

Hvite Fjell Nyheter

Volume 18 Number 2

February 2009

January 25, 2008

Lodge Calendar

February 3 - Lodge Meeting

6:00 Board Meeting
7:00 General Meeting

Program: White Elephant Sale: For the Silent Auction, be sure and bring those items which you no longer want or need. Each item will have a list where you can raise the prior bid. Monies paid for items will be given to the general fund of the lodge. Refreshments - Faith and Ken Johnson.

February 9 - Knut Eric Jensen Concert

Please plan to attend a fantastic solo piano recital by **Norwegian classical pianist Knut Erik Jensen** at the Steinway Piano Gallery at 500 East Moana Lane on Monday, **February 9, 2009**. This musical treat, which will be open to the public, is a wonderful opportunity for us to publicize Hvite Fjell Lodge, which is sponsoring the concert in conjunction with the Embassy of Norway.

Refreshments (Norwegian-theme, of course) and a social hour will begin at 5 p.m. The concert will start at 6 p.m., with a reception to follow with a chance to meet and talk to him. The cost is \$10 per person. Please RSVP to the Gallery at 829-0600 so we will know how many people are attending.. Checks should be made payable to Hvite Fjell Lodge.

Just a few more details... We invite members and friends of Hvite Fjell Lodge to make a financial contribution—just a little, or maybe a little more than just a little!—in support of this event. The names of all donors, food or money, will be listed in a special section of the program as long as we have the information on time..

Naomi Sande is coordinating the food and needs volunteers to provide Norwegian snacks and baked goods. Hot dishes can be accommodated. Please contact Naomi at 747-5778 or nasjps@gmail.com and let her know what you will be bringing.

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President's Message

There is nothing like a blank page to send me scurrying for inspiration. This time, I found it in a wonderful quote by the 19th century Norwegian playwright, Henrik Ibsen:

“A community is like a ship; everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.”

Notice that Ibsen said everyone **ought** to be prepared. I suppose, with good old Norwegian practicality, he realized that was a goal, not a fact of life. In my case, it definitely is a goal. I do not feel very prepared, but I am discovering that on-the-job training at “the helm” is invigorating, if a little daunting.

Who Am I, Anyway?

For those of you who do not know me, I would like to share a little information about myself. I am the eldest of John and Naomi Sande's six children. I left Reno to attend college and graduate school in 1969 and did not return to live here until 2004. I worked for 12 years for the New York State Assembly; left to be a stay-at-home mom; and moved to Sacramento, where I did freelance magazine writing and substitute teaching.

I work for the Nevada Legislature and live with my daughter Rachel, who is on track to graduate from UNR this spring. We have two dogs and four cats (all rescue animals) who allow us to share their space. It's wonderful living so close to family again and to wake up every day to a view of the Sierra Nevada.

How Did I Get to Be President?

Until recently, my involvement in Hvite Fjell Lodge was minimal and passive. I enjoyed the Christmas lutefisk dinners, summer picnics at Donner Lake, and an occasional celebratory lunch or dinner. But I admit to having “mooched” on the efforts of others. This year, I decided it was time for me to pitch in with those who have sustained Hvite Fjell during the 17 years since my father and Sam Satre established the first Sons of Norway lodge in Nevada. Please bear with me while I learn the ropes and get to know you better.

What Does Hvite Fjell's New Website Have to Offer?

I hope you think having a lodge website is as exciting as I do! Please explore www.hvitefjell.com to check Upcoming Events or read the *Nyheter*. A search feature will help you find things. We've included some travel reports, photos, and videos (and you can submit your own). My brother, Craig Sande, is the webmaster, and we will be adding content regularly.

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Barbara Sande Dimmitt, President

Calendar/continued from page 1**March 3 - Lodge Meeting**

6:00 Board Meeting
 6:30 **POTLUCK**
 7:00 General Meeting

Program: Sit back and relax with a cup of coffee (kaffee) as we take a trip to Norway compliments of Dr. Craig Sande. Craig has made several trips to Norway in recent years and will now share his experiences with us. Craig will talk about his trips as well as show us some beautiful pictures.

January Board Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jim Bryn on Jan. 6, 2009 at 6:15 PM. Minutes of the December Board meeting were approved as published in the *Nyheter*. Andy Anderson moved to accept the treasurer's report. Andy nominated Barbara Dimmitt as President of Hvite Fjell Lodge. It was unanimously passed. The audit committee was appointed: Maxine Gullickson, Trygve Loken and Perralina Palm. They will report at the next meeting. The Knut Erik Jensen concert was discussed. It was moved by Andy and seconded by Nancy Mais to allow the \$200 by Trygve plus funds from the Treasury to be used by Barbara for publicity expenses. We now have a web site: www.hvitefjell.com. Next meeting will be February 3rd with no potluck. There will be a white elephant sale. Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Naomi Sande, Secretary

Gratulerer Med Dagen**I februar**

Kris Ellingsworth	Feb 2
Janis Rummler	Feb 10
Billie Watne	Feb 13
Gail Sande	Feb 14
Ellen Hoel	Feb 24

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Please take a look and give us your comments by filling out the handy Contact Form on the website. **NOTE TO OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS:** The website gives us the capacity to add a blog, create pages geared toward any age or interest group, and post videos, to mention just a few possibilities. If you like computers and communicating online, how about getting in touch with me or Craig to brainstorm? Maybe you could even combine your contributions to our website with a school project!

What Else Is New?

You may have noticed that we do not yet have a calendar of events for all of 2009. There are two reasons for this: 1) My priorities have been working on the website and publicizing one of the most ambitious and exciting events we have sponsored in recent years-- the solo piano performance by Knut Erik Jensen (See details elsewhere in the *Nyheter*).

The second reason we do not have a 2009 Calendar yet is that I wanted to work with the Board and the members to expand the variety and scope of our cultural and social activities. We hope to: 1) resume our summer picnic at Donner Lake; 2) get involved in some way with Norway Days and the Snowshoe Thompson celebration in Genoa; 3) bring in guest speakers and experts in Norwegian crafts now and then; and 4) look for one or two projects or activities of interest to youth. I would be interested in starting a book group featuring books by past and current Norwegian authors.

Do We Have Your E-Mail Address?

Next month, we will begin e-mailing the *Nyheter* and event reminders to members for whom we have e-mail addresses. If this works well, Hvite Fjell can save on postage costs. Also, paper-challenged folks like me will spend less time rummaging through junk mail and bills, looking for that copy of the *Nyheter* we meant to set aside! Until further notice, we will continue sending the *Nyheter* by mail, even to those who receive it electronically.

What Can We Do Together?

I pledge to take the position of your lodge president seriously and to do my best to make up for past years of minimal participation. If we all give a little of our talents, time, and ideas, we can move forward ***I brorskap og vennskap, med energi, nysgjerrighet, og entusiasme.*** (I used online dictionaries to come up with these words. Then I consulted our trusty and most-appreciated Norwegian language instructor, Trygve Loken. He gave me some help to be sure I really did say, **“in fraternity and friendship, with energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm.”** (Unless I goofed while typing.) Now if only I could pronounce the words!

Fraternally yours, Barbara Sande Dimmitt

**God Bedring
Get Well Soon**

Eileen Bianchi
 Ellen Hoel
 Alf Stousland
 Ruth Stousland
 Billie Watne

Norway in a Nutshell

Geography

Norway is situated in the western part of the Scandinavian peninsula. It extends about 1,100 mi (1,770 km) from the North Sea along the Norwegian Sea to more than 300 mi (483 km) above the Arctic Circle, the farthest north of any European country. It is slightly larger than New Mexico. Nearly 70% of Norway is uninhabitable and covered by mountains, glaciers, moors, and rivers. The hundreds of deep fjords that cut into the coastline give Norway an overall oceanfront of more than 12,000 mi (19,312 km). Galdhø Peak, at 8,100 ft (2,469 m), is Norway's highest point and the Glåma (Glomma) is the principal river, at 372 mi (598 km) long.

Government

Constitutional monarchy

History

Norwegians, like the Danes and Swedes, are of Teutonic origin. The Norsemen, also known as Vikings, ravaged the coasts of northwest Europe from the 8th to the 11th century and were ruled by local chieftains. Olaf II Haraldsson became the first effective king of all Norway in 1015 and began converting the Norwegians to Christianity. After 1442, Norway was ruled by Danish kings until 1814, when it was united with Sweden—although retaining a degree of independence and receiving a new constitution—in an uneasy partnership. In 1905, the Norwegian parliament arranged a

peaceful separation and invited a Danish prince to the Norwegian throne—King Haakon VII. A treaty with Sweden provided that all disputes be settled by arbitration and that no fortifications be erected on the common frontier.

When World War I broke out, Norway joined with Sweden and Denmark in a decision to remain neutral and to cooperate in the joint interest of the three countries. In World War II, Norway was invaded by the Germans on April 9, 1940. It resisted for two months before the Nazis took complete control. King Haakon and his government fled to London, where they established a government-in-exile. Maj. Vidkun Quisling, who served as Norway's prime minister during the war, was the most notorious of the Nazi collaborators. The word for traitor, *quisling*, bears his name. He was executed by the Norwegians on Oct. 24, 1945. Despite severe losses in the war, Norway recovered quickly as its economy expanded. It joined NATO in 1949.

In the late 20th century, the Labor Party and the Conservative Party seesawed for control, each sometimes having to lead minority governments. An important debate was over Norway's membership in the European Union. In an advisory referendum held in Nov. 1994, voters rejected seeking membership for their nation in the EU. The country became the second-largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia in 1995. Norway continued to experience rapid economic growth into the new millennium.

In March 2000, Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik resigned after

parliament voted to build the country's first gas-fired power stations. Bondevik had objected to the project, asserting that the plants would emit too much carbon dioxide. Labor Party leader Jens Stoltenberg succeeded Bondevik. Stoltenberg and the Labor Party were defeated in Sept. 2001 elections, and no party emerged with a clear majority. After a month of talks, the Conservatives, the Christian People's Party, and the Liberals formed a coalition with Bondevik as prime minister. The governing coalition was backed by the far-right Progress Party. But in Sept. 2005 elections, the center-left Red-Green coalition gained a majority of seats, and Jens Stoltenberg of the Labor Party once again became prime minister.

In April 2008, government officials agreed to amend the 1814 Constitution to lessen the ties between church and state. The monarch must still be Lutheran, but citizens are no longer required to raise their children as Lutherans. In the future, the church will appoint bishops instead of the monarch, and equal financial backing for other faiths and atheist communities must be provided by the state.



HVITE FJELL LODGE
2009 OFFICERS

President - Barbara Sande Dimmitt
Vice-President - Jim Bryn
Secretary - Naomi Sande
Assist. Secretary - Vacant
Treasurer - Perralina Palm
Financial Secretary - Trygve Loken
Counselor - Ken Johnson
Trustee 1 Year - Curt Tang
Trustee 2 Years - Faith Johnson
Trustee 3 Years - John Hylin
Marshall - Harriet Uren
Assist. Marshall - Maxine Gullickson
Cultural Director - Nancy Maiss
Social Director - Vacant
Musician - Vacant
Inner Guard - Andy Anderson
Outer Guard - Mel Gullickson
Norsk Lærer - Trygve Loken
Historian - Faith Johnson
Librarian - Connie Anderson.
Publicity - Barbara Sande Dimmitt
Editor of the Nyheter - Ken Johnson
Sunshine Director - Billie Watne
Membership - Jim Bryn
Foundation Director - Jim Bryn
Youth Director - Jeni Root
Sports Director - Brian Root
Camp Norge Ambassadors - Brian and Jeni Root

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