



EMBLA NYHETER

EMBLA LODGE NO. 2 DAUGHTERS OF NORWAY

MAY 2004 VOL. 17, NO. 2

Editor — Marie Hayden

Photos—Ellen Campbell, Dagny Vaswig, Marilyn Mahnke

EMBLA CALENDAR

Saturday, May 29th - 2 pm - **Institution of Thea Foss Lodge #45** at Port Townsend Community Center, 620 Tyler Street, Port Townsend. Contact Jean Clark Kaldahl at 360-379-0173 for membership information, or e-mail Jean at clkjck@cablespeed.com

Thursday, June 3rd at 6 pm - Bethlehem Lutheran Church. **Linda Caspersen** will present *Textile Trends in Norway* and her trip. Also the sale of Margaret Richards Norwegian collection from her estate to benefit our lodge. Sale starts at 6 pm, so come early to view the items for sale as they will go fast. Bring your friends and neighbors for this interesting meeting.

Saturday, June 19th - 10 am to 4pm **Poulsbo boat trip on My Girl**. A wonderful trip on the Sound to Poulsbo. For tickets (if not already reserved) please call Kari Stackpole at 627-7806 or Chris Engstrom at 752-5361. You can also pay for your tickets at the next meeting, June 3rd. If you cancel for any reason please let either of these sisters know so we can fill in from the reserve list.

Saturday, July 31st - noon. **Embla Summer Luncheon** at PLU Scandinavian Cultural Center. All those over 75 free. Cost \$12.00 for luncheon.

President's Message

By
Carol Kemp

Hurrah for Syttende Mai!

It took great foresight, vision, wisdom, determination & courage for the small population of a small country to bring forth independence & freedom. Among other things, it took a constitution. That is what all the joy is all about as Norwegians & Norwegian/Americans wave Norwegian flags, wear their National costumes, parade, sing & dance on the 17th of May.

Take a moment to reflect on the hard-won liberties that we are so blessed to be heir to. Think of the burdens our ancestors had to bear, the domination of other kings & countries, of landlords and even older siblings. It is so easy for us to take everything for granted. But, it wasn't all that long ago that things were quite different for our ancestors in Norway. My Norwegian ancestors left in the mid 1800s because of starvation (which was prevalent at that time). Both sides came to Minnesota, homesteaded land, lived in sod houses the first winter, cleared land the next spring, started planting crops and became quite well-off within the next generation. Opportunities & freedom

in America were amazing gifts. However, within another generation in Norway, independence was won and life slowly began to improve there as well. Norwegians have wasted no time these last 100 or so years since establishing their constitution in building their country & social security system. Today, Norwegians "have it good." (That is a phrase used by my ancestor immigrants in reporting back to relatives in Norway about how it was for them in America "We have it good!")

Freedom isn't free. It is hard won, but worth the price.

So, in this month of May, for Norway, America & all people around the world . . .

CELEBRATE FREEDOM!

Our sympathy to Shirley Winsley in the passing of her mother, Alvina Hovelsrud, former Embla member.

And congratulations on Shirley's retirement from public office.



Margaret Olson Richards

Joined Embla March 6, 1969

Died October 6, 2003

Margaret was an active member of Embla for many years and helped us purchase gift items for our sales tables. There will be an estate sale of Margaret Richards Norwegian collection of over 150 gift items. Items included in the sale are:

- Rosemal pieces
- Porsgrund plates
- Textiles
- Books
- Klokkestrings
- and much more.

The sale will begin at 6:00 pm, one hour before our June 3rd meeting. The entire proceeds will go to Embla. Come early to browse and bring your friends and neighbors.

Hospital patients will get their own lovers lane

Trondheim, Norway,

Passionate kisses may be good for body and soul, but not for commuters stuck behind couples taking their time to kiss each other good-bye.

So many doctors, nurses and patients spent so long kissing their loves ones good-bye before getting out of their cars in front of St. Olav's Hospital in Trondheim that city officials have decided to build a separate "kiss-n-ride" lane to ease traffic congestion.

The Associated Press



Cooking
Class in April at
PLU SCC

Lisa Ottoson
Marilyn Mahnke
and Carol Kemp
demonstrating
Kransekake



Florence Buck looking on while
Karen Kunkle makes
Risengrynsgrøt (Rice Pudding)



Marilyn Mahnke demonstrates
making fishballs in white sauce



Ellen Campbell demonstrates
Almond Cake



Lisa Ottoson making Green Pea
Stew



Harriet Swieso making pannekaka



President Carol Kemp demonstrates
ways to decorate a Kransekake

NORWAY'S "PURE" FLAG

The Norwegian flag, as we know it today, is not very old. It only came to be recognized on world-wide basis (militarily and otherwise) when Norway became independent from Sweden in 1905.

According to some sources, the flag, with its red background and dark blue cross outlined in white was designed by a 12 year old boy. His name was Gerhard Meltzer and he came from Bergen. Gerhard's father, Consul Frederik Meltzer was one of the delegates at Eidsvoll who write Norway's constitution. Naturally, he was very interested in a flag for Norway, and when he saw Gerhard's design, he brought it to the next meeting of the Storting for consideration.

The boy's father pointed out that the flag, being red, white, and blue, had the same colors as the flags of France and America, the countries who had most influenced the writing of Norway's constitution. Therefore, he argued, it made perfect sense to use the same three colors for Norway.

The Storting eventually named a commission in 1821 to choose a flag for Norway. It was at that time that Gerhard Meltzer's design was selected from the many entries that came in from all over the country. However, the "pure" flag was met with great resistance by Sweden's king. It could only be used under certain conditions and restrictions.

Finally, in 1838, the Storting passed a resolution which allowed the flag to be used and recognized everywhere except, to their dismay, in the Norwegian military forces where the use of the flag of Sweden was still enforced, with a

"Mark of Union" placed on the left side in the upper field of the flag.

Norway resented this, and continued to fight for the right to bear their "pure" flag without limitations placed on its use. At the end of 1898 the "Pure Flag" Law was put into effect without Sweden's approval. It was an important step towards dissolving the Union of the two nations.

In the year 1905, two days after Norway dissolved its union with Sweden, the red-white-blue flag young Meltzer had designed was raised on all Norwegian military fortresses and vessels. At last Norway was an independent kingdom with their own "pure" flag.

A. Iversen



Wonderful rosemaling pieces on display at the Scandinavian Cultural Center and held in their expanding collection. Director Susan Young demonstrated the collection at our May meeting.



Embla members receive their 25 year pins at the April meeting. From left to right: Dorae Wilson, Hazel Starkey, Avis Hinand, Phyllis Melton and Agnes Thoreson. Absent but still received pins were Donna Dammel, Wilma Olson, Ann Ozmun and Odny Sobyte Wise.



HEAD TRUSTEE TURNS GEISHA GIRL

ANNETTE DENNIS DePUYDT, Embla's Head Trustee, turned in her red wool officer's blazer to don a flowing silk obi and become a Geisha Girl in Tacoma Opera's presentation of *Madama Butterfly* by Giacomo Puccini. Annette, our lovely soprano, sang more beautifully than ever with the Tacoma Opera Chorus under the direction of Julian Reed, Chorus Master. On March 12th & 14th, at the Pantages Theater in Tacoma, her world was magically transformed to a beautiful Japanese Tea Garden with cherry blossoms and a big full moon. Emotions ranged from one end of the scale to the other as Musical Conductor Benton Hess, and Stage Director David Bartholomew artfully brought forth the drama. Leading lady Kaori Sato, as Cio-Cio-San (*Madama Butterfly*), set the mood and delivered a perfect performance of this difficult role. The stage set, costumes and performers were as professional as one would see anywhere.

Madama Butterfly, libretto by Giuseppe Giacosa and Luigi Illica, was based on a novel by John Luther Long and subsequent play by David Belasco. Puccini's opera was first performed at La Scala Opera House in Milan, Italy on February 17, 1904—100 years ago.

We are indeed fortunate to have such a fine Opera Company in Tacoma and especially fortunate to have such a fine soprano as Annette Dennis DePuydt as a sister in Embla. However, we are very glad to have her back again in her red wool blazer serving her duties as Head Trustee!

review by Carol Kemp

NORWEGIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Saturday, April 12 was "Norwegian Heritage Day" at the Scandinavian Cultural Center at Pacific Lutheran! The Daughters of Norway, Embla II were busy in the PLU kitchen bright and early. "Rommegrot" experts Harriet Swieso and Janet Ruud directed the precise production, and Karen Bell and Sonja Nyhuis did the stirring to perfection! Many customers said our Rommegrot was just the "Best Ever."



Open Face Sandwiches and Rømmegrøt Sales by Sonja Nyhuis
Delphine Johnson and Karen Bell

The "Open Face Sandwich Crew" under the artistic direction of Esther Van Noy were Janice Kelly, Judy Willison, Ellen Campbell, and Delphine Johnson. Beautiful shrimp, egg and tomato and meat and cheese sandwiches were ready for hungry customers by 11:00AM when the booths opened. Thanks to Esther for doing all the shopping for the rommegrot and the sandwiches.

Daughters working at the Rommegrot and Sandwich Booths were Karen Bell, Harriet Swiso, Debbie Franklin, Lisa Ottoson, Kari Stackpole, Janice Kelly, Carol Kemp, and Delphine Johnson.



Embla Bake Sale

Chris Engstrom, Judith Willison and Darcie Harris

Darcie Harris was the efficient Chairman of the Bake Sale Booth. The beautiful and delicious array of pretty plastic boxed Norwegian cookies and pastries filled four tables. Mange Tusen Takk to all the Embla II Sisters who baked for the Sale!!

Daughters helping at the Bake Sale were Darcie



Upper - Craft Table - Karen Kunkle and Mardy Fairchild
Lower - Chris Engstrom and Marilyn Mahnke



Setting up and taking down craft tables - Katie Peterson, Manoah's sister,
and Manoah Butterfield.



Lower photo Genealogy - Elaine Anderson and Marie Hayden



Kunkle, Mardy Fairchild, and Chris Engstrom.

Our thanks to Grace Bredeson and Harriet Swieso who were Embla II representatives on the 2004 Norwegian Heritage Day Committee!

Mange Takk to all the Sisters who participated and enjoyed Norwegian Heritage Day, 2004!!



Needle Work - Hardanger -
Elene Emerson



Dena Iverson and her
Rosemaling



Membership Table -
Marilyn Carlson

Harris, Judy Willison, Chris Engstrom, and Manoah Butterfield.

The food booths were located in the Chris Knutzen Hall where there were tables for customers to enjoy their lunch and music. We were delighted to have Embla II Leikarring Dancers as well as the Caspersen Family Fiddlers!

The Craft booths were located downstairs in the Scandinavian Cultural Center. What a wonderful display of crafts at about twenty different Craft Booths!!

Our Embla II Craft Chairman, Marilyn Mahnke had a beautiful display of crafts. She was assisted by Karen



Upper - Raffle Sales - Karen Kunkle, Manoah Butterfield assisting
Lower - Beadwork - Marian Eberle





Spring 2004 Cooking Classes
Jeannett & Bob Remole make
Berliner Kranser Cookies



Embla's 97th Birthday
April 2004



At April meeting, Mardy Fairchild
and Emilie Pedersen sell at
the Past Presidents Bake Sale.
Money goes to worthy causes.

Grandma Shoes

When I was very little
All the Grandmas that I knew
All walked around this world
In ugly grandma shoes.

You know the ones I speak of;
those black clunky heeled kind.
They just looked so very awful
That it weighed upon my mind,

For I knew, when I grew old
I'd have to wear those shoes.
I'd think of that, from time to time;
It seemed like such bad news.

I never was a rebel.
I wore saddle shoes to school.
And next came ballerinas,
Then the sandals, pretty cool.

And then came spikes with pointed
toes;

Then platforms, very tall.
As each new fashion came along,
I wore them, one and all.

But always, in the distance,
Looming in my future, there
Was that awful pair of ugly shoes;
The kind that Grandmas wear.

I eventually got married,
And then I became a Mom.
Our kids grew up and left,
And then their children came along.

I knew I was a Grandma,
And the time was drawing near,
When those clunky, black, old lace up
shoes
Was what I'd have to wear.



How would I do my gardening
Or take my morning hike?
I couldn't even think about
How I would ride my bike!

But fashions kept evolving.
And one day I realized
That the shape of things to come
Was changing, right before my eyes.

And now, when I go shopping,
What I see, fills me with glee
For, in my jeans and Reeboks
I'm as comfy as can be.

And I look at all these teenage girls
And there, upon their feet,
Are clunky, black, old Grandma shoes!
And they really think they're neat.

Author Unknown~ but I'm sure
we've met before!

Transfigurations: The Finns in Russian-Alaska

Once in a life time viewing of Alter
Painting at the Tacoma
Karpeles Manuscript Library
June 6-27th
1-4 pm at the Library
located by Wrights Park,
across from the Conservatory on
6th & G. St.

**PACIFIC LUTHERAN
UNIVERSITY
SCANDINAVIAN
IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE
COLLECTION**

What does this collection have to offer to Embla sisters?

Go to: www.plu.edu/~archives/sie/oral_norway.html

Among the oral histories are 22 Embla Sisters:

Sigurda Haug Aamot
Inga Hole Anderson
Ida Pedersen Apalseth
Marie Torheim Berglund
Bergliot Moxness Oliver
(Bella) DeRosa
Clara Nilsen Greene
Martha Tveiten Handeland
Anna Tveiten Hopen
Margit Carlsen Johnsen
Dagny Frantzen Krag
Magdalena Haug Krokenes
Tilla Johanson Lindhe
Anna Tveiten Lovrak
Clara Sylthe Magnussen
Hilda Olsen
Therese Jancen Pederson
Freda Ohlsson Ranney
Dagmar Lorentsen Riebe
Aagot Christiansen Solheim
Henny Pederson Storwick
Anne Olsen Strom
Judith Edwardson Mikkelson
Tollefson

Here is an example of what you will find if you go to this collection. The following interview is complete for the mother of our member, **Olive Rudsdil**, on her mother, **Ida Apalseth**.

This interview was conducted with Ida Apalseth on July 26, 1982 in Tacoma, Washington. It contains information on family background, emigration, settling in, marriage

and family life, church, and community activities. The interview was conducted in English. See t32 for Ida's interview on the Daughters of Norway.

Biographical Information

Ida Apalseth was born on December 18, 1896 in Litløy, Norway to Ole Pedersen and Herborg Johnsen. Litløy is on an island in northern Norway. Ole owned a bakery in addition to selling fish and working as a mailman, and Herborg was a homemaker. Ida had three sisters-Aslaug, Dagmar, and Herborg-and two brothers-Martin and Halfdan. Ida was the eldest and Herborg the youngest. Herborg and their mother died a week after Herborg's birth; Ida was only six.

When Ida was twelve, her father remarried and had eight more children. The family was fairly well off and had several workers; at times, there would be eighteen people at the dinner table.

After Ida was confirmed, she and her sister moved to Trondheim, where Ida got a babysitting job. Not fully satisfied in Trondheim, Ida decided to immigrate to Petersburg, Alaska, where her older half-sister from her father's first marriage lived.

Ida left Norway in November 1916; she was nineteen years old. From Ellis Island, New York, Ida took the train to Seattle, Washington, where she was supposed to meet a woman, Molly, who would help her get to Alaska. When Ida and Molly contacted Ida's sister in Alaska, she told them that the weather there was awful and Ida



Ida Apalseth and Daughter, Olive Apalseth Rudsdil

should just stay in Seattle if she could obtain employment. Ida followed her advice and found a housekeeping job with the family of a retired Navy officer within a week.

Ida was very fond of Seattle and joined a mixed Norwegian group that met at the Norway Hall. She continued to work for this family for nine months and then got a cleaning job at the Potter Hotel on James Street.

A boy from Ida's hometown had immigrated as well and joined the U.S. Navy. He was stationed in Bremerton, Washington, and Ida met her husband, Andrew Apalseth, through him. Andrew was also born in Norway. He and Ida were married on April 1920 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Seattle and then moved to Tacoma.

They had one daughter, Olive (Rudsdil). Once in Tacoma, Ida joined the Daughters of Norway and attended Bethlehem Lutheran Church. She returned to Norway once in 1973.

There are many more wonderful memories to read about in this historie so check it out.

"Ida Pauline Apalseth_files/archives.gif" Maintained by archives@plu.edu © 2002-2003 Pacific Lutheran University

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PLU Mortvedt
Tacoma WA 98447



HIP! HIP! HURRAH FOR SYTTENDE MAI (17th of May)

Commonly known as Norway's Constitution Day, the 17th of May commemorates the signing of Norway's constitution at Eidsvoll, May 17, 1814. Norway had been in union with Denmark for 400 years. After Napoleon's armies suffered a major defeat near Leipzig, the power structure of Europe changed. The Danish king, Frederik VI, was forced to give up control of Norway to Sweden in the treaty of Kiel. The Norwegians were outraged! Their country was surrendered to Sweden without any consideration of their point of view. A group of Norwegians met with the Danish governor of Norway, Christian Frederik, who was equally as outraged because his right to Norway had been signed away by his cousin, the Danish king.

They developed a constitution that proclaimed Norway to be a free, independent kingdom and a limited, hereditary monarchy. However, the Constitution was not enough to establish Norway as a completely separate nation. Norway entered a union with Sweden after being faced with overwhelming Swedish forces in July 1814. It was not until 1905 that the union with Sweden was dissolved, and Norway became a fully independent nation.

We celebrate the 17th of May with parades, flag waving and family gatherings.

The Norwegian Flag

The Norwegian flag consists of a red background with the blue Christian cross on white. It is divided into uniform parts, making every flag the same proportions no matter what the size. Along the staff (hoist) are 2 red squares equal to 6 parts each, 2 white parts equal to 1 part each and a blue part, the cross, equal to 2 parts. The length (fly) is divided into parts also. From the staff, there is a red square of 6 parts. The cross consists of 2 white parts and a blue part equal to 2 parts. From there to the edge is a red piece equal to 12 parts.

