

# The Acanthus Vine

VOL. 18 NO. 5

NOVEMBER 1993

NOVEMBER 14, 1993

LOCATION

1:00 PM . . . SOCIAL HOUR  
1:45 PM . . . PROGRAM  
MEETING TO FOLLOW

SONS OF NORWAY  
1018 18TH AVENUE  
BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

## President's Message

The 1993 year is coming to a fast close of WRA. Sometimes the flow of one activity into the next doesn't leave us much time to reflect on the huge inventory list of accomplishments for the year. I have often wondered how many digits would be needed to summarize the hours used by Board, Staff, and members contributing to the operation of WRA. No matter how large or small each contribution way, it was a significant and generous donation of time and talent.

I was blessed this year with officers and staff of tremendous hidden talents and endless energy. However, I have learned from my own past experience not to go back for thirds and fourths. Burnout can plague any organization if you allow it to happen. Until you have taken the opportunity to view this association from behind stage, you may not totally comprehend the importance of creativity and dedication from officers and staff. There were times when my requests for assignments were beyond job description, however, the requests were accepted as benefit for all members and for the improvement of the organization.

Thank-you to each member doing their job and doing the job well!

At our last general meeting, those attending participated in a 20 minutes session of brainstorming. From this session came terrific ideas, insight, and suggestions about every avenue of WRA. Some of which are going to be implemented, starting in November. Bring your thought with you to Bremerton's meeting. Your voice is being heard.

**Naomi Price**  
PROGRAM - We are having a varied program. A wonderful video about Ethel Kvalheim's work will be shown and we will also be viewing slides of the 1993 Juried Show! This is going to be a great meeting so don't miss it.

**PLEASE BRING** to the meeting one or two pieces that you have recently painted. We will have a table set up to display these items. This way we can share what we've done with others. Cards will be available on the table so you can put your name next to your piece. Don't forget to take your piece home after the meeting!

Directions to location are on page 2.



**HOSTESSES:** Barbara Claboe is our hostess. Other hostesses assisting her are from Bremerton, Aberdeen, Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Port Angeles and Anacortes.

**DIRECTIONS: From the North:** (Poulsbo, Lofall, Edmonds Ferry, etc.) follow Hwy 3 south; take the Bremerton exit. Turn left on Kitsap Way; follow to Warren Ave. (about 6 lights). Turn left on Warren Ave., proceed north to 16th St. Go left on 16th around block of Roosevelt Field. Hall is on 18th street across from the N.E. corner of the field.

**From the South:** (Tacoma, Shelton, etc.) Follow 4-lane highway into W. Bremerton. Turn right on Burwell Street (2nd traffic light after entering city limits); follow Burwell to Warren Ave. and continue as directed above.

**NOTE:** The ferry from Seattle to Bremerton leaves at 11:45 AM. Plan to take the 5:00 PM ferry returning from Bremerton to Seattle. A faster way to go may be the Edmonds ferry. It leaves every 30 minutes and the Kingston landing is only 30 minutes from Bremerton. It provides a great deal of flexibility and can get you home faster (even if you live in Seattle. If you have questions on Ferry schedules, call Washington State Ferries at 464-6990..

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**HELP WANTED! - WRA HEAD LIBRARIAN**  
Our present librarian Teresa would like to step down into an Assistant Librarian position. Please let Naomi know if you would be interested.

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Membership in WRA includes your subscription to the Acanthus Vine which is published 5 times a year and is mailed two weeks prior to WRA general meetings in January, March, May September and November. Membership yearly dues are \$10.00 (U.S.A.) and \$12.00 (outside U.S.A.)

Material submitted for publication must be sent to the editor by the 15th of the month prior to a meeting.

**ADVERTISING RATES**

- \$16.25 Full Page
- 8.25 Half Page
- 4.25 Quarter Page
- 2.00 Block 3" x 2"

**It's time to renew your W.R.A. membership for 1994 . Please mail it to Barbara Claboe (see renewal form this issue.) Note her new address.**



**DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ACANTHUS VINE IS DEC. 10TH**

**JURIED SHOW AWARDS**  
**Scandinavian Cultural Center**  
**Pacific Lutheran University - October 2, 1993**

<b>1st Place</b>	Dena Iverson Dena Iverson Lois Clauson Lois Clauson Gudrun Berg	Red Hallingdal Chest Green Telemark Bench Dark blue Valdres Storage Bench Dark blue Valdres Spindle Chair Black Telemark Chest
<b>2nd Place</b>	Anita Boren Mickey Buchanan Gudrun Berg Bernice Coleman Kelly Sooter	Rogaland Tine White Armoire Telemark Style Corner Cupboard Telemark Style Telemark Style Sewing Bucket Small Telemark Chest Natural Ground Color
<b>3rd Place</b>	Betty Edwards Connie Sullivan Kelly Sooter	White Pouting Chair - Telemark Style Black Telemark Tray Planter with Wedding Scene and Heart shape cut-outs
<b>Honorable Mention</b>	Barbara Claboe	Red Potpourri Box in Gudbrandsdal Style

Western Rosemalers' Association is pleased to announce the above award winners of the 1993 Juried Show. Their work portrays a high excellence of traditional rosemaling. Jury Judges were Betty Cooper, WRA member, and Lars Kittleson, PLU Art Professor. For those members who were unable to attend the Awards Banquet, you will have an opportunity to see view slides of the show at the upcoming meeting in Bremerton.

At the Banquet held October 2nd in the Scandinavian Cultural Center. President Naomi Price gave special recognition to Dorothy Nichols for being so faithful in always helping out whenever there was a need of assistance and to Florence Buck who was the first President of WRA. Florence is presently the liaison for WRA with the Scandinavian Cultural Center and coordinated the Juried Show, Exhibit, and Banquet.

In addition to the Juried Show the permanent rosemaling collection of WRA pieces were also on display. In addition, a special exhibit on display

was a Per Lysne table and two chairs. It was very gratifying to see the display and the video of Ethel Kvalheim who knew him and was influenced by his painting.

Outstanding entertainment was provided by Vicki Lynn Day, a Soprano who thrilled the audience with selections from Edvard Grieg. Accompanist was Glenda Scharples. The second part of the program featured a showing of the video - *Ethel Kvalheim Rosemaler*.

\* \* \* \* \*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Pick up entries - November 2-3 (11am - 3 pm)

Christmas Ornaments (handpainted) are being sought for "Trim The Tree Day" at PLU. Submit to Susan Young at the Cultural Center.



## UPCOMING SALES AND FESTIVALS

The Fall sales are almost here so finish up all those ornaments and pieces you want to sell! Even beginners and novices can paint a flower on an ornament! Ornaments sell like crazy and don't take a lot of time and effort. So everyone -- think of participating in these upcoming sales!

Call up one of the sales chairmen and tell them you'd like to help. These are really fun sales to work. If you are new to Western Rosemalers or haven't attended many meetings or sales, you are really missing out! It's a great way to meet people and get to know them better. Rosemalers are really a fun group to be around!

### NOVEMBER 20; YULE BOUTIQUE, PLU

Sales Co-Chairs: Marilyn Hansen - 692-5105  
Gurine Nordby - 772-4268

Volunteers are needed for this sale 9 am to 5 pm. It's always an enjoyable day with Christmas music in the background. You may bring painted items to the November meeting or take them to either one of the Sales Chairmen.

### NOVEMBER 20-21; YULE FEST NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

Sales Co-Chairs Marie Ganfield - 362-1036  
Betty Edwards - 282-8674

YULEFEST will be held at the museum, 3014 NW 67th St., in Seattle. Hours are from 10 AM to 6 PM Saturday, Nov. 20th and Noon to 6 PM on Sunday November 21st. The Christmas festival will be featuring the handcrafts, music, dance and food of Scandinavia. If you would like to help out with the booth, please contact one of the chairmen listed above.

## RESOURCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE

If WRA members would like to say hello or request a commission piece from Pam Rucinski, you may contact her at 407 Ivory, Seymour, Wisconsin 54165. If you telephone, call (414) 833-2794 after 4 pm in order for her husband, Ray, to assist with the conversation.

Pam introduced her students to an excellent resource book for the rosemalar interested in painting Gudbrandsdal style. The title of the book is *Ornamental Woodcarving in the Norwegian Tradition* by Johan Amrud. The book is \$28.00 plus tax - available from Heart Prairie Press, c/o Mary Mischka, Route 2, Box 83, Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190 - Phone (414) 473-5595. It is also available from Vesterheim

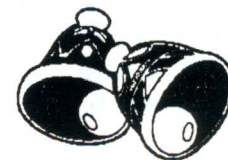
This third edition has been revised, enlarged, and translated into the English language by Else Bigton and edited by Phillip Oden and Bob Mischka. One and Two, published in 1983 and 1985 are Norwegian language editions and were published by Universitetsforlaget in Norway. Johan Amrud is of the Hjerleid Woodcarving School in Norway. The original title is Treskjaeing.

\* \* \* \* \*

Jocelyn Riley has produced for Women's History and Literature Media a 19 minute video titled *Ethel Kvalheim Rosemalar*. The narration by Ethel is informative and the examples or rosemaling are splendid and alive with color!

The cost for a home viewing copy is \$20. You may purchase from:

Jocelyn Riley  
PO Box 5264  
Madison, Wisconsin 53705  
Phone: (608) 271-7083



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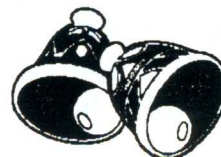
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**WRA STILL NEEDS YOUR INPUT !!!**

*Beginning at the Seattle General Meeting in September, the Board began discussing how our involvement in festivals ("sales") can be of greater benefit to both the organization and artists. An "idea-generating" or brainstorming session was held to seek ideas about what WRA does well and what WRA can improve on. It was a profitable time with many good ideas coming forth.*

*At the November meeting in Bremerton, the 1994 Marketing Plan will be discussed. A detailed analysis of sales was done over the summer. Each sale was analyzed for its profitability, availability of members to staff sales, etc. Basic recommendations were made in the report. These recommendations are to lay a framework for discussion. The recommendations can be adopted, changed or rejected by the membership.*

*One very important part of the discussion this meeting will be to decide on a statement of PURPOSE FOR WRA SALES. Are we involved in sales to provide an outlet for artists to sell even if WRA loses money? Are we involved in sales to earn a profit to purchase books for the library or bring name teachers to the area etc.? Do we just want to break even? Should WRA not be involved in non-profitable sales? Should WRA do its own exclusive sale? We need to decide questions like these.*

*So come and give us your ideas. THIS IS YOUR GROUP!!!!*

*If you can't attend either General Meeting or want to submit your ideas through the mail, please send your comments to Naomi Price. Ideas submitted in writing will be used by the board and will not be published with member's names.*

*Naomi Price  
20834 Morningstar Dr.  
Bend, OR 97701*

*(503) 388-0053*

*\*\*\*\*\**

*KUDOS!! KUDOS!! I want to thank Sophie Jacob and Freda Hauge for hosting the May 16th General Meeting in Tacoma. They set the standard for us all! At the last minute, Nancy Johnson couldn't hostess the meeting. She called Sophie and Freda. They really did a fantastic job. Those of us who traveled a long distance came away quite full! The amount of beautifully prepared food was incredible! Thanks to all who prepared such a lovely "smorgasbord"!*



## **MINIWORKSHOP NEWS:**

*WRA wants to thank Lois Stettner for being Miniworkshop Coordinator during 1993. She did a great job. Lois will not be coordinating miniworkshops in 1994 as she is back in school studying to be a nurse. We wish her all the success in the world!*

*Because Lois is stepping down as Miniworkshop Coordinator, we need a member to volunteer for this position for 1994.*

*The position of Miniworkshop Coordinator has been simplified 1994 so we should have numerous volunteers coming forward!! In 1994, all the Coordinator will have to do is:*

- \* Reserve the room where the workshop is held*
- \* Send checks received for the workshop to the Financial Secretary*
- \* Coordinate the calendar of workshops so that 2 workshops aren't happening on a weekend that has other WRA activities scheduled*

*The Coordinator does not have to attend the workshops. Each member will bring their own tablecovering (garbage bag) and their own thermos of coffee (coffee will not be provided). This allows the Coordinator to do all the "coordinating" from home!*

*We are encouraging members who want to teach a workshop to contact the Miniworkshop Coordinator to schedule their workshop. All information about workshops in the Vine will be written and submitted by the workshop teacher. See how simple this position is? What about YOU taking this position? If you are interested, call Kelly Sooter at 347-0515 (Everett) or 743-2636 (Seattle - after 6pm).*

### **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS WHO WANT TO TEACH A MINIWORKSHOP IN 1994!!**

*To lessen the workload of the Miniworkshop Chairman, WRA is asking all members who want to teach a miniworkshop in 1994 to contact the new Miniworkshop Chairman by January 5th.*

*WRA is considering asking teachers to do three things:*

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- \* Schedule the date of the workshop with the Miniworkshop Coordinator by January 5th. WRA wants to have the year's calendar filled out by that time.*
- \* Send in a short article to the Vine stating the workshop date, location, topic, equipment needed, etc.*
- \* Teach the class!*

*WRA has a lot of talent to share. So call the Chairman and tell her you'd love to teach!*



Prior to the business meeting Pam Razinski from Seymour, Wisconsin, who is conducting workshops for WRA in September, demonstrated and told about the beautiful rosemaling style from Gudbrandsdal.

President opened the meeting at 3 pm. Connie Sullivan thanked the Seattle-north members who furnished refreshments and helped her set up. Marliss Carlson won the first door prize, Scandinavian napkins.

Minutes of the May general meeting were approved as printed. Luella Hilby gave the treasurer's report reflecting an ending bank balance Sept. 19 of \$1665.69; report was accepted as presented.

Two new members introduced themselves--Evelyn Andersen and Orville Enstad. Linda Barr from Minneapolis was a visiting guest.

Executive Committee Reports:

Naomi appointed Barbara Hazen to the nominating committee, serving with Kelly Sooter and Barbara Laskowski who volunteered. Nominations will be announced next meeting.

Lois Clauson reported that the board has received communication regarding discrepancies in fees paid to local member teachers--\$75; out of state \$125 per day. It has been suggested that the gap be closed, and Naomi asked members to think about this and give input. This will be brought before the organization at the November meeting for a decision. Board would not consider raising student fees to \$20, which had been suggested.

New incoming members are being given WRA pins, and Betty Edwards suggested contacting new and renewing members listed in the 'Vine' to invite them to the meetings.

Following a brief discussion, Florence Buck made a motion that the permanent WRA collection go to PLU for the Juried Show & Exhibit for one month beginning Oct. 1; motion seconded and carried.

Only 4 members have so far signed up for the Hallingdal workshop Nov. 13. Since there are funds available it was decided to go ahead with the class if there are fewer than the required six. Teacher lists are completed and will be available at sales.

Old Business:

Betty Edwards reported on three classes she had taught at Heritage Camp during the summer, and the eagerness of her students. She encouraged members to teach and demonstrate, which is very rewarding.

New Business:

Secretary is updating the By-Laws after board review, and they will be reviewed by membership at the November meeting.

Naomi opened a "brainstorming" discussion period. The following suggestions were given:

- Express thanks to those putting together the 'Vine'
- Include a colored photograph in the 'Vine', beginning in November with the raffle piece  
Costco will make them up at 7¢ each
- When putting the name of someone in the 'Vine' who is heading up a special project, include their address and phone number
- Appoint one person in Seattle and one in Tacoma to handle hostessing in that area for a year and have a box of supplies in each area
- In January put together a list of all activities for the coming year with specific details. Choose a theme. List all exhibits. Put reports in the 'Vine.'  
Try harder to give out 'tricks of the trade' and ideas. Solicit logo designs for upcoming issues of the 'Vine'
- Use telephone committee to reach out to members we don't see at meetings
- WRA logo is not to be used by other organizations, some not even involved in Rosemaling

- Solicit input from members regarding WRA sales as to what will fit the members' needs. Consider Kelly Sooter's Marketing Plan for decisions in November.
- Those selling articles at sales should be working, and not just send items to be sold
- Send WRA pins to Portland for their new members
- Program suggestions:
  - Acquaint members with different areas of Norway and the rosemaling districts
  - Include other programs than just rosemaling
  - Provide information on resources for new members, such as woodenware, patterns, pictures, books etc.
  - Provide information as to where woodenware, supplies and books can be purchased
- Have information in the library for those unable to attend workshops, i.e. photographs, or perhaps a video
- Have available color photographs and cardboard samples painted with a color pallet of WRA-owned pieces
- Have a resource list for the Washington/Oregon area
- Look at expanded advertising of sales
- Have information available as to where background colors can be purchased
- Print new ideas in the 'Vine'

Lila shared a letter she had received from Eldrid Arntzen.

The second door prize, a half-price mini workshop, was won by Orville Enstad.

Next meeting set for November 14 in Bremerton.

President adjourned meeting. 28 members and one guest attended.

Bernice Coleman  
Secretary



**QUIZ TIME!** Who would you thank for the well planned Major Workshops and Mini Workshops? Did you acknowledge those responsible for chairing, displaying, selling, promoting WRA, and cleaning up at our sales? Who is helping WRA to save funds by storing inventory? Who provides a beautiful presentation of WRA work at NHM? How is it that the Acanthus Vine always appears in your mailbox on time? Did you recently need a resource from Wa library? Who, so quietly but efficiently records WRA history? Do you know the person responsible for relaying important messages? Were you brought sunshine when it seemed the sun had set? Who planned all of the informative meeting programs? Were you the lucky winner from WRA's many drawings? Did you gain any weight from the fabulous food presentations at our meetings? How is it that you were able to enjoy a Juried Show Banquet? Could you judge a jury entry? What does it involve to record WRA financial transactions? Wasn't it great being reimbursed on time? Who prepared our By-laws and compiled the Standing Rules? How is it that we know precisely what happened at the general meetings and board sessions? New members don't just happen do they? Did you enjoy the convenience of purchasing WRA notecards and pattern packets? Who let the good word out about WRA?

- Naomi Price



## Tendrils of the Vine

"Dear Gurine and members of WRA,

My deepest thanks to you for your kindness and understanding shown me when I had to cancel my classes with you. I was truly looking forward to the Workshops, as well as seeing you all again.

I know you will enjoy my replacement, Pam Rucinski. I have heard many good things about her classes in this area.

My husband had his surgery last Wednesday and it looks as though the stay will be from 7 - 10 days and then I become the primary care giver.

Congratulations to Kathy Anderson on her two awards received in the Rosemaling Exhibition sponsored by Vesterheim. Her pieces were lovely.

My very best to each of you in WRA. You are not only lovely painters, but very special people.

Fondly. . . Marilyn Olin

The Illinois Norsk Rosemalers is looking for a painted piece done by Nils Ellingsgaard and/or Agnes Rykken. This is for a Permanent Arts Collection and will be displayed to the general public. If you have, or know of, an available piece, please contact Rhoda Fritsch, 1960 Opal Drive, Aurora, IL 60506 (708) 892-1318

Thank you for your help in this "hunt"

- Rhoda Fritsch

### SUNSHINE REPORT

Jack Ganfield had surgery on his knee last December. He has had problems with infections and will be going in for his final surgery Sept. 7th for a new knee. We all wish him well.

Dorothy Peterson, our Hallingdal teacher who was here last March from Wisconsin, experienced the loss of her husband last May from a heart attack.

Wilda Snider recently had (July) cataract surgery on her one eye. In September she will have the other eye done. Doing very well.

Al and Betty Edwards flew to Minnesota in May and spent a week driving thru rosemaling country - Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin -- visiting Decorah for two days, Stoughton, Mt. Horeb, "Little Norway -- a wonderful experience!"

This year for the 4th year, Wilda Snider and Betty Edwards taught classes in rosemaling at the Sons of Norway Heritage Camp at Trollhaugen. Four classes a day for 36 teenage students.

Betty also taught a class introducing rosemaling at the Heritage Camp for children at the Nordic Heritage Museum last summer. Again in August, Betty taught another class introducing rosemaling at the Heritage Camp for children at the Sons of Norway, Leif Erickson Lodge in Ballard, assisted by her granddaughter, Sara and Barbara Hazen.

Both Wilda and Betty feel fortunate that they can pass on the wonderful tradition of rosemaling to the younger generation. Projects were a 12" plate for the Trollhaugen camp, a bird house for the NHM camp, and a 6" plate for the Leif Erickson heritage camp.

### TIVOLI - July 10, 1993 REPORT

By Betty Edwards

Tivoli is a slower sale, but the customers are quite selective. They were quite interested in traditional rosemaling

The outside setting is festive and nice. Setting up time for the sale is the morning of the sale between 7:30 - 10:00am making it very hectic. The space is small so we have to be very organized to be ready by 10 am for the opening.

Bernice Coleman, Therese MacDonald, Lois Stettner and Margaret Ferguson helped on the sales and cashiering. Bernice, Lois and Margaret helped at the sale - for the first time.

Wilda Snider, Barbara & Bob Hazen, Betty and Al Edwards all helped to set up. Marie and Jack Ganfield came and helped set up rosemaled items. Lila Granaas, Betty Yanak and Gurine helped with sales and cashiering and some of the crew mentioned before including "Uncle Louie" checked off and pack all the unsold items in the proper boxes. Anita Boren demonstrated.

Wilda & I thank all those who helped make the sale a success!



As always, it was with great expectation that I drove up the I-90 freeway to Trollhaugen located just the other side of Snoqualmie Pass. The class with teacher Pam Rucinski teaching Gudbrandsdal was held September 13th - 15th at a Sons of Norway ski lodge nestled on a wooded mountain side. Each year I regard the week as a vacation, looking forward to seeing old friends, making new ones, and being able to focus "quality" attention on rosemaling. The nights are cool and the days sunny and crisp this time of year. The cat "Haugen" had grown to enormous proportions and "Troll" was on duty at a fire lookout.

Because I was unfamiliar with Gudbrandsdal style, I searched through my books and was only able to come up with a few examples. First thing Monday morning, Pam began teaching with demonstrations and with pictures and patterns. After her noon walk that day, she had us drawing leaves from those she picked up on her walk.

Since this style resembles woodcarving, I have finally learned the importance of all lines extending from the "root". I love the style and now have the materials to help me learn this most beautiful style.

Attending the class were: Barbara Claboe, Rolf Thoraldsen, Jordis Oman, Julia Schultz, Luella Hilby, Gurine Nordby, Kathy Anderson, Bonnie Shannon, Naomi Price, Anita Boren, Loretta Chilton and myself.

As usual we took turns with the meals. . . so by request I am including a recipe from Bonnie Shannon and a couple Norwegian sayings checked over by our resident expert, Rolf.

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We are all lonely and different  
Therefore we know so little of each other

Vi er alle ensame og ulike  
Difor veit vi sa lite om kvarandre.  
(enscribed on a bowl owned by Anita Boren  
painted by Tragnvald Frøysadal)

## BONNIE'S 3-BEAN SOUP

This can be cooked in less than 30 minutes since almost every ingredient is canned. You can omit the fresh vegetables or substitute others of your choice.

1 1/2 tsp.	chopped garlic
1 can (28 oz)	tomatoes (cut-up)
2 cans (15 oz)	Swanson's chicken broth
1 can (6 oz)	tomatoe paste
1 tsp.	chili power
1 Tbsp.	Dijon mustard
1 tsp.	dried basil
1 tsp	dried oregano
1/2 tsp.	ground cumin
1/2 tsp	pepper
1 can (15 oz)	kidney beans, drained
1 can "	black eyed peas, "
1 can "	garbanzo beans, "
1 can	whole kernel corn, drained
1 cup	sliced carrots
1 med.	onion chopped
1 cup	chopped celery (optional)

Combine first 13 ingredients. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer covered for 10 min. Stir in vegetables and simmer covered for 10 min. or more. Yield - 6 servings. Variation: top each bowl with 1 tsp. of parmesan cheese. Bonnie sautes lightly the fresh vegetables before adding.

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God grant us peace and good years and guide us  
as we go about in this world.

Gud giv oss fred og gode år og giv oss ledelse nå  
vi verden går.





CHRISTMAS IN NORWAY 1919  
by Hellen Mikkelsen Nordahl

*Hellen went with her family as a young child to Norway. The following is a record of her memories spending her first Christmas on an island where her grandparents lived.*

"We arrived at my grandparent's home on an island and I was promptly treated like royalty from America and spoiled properly. Bestemor was a tiny busy lady. She had been a school teacher in her younger years. Every morning I would sit at her feet on a small stool while she read the bible to me. When I had arrived I could not understand or speak a word of Norwegian; when I returned to America I could not speak a work of English.

The kitchen had a dirt floor, a brick oven in the wall, the only heat in the house. All the bread was baked in that oven, Norwegian black bread, to be stored in barrels. We also had a goat that Bestemor milked. From this she made goat cheese. Some chickens that were taken inside on bitter nights so they would not freeze. The eggs were so special they were only used for baking or a birthday when one would be hardboiled for a gift. I slept in a big straw bed between my parents for warmth. This was upstairs. Bestmore always warmed a large rock to place at my feet each winter night.

My first Christmas on the Island meant the older cousins rounding up the smaller children and going out in the moonlight to bring in the Yule Log our fathers had cut. The youngest got to ride the log home to Uncle Julius' house where we would all gather that next night. We children would gather under the table and giggle and eat goodies thinking our parents could not see us.

There was violin music and accordion music, dancing and singing. At a given signal we were all called to gather around the tree and form two rings and hold hands. The children went one direction and the adults another, singing the praise of Norway first and then all the Yule songs. At a call from the master of the house each child would come forth and choose a tinselled cornucopia filled with hard candies. It was handed to us as the tree was being lit - it had live candles! SUCH JOY! It was enough.

During the holidays we walked the thick ice to the nearest island to church. My father also took me out on the ice and he would chop a hole till he reached water and he would fish. We had a diet of fish cakes, fish soup, fish balls, fried fish, baked fish, and boiled fish. My favorites were black bread and goat cheese. I was never ill a day. It was a place where a child could be a child."

---

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