



# The Acanthus Vine

---

WESTERN ROSEMALERS ASSOCIATION, Helen Gjovaag, editor  
March, 1977

---

## COMING MEETING

Date: Sunday, March 27, 1977  
Time: 2:00 -- time to socialize and visit with other Rosemalers. Please bring rosemaled articles or other articles to share.  
2:45 -- Business Meeting  
4:15 -- Program

Place: DOCE'S FURNITURE IN EDMONDS

From the North on I-5 take Exit #177 (NE 205th and Lake Forest Park), take a right hand turn at the end of the exit continuing west on N.E. 205th to Aurora (Highway 99). Take right hand turn on Aurora - approximately 1½ blocks to Doce's

From the South on I-5 take exit marked Lake Forest Park, Edmonds, Mountlake Terrace. Edmonds is the 2nd right turn after entering the exit. This will bring you out to N.E. 205th Turn west on N.E. 205th to Aurora (Highway 99). Right hand turn on Aurora - approximately 1½ blocks to Doce's

Program: Florence Buck will present a short demonstration on pattern making and a few slides of Rosemaling and Wood Carving from the FOLK MUSEUM at Oslo will be shown.

Door Prize!!!! Here's your chance to become owner of one of Sigmund's beautiful 20x27 panels. One of his demonstration panels emphasizing outlining details and strokes will be given to some member who is in attendance at this meeting. Rumors are that there will be a second door prize so this may be your lucky day.

\*\*\*\*\*

The pattern in this issue of the ACANTHUS VINE is contributed by Kaja Englund. Many thanks, Kaja, for sharing a lovely pattern for us to try our hand at painting.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mary Ellerman has been in the Midwest for the past two weeks due to the death of her Mother. Our sympathy goes out to Mary and her family.\*\*\*\*\*

*miss  
mls*

## AT THE JANUARY MEETING:

The nominating committee headed by April Meier reported as follows:

President.....Mary Ellerman  
Vice President.....Celia Hendrix  
Secretary.....Esther Einmo  
Financial secretary.....Jean Alfsen  
Treasurer.....Dena Iverson

A unanimous ballot was cast for this slate of officers.

Items sold at meetings Discussed the matter of charging 10% of items sold at meetings and voted not to charge for items sold at meetings.

Rosemaled note paper Approved the purchase of Rosemaled note papers by Norma Splitt which can be sold for a profit. These will be available at meetings. (At this writing Norma says the plastic envelopes for the stationary has still not arrived. We'll get our order filled as soon as she gets the envelopes - hopefully by meeting time.)

Pins Erna Harrison reports that we can purchase an enamel pin for 85-95¢ each, plus a cost of \$27.50 for the dye if the enamel pin is selected. Approval was given by the group to pay the \$27.50 for the dye enamel pin is chosen. (Celia Hendrix will have the wooden pins for your decorating at the March meeting. Cost - 35¢.)

Door Prize A lovely piece painted by Inger Svendsen was won by Yvonne Martinec.

Hostesses Delicious goodies were served by Karen Dahl, Ranghild Feroy, Joanne Hale, Marion Athew, Thelma Feroy, Jean Alfsen and Shirley Charette.

Program Short film from Scandinavian Airlines was shown.

## TO NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR

BERGLIOT LUNDE from Sand, Norway will be in the Seattle-Tacoma area teaching the Rogaland style the last 2 weeks of June. Plan your summer vacations so they won't interfere with the classes. More information to follow on this.

FESTIVAL OF NORWAY This will be at PLU on Saturday, April 30. Remember this was our first event to be involved in and sell items. No sales commission will be withheld at this one so get busy and paint, paint, paint!

BURIEN ART GALLERIES Most of the juried items from the juried show at Pacific Lutheran University will be on display at Burien Art Galleries, 421 S.W. 146th St. Seattle (Burien) from March 7 through the 31st. The Galleries will be open 12 noon - 4 pm. Monday through Friday. There will be an open house the evening of March 24 from 7:30-9:30.

NEW SHOP Margaret Hammerstrom of Puyallup is opening a shop in Tacoma. (see ad in this paper). She would welcome items on consignment. She requests that all articles be labeled with name and address, price and if to be hung that the article is supplied with hanger. Consignment fee is 30%. Another outlet for your work, Rosemalers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As president of the Western Rosemalers Association for 1977, I will say that I will do my best to fulfill my duties, but will request assistance from each of you members.

We can be very pleased with the growth of our group and the participation in many activities in 1976. However, there are a couple of areas where we could stand some improvement. First of all, have you noticed that the activities in which the Association has been involved have been in Tacoma with by far the greater number of participants being from that area? In no way will I downgrade those facts because those activities and those participants have been largely responsible for the growth and stability of our organization. It does seem to me though that there must be activities in the Seattle area and other areas around in which our group might take part and I am sure there are many rosemalers not contributing to these causes. I must confess that I have not provided any painted items for these sales but one of my New Year's resolutions is to do much more Rosemaling this year and have items to provide for future sales and I hope many of you will do the same. If we will keep painting all of the time it will be easier to have items available for each activity instead of waiting for the announcement of that activity and then trying to paint for it.

Another area in which I would like to appeal for your participation is at our meetings. We have had good representation at the meetings, but frequently there has been a lack of expressed opinions and participation in decision making at these meetings. With so many activities during the year and only four meetings by the entire group it has been necessary for the executive board to discuss and decide on many of the particulars of the activities. Too often when an item of business is brought up at the general meeting there is a lack of opinions expressed and among 50 or so people, there must be some opinions not being shared. Occasionally these opinions are expressed after the business has been decided upon rather than being expressed at the meeting. Do not feel embarrassed to express your opinions; you might just have an idea that has not come to someone else and will be of great help if it is shared.

Last but not least, we have members located all across the country. and though you people cannot take part in most of our activities, we are happy to have you as members and hope you will keep in touch and share with us what is happening in Rosemaling in your area, ideas you might want to pass on, patterns, or anything else of interest.

Nineteen seventy-six was a truly successful year for Western Rosemalers, but with more participation from each member, 1977 could be even better.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Ellerman, President  
Western Rosemalers Association

## SIGMUND WAS HERE!

ROSEMALING DEMONSTRATION AT NORWAY CENTER IN SEATTLE Nearly 100 persons attended this event. What an experience! Spectators sat enthralled as Sigmund quickly and surely applied brush strokes which took form as a gorgeous Rosemaling design. Accompanied by Norwegian music, his graceful body movements resembled that of a well trained dancer. Unbelievably, a complete 4 by 8 foot panel was finished in one hour. The first was traditional Telemark and during the second hour a beautiful contemporary design was completed. Both pieces were sold before the afternoon was concluded.

NORMANNA HALL IN TACOMA 67 people were present for the demonstration in Tacoma. Audree Rush bought the contemporary panel painted here and Susan Solie was the proud owner of the traditional design.

PANELS DONATED TO PLU. The 4x8 panels painted at PLU were purchased and donated to the University by Florence Buck. Her original intent was to have the artist paint a traditional Telemark and Hallingdal to hang side by side in the Regency Room. The artist's impulses were more than he could handle and expressed a strong desire to do one of his contemporary designs. How can you argue with a man with such a zest for life! He expressed many times his gratitude to be able to introduce that facet of his talent to the University. Future dialogues between PLU and Sigmund are forthcoming and opened up some possible far reaching effects.

CLASSES HELD IN TACOMA AND SEATTLE The classes both in Tacoma and Seattle were a great success. There were 12 in the beginner's class in Seattle, 13 in the beginner's class in Tacoma and 13 in the advanced class in Tacoma. We painted on 20x27 masonite panels and most everyone found it difficult to adapt to the larger size. We really needed him much longer but it was was inspiring and hopefully made us all more free and ready to go on to bigger things.

ANNUAL WESTERN ROSEMALERS DINNER To round off Sigmund's visit to our area and to bid him farewell, almost 100 persons gathered at Pacific Lutheran University for a festive dinner and program.

Beginning with a social hour there was time for visiting and greeting friends. Several took this opportunity to have Sigmund autograph his book and to have a last chance to chat with him.

After a very delicious dinner, Florence Buck presided during a most delightful program. Those of you who could not be there missed a rare treat! Included were.....remarks by Dr. William Reike, president of PLU, a reading by Inger Gregorson, Audun Tovan with his Hardanger fiddle, a trio from Seattle on Norwegian recorders and last but not least, slides of the 1976 Rosemaling tour narrated by Sigmund. Can we top this for next year?

Sigmund told Florence that he enjoyed his Northwest visit very much and will come back again. (Florence says that we must have treated him right.)

SUMMARY OF FIRST ANNUAL JURIED ROSEMALING SHOW  
by Pat Morgan, Chairman

THE FIRST ANNUAL ROSEMALING JURIED EXHIBITION SPONSORED BY WESTERN ROSEMALERS IS NOW JUST A MEMORY, BUT IT WAS A VERY CREDITABLE START FOR A LONG SERIES OF EXHIBITIONS TO COME. We had 42 pieces entered with the majority in the novice class since there were only 8 in the professional category. Now, as Sigmund Aarseth would say, "That's not too bad." We should start working right now for 100 entries for next year. There are many things that we shall have to change for next year, but we did expect that there would be problems that we had not anticipated.

NOW SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM THINGS THAT SIGMUND SAID THAT  
WILL HELP YOU IN THE FUTURE

1. PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR BACKGROUND COLOR. Do your designs go with it? Does the background overpower the design? Antiquing sometimes tones the background down so that the design will stand out more. Sigmund made very nice remarks on those that had been antiqued.

2. USE BIGGER DESIGNS. The singlemost criticism Sigmund had for the show was that most of the paintings were too small to judge technique and the freedom of movement he was looking for in the paintings.

3. MUCH OF OUR PAINTING IS STIFF, ESPECIALLY IN THE OUTLINING. His advice is to "Loosen up with the brush and paint juicy". Otherwise, have your paint thin and move smoothly with it. (Easier for him than for most of us, but it would be nice to make sweeping strokes like he does-----right, gang?)

4. MONOCHROMATIC COLOR SCHEMES RECEIVE LESS POINTS IN THE COLOR CATEGORY AS IT IS HARDER TO WORK WITH. Though these are very pretty it is better to use 3 to 4 colors than just one.

5. MAKE SURE YOUR COLORS HAVE SOME LIFE AND DRAMA WITHOUT BEING TOO GARISH.

6. This suggestion is from the chairman: PLEASE PUT A HANGER ON YOUR BOARD. Over half the entries did not have hangers. Please finish the back of your entry. The judge may never look at the back, but it looks more professional to have it finished. Please attach and fill out forms as requested. These little items may prevent your entry from being judged next year.

I realize that it is very difficult to enter a show and put yourself on the line for everyone to see and I commend each and everyone of who entered for doing so. The only way that Pacific Northwest Rosemaling can be improved is by means of shows like this one that gives us the drive to go out and do better next year. Most of us are forced into creativity by a show like this, but it doesn't matter how we get there as long as we do! We now have a whole year until next years show. Let's all improve our technique, our knowledge of color and above all, "Stay loose" as Sigmund says, "The highest of all Norwegian compliments is -- That's not too bad." And that's what he said about our show!

Mange takk,  
Chairman, Pat Morgan

QUOTES FROM SIGMUND (via Florence Buck)

Rosemaling in American colors are acceptable. Asked what American colors meant, he said, golds, oranges, browns and greens. When asked if there were colors that were not appropriate at all-- in any country, he listed pink, purple, lavender, pale blue and strong grassy greens.

He also says that it is incorrect to intepret the word ROSEMALING as flower painting, since rose could mean colored disigns so that they need not be flowers but could mean ornaments in the broader sense.

#####  
# LOOKING FOR ROSEMALING SUPPLIES, PATTERNS, WOODENWARE,  
# NOTEPAPER, ETC.?????????  
# Contact Florence V. Buck  
# 9204 Division Lane SW  
# Tacoma, Wa. 98498 584-5392  
#  
# COMPLETE LIST OF BOOKS AND PATTERNS WITH DESCRIPTIONS  
# AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. She still has some of Sigmund's  
# books with his signature on attached paper. Elsa's books  
# are also available. pd. ad. #  
#####

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* GRAND OPENING March 18 & 19 10:30-9:00 \*  
\* VIKING ART & GIFT SHOPPE \*  
\* Located in FOOD KING SHOPPING CENTER \*  
\* 504 South 112th St. (Corner of 112th & Park)\*  
\* Tacoma, Wash. 98444 \*\*  
\* Open Monday through Friday 10:30 -6:00 \*  
\* Saturday 10:30 - 5:00 \*  
\* \*  
\* Featuring gifts from Scandinavia, Copper from Holland, \*\*  
\* Brass from England, Pewter and Wood from U.S.A. \*  
\* Work of local artists pd. ad. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

WINNERS IN THE JURIED SHOW

Congratulations!!!!!!

NOVICE First.....Jayne Markuson, Montesano, Wash.  
Second.....Ruth Durham, Seattle, Wash.  
Third.....Kristina Dale, Hoquaim, Wash.  
Inger Gregorson, Tacoma Wash.

PROFESSIONAL First.....Kay McMahan, Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Second.....Florence Buck, Tacoma, Wash.  
Third.....Susan Solie, Everett, Wash.

Honorable Mention in Novice: Lois Dodge, Missoula, Montana  
Asta Oden, Tacoma, Wash.  
Janet Hurlburt, Tacoma, Wash.

Honorable mention in professional: Betty Cooper, Marysville, Wash.  
Florence Buck, Tacoma  
Gudrun Berg, Olympia, Wash.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: Florence Buck