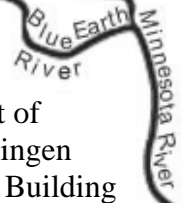




Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582 P.O. Box 1091 Mankato, Mn 56002



Trip to Lanesboro - Are you tired of winter and need a trip out of town? Here's your opportunity to enjoy fellowship with Elvesvingen Lodge.....we will leave Mankato from the front of the old Sears Building on the 17th of April at 8:15 a.m. via bus. Enroute, we will stop once for a "stretching" break at Albert Lea. Next, we will have lunch at the Branding Iron in Preston, MN. Following lunch, we will journey to Lanesboro, where you can stroll the shops before the play "Wild Duck" starts at the Commonwealth Theater in Lanesburo. The play starts at 2 p.m. and is a play by Henrik Ibsen (often referred to as the Shakespeare of Norway). The play is a comedy.....and very good. Prior to the play, there is a video presentation about Ibsen which may be seen in the building adjacent to the theater. After the play we will return to Mankato having another "stretch" break along the way. The cost for this trip is \$70.00 which includes the bus trip, lunch with gratuity; theater ticket and sack lunch and beverage for the trip home. Please join us - this should be fun. Send your name and money to SON - Elvesvingen Lodge, P.O. Box 1091, Mankato, MN 56002. Please register early!

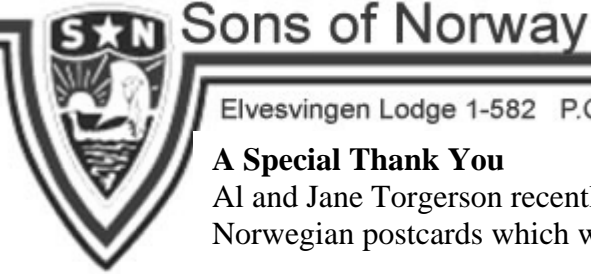
Hilsen Fra President, Dick Norland - We really enjoyed the wonderful program that Pastor Dick Buege provided at our February meeting. He shared his slides and experiences on visiting presidential homes from Rutherford B. Hayes to George Bush. It was really appropriate for February being President's month. Thank you Dick!

March Meeting - March's program should be another outstanding one. Kim Holland, the administrative director for the Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA), will share her presentation "Each Story is Special". The organization locates, collects, preserves and interprets Norwegian American culture. Kim will also share an interesting film from the 1925 Norse American Centennial and provide some wonderful door prizes. Kris and I have been members for a couple of years and have really enjoyed their books and services to members. If you need a ride, please call me at 625-6060.

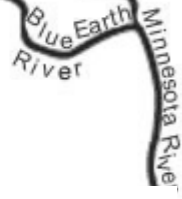
April - At our April 9th meeting, George Orvick will be sharing his travel experiences to Norway (15 trips!) George and his wife, Ruth, have also been tour guides!

Syttende Mai - We are looking forward to a special Syttende Mai celebration this year - to be held at Bethany Lutheran College on May 21st. Be sure to mark the date on your calendar! Preliminary afternoon activities include presentations about the history of the Norwegian American Church, the independence of Norway from Sweden, and the immigration experience. Tours of Bethany Lutheran College and the Otteson Museum will also be available. The celebration will conclude with entertainment and a dinner. Details of the day's events and reservation information will be listed in the April newsletter.

New Members - Please welcome the following new transfer members to our lodge: Viola Gunsolus & John Holte.



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A Special Thank You

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

Mankato Lutheran Home - We attempted to re-schedule a date for our lodge to present a program at the Mankato Lutheran Home; however, it has now been cancelled. We will attempt to reschedule a time in the fall.

Norway in the News - The Aftenposten is Norway's largest newspaper. Aftenposten readers have just voted the Akershus Fortress in Oslo the "Best Spot" followed closely by Vigeland Park. Did you know that the Akershus Fortress is the home of the Norwegian Resistance Museum, the Defense Museum that displays Norwegian military history from the Viking age to the present, a royal burial chamber and a prison museum? Also, did you know that Norway's rainy city of Bergen holds an odd world record? There are more wrists broken in Bergen than anywhere else.

District Leadership Workshop - Audrey Morken, Jodie Wallschlaeger, and Dick Norland attended the Feb 19 Sons of Norway District Leadership Workshop in Windom.

Fra Vise Presidenten - Spring is on the Way! Greetings again! Unless you are an avid skier or outdoor lover in all kinds of weather, like me, most of you are probably getting tired of the short, dark, cold and dreary days. If you are patiently anticipating the arrival of spring, here are some great upcoming events that will help take your mind off winter.

Sunday, April 10th - The International Festival will be held at East High School from 11:00am-4:00pm. This event is a wonderful opportunity for all ages to learn about many different cultures. A few members from our lodge will be on hand to answer any questions about Sons of Norway, and to promote community awareness about our lodge and Norwegian/Scandinavian heritage in general. There will also be a Children and Teen World. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Ann Carlberg at 388-7334 or avcarlbe@charter.net.

Saturday, June 11 - We will be celebrating "Midsummer's Eve". This event is still in the works. Ideas or thoughts are certainly welcome. Please pass them on to Audrey Morken.

Again, I would like to say Tusen Takk for taking the time to read the newsletters. I look forward to seeing you at the next lodge meetings and events.

Still need greeters - Thanks to those of you who expressed an interest in being a greeter/welcomer. We still have a few slots available.



Norwegian seaman's caps are still available – Price \$13.00

Norwegian Hand Cream – If you're having trouble with dry, chapped hands, try concentrated Neutrogena Hand Cream, first used by Norwegian fishermen. It even has a Norge Flag on the box!



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



This is a special letter to our friends who are not official members of Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582. Memberships are \$33 for the primary person and \$29.50 for a spouse. Membership benefits include attending all of our lodge meetings and receiving the wonderful Viking Magazine. It is an exceptional magazine that keeps all of us in touch with Norway. We have a member who is currently teaching hardanger and there are opportunities to learn other Norwegian cultural skills from other members.

Some of the interesting things coming up this year for our lodge will be:

March: Kim Holland from the Norwegian American Historical Association will tell about the many things that they do along with the publishing of a book each year.

April: George Orvick will be presenting the program and showing slides on his 15 trips to Norway!

May: We will be having a special celebration celebrating the 100th anniversary of the independence of Norway at Bethany College on May 21st starting at 2pm.

June: We are planning a Midsummer event at one of the area parks.

We are also planning two bus trips for later this year. The first will be held in the Spring. We plan to travel to Lanesboro, Minnesota, to enjoy a Henrik Ibsen play. A second bus trip is being planned for later in the fall.

We appreciate your interest in the Sons of Norway and invite you to become a member! If you should have any questions about joining the lodge or lodge events, please feel free to call me.

Vennlig hilsen,

Dick Norland

President of Elvesvingen Lodge

507-625-6060

A new rendition of the 10 commandments ... Minnesota style!

1. Der's only one God, ya know.
2. Don't make that fish on your mantle an idol.
3. Cussing ain't Minnesota nice.
4. Go to church even when you're up nort.
5. Honor your folks.
6. Don't kill. Catch and release.
7. There is only one Lena for every Ole. No cheatin'.
8. If it ain't your lutefisk, don't take it.
9. Don't be braggin' about how much snow ya shoveled.
10. Keep your mind off your neighbor's hotdish.



SONS OF NORWAY ELVESVINGEN LODGE 1-582 CALENDAR

March, 2005

- March 4 - (7:30 pm) - Swedish Club at Grace Lutheran Church, 320 East Main. Dr. Katherine Elliott, Professor of Gerontology at MSU, will present a lecture about senior care in Scandinavia. Visitors welcome!
- **March 12 - (5:30pm) - lodge meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato**
- March 22 - (noon) - concert at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, by one of Norway's best Hardanger fiddlers
- **April 9 - (5:30pm) - lodge meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato**
- **April 10 - (11am-4pm) - International Festival, Mankato East High School, Mankato**
- April 12 - (time TBA) - Open House at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, for Norwegian cartoonist
- April 19 - (noon) - Open House at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, for Norwegian journalist, Asne Seierstad
- April 23 - (time TBA) - Bowling Jamboree hosted by SON District 1 - Bloomington MN (call Robert Hagen 952-920-2602)
- May 19-22 (times vary) - Hanska MN Syttende Mai Production (tickets: POBox 148, Hanska 56041 or smesmo@sleepyeyetel.net)
- **May 21 - (2-6pm) - Syttende Mai celebration at Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato**
- May 31 - (noon) - concert at Mindekirken Church, Minneapolis, by violinist Annar Folleso and pianist Christian Ihle Hadland
- **June 11 - (time TBA) - Mid-Summer event, Mankato**

Be sure to stop at the information table at the next meeting. Check out sale items (caps, books, stationery). Take home brochures on events or tours: