



# Budstikken



Volume 47 Issue 6

June 2012

Wergeland Lodge #5/028 P.O. Box 3591, La Crosse, WI 54602-3591

**Next Meeting - June 7  
7:00 pm: Luren Singers Concert  
Pie & Ice Cream Social  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
612 Division St. La Crosse WI**

*"The Luren Singing Society is North America's oldest, Norwegian-American male chorus now in our 145<sup>th</sup> year of continuous existence in the United States. We love to sing!"* These words introduce the Luren Singers on their website, and on Thursday, June 7, 7:00 p.m., Wergeland Lodge is sponsoring this notable group's appearance in concert at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 612 Division Street, La Crosse. This is an event you must not miss!

Drawing members from Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, the Luren Singers will bring us a program of wonderful variety: ethnic, contemporary, classical, patriotic, spiritual, show, stage, Christian – all these are in their repertoire. In their photo, they number over 60 members.

Under the direction of Dave Judisch for 37 years, this group not only sang for Norway's royal couple in their visit to Decorah last fall, but Luren has also sung for the King of Norway at the royal palace in Oslo. They have toured in Norway five times and are anticipating their sixth tour within the next three years.

On March 17, 1868, four homesick Norwegian immigrants began singing together, taking the name "Luren" and becoming the seed for today's society. Six years later, the group had already had 22 regular members and was rehearsing twice a week.

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## WERGELAND KALENDER

- June 7: 7.00 pm-Concert by Luren Singers with Pie & Ice Cream Social at Our Savior's Lutheran Church
- June 12: 8:30 am-Board Meeting at Perkins on Hwy 16
- June 18: Deadline for Budstikken Articles
- June 27: Budstikken mailed to Members
- July 5: 6:00 pm-Pot Luck & General Meeting at the Legion

## Fra Presidenten:



## Syttende Mai – Norway

As I write this, it is two days til Syttende Mai. Norwegian Constitution Day is the National Day of Norway observed on May 17 each year. The Constitution of Norway was signed at Eidsvoll on May 17, 1814. The constitution declared Norway to be an independent nation. The celebration of this day began among students and others early in history. However, Norway was under Swedish rule and for several years the King of Sweden and Norway was reluctant to allow the celebrations. For a couple of years in the 1820's, King Karl Johan forbade it, as he thought the celebrations a kind of protest and even revolt against Swedish sovereignty.

Henrik Wergeland started the first known children's parade at Eidsvoll around 1820. It was not until 1833 that anyone ventured to hold a public address on behalf of the day. That year, official celebration was initiated beside the monument of Christian Krogh, who was known to have stopped the king from gaining too much personal power. The address was given by Henrik Wergeland. (More on Mr. Wergeland next month.)

After 1864, the day became more established and the first children's parade was launched in Christiania, now Oslo. This parade consisted only of boys. It was only in 1899 that girls were allowed to join in the parade for the first time. The day focused originally on the Norwegian Constitution, but after 1905 the focus has been directed also toward the Royal Family.

The longest parade is in Oslo, where some 100,000 people travel to the city center to participate in the main festivities. The massive Oslo parade includes 100 schools and marching bands, and passes the Royal Palace where the Royal Family greets the people from the main balcony.

Sons of Norway lodges play a central part in organizing Syttende Mai festivities in the United States. Stoughton WI claims to have the largest celebration in the U.S. Festivities include canoe racing, two parades, an art fair, and a 20 mile run which starts at the capital and ends at Mandt Park in Stoughton. Our daughter and I did the run one year

(Continued on P-4, Col. 2)

**Gratulerer  
Med Dagen!**  
(Happy Birthday)

**June Birthdays**

- 1 Harvey O. Olson
- 2 Judy A. Ellefson
- 3 Isaac A. Gaskin
- 3 Richard A. Marking
- 3 Catherine J. Ofte
- 3 Jacquelyn G. Oldenburg
- 3 Nicholas Ormsby
- 3 Arlene D. Pederson
- 6 Vivian M. Sacia
- 8 Delora "Dee" A. Johnson
- 8 Janice E. Mattison
- 8 John H. Monson
- 10 Duane O. Johnson
- 10 Betsy Stannard
- 12 Barbara C. Hegge
- 14 Lois J. Fruechte
- 14 Ronald O. Helstad
- 14 Barbara S. Nord
- 16 Elwood D. Harebo
- 17 Hjordis M.R. Helgestad
- 17 Linda S. Sherwood
- 17 Rector E. Wall
- 19 Howard D. Christianson
- 19 Katherine E. Ford
- 19 Audrey C. Olsen
- 20 Kenneth N. Melby
- 20 Marion E. Smith
- 22 David J. Glomstad
- 22 Moriah Harter
- 22 Preston M. Olson
- 22 Carole E. Wadel
- 23 Edith Y. Netzer
- 24 Donald E. Hanson
- 25 Russell D. Glomstad
- 25 Carol M. Hanson
- 26 Ingeborg E. Gerber
- 27 David W. Christopherson
- 27 Arthur M. Ford
- 27 Thomas J. Monson
- 28 Janice S. Brudos
- 30 Kristine R. Erickson-Kastner
- 30 John P. Solberg

**Reminder to Bring Those Pies on June 7!!**

The Luren Concert will start at 7 p.m. so bring your pies a bit early so that they may be cut into pieces. The Pie/Ice Cream Social will follow the concert.



**Bring your friends! No admission, but there will be a Free Will Offering.**

**Looking Ahead.....July Meeting Features Potluck Dinner**

Mark your calendar as a reminder that our July 5 lodge meeting will start with the annual potluck dinner. The dinner will begin at 6:00 pm followed by the monthly meeting. Vice President Dave Glomstad will present a program on Company B of the 2nd Wisconsin regiment which was raised in La Crosse and fought in the East during the Civil war including the battles of Bull Run, Antietam and Gettysburg.

**Sekretar Notater....**

**Abbreviated Minutes: May 3, 2012 Meeting**

We were welcomed to the meeting by President Eugene Johnson who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the three national anthems. Reverend Glenn Borreson led us in prayer and in the Norwegian table prayer.

The lodge charter was draped in memory of Helen J. Nelson of Holmen, who passed away at age 96 and was a 37 year member, and Dr. Gunnar Gundersen, a three year member. Dr. Gundersen was a grandson of Adolph Gundersen who was one of the founders of Gundersen Lutheran.

Members introduced seven guests.

The banquet was catered by the American Legion.

Introduced were the newest Golden Members (30 year membership and over age 65);-- Ardis and Harry Bolstad and Peter Linnert, who received certificates, and the newest 25 year members--Anne Farning, Debra Roe, Stan Guberud, and Lois Willinger (not in attendance) who received 25 year pins. Those in attendance were presented with flowers.

The door prizes were the centerpiece geraniums at each table.

In announcements:

For the treasurer's report, the checking account balance was \$6334.18.

On 5/17/12 our lodge and Mayor Harter will raise the Norwegian flag outside of city hall at 9:00 a.m.; this will be followed by a breakfast at Ardie's and a visit to the gravesite of Martin Dock, a Norwegian man of local historical significance.

On Sunday, May 20, our lodge will be represented at Westby's Syttende Mai parade by our lodge president Eugene Johnson and his wife Florence, past presidents Adrian Johnson and Shirley Schoenfeld, in car furnished by a local car dealer, riding behind our Norwegian dancers float.

The sign-up sheet for additional pies for the June 17th pie and ice cream social at Our Savior's Lutheran Church on Division Street was available.

On Saturday, 5/5/12, Norskedalen is presenting a Membership day to tell about all of the events and things that are available there. The event is from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The lodge's board meeting is at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday May 8 at Perkins on Hwy. 16.

Attendance was 134. The foundation collection was \$78.00.

The meeting was adjourned.

Our program was The Stark Scandinavian Singers, a talented husband and wife from Madison who sang in both English and Norwegian.

Submitted by Sue Eherenman, Secretary.

## Dis og Dat ....

**Helen and Les Munson** went to the Honor Banquet and service at St. Olaf College. This is for the Endowment Fund in memory of Helen's parents. They got to meet the students who received scholarships from the fund.

**Marilyn Trisch** visited with her niece and the family in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area for seven days over Easter.

**Ellen Olson** has a new great-granddaughter, Shaylah Irene Shimon, born April 26.

**Richard Granum** with **Brian Kirby** spent 10 days in Costa Rica in March. Richard is home from Arizona for six weeks and then will go to Norway for the month of June. While in Arizona, he volunteered at the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) in Phoenix.

**Kent and Mary Sween** attended their nephew's wedding in Vancouver, B.C. on April 21. The bride is of Chinese heritage so some of the customs were new to them.

**Fred and Dee Johnson** returned from 4 months in California. They took granddaughters to Disney and attended soccer games for the youngest. They spent one day at the Santa Anita Race Track.

**Kristy Stokke** of Denver is expecting a baby girl in August.

**Shirley Schoenfeld** was especially pleased to have so many of her family and friends at the Syttende Mai dinner. At her table were her cousin Howard Maki and his wife Fran from Duluth MN, her family, Doug Schoenfeld, Tony Lofstrom, Kerry Stokke, Karen DeSchepper, and friend Anne Farning. Howard and Fran came that day and saw Granddad's Bluff before the dinner, and stayed overnight. The next morning Howard's sister Gail and husband Karim Sarfehjo from Rochester MN came to the house, and also Karen, so they went to Fayzee's for brunch and then went on the Mississippi Explorer Cruise from Riverside levy. When they came back, they all went to Norskedalen for a couple hours, then ate fish at Billy's Lantern before Howard, Fran, Gail, and Karim had to leave for Rochester. It was a great time. Howard just retired from MN DOT, Fran works in the library in Duluth, Gail at Mayo and Karim also just retired from his

## God Bedring til....

... our Lead Marshal **Robert Everson** who is recovering from a bout with pneumonia.

## Gratilerer til.....

...**Heather Larson**, who has completed the 22 weeks of service with the Army Reserve in Columbia SC and Fort Eustis VA. Heather has also completed 2 1/2 years at UM-Mankato, and returns there in the fall with a major in police work. She also received a CNA nursing degree there in her first year. Heather is one of our Unger Venner and is 21 yrs. old, and the daughter of **Tony Lofstrom**.



Steve Grinna gave a tour of Vesterheim to Julia Nordby, Al and Julia Forde and Wes Bangsberg. Photo by Julia Forde.

On April 24th **Al** and **Julia Forde** drove **Julia Nordby** and **Wesley Bangsberg** to Decorah IA to tour the Vesterheim Museum and specifically "The Peale Collection: Norwegian Furniture from Hill Farm". Josephine Perfect Bay-Paul married Charles Ulrick Bay who was appointed ambassador to Norway by President Truman in 1946. While in Norway, Josephine purchased Norwegian antiques. In 1953, the Bays returned to the United States due to Mr. Bay's declining health and brought their Norwegian antiques with them. Mr. Bay died on December 31, 1955. In 1958 Josephine married C. Michael Paul, and they purchased Hill Farm in Pawling New York and filled it with the beautiful Norwegian antiques which Josephine continued to purchase from Norway. She died from complications of leukemia in 1962. Hill Farm remained in the family until it was sold, fully furnished, to Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, pastor and world famous author of *The Power of Positive Thinking*, and co-founder with his wife, Ruth Stafford Peale, of the Guideposts Foundation. The Peales were close friends of the Pauls. Dr. Marion Nelson of Vesterheim visited the Peales in New York and explained the value of the furniture to them. The Peales chose to will the furniture to Vesterheim. Dr. Peale died first, and after the death of Ruth Stafford Peale and the sale of Hill Farm, Vesterheim was notified to come and get these Norwegian antiques.

After enjoying lunch in Decorah, the foursome went for ice cream at the Chocolate Shoppe in Spring Grove MN.

## Condolences til....

...The Gundersen family of Gundersen Clinic on the loss of Dr. Gunnar A. Gundersen, Jr. who passed away at the age of 87 on April 23. Dr. Gundersen practiced as a radiologist at Gundersen Clinic from 1956 until his retirement in 1990,

... **Arlene Pederson** whose sister Evenelle Hansen of Holmen died May 15. She was 84.





## KAREN'S KORNER

May is the month to celebrate our Norwegian heritage with various parades, dinners, and festivals. We are all here because our Scandinavian ancestors had the courage and ambition to travel across the ocean to a new country that they thought would provide more opportunities to farm, own land, establish a business, or maybe reunite with other relatives and friends who made the journey earlier. Our featured book this month, "In Their Own Words, Letters from Norwegian Immigrants", provides a glimpse into the lives of nine Norwegian immigrants in the 1870's to the 1940's. Solveig Zempel, working on a grant proposal of the University of Minnesota Press, collected, compiled, translated, edited, and published the letters. These letters describe both rural and urban settings: Brooklyn, Chicago, Minneapolis, Red River Valley, Wisconsin, West Coast.

Why was there such an influx of immigrants? According to the book, "the primary motivating fact was the desire to attain greater economic conditions". Others sought personal success, religious freedom, and equality. America was considered the land of opportunity, but remote and exotic. Many still think that every American is rich. A few years ago, my co-worker, Joyce, in Minneapolis connected with relatives in Norway. After they exchanged letters back & forth a few times, the Norwegian relatives asked Joyce to ship over a brand-new washer and dryer!

On Syttende Mai, our Sons of Norway Board faithfully visits the grave of Martin Dock at the Campbell Cemetery after the flag-raising ceremony downtown. Martin Dock found life in the new country very difficult and apparently his dreams never came true. This month's book also contains the letters of Hans Overland who did not enjoy his life in America either. He was an educated man from a prominent Norwegian family that participated in local politics. In America, Hans worked unskilled jobs in restaurants in Minnesota, drove an ice wagon, toiled on the railroad in Montana but never attained financial stability or happiness in the U.S. However his siblings enjoyed success in their new homeland. His brother worked in Minneapolis and Duluth as a journalist, eventually becoming editor of a newspaper, "The Industrial Age." His sister was trained in the law in Norway, worked as a lawyer in New York City, and wrote a book about business law. Hans eventually returned to Norway where he immersed himself again in the local politics and was appointed lensmann (local sheriff), a position previously held by his father and grandfather. He married and raised seven children. Maybe he experienced success in Norway because of the obstacles and hardships he encountered in America. Check out the immigrant stories in this book or one of many other books your library has to offer.

Karen Scarseth, Librarian

## Looking Back Through the Budstikkens

By Historian Karen Broadhead

### Fem år siden (5 years ago) June 2007

The Luren Singers from Decorah Iowa, the oldest male Norwegian singing society in America, provided entertainment for the June meeting. The concert was held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, and was followed by a pie and ice cream social.

Members were encouraged to sign up to meet and greet steamboats when they make stops in La Crosse during the summer, and to act as bus guides for boat passengers who go to Norskedalen. The Delta Queen (2), Mississippi Queen (4), and American Queen (8) will make a total of fifteen stops in La Crosse between July and November.

Family fun nights will be every Tuesday throughout the summer at Norskedalen. A variety of programs are planned.

### Ti år siden (10 years ago) June 2002

Pete Sherry and Vintage Four quartet entertained the membership at the pie and ice cream social.

### Femten år siden (15 years ago) June 1997

Wergeland Dancers received their awards from Sandra Kawatski.

Beth Kabat was awarded the 'Pet Facilitated Therapy Award' given at the "Cause for Paws" banquet.

### President's Letter - continued from Page 1

and one-half of the run the next year. The Stoughton High School Dancers perform several times during the three day celebration. Other cities around our area have their own celebrations including Westby WI, Spring Grove MN, and Vesterheim in Decorah IA.

Syttende Mai should always be regarded as an expression of thankfulness on behalf of the values of freedom, equality, and brotherhood, the basis for the constitution, and the circumstances that led up to it.

Mange tusen takk,

*Eugene*



## Meet our 2012 New Members

**Darlene Banks** – has been the custodian for 36 years at South West Prairie Church, which was the “mother church” of area churches. Fifth, Sixth, seventh, and eighth generations of her family still attend this church, which was started by the help of her ancestors in 1853. As custodian, she unlocks doors, turns on the heat and lights, cleans and does maintenance.

Darlene is married to Keith Banks for 63 years, and their family consists of seven children, 12 grandsons, 12 granddaughters, and 40 great grandchildren. All her ancestors came from Norway. Her father’s family Sorn Hjermand (Jerman), came from Laerdal, Norway in 1851. They homesteaded in Vernon County in 1853. The 6<sup>th</sup> generation daughter and husband own and still farm that farm. Her grandmother’s father Jacob Larsen Quamme was a school teacher, and came from Laerdal, Norway. He was the 1<sup>st</sup> teacher and song leader in the Utica church.

Darlene enjoys church activities, her grandchildren, family camping and gatherings, crafts and painting, and auctions.

**Michelle McClellan** - works in customer services at Kaplan University, and is also an Independent Scenty Consultant for Wickless Candle Sales.

She is married to Perry, and has three children; Samantha, Austin, and Shane, and grandchildren. Her great-great grandparents came from Norway. She enjoys reading, learning foreign languages, and playing with her grandchildren. Michelle was in Wergeland’s Norwegian class this Spring.

**Susan Quale** (pronounced Qua-ley)– works as librarian at the Sparta Elementary School. She has four children – Paul (wife Jenny) in San Francisco CA; Amy in Estes Park CO; Pam (husband Troy, and granddaughter Isabel) in Madison WI; and Eric (wife Kristin) in New York NY.

Susan is the great granddaughter of Nils Quale (Kvale) and Marta Knutsdotter Hylle. Nils was born in 1849 in Norway. Susan is the granddaughter of Arthur and Ruth Westergaard – Danish immigrants, and the daughter of Irving and Rita Quale (both deceased) of Chicago IL who retired Stoughton where they belonged to SON.

Susan enjoys reading, travel, knitting, hiking, outdoor activities, theater, music concerts, volunteer work, her children and her granddaughter. Susan has genealogies of her father’s paternal ancestors and some of her mother’s Danish ancestors.

**Luther Selbo** – is a retired Math teacher from West Salem High School. He’s married to Tammy, and they have five children and 6 grandchildren.

Luther’s connection from Norway is his great grandfather – Paternal grandfather came from Selbu. In high school, he was a member of the Stoughton Norwegian Dancers. Perhaps many in our Lodge do not know that Luther’s ancestor was the President of our lodge in 1911. His name was John C. Selbo.

Luther enjoys golf, motorcycles, football, and officiating in his other sports.

**Kerry Stokke** – is recently retired from the School District of La Crosse as a secretary since 1981, having worked at North Woods, Spence, Central, and Hogan Administrative Center. She is married to Richard and has two daughters – Kristy (Adam Reich) Stokke, and Stephanie Stokke. She has three grandsons, Eli, Wyatt, and Waylan, and a baby girl due in August 2012.

Kerry’s husband Richard has ancestors that came from Biri, Norway. Kerry is the daughter of Gene Schoenfeld, deceased, and step-daughter of Shirley. Kerry’s brother Doug Schoenfeld recommended her for membership.

Kerry enjoys collecting Beattle items.

**Roger and Kay Bjorge** – really love Norway, and have been there once. Roger is “full-blooded” Norwegian. His great grandfather and mother came from Norway.

Roger is the Partner/Owner of Crescent Printing Co. Kay does clerical and sales work. They have a son Scott, and a daughter Kathleen, deceased. Roger’s hobbies and/or interests are golfing, boating and fishing, and he also is a Riverfest Commodore. Kay enjoys doing crafts.

**Caryll Loughan** (pronounced like Loken)– is retired from the Department of the Army (Civilian) at Fort McCoy, WI where she worked in human resources. Her husband Ray is retired from Trane Co. She has a step-son William and his wife, Joan; and one grandson Sam.

Caryll’s parents and all relatives (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) are of Norwegian heritage. Caryll enjoys reading, golf, and some knitting.

**Phyllis L. Galstad** – has retired twice – first from Kwik Trip, and then from Sears. Her work was clerking. She is a widow, has six children of her own and one step son, seventeen grandchildren, six great grandchildren, and one great-great granddaughter!

Phyllis’s great grandparents came over on a ship – that great grandmother and two children died on the ship, so she is interested in finding more information later.

Phyllis loves to cook, and is active at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



**VELKOMMEN**



## Wergeland Activities in May



Wergeland's Vice President Dave Glomstad congratulates Peter Linnert as a new Golden Member at our May meeting. Unable to be present were new Golden Members Ardis and Harry Bolstad. Gratulerer to all three members!



New 25 year members recognized were: Debra Roe and Anne Farming. Stan Guberud and Lois Willinger, also recognized, were not in attendance. Kathy Anderson, Lois' daughter received the award for her mother. They were all presented with pins and flowers.



### THANKS FROM STARKS

"Thank you so much for having us perform our "Norway Sings" program for all of you on May 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of your Syttende Mai celebration. We appreciated all your wonderful comments afterwards. You have a very friendly group and we were impressed with the number of members attending. The

Lena was standing in line at the grocery store when she noticed bachelor Ole in the next line. He saw that she was looking at him and he was inspired to make his best romantic move. He slicked down his hair, straightened his jacket, and eased over to her. "I see that you were looking at me," he said, "and I am attracted to you. I will do anything you want to please you, no matter how naughty, for \$20. The only condition is that you tell me in three words." Lena thought a bit, reached in her purse and pressed \$20 in his hand. She leaned over and whispered in his ear "Clean my house."



Many Wergeland ladies attended the Looney Valley Tea on May 1. Front Row: Doris Henderson, (one of tea organizers,) and Marilyn Rudser; R-2. Elsie Olson, Ardelle Ender and Lillian Malzacher. R-3. Julia Forde, Ellen Olson, Agnetha Ames, Karen Broadhead and Florence Overgard. Beverly Fuhrman also attended but is not in the picture.

### Change of Address:

**Carolyn Skogen**  
**1126 Main, Apt 56**  
**Onalaska, WI 54650**

**Richard (Dick) Marking**  
**688 W. Franklin**  
**West Salem WI 54669**



**LUREN SINGERS**

**Thursday, June 7, 2012 | 7:00PM**  
 Our Savior's Lutheran Church | 612 Division Street, La Crosse, WI  
 Conducted by Dr. David Judisch | Sponsored by Sons of Norway Wergeland Lodge  
 - Free Will Offering -  
 All are invited to a Pie and Ice Cream Social in the Fellowship Hall following the concert

Our June meeting will be highlighted by a concert by the Luren Singers. They describe their group as follows:

*"The Luren Singing Society is North America's oldest, Norwegian-American male chorus now in our 145<sup>th</sup> year of continuous existence in the United States. We love to sing!"*

The concert will be followed by the annual Pie and Ice Cream Social. A free will offering will be taken.

### Norskedalen's Midsummer Fest June 23 and 24

**Saturday**, Pancake breakfast 9-11 am \$5 adults, \$3 kids under 10; Events 10 am – 4 pm,

**Sunday**, 11 am – 3:00 pm

Join the Scandinavian-style Midsummer celebration with fun, food, and festivities for the whole family. Saturday and Sunday the grounds are filled with rose-maling show and sale, woodcarving show and competition, old-time demonstrations, pioneer baking, arts and crafts, wagon rides, children's activities and of course, lots of delicious food. Norskedalen Nature and Heritage Center is 3 miles north of Coon Valley on county road PI. Regular Admission Rates Apply: \$6 Adults, \$3 Children, \$15 Family. For more information call 608.452.3424 or visit [www.norskedalen.org](http://www.norskedalen.org)

Ole says (proudly): "My wife's an angel!"  
 Sven replied "You're lucky, mine's still alive."

### Norwegian Ridge Language Camp June 18-22

The camp is open for full time students for \$200 and 4-7 yr. olds for \$100. Grants and scholarships may be available. High quality experience with classrooms and activities utilizing the immersion technique to language learning. This year's theme is "A Mythological Journey to Norway." It's at the Giants of the Earth Center, Inc. in Caledonia, MN.... a non-profit. Phone 507-498-5070.

Many activities for all ages - Come for the day, or students from out-of-town have an opportunity to get housing. Instructors are Cherise, Miklas, and Saundra Krisoffersen from Hegra Norway, Kathrine Myrah from Kongsberg Norway, Brit Eddy from Åsfjord Norway, Ingrid Rotto who speaks Norwegian fluently, Rachel Storlie and Paige Kahoun who attended Concordia Language Camp as children. There are many other assistants for the many Norwegian cultural traditions and activities. For more information [www.sgheritage.org](http://www.sgheritage.org) or [kbjgray@springgrove.coop](mailto:kbjgray@springgrove.coop)

### Vestlandslag Stevne 2012—La Crosse, WI

Days Inn Hotel and Conference Center -La Crosse, WI

Thursday June 21st-Sat. June 23rd

Registration begins at 8 a.m Thurs and Sat. (8:30 on Friday)

Tom Monson will be talking about our Førde sister city; Dr. A Erik Gundersen will portray his grandfather who started the Gundersen Clinic; Kathleen Stokker will discuss "Humor in Norway during WWII" and Ron and Frieda Nowland will do their "Viking Presense in Ireland" presentation. There will be a bunad show, genealogy help, food and our own Wergeland Dancers. Don't miss it!



## Celebrating Syttende Mai--Wergeland Style



Many Wergeland members met downtown La Crosse at City Hall for the Raising of the Norway Flag in commemoration of the Norwegian Constitution Day, Syttende Mai. Members then went for a breakfast for camaraderie and then out to the Campbell Cemetery to put a flag on the grave of Norwegian immigrant, Martin Dock.

Below: Wergeland Dancers dance their way through the Syttende Mai parade in Westby.



President Eugene and Florence Johnson in front with Past-Presidents Shirley Schoenfeld and Adrian Johnson in back. Vice President David Glomstad walked alongside.



### Road Amundsen Ship to Return to Norway

After over 80 years of weathering the ice of Cambridge Bay in Nunavut, Canada, the wreck of the Maud has just received federal approval from the Canadian government to return home to Norway.

Investors with the group Maud Returns Home have been working with the Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board to receive the necessary export permits to raise the wreck and ready it for a long journey aboard a barge to Norway, where the ship would be the centerpiece of a new museum in Vollen. "The board recognized the shared heritage of Canada, Norway and the world, and after careful consideration of the criteria under the Act, determined that an export permit will be granted for the Maud," said a statement released after the ruling.

Jan Wanggaard, manager of Maud Returns Home, couldn't be more thrilled about the outcome of the hearing. "That is great news for us, and we can now go ahead making plans and prepare our self for the great challenge to finally bring Maud home.

### You Can Order Red SON Vests - See Below

Several Members have asked for this information.

#### Fleece Vests

- SM-XL \$31.98
- 2XL \$33.98
- 3XL \$35.98
- 4XL \$37.98

#### Red or royal blue canvas button up vests: \$33.98

- SON back twill embroidered logo - \$55.00
- SON left chest embroidered logo with flags - \$14.95
- Plain SON left chest logo - \$8.00

Contact: Kelly Beers

Personal Touch Monogramming, LLC  
723 Western Ave. #3  
Holmen, WI 54636  
608-526-5990



*a little in English...*

**Sons of Norway Media Lending Library**

Whether you're looking for some new music to play at your next lodge meeting, or a Norwegian film to watch over the weekend, the Sons of Norway Media Lending Library has what you're looking for!

Sons of Norway's media lending library offers a variety of films, CDs and slides. The library has many items for both children and adults, including over 300 CDs with everything from jazz to rock to Hardanger fiddle folk music. We also have over 150 films on VHS and DVD covering everything from feature films to documentaries and much more.

It's easy to use the library. Just get in touch via *culture@sofn.com*. You can check out up to three items at a time; the items are sent to you via UPS, you can keep them for a month, and the only cost to you is to send them back. Reserving items in advance is recommended.

To request a lending library selection or to learn more about what the Sons of Norway Media Lending Library has to offer, call (800) 945-8851 or visit the members section of the Sons of Norway website at *www.sonsofnorway.com*.

Ole had stopped for a drink or two with his buddies after the Saturday baseball game. When it was time to leave, he realized he'd had a few too many and later told Sven, "I did something I've never done before. I took a bus home. Ya sure, I passed a police road block but the bus got waved through. I got home in good shape which was a real surprise, ya sure, as I've never driven a bus before and don't remember where I got it."



Thanks to Venenskap

**Most Popular Baby Names in U.S. and in Norway**

**AMERICA**

**NORWAY**

**Girls:**

- |             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1. Sophia   | 1. Emma             |
| 2. Isabella | 2. Nora/Norah       |
| 3. Emma     | 3. Sara/Sahra/Sarah |

**Boys:**

- |            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| 1. Jacob   | 1. Emil           |
| 2. Mason   | 2. Lucas/Lukas    |
| 3. William | 3. Mathias/Matias |

"Local variations are difficult to find, but Mohammad is still the most popular boys' name in Oslo".

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

*litt på norsk...*

**Sons of Norway Media Lending Library**

Enten du trenger musikk til ditt neste losjemøte eller en norsk film å se på over helgen, Sons of Norway har det som kreves!

Sons of Norways mediebibliotek tilbyr diverse filmer, CDer og 35mm lysbilder. Biblioteket har mange ting for barn og voksne, inkl. over 300 CDer med alt fra jazz og rock til hardingfelelåter. Vi har også over 150 filmer på VHS og DVD med alt fra langfilmer til dokumentarer og mye mer.

Det er lett å bruke biblioteket. Bare ta kontakt via *culture@sofn.com*. Du kan bestille opp til 3 ting hver gang; de sendes i posten, du får låne dem i en måned, og det eneste kostnaden til deg er å sende dem tilbake. Det anbefales at du reserverer ting på forhand.

For videre informasjon eller å bestille noe, sjekk ut *www.sonsofnorway.com* eller ring (800) 945-8851

**2012 International Folk Art Exhibition & Competition**

Sons of Norway is pleased to invite all members to participate in the 2012 International Folk Art Exhibition & Competition. All members, both amateurs and professionals, are encouraged to display their skills at Sons of Norway's largest folk art event as part of the International Convention in Fargo, North Dakota from August 22nd through August 25th.



Members can choose to compete, exhibit or both. Everyone who enters will receive a certificate of participation and a unique pin for their contribution. Members who enter the competition can win ribbons for First, Second, and Third places in a variety of categories, a People's Choice award and the Best In Show prize for the judges' overall favorite item.

For more information, complete rules and more, check out the official convention website, *www.sonsofnorway2012.com*

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**SONS OF NORWAY  
WERGELAND LODGE #5/028**

Carol Stekel, *Editor*  
P.O. Box 3591  
La Crosse, WI 54602-3591

Happy Father's Day  
to all Fathers on  
June 17th!



**June 2012**



First Day of Summer  
June 21st

**Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No.22  
La Crosse, WI 54601**

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**Norskedalen Activities**



**Throne Visitor's Center:**  
**Summer Hours: May 1 - October 31**  
**Monday-Friday: 9 am to 5 pm**  
**Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm**  
**Sunday: Noon to 5 pm**

**Sunday Programs will be held on the First  
Sunday of the Month at 2:00 pm**

**June 3: "The Transformative Power of Arts in  
the Coulee Region" by Eric Bunge.** He will tell how  
the Commonweal Theater in Lanesboro and Shake-  
speare Festival in Winona have impacted the area..

**Wed. June 13: 1:00 pm-Norwegian Glee Club of  
Minneapolis -Admission with Non-Perishable Food  
item.**

**June 23,24: Midsummer Fest (See article on P-7)**  
**Saturday: Pancake Breakfast 9-11 am**  
**\$5 adults, \$3 kids under 10**

**10:00 am-4:00 pm Events and Displays**  
**Sunday: 11:00 am-3:00 pm Events and Displays**

**Norskedalen Phone: 608-452-3424**  
**Web Site: www.norskedalen.org**  
**E-mail Address: info@norskedalen.org**