



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

The Norwegian architectural firm, Snohetta, is busy creating the WTC Cultural Centre in New York City at the site where the Twin Towers stood until September 11, 2001.



**September Meeting:** Sat., Sept.10, 2005 - 5:30pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato  
 Program: Norwegian Folk Costumes: A Living Tradition.  
 Serving Committee: Dick and Kris Norland (Chairs) and Members (P-R)  
 Transportation Available for non-nighttime drivers: Call 625-6060

**Hilsen Fra Presidenten, Dick Norland** - One of the interesting things that I found when I traveled to Norway was that my ancestors lived along the "Pilgrim's Path" from Oslo to Trondheim. This was a pilgrimage that many took during the Middle Ages. Many traveled and stopped to rest at churches along the way. The Sister Churches at Granavollen were built around the time period of 1100 to 1150. It is amazing to me that these churches are still standing and in use today.

**September** - It will be good to get back to our monthly meetings after the summer break. I invite all members to stop, sign in and pick up a nametag at our next meeting - it helps connect names and faces after the long summer. As a reminder, the donation basket on our serving table helps cover our room rent at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We really appreciate the contributions. And, of course, all the great food is donated by the serving committee. Something new this year, for the environmentalists in our lodge, is the option to bring your own plates, cups, and eating utensils to the meetings. You are welcome to do so - otherwise, we will always have supplies on hand for our meals - including plenty of coffee! That covers the food and fellowship. Our meeting will also include music, a short business meeting and a fabulous program - the first of many great programs for the year!

**HRH Crown Princess Martha Statue** - A bronze statue of Crown Princess Martha will be unveiled September 18 on the Norwegian Embassy grounds in Washington DC. The statue will be presented as a gift from the United States to the citizens of Norway to honor the special relationship that exists between the two countries. If individual members wish to donate toward the statue, the Norwegian American Foundation address is Market Place One, Suite 360, 2003 Western Ave, Seattle WA 98121

**Skogfjorden Language Camp** - Ellen Ahlness, daughter and grand-daughter of current members, attended the Skogfjorden Language Camp in Bemidji earlier this summer. Last spring she was awarded our lodge's Tronvold Scholarship to attend the camp. The scholarship was established by Helen Tronvold in memory of her sister Eleanor. This scholarship was also matched by a District 1 Sons of Norway Scholarship. Ellen's thank you note is included in this newsletter - I'm sure you'll have a smile on your face as you read about her experiences - she is a very mature ten-year-old.

🌈 *On a sad note, one of our members, Orlean Schmiesing, recently passed away- our sympathies to her family.*



**Fra Vise Presidenten- Audrey Morken- On September 10** we have a wonderful speaker coming from the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa to speak about bunads. Laurann Gilbertson, the textile curator at Vesterheim will tell the history of the bunad and show us examples of bunads from different regions throughout Norway. The program will end with a fashion show for those who have worn their bunads. If you have a bunad that you would like to show or wear, please call me at 387-2223. Or if you have a friend who has a bunad, feel free to invite him or her to the program. This is one program you won't want to miss!

**Fall Membership Event kickoff - Oct. 22 at Applewood.** Registration begins at 5:30pm and the buffet dinner/program starts at 6pm. The cost is \$12.00 per person. There will be great food, great music and folk dancing by the Dassel Leikkaringen.

Our goal this year is to increase our net membership by 10 new members. This event will be a great opportunity to invite that friend that has always talked about joining but never got around to doing so. Don't forget, if you bring a prospective member, your and your guest's dinner will be free. Let's have a great turn out this year!

### SONS OF NORWAY ELVESVINGEN LODGE 1-582 CALENDAR Sept., 2005

- Sep 3 - (8-11am) - Frokost, Lanesboro MN
- **Sep 10 - (5:30pm) - Lodge Meeting, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato**
- Sep 18 - (11:45am - 8pm) - Bus Trip to Church Basement Ladies, Plymouth MN (507-388-7139)
- Sep 24 - St Olaf Conference, Norway & the USA 1905-2005 ([www.stolaf.edu/events/norway2005](http://www.stolaf.edu/events/norway2005) or 1-800-726-6523)
- Sep 30-Oct 2 - Nordic Roots Music Festival, Cedar Cultural Center, Minneapolis MN
- Sep/Oct - Concordia Language Villages' adult programs ([www.concordialanguagevillages.org](http://www.concordialanguagevillages.org) or 1-800-450-2214)
- Oct 2-7 - Norwegian Elderhostel ([www.elderhostel.org](http://www.elderhostel.org) or 1-877-426-8056) Program # 6799-100205
- Oct 10-11 - Norwegian Heritage: Resources/Research Conference, Grand Forks, ND (1-866-579-2663)
- **Oct 22 - (5:30pm) -Membership Event, Applewood, Mankato**
- **Nov 5 - (8-4) South Central Genealogy Expo, Minnesota State U., Mankato (507-389-1029)**
- **Nov 19 - Bake Sale, Madison East Mall, Mankato**
- Nov 19 - Bus Trip to American Swedish Institute & Ingebretsens

Check out the Information Table at our monthly meetings - pick up information on area events, travel, or SON financial products; sign up for lodge events/volunteer opportunities; view a copy of recent lodge minutes; check out the SON magazine for children under 15; purchase gift items offered by the District One Sons of Norway fundraising committee; or simply ask questions.

Visit us on the web - [www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org](http://www.sonsofnorwaymankato.org) or [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com)



# Sons of Norway

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



## Fall Kickoff Banquet/New Member Event

**Sons of Norway Elvesvingen Lodge  
October 22 – 5:30pm Registration,**

**6pm Dinner/Program- Applewood Restaurant**

**Buffet Dinner**

**Membership Overview - Elvesvingen Lodge Officers**

**Sons of Norway Financial Benefits - Ralph Carpenter**

**Dassel Leikkaringen Folkdance group**

Join us for an evening of good food, information, and Norwegian folk musikk and dancing.

Come as an individual member or sponsor of a prospective new member.

This is a real opportunity to bring a potential new member to a fine event.

Limited seating/no late admittance for program only-387-2223 if questions.

For those Sons of Norway Elvesvingen Lodge members who bring an interested prospective new member, the dinner for both the prospective new member and the current member will be paid for by the International Sons of Norway/our local lodge.

By October 1<sup>st</sup> , mail reservation form (and check payable to SON) to

**P O Box 1091, Mankato MN 56002**

**Current Elvesvingen Lodge Member - Name, Address, Telephone Number**

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**Current Elvesvingen Lodge Member - Name, Address, Telephone Number**

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**Interested Prospective New Member - Name, Address, Telephone Number**

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Current member attending without guest - \$12 per person

Current member bringing interested prospective new member-no cost

Interested prospective new member attending with current member-no cost



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Thank you for paying part of the money for the *Skogfjorden* Language Camp. I really enjoyed camp. My favorite parts were the gift shop, string group, songs, *Kosatime 1*, and *Kosatime 2*.

*Kosatime* is what we would call “free-time”. We had *kosatime* once in the morning, and then again in the afternoon. During that time many activities were offered that you could choose to do. I chose drama in the morning, and swimming in the afternoon.

Before I write more about *Skogfjorden* I want to tell you a little about myself. I am ten years old and going into fifth grade. I am going to a new school this year. I enjoy crafts, reading, chess, school, and languages. At school I have studied Spanish, but wanted to learn Norwegian because I have friends in Norway. I have visited them in the past, once when I was five, and again when I was eight, and they have spoken English to us. I have even attended Norwegian school with my friend, and I helped teach the English class. When we visit Norway again, I would like to be able to speak Norwegian with them. Besides, learning new languages is just plain fun.

When I arrived at camp I was met by the passport check patrol. I had to show them my “passport” to get into the camp. They checked and stamped my passport, I went to my assigned *hytte*, or cabin, which was named *Molde*. The counselor had US look through our bags for any “contraband”, like American food, electronics, and certain books. I had to turn in some of my books that were written by English authors. Luckily, I had two books by Norwegian authors that I could keep.

After I left my *hytte*, I went to the bank and deposited my money into an account. I also exchanged some of the money to *kroner*, or Norwegian money. With my *kroner*, I was able to buy souvenirs at the shop, and also candy and stuff to use at camp. The candy, mostly chocolate, was Norwegian, too. I also bought two books at the souvenir shop. Next, I went to the check-in location to pick my name for the week. “Ellen” was on the list, so I chose my own name, Ellen. I thought it was fun to have the same name as I normally have. When my dad went to *Skogfjorden* 30 years ago, he also had picked his own name out: *Erik*. When I received my wooded name tag, a man used a wood-burning tool to write *ELLEN* on it. I strung it around my neck with a colored string and wore it all week. The color was important because we used that to pick teams and play games during *String group* time.

*String group* was very fun. Everyone divides into his or her color group. Then the groups divide into smaller groups to learn Norwegian. We played games to learn Norwegian. My favorite game was *Hi, Garulut*. It means, “Hi, carrot”. The purpose of the game is to play cards with numbers, colors, and foods on them. Many of the cards have carrots on them. You deal the all the cards to the players. Then one by one the players put a card in the center of the circle. As a player puts down a card, she says the number, color, or food. If it’s a carrot, everyone says “*Hi Garulut*” and slaps their hand on top of the carrot card. The player who has her hand on top of the stack has to take the pile of cards. The person who runs out of cards first wins the game. It was a great way to learn numbers, colors, and food.

Something that was very memorable to me was during one of the last suppers we had. The “King of Norway” (counselor with paper crown) chose a table to join for dinner. He sat at my table and had dinner with us. All that time the kids at my table all got to laugh and tell jokes to him. The food that night, and every night as well, was traditional Norwegian food and it was fabulous.

I learned a lot of Norwegian during my week at *Skogfjorden*. All together I think I learned over 200 words, and I learned to count to 150, too. I continue to learn Norwegian by working on my workbook, “Norwegian in Ten Minutes a Day” that my parents bought for me. It’s an easy book for anyone to read. Next year, I think I would like to go to the two-week camp. I think that makes my mom nervous, because she said she really missed me while I was gone. Thank you, again, for your generosity and support.

Ellen A. Ahlness, 2062 English Street, Maplewood, MN