



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

Elvesvingen Lodge welcomes new members: **Dr. Phil Wold** and **Randi Marks**. The lodge expresses thanks to Ruth Davidson for her aid with the financial audit.

Blue Earth River
Minnesota River

March meeting: **Saturday, Mar. 11- 5:30 PM, Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

Program: Recent Travelers to Norway- Panel discussion by lodge members

Serving Committee: Warren/Irene Mickelson (Chairs) and Members (F-He)

Transportation Available for non- night time drivers: call Dick Norland at 625-6060

Hilsen Fra Presidenten- Audrey Morken Tusen Takk (Toosen Tuck) to our very own Mark DeGarmeaux who entertained us with the history of the Norwegian language. It was very interesting to listen to the different ways to pronounce words depending on which area of Norway and/or which part of Scandinavia one comes from. Just recently, I met up with my father and aunt and uncle for a few hours in the Cities. My uncle Jan (pronounced 'yawn,') who is married to my dad's sister, is from the Oslo area. Jan and I have fun pronouncing things just a little bit differently and "correctly". Whenever we see each other, we greet with the phrase "Hei pa deg," which, when spoken sounds like "high poh die." But, when my dad hears that phrase, he responds by saying "Hei pa deg," when pronounced in his Vestland dialect sounds like "hey po dey." It's always fun to listen to my relatives talk about the old days back home in Norway. Of course, they speak in their native tongue with a few English words thrown in here and there when they don't remember what the word is in Norwegian. I think there should be a word for that much like there is when one mixes Spanish and English (Spanglish), but I am not sure what it is. Perhaps it would be something like Norwenglish or Englorwegian. But, I digress. I always manage to pick up a few new words, and learn some things about the family that I never had known before, when we all get together. (I wish the Norwegian language could just roll off my tongue like it does with my aunt who lives in Bergen. I have never heard anyone speak Norwegian so beautifully as Tante Aud.) Of course, during my short visit, my aunt had prepared a light lunch for us which consisted of whole pea soup, open faced sandwiches, and krumkake. Needless to say, there were some "unusual" things on the table that I wasn't about to try like Liver paste in a tube, and Mackerel- in a tube-- No need to worry about stinking up the garbage can with empty sardine cans, the Norwegians have discovered putting food in tubes. What a novel concept! One more reason to plan a trip to Norway soon!

March Lodge Meeting: For those of you who have never been to Norway, or if it's been years since you were last in Norway, you can't miss March's meeting. We will be having some of our own members speak about their recent trips to Norway. Hope to see you March 11!

A Slate of Delegates- At February's Lodge meeting, members voted to approve a slate of three delegates to attend the District 1 Convention in June of 2006. Dick Norland, Jodie Wallschlaeger, and Audrey Morken will be representing the Elvesvingen Lodge at the convention which will take place in Bloomington, MN.

Slogans for 2008 Convention- I am very pleased to say that we had a great response to the slogan contest. The winner of the best slogan will be announced at the March lodge meeting and in the next newsletter. Thank you in advance to those of you who sent in your ideas!



A Friendly Reminder- As printed in the Elvesvingen Lodge directory, if members are unable to assist with the serving of the meal in their assigned month, it is suggested that a donation of \$15 per couple or \$10 single be sent to Sons of Norway, Elvesvingen Lodge 1-582, P.O. Box 1091, Mankato, MN 65002.

Receiving the Newsletter- Do you receive your newsletter via email or US Post? If you get the Elvesvingen newsletter through the regular mail, but would like to help us reduce our printing and mailing costs by having us send it to you via email, please call Linda Stelter at 388-7139 or sltms228@chartermi.net with your current email address. We appreciate your help with this.

Hilsen Fra Vice Presidenten - Karen Lundblad At our next Lodge meeting, copies will be available of the Sunday, January 15, 2006, Minneapolis Star Tribune column, "The Reader's Rep," by Kate Parry, Reader's Representative for the Star Tribune. Entitled "Is Finland in Scandinavia or not?", the column is highly informative (and entertaining). Ms. Parry begins thusly: "It took many years in Minnesota for this lost Hoosier to gain even a rudimentary understanding of the subtleties of Scandinavian culture here--where a meeting room full of silent people can mean a ferocious argument is underway. I'm 28 years into my indoctrination in lutefisk, lefse and a ritual for accepting a cup of coffee that makes Japanese social rules seem wildly careless. Still, I was unprepared for the reaction provoked by this question: Is Finland part of Scandinavia? I assumed it was, along with Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Iceland. But it's not so simple." The remainder of the column presents a fascinating and enlightening discussion of the question, and it seems a very good thing for those of us in Sons of Norway to be aware of the discussion. Apparently, there are strong opinions on both sides of this apparently unsettled question. So don't miss the column, and then ask yourself what you think!

SONS OF NORWAY ELVESVINGEN LODGE 1-582 CALENDAR March, 2006

- Mar. 3, Swedish Club Meeting- 7:30pm, Grace Lutheran Church. "From Scandinavia to America: Main themes in Emigration/Immigration.
- **Mar. 11 - (5:30pm) - Lodge Meeting, Recent Travelers to Norway- a Panel discussion- Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Mankato**
- Mar 25- Lutefisk Middag, (sponsored by the Norwegian Glee Club) Church of the Good Shepherd, Edina, MN call 651-882-8314 for more info
- **April 8- (5:30pm) Lodge Meeting- Resources for Tracing our Ancestors- Elvesvingen Lodge 25th Anniversary celebration, Bethlehem Lutheran Church**
- **International Festival at East High School, April 23 11am-4pm.**
- **May 13- (5:30pm) Lodge Meeting- Norwegian /American Attorney, Ole Martin Wasstrand**
- **June- Midsommar's Picnic- time and place TBA**

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 or www.sonsofnorway.com