



United States dollar coin commemorating the 1000 year anniversary of Leif (pronounced 'life') Erikson's arrival to North America [more info at www.usmint.gov]

Bakke Land Posten

Texas Hill Country News

Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

September 2000

Color Version

Vol. 5 No. 9

Back to School Issue

The hot, dry summer in Texas is almost over!

Greetings!

This newsletter is dedicated to Russ Larsen, the Bakke Land Posten newsletter editor, who is retiring and moving to Hewitt, TX. We appreciate Russ's dedication to the Cleng Peerson Lodge, and his tireless efforts to publish the best newsletter in Texas! Thank you, Russ. We will miss you. There are many parts to publishing and mailing a newsletter. We could use your help in reporting, layout, printing, and mailing. Please let me know how much time you have to help and what your interest is.

We have a variety of activities planned for the fall. At our September meeting, Monday, Sept 18, Fred will be teaching rosemaking or rose painting. He will have supplies at the meeting for you to try your hand at rosemaking. Monday night October 16, we will be celebrating Leif Erikson Day by having a Viking Dinner Theater including traditional Norwegian recipes and an audience participation play. It should be a lot of fun and educational. Mark Saturday night November 18th on your calendars for our Annual Auction, and we'll end the year with our traditional Christmas party hosted jointly with the Norwegian Society of Texas. This year's party is Saturday December 9th. Sons of Norway offers many opportunities for you to explore the culture of our Norwegian heritage. It is our hope that you will join us for many of the activities.

Looking forward to seeing you at the September meeting.

Jane

In honor of our retiring editor

a web version of this newsletter is available in color. View it... even print it

in color

at:

<http://members.xoom.com/ClengPeerson/>

Kindergarten strike to be stepped up Monday
norhouse.com/news.asp - News of Norway from *Norway Post*
12 August 2000

The kindergarten strike will be stepped up on Monday, after negotiation between the national union of teachers and the municipal authorities broke down Friday.

The 11-week long strike will affect a further 15,000 children on Monday, when another 37 kindergartens will be closed nationwide. However, local negotiations in Oslo ended in agreement, and the kindergarten staff in the capital will be back at work on Tuesday. The city of Oslo has a separate agreement with the teachers' union.

Høst kalender

Fall calendar

18.09.00 (man) 6 pm - Brown Bag Business Meeting at **Sep 18!** (Mon) Ascension Lutheran. All are invited.

7 pm - Social Meeting. **Rosemaling** demonstration.

16.10.00 (man) 6 pm - Brown Bag Business Meeting at **Oct 16!** (Mon) Ascension Lutheran. All are invited.

7 pm - **Viking Dinner Theater** to celebrate Leif Erikson Day... traditional Norwegian recipes and an audience participation play.

18.11.00 (lør) 7 pm - Third Annual Stor Norsk Auksjon -- **Nov 18!** (Sat) **Big Norwegian Auction**

Auction items must be registered before 6:30 - Ascension Lutheran Church

2.12..00 (lør) Norwegian Country Christmas Tour & **Dec 2!** (Sat) Lutefisk Dinner, Clifton Texas

9.12.00 (lør) 4pm - **Jultrefest!!** Christmas Party -- hosted **Dec 9!** (Sat) jointly with the Norwegian Society of Texas. Ascension Lutheran Church.

Watermark - Cleng Peerson - Father of Norwegian Emigration to the USA (*Viking* May 1996)

Sons of Norway, Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645, c/o Editor, 12006 Snowgoose Rd, Austin TX 78758

web address <http://members.xoom.com/ClengPeerson/>

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Norway's Educational System

<http://www.hive.no/engelsk/educatio.html>

The Ultimate Guide to Studies in Norway

<http://isu.uib.no/helebrox.html>

One of the basic principles of Norwegian educational policy is that all children and young people have an equal right to education and training irrespective of domicile, sex, social or cultural background and aptitude. All state education is free. Education and the development of skills have high political priority. The objective is an educational system that combines the highest academic standards with breadth, i.e. that includes the largest possible proportion of the population.

The educational system in Norway comprises:

Primary and lower secondary education (compulsory school), 6 to 16 year-olds, total of 10 years*

Upper secondary education (general education and vocational training), 16 to 19 year-olds, total of 3 years

Higher education (universities and colleges)

*In 1995, the compulsory school age was lowered from 7 to 6 years. Consequently, the time spent in compulsory school has been extended from a total of 9 years to a total of 10 years.

Higher Education in Norway

Institutions offering higher education may be divided into two major sectors: the university sector and the college sector. The university sector includes four universities and six university colleges. The college sector covers 26 regionally dispersed state colleges. The decentralization of higher education is part of Norwegian educational policy, and the establishment of state colleges all over the country was a move to make higher education more accessible and to raise the level of qualified expertise in outlying parts of the country. The programmes offered at these colleges are usually shorter and more occupationally oriented than those at the universities. Studies at the state colleges can also

provide the basis for fulfilling the entrance requirements for graduate studies at the universities and/or university colleges.

Admission Requirements for Higher Education

To gain access to higher education, an applicant has to have general study competence. The normal qualification is the final upper secondary examination issued upon completion of a total of 13 years education below higher education level. Foreign applicants should normally fulfill the requirements which admit them to university studies in their home country.

The Degree System

In Norway the following undergraduate degrees exist:

Candidatus/Candidata magisterii (cand. mag.):

A degree offered at the universities and state colleges after a total of 3 1/2 to 4 years of study.

Høgskolekandidat:

A final diploma/title awarded at the state colleges upon completion of 2-3 years of study.

Høgskoleingeniør:

A degree/title awarded to graduates from departments of engineering at Norwegian state colleges upon completion of a 3-year program.

Grading system

Grades, for undergraduate and graduate education, are awarded according to a numerical system normally ranging from 1.0 (highest) to 6.0 (lowest), with 4.0 as the minimum passing grade. A "pass"/"fail" mark is given for some examinations.

Work Load

University and college programs are measured in "vekttal", the Norwegian term for credit units. The normal work load for one semester is 10 credits.

Anniversaries Celebrated at the Midsommar Eve 2000 Meeting on June 19

- 51 **Virginia and Sig** Osterhus-Nov 6, 1948
- 51 **Faye and Bill** Ludwig-Jun 18, 1949
closest to Midsommandagen!
- 50 **Gervaise and Don** Amundson-Jun 11, 1950
real close to Midsommar
- 41 **Nita and Russ** Larsen-Aug 17, 1958
- 36 **Leila and Ray** Tackett-Aug 9, 1963
- 30 **Linda and Phil** Erickson-Nov 22, 1969
- 17 **Jane and Fred** Bolgen-Dec 30, 1982
- 1 **Pamela and Mike** Knott-Jul 11, 1998

*In the smallest things
we find the greatest
pleasures*



Snow Mountain - Norway - 29 May 2000
Jane and Fred's cousin, Torrill, await his arrival!

<http://www.uib.no/ur/bros-eng.htm>

The Structure of Higher Education in Norway

Institutions offering higher education in Norway may be divided into two major sectors: the university sector and the college sector.

The university sector The university sector includes the universities and the university colleges ("vitenskapelige høyskoler") with an estimated total of nearly 80,000 students in 1997. These institutions carry out research and offer university-level instruction at undergraduate and graduate levels, leading to academic degrees. There are four universities in Norway. The University of Oslo, founded in 1811, is Norway's oldest university and largest institution with respect to the number of students (approx. 35,000), staff and study programs offered. The University of Bergen and the Norwegian University for Science and Technology - previously known as the University of Trondheim - have each approximately 18,000 students. University of Tromsø, the northernmost university in the world, has approximately 7,000 students. There are six university colleges; independent research institutions offering specialized professional degree programs at university level. These are the Agricultural University of Norway, the Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine, the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration, the Norwegian University of Sport and Physical Education, the Norwegian State Academy of Music, and the Oslo School of Architecture. The six university colleges have a total of approximately 7,000 students.

The college sector After a reorganization finalized in August 1994, there are 26 state colleges with approximately 72,000 students (1997). These offer 1-4 year study programs leading to qualifications in teaching, engineering, public administration, social work, music, health education, etc. In addition there are about 12,000 students in private colleges. Studies at a state college may be combined with educational programs at other institutions of higher education. Transfer to the university sector is possible.

Two Skogfjorden "Professor Larsen" Scholarships Are Available from Cleng Peerson Lodge

Skogfjorden, Concordia College's Norwegian Language Village (<http://www.cord.edu/dept/clv/>) is located at a permanent site near Bemidji, Minnesota. Skogfjorden offers a taste of Norwegian life for 7- to 18-year olds who spend one, two, or four weeks there as villagers.

If you decide to visit Skogfjorden, you will be one of more than 5,500 young people who come from all 50 states and several other countries to participate in Concordia Language Villages summer programs each year.

Two \$100 scholarships will be awarded to children and grandchildren of Cleng Peerson Lodge members attending the camp during the summer of 2001. Future villagers need to send an essay entitled "Why I am attending Skogfjorden" to the lodge address or to clengpeerson@hotmail.com by 1 November 2000 and the member must send a note by 1 February 2001 affirming that the applicant will be attending Skogfjorden.

Members who would like to contribute to the scholarship fund should send donations to Phil Erickson at the lodge address. Members who would like to serve on the Skogfjorden Scholarship Committee should email Erik at svenkerud@pol.net. Takk!

Russ Larsen Retires

from the Texas Department of Health

Bakke Land Posten Editor, Russ Larsen, was well known in his workplace for his appreciation of his Scandinavian heritage. On the occasion of his retirement on August 31, 2000, a representative of the Bad Poets Society shared the following literary masterpiece with those present, including Russ's wife Nita.

Farewell to Russ Larsen

No more Austin sunsets enjoyed from the deck of the Salt Lick,
As your ancestors once enjoyed them upon the windy Baltic.

Allow us, please, to praise you before this cruel divorcement.
Must we take our final leave of the noblest of the norsemen?

After all we've been through, our memories will be striking.
Can we ever adjust to the loss? The loss of Russ the Viking.

Never, never again, your voice shall we hear and heed,
Evermore we'll recall when our work was simple and Swede.

Let us then be reconciled. And no more misbehavin'
As we say goodbye today to our favorite Scandinavian.

Hail and farewell good fellow! Allow us this final salute!
A salute we earnestly hope will suit, a son of old Canute!

Delivered by *advokat* on New Year's Eve*, 2000

*The traditional end of the fiscal year in Scandinavia is August 31...



Nita and Russ Larsen with Viking ship model that was a gift from one of Russ's coworkers

**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 it members.

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**Gratulerer med Fødselsdagen
(Grah-tew-LEHR-er meh FERDS-els-dah-en!)
SEPTEMBER**

1 Fred Henry	21 Sandy Helle
6 Todd Jermstad	22 Yulah Sisler
18 Glenn Mack	22 Leila Tackett

Little Pete Sleeps in Class

Little Pete fell asleep in class and was awakened by the angry teacher.

"You can't sleep in class!!" she yelled.

"Vell, I could if yew wouldn't talk so loud!!" replied Little Pete.

Nora Takes Karate Class

Nora came home late from her karate class, and she announced to Bjorn, her husband, "Vell, uff-da!! I have been tew Karate class, so yer dinner will be late! Vant tew make someting of it?!!!"

from *Lena Loves Ole Jokes* by Charlene Power of Crosby, North Dakota

GET READY TO VISIT

ANOTHER TEXAS SONS OF NORWAY LODGE!!

At the September Cleng Peerson officers meeting, Phil Erickson told of the grand opportunity to visit other Texas SON lodges. The first tour will hopefully occur this fall... Stay tuned!!

Learn Rosemaling!!!

Monday September 18th - 7:00 PM

At Ascension Lutheran Church

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

Fred Bolgen will teach the beautiful Norwegian Art of Rosemaling!

Join your officers at 6:00 pm for the Brown Bag Business Meeting!!!

***Map found on Cleng Peerson Webpage**



Sons Of Norway

Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

c/o Editor

12006 Snowgoose Road

Austin, Texas 78758



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