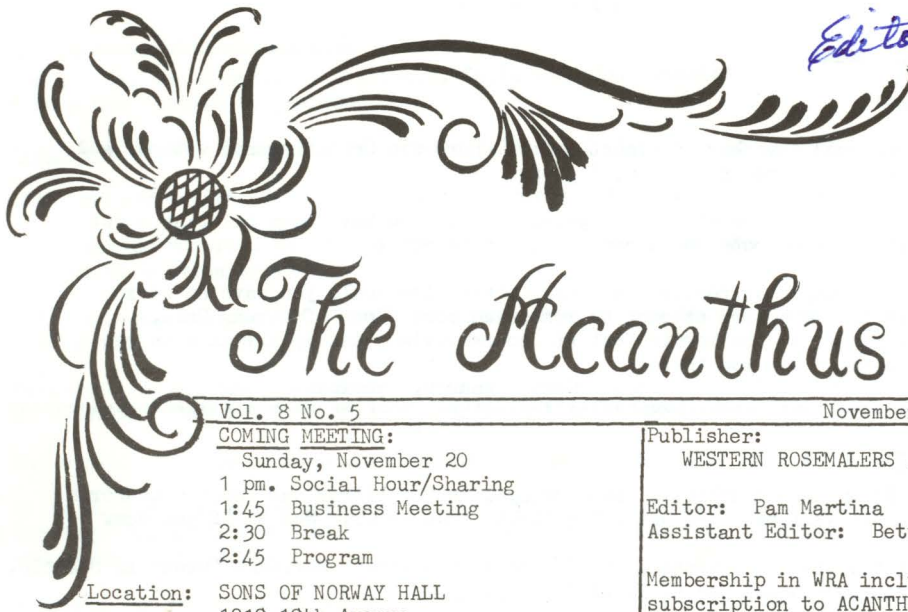


Editor File Copy



The Acanthus Vine

Vol. 8 No. 5

November, 1983

COMING MEETING:

Sunday, November 20
1 pm. Social Hour/Sharing
1:45 Business Meeting
2:30 Break
2:45 Program

Location: SONS OF NORWAY HALL
1018 18th Avenue
Bremerton, WA

Program: Lois Clauson will present slides on Nordicfest.

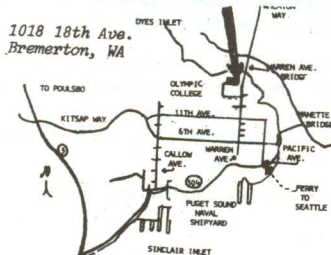
Hostesses: Bremerton members

Sharing: Bring your own rosemaled items for display.

Door Prize: A wooden item supplied by Lois and Leroy Clauson.

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

(From the South: Tacoma, Shelton, etc.) Follow 4 land highway into W. Bremerton. Turn right on Burwell Street. (2nd traffic light after entering city limits) Follow Burwell to Warren Aven. Continue instruction as above.



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Assistant Editor: Betty Stuestall

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Pam Martina
3410 Mission Beach Road
Marysville, WA 98270

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

I just realized November is almost here. Where did September and October go? Time flies when you are having fun, I guess.

We still have two more shows this year. I hope you have been painting a lot of "goodies", because both shows come on the same date!

November also brings our regular meeting. Where else could you have an ocean voyage (ferry), see a very attractive rosemaled room (Sons of Norway Hall, Bremerton), and go to the Nordic Fest at Decorah (via slides), all this in one Sunday afternoon! See you there.

Celia Hendrix, President

WRA EXHIBIT

Western Rosemalers exhibit is now displayed in the library at Pacific Lutheran University. It will be there until the first of November. See it if you can.

Starting the 15th of November, it will be at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. That will continue until the first of January.

Because the room at the Museum is quite large, we will need many more items to make a pleasing display. We can also use very large pieces. So, if you can contribute, please get your items to Betty Edwards before the 7th of November or call Deanna Skelton before this date.

Norma Splitt Workshop

Fifteen members attended this class held at the Nordic Heritage Museum September 6 through 9 from 9:30 to 3:30. Six members had never attended a WRA class before. The students came from Bend, Oregon, Marysville, Bremerton, Port Orchard, Tacoma, Des Moines, Renton, Mountlake Terrace and Seattle.

Norma taught both Hallingdal and Telemark. She demonstrated for us and shared techniques from the class she had taken this summer from Vesterheim. Norma also brought samples of different teachers work and patterns.

We "brown bagged" for lunch and got to know each other better over lunch. Friday night a few of us got together for dinner at Ivars Salmon House. Ivar came over to greet us!

The class was a great success and the students would like Norma to return again! Norma has contributed a subscription for our library of Vesterheim's Rosemaling newsletter. Thank you Norma.

Betty Edwards



**SCANDINAVIAN
DOLLS & HANDICRAFTS**

Dolls hand dressed in costumes from Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Iceland. Also available in Norwegian regional costumes: Hardanger, Hallingdal, Setesdal, Sogn and Trondelag. Size 8", \$11.50. Add \$1.50 for postage and handling. Special orders on request. If not completely satisfied return within two weeks for refund.



Faghild Feroy, 3214 9th st. N.E., Puyallup, Wash. (206) 841-2996

SYNOPSIS OF SEPTEMBER MEETING

Meeting called to order by President, Celia Hendrix. Guests were introduced and welcomed. Tacoma was thanked for refreshments.

Treasurer Barbara Laskowski reported a balance of \$1,611.79 as of Sept. 18, 1983.

Lila Granaas was thanked for the nice article in September's Vesterheim Rosemaling Letter.

Dena Iverson reported we need to sell more tickets for the November Raffle of the bowl donated by Loftsgarden.

Lois Clauson, chairman of Skandia Midsommer Fest in Poulsbo, thanked everyone for helping. Even though it rained, \$562.66 was made.

Dena Iverson and Ida Mae Swedburg gave a short summary of Scandinavian Mid Summer Festival at Astoria. They had lots to sell and had a double booth this year. Made \$1,922.85.

Our exhibit of Rosemaling Plates at the Enumclaw King County Fair won a blue ribbon.

Wilda Snider gave a short report on the Norma Splitt class held Sept. 6-9 at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle. She is an easy teacher and very helpful. It was a full class and seemed very short.

A motion was made and passed to continue our Paint-In's on the alternate months from our general meeting months. The next Paint-In will be October 15 at the Nordic Museum in Seattle. Helen Nordahl has the costume material with blue tops for \$15.00 and she will be available at the October Paint-In to help with fitting, etc.

Scandinavian Days in Tacoma October 4 - 8. Jean Alfsen is chairman and needs help and items.

Yule Boutique at P.L.U. on November 19. Audrey Rush and Ida Mae Swedburg are chairmen and need help and items.

Nordic Museum Yule Fest on November 19 and 20. Wilda Snider is chairman and needs help and items.

Celia Hendrix wrote to John Gunderson for a possible Spring Workshop. Florence Buck will locate a place to hold the workshop and Dena Iverson will handle registration.

Betty Edwards was voted in office to act as a go-between for the Nordic Museum and W.R.A.

The Nordic Heritage Museum asked for a donation of items for display on a permanent basis.

Deanna Skelton is setting up our items at P.L.U. for Exhibit in October.

Next meeting will be November 20 at Sons of Norway Hall in Bremerton. Hostesses will be the Bremerton members. The program will be Lois Clauson with slides of Nordic Fest in Decorah.

The door prize was won by Fern Nelson.

Meeting adjourned.

Program: Lila Granaas spoke on the Gold Medal winners from Vesterheim Museum.

ROSEMALING IN AMERICA TODAY - September meeting talk by Lila Granaas

By way of introduction, I have drawn from our own WRA library an immensely interesting folio on the above subject and I am using this as my source for our program today. The folio was written by Marion J. Nelson, Director, Norwegian American Museum and is dated 1972. Included in the folio are colored reproductions of artists who had accumulated the greatest number of points through awards at the National Rosemaling Exhibitions begun by the Museum seven years prior and these are all familiar names to us today.

To quote Mr. Nelson, "As far as is known now, very little rosemaling was done in America before about 1930. This is surprising because the first wave of immigration occurred around 1850. The Norwegian settler in America, who broke away from a rather closed culture, met new demands and new potentials of the frontier country and this led to a sudden loss in America of this facet of Norwegian culture.

Revival of interest began in 1930 due to Per Lysne in Wisconsin. His father was the last of the West Coast rosemalers in Norway. Per gave this up and became a laborer in a mill. The Great Depression forced him to seek other work and he turned to Rosemaling. This little known type of decoration had a gaiety and charm with immediate appeal in the gloom of the Depression and, later, the war years. He was not a teacher, but taught informally. His work set off a revival of artifacts brought by emigrants and is said he restored over 600 trunks. His works were purchased in the 40's all over America and went from Norwegian-American to American. The Museum in Decorah further aided and developed in the search to collect artifacts and imported Norwegian artists to teach, plus instituting Rosemaling Exhibitions each year.

As expected in revival art, contemporary American rosemaling is more controlled and refined than the work it was emulating. The two are products of totally different environments - and differences in the artists and relationship to their work. Most are women who do rosemaling as a hobby now, while originally it was painters who made it a profession. In spite of the differences, rosemaling in America today is of astonishingly high quality. It may lack the vigor of early painting, but it does compare favorably with recent rosemaling in Norway.

The painters represented in this particular portfolio are those who had accumulated the greatest number of points at the National Exhibitions in the year 1972. Among the earliest Gold Medal winners were Agnes Rykken and Ethel Kvalheim, both of whom have painted since the 40's. Rykken is entirely self-taught and inspired by rosemaling brought from Norway. She is from Seattle. Kvalheim traces her interest to 1936. She lived one block from Per Lysne, but has developed a freer style. She is the only American to have received from Norway the King Olav Medal of Honor for her work in Norsemalings.

Violet Christophersen - self-taught in rosemaling in 1955 after 20 years of other types of painting.

Vi Thode - started in 1961 under another gifted painter, Annette Hayter. In 1969, her work was in an exhibition of "contemporary folk arts" at the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Nelson in 1977 says, "The Rogaland style developed by her must be considered the most highly-developed single strain of American rosemaling today!" Rogaland made its first entrance in 1971 with Bergljot Lunde's first visit to the United States, under whom Thode studied. She was a 1970 Gold winner.

Gyda Mahlum - is also a product of inspiration under Per Lysne. Through self-study, she developed a distinctive style. She has studied extensively with the painters from Norway.

Norma Splitt and Addie Pittelgow began painting in the 60's and became major teachers and demonstrators. They studied with the early painters from Norway, which may account for the stress they place on freely created work.

Barbara Hawes represents a new element in the rosemaling revival. She was an art major in college and worked extensively in Early American painting before she discovered Rosemaling. She studied with the Norwegian painters and in 3 years developed a mature and distinctive rosemaling style.

ROSEMALING TODAY - (cont.)

Since this folio was written, there have been many winners and the good work goes on.

In closing, I would like to leave with you some thoughtful remarks from S. Arseth in his book, Norwegian Rosemaling. "It is apparent Rosemaling has swung full circle and is as beautiful today as centuries ago in Norway".

"Thus, the spirit of the decorative artists of the 18th century continues to flourish in America as well as on its native soil. Few nations can claim such a vital continuity of tradition as Norway - a heritage that has survived industrial and artistic upheavals to claim a place in modern society".

Lila Granaas
September WRA meeting

PAINT IN - October-22 .

Members at the September meeting voted to continue our Paint-Ins on the alternate month from the general meeting. On Saturday, Oct. 22 in the Language Room at the NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM. Open at 9:00 am and you can stay all day! Bring a sack lunch and coffee will be provided. The association will pay the fee for the use of the room and members attending can contribute \$1 to help defray this cost. We hope that many members will be able to attend. The Paint-In date in December is on Saturday, the third. These are great times for painting and visiting.

Helen Nordahl has the costume material with blue tops for \$15.00 and she will be available at the October Paint-In to help with fitting, etc.

REMEMBER THE RAFFLE

The bowl donated by Loftsgarden will be given away to a lucky ticket holder at the November meeting. Buy your ticket before then and GOOD LUCK. Dena Iverson has tickets.

MEETINGS FOR NEXT YEAR

These meeting locations were recommended by the Board and will be voted on at the November meeting. Travel in May, not Nov.

Jan - Tacoma March - Seattle
May - Travel Sept - Tacoma
Nov.- Seattle

TACOMA MEETING PLACE

Need a committee to locate a different meeting place in Tacoma. If you live in the Tacoma area or know an inexpensive place to hold our WRA meetings, let us know at the November meeting.

PAINTERS NEEDED

Our booth needs painting. Please volunteer your help at the November meeting. If enough people help, it won't be too big a job for anyone.

ROSEMALING CHECKS

Jayne Markuson, Membership Chairman, called to our attention a membership check from Sarah Holberg of Glenrock, Wyoming with a rosemaling design printed on the face of the check. Something to look into if you are interested!

Connie Sullivan shared this recipe with me at the last workshop, and they were so delicious I'll share it with you. Thanks to Connie!

ZUCHINNI BARS

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| | 2 1/2 c. flour |
| 1 beaten egg | 1 t. baking powder |
| 2 c. grated zucchini | 1/4 t. salt |
| 1 c. vegetable oil | 1/2 t. cinnamon |
| 2 c. sugar | 2 t. soda |
| 1/2 c. nuts (opt.) | |

Sift dry ingredients. Add oil, eggs, zucchini and beat well. Bake in 350 oven for 30 minutes.

Frost with Cream Cheese Frosting:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1/2 c. butter | 3 oz. softened cream cheese |
| 1 T. cream or milk | 2 c. sifted powdered sugar |
| 1 t. vanilla | |

Mix butter and cream cheese. Add milk, vanilla and powdered sugar; mix well.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee is being gathered to nominate members for the positions of Vice-President, Treasurer, and Membership Chairman for next year. The nominating committee will be appointed by President Celia Hendrix at the November meeting. Elections for these Board positions will take place in January.

