



The Scanthus Vine

Vol. 16 No. 1

January 1991

| <u>COMING</u> | January 20th | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>MEETING</u> | 1:00 Social Hour/Sharing | NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM |
| | 1:45 Program | 3014 NW 67TH STREET |
| | 2:30 Break | SEATTLE, WASHINGTON |
| | 2:45 Business Meeting | |

DIRECTIONS:

From I-5, take Exit 85th St. N.E. Go west on 85th N.E. to 32nd Ave. N.W. Turn left onto 32nd Ave. and continue to 67th N.W. Turn left on 67th. The museum is an old brick school building, unlabeled on the backside. Parking is plentiful on the playground.

PROGRAM:

"HOW TO USE WRA RESOURCE MATERIALS" including library books, photos, and items in the WRA display case will be presented by Betty Edwards. Rosemaled items and photos that were used for inspiration will be compared.

SHARING:

Members are urged to bring items they have painted using ideas from books and pictures.

HOSTESSES

Mary Ellerman will be chairman of hostesses from Marysville, Snohomish, Gold Bar, Everett and North.

DOORPRIZE:

2 cans of background paint!

BACKGROUNDING

WORKSHOP

RESCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 12TH (SAT)

Registration must be sent in immediately if you are interested in attending this mini-workshop at Nordic Heritage Museum. Tuition is \$10 & may be sent to Dena Iverson, 1817 S. 262nd Pl., Kent, WA 98032.

This will be a very informative class for beginner and advanced rosemalers! 9:00 am - 4 pm Mary Ellerman is a professional in this field. Information about what to prepare & bring is in the Nov. Vine.

1991 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE NOW! OTHERWISE THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST VINE!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This is a message of thanks to the board, staff, and members of Western Rosemalers' Association. You have all been a part of the success of our organization during the past two years of my term in office as President. I do appreciate all of you.

Vice-President Dorothy Nichols (1989) and Deanna Skelton (1990) provided us with great programs and door prizes as well as arranging for our meeting places and hostesses.

Nancy Johnson (1989), Marilyn Hansen (1990), and Betty Edwards, Secretary Pro-Tem, were very fine secretaries. They took careful minutes and typed and mailed them to the board. Lois Clauson, Financial Secretary, faithfully banked our money. Judith Tenggren professionally dispensed funds where needed.

Anita Boren (1989) and Betty Yanak (1990) did a superb job as membership chairpersons. The directory is very well done. Our Vine editors during the past two years, Judi Wilcock, Dena Iverson and Barbara Laskowski with the help of mailer Gurine Nordby didn't miss a beat in the transition. It is a fine publication. I have heard comments from members, some who cannot attend meetings, that they enjoy the "Vine" and read it from beginning to end. Why not drop a note to Barbara. She deserves a little praise.

Past Presidents Betty Edwards and Dena Iverson were always "there" for me. They shared their knowledge of Western Rosemalers. This made my job very easy. These two gals do not get enough credit for their contributions to W.R.A. Dena arranged our workshops. Betty arranged mini-workshops for years. This is a tremendous job. Especially our major workshops where negotiating with Norwegian painters, setting up the place, notifying those who signed up etc. etc. must be done. Dena handled it so ably!

Others on the staff deserve thanks and praise. Many of our members deserve special thanks but I am limited in the length of my article. I'll just refer you to the directory, the page with "STAFF". There you'll find the names of those workers who made Western Rosemalers Association run so smoothly. By reading the "Vine" you already know how some of our knowledgeable and talented members have generously shared themselves with us with programs and workshops.

Thank you for allowing me to have the experience of being your President. Our Western Rosemalers Association is a very worthwhile group. I'm proud to have been your President for the last two years as well as Vice-President for the two years preceding.

My very warmest wishes go with you all as we begin a New Year.

Marie Vollan Ganfield

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN BETTY YANAK reports that 31 new members were added during 1990. They were: Linda Boren, Doris Clark, B.J. Soule, Bill Gall, Cheri Anderson, Louise Thomas, Virginia Murphy, Rebecca Kaslow, Letha Johnson, Lois Ashley, Nancy O'Shea, Deborah Hansen, Mary E. Peters, Stan Zaborowski, Marlys Carlson, Loretta Chilton, Barbara Wheaton, Lucile Peterson, Drew Peterson, Sherry Wright, Francie Peace, Maura Murphy, Noreen Mall, Hellen Carter, Kathryn Link, Theresa MacDonald, Hildreth Brubaker, Edna H. Tuttle, Jeanna Silvernale, Marva Connelly, and Jean Anderson.

1991 MEMBERSHIP DUES are due now. If you have not done so, you may renew by sending \$10.00 to Betty Yanak, 2407 So. 140th, Seattle, WA 98168. Checks should be made out to W.R.A.

SYNOPSIS OF THE GENERAL MEETING - NOVEMBER 11TH - AT BREMERTON

President Marie Ganfield presided. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,320.26.

Membership Chairman, Betty Yanak, urged members to get their memberships renewed promptly.

The Sunshine Chairman sent a get-well card to Buck Buchanan and a plant to Gurine Nordby after the death of her husband.

Librarian, Louise Friar, said we have pictures from Vesterheim's 1990 Rosemaling contest.

Workshop Reports:

1. Trollhaugen - a workshop on design taught by Florence Buck was a great success.
2. Alfhild Tangen - from Telemark, Norway will teach a workshop at Nordic Heritage Museum March 18 - 22, 1991. \$35 deposit may be sent to Dena Iverson. Total cost is \$100.
3. Bjorg Kleivi and Kari Signe Brathen - from Norway will teach at Trollhaugen October 14 - 18, 1991.
4. Mini-Workshop - Mary Ellerman will teach about preparation and finishing of items in oils and acrylics. [rescheduled for January 12th...\$10 due NOW!]
5. Mini-Workshop - Dec. 8th in Tacoma, Dena Iverson teaching. [cancelled]

NA Notecards - Jack Ganfield reported on the possibility of WRA producing its own notecards. Following discussion regarding costs etc., a motion was made to postpone action until the organization has more money.

Drawing - of a \$20 credit on any workshop in 1990 was held and won by Darlene Berge.

WRA Costumes - Kits of the fabric cost about \$25.00. Patterns for sizes 4-6, 8-10, 12-14, and 16-18 are in the WRA library. Patterns for the blouse are available also. Members are asked to consider whether aprons should be self-color, white Hardanger apron or a white apron with deep lace. A decision will be made later.

Juried Show - Florence Buck will ask PLU for April and May, 1991 for the display of the Juried Show. Betty Edwards will contact Nordic Heritage Museum for May, June, July dates for the same show.

1990 Juried Show photos - are available from Betty Edwards.

Nominating Committee: of Anita Boren, Wilda Snider and Deanna Skelton announced the following slate of officers: President _____: Vice Pres.: Nancy Johnson; Secretary: Juanita Wellington; Treasurer: Judith Tenggren; Financial Secretary: Lois Clauson; Membership: Betty Yanak. [**election will be at January meeting**]

PLU Cultural Center - Florence Buck announced upcoming events: chip-carving class, felting class (for making hats, mittens, toys), and a basket making class. Register with Florence.

Christmas Ornaments - brought by members for the Nordic Heritage Museum and the PLU Scandinavian Cultural Center were displayed.

Door Prize - of unpainted Christmas ornaments was won by Mary McDonald.

Program - The four elements of design was the subject presented by Dena Iverson. As examples several items that were painted by various members at the Trollhaugen Design Workshop wereshown. Students were enthusiastic about what they had learned!

SCANDINAVIAN DAYS FESTIVAL

WRA participated in Scandinavian Days October 5th, 6th and 7th held at the Puyallup Fairgrounds. We had a very good sale. The total sales were \$1940.35. Each year we are doing better. It helps to talk to the customers, explaining the different styles and then trying to help them find items they like in a particular color or style. We had several sales over \$100 and two ladies from Oregon spent close to \$300 just because one of us took the time to explain and help find what they wanted. Sunday was our best day and I think it was due to our interest in helping potential customers. Let's keep up the good work!

The following artists shared \$1281: Gudrun Berg, Mickey Buchanan, Lois Clauson, Betty Edwards, Marie Ganfield, Marilyn Hansen, Barbara Hazen, Gurine Nordby and Vanessa Strand. I would like to say a special "thank you" to those of you who worked at the sale, selling and taking down: Gudrun and Don Berg, Darlene and John Berge, Mickey and Buck Buchanan, Eva Clark, Lois and Leroy Clauson, Marie and Jack Ganfield, Dorothy Nichols. Isn't nice to see so many men helping their wives.!

Gurine Nordby

RAFFLES

A compote painted by Bjorg Kleivi will be raffled in 1991 with the drawing to be held at the November 1991 meeting.

The 13" Telemark bowl, also painted by Bjorg Kleivi, will be raffled with the drawing held at Tivoli 1991 at Nordic Heritage Museum.

Tickets for both will be \$1.00 each and may be obtained from Gurine Nordby by mail or at WRA meetings.

Deadline for the
next "line" issue
is FEBRUARY 15TH

SALES ATTIRE

Members are urged to wear their WRA costumes at Sales. The summer work apron may be worn at summer sales. More info. about costumes and plans for classes to construct them will be at meeting.

YULE FEST REPORT - NOV. 17TH & 18TH

Betty Edwards and Marie Ganfield were the chairwomen. Sales included \$2475.50 gross for 9 artists, \$251.50 for WRA cards and patterns, and \$92.00 for Bjorg Kleivi painted bowl raffle tickets.

The following people worked as baggers, cashiers, demonstrators, both set-up and take-down: Anita Boren, Al & Betty Edwards, Jack & Marie Ganfield, Louise Friar, Nancy Johnson, Therese MacDonald, Gurine Nordby, Jo Ann Silvernail, Wilda Snider, Vannesa Strand, & Judith Tenggren.

Yule Fest is always an exciting and fun event, bright & colorful with costumes, singing and dancing and good food, of course. The crowds poured in all day both days. There is entertainment and programs in the auditorium, halls and in each of the places serving food all day both days. A very well planned event is done by the museum staff.

Betty Edwards & Marie Ganfield

NEWS FROM NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

A new display will be put in the display case in January after our WRA meeting. Quite a few pieces were sold from the display case these last three months. The case shows off large pieces well and these have been the best sellers. There have been many inquiries about the Os style and Janet Money maker, the curator has done an excellent job with the explanations of the style. We would like to have you bring your pieces to the January meeting and please mark the prices on your pieces, remembering to add 20% for the museum commission.

Wilda Snider & Betty Edwards

ALFHILD TANGEN WORKSHOP - NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

MARCH 18TH THROUGH 22ND - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Alfild Tangen comes from Porsgrunn in Telemark, Norway. She has two children, a boy and a girl and grandchildren. She started rosemaling in 1964 with Thorstein Ronjom, the famous Prosgrunn china painter, and was "hooked". In 1984 she and her husband Kare took off from business and traveled around Telemark to take pictures of the old rosemaling in all of the old farms. He took almost 3,000 slides. She credits her husband Kare's support for enabling her to do all that rosemaling has gotten her into. She has also been active in the Telerosa Rosemalerkлубb and was president in the beginning.

This will be Alfild's second visit to teach for W.R.A. She was here in 1979. The class will be held in Seattle at the Nordic Heritage Museum. Tuition is \$100.00. If you wish to attend, mail a deposit of \$35.00 to Dena Iverson (payable to W.R.A.). Class size is limited so you will want to secure your place in class early.

BJORG KLEIVI AND KARI SIGNE BRATHEN - TROLLHAUGEN

OCTOBER 14TH THROUGH 18TH

These teachers were here this past year, as you will remember, and are coming back by popular demand. They are from the county of Tinn in Telemark, Norway. Kari lives in Rjukan, where she has a small shop and teaches rosemaling. She has been painting for 20 years and teaching the past 15 years. Kari has won 5 first prizes for her rosemaling and those who took from her before will agree that she is a fine rosemaler.

Bjorg has been rosemaling for 10 years. She learned to paint in Amotsdal where she lives. She has her own style, but is typical Telemark.

Tuition is \$100.00 plus lodging. Registrations are being accepted now. You may send your deposit of \$35.00 (make payable to W.R.A.) to Dena Iverson, 1817 So. 262nd Pl., Kent, WA 98032.

* * * * *

UPDATED TEACHERS' LIST BEING COMPILED A new list of rosemaling teachers is being prepared. Teachers, please send information including your name, address, phone number, when and where you teach by the end of January to: Betty Edwards, 15 Newell Street, Seattle, WA 98109.

LIST FOR SPECIAL REQUEST ROSEMALING (commission work) is also being prepared. If you would be willing to paint special requests for people i.e. trunks, kitchen cupboards, large or small items, -- please specify. This information is needed by the end of January. The list will be made available to the Nordic Heritage Museum, WRA sales, and the PLU Scandinavian Cultural Center. Please send your name and address with pertinent information to: Betty Edwards, 15 Newell Street, Seattle, WA 98109.

MORE ABOUT JANUARY WRA PROGRAM . . . Betty Edwards will be sharing some ideas from classes she has taken, using the library resources, books, photos, and backgrounding colors and formulas for those backgrounds. Among things discussed will be some of our Association pieces -- Norma Splitt's tine, Gunnar Bo's 16" plate and Berlijot Lunde's two plates. Be sure to bring pencil & paper for note taking.

TROLLHAUGEN WORKSHOP REPORT

Retreat! Classes! Painting! Fun! Don't all of those sound like a great week? That is what the twelve of us including our instructor, Florence Buck, enjoyed the week of October 29 thru November 2.

Alphabetically, Darlene Berge, Anita Boren, Marie Ganfield, Dena Iverson, Charlotte Kelley, Becky Kaslow, Barbara Laskowski, Beverly Rogen, Irma Tveiten, Barbara Wheaton and Betty Yanak followed Florence's program of education according to her abilities.

We began with the elements of all good design and discussed the principles of proportion, rhythm, emphasis and balance. Florence then covered the tools of line, color, mass, space and pattern and how they would apply to the Telemark designs.

Following information on palettes and the order of design approach; i.e. first produce the main scrolls, then the central flower followed by additional flowers and finally details, we drew and painted. For some this went quickly and easily, for many of us who had never designed their own work before, it was somewhat frightening and intimidating. But, what the hay, we all had a go at it. Weren't we astonished when everyone produced a product to be proud of. As we began to sigh with relief, Florence explained that she had started with the hardest style so that everything else would seem easier. That put a smile on all our faces.

In the evening, after great food at lunch and dinner provided by pairs of group members, some people again painted, some walked in the wonderful cold mountain air of the Cascades and some went into town. "Going to town" could be an adventure depending on what you wanted to obtain there...since the two nearest ones are very small. We discovered it is best to arrive at Trollhaugen with everything you need and visit locally for sightseeing only. That is very worthwhile though and should be included if at all possible when you visit.

Using the same approach in the following days, we designed and painted in the Hallingdal, Rogaland and Os styles. As Florence says, "We are having a revival of

the Os style at Trollhaugen, all of us." By the last two days, there was a great deal of teasing, laughter and pranks going on. Florence even began to give "low grades" and treats of "black marks" to the more boisterous.

Wednesday night, it snowed! How beautiful to be in a wonderful mountain lodge, a huge fire in an open fireplace and have snow falling outside. It looked like a winter wonderland. Nature cooperated perfectly and by Friday, the snow had melted, the sun was shining and the roads were clear for our trip home.

It was a great week. We worked hard and accomplished much. We enjoyed one another, the terrific food, the sauna, the mountains, and Dena's slide show and program on rosemaling in Norway. Florence is a terrific instructor. Her teaching and her personality make her classes a real pleasure to attend. Oh, and by the way, when Irma first arrived she was excited, on Monday she didn't know why she was there and by Friday, Florence announced her as the most improved student of the group. Hurray Irma!

A special thanks to Dena for letters, phone calls and all the madness involved in organizing a workshop with people dropping in and out and many changes. It worked.

- Becky Kaslow

NORWAY ROOM AT NORDIC HERITAGE MUSEUM

If you haven't seen the Norway room yet, please take time to visit the museum during this Christmas season. The Christmas decorations are up and our wooden ornaments are all on the tree. Thanks to the 10 contributors...Anne Freeman, Barbara Hazen, Anita Boren, Marie Ganfield, Betty Edwards, Wilda Snider, Lois Clauson, Gurine Norby, Marilyn Hanson, Gudrun Berg and Dena Iverson. If you didn't finish yours in time, you may still bring them to Betty Edwards for use next year.

THE REVIVAL OF ROSEMALING

PER LYSNE was born in Lerdahl, Song, Norway in 1880. He came to Stoughton in 1907 at the age of 27. He had learned the painting trade in Norway and it was from his father, Anders Lysne, that he learned rosemaling. His father was a master with a reputation outside of his own village, when he won a prize for his rosemaling at the Paris Exposition in 1893.

In Stoughton, Per Lysne was employed in the wagon factories as a painter and decorator of the famous Mandt Wagons. Targe Mandt was the founder of the wagon works and was a son of early Norwegian pioneer settlers. Mandt wagons were distinguished by their fancy striping, with decorative curlicues on the wagon boxes. This was not intended to be rosemaling but those of us who remember those designs will recognize them as very similar to rosemaling.

The revival of rosemaling may have never taken place had it not been for the industrial depression in the 1930's. The Stoughton Wagon industry closed down when the nation-wide depression hit in 1929.

Per Lysne began rosemaling to earn a living for his family, only painting for a few friends and neighbors. Needing things to paint, he began making his own "Jorestal" (three legged chairs) and small chests and cabinets. As his painting gained more recognition he began making and painting smorgasbord plates and round and oval boxes called tine's. The background of his pieces quite often were white. Soon friends and area neighbors began bringing old dowry chests, tine's and other heirlooms out of the attic and woodsheds that they had brought with them from Norway. Lysne would restore and retouch the faded and marred rosemaling on these old pieces which had been forgotten.

Slam Anderson, a local merchant bought up many old chests and trunks and had Lysne restore them and then offered them for sale. Soon antique dealers were touring the area and bought all the available antiques.

Before Per Lysne's death in 1947, he had gained a nation-wide reputation. He traveled and decorated kitchen cabinets, etc., in homes. Many of his designs were his own and copied many times as was his famous smorgasbord plates. He said, "there is no such thing as an original design." "One sees flowers, wallpaper and lace-using parts or adapting them to one's own style."

Lysne encouraged his relatives and a few close friends, including his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Louise Lysne and her mother, Mrs. Severson. Pieces painted by Severson are often found in our area and are often mistaken for Per Lysne's work.

At one time Per Lysne rosemaled his famous smorgasbord plates for Marshall Fields in Chicago. They were displayed in the Swedish department of the store.

Several local craftsmen made wooden articles for him to paint. Donovan Wake who lives at Vennevel at Stoughton made pieces for Lysne.

Women in Norway did not do rosemaling but used their talents to do embroidery, hardanger, weaving and knitting.

Harriet Romnes who now lives at Chalet Gardens in Madison, studied rosemaling under Per Lysne in the 1930's. She later taught in her home and gave lectures on rosemaling.

In the 1940's Sarah Leslie of Stoughton taught classes through the Stoughton Vocational Schools. She did much research on the again dying art and taught rosemaling and chip carving among other things. It was another revival.

In the early 1960's Annette Hayter taught rosemaling for the Stoughton Vocational Schools. Vi Thode began classes at that time, after ten weeks of lessons she began teaching. She

(continued from page 7)

She continued to take lessons whenever possible and eventually took a class in the Rogaland style. Soon she developed her own style of Rogaland which became very popular. She traveled extensively, teaching her famous style of an old art and received many honors. Also, she wrote several books that are very much in demand by rosemaling students. Vi was asked to be chairperson of the Wisconsin State Rosemaling Exhibit which she did for many years.

Agnes Green has also taught in the Vocational School for several years and has encouraged many students to pursue the art.

Gary Albrecht, Madison has also written several books on the Rogaland style of rosemaling after studying under Vi Thode and others. He also has taught extensively and won several awards.

Ethel Kvalheim has probably been rosemaling more years than the others mentioned in this article and has taken lessons from many teachers, but for years, full time work gave her little time for her hobby. She chose never to teach but her talents are well worth studying. She has earned local, national and international recognition and quietly keeps painting.

Aren't we fortunate to be involved with an art so rich in heritage and to have such talented people who have kept rosemaling active and interesting? Rosemaling is in great demand. Let us keep our rosemaling organizations active and growing. We all have developed many wonderful friendships through the years. Thanks to all who have contributed so much.

Information about Per Lysne was taken from an article written for the Stoughton Hub by Bjarne Romnes in 1963.

-Bea Kalland

[This article was reprinted by permission from the Wisconsin State Rosemaling Association June 1990 newsletter.]

JANUARY ROSEMALING PATTERN

Our thanks goes to Florence Buck for the lovely Telemark pattern in this issue.

Florence was the guiding force in forming our Association and was the first WRA President. For many years she taught classes in her home and continues to teach workshops currently. Her teaching has inspired many of her students to become teachers themselves!

For the past several years, Florence has taken many groups to Norway (and the other Scandinavian countries) to tour the country, visit museums and artists etc. WRA has greatly enjoyed hearing reports and seeing slides of trips taken by members with Florence.

FROM THE EDITOR - If you have done some research on rosemaling, we invite you share your findings in the "Vine". Also related articles, patterns etc. If you live in a remote area, perhaps you could share what is happening in your area.

Please send all articles, patterns, information, etc. to the WRA Editor.

Publisher Western Rosemalers Association
Editor: Barbara Laskowski
Mailing: Gurine Nordby

Membership: Betty Yanak
2407 So. 140th
Seattle, WA 98168

Membership in WRA includes your subscription to the Acanthus Vine. The Acanthus Vine is published 5 times yearly and is mailed two weeks prior to WRA general meetings in January, March, May, September, and November. Membership is \$10 per year.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Send camera ready copy with remittance to the editor: Barbara Laskowski
18228 Rockwood Ct.
Yelm, WA 98597 Phone: 894-2989



Trullaugen - Florence Duck - '90