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## The President

What a wonderful, exciting and fun 4 days of celebration for the Syttende Mai weekend we had.

It actually started out with a nice P R article in the newspaper a week before.

Then on Friday the Norwegian flag raising at Dave Lutes's home (see picture) with Mayor Susan Marie Webber from Palm Desert attending.

Saturday we had our Social Meeting at Hope Lutheran Church, with open face sandwiches and lots of cakes. Bev Nabors and Luella Grangaard read us some Norwegian history on how Syttende Mai came to be. We had several new people attending that had seen the information in the newspaper as well as in the Tid Bits magazine.

Some of our members brought extra cakes and cookies to the Saturday social to be served with coffee after church service the next morning.

We ended with a Happy Hour gathering in Palm Springs on Monday afternoon.

To top it off, Luella set up a display of Norwegian artifacts at Eisenhower Hospital and they served Norwegian food in the cafeteria.

WOW what a weekend!!!



I thank all of you who stayed to help clean up after the social on Saturday.

We still need volunteers for this, as well as setting up.

June 20<sup>th</sup> will be our last Social Meeting until September, so be sure to attend to say "have a nice summer" to all our friends in the Lodge.

Steinar (our editor) is always in need of fun and interesting articles for the newsletter, when you see something you think will be of interest, please send it to him so he can evaluate it.

Be sure to look over the calendar and don't forget to call in your reservations.

*Fraternally,  
 Berit Reistad  
 President Solskinn Lodge*

## Share your Viking Magazine

Although we do a lot of good in our communities, it seldom appears on TV or in our local newspapers. It's time to let everyone in our community know what we do. After you have finished reading your copy of Viking, just remove or cross out your address label and bring it to your library, doctor or dentist's office as well as your car repair shop waiting room. Leave it anywhere the public is likely to see and read. By doing this you let our community know about the Sons of Norway and the many good things we do. We need to let our communities know we do exist and welcome anyone who is a Norwegian or interested in Scandinavian culture and history.



<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION/TIME</b>
June 5, Fri	Lunch Bunch	11:30 Backstreet Bistro 72820 El Paseo, PD RSVP Dottie <a href="mailto:dbessares@verizon.net">dbessares@verizon.net</a> or 760-345-6586
June 11, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 RSVP to Charlotte 760-328-1791
June 9, Tues	Business meeting	3:30 Nancy Madson's home 760-343-0848
June 20, Sat	Social	Shrimp dinner, RSVP to Luella 760-363-7704
June 22, Mon	Happy Hour	Potluck/Pool Party at the Ellingboe's RSVP to Debera 760-699-7436
June 25, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Phyllis Peterson 760-200-1306
July 3, Fri	Lunch Bunch	TBA
July 9, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Cheryl Jensen's home 760-321-23810
July 23, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Phillis Peterson 760-200-1306
Aug 7, Fri	Lunch Bunch	TBA
Aug 13, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Nancy Madson home 760-343-0848
Aug 27, Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Berit Reistad's club house 760-485-1130
Sept 4, Fri	Lunch Bunch	TBA
Sept 10 Thurs	Hardanger	3:00 Charlotte Larsen's home 760-328-1791
Set 14, Tues	Business meeting	3:30 Nancy Madson's home 760-343-0848
Sept 19, Sat	Social	4:30 Potluck, Program TBA

### **June Birthdays**

- 1 Lewis Helen H
- 1 Schumacher Susan Marie
- 4 Larson Charles O
- 6 Johansen Steinar
- 7 Bence Åse G
- 8 Albertsen Lorna Ann
- 14 Peterson Phyllis M
- 15 Grangaard Douglas Charles
- 15 Mehllum Emel
- 16 Haste Taylor
- 17 Reistad Dakota
- 19 Clymens Ronna
- 20 Ward Dahlia Freya
- 22 White Mary Anne
- 23 Gerner Thomas H
- 25 Seawright Rex A
- 26 Hendrix Miriam
- 26 Tovar Candace M
- 29 Albright Heidi
- 29 Blevins Jordan M

### **July Birthdays**

- 1 Chaplin Tone H
- 2 Lenander Donna R
- 6 Lathers Linda D
- 6 Moore Illa M
- 6 Peterson James G
- 11 Jensen Cheryl D
- 12 Lee Alex
- 15 Grangaard Luella M
- 17 Ellingboe Debera J
- 19 Hansen Douglas E
- 24 Lawson Daniel James
- 26 Murdoch Alan W
- 30 Jacobs Else M

### **August Birthdays**

- 2 Reistad Ciara
- 3 Roe Yui
- 5 Ibsen Joanne D
- 6 Craig Nate Emery
- 8 Cross Gunhild WD
- 9 Girgis Dorothy V

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- 9 Weinstein Vivian
- 11 Monkress Madalyn A
- 15 Nieters Alma O
- 16 Kosvic Linda Diane
- 17 Severtson Shirley M
- 17 Skjervem Delores R
- 21 Simon Vaughn L
- 22 Lutes David J
- 27 Hodge Kathleen T

**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!**



## Mai 17<sup>th</sup> at Hope Lutheran church

On Mai 17<sup>th</sup> Solskinn Lodge members prepared special coffee snacks for the members of the church as a thank you for their support and to increase awareness of the significance of Mai 17<sup>th</sup>. Debera Ellingboe, Miriam Hendrix, Nancy Madson and myself prepared 8 almond cakes, 2 batches of krumkake, 3 Mor Monson cakes and 1 batch of spritz. It seemed like everyone enjoy the special snack and many people had questions about the desserts, the holiday and sons of Norway. Thank you to our bakers for the preparation of the desserts and assisting with the set up and clean up. Good job Solskinn !!!

*Submitted by  
Luells Grangaard*

## Shirley Severtson



Long-time member, Shirley Severtson, has moved into her apartment now in the facility where she spent the week while her nephew, Bob and Sandy, were here cleaning out her house in preparation for selling.

Her address is:  
Shirley Severtson  
2232 Dora Ave. Apt 123  
Tavares, FL 32778  
Phone 1-352-742-2288

## Norwegian Flag Raised

On Friday, May 15th, it was cold and wet, but ten hearty souls braved the weather to attend the raising of the Norwegian flag at the home of David Lutes. The rains stopped long enough for members and the mayor of Palm Desert, Susan Marie Weber, to gather at the front patio where the Norwegian flag was attached below the American flag. As it began its twenty foot ascent up the pole, a slight breeze rippled the flags in a show of beauty and solidarity. The Norwegian national anthem was sung and President Berit and Mayor Weber welcomed the guests. The warmth continued with conversation, pastries, coffee and champagne.

*Submitted by  
David lutes*





## Syttende Mai at Fridtjof Nansen Lodge #89



On our way to Topanga Banjo and Fiddle contest, Steinar and I drove to Rolling Hills near Long Beach, and in our small way, helped to celebrate Syttende Mai Grunnlovesdagaen at

Nansen Field in the Rolling Hills Estates area. Vendors' stands had been set up to provide Norwegian waffles, coffee and open faced sandwiches. Guests sat under tents along with people on blankets lining the soccer field as the San Pedro High School Band started festivities. The Norwegian Seaman's Church in San Pedro gave a service before The Norwegian Honorary Consul, Michael Soroy, gave a special greeting.



*submitted by  
David Lutes*

## Mai 17<sup>th</sup> Celebration at Eisenhower Medical Center

The food service department at Eisenhower contacted me regarding ideas for food in our cafeteria to celebrate Mai 17<sup>th</sup>. The gentleman had planned on serving hot dogs and I recommended meatballs, cabbage and potatoes. To my surprise both meals were served as a meal choice on May 15<sup>th</sup> for employees. In addition cardamom cake with berries was served. I put together a small display that featured primarily items having to do with cooking Norwegian food or serving food. In addition Norwegian music was played on the TV monitors photos of Norway were playing. The day prior an all Eisenhower e-mail was sent out to the almost 2000 employees and physicians about the celebration with a photo of the Norwegian flag and a short history of the Mai 17<sup>th</sup> celebration. Well done Eisenhower.

*Submitted by  
Luella Grangaard*

## Recruited New Members to our Lodge

Information has been received from International of nine lodge members who brought in a total of twelve new members in 2014. The individuals listed below will receive a bronze pin, based on the number of new members recruited, and a 2014 Recruitment Award Certificate:

Beth H. Carmond (1), Debera Ellingboe (3), Diane Presley (1), Gunny WD Cross (2), Joan Langwell (1), Miriam Hendrix (1), Nancy Madson (1), Norman Larsen (1) and Yui Roe (1).

The pins and certificates will be presented in September.

*submitted by  
David Lutes*

## Priscilla and Porky begin their Honeymoon

Although we are short \$19 of our \$150 goal to start Priscilla and Porky's honeymoon, Farmer Johnson has agreed to get them started before they forget they were married several months ago. Farmer Johnson now has a new red pickup truck and will be driving to the Haugen Farmstead where there are many farm animals they can visit. Keeping with the cost of food and travel, it will cost another \$150 to move them unto the Olfson Farmstead ... or until Farmer Haugen gets tired of them visiting.

Remember to bring your pink, plastic pigs to be emptied, or, if you don't have one at home, ask Dave to get you one. Also, this is a great opportunity to recognize a family member or friend with a donation to the Foundation. They will receive a certification indicating a donation has been made in their honor. Bring a smile to Priscilla and Porky's snouts and keep Farmer Johnson truckin'.

*Submitted by  
David Lutes*

# My Bunad Making Adventure

I decided in the fall of 2012 that I would try to make my Bunad, since District Six Sons of Norway had a Bunad Camp at Camp Norge. I then had to decide what type. I know that one of great--great was from Hallingdahl and the other great from East Telemark. I preferred the East Telemark Bunad because of the embroidery. The instructions for Bunad Camp indicated I contacted Sue Sutherland the instructor and owner of Bunad Butikken, in Ely Minnesota. Sue I later discovered has taken classes in Bunad making in Norway and is able to import and instruct Americans on the construction of Bunads. I now know from class that each Bunad is constructed differently depending on the history of clothing construction in that area.



When you think about communities in Norway, they are small and isolated and European influences, materials and construction were slow to come to many of the areas.

When Sue helps you with the construction of the Bunad she has to translate the instructions from Norwegian and sometimes has to figure out what that translation actually means in terms of clothing construction.



I received my kit in December but class didn't start until May. I took all the

pieces, fabric, yarns and instructions out and looked at it. It was pretty exciting, but I had to wait until class. My first class I was only going to be there for a day and a half because I had a meeting in Sacramento. Sue gave me the basic instructions for embroidery. What was amazing is that she also brings a whole store of fabrics and items to complete your Bunad with her. I of course couldn't resist and bought the silver for my "pocket" purse and a kit for a Telemark blouse. Off to my meeting and my hotel room where I was able to stitch away at night.



That year I completed all the embroidery for the main dress skirt, bodice and "pocket" including the trim. And at class in Santa Rosa in May of 2014 I was able to get it together. This construction also included fitting of the bodice. Much of this is hand work with lots and lots of fabric in the skirt. I also watched Sue instruct another gal on how to put her pocket together and I took photos. When I got home I completed it and was



able to get the dress together enough to wear to the District convention we hosted.

Over the last year I completed the embroidery on my apron and my blouse. Both were ready for construction of the apron and blouse this May. I actually didn't get the blouse sleeves on at class and completed it at home. And off course I did have to purchase something from the "store". Sue had Telemark shoes which are lovely and look great with my Bunad as well some special needles for weaving threads and stockings to wear with my bunad from Norway that are cotton.



I have done clothing construction for 50 years including tailoring but Bunad construction is not the same. Some of it makes complete sense and follows normal clothing construction but other parts do not. And the amount of fabric is amazing.

The embroidery pattern on mine was painted on using a stencil which is kind of painted on. The second time I took the class I purchased a Norwegian needlework book which I have used quite a bit for the stitching and some construction components. I purchased from Sue this little ruler that has measurements that are common in Bunad making of 1 cm, 1.5 cm, 8 cm, etc. This came in handy for making pleats and bindings as well as hemming. For one set of pleats on my apron I sewed gingham which was made in Europe using the metric systems to. I placed the gingham on the back side and went up and down at each block to form my perfect pleats.

I am very pleased with the outcome of the class and my beautiful Bunad. The process was very enjoyable and I now realize I really like the embroidery process. And in addition I made some great friendships that will be lasting. All of this is due to my involvement in Sons of Norway.



*Submitted by  
Luella Grangaard*



Luella Grangaard



Berit Reistad



Beth Cramond



Nancy Madson



Allan Jacobson



Margie Jacobson



Tone Chaplin



Nathan and Helen Lewis

## In Memory of Inez Luvdahl Murdoch

A substantial donation has been received by our Sons of Norway Foundation from Alan Murdoch. The donation was made in memory of his wife, Inez Luvdahl Murdoch, who died last September at the age of 93. She was born in America to a native Norwegian but she was influenced all her life by Norway and her many relatives. She was active in and loved the Sons of Norway.

The memory of Inez Murdoch will live on through this donation.

## Last Happy Hour of the Year

Debera and Richard Ellingboe are graciously opening their home to our members for the final Happy Hour. Mark Monday, the 22nd of June as a day to enjoy the coming of summer and the slow down in activities. It will begin at 4:30. Please bring the beverage of your choice and an appetizer which will serve about 6-8 people. If you wish to swim, the pool will be heated so bring a bathing suit. Please RSVP David ([davidjlutes@yahoo.com](mailto:davidjlutes@yahoo.com)) or Debera ([debera.ellingboe@yahoo.com](mailto:debera.ellingboe@yahoo.com)) so we know how many to plan for. It should be a fun relaxing time.

Address is 68755 Raposa Road, Cathedral City CA - Date Palm to Vista Chino; go 2 blocks on Vista Chino to Panarama turn left if coming from Date Palm; if you are coming from Landau, it is one block past Maravilla. Turn on Panarama, go 2 blocks turn left on Raposa and it's the 4th house on the right. The next house has a lot of statues in their front yard.

Any questions, give Debera or Richard a call at 760 699-7436. We hope for a good turn out. See you then

*Submitted by  
David Lutes*



## Lodge members Wearing Bunad

During our flag raising ceremony at David Lutes' home, three of our members wore bunad. It is Else Jacobs, Luella Grangaard and Berit Reistad. I think they look great. Please read Luella's story about how her bunad came to life. You can do the same as she did.

## Midsummer in Norway

### Historical Roots

St. John's Day or Jonsok is celebrated on June 24 and is a religious holiday commemorating the birth of St. John the Baptist. Prior to the introduction of Christianity to Norway, the date was used to celebrate the summer solstice, the longest and brightest day of the year. Because of the dual history surrounding the date, the remaining Midsummer traditions are an amalgamation of both Pagan and Christian customs.

### Did you know?

- The practice of lighting bonfires during Midsummer comes from the belief that fire "awakens" the ground for the next growing season and gives renewed strength to the sun. It was also believed to scare away evil supernatural spirits and witches who were thought to roam more freely this time of year.
- According to folklore, medicinal plants and herbs were believed to be at their peak potency during the summer solstice, lending support to the belief that supernatural beings were prone to scour the countryside collecting ingredients for their potions at Midsummer.
- In the 19th century it was popular in western Norway for children to dress in bride and groom outfits and participate in mock weddings as a symbol of new life.
- According to Christian legends, the crucifix at Rødal stave church in Norway was believed to contain special powers. During Midsummer, the crucifix was said to sweat, giving off healing power to those who touched it. Devotees made annual pilgrimages to the church up until 1840.
- St. John's Day was observed as a public holy day in Norway until 1771.
- The most popular foods consumed on Midsummer's Eve are fire roasted items like hot dogs or pølse and picnic fare such as pickled herring, smoked salmon or open-faced sandwiches. Norwegian strawberries and rømmegrøt are also common treats.
- In celebration of Midsummer the Norwegian town of Ålesund constructed a massive bonfire of wooden pallettes, topping out at 132.71 feet, in 2010.



## Solskinn Lodge Officers - 2015

President	Berit Reistad	485-1130
Vice President	David Lutes	674-1933
Secretary	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Treasurer	Nancy Madson	343-0848
Membership	Beverly Nabors	323-7179
Social Director	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Cultural Director		
Editor:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
Publicity Director:	Berit Reistad	485-1130
Counselor:	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Sunshine Girl:	Charlotte Larsen	328-1791
	Linda Lathers	
Photographer:	Steinar Johansen	898-3340
	Miriam Hendrix	320-9244
Foundation Director:	David Lutes	674-1933
Tubfrim Chairman:	Norm Larsen	328-1791
Tel. Tree Chairman:	Dottie Bessares	345-6586
Historian:	Lorna Albertsen	
Assist:		
Camp Norge:	David Lutes	674-1933
Supper Club:		
Librarian:	Corrine Bjerke	360-5229
Auditors:	Normal Larsen	328-1791
	Debera Ellingboe	
	Richard Ellingboe	
	Bob Haagenon	
	Bob Hendrix	

## Solskinn Lodge

**Social come be with your  
Fraternal Family**

Saturday, June 20, 2015

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



4:30 Social  
5:30 Dinner



Shrimp salad

\$10.00 with RSVP \$15.00 at the door  
RSVP to Luella 760-363-7704 or  
[morongo2@verizon.net](mailto:morongo2@verizon.net)

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

PO-Box 2207  
Palm Desert CA 92262

