



# LUREN

Velkommen til vår sammenkomst!

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Mars og April 2011

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## Fra Presidenten

*Dear members and Friends of Circle City Lodge,*

### *A Journey Through the Mountains of Norway*

*With the travel season around the corner and dreams of adventures, yet unrealized, in our daily thoughts, it seems appropriate to tell you of a book I read last year. The book is called "The Fellowship of Ghosts; A Journey Through the Mountains of Norway" by Paul Watkins.*

*The book begins with Watkins working on a ninety foot, deep sea fishing boat during his Eton College years. One of his crew mates is a Norwegian who had moved to the United States with his family in the 1950's. During these dangerous and exciting fishing voyages the Norwegian tells Watkins all about his home land, through his memories, of what it was like. This intrigued Watkins to the point that he promised himself that some day he would go to Norway to see this land of splendid beauty and dark mystery.*

*In keeping his commitment to himself, Watkins does a superb job of telling parts of the history of Norway from the days of the Vikings to contemporary times and weaves this history into the daily adventures he experiences as he hikes and climbs through the mountains of central Norway. Some nights he camps and other nights he stays in hotels and cottages that are situated throughout the region. On the camping nights, where he can hear distant streams in their rush to reach the ocean and the high winds grinding through the mountains and the trees, he actually makes contact with some of the spirits and ghosts of Norway that have lived in these mountains for thousands of years. Watkins also interjects some splendid humor, particularly when reciting passages from books written by stuffy and pretentious explorers of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.*

*Watkins not only talks about the rock strewn, craggy mountains and ice cold, crystal clear streams cutting through these mountains, but he describes the plants, the animals, and the people that live there in a way that makes them all come to life. He describes, in the subtlest way, the tenderness and kindness of the people he encounters and for a moment, he falls in love with a woman whose icy blue eyes will never leave his mind.*

*Continued on page 2*

## Fra Presidenten (Cont'd.)

*In one of my favorite parts of the book, Watkins has set off to climb Smorrstabbtinden, which is quite challenging and fraught with danger. This type of climbing is for experienced climbers only. He finally gets to a point where he feels he has met his match and expresses his frustration: "It is as if the survival of my body depends on going back down, but the survival of my mind depends on continuing." (pg 148). That line has stuck with me and I refer to it regularly when I feel challenged by something.*

*As the last few weeks of ice and snow start to blossom into the green and verdant spring we expect here in central Indiana, your thoughts will wander back to the adventurous trips you're planning for Norway. Pick up this book and let it get you just a bit closer to Norway and all it has to offer, just a few steps off the beaten path.*

*Fraternally,  
John Bennett*

## Lift av hvert

Lost and Found. At February's sammenkomst, **Bia Martin** lost her treasured green coffee mug. **Jean Bittner** found it.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society asked **Dan O'Brien** if he would consider coaching the Team-in-Training triathlon team in 2011. He agreed and in addition he decided to fundraise, train, and run the Team-in-Training Bayshore Marathon (26.2 miles) on May 28<sup>th</sup>. **Dan** is dedicating his training and marathon this year to his wife's ( **Julane Beetham Lund**) cousin. Last year, **Dan's** 34 member Indiana Triathlon team raised \$115,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. If you would like to support **Dan**, contact him at 317-831-1147.

The Lodge recently received a rebate check from Kroger in the amount of \$169.50 from the use of Kroger gift cards by some of our members. Since this program was started, we have earned about \$600! The cards are available at no cost from **Jerry Rud** and the lodge benefits every time you use the card to pay for purchases at Kroger.

**Missing** – volumes 2 to 23 of the Norwegian language series *Ingelbjorg olacsdatter*. If you know of their whereabouts, please contact **Bia Martin**.

## Meet the Stenbros Our new Members

Carol's Grandmother, Emma Karoline Evensen (born July 1, 1885) came from Grimsrud near Drammen, Norway. Cousins still reside in Norway, near Drammen. Karin Lund Moland, Carol's cousin, is married to Torstein Moland, who was minister of finance in Norway. They now reside in Veigershei (sp??). Carol enjoys cooking and decorating. Carol has 4 children by her first husband and 6 grandkids. Burt and Jean Bittner were their next door neighbors in the 1970's in Wiesbaden, Germany!

Steve's Father, David Stenbro was born July 4, 1898 in Oslo. His ancestors are from the Valle, Telemark area. His mother is English heritage and passed away when Steve was 2 1/2 years old. His Father placed him with a Norwegian family to be raised in Rice Lake, WI. There are a few distant cousins left in Norway! Steve loves working on his genealogy! Steve has 3 children and 6 grandkids from his first marriage. Steve is a retired toolmaker from Ford Motor Company, loves doing historic preservation work, is on the Historic Preservation Committee and now helps run their bed and breakfast, Market Street Inn ([www.innonmarket.com](http://www.innonmarket.com)), which he fully restored in Jeffersonville, Indiana, where they now live. They have been in the Innkeeping business for 16 years.

**Steve and Carol Stenbro**

## Masse Moro Heritage Camp

Circle City has helped sponsor youth in the 9 to 15 age group in past summers and is urging young members, and children and grandchildren of members, to take part in this excellent activity this summer. Everyone who has attended, wanted to go again and again! The Masse Moro Heritage Camp is located at Beaver Creek Reserve near Eau Clair, WI. Circle City pays ¼ of the registration, District 5 pays ¼ and the camper pays ½. For information regarding the camp, contact Kaia Klockeman (507-581-3700) or email [kaia\\_klockeman@yahoo.com](mailto:kaia_klockeman@yahoo.com). The camp website can be accessed at [www.massemoro.org](http://www.massemoro.org). If you would like to talk with a Circle City Camper, contact Burt or Jean Bittner.

## Kalender



Saturday, March 5	Board Meeting 7:30 am @ Le Peep Restaurant, 2258 W 86 <sup>th</sup> St. All are Welcome to Join the Board for Breakfast & Fellowship
Friday, March 11	Monthly Sammenkomst @ King of Glory Lutheran Church 6:30 pm – <b>Traditional Annual Soup Night</b> –
Saturday, March 12	Monthly Walk – Call Alma @ 317-769-4647
Sunday, March 13	Daylight Saving Time Begins
Sunday, March 20	First Day of Spring
Friday, April 8	Monthly Sammenkomst @ King of Glory Lutheran Church 6:30 pm – Pot Luck Supper -
Saturday, April 9	Monthly Walk – Call Alma @ 317-769-4647
Friday, May 13	<b>Syttende Mai Fest</b> – 6:30 pm @ King of Glory Lutheran Church – Special Entertainment – Traditional Norwegian Dinner – <b>Reservations Required</b> – <u>Mark Your Calendar!!</u>

## Mars 11 sammenkomst

**Soup Nite** is a Lodge favorite. What fun it is to taste the variety of flavors that our wonderful chefs lovingly prepare for us. Accompanied by our “traditional” multi-grain bread (so nourishing - and it tastes so good) and a garden salad, each bowl will become a cherished memory. What’s missing so far? Dessert and coffee. After all, we are Norsemen and Norsewomen! Or should it be the other way around?

If you would like to bring dessert, please contact Burt at 317-842-4042. Tusen takk to those who volunteered, at our last sammenkomst, to bring soup. We need to know who will be bringing dessert, so that we do not have too much, or too little – “just enough” as the saying goes.

Once lips and chins are wiped clean, and drips dealt with, a brief “information sharing session” will be convened. Our program will follow. Be sure to come and have an enjoyable time!

## Syttende Mai celebration Friday, Mai 13

The festivities begin at 6:30 p.m. This is a day to celebrate with family and friends. Bring as many

family members and friends as possible. Now is the time to invite that person(s) you think might be interested in Sons of Norway, Only \$12.50 for a wonderful dinner and outstanding entertainment! Wear your bunad, if you have one, and if not, wear some **red, white, & blue**. Bring your flags, and as a part of the parade, plan to shout **Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!**

Last year we served salmon with a butter and dill sauce. It tasted so good, we decided to do it again. Hotdogs will be there to those who don’t like fish. Boiled potatoes, peas and carrots, salad, and the popular multi-grain bread, will fill your plate. Be sure to leave enough room for a special, delicious cake, and strawberries and ice cream – with some whipped cream to top it off!

Following dinner, we will be entertained by a Baroque ensemble “*Musik Ecclesia*.” This group, from Advent Lutheran Church, in Zionsville, has just produced a CD called “Vanishing Nordic Chorales.” This year’s celebration will be long remembered.

Can you believe that this dinner is only \$12.50 for 16 years +, and free for children? So that we can plan properly, **please make your reservations with Steve Degenhardt. ASAP**

## Book Review: I Curse The River Of Time

By Per Petterson

The book begins with this line, "All this happened quite a few years ago." The main character and the narrator of the story is 37 yr. old Arvid Jansen. It is set in 1989. Arvid and his family live in Norway. His family has lived there for 40 yrs.

If you understand that the book simply tells about a part of Arvid's life - an unsettling part, then you may not be disappointed in the book. I reread the ending twice, thinking I'd missed some conclusion, but there is no conclusion and no answers to the problems presented in the story. The unsettled part of his life twines around 3 events: his 15 yr. marriage is dissolving; his mother is dying of cancer; and the Berlin Wall is tumbling down. So, things are ending - internally and externally. He has 2 daughters, but his marriage and children are not really discussed. Arvid quit college and took a job in a factory because he thought that was his role as a Communist party member, which is why the Berlin Wall meant so much to him - the Communist system there did not work. His mother was really upset with him for quitting college and his party membership and maybe his being immature.

He accompanies his mother from Norway to her tiny hometown in northern Denmark. This is a trip she wants to make after discovering her cancer. Is there any bonding in Denmark between Arvid and his mother -not much.

Another sentence from the book describes the theme: "I was searching for something very important, a very special thing, but no matter how hard I tried, I could not find it." So, you never find out what happens to Arvid and if this is a turning point in his life or not.

Other books by Per Petterson are *In The Wake*, *Siberia*, and *Out Stealing Horses*.

*Sharon Harruff*

## Earn a Cultural Skills Medal

Julane Lund presented a wonderful program about Ole Bull at the February sammenkomst. She gave an interesting history of his life and times both at home in Norway and abroad, and played samples of his compositions on violin and hardangerfele. Ole

Bull's music is emotional and so very Norwegian, and Julane's playing of it was sensitive and lovely.

Those of us who were privileged to hear Julane could use what we learned to get started on a cultural skills program in music. Please contact me about information, or go to [www.sofn.com](http://www.sofn.com) for a complete description of the program. Jean Bittner has completed all three units and can also give you the necessary push to get started.

*Dagrun Bennett*

## Welcome Kjetil "KJ" Groven

"KJ" grew up in Skien, Norway, and spent most of his childhood on the family farm working with his grandparents. In 1999, he left Norway to attend South Dakota School of Mines and received a degree as a mechanical engineer. He says that he learned quickly that traditional engineering was not for him and that he needed to work with his hands. When growing up on the farm, he was always surrounded by Norwegian folk art, and it is the style he likes the best. After some time as an engineer, he built a Norwegian log building, which led him to a job as a log-home builder. He spent the next six years building homes and doing custom woodworking. He was introduced to a blacksmithing club around that same time and was soon building buildings, cabinets, and other furniture in the Norwegian style, as well as forging tools and hardware. He believes he has found his true calling.

July 23-27 "KJ" will be teaching at Vesterheim. The following is the course description: "Learn cabinet building Norwegian style from experienced woodworker "KJ" Groven. Using power and hand tools, students will build a simple Norwegian hanging wall cupboard with one shelf and a door. The door will be a flat panel intended for rosemaling. Students will make the metal hinges and a latch using forging, cold chiseling, and filing. The cupboard will be built of yellow poplar, which takes paint well and is easy to work with. The joinery will be simple and easy for any beginner to grasp. Students will make their own molding using wooden side escapement planes. "KJ" will discuss making paint with natural pigments and students will be given the information you need to finish painting at home. "KJ" also will give students a good foundation for exploring more advanced joining techniques, molding making, and metal work. There will be an

additional materials fee of approximately \$75.  
 Level of instruction: All levels.  
 \$375 Vesterheim members / \$425 non-members

## The Norwegian Language Council Registers New Words in 2010

With a relatively small population and a large English language influence, preserving and promoting the Norwegian language is a state priority for Norway. Sprakradet, the Norwegian Language Council, is the regulatory body of the Ministry of Culture that works to encourage the proper use of the Norwegian language, both bokmal and nynorsk, in every aspect of Norwegian society, to ensure the language's use in the future and making sure it never takes a backseat to English.

One of Sprakradet's many jobs is approving new additions to the Norwegian language. Every year they register, or introduce, new words. The selected words registered by Sprakradet often portray new trends or a phenomenon in Norwegian culture, current events, business or science. Sigfrid Tvitekkja, functioning director of the Norwegian Language Council, explained to *Aftenposten*, "New words can be a historical document. When new words are registered a type of profile is created of that year."

The past year's new words are a perfect example as they reflect Norway's 2010 experience. For example *framsnakking* (talking positively about someone behind their back) reflects a change in Norwegian culture as they tired of the concept of *baksnakking* (talking negatively about someone behind their back). *Where askefast* ("ash-stranded") was created after the eruption of *Eyjafjallajokull*, Iceland's volcano, which left many Norwegian travelers stranded. The new word *apper* ("apps" downloadable applications for smart phones) shows the success of smart phones and the Norwegianization of the phenomenon. The creation of new words makes Norwegian a unique and lively language with endless opportunities for expansion, giving Sprakradet a challenging task.

Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

## Survey says: Norwegian youth show lack of respect for law

A recent survey of more than 3,500 Norwegian youths, aged 15 to 26, revealed a surprising characteristic among its participants—a lack of respect for the law.

The survey was conducted by a research firm called Synovate which issues the Norsk Monitor survey on behalf of the Royal Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion.

The survey was designed to map the basic attitudes, sociocultural values and behaviors of the respondents; shedding light on the participants' perceptions of right and wrong, social behavior and acceptable means for achieving goals.

Survey respondents scored high in categories that involved risk taking, showing little respect for rules and regulations and having status. Erik Dalen of Norsk Monitor says, "Norwegian youth seem to have a constant tendency to test limits and be in opposition, and we see that clearly in this survey. They challenge the rules, by having a more liberal view on violations than most others." For example, participants may have a relaxed view of offenses such as cheating on tests, failing to attend classes and shoplifting.

What should be done with this new information? Dalen suggests that youth-focused retailers as well as schools put safeguards in place to prevent theft and issue tougher controls.

Sons of Norway Newsletter Service

## Recruit to Win in 2011!

Oslo. Bergen. Coastal Norway. Holmenkollen. The Flam Railway. Hadeland Glassworks. All this and more could be yours if you recruit to win in 2011! This year, when you recruit new, dues-paying members you are entering yourself into the 2011 Norwegian Experience Recruitment Contest, courtesy of Borton Overseas and Sons of Norway. The prize, which will be awarded in January of 2012, is a free trip of a lifetime for the winner and one guest that includes airfare, meals, exclusive travel opportunities and upscale accommodations! Just imagine taking a 10 day land-tour of Norway enjoying some of the most beautiful scenery that Scandinavia has to offer! The best part is that the

winner gets to choose their own adventure! Whether you prefer an active trip full of sightseeing and touring, or a more laid-back vacation, it's up to you!

To enter this year's Norwegian Experience Recruitment Contest all you have to do is recruit one new, dues-paying member and make sure your name is listed in the "Referred By" field. It's as easy as that! Entries are taken from members recruited between January 1st and December 31st, 2011. Also, remember that you can enter as many times as you recruit throughout the year, which increases your chances of winning!

To learn more about the contest or its rules, contact Sons of Norway at 800-945-8851.

*Many people are familiar with the history of the Norwegian resistance movement during World War 2, but less widely known is it that the Norwegian-American community also reacted when German forces invaded Norway on April 9<sup>th</sup> 1940. The following is an excerpt of an article published in May of 1940 in Sons of Norway's member magazine that shows how the organization and many others came together to support the Norwegian people.*

## Joining Forces for Norway's Sake

Work has already begun to help Norway in the moment of the greatest disaster in the nation's

history. A humanitarian organization has been incorporated in the state of Illinois under the name "Norwegian Relief, Inc." with Arthur Andersen, president of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, as National Treasurer.

For this cause there has been an unprecedented degree of cooperation between Norwegian organizations and groups in America. Regardless of everything that can divide us, we are all united by concern for the old fatherland.

As soon as the first shots were fired over Norwegian soil Sons of Norway's board of directors, by personal contact and via telegraph, came to the unanimous decision to commence a fundraising operation. In various other places around the country and among other organizations similar plans were being laid.

It soon became clear that these efforts must be united. A meeting was then held in the office of Dr. J.A. Aasgaard, the foreman for the Norwegian Lutheran Church in America, with representatives from many other Norwegian-American organizations including St. Olaf College, Daughters of Norway, Augsburg Seminary and College, The Norwegian Glee Club, the Norwegian-American Historical Association, the Bygdelag Council, the Norsemen's Federation and others.

None of the collected funds will be sent to Norway until we can be completely certain that they will go to the right hands.

## Syttende Mai Reservations Friday, May 13, 2011

Hei Steve,

We are looking forward to coming to the Syttende Mai Fest. \_\_\_ adults and \_\_\_ children (under 16 yr.) will be in our party. My check, payable to *Sons of Norway*, is enclosed.

### Adults

Salmon Dinner

# \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this reservation to:

Stephen Degenhardt  
5579 East 79<sup>th</sup> Street  
Noblesville, IN 46062