

Valhall



Viking

May 2008

Phone: 619/469-9779

Number4

1912—2008



**VALHALL
LODGE**

Meetings at 7:30 pm
first Monday of the month
at the
**East San Diego
Masonic Temple
7849 Tommy Drive
San Diego, CA
92119-1799**

www.lodgeofvalhall.com
www.sofn.com

**Next Business
Meeting:
May 3rd, Monday**

**Social:
Sytendde Mai
May 17, Saturday**

**Newsletter
deadline:
May 15, 2008**

Beskjed fra Presidenten - Hurra for Syttende Mai!

It's that time of the year to celebrate the most significant and unique holiday for Norwegians – the celebration of the signing of the Norwegian Constitution on 17 May 1814. It is celebrated world wide wherever Norwegians and their friends gather. Here in San Diego, we are fortunate to have opportunities to celebrate this holiday under the sponsorship of the many Norwegian organizations. Following our regular Business meeting on May 5, a video of past celebrations of Syttende Mai in San Diego will be provided by Ozzie Gilbertson, Honorary Consul Emeritus in San Diego. He will also be making a presentation at our Norwegian Genealogy Group on May 8.

On the day itself, 17 May starts with the Norwegian Flag Raising at Balboa Park, followed by a continental breakfast at Hall of Nations, sponsored by the House of Norway. This year, May 17 falls on the day of our regular social, so we will celebrate at Valhall with a traditional Norwegian dinner and a musical program organized by Sven Olsen. The weekend concludes on Sunday, 18 May at Balboa Park with the traditional children's parade and program. See the details of these events elsewhere in this issue.

In April, we had a busy but enjoyable month, starting on April 7 when, after our regular business meeting, long time member Ingrid Lindgrin and her family hosted a special 80th Birthday celebration for Torfin. Then, on 19 April, we enjoyed our daytime Brunch and Bingo social, a fund raiser to offset the costs for attending the District Convention. It was hosted by your delegates and alternates to the convention, and chaired by Jim Adams who coordinated the effort of the delegates, alternates and a number of others recruited by Jim. A champagne brunch enjoyed amid the pleasant accordion music of Kjell Holmes was followed by many games of Bingo. We all had a good time, and thanks to the generous donations by many members, many good prizes were won. A 50-50 raffle for Cash plus two tickets to the stage production of "Cats" was won by Don Olson. Congratulations to all winners.

Sadly, we must offer our sincere condolences to Karin and Ola Brevig on the untimely death of their son, Sigurd.

Jurolf



SYTTENDE MAI

A DAY TO CELEBRATE WITH VALHALL LODGE
SONS OF NORWAY # 6-25

SATURDAY MAY 17, 2008

**Musical entertainment by the San Diego Men's Chorus
and the Ladies' Chorus**

MENU

Poached Salmon, Meatballs w Gravy
Fish Balls w Shrimp White Sauce
Green Salad, Fruit, Cucumber Salad, Red Potatoes, eggs
Cold Cuts, Bread
Cream Cake and Coffee

SOCIAL HOUR 5:00 pm

DINNER 6:00 pm

Program following Dinner

Adults \$17.50

Reservations made after May 13

Or at the Door **\$21.00**

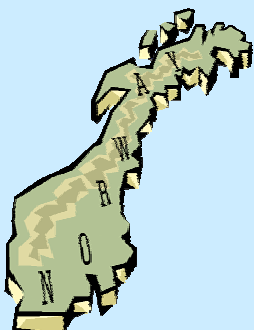
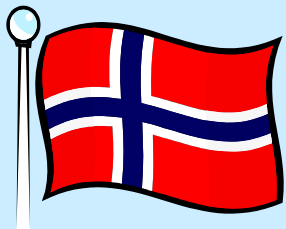
**Children and Grandchildren of Valhall Members 12 and
under FREE**

Students who are MEMBERS OF Valhall Under 25 FREE

SEND RESERVATIONS TO Judy Sawyer

5443 Forbes Ave San Diego, CA 92120

(619) 583-0859





*In Recognition of
recruitment of new
members Sons of Norway
Awards a
Certificate of Recruitment
and a Bronze Pin
to the following members:*

Recruitment Certificate and Pin

Eldbjorg Backous 1 New Member
Ingrid Lindgren 1 New Member
Karin Brevig 1 New Member
Marlene Lesney 1 New Member
Robert Miller 1 New Member
Vickie Woodruff 1 New Member
Marie Olson-Weir 2 New Members
Oddvar Hoidal 2 New Members
Shirley Thomas 2 New Members
Amelia Seeto 3 New Members
Jurolf Oen 3 New Members

Congratulations to all of you!

Valhall Lodge 6-025 – Sons of Norway



Lodge Officers for 2008

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| President | Jurolf (Jerry) Oen | 858-549-1530 |
| Vice-President | Rick Hausvik | 619-579-5447 |
| Counselor | Helga Moore | 619-298-0390 |
| Secretary | Amelia Seeto | 858-712-6876 |
| Assist. Secretary | Judith Johnson | 858-459-8818 |
| Financial Secretary | Aprell Waymire | 619-276-3809 |
| Treasurer | Don Lesney | 619-465-3686 |
| Social Director | Judy Sawyer | 619-583-0859 |
| Asst. Soc. Dir. | LaVonne Coover | 619-264-9486 |
| Cultural Director | Sven Olsen | 760-735-6171 |
| Marshal | Don Balmer | 619-466-2179 |
| Asst. Marshal | Ron Thomas | 619-749-9967 |
| Greeter | Lou Coover | 619-264-9486 |
| Greeter | Raymond Johnsen | 858-459-5430 |
| Historian | Lorraine Tucker | 760-233-5034 |
| Librarian | Lorraine Tucker | 760-233-5034 |
| Musician | Joyce Olsen | 760-735-6171 |
| Editor | Arlene LaBree | 858-271-8709 |
| Circulation Editors | Dean Seiler | 858-455-6798 |
| Foundation Director | Charles Gorder | 619-287-3559 |
| Publicity Director | Jean Shogren | 619-287-6056 |
| Trustee (1 years) | Ingrid Lindgren | 858-277-3376 |
| Trustee (2 years) | Everett Shogren | 619-287-6056 |
| Trustee (3 years) | Ola Brevig | 858-756-1167 |
| Youth Director | Ellen Spitzer | 619-444-9077 |
| Auditors | Allen Johannesen | 858-452-1797 |
| | Thelma Johannesen | 858-452-1797 |
| | Sven Olsen | 760-735-6171 |
| Corporation Directors | | |
| | Don Lesney | 619-465-3686 |
| | Sigurd Stautland | 619-299-9237 |
| | Aprell Waymire | 619-276-3809 |
| Corporation Officers | | |
| President | Ola Brevig | 858-756-1167 |
| Vice President | Allen Johannesen | 858-452-1797 |
| Secretary | Everett Shogren | 619-287-6056 |
| Treasurer | Jurolf (Jerry) Oen | 858-549-1530 |



Gratulerer!



May Birthdays

| | |
|-----|----------------------|
| 1 | Juanita Griebel |
| 1 | Edward Schaffroth |
| 4 | Susan Hansen |
| 4 | Dale Roybal |
| 6 | John Steen |
| 7 | Louis Amundson |
| 8 | Jessica Hartenberger |
| 9 | Karin Johannesen |
| 13 | Debra Hausvik |
| 14 | Amelia Seeto |
| 115 | Cynthia May |
| 16 | Arlene LaBree |
| 22 | Mary Fry |
| 22 | Marie Olson-Weir |
| 24 | Centes Wheeler |
| 25 | Mary Conklin |
| 25 | Arnette Scherl |
| 29 | Marvin Holm |
| 30 | Mangnhild Gilbertson |
| 31 | Rhona Gorder |

May Anniversaries

Adolf & Mary Jacobsen 5/23

Lydia & Erling Nyhammer 5/27



Flowers Wanted

Needed! Flowers for the SON International Convention!

The Convention will be held Aug. 27, 28, 29, 30th 2008. Because a lot of the delegates are coming from areas where the growing seasons are very short, we want to impress them with the beautiful flowers that are grown in our area. Look at your yard and if you have flowers that are available at the end of August, which can be donated to the Decorating Committee, it will be most appreciated. Judy Sawyer, Chairman

For More Information....

Visit our website at
[Http://www.lodgeofvalhall.com](http://www.lodgeofvalhall.com)

The website has the flyers that you see in this newsletter, plus some you don't see because we don't have room here. There are also any of the applications you may need for entering contests and applying for scholarships.

Sometimes information that would be useful for members arrives after the newsletter is printed. That information will be put on the website also. For example, the Memorial Day at Camp Norge information has not arrived yet, I will put it on the website when it arrives.

Planned additions to the website are more pictures (soon!) like from our Xmas party, and also a guide to other Norwegian events. -

Arlene LaBree, webmaster.

Don't Miss It!

At our next Business Meeting, May 5th, a video presentation by Ozzie Gilbertson will be shown during the meeting.

Ozzie Gilbertson will show a movie he has produced about the 17th of May celebrations at Balboa Park and the reception at the Norwegian naval vessel *HNoMS Fridjof Nansen*. You don't want to miss this very interesting and timely presentation as we look forward to May 17th, 2008.

Come to the meeting and bring your friends!
Tusen takk,
Sven Olsen

Just for Fun...

Two Norwegian hunters from Minnesota got a pilot to fly them to Canada to hunt moose. They bagged six. As they started loading the plane for the return trip, the pilot said the plane could take only four moose.

The two lads objected strongly, "Last year we shot six and the pilot let us put them all on board and he had the same plane as yours."

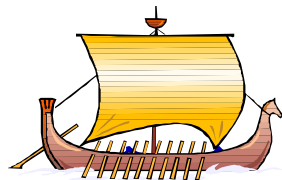
Reluctantly, the pilot gave in and all six were loaded. However, even on full power, the little plane couldn't handle the load and went down a few moments after takeoff.

Climbing out of the wreck idea where we are?"

"Yaaah, I tink we's pretty close to where we crashed last year."

fra Lorraine Tucker

Ladies of Valhall LOV notes..



Next meeting: May 3, 2008, 9a.m. at Denny's Restaurant in Fletcher Hills.

Hostesses: Jean Shogren and Peggy Gere.

Twenty-one members were present at the April meeting. The hostesses, Barbara Evje and Anita Reith had decorated the tables with candy cups and small paper umbrellas. April Showers! How clever! Helen Andrewson and Beryl Young were also hostesses for April, but were unable to attend. We thank all four for the lovely candy and decorations. Helen had a good idea for raffle prizes. At the end of the meeting the winning tickets were drawn, and each one won a notebook, in which they are supposed to keep a journal over happenings in their lives.

Helen has done this ever since she was a young girl, and she read some of her life experiences at one of our meetings. Now we are waiting for the winners of the notebooks to bring their books back and read for us! We can't wait!

We are still planning to attend a reading of one of Ibsen's plays in September, and will most likely host a reception after the performance.

We did not have a lot of business to discuss at the April meeting, and therefore not too much to report. Therefore I will talk a little about LOV - Ladies of Valhall, and what we are all about. In April of 1990 some of the ladies from Valhall Lodge started to talk about forming a ladies group, and in 91 it took off officially, under the leadership of Mary Hovland. There were 14 charter members. Ladies of Valhall's purpose is to complement Valhall Lodge in all its activities, strengthen our cultural heritage, and of course, make new friends and enjoy the fellowship. Any woman who is a member of Valhall Lodge is welcome to join Ladies of Valhall. There are no dues.

For the first 10 years LOV had meetings in the homes of members, but as the group grew to over 30 members we moved to Denny's in 2001. Currently we have about 40 members.

I was not a member of LOV from the beginning. Then I was invited to a tea they hosted at the lodge.

It was absolutely elegant and wonderful, and all the ladies were warm and welcoming and friendly. I was sold. I would like to think that we still treat "newcomers" this way, and that they all will feel at home in our group.

When we were 10 years old we celebrated with a nice party at one of the hotels in the Valley. (I think it was Town & Country). In only 3 years we will turn 20, so soon it will be time to think about another smashing party. In the meantime we keep busy with our annual activities, our meetings, new projects, enjoying each other, and much more. Lorraine has a list over LOV's many donations and accomplishments over the years, and she will read them off to us. It is always interesting to remember what we have done in the past and then plan what we can do in the future.

At the May meeting we will also pay tribute to Henrik Wergeland, Norwegian poet and author. Norwegians everywhere are celebrating Wergeland's 200th birthday this year.

Hope you will be there. Hurra for 17. Mai!
LOV president Ingrid Lindgren.

SERVICES DIRECTORY

Financial Benefits Counselor

Vickie Woodruff
(858) 232-0247

Language Instructor

Erling Nyhammer
(619) 448-4217

Telephone Committee

Helen Seiler
(858) 453-3175

Sunshine Committee:

Chairperson, LaVonne Coover
(619) 264-9486

Blood Bank Representative

LaVonne Coover
(619) 264-9486

Video Presentations:

Lorraine Tucker
760-233-5034



Minutes of the Valhall Lodge Business Meeting April 7th, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Oen at 7:30 PM.

The Charter was draped in memory of our departed brother Frederick Martin Leon, who passed away in March 20, 2008. President Oen read a biography of Fred's life.

Visitors: Ingrid Lindgren introduced her daughter, Karen, a former member.

Membership: No new members were presented for membership.

Minutes: The minutes were approved as printed in the Valhall Viking Newsletter.

Correspondence: Two pieces of correspondence regarding the District 6 Convention were shared with the membership by Secretary Amelia Seeto. One contains the details of the Folk Art Competition and the other is corrected information about the banner contest. Interested members were directed to see Secretary Seeto, the April Valhall Viking Newsletter or Valhall Lodge's Website for details and forms.

Committee Reports

Social: Judy Sawyer reported that the Anniversary Dinner in March was wonderful; Reg and Pat Becker did a great job; the lodge received a "Thank You" card from Wendy Hovland-Henry. Pat thanked the March Social Committee for all their hard work in making the Anniversary Dinner

such a success.

This month's social is being sponsored by the delegates to the District Convention. We will be having Brunch and Bingo from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Joyce Oen passed around a sign up sheet.

Cultural: Sven Olsen reported that Oswald Gilbertson will be making a presentation regarding last year's Syttende Mai celebrations in San Diego at our next business meeting.

At our Syttende Mai social, the San Diego Mannskor and Ladies Ensemble will perform.

The last Norwegian Language class of the season is being held. The class is held every Tuesday at 6:30 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Contact Erling Nyhammer for more information.

On Thursday, April 10 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, the Genealogy group will hear a presentation regarding the first organized Norwegian Immigration aboard the sloop Restauration,

Newsletter: No report by Arlene LaBree, Newsletter Editor, however President Oen announced that we have a new Circulation Editor – Dean Seiler. Thank you, Dean!

Sunshine: LaVonne Coover reported that "Get Well" cards were sent to Ted Roybal and Amelia Seeto. "Thinking of You" cards were sent to:

Janice & Andy Christensen

Anne & Oddvar Hoidal & Son
Ingrid & Torfin Lindgren
Condolences were sent to Lucy Leon.

The Lodge received a request from member Janet Erickson, who will be having surgery. Her doctor has requested directed blood donations from family members and friends. Donations need to be made at the Kaiser Blood Donor Center over the next two weeks (April 7 through 21). Appointments are advised. Please see LaVonne for more information.

Blood Bank: LaVonne Coover thanked the faithful members who donate blood at the San Diego Blood Bank. She gave a special THANK YOU to Valhall Lodge's Super Donor Glen Hagen!

Librarian: Lorraine Tucker announced that "Song of Norway" viewing prior to the Business meeting has concluded; next month she may play a video regarding Sytetende Mai.

She has placed duplicate books out for members to take home and NOT return, since the library does not have the space to keep duplicates.

Corporation: Ola Brevig announced that at 6:30 PM on May 5, prior to the Business Meeting, there will be a Corporation Meeting. Our May Business Meeting will include the annual report of the Corporation.

International Convention: Helga

Minutes of the Valhall Lodge Business Meeting April 7th, 2008



Sons of Norway Mission Statement



The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

Moore reported that the committee is plugging along. Currently they are putting the finishing touches on the registration forms, which will be available on the Sons of Norway website

Unfinished Business

Vice President Rick Hausvik presented Amelia Seeto with a 2007 Recruitment Award.

Ola Brevig reminded us that we received a request from the District Convention Host Lodge, originally discussed during February 4, 2008 Business Meeting, requesting that all District 6 lodges place an ad in the District Program. There was discussion regarding the size, cost, and benefit of placing an ad. A motion was made to place a full page ad at the cost of \$100; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Financial Reports: Aprell Waymire and Don Lesney gave their respective reports.

Good of the Order

Sven Olsen announced that Calvary Lutheran Church will be hosting a Norwegian Service in English on Sunday at 4:00 PM; the Masskor will be signing.

Helen Seiler received a phone call from a Norwegian lady with a home in La Jolla who is looking for someone of Scandinavian descent to share her home.

The telephone tree is being revamped by Helen Seiler; the main change is that members with e-mail addresses will no longer be included in the telephone tree, unless they contact Helen and request to continue to receive a phone call. Helen will not cut people out of the phone tree if they do not want to be. Please be sure your e-mail address is correct in the 2008 Membership Directory; if it needs to be updated please contact Aprell Waymire or Arlene LaBree.

There is a new membership application available in the Library; the old ones are still good.

If you have flowers that will be blooming in August, during the International Convention, please consider donating them to the lodge so that we can impress the delegates with beautiful local foliage at the President's Reception. Contact Judy Sawyer or another member of the International Convention Decorating Committee

New member, Barbara Hemmingsen, is giving a lecture about Infectious Diseases in the America Civil War (there were approximately 6000 Norwegian immigrants in the Union Army) at the Hall of Nations in Balboa Park on Saturday, April 12. Details are in the April Valhall Viking Newsletter.

We will be celebrating Torfin Lindgren's 80th birthday in the main dining room after tonight's meeting.

Our next Board Meeting will be April 22, 2008.

The next Business Meeting will be on May 5 at 7:30 PM.

.President Jerry Oen adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

55 members were in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Seeto, Secretary

Happy

Mother's Day



May 10th



TIL MINNE

FREDERICK MARTIN LEON

APRIL 12, 1925-MARCH 20, 2008

Frederick Martin Leon, 82, of San Diego died on March 20. He was born in San Pedro and was a design engineer in the aerospace industry.

Fred has been a member of Valhall since December of 1982. His wife, Lucy, is also a member.

Survivors include his wife, Lucy Leon; daughter, Suzanne Ghosn; sons, F. Michael, Sanford and Douglas; and six grandchildren.

Our sincere condolences to his friends and family.

Sara and Mathias Norway's Most Popular Names

Every year Statistics Norway comes out with a list of the most popular first names in Norway. The results show that 2007 was not a year for big changes in the top names. The trend continues with short names for girls with -a or -ah endings and biblical names for boys.

Sara was also the most popular name for girls in 2002, and Mathias topped the list in 2003 and 2004. Last year's winners, Thea and Jonas, are now at second place.

The popularity of names goes in waves. Many of today's names were almost unused 50 years ago, while 120 years ago they were quite popular. The name Mathias was little used for many years until about 1980 when things began to change. In 1999 Mathias placed on the top ten list, and in 2003 it became the most popular name for the first time.

The name Sara has almost the same history to it as Mathias. It was an old name that was "out" for a long time. Beginning in about 1970 its popularity began to increase slowly, but surely, until it reached the top in 2002. Here are both top ten lists:



**MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
May 23 - 26, 2008**

**Come and Enjoy
*A Little Bit of Norway
In the Sierra Mountains***

**Rooms are available
call 530 389 2508 for reservations
No reservations necessary for
RV or tent camping**

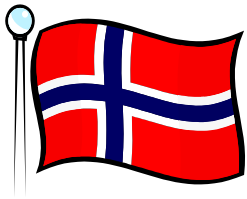
**Please note:
No prepared meals available this year**

Boy Names

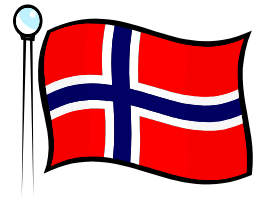
1. Mathias
2. Jonas
3. Markus
4. Alexander
5. Lukas
6. Kristian
7. Magnus
8. Elias
9. Emil
10. Henrik

Girl Names

1. Sara
2. Thea
3. Emma
4. Julie
5. Nora
6. Ida
7. Emilie
8. Ingrid
9. Anna
10. Sofie



Hipp Hipp Hurra for Syttende Mai !



**Come to Balboa Park and join in the celebration of
Norway's Constitution Day hosted by
House of Norway**

Saturday - May 17, 2008

- 10:00 AM Flag ceremony at Hall of Nations in Balboa Park
- Welcome by House of Norway President Jim Adams
- Master of Ceremonies Sigurd Stautland
- National Anthems of United States and Norway by Thelma Johannesen
- Remarks by Consul Gordon Kovtun
- National Songs by The San Diego Norwegian Mannskor
- Remarks by House of Norway Vice President Eugenie King
- Continental breakfast

Sunday - May 18, 2008

- House of Norway Lawn Program at International Cottages in Balboa Par
- 1:30 pm Children's Parade from the road behind House of Norway
Ending at the stage between the international cottages by 2:00 pm
- Wear your bunads and bring your flags. Noisemakers encouraged.
- Introduction by HPR V.P. Delphine Malone, and HON President Jim Adams
- Pledge of Allegiance by House of Norway Queen Kaarina Koskinen
- National Anthems of USA and Norway by Thelma Johannesen
- Remarks by Consul Gordon Kovtun
- Scandianvian Children's Folk Dance Group directed by Oda Audish
- Remarks by Frank Steensnaes
- Balboa Park Folk Dance group directed by Mervi Gotch
- Fairytale told by Dale Roybal

Hipp Hipp Hurra for Syttende Mai !

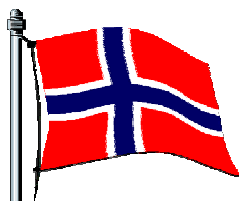
Refreshments at House of Norway after the lawn program

***NOTE: Do not go to Sefton Plaza or the bridge Saturday May 17, it will be closed to traffic.
Instead use Park Boulevard to access the Hall of Nations near the Spreckels Organ Pavilion.***

Valhall Cultural Classes

Norwegian Genealogy

May 8, 2008



Syttende Mai & Norwegian Genealogy

At our 8 May meeting, we will celebrate Syttende Mai (17 May) Constitution Day, the signing of the Constitution on May 17, 1814. A presentation of how our heritage was affected by this great event in Norwegian history will be made by Ossie Gilbertson, Norwegian Honorary Consul Emeritus in San Diego.

Our Norwegian Genealogy Cultural Group will continue to meet on the second Thursday of every month (except for July and December) at the Family History Center, 4195 Camino Del Rio South from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Each meeting includes a class or presentation on some aspect of Norwegian Genealogy, History, or Culture followed by individual family history sharing, story telling or problem solving.

Everyone interested in Norwegian genealogy and history is welcome to attend our meetings. For more information or to be added to our mailing list, please contact Jerry Oen at jurolf@aol.com, or call 858 549 1530.

Woodcarving

The woodcarving group meets on every Tuesday of the month, from 9am to Noon. The class is being held at the *House of Norway* in Balboa Park. Everyone is welcome to join the group and enjoy conversation and carving.

Call Lou Coover before coming for time verification and more information at 619-264-9486.



Rosemaling Classes

Informal *rosemaling* classes meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at the lodge in the room downstairs, from 9am to 1. Come visit and learn about rosemaling and have fun learning how to *rose-mal*. Classes are free for SON members, \$5 for non-members. No prior experience necessary. Everyone is welcome.

Contact instructor Carmen Cleary for more information at 619-442-0064.

Norwegian Classes

If you would like to learn how to speak Norwegian—classes are taught by instructor Erling Nyhammer. Classes are held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in North Park.

For more information, call Erling Nyhammer at 619-448-4217 or email at Enyhammer@cox.net

Folk Art Competition—June 10

Deadline: June 10, 2008

Once again there will be a Folk Art Exhibition/Competition at the District Six Convention in June.

Any Sons of Norway member is eligible to enter the Competition, from age 16 up. Art will be judged according to class (youth, amateur, professional). Artists under 16 are welcome to exhibit their work.

There are 12 categories of entry: rosemaling, weaving, hardanger embroidery, needlework, hand knitting, crocheting and tatting, figure carving, relief etching, chip carving, bentwood, and other media like photography.

Each category will be awarded prizes for first, second and third place.

If you would like detailed information, visit the website at www.lodgeofvalhall.com. Packet is also available from your editor, Arlene LaBree. Call 858-271-8709 or email alabree@san.rr.com.

Språk og kultur / Language and Culture Lodge Names, part 2

In the earliest years of Sons of Norway, Norwegian was the first language of the vast majority of members. The organization, then known as Sønner af Norge, chose Norwegian names for its lodges. The lodge names in many ways reflected the hopes and dreams of the membership, many of whom had themselves left their homeland behind to begin a new life. As the years went on and the organization became more Americanized, the connection to Norwegian culture and language remained strong.

In this edition of Språk og kultur we will take a look at some interesting lodge names and what they mean.

Many lodges have chosen local places names partially or wholly translated into Norwegian:

Grønnvik 5-632 (Green Bay, WI) Grønn (green) + -vik (bay)

Myrmarken 5-609 (Marshfield, WI) Myr- (swamp or marsh) + -marken (field")

Bitterrootdalen 4-656 (Hamilton, MT) The -dalen element means "the valley." This lodge is located in Montana's Bitterroot Valley, and has been appropriately condensed into a single Norwegian word.

Shastafjell 6-108 (Redding, CA) The -fjell element means "mountain." This lodge is located near California's Mount Shasta. There are a number of lodge names like this including Blåfjell, Snøfjeldet and Hvite Fjell, to name just a few.



New Additions to the Norwegian Experience 2008 Solstrand Hotel & Spa

Sons of Norway and Borton Overseas have made some exciting additions to the Norwegian Experience 2008 Recruitment Contest! In addition to the hotel, airfare, spending money and tour or cruise, the winner of the Norwegian Experience 2008 will also win a two-night stay at the beautiful and luxurious Solstrand Hotel & Spa.

Situated on the Bjørnefjord south of Bergen, Solstrand has been called "the most accessible hide-away by the fjord. For a hundred years, Solstrand's exquisite location, beautiful surroundings and magnificent view of the Folgefonna glacier have fascinated travelers from far and wide. Here, the winner will enjoy private transfer between Bergen and Solstrand and two nights' accommodation in a deluxe room with a 180° panorama fjord view and a balcony

Also, as part of their stay, the winner and their guest will be treated to a spa treatment. Solstrand is well known for its spa facilities for aromatherapy, massages, body wraps, facials and wellness treatment for feet and hands. Solstrand also has a wellness center that overlooks the fjord and includes: steam bath, sauna, icy pool, swimming pool and fitness room facilities.

Remember, entering the contest is easy! All you have to do is be a current member of Sons of Norway who recruits a new, dues-paying member between January 1 and December 31, 2008. Also, don't forget that any gift memberships you give to new, dues-paying members throughout the year can also qualify you for the contest as well!

Summer Sizzle 08

Add a little sizzle to your summer recruitment efforts by participating in Sons of Norway's Summer Sizzle! From **June 1 – August 31, 2008**, for every three qualifying members you recruit, you'll receive a rose malt coffee mug. Recruit 12 members and we'll throw in a pound of gourmet coffee to go in your mugs!

Syttende Mai!

Syttende Mai! The name sounds like a fanfare and is associated with flags, parades and marching bands—hoorays, ice-cream and balloons—salutes, parties, fireworks and patriotism. This description brings to mind the 4th of July celebration, but most of these parade participants would be children, the hoorays would sound more like hurrahs, and people in the crowd would wear colorful folk costumes.

The scene is Norway, the date May 17, and the event: the Norwegian Constitution Day. The Norwegians have reason to celebrate. For more than 400 years their once-so powerful kingdom was the weaker partner in a union with Denmark. Norway became an insignificant state on the European map, exploited by autocratic Danish kings.

Then came “The Year of Miracles”—1813—when the outcome of the Napoleonic wars broke up the established power structure in Europe. The Danish king, who had sided with Napoleon, was forced to cede Norway to Sweden. No one asked the Norwegians, who were outraged at the thought of their country being given away like a piece of Danish property.

Equally outraged was the heir to the Danish throne, who at that time was governor of Norway. He sided with Norwegian leaders and a constituent assembly was called. With the constitution establishing Norway as a sovereign state, European politicians would have to be more respectful in their wheelings and dealings with the country.

The constituent assembly met at Eidsvoll (Aids’ vohl)



in April–May, 1814. It was a young crowd—most of the leaders were in their thirties. Conservatives or liberals, they were all nationalists, well-informed about the ideals of the revolutionary French and American constitutions.

It took the assembly of 112 one month to give Norway a constitution, establishing Norway as a sovereign state and a constitutional monarchy ruled by the principles of liberty and democracy. It was the most liberal constitution in Europe at that time, and was clearly inspired by the ideals which were defended in America.

The document was signed on May 17—Syttende Mai—1814, and Norway finally had the fundamental law that later would carry the nation safely through all times of crisis.

The outcome of the swift Norwegian action early in 1814 was that Norway entered a union with Sweden in the fall of the same year—but not as a piece of land given away by the Danish king. Thanks to the Constitution, Norway had now become a sovereign state and an equal partner in the union.

When this union was dissolved in 1905, Norway was well on the way to being re-established on the European scene. The Constitution of 1814 is the foundation of the growth of a society which today has one of the highest standards of living in the world—so Syttende Mai is certainly worth celebrating!

Social Committees

MAY

Business Meeting and 17th of Mai social

Chairperson: Judy Sawyer

Art Anderson
Pat & Vicky Cleveland
Larry Collins
Barbara Evje
Charles & Rhona Gorder
Susan & Chuck Hansen
Chris Lelevier
Don Lesney
Barbara & Ken Paulovich
Kay-Ann Pepper
Art & Lisa Skola
Millie Wright



JUNE

Business Meeting and Social

Chairperson: Lizzie Riiber

Dolores Anderson
George Babilot
Carmen Cleary
John & Janet Erickson
Ellen Holk
Kjell Holmes
Alan & Thelma Johannesen
Martin & Judith Johnson
Ken & Lynn LIndebrekke
Flora Olsen
Wilma Springer
June Weller

District Six FANE Contest

At the recent District 6 Board Meeting, it was announced that several Colorado members would sew a District Fane (Banner) if they were given a design. This prompted the District 6 Fane (banner) Design contest. The goal is to have its Fane at the International Convention in San Diego this August.

District 6 FANE (Banner) Contest

Your design entry due by May 15th, 2008

**Design must include:
Sons of Norway & District 6**

**The winning FANE will be made in fabric
3 ft. x 6 or 8 ft.**

GRAND PRIZE: King Harold Medallion

The design may include:

1. district map
2. state icons
3. regional icons
4. traditional Norwegian designs
5. individual or group artwork

Design may be emailed or mailed on a 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper.

Submit designs to:
District 6 FANE Committee
Diane Molter
8670 North Edison
Denver, CO 80229
lakeviewviking81@live.com

District 6 FANE Committee
Arlene Christopherson
14215 W. Wagonwheel Dr.
Sun City West, AZ 85375
arcris@worldnet.att.net



**More information available on our website:
www.lodgeofvalhall.com**

Valhall Viking

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Valhall Viking MAI 2008

CALENDAR

Woodcarving meets every Tuesday
See page 10 for details on classes

May

3 Sat Ladies of Valhall
5 Mon Business Meeting
5 Mon Corporation Meeting
8 Thu Genealogy
10 Sat Rosemaling
17 Sat Social—Syttende Mai Celebration
24 Sat Rosemaling

June

2 Mon Business Meeting and Social
7 Sat Ladies of Valhall
12 Thu Genealogy Group
14 Sat Rosemaling
25-28 District 6 Convention in San Ramon
28 Sat Rosemaling



Next newsletter is the
June issue.

Deadline for the

June

Valhall Viking is

May15

E-Mail articles to:
valhallnews@san.rr.com

