

Sons Of Norway



Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

September 1997

Vol. 2 No. 9

The Skandi Dancers are Coming! Bjarni Finally Lands in America!!!

by Fred Bolgen, President

As was reported in our August newsletter, the Canadian astronaut, Bjarni Tryggvason, was launched into space on August 7, 1997 as one of the crew of NASA Mission STS85 of it returned to Earth on August 19. Bjarni, the Mission Payload Specialist, was born in Reykjavik, Iceland and educated in Canada. He and his five mates are modern explorers of space just as the Norwegian Bjarni Herjulfsson was an ocean trader North America before Leif Erikson. October 9 is Leif Erikson Day. However, let us not forget that Native American Indians were here first to greet Leif and subsequent explorers!



Although popular history has forgotten Bjarni Herjulfsson, it is only fitting that his discovery be acknowledged also.



Rod Johnson gave a superb talk at our Lodge Social meeting on August 24. Rod is a dynamic speaker and gifted woodcarver. He brought some of his woodcarvings with him and showed slides of Sweden where he was a featured artisan at the Old World Festival. Rod's woodcarvings are very popular in Sweden because he specializes in Swedish-Texas style characters. Under Rod's name on his business card is written "Honoring a Heritage with a Knife."

We want to congratulate Clifton, Texas for being officially designated by the Texas Legislature as the Norwegian Capital of Texas. A ceremony will be held in Clifton on December 6 on the same day as the Norway Country Christmas in Cranfills Gap. The Bosque County Chapter of the Norwegian Society of Texas is in Clifton. T L "Larry" Huse is the NST chapter president. Congratulations Clifton C of C, Larry, NST-Bosque County, and all Clifton residents!



We are excited about our September social meeting at Ascension Lutheran Church on September 22. It will be a joint meeting with the Hovedstad Chapter of NST. The Skandi Dancers from Dallas are coming to show us some of the traditional Swedish folk dances. Not only that, the Skandi will teach us how to do them! Erik Svenkerud, Russ Larsen, Gus Stangeland from Dallas NordTex 1-594, and thousands of others saw them over Labor Day at the Westfest in West, Texas (not West Texas). They were very impressed and say not to miss our September meeting! We hope to have the Norwegian Leikarringen Dancers from Dallas come to one of our future joint meetings. Sandy Helle will give us our third lesson in Norwegian. Be sure to go over the first two lessons and bring them both with you to the next meeting. **See you on September 22!**

Fred (512) 873-8786

The Swedes are Coming!

The number of Swedes who immigrated to Norway increased by 25 percent last year to 2,872. In North Sweden, where unemployment runs as high as 20 percent, job seeking tours of Norway have been organized. In the town of Pajala, the unemployed Swedes view a move across the border as a ticket back into the labor market.

Reprinted from the Juni/Juli 1997 issue of Nyheter fra Sognefjord, the newsletter of S O N Sognefjord Lodge #5-523, Muskegon, MI, Carolyn Ness, Editor.

**Quiz: What is Ole and Lena's last name??
Answer below!**

The Sons of Norway Scholarship Fund

Each lodge in the First District is asked to make a contribution to the First District Scholarship Fund. This fund is used to send children to language camps. Because of increased costs fewer children have been able to attend in recent years.

Every lodge is encouraged to have a fundraiser for this worthy cause. Personal contributions are also welcome. All donations are tax deductible. Donations should be sent directly to the First District Treasurer:

Gene Brandvold, Treasurer
First District Sons of Norway
9607 Palmer Road
Bloomington, MN 55437-2018

Lutefisk Lovers News

- 📅 The Lutefisk Open Golf Outing was held in Albert Lee, Minnesota on August 3.
- ✂ The National Asparagus Festival was held in Hart, Michigan on June 14.
- 😊 Traditional Lutefisk Supper, Cranfills Gap (Bosque County), Saturday December 6.



News from Web Sites

Be sure to check out Gus Stangeland's **Norskland** web site at <<http://www.norskland.com>>.

A special feature of his web site are the live camera shots from all over Norway, including Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger, Trondheim, and many others. These live pictures are updated often, some every few minutes -- you are really watching Norway live!! Also included are live pictures from major US cities.

Fred Bolgen recommends the following Internet web addresses:

Helpful Fred Log Cabin--<<http://www.geocities.com/yosemite/1141/norway.html>>

884 Norway web pages--<<http://www.geocities.com>>

Genealogy list--<norway-L-request@root.sweb.com>

Search engine list--<<http://www.edirectory.com/world/enorway.html>>

Norway on line--<<http://www.norway.org>>

To learn more about space shuttle Discovery's Mission STS-85, including details of the launch, highlights of the Mission, and more about Bjarni Tryggvason, go to the Internet address: <<http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/shuttle/missions/sts-85>>.



Bjarni Tryggvason

Sandy's Favorite Kringle

1 cup of water 1/4 lb butter or margarine
1 cup flour 4 eggs
1 cup 10x sugar 1 tablespoon warm water
1 teaspoon vanilla

Put butter in pan with 1 cup water and bring to a boil until butter is melted.

Remove from heat and add 1 cup flour all at once. Stir until it forms a ball and comes away from the sides of pan.

Add 4 eggs one at a time, beating well after each egg.

On greased cookie sheet, drop balls of the dough by tablespoon, each touching another until it forms the figure 8. Place in the middle of the oven and bake at 325 deg for 50 min. Cool completely.

Mix 10x sugar, water, and vanilla until there is a spreading consistency. Make sure it is not watery--spred over cake.

Submitted by Sandy Helle and taste-tested with enthusiasm by Lodge members at the August Social meeting.



**Lewis Stimson and Sandy Helle
preparing for raffle
at August Social Meeting**

News from Sognefjord Lodge #5-523 in Muskegon, Michigan

Russ Larsen went to the Larsen Family Reunion in Muskegon, Michigan this summer. The reunion was held at Hager's Hideaway, adjoining the Viking Lodge on Muskegon Lake which connects to Lake Michigan. Russ' cousin, Chuck Matthews, was the organizer of the "best reunion yet" attended by over 100 descendants of the family patriarch who was born in 1857 in Sarpsborg, Norway and emigrated to Michigan. The largest Nordic organization in Muskegon is Viking International. Matthews has served as the local, state, national, and international president of Viking. The Muskegon Viking Lodge has a membership of 1100 with a waiting list of 200!

Russ was given a tour by President Tom Hansen of the extensive lodge facility of S O N Sognefjord Lodge #5-523. Their June speaker served in the 99th Norsk, American Battallion during World War II! The facility has a large hall that they rent for \$500 per night. They also sponsor bingo each weekend, a percentage of which is given to charity. It was pointed out in the summer issue of their great newsletter that there are 415 Sons of Norway lodges across the US, Canada, and Norway (listed in the March issue of Viking). How many have you visited? For all of you lutefisk lovers, there will be a lutefisk supper on November 6 in Muskegon!



The Photo Page



The Leikarringen/Skandi Dancers at Westfest - August 30th



**Don Nedrud and Rod Johnson
at August Social Meeting**



(Examples of Rod Johnson's Scandinavian/Texas wood carvings to sides)

Fra Secretarien, Carol Deboe

1. There were 17 members present at our August social meeting (there were 23 in July).
2. There are 52 members of our lodge; there are 90 households on the newsletter mailing list. Let's all come to the September meeting to get better acquainted and learn from the Skandi dancers. We also want to warmly welcome all of our friends from NST and get to know them better.
3. The raffle netted \$52.00. The winners were: Erik Svenkerud, Leila Tackett, Don Nedrud, and Phil Erickson. They won Norwegian calendars, Uff Da! cups donated by the Wooden Spoon in Plano Texas, and a S O N pin.
4. Fred shared a copy of the "Western Viking" published in Seattle (p 37, September Viking) that has news of Norway. The "Norway Times" published in New York (p35 Sep Viking) will give our lodge \$7.00 for every subscription we get. There is a third newspaper, "The Sun," published in Evergreen, Colorado (also p 35) containing "News for Scandanavians Everywhere."

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Fine Scandinavian Gifts & foods

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Little Ole

The teacher called Lena on the phone and said, "I'd like to talk to you about little Ole, Mrs. Olson."

"Noting doin'," yelled Lena. "I had him all summer an not vunce did I call yew!!"

Coming Events

- Sep 18** (Thurs) American Nordic Club Supper at the Hwa Yuan Restaurant, 7 pm (see article) Call Jens Busch (288-0022).
- Sep 22** (Mon) **Cleng Peerson 1-645 Social Meeting** with Hovedstad NST, Ascension Lutheran Church, 7:00 pm; Skandi Dancers from Dallas - Vote on terms of office.
- Sep 27** (Sat) Internat Children's Festival. Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman St. East of I-35 on Townlake. Volunteers needed for Norway booth from 10:00 -5:00; parade in native costumes at 12:30. Wear Norsk.
- Oct 12** (Sun) **Leif Erikson Day Celebration** - SON members are invited to join the Austin Hovedstad Chapter of NST for an evening of fun and BBQ at the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church at 3525 Bee Cave Road beginning at 5 pm.
Will there be a Cleng Peerson Lodge "Bjarni" skit?!!!
- Oct 14-18** Norsk Hostfest, Minot ND State Fairgrounds (see ad on p 49 of the August Viking). This is North America's largest Scandinavian Festival (labeled as a Top 100 Event by the American Bus Assn). Pam Tillis & Patty Loveless; Randy Travis; Wayne Newton; Bill Cosby; LeAnn Rimes & Eddie Arnold; Charlie Pride, and Myron Floren.
- Nov 12-13** Nov 12-13 Annual Smorgasbord Dinner in Norse (Bosque County, near Clifton), (Wed/Thr) Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Mail orders only; postmarked Oct 17-24. Lottery drawing on Oct 27.
- Dec 6** (Sat) Norway Country Christmas, Cranfills Gap TX (Bosque County, near Clifton). Lutefisk supper and official designation of Clifton as Norwegian Capital of Texas. Details to follow.

**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 Chairperson	Don Nedrud	869-2852
Cultural Director	Deborah Kaulaity	453-8528
Historian	Mary Nedrud	869-2852
Marshall	J. Lewis Stimson	331-0095

The Nordic Alumni to Meet

The Nordic Alumni, a remnant of the American Nordic Club organized by **Jens Busch** in 1986, will meet for a buffet dinner on September 18 (Thursday) at 7:00 pm at the Hwa Yuan Restaurant (Chinese) located at 11150 Research Blvd (Suite 201) in the Balcones Woods Shopping Center.

The cost is \$12.00 per person, complete, for a real full buffet, including hot or iced tea, taxes, and gratuities. If you would like to go, please **call Jens** for details at 512/288-0022. He (and the restaurant) need to get a close estimate of how many will be there.

**The September Social Meeting will be on
Monday, September 22nd (7 pm)
at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Austin.**

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

Learn to Dance Norwegian!!!

by the Skandi Dancers

Members of this talented Dallas Scandinavian Folkdance group will demonstrate and teach us some simple, traditional dance steps!

The Norwegian Language

by Sandy Helle

The third in the introductory language series.

BRING GODTER OG MATBIT (GOODIES AND SNACKS!)

Sons Of Norway

Cleng Peerson Lodge #1-645

c/o Russell Larsen, Editor

P.O. Box 650042

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