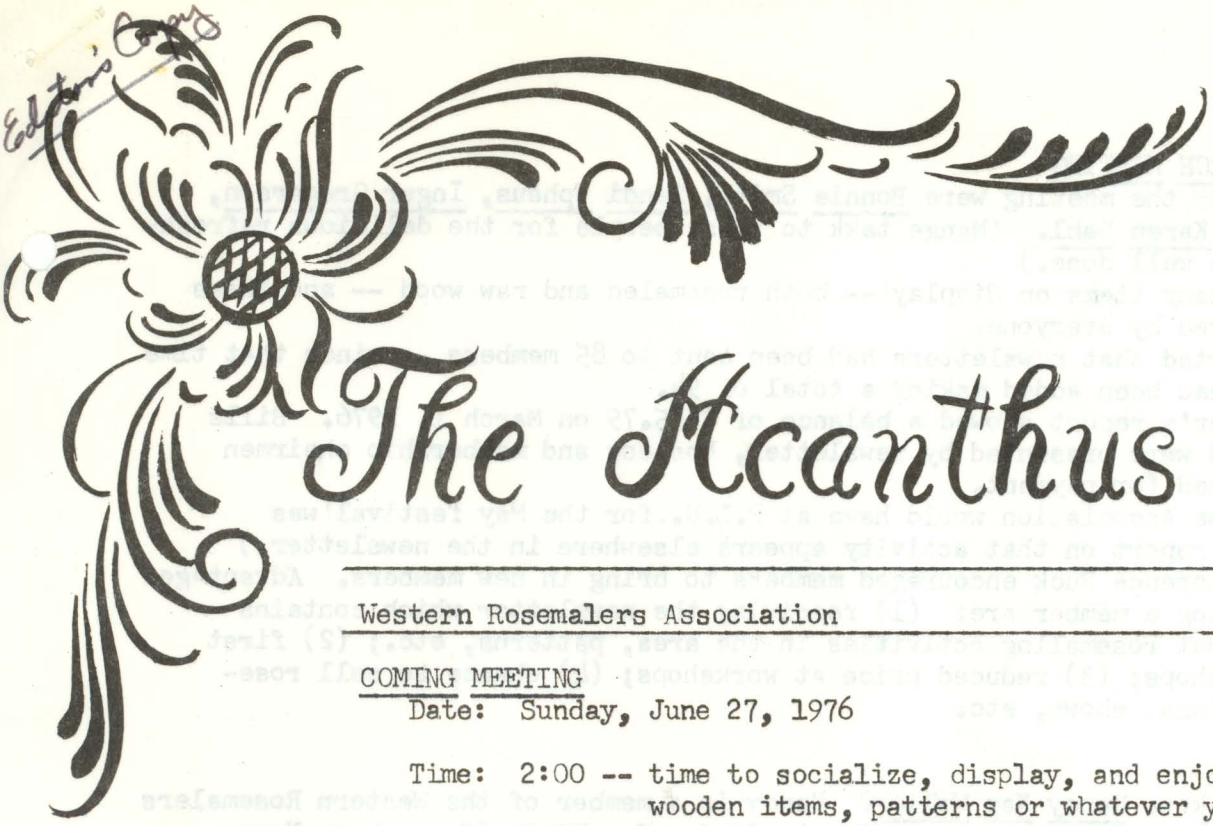


Edna's Conyers



The Scanthus Vine

Western Rosemalers Association

June 1976

COMING MEETING

Date: Sunday, June 27, 1976

Time: 2:00 -- time to socialize, display, and enjoy rosemaled or wooden items, patterns or whatever you wish to share.
3:00 -- business meeting

Place: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 215 Mukilteo Blvd., Everett, WA
(From I-5 take exit 192 -- this exit is on the left when coming from the south and on the right coming from the north. When coming from the south, you should be in the right lane to turn right after going under the underpass onto 41st. The exit from the north puts you onto 41st. Proceed west on 41st through two stoplights -- these will be Colby and Rucker. Forty-first automatically turns into Mukilteo Blvd. You will go past a park and at the third stoplight the church is on the right.)

Program: The New, The Old, The Different -- different techniques that will enhance your rosemaling. Pat Morgan and Edna Conyers will demonstrate antiquing or patina on rosemaled items already painted, a very old technique called glazing which is done on raw wood, and a sort of reverse method of antiquing which Pat has developed using latex enamel. In addition, you will have the opportunity to try it yourself under the guidance of Pat and Edna. Don't miss this opportunity to learn some techniques you may not be familiar with.

Business: Be sure to submit any corrections or additions (in writing) to the By-laws by the June 27th meeting. They will be read at that meeting so we can vote in any changes at the regular September meeting.

NEW BOOK -- NEW NAME

Isn't that an attractive design for the newsletter? Betty Cooper worked up the design for the newsletter and stationary. Equally attractive are the membership cards which are back from the printers and which you will be receiving as members. Susan Solie is responsible for that design. The new name lends added appeal to the newsletter. Carol Ramstad submitted the winning name and received a very attractive piece of rosemaling that Kaja Englund had painted for her efforts. Congratulations and thanks to these members for their efforts and sharing of talents.

SYNOPSIS OF MARCH MEETING

Hostesses for the meeting were Bonnie Smith, Sandi Uphaus, Inger Gregerson, Asta Oden, and Karen Dahl. (Mange takk to these people for the delicious refreshments and a job well done.)

There were many items on display -- both rosemaled and raw wood -- and these were much enjoyed by everyone.

It was reported that newsletters had been sent to 85 members -- since that time 9 new members had been added making a total of 94.

The treasurer's report showed a balance of \$585.79 on March 1, 1976. Bills totaling \$33.58 were presented by newsletter, hostess and membership chairmen and were approved for payment.

The booth the Association would have at P.L.U. for the May festival was discussed. (A report on that activity appears elsewhere in the newsletter.)

President Florence Buck encouraged members to bring in new members. Advantages realized by being a member are: (1) receiving the newsletter which contains information about rosemaling activities in the area, patterns, etc.; (2) first chance at workshops; (3) reduced price at workshops; (4) chance to sell rose-maling at meetings, shows, etc.

MEMBERSHIP

Does anyone know Nancy Kay Waller? Nancy is a member of the Western Rosemalers Association, but we do not have a correct address for her. If you know Nancy, will you ask her to send her correct address to April Meier, membership chairman, whose address is 5811 S. Sheridan, Tacoma, WA 98408.

FESTIVAL OF NORWAY AT P.L.U.

Despite a smaller crowd than usual for the May Festival at Pacific Lutheran University on May 1, the booth the Western Rosemalers had was a success. Twenty-two artists contributed 201 rosemaled items and 33 pieces of unpainted woodenware. Forty items were sold for a total of \$376.52 plus tax. Several members demonstrated rose-maling during the day. Thanks to a very capable and organized committee for making this effort a success.

WHO, WHAT, WHEN, & WHERE

Ione Dhaese has been rose-maling for PACE ARTS in Puyallup for 3 years. This affair is held once a year and Ione sells a lot of her painting there.

Thelma Johnson reports that Kaja Englund is still in bed with total recuperating time still unknown. We wish you a speedy recovery Kaja!!

MORE NORWEGIAN SAYINGS

God aften! -- Good evening!

Er kaffen ferdig? -- Is the coffee ready?

Jeg har hatt det veldig huggelig. -- I have enjoyed myself very much.

En ny dag er den første av de siste dager av ditt liv. -- A new day is the first of the last days of your life.

Godt lag gjør lange vegan litte. -- Good company makes long road short.

-- Contributed by April Meier and Pat Morgan

MORE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, & WHERE

Two Western Rosemalers Association members will be coming to the Seattle area this summer to give workshops. Kay McMahon from Milwaukee, Wisconsin will be coming to Edmonds July 26 to teach a workshop at Heirloom Arts in the Rogaland style rosemaling. Kay teaches in the adult education area in Milwaukee and this will be her third year to present a workshop in Edmonds. She may also teach a workshop in Tacoma the latter part of that week. If anyone is interested in these workshops, call Vivian West, 774-7997, in Edmonds or Florence Buck, 584-5392, in Tacoma for information. If calling Florence, this must be before June 10.

Eunice DeCamp from Portland, Oregon will also be in Edmonds to teach a workshop in July. Eunice teaches Early American Tole and Rosemaling in Portland. The week of July 19 Eunice will teach workshops in Early American Tole and antiques at Heirloom Arts. For information on these workshops, call Vivian -- 774-7997, in Edmonds. Reservations for either of the workshops at Heirloom Arts must be made by July 1.

ELSA'S BOOKS ON WAY!

After much correspondence, Florence Buck has had word that the publisher has shipped Elsa's books. Since they will travel by surface mail, it is undetermined when the books will arrive, but at least they are on their way. When they arrive, those who ordered the books at Elsa's workshops will be contacted by Florence -- 584-5392 -- or Esther Einmo -- 778-5681, in Edmonds. If you are outside either of these calling areas and wish information about this book of patterns by Elsa Sjoavaag, you may contact Florence at 9204 Division Lane, S. W., Tacoma, WA 98498.

NORWEGIAN AMERICAN MUSEUM

Through this newsletter we hope to acquaint you with other rosemaling groups and institutions. So, this month we will introduce you to the Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, Iowa if you have not already become acquainted.

Decorah is a cultural center for Americans from Norway. Luther College was established there in 1861 and the Norwegian-American Museum in 1877. Every year Decorah celebrates its Norwegian heritage during a Nordic Fest, held annually the last weekend in July -- this year it will be July 23, 24, & 25.

Membership in the Museum costs \$5 a year and for this membership you will have the opportunity to become aware of the many items and activities available through the Museum. There are rosemaling books and supplies available, books on many other subjects; notepaper (many with rosemaling designs), and other items -- all at a 10% discount to members. Activities include rosemaling classes taught by both Norwegian and American rosemalers, tours such as the Heart of Norway tour taking place this year which was designed and will be led by Sigmund Aarseth, a Norwegian rosemaler.

There is a rosemaling newsletter that is available from the Museum for an additional \$2 a year. For those interested in genealogy, there is a Genealogical Center which any member may join for an additional \$4 a year. Membership in the Center will bring issues of Norwegian Tracks (a newsletter containing information and helps along this line) as well as a discount on such services as literature searches and information from records.

Anyone interested in joining the Museum or desiring information may write to the Norwegian-American Museum, 502 W. Water St., Decorah, Iowa, 52101.

SAYING FOR WEDDING PLATE

Mann og viv er eit liv. -- Man & wife is one life.

BICENTENNIAL BIOGRAPHY

With the current interest about people from the past who through their deeds contributed something of lasting value to our country, it seemed appropriate to include this biography about the man who was the father of rosemaling in America.

Per Lysne

-- by Florence Buck

Per Lysne is the father of rosemaling in America. He was born in Lerdahl, Sogn, Norway in 1880. He came to Stoughton, Wisconsin in 1907 at age 27. He was taught the painting trade by his father Anders Lysne. His father was a rosemaler of fine reputation having won an award at the Paris Exposition in 1893.

Per Lysne was employed as a painter and decorator of the famous Mandt Circus wagons. The wagon owner, Torges Mandt, also of Norwegian ancestry, appreciated Per's fine workmanship and kept Per in his employ. When our nation was hit by the depression of the 30's, the wagon industry declined and Per took up his brushes and turned to rosemaling. His first efforts were for friends and neighbors. As his work became more popular, folks brought out old pieces from the attic for him to decorate. Per restored and retouched old family heirlooms that once were brightly decorated with rosemaled designs. The interest and pride in the handcrafted objects grew and a revival in Norwegian rosemaling was born in America.

In 1933, Vogue magazine carried a story about Per Lysne that helped him gain fame as a rosemaler. He was commissioned to decorate homes throughout the Midwest. He followed the tradition of the old Norwegian rosemalers and lived in the homes as he painted. His fame grew! Although his designs were original, he admits he was always inspired by something he had seen and adapted to his needs.

Per Lysne saw one change in rosemaling take place in America. The majority of painters in America are women. In Norway it was traditional for men to paint as it meant leaving home and family. Needlework was generally the pastime of the woman since she was left to care for the farm and family.

Two other native Norwegian rosemalers practiced in America and both lived in Madison, Wisconsin. One painter was Knut Reindal who painted kubbesterol in addition to making violins. The other man was Karl Knutson Reese.

The revival and survival of rosemaling in America is a tribute to the artistic quality of the craft. As in all things, only the best survives!

Growth of rosemaling in the Midwest has been slow but constant. We in the Northwest are enjoying the fruits of their labor -- these talented Norwegian Americans. May we each be dedicated to protect this heritage from distortion and ultimately unrecognizable from its original style. May we dedicate ourselves, in this bicentennial year, to preservation of this unique gift.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Your newsletter is arriving a little earlier than usual this month since your editor is soon to be leaving to join the Heart of Norway tour.

To make the newsletter interesting and worthwhile, I need your help in providing me with information about activities, ideas, or whatever may be of interest. If you have something to offer, please mail to Mary Ellerman, 23406 - 94th Ave. W., Edmonds, WA 98020.

Thanks to Kay McMahon for providing us with a pattern for this issue, and to the other persons who submitted items.