



Sons of Norway

Kristiania Lodge #1-47, Rochester, MN

Phone (507)206-6262; Web Page: www.kristiania1-47.org



MAY 2013

MAY and JUNE EVENTS

(All events are held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 2124 Viola Road NE, unless otherwise indicated.)

May 9 Board meeting 6:00 p.m.

May 9 Lodge meeting Speaker: Dennis Rusinko 7:00 p.m.

"Viking Legends and Myths" Children and young people especially invited.

May 18 **Syttende Mai Celebration:** Steak Fry 6:00 p.m.

Cost for steak: \$5 members, \$7 non-members. Baked potatoes and salad provided by Lodge. (This is not a potluck.) Reservations: Call 288-1409. Wear your *bunad* or sweater.

Speaker: Tom Ryan, Director, Olmsted County Parks

June 13 Board meeting 6:00 p.m.

June 13 Lodge meeting Speakers: Pastor Ron and Frieda Nowland 7:00 p.m.

"Vikings Influence in Ireland"

June 15 Trip and Potluck Ann and Lars Romo Farm Meet to carpool at OSL at 11:00 a.m.

40225 90th Ave., Cannon Falls, MN. Lars will demonstrate his portable sawmill. Bring a dish to pass and your own lawnchairs.

See page 3 for other events of interest in our area.

HILSEN FRA PRESIDENTEN (Greetings from the President)

Do you agree that we have had very good fellowship at our get-togethers? Do you also agree we have had some good, informational programs, even from our own members when the occasion arrives! Well, we need your help. We need volunteers to fill some positions for next year: **Vice-President, Cultural Director, Volunteer Coordinator, Assistant Scholarship Chair and Assistant Sports Director.** You could step forward and volunteer or you may know of someone who would be willing but is shy to offer. Please give me a call or send a note with your suggestions. **This is so important to keep Kristiania vibrant.** Get in touch with me. *Ha det bra,* Byron

KRISTIANIA LODGE MEETING—April 11, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President **Stadsvold**. The national anthems of Canada, Norway and the US were sung, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. **VJ Anderson** accompanied on the piano. A moment of silence was observed for the Starkson family on the death of Arlene Starkson, mother of members **Doris Sneve** and **Susan Starkson**.

Guests, **Sandra Olsen** from Elveby Lodge in Omaha, and Micah Nelson, one of the local Nordic skiers, were welcomed with a round of applause.

Jan Heusinkveld announced that we are serving the evening meal at Ronald McDonald House on April 28 and passed a sign-up sheet for helpers.

President **Stadsvold** reminded members that we are serving coffee following the 8 a.m. service at Our Savior's on April 28. Members are asked to attend the worship service wearing *bunads* or other Norwegian wear. Please bring a plate of Norwegian goodies to share at the coffee. If you have a *bunad* that you would like to bring and display, please do so.

The Steak Fry is May 18. This year you must reserve your steak in advance. Kristiania will furnish baked potatoes and salad. **Kathy Rosedahl**, Hospitality Director, announced the

TUSEN TAKK! Thank you to Walter Wright, who presented a large, old Norwegian Bible to the lodge. It is on display in the library. Thank you to the servers at the April 11 meeting: **Jan** and **Dave Kaehler**, **Heidi** and **Brian Crabtree**, **Kathy** and **Bob Rosedahl**.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL ADVISOR-- Our Field Staff Representative is Chuck Holland, 121 S. Main Street, Mabel, MN 55952; phone (507)493-5866; email: Hollandc@mabeltel.coop

evening's servers, and they were thanked with a round of applause. Heidi Crabtree announced that **Barbara Chase**, Social Director, had fallen on the ice and broken her left wrist.

Gary Olson reported that the Scholarship Committee had met and reviewed the 13 applications. The winners' names will be announced at the May meeting.

Giant's Ridge in Spring Grove is gathering Norwegian sweaters to sell with part of the funds to support the language camp and Giant's Ridge programs. We have a few brochures in our SON room.

Tom Hosier announced a June 1-2 tour to Norwegian museums and Dakota War sites. The deadline is May 1 or when the first 40 reservations are received. Cost is \$169 (bus, room, meals). Call 507-820-9970.

Lars and his brother Lars entertained us briefly.

Tonight's scheduled speaker cancelled due to road conditions driving from the Minneapolis area.

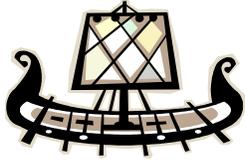
Lars Romo spoke of his quest and experiences in locating his birth mother and family. The meeting was adjourned for fellowship and lunch.

Respectfully submitted, **Darlene Stadsvold**, Sec.

FRA BIBLIOTEKET (From the library)

Have you "checked out" our SON library recently? We have books on many topics: history, cooking, literature, Norwegian language and culture, immigration, genealogy, etc. It is located in our board room and is open before and after our meetings. Self-service check-out. --**Sharon Barsness**, Librarian

FROM OUR SOCIAL DIRECTOR



The program at our May 9 meeting should prove to be of interest to both young and old. As a matter of fact, we are encouraged to bring young guests (children and grandchildren) to hear **Dennis Rusinko**, the co-founder of the Viking Age Club, an organization based out of Syttende Mai Lodge #1-517 in Minneapolis, formed to preserve the history of the Viking period. This is a show-and-tell presentation by an experienced re-enactor. Dennis also the Secretary of **District 1 Sons of Norway**.

---**Barbara Chase**, Social Director

AREA CULTURAL EVENTS

May 5—The Luren Singers of Decorah, IA, will be performing a concert at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lanesboro, MN, at 3:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted as a building repair fund-raiser for the Lanesboro **Sons of Norway, Heimbygda Lodge 1-376**. Refreshments will be served after the concert. The Luren Singing Society is North America's oldest Norwegian-American male chorus, now in its 145th year of continuous existence.

May 7—Norwegian-American Heritage Day, sponsored by Norwegian American Historical Association: Conversation with Eric Dregni, author; Norwegian-themed luncheon followed by a brief program about the NAHA archive. 10:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m., Sun Ballroom, Buntrock Commons, St. Olaf College, Northfield. \$20 per person. Register by May 1 with Jackie Henry, naha@st.olaf.edu (507)786-3221

July 14—Norway Day at Minnehaha Park, Minneapolis. Open-air Christian worship service begins at 11 a.m. Other events are: *barnetog* (children's parade); Norwegian Glee Club; a Norwegian musical and dance group, Furuleiken Spel og Dancelag; and Leroy Larsen and the Minnesota Scandinavian Ensemble. Contact: Earl Evenstad, (612)861-4793.

Hurrah—for what? On the meaning of the Syttende Mai celebration

Syttende Mai is Constitution Day (*Grunnlovsdagen*)—the Constitution that was ratified by the National Assembly at Eidsvoll in 1814, and has through some changes seen us through to today. As a symbol the Constitution represents also two great themes, national independence and political freedom—democracy and the rights of citizenship. Norwegian patriotism of the 1800s tied these two aspects together as the idea “Norwegian freedom.” Later on this concept of freedom took on new meanings, for example international peace work.

Syttende Mai is also a family day, but the difference from all other Norwegian holidays is first and foremost this: it is the only day the most important events take place out in the public space rather than in the four walls of the home. **Syttende Mai** has become a day for the children, even though it was not originally. The children's parades became a big success from 1870 on, and have become the most popular event on **Syttende Mai**. And with the children in the city center, many other things follow: ice cream (*isen*), soda (*brusen*) and sausages (*pølsene*).

---from Sons of Norway Newsletter Service



A Norwegian Math Test

Ole, a Norwegian fella wants a job, but the foreman doesn't want to hire him, so he says he won't hire him until he passes a little math test. “Here's your first question,” the foreman said, “without using numbers, represent the number 9.”

“Witout numbers?” Ole says, “Dat's easy,” and proceeds to draw three trees.

---submitted by **Elva Steffenson**

