

Sons of Norway District Six News



June 2009—
Sept. 2009

Janie Kelly, President



Are your lodge members suffering from apathy? How can you spot it? What can you do about it?

Spotting apathy is easy. Participation in lodge events is declining, members complain that we do “the same old thing” & you may have problems getting new leaders. This “staleness” in a lodge can be deadly. I have seen the closure of many lodges because they can’t get anyone to step up & run for the office of President.

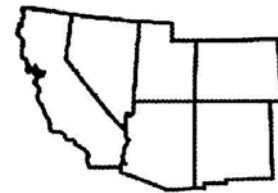
Curing apathy is a bit more difficult. But cure it we can. We must be willing to try new things. Stepping outside of our comfort level & trying new things can be just the ticket to rev up our members. Try a new event or a new venue for an old one. Solbakken #64 is doing just that.

In honor of Past

President, Paul Carlson, who was killed in an aviation accident, Solbakken is having a big fundraiser for the Sons of Norway Foundation. Paul & his wife, Sharun, have been huge supporters of the Foundation & Paul loved crazy hats. Therefore, this October the First Annual Paul Carlson Memorial Crazy Hat Night will occur. I have been invited & truly hope to get there. It sounds like a fun way to honor Paul & benefit the Foundation at the same time. I salute the members of Solbakken for creating this unique event to honor Paul & support the Foundation at the same time. What can your lodge create as a fun new event? Ask for suggestions-be open to new ideas. The headquarters in Minneapolis has many, many programs & program ideas. Call & ask for Nichole at 1-800-945-8851.

A very important part of lodge success is succession of leadership. Let's call it succession. Maybe we all need to do a better job of grooming our successors. I have been reading some articles about leadership from a volunteerism magazine & realize we are not the only organization with this problem. One reason it seems to be a problem is that our members, both at the local & district levels, aren't always sure what the job of being an officer entails. I have seen this over the years while talking to members about running for an office on the District Board. I will be working with the District Board to add job descriptions as an addendum to our District Policy Book. This will allow pro-

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Sherrill G. Swenson, International Director



District Six Is unique in having the yearly, regional get-togethers that are known as kretsstevner. They are important because they get members & lodges together & extend our fraternal bonding.

Let us look at the word “kretsstevne,” one that is made up of two parts: “Krets” & “stevne.” Krets is a circle or ring, a gathering or group. Stevne is a convention or meeting or rally. Within Sons of Norway, it means a gathering of lodges (& their members). They are fun, family friendly & fraternal in what they are & what they accomplish—getting to know one another, seeing old friends & making new ones—and raising money for Camp Norge. And, they can be a great place to bring the children.

In 1978, at the District Six Lodge Meeting in North Hollywood, CA, THE LODGE BODY APPROVED A RESOLUTION THAT PROMOTED “ENCOURAGEMENT OF LOCAL & REGIONAL KRETSSTEVNER AMONG THE DISTRICT SIX LODGES TO BENEFIT THE RECREATION CENTER & CULTIVATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRATERNAL BENEFIT.”

Within the district, we now have five, each one distinct in how & where they meet & what they do: Northern California (pre 1958), Southern California (1959), Central California Coast (1980), Colorado (1980), & Kretsstevne Arizona (2009) in the order in which they developed. NCK meets on Labor Day weekend, SCK meets alternately in September or October, CCK meets the first weekend in October, Colorado meets in September & AZ in April (at least they did the first year).

Net proceeds go to Camp Norge & represent surplus money collected for registration, games, meals & raffle sales. Each entity has officers to organize the event & each produces an annual financial statement which is audited. Several thousand dollars are raised each year in support of the camp.

Kretsstevner are win-win events in what they do for Sons of Norway, Camp Norge & those who attend. I urge everyone to attend one or more each year. Look for one near you, register early, attend with others & you won't be sorry.

Sherrill G. “Swede” Swenson

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Lyle Berge, Vice President

An inter-lodge contest announced! The District Six Membership Committee announces a District Six membership contest for all lodges. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place will be awarded during our District Lodge Convention in June, 2010. Winning lodges will be those with the highest percentage gain of new members aged 50 & younger who join during the period of June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010. (Goal #1)

And then— The local winner

may use their award as a local lodge fundraiser or as a prize drawing.

Continuations— Your District Six Membership Committee continues to recommend that opportunities be made to utilize a Membership meal or event with an FBC presentation (Goal #2), such as during a Leif Erikssen remembrance in October, a September ‘welcome back’ or any specific lodge time. We continue to encourage the welcoming of each

assigned FBC as a viable part of all lodge activities. (Goal #3)

District Six Goals for the 2008 - 2010 biennium;

- 1) A net gain of one new member. (all ages welcome!)
- 2) 100% of local lodges will host at least one membership event.
- 3) Issue at least fifty new Life-Annuity Certificates.



Lyle Berge

Carol Lee Solheim, Secretary

I have just returned from a great vacation in Norway. We spent most of the time relaxing in a family cabin in the mountain close to Nesbyen in Hallingdal.

One week was spent on the Hurtigrunten (Kong Harald) with friends from Sacramento was great. Even met friends from CA

that we had known for years & didn't know they would be on the same ship as we were. The world gets smaller every day.

Looking forward to the July 4th & Northern California Kretsstevne at Camp Norge.

Hope everyone is having a great

summer.

Carol Lee Solheim



Roger Espeland, Treasurer

The Draxten Scholarship monies has been received & distributed to the Lodges that awarded tuition money for the Language & Heritage Camp for the summer of 2008. When Lodges award tuition money the checks should be made out to Sons of Norway & mailed to the Camp registrar with appropriate notation for whom the award is credited.

Hopefully all Lodges have filed their IRS postcards or 990 as applicable. If you do not know your

tax id number, contact Headquarters for that number. All Lodges, including district have their own unique number. Never use another Lodge's number without prior arrangement & it is an activity applicable to that Lodge.

Our financial position has greatly improved since Convention & we are now in the process of having our Scholarship fund with Sons of Norway & be able to see a nice growth in the coming years. We are handling memorials to the

Scholarship Fund directly from the Lodges. The form ‘Scholar Donation Form’ is available at www.sofn6.com.

Roger Espeland



Wendy Winkelman, Public Relations Officer

Summer has arrived in District Six! Many lodges are taking the summer off from regular meetings & having fun social events. Last Saturday, we had 62 people in our home for a Scandinavian breakfast! What a treat it was to see so many hungry Norwegians! (& a few Swedes!) Next month, we are going out for Pizza & in August for a potluck at other persons home. Try to find something that all will enjoy in these summer months! (In AZ, we lose so many of our members to the North Country during the summer, but we continue to have a fun time together with us die hard AZ Norwegians.)

I continue to submit photos to the Viking magazine each month. In 2009, I have submitted photos from 36 lodges. There are only a few months left of the year—so please forward on photos if you haven't seen anything from your lodge yet this year (there are 54 lodges).

Does your lodge have a brochure, specific to your lodge? Would you like help designing one? Some ideas? Please contact me & I can help you design something that you will be able to pass out to potential new members. If you give me the ideas, I hope to be able to help you.

As District PRO this year, I have enjoyed going to Camp Norge two times so far. In September, my husband & I are going to go again for the No. CA Kretsstevne! We are anxious to see how California whoops it up for the holiday weekend! The newsletter contest is coming up in October & November. Editors, get ready. I have the judges standing by to enjoy reading & critiquing your work! Happy Summer!

Wendy Winkelman



Janie Kelly, (continued from page 1)

spective board members a chance to see what the qualifications are for each office. This will also be a valuable tool for our delegates. With written job descriptions, delegates can compare different candidates & their qualifications & make a better informed decision when they vote. I encourage all of our lodges to have written job descriptions for your officers. You can find help with that in the Guides for Leadership.

The Guides for Leadership says "Two critical responsibilities of the President are to encourage the smooth transition between outgoing & incoming officers & to plan for officer succession". I see so many instances in our local lodges where this is not happening. Too many lodges fail to plan for succession of officers & keep the same President

for too long. This contributes to the apathy of our lodges & members by making them complacent & not thinking toward the future.

Let's move forward, brush off the apathy & make our Lodges & District Six better & stronger than ever.

Fraternally,

Janie Kelly



Carl Ingvaldstad, Zone 1 Director

“Growth Be Our Vision” (AKA Growth Tale”)

Sons of Norway has a great Mission Statement which sums up where we're at & where we believe we're going. Perhaps we need a **Vision Statement** such as “**Growth Be Our Vision**” which complements our Mission Statement as well as implements a course of action to achieve our District 6 Goals! When I was a teenager, I remember reading a “Redbook” article in my doctor's office with thoughts from long-time publisher of the “Baltimore Mercury” & iconoclast*, H.L. Mencken. He wrote that “95 percent of people never have an original thought in their entire life.” It has taken me over 50 years to accept the fact that I'm still in the 95% of people without an original thought or idea so far in my entire life (to date).

Rather than “reinvent the wheel”, I've spent my entire life quoting, paraphrasing & saying the words of others (my mother, Confucius, Shakespeare, John Wayne & Clint Eastwood immediately come to mind). Last month, a 24 year old Norwegian, Alexander Ryback composed sang, & fiddled

Norway's winning entry in the 2009 Eurovision Song Contest entitled “**Fairytale**”. Here is my revised (paraphrased) version of the same song & **D-6 “Vision Statement”** entitled: “**Growth Tale**” .

“Years ago, when we were younger, We kinda liked a vision we knew. It was ours & we were cohorts, That was then, but now it's true.

*We're in love with a “**Growth Tale**”, Even though it hurts. 'Cause we care, should we lose our lodge, We're not already cursed!*

*Every year we start recruiting. Every year we fall behind No **new growth** will make us sadder, But **ONE new member** would be so kind!*

*We didn't know what we were doing, But over the years, our lodge fell apart. Nowadays, we cannot find new **growth**, But when we do, we'll get a brand new start!*

*We're in love with a “**Growth Tale**” Even though it hurts. 'Cause we care, if we lose our lodge, We're not already cursed!*

*It's a “**Growth Tale**”, Yeah! Even though it hurts. We do care should we lose our lodge, We're not already cursed!”*



As to our three D-6 goals: “So, do you feel lucky?”, “The Past is Prologue.” “Carpe Diem!” (Seize the day). “Patience is a virtue of a well-rounded character.” “Show me a Good Loser & I'll show you a loser.” “We must endeavor to persevere!” “The harder you work, the luckier you get!” “If you snooze, you lose!” “Determine that the thing can & shall be done & then...find the way.” “Let's cut to the chase & just do it”—ask prospective members to join your lodge! Add your own phrase or quote to locally accomplish **Growth Be Our Vision!**

Carl Peter Ingvaldstad
AKA Carl Cliché & Z-1 Dude

*Iconoclast: “One who attacks traditional or cherished beliefs”.

New SPPC Officers (Southland Past Presidents Club)

New SPPC officers were elected on April 11, 2009. They include: Eric Herem, President (Norseman 91); Carolyn Peterson, Secretary (Peer Gynt 22); & Mike Sondreaal, Treasurer (Norseman 91).

Helping send kids to Camp is our “motto”!



Paul Jevert, Zone 2 Director



We are enjoying some lovely summer weather here in Northern CA & the Bay Area, which shows off the beautiful colors & abundant growth of our gardens & yards. It is a wonderful time of the year to get out & enjoy our surroundings & in addition, travel off to lodge functions & events & see all our old friends & new friends. It seems that we are always talking about membership & discussing the topic in many re-hashed forms trying to focus on reasons & causes for declines & fluctuations of the numbers which are extremely important to the Organization. I have always felt that the old saying "talk is cheap, it takes deeds to pay the piper" a pertinent thought for the moment! What are we doing about membership on our own part in the daily encounters of new faces & friendships we have? Do you have a membership application in your pocket, purse, or the glove box of your car or personal ride? Is an "app" readily available where you sleep or at your office or place of business. How many times have you had a conversation going with a friend or new acquaintance & sensed that they would really like to get involved with Sons of Norway & learn about Scandinavia & possibly the heritage & cultural customs of the country from whence their ancestors immigrated. It is really a shame that so many interested & excited prospective new members are lost for the lack of a simple application form or even a business card from your Lodge providing the individual with the name, location, time of meeting, & current contact information. This is really important for the immediate benefit from the build-up & sell of the Organization that's come alive in their hearts & minds with your

help. Have we looked at the format of the new application form introduced in Sept.2007 or are we still using the old ones from 2003 or even the old-old long narrow ones from 1939? Well' maybe that was a good year but come on, let's clean out our files & get rid of non-functional trash & get current with some updated material. Must we save "EVERYTHING"? Let's order some today from Supply at 1/800/945-8851! Do your lodge officers have a sufficient supply of the new application forms in stock & readily available to the members at monthly meetings, get-togethers or events upon request? Do you Lodge Presidents request that at least once early in your year that the Membership Committee or the Vice President pass out a new Application form to each person in the room & make sure that they exit the facility with it "ticket-in-hand"! If we have one around the house, let us open it up & look over the format. Your SON Membership Dept. in Mpls. spent many hours in planning, development, & formatting this attractive form. It has a pleasing, eye-catching montage of photos on the cover in a tri-fold 8 ½ x 11" format. Open it up & you find a well-organized structure of information boxes that are clearly explained & easy to use. Reading over the top of the box with Questions 1-7 this zone should be filled out by the applicant in preferably black ink & printed clearly. The next box below, "Spouse Information" questions 1&2 should only be completed if your spouse is a current member. The next box, "Heritage/ Unge Venner Family Membership", is a convenient new addition to the application which you can use to enroll youngsters ages 0-15 as a Heritage Member & continue their membership at age 16 when

they will be entitled to free membership up to age 23. Current lineal dues paid family membership or parental connection is needed & the name, address, member # & relationship should be furnished. The last & most important zone to fill out is "Payment & Lodge Information". As is indicated, if you have any questions call 1/800/945-8851. The member who furnishes the form should fill in the following, District 6, Lodge #, name, #3 Membership Referral with your name & membership #, date, #5 most important, the Applicant must sign & date in ink. The correct, current fees & dues with a total if applicable on line #6 should be indicated & pre-inserted when you hand off the form to the applicant. Don't forget that line #3 so you can get credit for the new member & you will be in the 2009 Norwegian Experience Contest until Dec.31. Some lodges require the candidate's application be read & voted on in lodge so you must forward the form to your lodge Financial or Membership Secretary for action. All others can be dropped in the mail with just \$.44 postage. The correct address is on the outside back of the form; Sons of Norway, 1455 West Lake Street, Mpls, MN 55408-2666, mark it "membership". Make sure you notify the candidate in a timely manner of the lodge's action since you have made all this effort of sponsorship. You should be there for them as a mentor & help them begin their "SON Experience" with a "Friend" at their side. Lets all see if we can do an even better job of promoting & selling Sons of Norway every opportunity we have, "I DO" !!!
Paul Jevert

Eileen Conlan, Zone 3 Director



I wanted to take a moment to thank the lodges in Zone 3. Membership is one of our top priorities & the lodges in Zone 3 are coming up with new ways to make meetings/socials more interesting & inviting & our lodges are attracting new members. Many of the lodges in Zone 3 also have fulfilled the goals that they set for themselves at the beginning of the year. Keep up the great work.

In District Six we are very fortunate to have Camp Norge. Camp Norge is located in Alta, California at the foot of the Sierra's off I80, which is east of Sacramento.

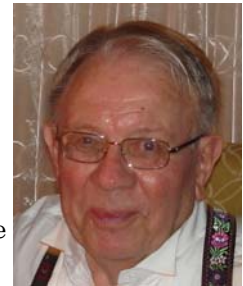
Every year in July for two weeks the camp becomes Camp Troll Fjell, the district's language/heritage camp for our youth between the ages of 8 & 13. The kids learn about their Norwegian heritage, music, dance, rosemailing & how to speak Norwegian. Camp Norge is also a great place to take your family & friends. It's a shame that more of our members don't take advantage of this great place.

Mark your calendars, No. CA Kretsstevne, Labor Day Wkend, Sept. 5,6, & 7 at Camp Norge. It will be a weekend of fellowship, friendship & fun. There will be a horseshoe tournament, meadow

faire, dancing, raffle, great food & games for all ages. Whether you come in your RV, stay in the dorm or cozy cabin, or bring a tent we know you will have a great time. For room reservations call 530-389-2508. (No reservations are required for RV's or tents) For meal reservations you can call 415-595-4812 & leave a message or email me at Leen1027@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Kretsstevne. Have a great summer.
Eileen Conlan

Eric Herem, Zone 5 Director



I believe it is important to celebrate the hard work through many years by many, many, many members in the lodges of our Order. We remember their sacrifice, dedication & love for Sons of Norway. This year we have or will celebrate very important milestones in our Zone: Ivar Åsen #45 = 80 years; Norrøna #50 = 65 years; Norseman #91 = 40 years.

The current age of the balance lodges in Z5 are as follows:

- Peer Gynt #22 = 98 years
- Ulabrand #24 = 83 years
- Fridtjof Nansen #9 = 79 years
- Solbakken #64 = 56 years
- Edvard Grieg #74 = 52 years
- Stillehavet #116 = 33 years

Just think of it, in two years we'll have the first lodge in Southern California celebrating their 100 years & that lodge is "Peer Gynt

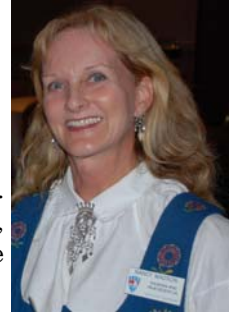
#22" (organized October 3, 1911). We know that in Northern CA Henrik Ibsen #7, San Francisco, already celebrated their 100 years a little over a year ago (organized January 26, 1908!). Next will be Fram #13, Eureka & Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson #14, Oakland, both celebrating their 100 years in 2010 (they were organized 19 days apart in year 1910).

In our last newsletter, I was inviting our members to purchase these pins to support District Six & that these would help you identify yourselves with sister lodges in the States of Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada & California, by wearing them. This pin is the creation of a member of Roald Amundsen #48, Sacramento, CA. It is a replica of the District 6 'Fane' or banner (Fane in Norwegian: emblem, ensign, standard). This 'Fane' will be displayed again at the upcoming District

Kretsstevner. (By the way, all lodges that have their own banner or 'fane', should bring it to these kretsstevner & proudly 'show off' & display them. It is very colorful & does make a great impact on the participants when they learn about your lodge!) When you personally view this beautiful District Six 'Fane' you will immediately want to buy a "matching pin"! We, of course, still have several of these available but the number will soon disappear as there were just a limited number of them issued. In our last newsletter I told you that the price of each pin is merely **Nor. Kr. 35.95** (US\$ 5.00). Remember to contact your nearest zone director or any District director to obtain one!

Eric Herem

Nancy Madson, Zone 6 Director



A great grandson of a lodge member has been a Heritage member for a number of years. His great grandmother, Marie, had bemoaned the thought that her family was not interested in her Norwegian heritage. She thought the Hispanic side of the grandchildren's family would prevail. Recently Marie asked the young man if he would like to be a regular member of Sons of Norway. What a surprise; the young man answered with an enthusiastic "yes," even though he'd never attended a lodge event. Marie showed her great grandson photos of the Stoughton Norwegian Dancers, & told him of Norwegian Folk Dance lessons starting in the fall. The young man asked if he could be a part of the dance group, & his girlfriend, unassumingly, asked if she could be included. Out of the blue! Well, not

really. The young man had been receiving the *Viking for Kids* for a number of years. He also saw many Norwegian items whenever he would be at Marie's house - a Viking ship picture, a bunad doll, a troll, etc. So these little things can make a difference.

What little things have you done to express or share your heritage? Do you have anything Norwegian on display in your house? Have you ever made any Norwegian desserts or breads for your family? Have you signed up your young family members for the *VIKING FOR KIDS*? It's free, & it is a great way to express & show your heritage to young members of your family. Lodge leaders - make sure you have the Heritage membership application available for your members. It can be found on the Sons of Nor-

way website. After logging in, go to Lodge Management, then go to Lodge Forms. At the bottom of the screen is Membership Forms; select Heritage Membership Application. The form may also be requested from the home office.

Don't forget to ask these young people to become Unge Venner members once they turn 16 years of age. They may surprise you with their interest. See April 2009 Resource for an article on Membership for Youth, Ages 16 - 23. Convert "graduating" Heritage members to Unge Venner & get a head start on the District 6 membership contest.

Nancy Madson



**"We're On The Web" -
www.sofn6.com**



Bob Dahl, Zone 7 Director

Meeting our goals for this year is a task that all of us should be actively working on. Getting new members that can carry on the heritage & skills that you have had passed to you by your family & friends can go a long way in keeping the Norwegian Culture. Look around at your lodge meetings & you will see that none of us are getting younger & we don't move as fast as we did in years past. How can you recruit some younger members into our wonderful organization? We need to share & pass along to the next generation some of the reasons why we are here. Our forefathers migrated to this great land & we are the benefit of their hardships. As has been stated in the past "ask not what your lodge can do for you, but what can you do for your lodge".

The 3 AZ District officers stepped up to the plate when asked why we didn't have a Kretsstevne in Arizona I will try to give a summary of the event "KRETSSTEVNE ARIZONA 2009" which took place on April 4

in Mesa, AZ. The event was, by the standards of those attending, an excellent day of cultural skills, heritage & fellowship of many Sons of Norway members from both Arizona & California. Our attendance was much greater than I had thought would attend. We had two different cultural or heritage sessions going each hour all day of very interesting presentations. We had participation from members of every lodge in Arizona & two lodges in California. The conference facilities were excellent & the food was great. When I started this project I asked for input from all the lodge officers in Arizona, they selected the noon meal by a vote & made many suggestions for programs. Their participation to my requests for answers & information was fantastic with the responses to my mail messages. This event would not have been able to take place without the help of all the lodge members that volunteered to do a presentation & those that worked hard all day. We had Dr. George Olander, the Honorary Norwe-

gian Counsel for Arizona, speak about Norwegian Passports near the end of



the formal sessions. Also, we had our District Six International Board member, Swede Swenson in attendance & he was able to see many old friends. We had three of the Financial Benefits Counselors for Arizona in attendance. Each attendee was provided with a folder with copies of the program & information provided by each of the presenters. Next year we will have more programs & an additional Pavilion for presentations & meetings. We have learned how to have a successful program &, as requested by the attendees, we will be doing again next year at the same location on **Saturday March 13, 2010**. We would hope that many of you can attend & see the talent of the Sons of Norway members in Arizona.

Bob Dahl



Diane Molter, Zone 8 Director

We are having "Fun in the Sun" in our part of the Sons of Norway! Membership events include Ice Cream Socials & Western (NORWAY that is!) Bar Bques. The Estes Park Scandinavian Mid-summers Festival sponsored by Vesterheim 6-118 will be held this weekend June 27th & 28th. See our booths & membership desk with Fjellheim 6-107, Steinfjell 6-114, Fjelldahlen 6-162, & members & volunteers from Trollheim 6-110 & Vestafjell 6-146. You can download information from the Events section of the SONS website.

We will be gathering at the Saint

Hans Aften & Midsummer Picnics sponsored by the Zone 8 lodges. Members too are traveling to Norway to visit family & friends. Others are hosting their Norwegian & Scandinavian kin-folks here. Serious cultural skills will be getting a boost from seminars & workshops Bunads to Woodcarving, Rosemaling to New & Old-home Cuisine. Norwegian is being taught throughout the summer!

The Town of Limon will be celebrating its 100th year & showcasing its' Norwegian roots. July 31st to August First. Dinners with Norwegian entertainment, con-

tests & exhibitions & MORE! Call 719-775-8605 for more information.



ANNOUNCING OUR NEWEST LODGE Storfjell 6-169 (pending Institution!) with a hike planned July 18th at Rocky Mountain National Park & Pig Roast Picnic on the Colorado River Headwaters, August 22nd. Please join us if you are in the neighborhood.

Diane Molter

Mary Beth Ingvaldstad



As of this newsletter, our Super Sixth District has a total of **33 Adopt-A-School (AAS) Coordinators**. Woo hoo! Our goal was to have 50% of our lodges contributing to the education of our children & we now have **63.5%** doing so! It's so great to read Lodge newsletters & see the diversity of activities within our communities. Congratulations to the several AAS lodges that applied for & received the Helping Hands to Children Grant. (Remember: the deadline for Grant application is February 1st.)

Who is doing what? **Olav Lodge #52** received a Grant & will provide for a special music event in their community where the students learn about the instruments & attend a special symphony performance. **Andrew Furuseth #49** worked with a school to replace a critical, but broken,

component to a projector that was used throughout the school for films, television & computer use. **Henrik Ibsen #7** is blessed with TWO coordinators who are High School Students & challenge one another to accomplish great things. **Desert Fjord #133** shares an emigrant trunk with schools in the community. But now, I must highlight a lady who inspires me! **Catharina Bybee, Stillehavet #6-116**, is 89 years young & the AAS Coordinator. The first of May she presented Norway at the lodge's adopted Montessori School. It was a Heritage Faire & this is her great grandson's school. She was in her bunad & shared krumkaker & artifacts. She was invited back to teach a class on Norway. Here's her story: "A week before this event I asked the teacher to give me a list of questions about Norway so I would be prepared. The

first question"Is Norway like Iceland?" Since I knew very little about Iceland I spent several hours in the library & was amazed at the difference in the landscape of the two countries. ...I found out the astronauts from Apollo 11 went to Iceland to train since the moon's surface is similar to that of Iceland. ...back to the library to read up on the moon." She spent 2 ½ hours answering their wonderful questions. They ate krumkaker & berlinerkranser. She hopes to return in the fall because they didn't cover everything! Please contact me at mbingvoldst@aol.com or 707-580-8052. I want to hear your stories & field any questions you may have. Tusen takk!
Mary Beth Ingvaldstad



Norway Day

June 2009—
Sept. 2009

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“The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote & to preserve the heritage & culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, & to provide quality insurance & financial products to its members.”



The Super Sixth.



Camp Norge News—Penny Joseph Knutsen

The Memorial Day weekend was a great success. Thanks to Dale Baker, Board Member & Chairman of the event. The weather was beautiful. Those that participated had a really good time.

Language/Heritage Camp has rented the facility from July 11 through the 26th, so Camp will be a busy, active place as our 8 to 13 year olds learn about their heritage & enjoy nature in a beautiful surrounding. Camp is closed to all except Language/Heritage camp during that time, so please postpone any planned visits until the children are gone.

Everyone is looking forward to the Northern CA Kretssteve over Labor Day weekend, Sept. 5, 6 & 7. Treasurer, Alex Schefflo is going to BBQ a pig on a spit for

the potluck on Sunday night, free to all participants.

Completion of Heritage Hall is nearing & we are all excited. Alex has promised it will be ready for the Sept. 26/27 Rosemaling Seminar. Now, he anticipates, it might even be ready sooner. It depends on the approval of the building permits as we go along. The site will be a bee hive of activity between now & then. The Rosemalers have donated enough money to purchase the new tables. There are still many things left to purchase, besides the continuing cost of inspections & building permits for everything imaginable, so Alex is still seeking donations to the building fund. Harry is working hard on the inside of the building now, as well as prepar-

ing the donation memory plaque for the walls. It is not too late to get your name on the plaque. There are three categories – lodges, individuals, & in memory of.

The Manager tells us there are a lot of weekdays in Aug. that are available, so why not give him a call & make a reservation to spend some time at your Recreation Ctr. You can't beat the price. The weather is great, & the swimming pool & meadow very inviting. Exploring the “Mother Lode Country” is a great way to spend a few days.

Penny Joseph Knutsen

