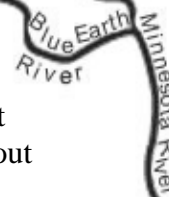




Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582 P.O. Box 1091 Mankato, Mn 56002



In Norway income tax returns are due by April 30th. The Norwegian Tax Department sends out the forms although most of the figures are already in as they really know everything about you (salaries, taxes paid, what you own, your mortgages, bank deposits, etc.). All you have to do is just sign and file!

Hilsen Fra President, Dick Norland - Our lodge was fortunate to have Kim Holland present "Each Story is Special" at our March meeting - she shared pictures, a 1925 re-created video, and information about the fantastic role of the Norwegian American Historical Association. At the end of the evening, Kim went back to Northfield and shared in the birth of her dog's four puppies. She assured me that she will give them good Norwegian names.

April - April will be a busy month with several events to choose from: At our April 9th meeting George Orvick will be sharing his travel experiences to Norway (15 trips!). George has served as a guide as well as being a tourist. If you need a ride, please call me at 625-6060. Members whose last names start with Mo to Q will provide the meal. Margaret Walsvick and Audrey Morken, serving chairs, will contact each server beforehand.

International Festival - Come to the April 10th event at Mankato East High School to experience the cultural backgrounds of our community. Our lodge will be represented and will share the Norwegian heritage.

April Meeting - At our April 9th meeting, our lodge will be treated with a presentation, "CREATING YOUR OWN FAMILY HISTORY RECORD" by Rev. George Orvick. George and his wife, Ruth, have also been tour guides for trips to Norway!

Syttende Mai - On May 21st we are looking forward to a special 100th anniversary Syttende Mai celebration to be held at Bethany Lutheran College. The celebration will begin at 2pm with a presentation by Erling Teigland. He will review the history of the Norwegian American Church as well as the independence of Norway from Sweden. Mark Harstad will follow with his interpretation of a Norwegian immigrant farmer. The afternoon will include tours of Bethany Lutheran College and the Otteson Museum. We will also have entertainment and an evening meal. The presentations, tours, and entertainment are free and open to the entire community. Add the date to your calendars and invite friends and relatives! (There will be an advance sale of tickets for the evening meal at a later date.) We will have sign up sheets available at our April meeting asking members to help in preparing for this event.

Bus Trip - We're excited about our April 17th bus trip to Lanesboro, MN! Detailed information was included in the March newsletter. If you have questions, please call before the March 30th deadline - Jodie 388-2303 or Audrey 387-2223.

Garage Sale - Our lodge has traditionally participated in a May garage sale. Start setting items aside for this great fundraiser.

Email Addresses - If you are currently receiving the newsletter by mail and would prefer receiving it by email, please let me know - norland@hickorytech.net



Sons of Norway

www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org

Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582 P.O. Box 1091 Mankato, Mn 56002



A Special Thank You

Al and Jane Torgerson recently donated a scrapbook of Norwegian postcards which were collected by Al's cousin

Fra Vise Presidenten - Spring is on the Way! Welcome back to all of our members who have been gone over the winter! We hope to see you at the next meeting in April.

Signs That Mean Spring is Here:

1. Robins pulling worms out of the ground
2. Hearing children playing and laughing outside
3. The three week period of perpetual NCAA basketball tournaments
4. Driving with the window cracked a bit
5. Bunny rabbits and Easter egg hunts

Who Knew?

The **cheese slicer** was invented in 1927 by Thor Bjorklund, a Norwegian carpenter, who didn't like the way his wife cut the cheese-- no laughing.

In 1903, Aegidius Elling, a Norwegian engineer built a revolutionary **gas turbine** that would prove to be very valuable in offshore oil-drilling.

And... one of my favorite office supplies, the **paper clip**, was also invented by a Norwegian named Johan Vaaler. Since 1899, billions of these handy little clips have been produced and used all around the world.

Festival of Nations- April 22-24, 2005

If you have never been to the Festival of Nations before, this is the year to go. Held at the RiverCentre in St. Paul, FON is one of the nation's largest and longest running multi-ethnic events. Some of the attractions are, the International Bazaar, demonstrations by folk artisans, cultural exhibits, adult and children entertainment, and of course... foods from all over the world.

General Public hours are:

Friday, April 22, 4:00pm-10:00pm

Saturday, April 23, 10:00am-10:00pm

Sunday, April 24, 11:00am-7:00pm

Be sure to check out their website for ticket prices and more info at

www.festivalofnations.com.

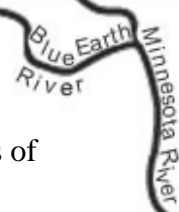
Did you know? Ski for Light and Barnebirke are two of the wintertime Sons of Norway programs. Ski for Light teaches blind and mobility-impaired adults how to cross-country ski. Barnebirke is a cross-country ski event for children ages 3-13. It is held in Hayward, Wisconsin. Every skier is awarded a medal at the finish line.



Sons of Norway

www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org

Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582 P.O. Box 1091 Mankato, Mn 56002



We are very pleased to have you as a member of our lodge and appreciate your support. We hope you are enjoying the benefits of membership and celebrating your heritage with others.

Did you know? The Sons of Norway is a great organization with many worthwhile programs. Of the \$33.00 (or \$29.50 for spouse) that you pay for membership, only \$4.00 or \$5.50 is returned to our local Elvesvingen Lodge. Most of the income from dues is used to assist with sons of Norway national and Foundation projects. You can be very proud that you are contributing toward them.

SONS OF NORWAY ELVESVINGEN LODGE 1-582 CALENDAR

April, 2005

Hello snowbirds! We welcome you back to Minnesota!

- April 1-16 - Mpls/St Paul Int'l Film Festival featuring Scandinavia (www.mnfilmarts.org/mspiff/2005 or 612-331-7563)
- **April 9 - (5:30pm) - lodge meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato**
- **April 10 - (11am-4pm) - International Festival, Mankato East High School, Mankato**
- April 12 - (noon) - Open House at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, for Norwegian cartoonist
- April 17 - (8:15am) - Bus trip to Lanesboro, MN (meet in front of old Sears building)
- April 19 - (noon) - Open House at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, for Norwegian journalist, Asne Seierstad
- April 23 - (times vary) - Bowling Jamboree hosted by SON District 1 - Bloomington (952-920-2602)
- May 19-22 - Hanska's Syttende Mai (smesmo@sleepyeyetel.net or Box 148 Hanska 56041) - tickets go fast!
- **May 21 - (2-6pm) - Syttende Mai & 100th anniversary celebration at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato**
- May 31 - (noon) - concert at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, by violinist Folleso and pianist Hadland
- **May - (date to be announced) - Garage Sale**
- June 10-11 (times vary) - Nisswa-Stamman, Nisswa, MN (www.nisswastamman.org or 218-764-2994)
- **June 11- (5:30pm) - Midsummer's Eve, Land of Memories Park, Mankato**

Be sure to stop at the information table at our next meeting - there are several NEW brochures about events in the area as well as escorted trips to Norway!