

SUNDFJORD SUN

Sundfjord Lodge # 6-065

May 2010

First Place winner at the 2005/2006 and 2007/2008 District Convention



Meeting Location:
Rock of the Foothills Church
4630 Wheeler Ave.
La Verne, CA 91750
Second Saturday at 12:00 Noon



Kalender (Coming Events)

- MAY**
17 *Syttende mai Celebrations in San Bernardino and Long Beach
28-31 *Memorial Day Weekend at Camp Norge, Alta, CA
- JUN**
5 *Fridtjof Nansen Lodge # 9 Celebrates their 80th Anniversary
12 *Sundfjord's Meeting
23-26 *District Six Convention Modesto, CA
- JUL**
11-24 *Camp Trollfjell Children's Language & Heritage Camp at Camp Norge, Alta, CA
- AUG**
29-Sep 1 *International Convention Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
- SEP**
3-5 *Solbakken # 64 International Street Fair
11 *Sundfjord's Meeting
11 *Peer Gynt # 22 Heritage Fair
- OCT**
1-3 *Central California Kretstevne, Buellton, CA
15-17 *Southern California Kretstevne, Pio Pico, Jamul

President's Message

Happy Syttende May!

Our happy cruisers have returned from another memorable cruise to Mexico. A great time was had by all. I hope more of you can join us next year on our fifth annual cruise. Plans are in works already.

We had another great meeting last month with one visitor. Let's keep up the recruiting.

We all enjoyed the delicious food that our members contributed, always enough for seconds. Thanks to the kitchen crews for helping with the clean-up. Now the works does not fall on the same people every month.

Next month will be our last meeting before our summer break so let's make it a good one.

Pauline Pederson

Vice-President's Message

Hurra for syttende mai!

We are very saddened by the loss of our Charter member Signe Odegaard who we loved dearly. She will be greatly missed by us all.

I hope several of our members will attend "syttende mai" celebrations in San Bernardino. This year, Lise Fleming will miss this celebration as she will be in Florida attending her son Ken's graduation from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University at the Pensacola Naval Station.

The District Six Convention will be June 23-26 in Modesto, CA and our President Pauline Pederson and Secretary Lise Fleming will be the delegates representing our lodge.

Thank you ladies!

Agnes Deeb

2008/2009 Sundfjord's Officers

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- Insurance Rep:** Dennis Burreson
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Gratulerer med dagen

(Happy Birthday)

MAY

- 5.....Ashley Davis
- 10.....Jim Stewart
- 12.....Paige Pederson
- 19.....Dean Pederson
- 21.....Betty Partaker
- 28.....Corey Hanson

JUNE

- 1.....Lise Fleming
- 9.....Mary Jo Martinsen
- 9.....Stanley Cook
- 10.....Trygve Givens
- 11.....Art Aslesen
- 18.....Rachel Ricci Deeb
- 21.....Ruth Shellum

God Bedring

(Get Well)

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



Til Minne

(In Memory)



We are saddened by the passing of our Charter member Signe Odegaard on April 13, 2010. Signe was born in Minnesota June 4, 1924. She was a Home Economic teacher in the Alta Loma School District for 30 years teaching cooking and sewing. She also managed the First Baptist Food Pantry in Pomona for several years, was a Council member at the Rock of the Foothills Church in La Verne and did quilting for the needy. As a newlywed, she and her husband Don started Sundfjord Lodge. She wore many hats in our lodge such as Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Social Director. Signe was the "QUEEN" of lefse making and willingly gave lessons at her home. She was very passionate about her Norwegian heritage and Sons of Norway. Memorial service for Signe was held on April 27, 2010 and thanks to all our members who attended this service.

SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL!

Sundfjord members are doing a great job preparing for any upcoming disasters. I think all of our members are now participating. Mother Nature is not being kind to our planet right now so it is extremely important that we take care of ourselves.

Pauline Pederson

Peer Gynt's Western Night

Agnes Deeb, Bea Swank and Lise Fleming put on their Western wear and attended the annual Western Night at Peer Gynt Lodge in Culver City.

We enjoyed their fabulous B.B.Q. rib dinner with all the trimmings, entertainment, and fraternizing with old and new friends.



Volunteer

During Volunteering Week, April 18 through 24, the Pomona Valley Hospital honored their 975 volunteers and the work they do for the hospital, the patients, and the community. Among the honored was our TubFrim chair person **Char Nelson** for her 1,334 hours of volunteering at the Pomona Cancer Center. We are proud of you Char.



A lifetime of volunteering is a lifetime well spent.

Southern California Kretsstevne

Since so many of our members no longer can be in the high altitude at Idyllwild and there are limited rentals for us to use there, the Kretsstevne committee decided that we will have this year's Kretsstevne back at Pio Pico in Jamul.

The dates will be October 15-17, 2010.

Registration forms will be out shortly.

Recruitment Award

Congratulations to Lise Fleming who received the Recruitment Award for bringing in two new members in 2009.

Agnes Deeb

Hilsen fra Porsgrunn



Barnetoget in downtown Porsgrunn

In Porsgrunn, "syttende mai" starts at 6:00 AM with a bang of the canon on Porsgrunn Bridge. This marks the start of the festivities.

After our breakfast, my son Haakon is off to his school for "barnetoget" (the children's parade which starts at 10:00 AM. Of course, my wife and I plus



grandparents watch the parade.

After the parade, we travel to my in-law's house for our traditional "lapskaus" meal and "bløtekake" dessert. While there; we watch Norway's largest "barnetog" from Oslo where the Royal family greet the children from the Palace balcony.



A russ

At 5:00 the People's Parade starts where the participants from different organizations march with their flags and banners. The end of the parade is the highlight as the "russ" (graduating students) is in high spirit, do pranks and leave their mark on the celebration that lasts for days.

Our family tradition is to celebrate the evening at the Salvation Army.

Ønsker dere alle "gratulerer med dagen".

Odd Harald Høvring
Porsgrunn, Norway.

Syttende Mai

**Celebrate “Syttende Mai” with Soldalen Lodge 6-067
Sons of Norway
at
San Bernardino City Hall
300 North “D” Street, San Bernardino
As we hoist the Norwegian Flag for the 30th time
On Monday, May 17, 2010**

~

No meal is planned,
suggested gathering place following program
Coco’s Bakery Restaurant
242 E. Hospitality Ln, San Bernardino, CA
Questions? Contact Margaret Swanson
Phone: (909) 824-3072
E-mail: margaret_swanson@sbcglobal.net



Also:

**Flag hoisting ceremony at Long Beach
Civic Center, Monday, May 17 at 9:30 AM
Lunch to follow at El Dorado Restaurant**

Hvorfor feirer vi Syttende Mai

(Why we celebrate 17th of May)

The big day “17. mai” is **Norway’s Constitution Day** and all Norwegians celebrate with respect, deep national feeling and pride.

The reason for signing the constitution on 17 of May goes way back in history.

Norway has been a Monarchy since 872 when Harald Hairfair conquered Norway to one Kingdom. Only the first-born son of the King could be the heir to the throne and there has been many Kings down through the centuries. But then it happened, King Haakon V Magnusson had no sons, only a daughter, Princess Ingeborg, and she could not take over the throne. When Haakon V died in 1319, the last king of the Royal line from Harald Hairfair died out.

Here is the chain of events that brought us to Eidsvoll and 17. mai, 1814. Princess Ingeborg married Swedish duke Erik, they had a son, Magnus. This was of great joy to the Norwegians, Magnus was after all the grandson of Haakon V and could rightfully be the King of Norway. But he was also a Swede, so when he came of age, he surly became King, but of Sweden and Norway at the same time.

Both countries retained their own government and laws and the King was to divide his time equally between the two countries. The Norwegians became dissatisfied with King Magnus who was too weak to govern two countries.

However, King Magnus had two sons, Prince Erik and Prince Haakon. So the Norwegians asked King Magnus to give up the throne of Norway and make Haakon the King of Norway. King Magnus did just that and in 1350 Prince Haakon became the King of Norway and the separation of the two countries was confirmed. King Haakon VI married Princess Margaret of Denmark and they had a son, Prince Olav.

In 1349, a British ship brought “The Black Death” to Norway and 2/3 of the population died. King Haakon VI died in 1380 and his son Olav in 1387. Olav had been crowned King of Norway in 1381. His mother Queen Margaret now became the ruling regent of Denmark and Norway and for a short time also of Sweden. Now begins a union with Denmark that lasted for over 400 years.

Queen Margaret died in 1412 and a long list of Danish kings came to rule Norway. Documents and declarations were made; making Norway a part of Denmark but the Norwegians just ignored them and ruled themselves. However, Norway had to pay taxes to the Danish kings. Norway had its own Council of State and its own courts and this went on until the beginning of 1800.

In 1804, Napoleon Bonaparte became Emperor of France and started to conquer Europe. Denmark joined Napoleon and Norway being united with Denmark also got involved. Sweden and England sided with Russia. Napoleon’s General Juan Bonaparte had a disagreement with him so he quit the army and became Crown Prince of Sweden, taking the name Karl Johan of Sweden. He took an active part in the military operations against Napoleon and Napoleon was crushed.

Now Karl Johan marched on Denmark with 40,000 men to claim Norway. The Danish army made a brave defense but had to give up to Karl Johan so a peace treaty was sign on January 14, 1814, thus ended the union between Denmark and Norway.

The Norwegians did not want any part of the union with Sweden and that is why the 112 Norwegians got together at Eidsvoll and in 6 weeks made the constitution, declared their independence and signed it on May 17th, 1814.

Continued next page...

Continued: Why we celebrate.....

Among the 112 representatives at Eidsvoll were 33 army officers, 14 clergymen, 16 other officials, 23 farmers, 12 merchants and 4 mining owners.

They formed a circular chain, each person giving his right hand to his neighbor, on the left, and his left hand to his neighbor on the right, hand in hand, they all exclaimed: "Evig og tro til Dovre faller" (united and true, until Dovre falls).

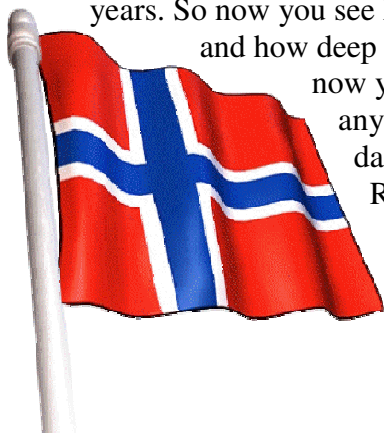
When Karl Johan of Sweden found out that the Norwegians did not accept the treaty signed on January 14, 1814, the two countries fought for a couple of weeks and then they negotiated and agreed that Norway as an independent state, upon certain conditions, was to be united with Sweden under the same King.

The circular from the Swedish minister said: "The Norwegian Stortinget (Congress) having, of its own accord and by free election, chosen his Swedish Majesty as King of Norway, it is plain that it is not to the provisions of the treaty of January 14, 1814, but to the confidence of the Norwegian people, that we owe the Union of Norway with Sweden".

Norway had its own constitution and its own government, something the Norwegians had been waiting for 495

years. So now you see how long they had waited, and how deep the national feeling is, and now you better understand why any real Norwegian, on that day, will stand in front of the Royal Palace, screaming

"HURRA FOR SYTTENDE MAI"



SONS OF NORWAY

Mission Statement

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationships with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.

Visit www.sonsofnorway.com



TubFrim collects all types of used stamps and telephone cards. They are sold to philatelists and dealers all over the world. The proceeds help handicapped children and youths in Norway.

- * Stamps from any country in the world can be used, but it would save a lot of work if you would sort between U.S. stamps and stamps from other countries.
- * Cut or tear off the stamps, leaving a small margin (approx. 1/2 inch) so as not to damage them.
- * They also are happy to receive stamp collections, old envelopes, covers and postcards. If envelopes, postcards, etc. are more than 50 years old, then please do not cut off the stamps but give the whole envelope or postcard.

* TubFrim also collects used telephone cards. Sons of Norway have helped collect stamps for TubFrim for over 50 years.

For each pound you turn in to our **TubFrim Chairperson, Char Nelson**, your name will be entered into a drawing for a "roundtrip" airfare ticket to Norway.

CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY MAY 29, 30, 31, 2010

AT

CAMP NORGE

The Recreation Center Board welcomes you to Camp Norge for a three-day camping experience at your own recreation center on Memorial Day Weekend. If you do not have a tent or RV, call the Manager (530) 389-2508 for a room.

We will have food service for you for the weekend, served from the new Heritage Hall.

The swimming pool will be open. The horseshoe pit is available. There will be a Craft Fair on Saturday afternoon and meadow games on Sunday afternoon.

Explore the area on your own or just relax and enjoy the beauty of nature. This is a great opportunity to really get to know your fellow lodge members.

PRE-REGISTRATION OF YOUR MEALS IS NECESSARY TO ALLOW US TO PURCHASE THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF FOOD.

Registration Deadline: May 19, 2010. (Make check payable to Camp Norge)

Visit www.campnorge.com

For registration form, see Lise Fleming



A tribute to Norwegian Parents

When I was but a youngster, I often wondered why my parents spoke with accents unlike the folks nearby. Instead of saying Johnson, as spoken with a “J” they pronounced it “Yohnson” as “J” became a “Y”.

My folks were born in Norway, along the scenic fjords and they came to this country for what this land affords. To claim the rich potential of America’s proud dream the ownership of property...that immigrants esteem

My Dad worked as a farmer on fertile Midwest soil with teams of mules and horses and honest Nordic toil. His own farm, home and children came to him by and by still, memories of Norway would linger in his eye.

My mother dreamed of Norway and of her family there while raising her children with tender loving care. We all remember lefse, and Jule brod so good all made upon the cookstove that we had fed with wood.

Those grand old folks are gone now...but I remember yet the fine Norwegian heritage that I cannot forget. Of working hard and honestly, the qualities that stay the simple things brought with them...from their own land Norway

They never had much money...or property to leave they left me only memories of childhood to retrieve. But what they left is priceless, a gift of which I’m proud It was their Norwegian heritage that Mom and Dad endowed.

A Norwegian Mother writing to her son

Dear Son,

Yest a few lines to let yew know I am still alive. I am writing this letter slowly becoss I know you can’t read fast.

Yew won’t know the house when you come home. Ve have moved. Ve had a lot of trouble moving...especially the bed. The man wouldn’t let us take it in the taxi. It maybe wouldn’t have been so bad if yew father hadn’t been in it at the time.

Speaking of yew father, he has a fine new job. He has 500 men under him! (He cuts grass at the cemetery.)

Yew sister got herself engaged last week. Her boy friend gave her a beautiful ring with three stones missing.

Our neighbors are now raising pigs. Ve yest got vind of it this morning.

I suppose yew didn’t know I got my appendix out and a dish washer put in.

Ve found a vash machine in our new house...but it doesn’t vork so good. Last week I put in four shirts, pulled the chain and ve hasn’t seen the shirts since.

Yew sister Ingeborg had a baby yesterday. I haven’t heard if it is a boy or a girl. So I can’t say yet if yew are an aunt or an uncle.

Uncle Thorvald vent to Minneapolis to vork in a bloomer factory. Ve hear he is pulling down 75 a week.

Yew aunt Katrina got a job in St. Paul working in a factory too. I’m sending her some clean underwear as she says she has been in the same shift since she got there.

Yew father didn’t have much to drink at Christmas. I put some castor oil in his whiskey and it kept him going until New Years.

I vent to the doctor on Thursday. Yew Pa came with me. The Doctor put a glass tube in my mouth and said to keep it shut for 10 minutes. Later on, yew Pa asked to buy it from him.

I must close now...there’s a big sale down town and women’s bloomers are half off.

Your loving Mother

P.S. I vas going to send yew \$ 10.00 but I already sealed the envelope.

Both articles submitted by Jim Stewart



80th Anniversary
Fridtjof Nansen Lodge # 6-009
Saturday, June 5, 2010
“The Grand” Event Center
4101 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

Doors open at noon, lunch served at **12:30 PM**
Entertainment provided by Scandinavian Fiddlers of Southern California Chris Gruber & Carol Goller and John Chittum & Doris Lehner of Scandia Dancers.

\$ 35.00 per person

Send reservations to:

Janice Nelson
3737 Atlantic Ave, # 406
Long Beach, CA 90807
(562) 427-5151

Visit www.sundfjord.org

Nyheter fra Norge

(News from Norway)

Norwegian Birthrate increased last year

Norwegian women gave birth to more babies last year than they have for 37 years, and fertility statistics are suddenly among the highest in Europe.

State statistics bureau SSB reports that Norwegian women gave birth to 61,800 babies in Norway in 2010, up from 60,500 in 2009. The number of births was the highest since 1972.

The birthrate gives a collective fertility rate among Norwegian women of 1.98, which SSB says is among the highest in Europe. To avoid a population decline, the fertility rate needs to be 2.1, according to SSB.

Fully six counties in Norway attained that higher rate, reports SSB. The highest fertility rate in Norway was found in Rogaland on the west coast, at 2.18, while the lowest was in Telemark, at 1.79.

Meanwhile, SSB also reported that fully 40 percent of all households in Norway are made up of people who live alone. That's up from 34 percent in 1990. One out of every five Norwegians lives alone, while around 60 percent live as a couple.

The highest rate of single-person households was found in Oslo. SSB reported that 29 percent of all Oslo residents live alone, and single-person households make up roughly half of all households in the capital.

Norwegians living even longer

Men and women in Norway already could boast among the world's longest life spans. Now it seems they're living even longer than before.

Figures released by state statistic bureau SSB show that Norwegian women can now expect to live to be 83.1 years old, while Norwegian men have an average life expectancy of 78.6 years.

That's higher than life expectancy for Danish and Finnish men by about two years, and Norwegian men also have narrowed the gap with Norwegian women, from 6.9 to 4.5 years.

Researcher Helge Brunborg of SSB says that he and his colleagues don't know for sure why Norwegian men are living longer than before, but said the numbers "support a general trend over the past 200 years that longevity has increased by about 0.2 years for every calendar year.

Within Norway, men in the northernmost county of Finnmark have the shortest average life spans, possible because they eat more meat than average Norwegians.

Smoking and alcohol use can also play a role, according to the researchers.

Japanese women continue to rank as those living the longest of anyone, with an average lifespan of 86.1 years.

Norway loses its oldest man

Norway's oldest man, Jørgen Bernhard Rustad of Gjøvik, has died after living through the entire 20th century and well into the 21st. He was 109.

Rustad was born on August 12, 1900, five years before Norway won its sovereignty from Sweden and its monarchy was re-established. He lived through both World Wars and was an active resistance fighter in the second.

He said under the celebration of his 109th birthday last year that the recipe for a long life was not to "let your head hang down." He said that complaining and being negative "is the dumbest thing people can do. I have always had good humor, and if I wasn't feeling well, I'd simply think back and remember all the good times I've had."

Rustad worked as a prison guard before retiring several decades ago. He still went skiing at an age of 104, and had a brief spell as a stand-up comedian at the age of 106.

Foreigners boost their ranks

Nearly 334,000 persons with foreign passports were living in Norway last year. That still only amounts to 7% of the population, but it's up 10% from the year before, with workers from Poland still fueling the growth.

Fully 66% of all non-Norwegian passport holders in Norway are from other European countries; around 19% have Asian citizenship and 9% African.

Norway's total population currently stands at just over 4.8 million.

Citizens of Poland make up the largest single group of foreigners in Norway, with 46,700 registered with valid work and residence permits.

By contrast, citizens of countries in all North, Central and South America amounts to less than half that, just over 18,000. Swedes make up the next-largest group of non-Norwegians, numbering 35,800, followed by 20,800 German passport holders.

Most of the foreign residents in Norway are in the country to work, many of them in the construction and oil industries. There continue to be a large concentration of Dutch and American citizens in Rogaland County who also make up the ranks of foreigners working in the oil industry.

Few of the Swedes, Danes and German residents in Norway opt to become Norwegian citizens, even if they stay in the country for years.

Persons coming from countries farther away, like Vietnam, almost all become Norwegian citizens. While men from former Eastern European countries like Poland and Lithuania earlier came to Norway to work earn money and return home, more are now bringing their families and settling down. That must mean they think Norway is an OK place to be.