



Solglimt Newsletter



Palm Desert

Editor: Steinar Johansen

April 2011



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Ord fra Presidenten

What a wonderful Scandinavian Heritage Day Solskinn Lodge sponsored. We had approximately 200 people attend. The lodge receives 10% of the revenue from the vendors sales. From food, bake sale and the culture area the lodge made some money but not lots. Raising money was not the goal. The goal was to educate and increase awareness in our community regarding Scandinavian heritage. The members, families and friends of Solskinn Lodge did a great job!

The culture area was busy with activity and had an air of excitement with wonderful music being played through out the day. Many people stopped at the genealogy table for information, sat and talked. The hardanger, knitting



and carving tables had many people asking questions and showing interest in learning these skills. We even sold small pieces of Hardanger and kits. A number of people made heart baskets. The community enjoyed music and food demonstrations as well as the meatball lunch and the many baked goods from various countries.

Heritage is something to promote every day to our family, friends and neighbors. Next month try a new cultural skill, read a Norwegian authored book or watch a Norwegian movie. There are many opportunities listed for culture skill classes provided by the lodge including music, dance, rosemaling, Hardanger, carving and now language.

Pick one and learn something new. Engaging in cultural activities helps us each appreciate our heritage and gives us the knowledge and tools to pass it on.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any issue or just to say hello. My home phone 760-363-7704, e-mail morongo2@verizon.net.

Fraternally,
Luella Grangaard



Norwegian Lunch Bunch

Melvyn's Restaurant at the Ingleside Inn, Palm Springs
Friday, April 8, 11:30
Debera Ellingboe 760-699-7436

Solskinn Lodge's Events

April	2	Hope Lutheran Church	10:00 a.m. Rosemaling Info: 760 363-7704
April	4	Date Palm Country Club	5:30 Folk Dance Info: 760-898-3340
April	7	Debera Ellingboe's Home	3:00 p.m. Hardanger. Info 760-699-7436
April	10	Debera Ellingboe's Home	1-3 p.m. Music Appreciation. Info: 760-699-7436
April	16	Hope Lutheran Church	Potato Social. See page 8
April	18	Date Palm Country Club	5:30 Folk Dance Info: 760-898-3340
April	21	Nancy Madson's Home	3:00 p.m. Hardanger. Info 760-343-0848

April Birthdays

3	Kennedy Sandra K
4	Christophersen Evelyn V
12	Evenson Dale Arthur
12	Langer Janice
12	Morgner Jacob Allen
17	Haagenson Robert A
18	Strom Alyssa R
28	Hagen Thelma C
29	Ellingboe Collin Dean
30	Maher Marie Louise

Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år, ja deg vil jeg gratulere.
Alle i ring omkring deg vi står, og se, nå vil vi marsjere.

Bukke, nikke, neie, snu oss omkring, danse for deg med hopp og sprett og spring, ønske deg av hjerte alle gode ting og si meg så, hva vil du mere?

GRATULERE!

Learning Norwegian

**Are you interested in learning Norwegian?
Berit Reistad has begun a basic language class.**

Thursday, April 14 5:30 – 7:00

Wednesday, April 27 5:30 – 7:00

For further information please contact Nancy Madson at 760-343-0848. .

Business/Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 5, 4:30 P.M. at Nancy Madson's home in Thousand Palms. All members are welcome

Please RSVP to Nancy, 760/343-0848.

Events Beyond our Valley

April 2011

16-17 Thousand Oaks

Scandinavian Fair.

International Night at Southwest Community Church

Richard and Louise Selle were assisted by Luella Grangaard and Nancy Madson for their church Sunday school class's International Night. For the entertainment/cultural part of the evening, Luella and Nancy demonstrated a Norwegian Polka and a Ringlender, Luella told of her Nordic costume contrasting it to a Bunad, the official National costume. Louise played the



piano piece "Wedding Day at Trollhaugen" by Edvard Grieg. Several other entertainers represented other countries. Each table was decorated with the theme of a different country. Louise decorated the Norwegian table with lovely Scandinavian dinnerware. Her centerpiece included a lodge Viking ship decoration, with mountains and the sea depicted by staged, colored fabric. The Norwegian flag stood from the mountain-top, and trolls and Richard's Viking carvings adorned the scene. The potluck dinner consisted of food from various nations.



*Submitted by
Nancy Madson*

*The Scandinavian
Heritage Day
Was a Success from
A to Z.*



Hike For Hope



Luella Grangaard one of the "Hiking Vikings" representing Solskinn Lodge at the "Hike For Hope", March 6, Indian Canyons, Palm Springs. Luella hiked 5.7 miles round trip to Rock Springs at an elevation of 1200'.

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Bjørnstjerne Martinius Bjørnson

Bjørnstjerne was born December 8 1832 at Kvikne, Norway, a village south of Trondheim. His father was a pastor. He began writing poetry when he was eleven years old. At the age of 17 he was sent to Christiania to prepare for the university. This school also trained Ibsen, who was his classmate.

Bjørnstjerne was considered one of the four great Norwegian writers. The others were Ibsen, Lie and Kielland. He was a poet, novelist, playwright and lyricist and received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1903. We remember him for writing the lyrics for the Norwegian National Anthem, "Ja, vi elsker dette landet." He is known for his plays on historical subjects and contemporary issues. He created what



is today children's literature by combining the saga style and oral style of the Norwegian folk tales. The best were *Synnøve Solbakken* (1857) and *Arne* (1859). His best historical tragedy was the trilogy *Sigurd the Bastard* (1862).

Bjørnstjerne was a forerunner of Ibsen and directed the first Norwegian theater in Bergen. He married an actress, Karoline Reimers, and one of their sons was a leading actor and producer. A daughter married Ibsen's son.

Bjørnstjerne's novels, stories, plays and poems dealt with thoughts from abroad (Darwin and Bible critics) and stormy issues within Norway. The novels *Magnhild*, *The Heritage of the Kurts* and *In God's Way* dealt with a woman's right to divorce, school reform and religious intolerance. *Magnhild* was his first realistic novel, and it painted a dismal picture of marriage and indicated divorce as a solution.

Bjørnstjerne was a born leader who involved himself in major controversies and defended Norway's cultural and political independence. He ended up fighting for world peace and the rights of oppressed people.

Bjørnstjerne was considered Ibsen's equal during his lifetime, but his reputation as an author has diminished. He wrote with an idealistic spirit and wrote three realistic plays in Scandinavia. He craved truth, rather than beauty in his writing of narratives and saga plays. He wrote peasant tales, where the heroes were supported by love and Christian faith. His sagas were more rugged and tragic. His greatest saga was "Sigurd Stembe." Shakespeare's plays influenced his writings. He also published many songs and poems. He was involved in national politics his entire life, and his influence in Norwegian cultural life is still strong today.

Here is one of the many poems he wrote:

Choice

April for me I choose!
In it the old things tumble,
In it things new refresh us;
It makes a mighty rumble,
But peace is not so precious
As that his will man shows.

April for me I choose,
Because it storms and scourges,
Because it smiles and blesses,
Because its power purges,
Because it strength possesses,
In it the summer grows.

Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson died in 1910, at the age of 78.

*Submitted by
Miriam Hendrix*

Peer Gynt by Henrik Ibsen

This story is a play. It was interpreted to be a satire of the Norwegian personality, a life based on procrastination and avoidance. Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson admired the play's "satire in Norwegian egotism, narrowness and self sufficiency". Since this play was written almost 150 years ago I couldn't say if you could take this play to the level of describing the personality of a country or not. But it does describe a young man full of himself, wanting to see the world and become king of the world. He seems to think by right or desire rather than by virtue or work this can be achieved. I guess that same idea holds true to today with some individuals.

I liked the imagery of the button molder in the final scenes where he has come to recast Peer into another soul. This causes me to further explore Norwegian folklore to understand some of the images used. I also enjoyed his visit with the trolls. During our music class when I listened, once again to Grieg's "In the Hall of the Mountain King" that piece had a different feel to me. I can place the story with the music. This was not an easy read for me because first it was a play, second it is a translation and third it is more than a story of a young man, it was more meaning and depth. I feel good though that I completed it and I would recommend it as option to explore Norwegian Literature

*Submitted by
Luella Grangaard*

Special Thanks to all our Volunteers for a Successful 2nd Annual Scandinavian Heritage Day

Many, many volunteers went into a very successful event. Thank you to Debera Ellingboe for her hours of planning, coordination, organization and clean-up of the kitchen and food areas. In addition, she made 18 almond cakes for sale. Another thanks, to Nancy Madson for coordinating, containing, and communicating with our vendors and entertainers. Then in her spare time she cooked her heart out making everything from lefse to cookies and cake. She even demonstrated lefse making.

Also our sincere thanks go to Berit for helping with publicity, set-up, decorations and volunteering all day in the food area. Debera would like to recognize Donna and Brad Lenander, who were there all day helping in the food area. Brad was Debera's right hand man. Heidi Albright and Doreen Karlsen were there all day both in the kitchen area helping and the food court. They went everywhere as needed. Charlotte Larsen cooked, made coffee, cleaned, demonstrated rosettes and anything else that needed to be done.

In addition many people were there all day and others a few hours or baked items. Some of the volunteers are members, some our new affiliate members and some a spouse of a member and others just friends. I hope I don't leave anyone out, but here we go: Glenn and Claudia Bell, Corinne Bjerke, Anne Blodgett, Ronna Clymens, Carol Curtis, Lucile Cutlar, Richard Ellingboe, Connie Fleischner, Royda and Thomas Gerner, Dorothy Girgis, Carol and Doug Hansen, Miriam and Bob Hendrix, Carole Heptinstall, Cheryl Jensen, Steinar Johansen, Janice Langer, Norman Larsen, Patricia and Alex Lee, David Lutes, Loren and LaRee Opdahl, Phyllis and James Peterson, Junelle Pearson, Bill Rawlings, Jeannette Rommereim, Richard and Louise Selle, Shirley Severson, Darrell Sinclair, Walt Wisler, and everyone who pitched in to pick up afterwards and anyone I missed. This can only be successful with all our volunteers. We thank you one and all for a job very well done.

Solnedgang Supper Club March 2011

Here is our group of 27 folks celebrating St. Patrick's Day at McGowan's in Palm Desert. What a great turnout! We definitely had Irish food (corned beef and cabbage, fish and chips, chicken and dumplings) and lots of Irish decorations.

Three lucky Norwegians won a pot of live shamrocks. Hope you will be there with us at Stuarts, April 28.

*Submitted by
Miriam Hendrix*



Charlotte Larsen demonstrate Rosettes



Nancy Madson Demonstrate lefse making



Darrel Sinclair



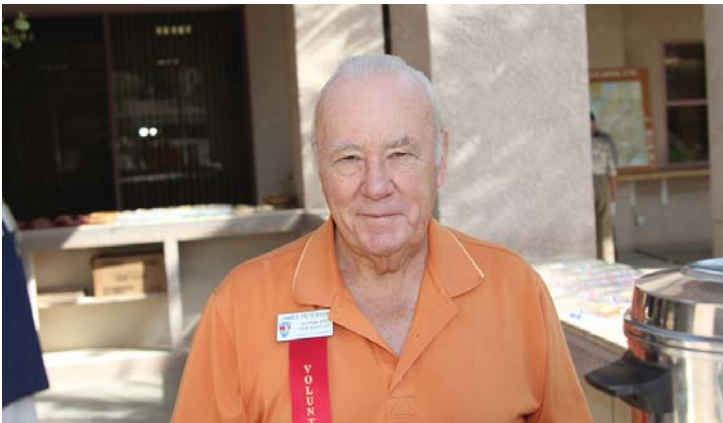
Heidi Albright



Louise Selle, Richard Selle



Peter Olson



James Peterson



Luella Grangaard



Shirley Severtson



Cheryl Jensen, Debera Ellingboe, and Luella Grangaard

March Solnedgang Supper Club

April 28, 2011 at 5:30 P.M.
Stuart's
69640 Highway 111
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270
(760) 459-3310

Website: stuartsranchomirage.com

Sundown Dinners \$12.95

(Vegetable, Choice of Soup or Salad, Twice-Baked
Potato or Rice Pilaf)

Choice of: Wrangler Cut Top Sirloin
Battered Jumbo Shrimp
Grilled Alaskan Salmon
Grilled Chicken Breast (Teriyaki or
BBQ Sauce)
Meatloaf with Mashed Taters
½ Rack BBQ Baby Back Ribs
Ranch Hand Cut Prime Rib (Add \$2)

Happy Hour 4:00-6:00

Well drinks, domestic Draft beer,
house wine~\$3:50

Reservations: Miriam Hendrix
760-408-9900
or
Junelle Pearson
760-799-1131



Nancy Madson at Coachella Valley History Museum Heritage Day,
March 26

Scandinavian Heritage Day Entertainment



Miriam Hendrix, Linda Kosvic, Nancy Madson

Solskinn Lodge Officers - 2011

President	Luella Grangaard	363-7704
Vice President	Nancy Madson	343-0848
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Treasurer	Richard Ellingboe	699-7436
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Camp Norge:	Ronna Clymens	464-3893
Supper Club:	Miriam Hendrix	320-9244
	Junelle Pearson	771-9711
Musician:	Louise Selle	863-4898
Librarian:	Corrine Bjerke	360-5229
Auditors:	Bob Haagenson	324-3992
	Glenn Bell	340-3985

April Social

Solskinn Lodge
Dinner Social
Saturday, April 16

Hope Lutheran Church Social Hall
45-900 Portola Avenue, in Palm Desert
5:00 Social
6:00 Dinner
6:45 Program

Program: Norwegian Painting in the 1880's
Baked Potato and Salad Bar with dessert
\$7.00/member & \$10.00/non-members
Pay at door
No reservations required

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Steinar Johansen
1820 N Mira Loma Way
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