



**PLEASE LOOK AT THE ENCLOSED ORANGE FLYER
THAT TELLS ABOUT TRIPS WE'RE TAKING.**

The first is to a Leiv Eriksson event in Minneapolis on Friday Oct. 1st and the deadline reservation date is Thursday, Sept. 24th.

Fra Presidenten – Jodie Wallschlaeger

Greetings: Hope everyone had a good summer. We have many events planned for Elvesvingen Lodge in the coming year. Our kick-off event was held this past weekend at Applewood Restaurant with 87 members and guests in attendance. Dick Norland, our vice-president and Ralph Carpenter, our Sons of Norway field representative spoke on the benefits of being a member of Sons of Norway. Our guest speaker was Reidar Dittmann, retired professor from St. Olaf. He told of his life experiences growing up in Norway's oldest city. Once again, it was a privilege to meet and have the opportunity to hear Reidar's presentation. Special thanks to those who helped with this membership event – Dick and Kris Norland, Carol Budde, Marilyn Bigbee and Linda Stelter.

All of our members have received or will soon be receiving a membership booklet for the coming year. This represents a lot of work and we thank Kris Norland for her work on this project.

At our October 9th meeting, Odell Bjerkness will present a program, "Viking Finds – Fact or Fiction?" Dr. Bjerkness has worked with the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C. and is very knowledgeable on this topic. As listed in our new program booklets, members whose last names start with A to Bo will provide our lunch. Irene and Warren Mickelson, chairpersons, will coordinate the meal and contact each server with specific details.

Our meeting place will be at the Heritage Room at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We have a "money" basket at the lunch table at each regular meeting. This is not for the meal provided, it is used to pay the rental fee for our meeting space.

This fall we have arranged for three bus trips for our lodge members and friends. The flyer with reservation form for them is included in this mailing. Call Jodie at 388-2303 for answers to questions.

International Award for Membership Growth

At the Biannual International Convention in Washington, D.C. in August, Joel Brude was presented an award for our lodge for the highest percentage of increase in membership in 2003 for the whole Sons of Norway organization. Our increase was 115%. This award included a check to our lodge for \$1,000.00! It was very fitting that Joel had the honor of receiving this award since it was his idea to invite Ambassador Knut Vollebaek to come here and his persistence that made it possible. The ambassador's visit here was the main reason for our increase in membership.

Genealogy Expo

The South-Central Minnesota Genealogy Expo will be held in the ballroom of the Centennial Student Union at MSU on Saturday, October 23rd, from 8 am to 3:45 pm. Pre-registration postmarked by Oct. 15th is \$15.00. After that it is \$20.00. This year they will be emphasizing Internet resources in most sessions. Contact Daardi at 507 389-1029.

Fra Vice-Presidenten – Dick Norland

Remember Elisabeth Krey Jenssen? She spoke at one of our lodge meetings a few years ago and we visited her art show at the Carnegie Art Center in 2003. Elisabeth grew up in Finnsnes, a small village on Norway's northern shore and graduated from Stavanger College with a degree in journalism. After working a few years as a journalist, she moved to the USA to pursue her interest in photography. She graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato in May 2004 and is currently working for photographer Jim Brandenburg in the Ely, Minnesota area.

Adopt a School Program

We are beginning our Adopt a School Program - reaching out into the community to share time with our local schools. Currently, East High School needs help with the junior high English Language Learner program in the early afternoon as well as needing help with senior high Calculus. West High School needs DECA advisors and career speakers. If you can help in any of these areas, please contact Kris Norland at 625-6060. Remember, volunteering and recording your volunteer hours helps our lodge maintain its non-profit status as well as getting the name of Sons of Norway out there as a caring and concerned organization.

District Fund Raiser

We now have samples of Sons of Norway caps for sale at \$10.00 each. These are great caps – wonderful for protection from the sun and look "sharp", too. We also have Scandinavian designed note cards and recipe cards for sale. Samples will be available at the October meeting. These make great gifts.

Elvesvingen Lodge Fund Raiser

Norway 2005 collector's calendars, \$12.00 apiece. These are wonderful – good Christmas gifts.

Make Crafts Now

It takes time to make crafts, so start on them soon for our bake and craft sale. It will be at the Madison East Center on Saturday, November 20th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Lutefisk Dinners

Bethany Lutheran College's dinner will be on Thursday, October 14th from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Scandian Grove Lutheran Church's dinner will be on Saturday, November 6th, from 11 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm. The Mankato Does will not be having their usual lutefisk dinner at the Elks Club this year.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

More volunteers are needed for Jack McGowan's History Fest, Thursday through Saturday, October 7th through 9th. This is a wonderful historical event for giving children a taste of what it was like in days gone by. Call Ann (388-7334) for more information.

Ann Carlberg, Editor, 388-7334

SONS OF NORWAY ELVESVINGEN LODGE 1-582 CALENDAR,

October, 2004

September 24 – 7:30 pm - Nordvendt Concert (Nordic classical music) Mindekirken (Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church), 924 East 21st Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 612 874-0716.

September 25 – 12:30 pm – Fall Rommegrot Luncheon and Quilt Raffle - Mindekirken.

September 27 (Monday) – 7:30 pm - Dancers from Ringabu, Norway will present a program in the Union Hall in Hanska.

October 1 (Friday) – Bus trip to Leiv Eriksson International Festival at Mindekirken in Minneapolis. Ringebu Choir and Fossekallen folk dancers from Norway.

October 7-9 – History Fest at Jack McGowan farm. Look at the website on www.historyfest.com

October 9 (Saturday) - 5:30 pm – Elvesvingen Lodge meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Dr. Odell Bjerkness will present a program, “Viking Finds – Fact or Fiction.”

October 14 (Thursday) – 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm - Lutefisk dinner at Bethany Lutheran College

October 22 (Friday) – Bus trip to “Don’t Hug Me” at Hennepin Theatre in Minneapolis.

October 23 (Saturday) – 8 am – 3:45 pm – Genealogy Expo at Centennial Student Union, MSU.

November 5 (Friday) – 7:30 pm - Swedish Club at Grace Lutheran Church. Program – Video about Ambassador Knut Vollebaek’s visit to Mankato in 2003.

November 6 (Saturday) – Bus trip to Minneapolis to American Swedish Institute and Ingebretsen’s, a marketplace of Scandinavian gifts, foods, needlework and clothing.

November 6 (Saturday) – 11 am to 2 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm – Lutefisk dinner at Scandian Grove Lutheran Church, 10 miles west of St. Peter on Hwy 22, then ½ mile north on County 53.

November 13 (Saturday) – 5:30 - Elvesvingen Lodge meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Program – Scandinavian Holiday Preparations and Travel Discussions.

December 11 (Saturday) – 5:30 – Elvesvingen Lodge meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Julebord (Christmas pot-luck) and Entertainment

December 16 (Thursday) – 6:30 – 8 pm - Lotsa Lotsa Lefse and Fruit Soup, Too! At St. Peter Food Co-op. Free. Register by Thursday, December 9.