

SUNDFJORD SUN

Sundfjord Lodge # 65

January 2007



President's Message

I'm hoping the New Year finds our members ready for the challenges ahead. We'll be planning a number of fun and entertaining meetings in the year ahead, some activities outside our usual meetings, the Yard Sale, 17th of May, 4th of July, Summer Picnic and "Kretsstevner".

This fall we'll begin the officer selection and election process. Remember, officers not elected can be appointed! (Just Kidding!). Please consider helping when called on. The jobs are designed to be easy, even for a Norwegian.

The December meeting was one of the best I've been to. All fun! Even when the Santa's first couple of children got upset, they came around and had a good time. The food was fabulous, and so many Scandinavian dishes! WOW! Finally and personally, I'd like to thank everyone for the love and support you have given me and my family with the loss of Dianna, my true love. It has been a great burden, but you have all helped me bear it. Bless you.

Nic Sanburg

Meeting Location

Rock of the Foothills Church

4630 Wheeler Ave

LaVerne, CA 91750

Second Saturday at 12:00 Noon.

Vice President's Message

Happy New Year! Can you believe it is 2007 already? Sundfjord lodge has completed a very successful year. We had great participation in our activities and meetings this last year.

I hope you all saw the terrific write-up in the Daily Bulletin newspaper on Christmas Eve (December 24th, 2006). If not, the entire article is repeated in this newsletter on page 3.

Many Thanks to Jim Stewart for spear-heading this project that will give publicity to our lodge and the Sons of Norway organization. Hopefully the Norwegians in our area will read it and some will contact us.

As you read this, a large group of Sons of Norway members have just returned from a fun 5-day Mexico cruise. Let's hope they all behaved themselves and had a great time.

Our annual yard sale is coming up in May so as you clean out those garages and cupboards this winter; don't forget to donate your useable items to the sale. Don't wait to the last minutes to bring in your treasures and let us know if you need items to be picked up.

Pauline Pederson

Kalender (Coming Events) 2007

January:

"Don't Hug Me Christmas Carol" play has been extended to January 27th

February:

- 10 -Sundfjord's Meeting
- 14 -Valentine's Day

March:

- 10 -Sundfjord's Meeting
- 11 -Daylight-Saving Time Begins
- 13 -Shakers Fundraiser dinner for Camp Norge
- 17 -St. Patrick's Day

April:

- 8 -Easter Sunday
- 14 -Sundfjord's Meeting

May:

- Yard Sale, no date yet
- 12 -Sundfjord's Meeting
- 13 -Mother's Day

*Best wishes for a
Healthy,
Joyful
and
Prosperous
New Year!*

Ønsker dere alle et riktig Godt Nytt Ar.

2006/2007 Sundfjord's Officers

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Zone Director:	Robert Hanevik (760) 948-1503
Insurance Rep:	Dennis Burreson 1(800) 448-2499

Gratulerer med dagen

(Happy Birthday)

January

5.....Kari Sanburg
30.....Pauline Pederson

February

3.....Esther Schan
6.....Erik Fleming
7.....Martin Feste
12.....Gerd Olsen
14.....Marie Helliessen
16.....Harold Shellum
28.....Agnes Deeb

God Bedring

(Get Well)

(Please let us know if any of our members are under the weather)

Til Minne

(In Memory)



Dianna Sanburg

We are so sorry to inform you that our Treasurer and wife of Sundfjord's President, Dianna Sanburg passed away unexpectedly in her sleep on December 20, 2006.

Her mother was Norwegian and her father Ukrainian and she was born and raised in the Los Angeles district.

Dianna was a 20 year Sons of Norway member and was very active in the organization. If an activity was going on you could be sure to find Dianna there.

She also was an active member in the Monrovia Garden Club and had quite a green thumb. The Red Hat Society (those silly ladies in red hats and purple outfits) and Guide Dogs of America; she would take care of puppies that later on would be trained in different guide and rescue fields.

We are all going to miss Dianna, she was warm, friendly, and a compassionate lady that was loved by many and also a very good friend to many of us. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nic, James and Kari.

Sons of Norway enjoy long holiday

By Suzanne Sproul
Staff Writer

It's the morning before Christmas with most anticipating the big day.

But while only one more day awaits eager households before the culmination of the holiday season, there are many in the Inland Valley who are just getting started. For members of the Sons of Norway Sundfjord Lodge of Pomona, and others of Norwegian descent, the celebration is just about to begin.

"For us, we actually start celebrating Christmas on Dec. 23 and the celebration goes on through Jan. 13," said Lise Fleming, a native of Oslo, Norway, who came to Claremont in 1968 to be a nanny. "Americans put up their Christmas decorations earlier each year, sometimes after Thanksgiving, but our tradition is that the Christmas tree goes up on Dec. 23 after the children go to bed. Then they wake up to start the holidays."

She said she shared the dreams of many Norwegian girls back then that coming to America would be a lifetime fulfillment. "It was. My cousin came to America five or six years before I did and was a nanny, too. I only planned to stay a year, but I've been here ever since," said Fleming, who married and raised her sons Erik and Ken to remember their heritage.

It was difficult, she said, to keep family traditions going when all her young sons wanted to do was be American just like everyone else. "But I insisted that they learn to speak Norwegian and they learn about our traditions. Now we are trying to pass that on to my grandchildren, Jacob, Luke and Mark," she said.

Fleming's childhood Christmases include memories of bells being rung throughout her hometown when the clock struck at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve. "That meant that Christmas was here. We all went to church. Most churches in Norway have cemeteries next to them and you are supposed to



Sons of Norway members Jim Stewart and Lise Fleming wear national costumes at the recent club party.

Courtesy photo

bring a candle and light it and put it on a grave whether it is your family or not," she said.

Christmas for her has always meant church, home and the preparation of dinner. Traditional foods include pork and pork sausage, sauerkraut, potatoes and nine different kinds of cookies and cakes. And then there is "lefse" or a type of potato tortilla, a "circle" cake made with almond paste decorated with Norwegian flags and "lutesisk" fish served in a buttery white gravy sauce.

It's not the holidays without the traditional foods, she said. All were featured recently when the Sundfjord Lodge

held its traditional holiday Christmas potluck lunch. Christmas dishes are prepared. Delicious cakes and cookies are baked. Norwegian costumes are worn and everyone takes a shot at trying to dance. It's yet another example of how family traditions hold true throughout the generations.

Fleming has been a member of the lodge for 36 years and is an enthusiastic supporter at Christmas and throughout the year. The Sons of Norway organization is 110 years old and is popular in America and Canada. Membership is about 60,000 people. The idea is to help preserve Norwegian and

Scandinavian heritage and culture.

The 45-member local lodge was chartered 53 years ago in Pomona and meets regularly in La Verne at Rock of the Foothills Lutheran Church at noon on the second Saturday of the month. Members include those of German, Swedish and Danish heritage.

Jim Stewart is a longtime lodge member as well. Don't let the Scottish surname fool you. His mother was Norwegian and those roots are ones he has fostered. Stewart moved to Upland in 1957 and taught history at Upland High School for years. He was the school's first swim coach and he started its successful water polo program in 1960. He spent three years at Etiwanda High School before he retired in 1990.

"I enjoy connecting with others that have Scandinavian heritage. We certainly share the Norwegian heritage and culture in the Sons of Norway organization. I like to call it Friends of Norway rather than Sons of Norway. I have been to that country four times," Stewart said.

Celebrating the holidays in this way brings back memories of his childhood, he said.

"In my youth while growing up in Minnesota, I remember the Christmas dinners with the Norwegian touch by my mother. My mother was 100 percent Norwegian. My great-grandfather arrived from Voss, Norway, in 1859. That is the same town where Knute Rockne of Notre Dame fame came from. I am related," he said.

The Upland man said he enjoys wearing traditional costumes called "bunad," dancing around the Christmas tree and singing Norwegian carols.

While the Sons of Norway tries to preserve the past, Fleming has always embraced her American ties as well. "When you have children, of course, they want to do what everyone else is doing. They're Americans, so I always tried to celebrate both. I want to do that with the grandchildren, too," she said.

JULEBORD (CHRISTMAS PARTY)



Nic Sanburg made "Kransekake"



Trygve Givens enjoyed the Norwegian food



Luke and Mark Fleming not happy on "Julenissens" (their father Erik's) lap.



Waiting to meet with "Julenissen"

Barnas Hjørne
(Kid's Corner)

Norwegian Americans are descendents of Norwegian immigrants who came to the U.S. primarily in the second half of the 19th century and the first few decades of the 20th century. There are more than 4.5 million Norwegian-Americans according to the most recent U.S. census. Most of them live in the upper Midwest.

Norwegians are the first Europeans to discover North America. The Norwegian/Icelander, Leif Erikson, reached America via Norse settlements in Greenland circa A.D. 1000, nearly five centuries before Columbus. There was Norwegian presence in New Amsterdam (this was New York before 1664) in the early part of the 17th century. Approximately 60 Norwegians settled in Manhattan before the British takeover in 1664. How many Norwegians that settled in New Netherlands (this was the area up the Hudson River to Fort Oranje...now called Albany) is not known. There were also Norwegian settlers in Pennsylvania in the first half of the 18th century and in upstate New York in the second half of the 18th century.

Organized Norwegian immigration to America began in 1825, when several dozen Norwegians left Stavanger bound for the emigrants were primarily Quakers. The ship landed in New York City where it was impounded for exceeding its passenger limit. The people moved and settled in Kendall, New York with the help of Andreas Stangeland. While there were about 65 Norwegian individuals who emigrated via ports in Sweden and elsewhere in following years, the next ship did not leave Norway for America until 1836.

To a great extent, early immigration from Norway was due to religious persecution, especially for the Quakers and a local religious group, the Haugianese. Through the years immigration was motivated by economic concern, crop failures, Norwegian agriculture resources were unable to keep up with population growth, and the Homestead Act promised fertile flat land. As a result, settlements moved westward into Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the Dakotas.

Between 1825 and 1925, more than 800,000 Norwegians immigrated to America! That is about one-third of Norway's population! That's a lot of Norwegians! With the exceptions of Ireland, no single country has contributed a larger percentage of its population to the huge American melting pot. Meaning, Norway has the second largest percentage of immigrants that came to America.

Here are some static's:

*There are more than 4.5 million people of Norwegian ancestry in the U.S. today

* 55 % of Norwegian Americans live in the Midwest, 21 % live in Washington, Oregon and California.

*Norwegian Americans actively celebrate and maintain their heritage in many ways - culinary, costumes and Norwegian holidays.

*Use of the Norwegian language in America was at its peak between 1900 and World War I, then: Over one million Americans spoke Norwegian as their primary language.

*There were dozens of Norwegian-language newspapers across the Upper Midwest.

*Over 600,000 homes received at least one Norwegian newspaper in 1910.

*More than 3,000 Lutheran churches in the Upper Midwest used Norwegian as their sole language.

*Today there are 81,000 Americans who speak Norwegian as their primary language.

Heritage member Irene Davis
12 years old

Editor's Note:

When I last month told Irene that she is doing such a great job with her Kid's Corner articles her response to me was that by doing research for different articles it also teaches her a lot about her Norwegian heritage and culture and she loves doing this. Good job Irene!

Dealing with an Old Nazi Threat

OSLO, Norway - More than 60 years after being torpedoed by the British navy, a Nazi submarine built to threaten allied ships continues to spread fear off the coast of Norway.

The rusting wreckage of the U-864, sunk in a desperate mission to supply Japan with advanced weapons technology, now poses a major environment threat due to its poisonous cargo: 70 tons of mercury. Residents on the tiny island of Fedje want the sub removed. But authorities fear a salvage operation could result in a catastrophic spill, and suggest entombing the wreck in the seabed with rocks, cement and sand.

Daily Bulletin

More Ole and Lena

Say, I went and bought Lena a piano for her birthday and then about a week later I traded it in for a clarinet, becoss you know, with a clarinet, you can't sing.

So, Ole---I see you got a sign up that says, "Boat for Sale." But you don't own a boat, Ole, all you got is your old John Deere tractor and your combine."
"Yup, and they're boat for sale."

So Lena was competing in the Sons of Norway Swim Meet and she came in last place in the 100-yard breaststroke and she said to the judges, "Oh say, I don't want to complain but I tink those other girls were using der arms!"

Norway Fourth Best Democracy

Norway and the Nordic region are very highly ranked by the latest ratings from the Economist Intelligence Unit Index of Democracy.

The Netherlands and the Nordic countries took the top six places in the study, which consider 60 factors divided over five general categories; free and fair election process, civil liberties, functioning of government, political participation and political culture.

The study examines the state of democracy in 167 countries, with governments grouped in four categories, ranging from full democracies to authoritarian regimes. Norway scored top marks of 10 in three categories, 9.64 in functioning government, and lost a higher ranking by only scoring 8.13 in political culture (factors like a lack of apathy and peaceful transfer of power).

The reports singled out the USA (17th) and Britain's (23rd) poor results, partly to blame on measures adopted to fight terrorism.

"The United States and Britain are near the bottom of the full democracy category, but for somewhat different reasons. America falls down on some aspects of governance and civil liberties. Despite low election turnouts, political participation in the United States is comparatively high," the report said.

"In Britain low political participation (the lowest in the developed world) is a major problem, and to a lesser extent, for now, so are eroding civil liberties," the report said.

Best Functioning Democracies

1. Sweden, 9.88
2. Iceland 9.71
3. Netherlands 9.66
4. **Norway 9.55**
5. Denmark 9.52
6. Finland 9.25
7. Luxemburg 9.10
8. Australia 9.09
9. Canada 9.02
10. Switzerland 9.02

The lowest scores on the scale of 10 were seen in Myanmar (1.77), Togo (1.75), Chad (1.65), Central Africa (1.61) and North Korea (1.03).

Aftenposten

City Fences out Reindeer

Residents of Norway's northern city of Hammerfest grew weary of reindeer wandering through their gardens, munching on their flowers and leaving their calling cards. So now a fence is going up around the whole town, but it's both loved and hated.

As many as 500 reindeer are permanent residents of Hammer-fest. They wander in from the vast Arctic plateau during summer grazing season and have also been a popular tourist attraction.

City officials decided to sacrifice the tourist attraction after repeated complaints that the animals were becoming just

a little too much at home in town. Even though owners of the reindeer would make efforts to round them up and move them out, the reindeer quickly would roam back to the tempting gardens of city residents.

State agriculture officials finally stepped in and financed construction of a 20 kilometer long fence to keep the reindeer out. It's now being completed, meaning that next year, no reindeer will be able to come to town.

While most residents appreciate the respite from reindeer dung and chewed-up flowers, some feel they're now fenced in. "When we want to go out for a hike, we have to search for the nearest gate in the fence," said Turid Johansen.

Officials claim the fence won't interfere with Hammer-fest resident's enjoyment of the great outdoors. "We'll construct more gates if there is a need for them," said Tom Eirik Ness of Hammerfest Township.

Aftenposten

Don't Hug Me Christmas Carol has been extended through January 27, 2007

Now Playing at Lenny Chapman Group Repertory Theatre
A World Premiere Musical Comedy
A Don't Hug Me Christmas Carol
a holiday musical comedy for the whole family
"A crowd-pleasing, holiday hoed...Book your seats today!" - *Utne Week*
"Non-stop laughter...I loved it!" - *LA Times*
"Holiday amusement that the whole family can enjoy!" - *Valley Scene*
"Fun permeates the entire stage!" - *Reductio.com*
"A wonderful, zany musical comedy!" - *Utne Week*
"A laugh a minute!" - *Utne Week*

Featuring the musical stylings of world famous Sven Yorgensen, including:

- The Christmas Cheese Poika
- It's Christmas Time, or Please Give Me a Coin
- The Wheel is Turnin', but the Hammer is Dead
- Canoe: Fall Into or Get Out
- I Love You More Than Football
- I'm so Hungry!

\$5 OFF for Seniors

New Flooding thru Jan 27th
Reservations: (919) 709-4578
Fri & Sat @ 8pm Sun @ 2pm
Tickets \$10 - \$18 Sen/Students \$15 Groups
Lenny Chapman Group Rep Theatre
1000 Barber Blvd N. Hollywood, CA 91601
Book & Tickets by Book Shows. Shows by Book Shows.
Reservations: Book Shows. Shows by Book Shows.
Book Shows, Study Shows, Book Shows.

No Christmas Eve in Bergen Beg. Misses and codevelopers bar owner Dennis Johnson gets in an argument with his old, boss, tells her he's skipping Christmas, he dumps out of the bar, goes into a building across the lake, falls through the ice on his skis and goes into a coma. He comes back in his dream where he's visited by folk legend, Sven Yorgensen, who plays the ghost of Christmas past, present, and future. Sven takes Dennis (George) on a journey similar to Boris Chabuk Ditcher's "A Christmas Carol" only very different. Will George come out of his coma and find acceptance with Claus at The Dreyfus? Find out.

Sons of Norway Foundation News

On behalf of the Sons of Norway Foundation I want to thank each one of you for your work to help raise awareness of the good work our Foundation has done in 2006. Thanks to your efforts more lodges and individuals are giving financially than ever before. We were able to award over \$ 100,000 in scholarships and grants in 2006. This is an all time record.

This is also a reminder that grant and scholarship applications will be due soon. All of the applications may be down loaded directly from the website at www.sonsofnorway.com, click on Foundation, then click on either grants or scholarships. The most up to date forms are here. Please use the most current forms, toss any prior to Nov., 2006, you may have.

The schedule is as follows:

General Heritage and Culture Grants

Due January 15, 2007, awards given end of March (These are for community-wide events, hosting visiting groups, museum shows, musical presentations and large events)

Helping Hands to Children Grants

Due February 1, 2007, awards given in early April (Adopt a School, Barnas Norsk Klubb and children's heritage programming qualify)

Local Lodge Partnership Grants

Due April 1, 2007, awards given end of May (Cultural skills presentations, Lodge Anniversaries, Syttende Mai celebrations, etc., qualify)

Cates/Beinhauer Scholarships

Due March 1, 2007, awards given in early May (Post high school education, college and trade schools qualify)

Oslo International Summer School

Due March 1, 2007, awards given in early May (For college juniors to study for six weeks in Oslo, Norway at Oslo International Summer School)

Tronvold Folk High School Scholarship

Due March 1, 2007, awards given in early May (Post high school students for study in Norway, for one school year, at a Norwegian Folk High School)

King Olav V Norwegian-American Scholarship

Due March 1, 2007, awards given in early May (American students studying Norwegian culture and Norwegian students studying American culture)

Nancy Lorraine Jensen Memorial Scholarship

Due April 1, 2007, awards given in early May (Women, 18-35, majoring in Physics, Chemistry or Mechanical, Electrical or Chemical Engineering)

Please visit the website for the information on qualification and most of your questions will be answered after reading the materials.

Cindy Olsen
Sons of Norway Foundation Director

Sons of Norway Goal and Insurance Participation Incentives

Sons of Norway Goals

The International Board adopted the following goals for this biennium which I want to share with you. The goals are aggressive, but attainable and encourage the lodges to adopt goals of their own. Working together we can attain these goals.

1. Achieve net membership growth in the Local Lodge Members Adults and Juvenile category between July 31, 2006, and December 31, 2007.
2. Have active Membership Committees in at least 70% of Lodges by December 31, 2007.
3. Complete the second leadership workshop in all Districts, evaluate results and formulate a follow-up plan.
4. Achieve membership growth in the 40 to 55 age group by a net of 5% over the time period July 31, 2006 to June 30, 2008.
5. Grow participation in insurance programs by increasing the number of policy holders by 3 % over the time period July 31, 2006 to June 30, 2008
6. Grow the Sons of Norway Foundation by June 30, 2008.
 - a) 25% of lodges will be giving to the Sons of Norway Foundation.
 - b) 20% of all Sons of Norway members will donate to the Foundation
 - c) The Foundation will generate \$ 175,000 of non-legacy donations (this is annual giving, not by will)
 - d) Assets will be \$5 million.

We will be reporting regularly in the Viking magazine so that all members will be aware of the goals and can monitor our progress.

Insurance Participation Incentives

Starting in 2007, the Board adopted important and exciting incentives for District and local Lodges.

For our local Lodges, we have adopted a Revenue Sharing Program which will pay to local Lodges annually a proportionate share of Sons of Norway profit based upon insurance sales in the Lodge during the calendar year. 3% of our gross annual operating profit before capital gains and losses will be distributed in this manner. This will be a fabulous opportunity for Lodges to share in the profitability of Sons of Norway and to support and promote our great insurance products offered by our Financial Benefit Counselors. Local Lodges will also receive \$4 for each new insurance member.

Our Districts will receive an incentive based on an increase in insurance participation by its members.

It is important for Sons of Norway to have goals. Please join me and the International Board in supporting these goals and incentives.

Fraternally Ted Fosberg
International President