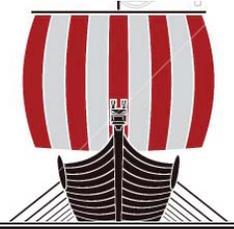


Solskinn



Lodge 6-150

Solglimt Newsletter



Palm Desert

www.solskinn.org

Editor: Steinar Johansen

October 2014



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President Message

From the President

Wow, what a change in weather this last weekend. Maybe fall is here or will there be another hot spell? This is my favorite time of year but also one of the busiest coming off from the summer activities. We had our first social of the season hosted at Berit Reistad's club house. It was a small group of 18 but nice and intimate. It felt like I almost got to talk to everyone. We had a very interesting program on "The Different Lodge Names". The four Norwegians we learned about were two who lived in the US, Snowshoe Thompson and Andrew Furuseth and two who lived in Norway, Ivar Aasen



and Fridtjof Nansen. The presentations were given by David Lutes, Nancy Madson, Vaughn Simon and Dottie Bessares who all did wonderful, informative presentations. Please take a moment and look up information on these gentleman you will be amazed by their contributions to Norway and the US.

Fall is also Kretssteve season for District Six. I attended one day of the northern Kretssteve Labor Day weekend. I had a great time talking to people from mainly the northern California lodges. There were two families that had well over 40 members each that had family gatherings as part of the event. Also there was a Viking encampment and I learned how to do Viking "knitting". I met a very charming gentleman Rudy who was camp-

ing and will turn 102 in October. The next Kretssteve is in Buellton, Oc-

tober 3, 4 and 5th and the last is the Southern California Kretssteve (SCK) in Banning. I hope you take the opportunity with the SCK being so close to just go for a day and learn about our heritage and meets members from other lodges.

You will see we are already starting to work on our Christmas event and hope you can find time to share that holiday dinner with your fraternal family. The board voted to reduce the cost for members of Sons of Norway by \$10 for those who register before December 1st. This special event will be at the Miramonte in Indian Wells. See the details on the registration form.

This month is our foundation month. We will return to the church which has been remodeled. There will a silent auction, bingo and Norwegian Beer and Cheese tasting. Please come and support our fundraising efforts. We really would like to hold a wedding for Priscilla and Porky before any more children appear. Thank you David for all your work. We hope to see you at this event.

Fraternally
Luella Grangaard

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION/TIME
Oct 3, Friday	Lunch Bunch	11:30 Clementine's 72990 El Paseo, PD RSVP to 760 345-6586 or e-mail dbessares@verizon.net
Oct 9, Thursday	Hardanger	3:00 Phyllis Petersen 760-200-1306
Oct 18, Saturday	Social	Foundation month Cheese and beer tasting-Hope Lutheran
Oct 23, Thursday	Hardanger	3:00 Nancy Madson 760-343-0848
Nov 7, Friday	Lunch Bunch	11:30 Backstreet Bistro 72820 El Paseo, PD RSVP to 760 345-6586 or e-mail dbessares@verizon.net
Nov 13, Thursday	Hardanger	3:00 Patricia 760-832-6225
Nov 15, Saturday	Social	the "Viking Sword" and dinner "Viking Dogs" --Hope Lutheran
Dec 20, Saturday	Social	Christmas Celebration
EVENTS OUT OF THE VALLEY		Contact
Oct 3-5	Central California Kretsstevne	See District Six Website
Oct 31-Nov 2	Southern California Kretsstevne	See District Six Website

October Birthdays

4	Sinclair Joan E
5	Reistad Berit Daly-
7	Nabors Beverly J
11	Ellingboe Austin Ryne
13	Lee Patricia M
13	Wisler Walter H
16	Waldeland Donald H
20	Arneson Phillip W
20	Romero Michael Kent
21	Ellingboe Richard A
23	Picking Laura J
24	Lewke Carl Andrew
27	Thu Katrina
28	Clymens Ezra
29	Lokke Sharon
31	Larsen Norman F

Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år! Ja, deg vil vi gratulere!
Alle i ring omkring deg vi står, og se, nå vil vi marsjere.
Bukke, nikke, neie, snu oss omkring, danse så for deg med hopp og sprett og spring, ønske deg av hjertet alle gode ting og si meg så, hva vil du mere?
Gratulere!

Celebration of Life

Our past treasurer and current member of our lodge, Carole Gould, was diagnosis with a terminal condition. Carole shared with many of her fraternal family her condition. Those of us who know Carole are very aware of her joyful spirit. So instead of thinking of the future we all chose to celebrate Carole's life now with her.



On September 8th approximately 11 lodge members joined Carole at a local restaurant and celebrated her life. Debera Ellingboe brought Carole a feather boa and crown. Carole was delighted by the celebration attire.



Each person there spend time sharing memories and thoughts with Carole. David lutes recited a wonderful poem. What a wonderful celebration.

*Submitted by
Luella Grangaard*

“PROUD TO BE NORWEGIAN!”

Since retirement, we love to travel. Most of our trips are to see something new. Sometimes, however, you travel to recover the things that are endearing and meaningful family stories and memories for you.

I had spent a couple of years researching my Norwegian roots. There was a quiet seduction then, to explore Norway's warm days, cool nights and the quiet of autumn. The deep country's fjords, steep cliffs, hills and valleys dotted with farmsteads, summer homes and villages were breathtaking!

No matter which port we were in, no matter which way we turned, jaw-dropping views were everywhere! Every port was the most beautiful we had ever seen . . . until we saw the next one. It just made me so proud to be Norwegian!

My Great Grandfather Oscar (Ole) Maland/Moreland (later to learn Eivinsen) emigrated to America from the Stavanger area when he was 18 years old. I cried as we sailed into that port thinking of my great grandpa and how he must have felt leaving his family and sailing out of that port for America. I felt him with me on this journey, and I wondered why anyone would want to leave this beautiful homeland? I learned though, that the Stavanger and beautiful countryside that I visited, w/its beauty and richness (thanks to the oil finds in the 1960's) was not the Stavanger my great grandfather knew.

Taking a cruise up the Lysefjord was amazing! Pulling over to a waterfall and collecting fresh clean water to drink was a treat. Watching the mountain goats scurry was fun. Marine life in all of the fjords is fertile. In 2000, scientists found coral deep in the fjords, too. 5.5 billion in euros is made on fish every year. There are fish markets everywhere! Sailing under the Pulpit Rock (Preikestolen) was a photo opportunity!

We were fortunate to cruise many fjords – Oslofjord – pretty with its islands and white, red and yellow homes emerging everywhere; Sognefjord – an untouchable paradise; Hardangerfjord – so serene; Lysefjord – and my three glasses of water from the waterfalls; Geirangerfjord – breathtaking, etc etc.

We liked Oslo and saw all the tourist sights (ie Vigeland Park, Opera House, Viking Museum, Nobel Peace Prize Center, etc). From there, we cruised to Kristiansand and spent time in museums and parks.

We thought that being in Flam's port was so beautiful and the train ride with its panoramic views of fabulous nature in the Norwegian fjord landscape (steep mts, 20 tunnels, many waterfalls) was so special.

There was another day at sea and back to Rotterdam where we took the train to Amsterdam for more canal rides and a visit to The Hague. That evening, we set sail again for a relaxing day at sea and then into Bergen. What a city! Huge fish market, castle rounds and the only stone castle left in Norway. I was surprised that Bergen is at the same latitude as Anchorage, Alaska. We loved the Funicular (Floibanen) ride climbing 1100 feet in seven minutes to Mount Floyen with its spectacular city views. Bryggen Hanseatic Wharf was charming. We had a picnic lunch in a park to people watch and write postcards (I spent \$148 on postcard stamps!!) and took a city tour which was a must for a first trip to Bergen wanting to see as much as possible. We visited Edvard Geieg's home and learned that he spent 22 summers there for inspiration. I love his music. Alesund and the top of Mount Aksla was another jaw-dropping moment. We took so many pictures there. The City Center area was fun and busy, the Art Nouveau neighborhoods' architecture was fabulous and the canals and bridges were fantastic. I didn't think things could be more beautiful than in Geiranger, but Eidfjord the next day made me think the same thing. A summer home in either place would be like winning the lottery. Peaceful – serene – calm – lots of people biking, kayaking, canoeing, eating and loved those Norwegian heart waffles with sour cream and jam!

We were the last ship of the season, so as we crossed under the bridge leaving Eidfjord, people were on the bridge waving Norway's flag and waving good bye to all of us. What a send off.

I learned so much history, and I am continuing to read and research even more . . . from Trolls and other folklore to the Vikings. The Heavy Water Project interests me and learning more about the Oil Project, too. The pipeline under the sea is 746 miles long. Norway uses only what it needs and exports the rest.

The Norwegians were friendly and helpful and answered all of our questions. They are, and rightly so, proud to live in a country that puts people first in family life, healthcare, education, etc. We met new friends along the way, and we can't wait to return to Norway, the Land of the Midnight Sun.

*Submitted by
Dottie (Moreland) Bessares*

WE NEED YOU!!!!

Elections are coming up and we need volunteers to take positions in our lodge. Some take more commitment than others and there will be guidance to assure your success. This next season is pretty much planned and socials will be simpler due to limitations from our meeting space.

The last year most business meetings have been held prior to the lodge meeting. This has reduced the commitment in hours over the month. Also the members that should attend to assure the business of the lodge is addressed are the officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Social Director, Culture Director and Foundation Director. Some of these positions could be shared by two individuals.

All positions are open during this election. If you are interested please contact David Lutes 760-674-1933 davidjlutes@yahoo.com until the nominations committee has been elected. They will be elected at our September Social. Also I can answer any questions you may have

President—plans and prepares the business meeting and leads meetings. Submits articles to newsletter.

Vice President—fills in as needed when the president is not available and chairs the membership committee

Secretary—records the minutes of meetings and sends to the board members. Also prepares the annual Lodge achievement form and submits it.

Treasurer—balances the bank account, makes all banking transactions, and submits reports annually to the International office and the IRS.

Membership secretary—monitors membership and membership reports.

Social Director—plans and obtains food and coordinates the volunteers for social events

Culture Director—plans with Social Director cultural activities and promotes and records the culture skills program and sports program.

Foundation Director—promotes and develops activities to support the International Foundation

Publicity—promotes the lodge through postings in newspapers and online and electronic media

Newsletter—prepares, writes, and edits the newsletter, as well as printing it and sending it out to members.

Sunshine—sends birthday cards and get well cards and plants.

Librarian—maintains the lodge library.

Telephone tree—coordinates and alerts tree members to make calls

Camp Norge ambassador—provides communication regarding camp Norge, events and scholarships.

Tubfrim—prepares stamps for Tubfrim and mails in cards and stamps

Historian—collects information and photos about lodge and places them in an album.

PLEASE WE NEED YOU !!!!!!!

Lunch Bunch

A small group of ladies met at Clementines Oct. 3 for the regular first Friday of every month Lunch Bunch. The food was fresh and delicious and the atmosphere and service superb. Dottie put pictures of her trip to Norway on picture stands on the table. Each lady received a small Scandinavian cup and saucer as well as Norwegian goodies. The theme was 'Proud to be Norwegian'. An 'Autumn Trivia Game' was won by

Beth Cramond who received a paperback novel of *THE DOLL HOUSE* (by Norwegian author Henrik Ibsen).

The November Lunch Bunch will be co-ed -- everyone is invited and encouraged to attend for good food and good conversation. It will be at the BackStreet Bistro on El Paseo in Palm Desert on Friday, November 7 at 11:30am. Be sure to contact Dottie (760 345-6586 or dbessares@verizon.net) to let her know you are coming. The restaurant needs a head count beforehand.

*Submitted by
Dottie Bessares*



Alt for Norge

The season 5 of the reality show "Alt for Norge" is ongoing and seem to be as popular as the previous seasons. The contestants are from Minnesota, North Dakota, Florida, Texas, Nevada, Washington and California.

After last Sunday show, contestant no 5 was sent home, with everyone in tears, and will of course not be able to meet his family in Norway. However, as the contestants are losing and sent home, they receive a book with the contestant family history in it. The book contains a family tree, pictures and a description of the family. But most of all, it contains contact information so they can contact the family.

The program is aired on TVNorge and if you are interested you can find information about the show on www.tvnorge.no

If you want to subscribe to the online service, you can watch all the previous seasons. It is worth it. 60% or more is English spoken language in the show and you would understand it all. Take a look into this. It is so much fun to watch.



In Memory, Inez Murdoch

Inez Murdoch was born May 12, 1921, to Eugene and Serena Johnston in Covert, New York. Her childhood was spent in Trumansburg, New York (near Ithaca) on an apple orchard. Inez was crowned Apple Blossom queen, with a court of eight, in the spring of 1939.

She attended Cornell University and graduated in 1944 with a degree in home economics. During World War II, Inez became a laboratory analyst at Wyeth Laboratories in Philadelphia, assisting in the development of penicillin.

Her courtship was one for the storybooks. Having met through a mutual friend, Inez Johnston met Alan Murdoch, a Naval officer in training, in 1943. For years they communicated via letters with the occasional telephone call while Alan Murdoch fought in the war and initiated his career with the FBI. A romantic proposal took place between two train cars in early fall 1947, and they were married April 14, 1948, in Philadelphia.

They settled in Manhattan and greeted their first child, Cynthia Murdoch, on June 21, 1949. In 1953 they moved to White Plains, New York, finding the perfect family home. On May 6, 1954, they welcomed their son, Bruce Murdoch.

The family decided to relocate to Sherman Oaks, a part of Los Angeles, in 1962. During that period in Los Angeles, Inez was very active in the National Charity League in the San Fernando Valley, holding the chair position for several debutant groups. At the same time she also received her master's degree in early childhood education from California State University, Northridge, while pursuing a career as a teacher and supervisor at Head Start.

Alan and Inez Murdoch moved to Palm Desert, California, and settled into their retirements. Inez became active in the Sons of Norway, was an avid tennis fan (playing and watching), snow skier, enjoyed golf, swimming, Norwegian hardanger embroidery and adored her family. Inez Murdoch passed on Sept. 1, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Alan Murdoch; daughter Cynthia Murdoch; son Bruce Murdoch; grandchildren Cameron Balog and Kimberly Balog, and Brianna Murdoch and Devin Murdoch

Leif Erikson Day in the USA

honors a viking explorer known as Leif Erikson. He is believed to be the first recorded Nordic person to have visited North America. It is believed that he visited places such as Baffin Island and Labrador around 1000 CE

What do people do?

The president of the United States issues a proclamation about the holiday. Many US presidents have, in the past, publicly praised the spirit of exploration and discovery, as well the contributions of people with a Nordic background and their culture.

Public life

Leif Erikson Day is an observance and not a federal public holiday in the United States. Public transit systems run on their regular schedules.

Background

Leif Erikson was born of Norwegian descent around 970 CE in Iceland. It is thought that his father and grandfather were outlaws and explorers around Scandinavia and Greenland. His father founded two settlements in Greenland. Leif had two brothers and one sister. He married a woman named Thor-gunna and they had one son, called Thorkell Leifsson.

Leif Erikson went to Norway to work for King Olaf I of Norway. During his stay, he converted to Christianity. When he returned to Iceland, he bought a boat and, in 1003, set out to explore the land west of Greenland that had been discovered by Bjarni Herjolfsson, an older explorer. The land that he had discovered was actually Newfoundland, which is now part of Canada. The 'Saga of the Greenlanders' tells of his adventures.

It is thought that he visited Baffin Island and Labrador and settled on the Northern part of the island of Newfoundland, now all part of Canada. There are speculations that Leif Erikson or later explorers may have traveled into the area that is now Minnesota in the United States. Some controversial archaeological finds, such as the Kensington Rune Stone and the Maine Penny, support this theory, but it is not considered proven.

October 9 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the day that the ship Restauration arrived in New York from Stavanger, Norway on October 9, 1825. This was the start of organized immigration from Scandinavia to the USA. The date is not associated with an event in Leif Erikson's life.



David Lutes



Charlotte Larsen



Heidi Albright



Berit Reistad



Nancy Madson



Vaughtn Simon and Berit Reistad



Armando Bessares



Dottie Bessares

Foundation

Priscilla and Porky are getting excited about their upcoming wedding. They have decided they don't want/need a rehearsal so that makes things easier. As soon as we know the funds have been raised, we will check for a location to hold the ceremony. Nancy has offered a building on her property that is somewhat like a barn. The ceremony will in part of our dinner/meeting.

Several members at our last dinner/meeting noticed that Porky had a bandage on his right ear. Talking with the farmer, I understand another pig came into the yard and Porky did what he needed to protect his soon-to-be bride. He did lose part of his ear, but Priscilla was proud of him.

October is Sons of Norway Foundation month when we have special activities and remember all the good the Foundation does. From scholarships, to grants and hardship wards, we are proud to support the Foundation. At our October dinner/meeting, we will once again have our silent auction. If you have items of a Scandinavian nature and would like to donate them, please let me know.

We had set a goal of \$1500 - the estimated cost of Priscilla and Porky's wedding. We are currently at \$1313 and with a big push this month, we will reach our goal and plan the wedding.

Best wishes from Priscilla and Porky.

*David Lutes
Foundation Director*

Total Wedding Costs \$1,500



Wedding Ceremony

- Farm – pen rental
- Food/drinks – corn cobs, lettuce, water troughs, etc.
- Attendants – farmers, caretakers

Minister \$300.00

Reception \$400.00

Solskinn Lodge Officers - 2013

President	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Vice President	Diane Presley	401-1752
Secretary	Debera Ellingboe	699-7436
Treasurer	Diane Presley	401-1752
Membership	Nancy Madson	343-0848
Social Director	Heidi Albright	449-1632
Cultural Director	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Editor:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
Publicity Director:	Berit Reistad	485-1130
Counselor:	Nancy Madson	343-0848
Sunshine Girl:	Charlotte Larsen	328-1791
Photographer:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
	Miriam Hendrix	320-9244
Foundation Director:	David Lutes	674-1933
Tubfrim Chairman:	John Strom	568-3483
Tel. Tree Chairman:	Dottie Bessares	345-6586
Historian:		
Assist:		
Camp Norge:	Ronna Clymens	951-849-1690
Supper Club:		
Librarian:	Corrine Bjerke	360-5229
Auditors:	Normal Larsen	328-1791

Save stamps
for tubfrim
cut 1/4 inch
around the stamp

Solskinn Lodge

Norwegian Beer and Cheese Tasting

Saturday, October 18

Hope Lutheran Church Social Hall
45-900 Portola Avenue, in Palm Desert

4:30 Social/Tasting

5:30 Bingo and Silent Auction

The "Tasting" will include Norwegian Beer or domestic wine, cheese, crackers and fruit

\$5.00 members/\$7.00 non-members pre-registered

\$7.00 members/\$9.00 non-members at the door

Bingo and Foundation Silent Auction

To Register call Berit at 760-485-1130

Steinar Johansen
1820 N Mira Loma Way
Palm Springs CA 92262

