



Bakke Land Posten

Texas Hill Country News

Sons of Norway - Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

February 1998

Vol. 3 No.2

Valentine's Day Celebration of Our First Anniversary!

I find it hard to believe that our official induction of officers and installation as Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645 occurred just one year ago on Valentine's Day. It was a great occasion. First District officers converged on Austin from Minnesota, Iowa, and South Dakota. The facility rented for the event at the Best Western Atrium North was packed. Some of the charter members had to eat out in the atrium itself! The names of the charter members were read by First District President Kenneth Mjoen. The officer installation was truly festive. I must say that becoming installed as the first President of our lodge was a great honor and moving event for me.

Now, on this Valentine's Day, Saturday February 14, we will celebrate our first anniversary at Ascension Lutheran Church, starting at 4:00 pm. We are planning a pot-luck again and will eat at 5:00. For the pot luck, if your last name begins with A-M please bring a main dish, if N-Z, please bring a side dish. Of course, there will be a big birthday cake and ice cream!! I regret that I will not be present this time because of a firm commitment to my dear wife, Jane, that this Valentine's Day will be ours alone. We will be celebrating out of town.

Vice President, Erik Svenkerud will be presiding over the celebration. Social Director, Don Nedrud is asking everyone to bring a homemade Valentine card and tell a personal Valentine Story. I promise to tell a story at the March S/N meeting after Jane and I return. Please do not forget that, starting in March, our social meetings will be on the third Monday each month, except for special events like Viking Fest '98 (April 25-26) and Syttende Mai (May 17). The March 16 meeting will be another great Movie Night. We will be showing the film "Heroes of Telemark."

Many, many thanks to John Follesdal for his superb genealogy presentation at the January meeting. We were delighted to see that so many people came to hear his talk. Gus Stangeland and Diane Sawyer, the new President of S/N NordTex Lodge, drove down from Dallas, and Harold and Dorothy Sundet were here from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Dorothy, our Sub-District 7 Director, admitted that she and Harold liked the idea of becoming Winter Texans! There were also many of our friends that attended from Hovedstad Chapter of Norwegian Society of Texas (NST). We always welcome everyone. Thanks for coming!

Happy First Anniversary.

Fred

Fred Bolgen (512) 873-8786

Gode Nyheter (Good News)

Ex-Prime Minister of Norway Wins Top Job at W.H.O.

Former Prime Minister of Norway, Dr. Gro (rhymes with true) Harlem Brundtland, was elected Director General of the World Health Organization. Dr. Brundtland, the first woman to lead the organization, is a 58-year old physician, and has served three times as Norway's Prime Minister. She was the first woman to be elected Prime Minister, but has now declared that she is out of Norwegian politics for good. Dr. Brundtland was trained as a physician in Norway (University of Oslo) and has a public health degree from Harvard University. The W.H.O., among other things, coordinates worldwide response to epidemics and organizes vaccination programs.

[reported by Elizabeth Olson on 1/28/98 ; The New York Times]



Reuters

Lace Cookies; Kniplinger Smakaker (featured at the January 26 S/N social meeting)

...baked by Sandy Helle and enjoyed by all!

- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- pecan halves

Grind the pecans and sugar in a food processor. Place in a bowl; add flour, baking powder and salt. In another bowl, beat egg; add butter and vanilla. Stir into flour mixture. Drop by teaspoonsful about 3 in. apart onto lightly greased foil-lined baking sheets. Place a pecan half in the center of each cookie. Bake at 325 degrees for 8-10 minutes, or until golden brown and lacy. Allow cookies to cool completely before carefully removing from foil. The yield is about 4 1/2 dozen. (Use a scant teaspoonful, as the cookies spread while baking.)

New Officers Still Needed

Currently vacant positions in our lodge are: Cultural Director, Assistant Cultural Director, Food Coordinator, Music Director, and Publicity Director. Please volunteer!

Gro Harlem Brundtland Director General of WHO

Membership Drive Still in Progress

We are still conducting our membership drive for this year. Please return your completed membership form if you have not already done so. If you are currently a member, please try to recruit a new member. If you are not a member and have been receiving the newsletter this year, please consider joining Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645 or let us know if you wish to have your name taken off the mailing list.

Ole's "Mistake"

Ole had a little too much to drink at a party one evening. He embraced a strange woman by mistake!

"Oh, excuse me!" said Ole. "I taught yew vere my vife, Lena!"

"You're a fine sort of husband for any woman, you stupid man!" she said angrily.

"Vell, dere, yew see!" exclaimed Ole triumphantly. "Yew even talk like Lena!"

[Ya Sure, Ya Betcha! UFF-DA #3, 206 3/4 Scandinavian Jokes, Charlene Power, Crosby ND, 1981.]

Fra Sekretæren by Carol DeBoe

There were 28 people at the January social meeting. The raffle was enhanced by Emil Svenkerud's (Kringen Lodge, Fargo/Moorhead) donation of the book, "The Secret of Vinland." Fred Bolgen drew the winning number. Carol DeBoe won a beautiful Viking Fest '98 pin.

Dorothy Sundet sold new District I pins (\$3.00) and reminded us of the District Convention on June 11-13 in Brookings, SD. She also reminded us of the availability of a SON Visa card. Last year SON received \$35,000 as its percentage.

Raffle tickets for Viking Fest '98 were sold at the meeting. The grand prize is a trip for two to Norway. Other prizes include Norwegian jewelry.

Your secretary took lengthy notes on John Follesdal's wonderful and informative genealogy talk. The most fascinating thing was that he said there was no such thing as a surname in Norway before 1890. The first names went by a strict set of rules. The first son was named after the pgf, second son after the mgf, first daughter after the pgm, and second daughter after the mgm. If a spouse died and remarried, the first child was normally named after the deceased! In 1923 a fixed surname became required in Norway. John said that in Iceland telephone books are arranged by first name! John recommended the purchase of the book, "The Promise of America," by Odd Lovoll, University of Minnesota Press, 1984 (new edition, 1997). This book discusses Norwegian naming practices and the patronymic naming system. He also recommended the Norwegian-English Dictionary by Einar Haugen (\$22 from Amazon.com).

Reminder: SON Training Seminar

Our officers and other interested members are invited to attend a training session with other Texas lodges on Saturday, February 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be held in Round Rock at the K-Bob's Steak House (1210-Z North IH35). South Dakota's Marvin Hanson, Vice President of District 1, will be conducting the learning activities.

Coming Events

- Feb 14** Saturday - First Anniversary of SON Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645 - Festivities begin at 4:00 p.m.; Pot Luck Dinner at 5:00 p.m.; Bring a homemade Valentine Card. Tell Personal Valentine Story. For Pot Luck: A - M bring main dish and N - Z bring side dish. No lutefisk please!!!
- Mar 16** Social Meeting - MOVIE NIGHT Heroes of Telemark
- April 25-26** Viking Fest '98, Georgetown TX, Riverside San Gabriel Park
- May 17** Syttende Mai

Newsworthy from Western Viking

1 in 7 Norwegians Buy Cellular Phone Last Year!

One out of seven Norwegians, around 750,000, bought a cellular phone last year. This represents an increase of almost 50% over the year before. The explanation is found in the buoyant economic climate and the generous subsidies offered with new subscriptions. Norwegians have bought 2.3 million cellular phones since the end of the 1970s. [Dagens Naeringsliv]

Norway on Line by Todd Jermstad

The Norwegian government sponsors a web page entitled Odin. Odin presents a vast array of information on Norway, including reports on daily events, official policies and pronouncements of the government, articles on various aspects of Norwegian life, and great Norwegian recipes. Odin's web site also offers information on Norwegian genealogy. All of this information is in both Norwegian and English. The address for Odin is:

<http://odin.dep.no/html/english/>

Omission: Mary Nedrud, Sandy Helle, and Carol DeBoe were not recognized for their extensive labor in the kitchen both in cooking and cleanup at the Juletreffest. Others have probably been inadvertently left out. Thanks to all of you who did help!! Tusen takk everyone. Tusen tusen takk.

**Sons of Norway
Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645
Austin, Texas
Instituted February 14, 1997**

Mission statement. The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote, preserve, and cherish a lasting appreciation of the heritage and culture of Norway and other Nordic countries while growing soundly as a fraternal benefit society and offering maximum benefits to its members.

President	Fred Bolgen	873-8786
Vice President	Erik Svenkerud	451-2735
Secretary	Carol DeBoe	331-0095
Treasurer	Leila Tackett	327-5397
Financial Secretary	Philmon Erickson	244-4977
Social Director	Don Nedrud	869-2852
Food Coordinator	Vacant - NEW	
Cultural Director	Vacant	
Ass't Cultural Director	Vacant - NEW	
Editor	Russ Larsen	346-5570
Publicity Director	Vacant - NEW	
Historian	Mary Nedrud	869-2852
Marshall	J. Lewis Stimson	331-0095
Music Director	Vacant - NEW	
Counselors	Bob and Sandy Helle	238-6600



John Follesdal

spoke on Norwegian genealogy at the January meeting and circulated a sheet containing the names, addresses, and web sites of nine Norwegian-American organizations that have detailed information on our ancestors from Norway. These organizations are all listed in Follesdal's web site. Both his web and e-mail addresses were given in the January 1998 *Bakke Land Posten*.

**The February Anniversary Celebration will be on
Saturday, February 14th (4:00 - 7:00 pm)
at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Austin.**

(6420 Hart Lane, corner of Balcones overlooking MOPAC, between 2222 and Far West)

**FIRST ANNIVERSARY/
VALENTINES DAY PARTY!!!
BRING CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN!!!**

See inside for potluck details.

Sons Of Norway

Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

c/o Editor

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