of those times of FUN AND FELLOWSHIP. (Again with my favorite chorus!) We will have much to report about Festival at the May meeting.

Blessings,  
Sharon

Our sympathy to members Erna, Ryan, and John McGuire on the recent death of their son and father.

Eleven prospective members attended our Membership Dinner in April. To date, three have already joined our lodge:

**Mark and Nancy Fjestad of Stillwater, parents of Junior lodge members Emily and Matthew.**

**Doreen McKenney of Eagan.**

Please make these new members feel at home in our lodge.



President Sharon Amann and lodge member Eivind Heiberg, after Eivind was presented an engraved silver business card case from the lodge in recognition of his being named CEO of Sons of Norway.



Dessert was served at the April meeting following Janet Martin's fine program. Included was a kransekake made by Sharon Amann.

**We are thankful for our servers who come early and make the coffee, set up the tables, and stay late to clean up the kitchen. They should not, however, need to clean up the big room too! When we eat, could each table please designate one or two of your people to clean up the table afterwards?**

**We are all members for basically the same reasons, so let's pitch in, folks!**

# Lodge News

## Board Meeting Minutes, April 6, 2010

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Patty Carlson, Rod Hale, Sue Halvorson, Trudi Johnson-Richards, Sharon Kalmes, Clay Keller, Mary Beth and David Mutchler, Kathy Stevens, and Ron and Susan Stow

President Sharon Amann began the meeting by presenting lodge member Eivind Heiberg with an engraved silver business card case from the lodge in recognition of his being named CEO of the Sons of Norway.

### Old Business:

Plans for the April Membership Dinner were discussed including table set-up, display tables, centerpieces, the program and desserts.

The food ordering for the Festival of Nations was reviewed. An update on worker signup was given. The lodge needs a volunteer to store the items that are used at the Festival.

Updated information regarding the District I Conference was given.

Possibilities for summer activities and a program for the November meeting were reviewed.

### New Business:

Sharon announced that the Joint Lodges would be having a Syttende Mai celebration at the American Swedish Institute on May 18. Sharon had shirts available to try on for size that can be ordered with a lodge logo on it. The shirts can be ordered for \$20. Kaia Klockeman will present information about Masse Moro language camp at the May lodge meeting and again in the fall. Island Lake Park has been reserved for the Summer Picnic on June 15.

Clay reviewed the application process for college scholarships. Rod will be receiving the applications and setting up the interviews for the June board meeting. Ron presented information regarding Norwegian films that will be part of the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival. Information will be sent to lodge members via email.

Submitted by: Sue Halvorson, Secretary

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 4 at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W. side of Maplewood Mall) in the community program room.

## Lodge Meeting Minutes, April 13, 2010

100 lodge members, new lodge members, prospective lodge members and guests enjoyed a delicious chicken Kiev dinner. John and Gloria Skolbeck are new lodge members transferring from Vonheim Lodge in Minneapolis. The prospective members in attendance were Emily Larsen, Hans Dahl, Doreen McKenney, Jane Huso, Pat Bello, Betty Ferguson, Char Kobernick, Robert Wilson, and Mark, Nancy, Emily and Mathew Fjelstad. Louise Bakken and Esther Chi from Oslo Lodge also attended.

### Old Business:

Additional volunteers are needed for shifts at the Festival of Nations and for cooking day. The lodge needs storage space in member's home for Festival items after the Festival is over.

Clay Keller announced that college scholarship information is available in the Brevet and on our website, <http://synnove1.com>.

### New Business:

The June meeting will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, June 15, at Island Lake Park in Shoreview.

Jean shirts with a Synnøve-Nordkap logo were available for purchase for \$20.

Greg Hovland spoke about the financial stability of Sons of Norway products and life insurance products.

Lodge members celebrating April birthdays are Jane Urness, Joanne Nordale, Cathie Reasoner, Sharon Amann and Lenore Jesness. Curt and JoAnn Hogenson and Charles and Ann Beardshear are celebrating anniversaries in April.

Janet Letnes Martin presented an extremely humorous and entertaining program about growing up Norwegian Lutheran.

Thank you to Mary Beth and Lisa Mutchler, Sharon Kalmes, Sharon Amann and Sue Halvorson for the delicious Norwegian treats.

## Genealogy Group Meeting Minutes, March 26, Wilson Library at University of Minnesota

Attendees: Barb Dahler, Sue & Don Halvorson, Sheryl Hove, Lenore Jesness, John & Joanne Nordale, Dave Mutchler, Susan Stow.

Gordon Anderson, Librarian for Scandinavian and Slavic Studies, introduced us to the many resources available at Wilson Library.

# Calendar of Coming Events

<u>Thursday</u> April 29	<u>Movie "Max Manus" held over; last showing</u> At International Film Festival; St. Anthony theater This is highly recommended by several members saw it. See <a href="http://www.mspfilmfest.org/MMX/">http://www.mspfilmfest.org/MMX/</a> for more information, and do it <u>soon!</u>	7:00 PM
<u>Apr 29-</u> <u>May 2</u>	<u>Festival of Nations</u> St. Paul River Centre Come support our lodge and/or sign up to volun- teer! Call Patty Carlson to help. (651-226-0697)	
<u>Tuesday</u> May 4	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting</u> Maplewood Library conference room; 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W side Maplewood Mall)	7:00 PM To 9:00 PM
<u>Tuesday</u> May 11	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge &amp; Social Event</u> Odell Bjerkness: "Nanny to the King" (Harald) See cover and page 6 for more information.	7:00 PM
<u>Tuesday</u> May 18	<u>Syttende Mai Celebration</u> , sponsored by the Joint Committee of the Metropolitan Lodges American Swedish Institute; 2600 Park Ave. S. Open-faced sandwiches, followed by "Skeets" Langley, playing the accordion. \$6. donation RSVP to Louise Bakken, 763-545-4827 by 5/11/10	6:30 PM
<u>Tuesday</u> June 7	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting</u> Maplewood Library conference room; 3025 Southlawn Dr. (W side Maplewood Mall)	7:00 PM To 9:00 PM
<u>Tuesday</u> June 15	<u>Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge &amp; Social Event</u> <u>Midsummer Picnic</u>	
<u>Thurs-Sat</u> June 17-19	<u>District 1 SON Convention</u> Rochester, MN	
<u>Sunday</u> July 11	<u>79<sup>th</sup> Annual Norway Day in Minnehaha Park; Mpls</u> Plan to attend for morning church service and day-long music, speeches, food, arts, crafts, gifts and fun in the park.	

## American Swedish Institute

"Where is Home?" Exhibit Opening Friday, May 7 Info: 612-871-4907  
6 PM: Reception 7 PM: Talk by the exhibit's artist, Tone Stockenström  
"My Paradise: Finnish and Finnish-American Summer Architecture"  
June 11 to October 10.  
For further information on either event, 612-871-4907

## Norwegian Language Classes

- (1) "Norwegian In Five Minutes A Month" series. Class 6:30-7:00 PM  
Tuesdays before lodge meetings. Future date: May 20: Lessons 9 & 10.
- (2) "Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" Class 6:30-8:00 PM Thursdays, 1/month.  
Sun Ray Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., between McKnight Rd. & Ruth St.  
Future dates: May 20, Chapter 19. Classes resume in September.

For information, contact class co-facilitators: Sheryl Hove 651-738-4908 or  
Crystal Bloecher 651-774-8545. New participants are invited to join the classes.

## Mindekirken

### The Norwegian American Church

924 E. 21st St., Mpls

Tuesday, May 4 - 12:00 noon

Rev. Jim Almquist: Apaurakin

Tuesday, May 11 - 12:00 noon

Sasha Aslanian: Biking Norway

Syttende Mai (17.mai)

Celebrated on Sunday, May 16, 2010,  
the highly celebrated "Constitution Day"  
in Norway and marked around the  
world by those with Norwegian ties.  
The 11:00 AM service is the highest  
attended of the year and is celebrated  
with festive patriotic music, traditional  
dress, a flag parade around the neigh-  
borhood and picnic afterwards.

Sunday, May 16 3:00 PM

Edvard Grieg Society

Sytennde Mai Concert

At Wayzata Community Church

125 Wayzata Blvd.

For information call: 612-874-0716

[www.norwayhouse.org/](http://www.norwayhouse.org/)

[edvardgriegsociety.html](http://edvardgriegsociety.html)

## St. Olaf College

Norwegian Heritage Day, May 14th,  
Noon-3:00, program includes lunch, the  
Nordic Song Project at St. Olaf and Dr.  
Odd Lovoll talking about Norwegian-  
American newspapers. Info:  
[www.stolaf.edu](http://www.stolaf.edu)

## Silent Film - May 3

There will be a screening of the 1928  
silent film, "The Passion of Joan of  
Arc" on Monday, May 3 at Northrop  
Auditorium (U of M).

In the style and spirit of the 1920's,  
Joseph Roenbeck, Mindekirken's or-  
ganist, will provide live, improvised  
accompaniment during the film. The  
film is an intense drama that lasts 90  
minutes and is not appropriate for  
children.

## Minnesota Orienteering Club

Info: [www.mnoc.org](http://www.mnoc.org)

Orienteering Meet, Afton State  
Park, Afton, May 16, noon-1:30  
start times. I like to call this on the  
Syttende Mai-O.

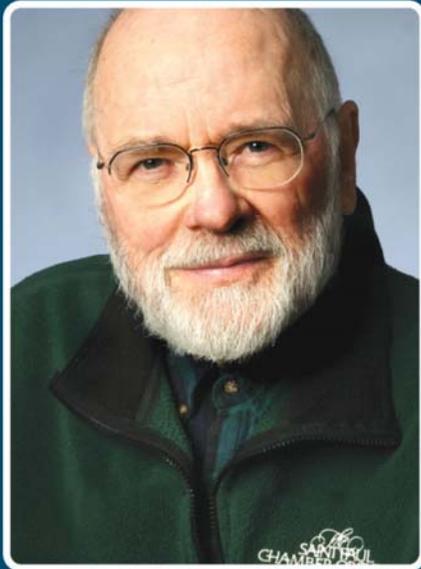
## TIME TO APPLY FOR LODGE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS!

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge is once again offering college scholarships to active Lodge or Junior Lodge members or the children or grandchildren of active Lodge members. The number of scholarships to be awarded as well as the amount of the award will depend upon the number of highly qualified applications received as well as the state of the Lodge's budget. Although the Lodge reserves the right to award no scholarships, *this year's process is likely to be highly competitive.*

Applicants may be either college students or high school students who are entering college in Fall 2010 pursuing any course of study. Preference, though, will be given to those who have been active Junior Lodge and/or Lodge members themselves. Previous recipients of this scholarship may apply again.

Application materials can be found on the Lodge website at: <http://synnove1.com>. Applications will be mailed to Rod Hale and must be postmarked by May 15, 2010. Completed applications will be initially reviewed and, if selected for further consideration, the candidates will be asked by May 21 to interview—either in person or by telephone—with members of the Lodge Board at its Board meeting on June 1. Candidate(s) who are selected for scholarships will be notified shortly thereafter. Any scholarship awarded comes with the expectation of either service to the Lodge and/or a contribution at a Lodge meeting or program, with the minimum being a short talk about what has been done with the scholarship received. In addition, the Lodge would like scholarship winners to be present at its picnic meeting on June 15, 2010 to receive the award formally and in person.

If you have questions or would like further information on these scholarships, please contact Scholarship Chair Clay Keller (651 310 9667; [keller.clay@gmail.com](mailto:keller.clay@gmail.com)).



**Odell M. Bjerkness is Professor Emeritus of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota where he was a teacher, Director of May Seminars Abroad, and Executive Director of Concordia Language Villages.**

*"The Prince and the Nanny is a fascinating 'insider's' view of Crown Prince Harald's first 18 months. In her journal, Inga Berg, the Crown Prince's nanny, gives the readers an intimate look into the life of Norway's royal family just prior to World War II. Bjerkness includes well-written historical summaries that place both Inga Berg's Diary and the lives of Crown Prince Harald and Inge Berg into the context of their times. It is a most interesting book, an introduction not only into the life of Norway's present monarch, His Royal Highness King Harald V, but also into the history of the Norwegian monarchy since Norway became fully independent in 1905."*

Dr. Verlyn D. Anderson, Library Director and Professor Emeritus of History and Scandinavian Studies, Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota

*"Inga's skill and competence brought her highest recommendations from doctors who mentored her and led her to positions of great respect in infant care nursing in Norway for some 40 years."*

Dr. Nancy L. Groves, M.D., Anesthesiologist, formerly at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, Minnesota

**The deadline to submit items to the Brevet for the coming month is normally the 20th of the previous month. Please keep this time frame in mind, and keep those news items coming!**

**Thanks,**

**-Dave [dmutchler@q.com](mailto:dmutchler@q.com) or 651-484-8872**

# Lodge News

## April Junior Lodge Update

By Susan Stow

Continuing our theme of learning about the adventures of “Peer Gynt”, Henrik Ibsen’s fictional character, we listened to the music “Anitra’s Dance” from the opera while we heard the next episode. It takes place off the coast of Morocco. Peer is a middle-aged, prosperous gentleman hosting a dinner party in a palm grove at sunset. His yacht is in the harbor with a dinghy on the shore. His four guests, Misters Cotton, Ballon, von Eberkopf and Trumpeterstraale are asking Peer Gynt about his success. He regales his guests with his philosophy as a citizen of the world, saying to be successful you must have the will to do and be ready for action. After the generous meal, they rest in some hammocks. The guests then steal the dinghy and intend to also steal the yacht, but it explodes. Peer Gynt is left on shore without his means of transport. Some thieves bring him to a desert oasis on horseback where he meets Anitra, a dancing girl of an Arab sheik. She is part of a girl’s choir who mistake Peer Gynt for a prophet. He wants her to accompany him on his travels, but she only wants bracelets, rings and gold. In his desire to be told of how youthful he still is, Anitra talks him out of three rings and a purse of gold before she rides away from him back to the desert.

Hanna Torvi received a “gold medal” for her correct answers about the number of medals won by Norway in the Winter Olympics, plus the names of the Norwegian athletes, their events and which medal they took home.

Thank you to Cathie Reasoner who brought treats to the meeting on behalf of her three grandchildren: Maggie, Catie and Andy Walsh. We appreciate the sewing of two new shirts and a blouse by Pam Bjorum, grandmother of Emma and Nora Steinmetz. Thanks for the buttonholes on two vests sewn by Linda Erickson. It is so wonderful to have the help of parents, grandparents and lodge members to make the junior lodge a success.

Festival of Nations performance for us will be Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:45. We are looking forward to the occasion and sharing the “Treklappdans” and “Gilleraasen”.

## Meet our Members - Trudi Johnson-Richards

By Ron Stow



Trudi Johnson-Richards joined Synnove-Nordkap lodge in 1995. Her Norwegian heritage comes from her grandmother, Pauline Carlson Hanson, who was born in Norway. Keeping with the family theme of our lodge, Trudi is the link from her grandmother on to her daughter, Kimberly, who is a lodge member, and to her granddaughter, Leigh, a junior lodge member and dancer in the Peer Gynt group.

Growing up in Mankato, Minnesota, Trudi was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. She graduated from the University of St. Catherine with a B.A. degree in Social Work and Women Studies. Her work has taken her from Washington, D.C., where she was employed in the U.S. Navy Department, to Quantico, Virginia, to Long Beach, California and to the Caterpillar Co. in Peoria, Illinois. She has most recently worked for Sperry Univac Corporation here in St. Paul.

Motorcycle riding with her husband, Jerry, is a particularly fun activity for Trudi. The two of them have enjoyed cross country trips in Mexico and Canada, as well as going coast to coast in the United States. Trudi is currently the National Secretary of the Antique Motorcycle Club of America, Inc., a world-wide organization.

As Lodge Membership Secretary, Trudi keeps track of the records concerning the lodge status of our members. She performs this office with competency and dedication. In her roll as Lodge Librarian, Trudi keeps track of the many volumes available to lodge members. Her interesting book reviews appear in our monthly Brevet newsletter. Trudi encourages members to check out books from the lodge library and to write an article on a book, or perhaps a movie for publication in the Brevet.

Trudi Johnson-Richards is an excellent example of the many contributors to the success of our St. Paul Sons of Norway Lodge, Synnove-Nordkap. Tusen takk, Trudi!

# The Local Scene

## Multi-Cultural Resource Center at St. Paul's Arlington High School

- By Susan Stow

One of the exceptional qualities about the city of St. Paul is the celebration of all the cultures of its citizens. We in Synnove-Nordkap represent one ethnic heritage and try to share it through our involvement with the Festival of Nations, and Adopt-a-school programs. Every now and then, another opportunity presents itself. Such is the case with a project at the Multi-Cultural Resource Center at Arlington High School.

Arlington has a tremendous resource center for students who want to know about another culture. There are lighted glass display cases and everyday objects from around the world. If an individual student, or small group, was working on a project, they could access artifacts and books to make their project all the more interesting. The center has plastic storage tubs with resource materials from a vast assortment of world cultures.

To add to the collection, an intern from Macalester College, Kirsten Kwittkowski, is filming volunteers in the Multi-Cultural Center who could elaborate about the history and usage of some of the objects in their collection. Kirsten contacted Synnove-Nordkap via the Sons of Norway Headquarters, Colin Thompson, and then our President, Sharon Amann asked us to do this project.

Ron and I wore our bunads for the filming. He chose to talk about a couple Henning flat plane carved figures and two Sami reindeer items, a pair of children's boots and a handbag. From the articles in the Norwegian collection, I picked out a Telemark rosmale plate and a lefse turner.

An additional aspect of the film was to collect personal stories of how we would use the artifacts today and if we had objects such as these in our home. With a piece of lefse on a table, I could demonstrate how it was turned on a griddle. It was a fine opportunity to suggest coming to the Festival of Nations to taste lefse at the Norwegian Café. Ron has done some carving so that he was able to tell about the choice of wood, the tools and finishes on the carvings.

Norwegian ethnic heritage is not in the majority in St. Paul, but the culture is well-represented at the Arlington High School Multi-Cultural Center.



## Benefit News

### Health Care Directives

Minnesota law permits you to inform others of your health care wishes. You have the right to state your wishes or appoint an agent in writing so others know what you want if you can't tell them because of illness or injury.

#### What is a Health Care Directive?

A health care directive is a written document that informs others of your wishes about your health care. A health care directive protects your right to refuse medical treatment you do not want, or to request treatment you do want. It allows you to name a person (agent) to decide if you are unable to decide. It also allows you to name an agent if you want someone else to decide for you. It may include a health care power of attorney to appoint an agent.

#### Why have a Health Care Directive?

A health care directive is important if your attending physician determines you can't communicate your health care choices (because of physical or mental incapacity). It is also important if you wish to have someone else make your health care decisions. In some circumstances, your directive may note that you want someone other than an attending physician to decide when you cannot make your own decisions.

#### How do I make a Health Care Directive?

There are forms for health care directives. You can get them from your health care provider, attorney, or the Minnesota Board on Aging (1-800-882-6262).

**Greg Hovland**

**Financial Benefits Counselor**

**ltcfinancial@msn.com**

**651-429-2304**

**www.LtcFinancialServices.com**

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# This and That

(We are always interested in members submitting articles on books they have read or movies or plays they have seen.)

**Editors note: Meridity (MAF) Berg brings us this interesting story about part of her family history:**

After Meredith Bergs father died, over 30 years ago, the one thing he had cherished but she didn't know what to do with was his accordion. Because she had spent many hours during her childhood playing with him, she on her expensive new accordion (he had paid \$500 for it in 1947!) and he on his, there were many memories connected with it, but she didn't know what to do with it, so it sat in the back of a closet for nearly 15 years.

However, oldest daughter Kari, a student at Luther college, home of Vesterheim Museum, suggested it be donated to them. After determining that they indeed would like it, she and husband Les drove to Decorah and donated it. While it was a difficult decision, she knew her dad would approve and she felt ok, and thought that would be the end of it. However, a week later, she got a phone call from Vesterheim, asking if she'd be willing to play on her own accordion some Norwegian folk music they could use on their phone system. She was flattered and they tried, but in the end they couldn't get a recording to work. And that, as Paul Harvey would say-- was the end of the story!

The end, that is, until last month, when daughter Kari opened her copy of the Vesterheim Magazine, only to see a photo of her grandfather's accordion on the first page! She immediately turned to the story that included the photo of her gran'pa's instrument and brought it to her mom's home. It was part of a feature article on Norwegian-American music in the upper mid-west. What wonderful memories they shared, both in seeing the accordion and reading about the Norwegian influence on music of the time.

While Meredith wasn't mentioned in the article, she herself had been part of a Norwegian band when she was about 12 years old and remembers playing for "weddings and Lodges and stuff". She hasn't really had time to keep up with her accordion playing in recent years, but did teach it for awhile in college, has been part of a group that sings Christmas carols at their local nursing home in Hudson, and still occasionally plays for her grandchildren. Three years ago, she and another accordion playing friend in the Tre Lag Stevne they both belong to, Louise Lang from Stevens Point, organized an accordion band and they've been playing for the stevne ever since!

She laughs, "there are a lot of old accordions sitting in closets around the country, just waiting to be played...why don't you check yours"!



"Castello" accordion made by Soprani, Inc., 1930. Peter Foss (1908-1976), father of the donor, was born in Rissa, Norway, and moved to Minneapolis in 1925. Foss, who was a self-taught accordion player, would play Norwegian songs for family and friends. The donor, who was taught by her father, learned to play the same songs.  
Height, 22 inches; width, 22 inches; depth, 15 inches.  
Vesterheim 1992.039.001—Gift of Meredith A. Berg.

## Friendly Reminder!

**We'll have another silent auction this year in connection with our Torsk and Meatball Dinner and Fundraiser in October. So as you're cleaning out this summer, keep in mind that we will need donated items.**

**We had several requests for the Rømmegrøt bars at the last meeting. Here it is, courtesy of Sue Halvorson:**

### Rømmegrøt Bars

#### Ingredients:

2 tubes, Pillsbury Crescent Rolls  
2 8-oz. packages, cream cheese  
1 1/3 cups sugar, divided

1 egg, separated

1 tsp. vanilla

1/2 tsp. cinnamon

Grease a 9 x 13" pan.

Place 1 tube of Pillsbury Crescent Rolls on bottom of pan and press them to fit.

Cream together:

2 8-oz. pkgs cream cheese, softened

1 cup of the sugar

1 egg yolk

1 tsp. vanilla

Spread cheese mixture over the crescent rolls in pan. Place 1 tube of crescent rolls on top of mixture.

Beat egg white until foamy and spread on top of the crescent rolls.

Mix 1/3 cup sugar and 1/2 tsp. cinnamon together.

Sprinkle sugar mixture on top of the egg white.

Bake at 350 degrees for 25 – 30 minutes.

Cool and cut. Refrigerate to store.

Cut bars can be frozen.

**SAVE USED POSTAGE**

**STAMPS FOR TUBFRIM**

**Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge #1-008  
Sons of Norway  
3496 Nancy Place  
Shoreview, Minnesota 55126-8005**



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**2010 OFFICERS & Committee Chairs**

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**Upcoming Activities**

**Festival of Nations - Apr 29 - May 2**  
**"Nanny to the King" - Tues. May 113**  
**Syttende Mai Celebration - Tues. May 18**  
**Lodge Midsommer Picnic - Tues. June 15**

**More Info Inside**

The Mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members. Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge welcomes visitors and new members.

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