

THE NAVIGATOR

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48
Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California

June / July 2007

Editor: Stephen Rosenthal
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Inside...

FLYERS ON UPCOMING EVENTS LIKE STEAK DINNER, PHOTOGRAPHS FROM RECENT EVENTS, GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION, WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS IN ADVANCE, OTHER NEWS

NORWAY TODAY...

Once a Land of Marauding Vikings...
Now a Nation of Peacekeepers



Norwegian Peacekeepers and Children of Peacekeepers celebrating Syttende Mai, 2007 in Afghanistan (above) and Columbo, Sri Lanka.



FROM ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE 6-48 PRESIDENT JOE HANNON



Greetings:

A total of 104 people enjoyed the May 5th bus trip to Norway Day. Twenty five of the group were **Sons of Norway** members, and the rest could be considered as potential members for the lodge to pursue.

The Leadership and Membership Workshop on Saturday, May 12 at Camp Norge was attended by **Joe & LaRena**

Hannon, Carol Francis, Bob Dahl, Joe Green and Nancy Ottum in addition to **five members of the Guldalen #128 Lodge from Grass Valley. Darline Thompson** was the facilitator and provided an informative workshop that included an introduction for new members, touched on leadership roles and responsibilities of lodge officers, and covered goal setting and ways to attract and retain members. Everyone enjoyed the good weather and the beauty of Camp Norge.

About 40 people attended the Lodge Syttende Mai Celebration on Sunday, May 20th and enjoyed good food, fellowship and singing by the **Nordic Choir led by Walter Braafladt** with the accompaniment of **wife Jeanette** on the electric keyboard. On a few solo numbers **Walter** also provided accompaniment on the Cello. **Tove Lise Miller** provided explanation to us as to the significance of the 17th of May in Norway and her experiences as a young girl in Norway on that National Celebration Day. Membership Pins and Certificates were awarded to **Jerry and Irene Karlstad** for 50 Years membership and to **Gordon and Gwen Lokke** for 25 years membership in Sons of Norway. Refer to the article elsewhere in this newsletter that lists other membership pin recipients that were unable to attend the above presentations. You missed a good party if you failed to attend.

No socials are scheduled for June and for July which is a vacation month for the Roald Amundsen Lodge with no lodge meeting in July. However, there is a lodge meeting in June. Since **The Navigator** is also on vacation, flyers are included with this issue for the **Multi-Lodge Picnic** at Camp Norge on Sunday August 19th and the **Steak Dinner** on August 24th. Our lodge is responsible for putting the picnic together this year. Please mark your calendar and attend these events.

Hope to see you at future lodge meetings and social events. Fraternally yours, **Joe Hannon**

PRESENTATION OF MEMBERSHIP PINS AND CERTIFICATES MADE AT SYTTENDE MAI CELEBRATION

Membership Pins and Certificates were presented by **President Joe Hannon** to the following people at the lodge Syttende Mai Celebration on Sunday, May 20th, as follows:

50 year Pins and Certificates to **Jerry and Irene Karlstad**

25 year Pins and Certificates to **Gordon and Gwen Lokke**

Golden Membership Certificates and Pins to **Elaine Troseth** (Picked up by her brother, **Duane Malme**)

The following people were unable to attend and their Membership Certificates and/or Pins will be mailed as follows:

60 year Pin and Certificate to Roald Waraas

10 year Pins: Edward Caughie. Kim Engebretsen, Peter and Randi Greene, Ethelyn Orwick, Carol Anne Scheinberg, Geoffrey and Nancy Skjelbred, Douglas Smith.

5 year Pins: George Baxter, Ron and Patti Jespersion (break in membership), Michael Van Baaren.

STUDY GROUP FORMING FOR NORWEGIAN LITERATURE, HISTORY

Eric Swanson of the Roald Amundsen Lodge would like to start a Study Circle at his home at 126 John Henry Circle in Folsom. The main subjects would be Norwegian Literature and History. He would like to start the first session on Saturday, June 9th, at 2 PM, and continue on the second Saturday of every month at the same time. For more information, contact Eric by e-mail at swannest@hotmail.com.

PHOTOS FROM SYTTENDE MAI (See President Joe's column)



No. 1 - Jerry and Irene Karlstad receiving 50 year Membership Certificates and Pins from President Hannon. No. 2 - Gordon and Gwen Lokke receiving 25 year Certificates and Pins from President Hannon. No. 3- Tove Lise Miller and Alfhild Roaum in their bunads. No. 4 - Nordic Choir led by Walter Braafladt with wife Jeanette accompanying on electric keyboard.



OPHELIA ORCHESTRA OF NORWAY PRESENTS VINTAGE JAZZ, UPCOMING !

On June 9 at 7:30PM, this world-class Norwegian ensemble returns to the Belmont, just south of San Francisco, for an eagerly anticipated Saturday evening concert of vintage American jazz, blues and more.



Back by popular demand, Norway's "Crown Jewel," the magnificent 10-member Ophelia Orchestra will again perform in Belmont, at the Notre Dame de Namur University Theater, 1500 Ralston Ave, as part of its U.S. tour. Considered among the very best ragtime and early jazz orchestras in the world, this top-notch ensemble of classically and jazz trained musicians will hold you spellbound from start to finish and immerse you totally in the marvelous rhythms of America's first original "pop" music. Their sparkling, fresh and often humorous presentations of works by Eubie Blake, Jelly Roll Morton, Scott Joplin, George Gershwin, and many others will be "a delight to your eyes and be candy to your ears", creating a joyful and unforgettable evening. Their concerts here in June of 1999, 2001, 2003 and 2005 were a sensation and a new and even better show is expected this year.

The orchestra was formed in 1977 by pianist, composer and arranger, Morten Gunnar Larsen. The inspiration for Ophelia came while Larsen was studying music in Louisiana and heard the New Orleans Ragtime Orchestra. Visits to the Tulane University jazz archives provided the opportunity to collect copies of the vintage orchestral arrangements used by popular dance and concert ensembles. After returning to his native Norway, Larsen recruited eight top notch musicians with the idea of playing orchestrated ragtime, early jazz, show tunes, and dance music from the first quarter of the last century.

Tickets are \$30 for General Admission and \$12 for Students 18 and under. Tickets are available by mail. Ticket orders must be received with a self-addressed, stamped envelope before June 2. Ticket orders received after that date will be held at Will Call the evening of the performance. Contact Pat Clemens, 572 Quindell Way, Brentwood, CA 94513, (925)240-9728, or go to www.pjconcerts.com.

ROSEMALING AT CAMP NORGE

On April 28th and 29th the following Roald Amundsen Lodge members attended Camp Norge for Rosemaling: **Cynthia Hayashi, Betty Malme, Irene Karlstad, Maggie Karlstad, Karen Nelson, Mary Santa Ana, Kristin Updegraff, Raye Brown, Erik Swanson, Jeanne Lemkuil, LaRena Hannon, Gloria Jacobson, Linda Kieger, and Sharon Mahnken.**

The three classes all painted a Mangle Board according to each teacher's design and colors. **Greg Santa Ana** crafted all the boards (70 of them!) and their Fjord Horse Handles! **Thanks Greg.** The Mangle Board in days past in Norway was carved or painted by a young man and given to the girl he wished to marry. He might leave it outside her door; if she brought it inside, it would mean she accepted it and they were engaged. If he was refused, it was back to making a new board for the next girl he wanted to marry.

Beware the man who has too many Mangle Boards! The Mangle Board was used to iron out wrinkles in clothes. – **LaRena Hannon.**



Mangle Board Examples

Another bit of history about our lodge's namesake...

AMUNDSEN'S VISIT TO LOS ANGELES IN 1913

By Richard C. Gilman, Pasadena, California, April, 2007

The distinguished Norwegian explorer, Roald Amundsen, visited Los Angeles on three occasions – first in 1913 and later in 1926 and 1927. On each visit he was engaged in a nation-wide lecture tour to raise funds for his expeditions in the polar regions. Those tours generally lasted many months and included one hundred or more lectures in cities all across the country. In Southern California on his 1913 tour he also lectured in San Bernardino and in Santa Barbara, speaking primarily of his discovery of the South Pole on December 14, 1911.

The fact that a well-financed British expedition, led by Robert Falcon Scott, was at the same time also seeking to reach the South Pole generated great excitement in the press about the "race to the pole." Scarcely more than a month prior to his arrival in Los Angeles, an announcement was forthcoming that Scott and five members of his team had perished after reaching the South Pole, where they found evidence that Amundsen had preceded them.

A committee composed largely of members of the Norwegian Society was appointed to handle arrangements for Amundsen's visit on March 19-20. A separate "Committee of Welcome" was also organized and a formal resolution was issued and signed by leading social, political, and business leaders of the city, including Harrison Gray Otis, publisher of the *Los Angeles Times*, railroad magnate Henry E. Huntington, and many others. In addition, a souvenir magazine was published containing information about Los Angeles and the Scandinavian countries, together with pictures and an account of Amundsen's life and accomplishments.

Prior to his lecture an elaborate banquet was held at the Alexandria Hotel, beginning at five o'clock in

the afternoon. To the strains of an orchestral rendering of *Ja, vi elsker dette Landet*, Captain Amundsen ceremoniously entered the hall with "the flower of Scandinavian society" trailing behind the distinguished guest. The program at the banquet was devoted largely to toasts to Amundsen and others.

When the time came to deliver a toast to Norway, as "the land we love," it was discovered that among the festive decorations in the room, there was no Norwegian flag. However, the guests arose and rendered a standing ovation to the country and its most prominent citizen. In reply Amundsen spoke briefly, proposing a toast to California and declaring, "I shall always remember your warm reception and this most beautiful country in the world ... (and) if it is ever possible, I shall certainly come to California to live here."



The Temple Auditorium, at 5th and Olive, where Amundsen lectured. Once the venue for almost all important events in downtown Los Angeles, its site today, at last report, is a parking lot.

Following the reception and banquet, the 500 guests walked to the Temple Auditorium where an audience of more than 2,000 had gathered for Amundsen's lecture. There he offered a stirring description of his journey, with four companions, over more than 750 miles of ice and snow to reach the South Pole. His two-hour presentation, accompanied with lantern slides, was cheered enthusiastically and described in news accounts as "one of the most striking lectures ever heard in this city."

Earlier during his visit, Amundsen was taken on a tour of Los Angeles harbor, which he noted was much larger than he anticipated. He praised efforts to enlarge and strengthen the breakwater, stating that, "it is only a matter of time before it becomes one of the best-known harbors of the world." Referring to construction of the Panama Canal then underway, he predicted a substantial increase in activity and trade in Los Angeles and all along the Pacific Coast. He also said that the *Fram*, his ship for the South Pole expedition, would pass through the canal on its expected opening next year, sailing up the coast for a new expedition in Arctic waters. And to the delight of his listeners, he promised the ship would stop for a few days in Los Angeles harbor. *(continued on page 10)*

PEA SOUP DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS, AS USUAL

The lodge's annual Pea Soup Dinner was held on April 27th, and **Tove-Lise Miller's** soup measured up to all expectations. The event was attended by approximately 60 persons, including Zone 1 Director **Karl Involdstad** and his wife, **Mary Beth**. Those members who were over 80 years old were not charged.

The delicious cake that was served, called "bløtekake," also was prepared by **Tove-Lise**. Generally, this style of cake is served for birthdays and almost any other type of celebration. Directly translated, the cake name is "moist cake."

The people that helped with the affair included **Ray Miller**, **Donna Gordon** her husband **Mike Gordon** (doing dishes), and Donna's daughter **Kristi Mattes** and her husband, **Sean**. And, of course, **Joe and LaRena Hannon** helped with registration, MC-ing, etc.



Heidi and lodge member Joe Green and their children Isabelle and Caleb.



Lodge member Kristen Larsen and Alan Nichols with children Kjersti and Corwin Nichols.



The following attendees admitted to being 80 years old or greater (left to right): Norm and Helen Evensen, Bill Nielsen, LaVonne Bouressa, Pearl Lemkuil, Erwin Bjerke, Margaret Sanders, Gordon Lokke, Gordon Hanson, and Bill Owre.

SIDEBARS FROM THE EDITOR...**Would you like to go to HOSTFEST?**

Arlene Berg and her husband need a person to drive them in their 29-foot motor home to Minot, North Dakota, leaving in early October. The actual event takes place **Oct. 9-13**. Some subsidization of cost perhaps can be worked out. Call her at 916.786.8502. This will be the 30th anniversary of the **Norsk Hostfest**, and the list of attractions and entertainers is impressive, including **Ann-Margret, Charlie Pride, Bill Cosby, Tony Orlando, Sissel, Bjøro Haaland**, and many, many others. Arlene is well-connected in the



There aren't too many Norwegians who sport Stetsons and cowboy boots. Any who do are sure to be noticed! One who does - Bjøro Haaland - deserves the attention! Billing himself as "the Norwegian Cowboy", Bjøro, who hails from Kristiansand, Norway, has become an international country singing sensation.



music world and can probably give the volunteer some good tips on whom to see. One web site you can check out is www.hostfest.com/concerts/index_new.asp.



Want to study in Norway? There are a number of excellent scholarship opportunities that can be applied for. One is **The Norwegian Marshall Fund**, mentioned in the March 2007 issue of *Viking*. This fund was established in 1977 as a symbol of the Marshall Aid that Norway received in the aftermath of World War II. The money was provided by Norwegian individuals and corporations as an expression of gratitude after the financial support Norway received from the United States in the aftermath of World War II. The founders wanted to convey the

importance of the Marshall Aid through this scholarship program.

The grant from the Norwegian Marshall Fund is split into 5-15 awards of up to \$5,000 every year. The grants vary from **\$1,500 to \$4,500** or 10000 NOK to 30000 NOK. Most of the applicants are US citizens planning on studying in Norway at the postgraduate level or doing research in science or the humanities related to Norway and the USA. The applicant must study in Norway. There are exceptions, however, and Norwegians may apply for this grant if they want to travel to the United States to study. Other requirements are that the applicant must be connected to a Norwegian sponsor or a research institution prior to applying. It is too late to apply this year, but contact information is as follows: The Norway-America Association, Rådhusgaten 23B, 0158 Oslo, Norway. Phone: (+47) 23357160. Fax (+47) 23357175. E-mail: info@noram.no. The web site is: www.noram.no/. Click on the American flag at the upper right corner.

A Norway connection to a local humanitarian: Dr. Terry Smith, a physician from Clarksburg who believes in helping the less fortunate of this world, was featured in a wonderful article in the May 8th issue of the **Sacramento Bee** (The editor can send a copy of the article to anyone interested.) Over the years the good doctor has served places in need in various parts of the world, as well as in local farming communities and clinics.

Currently he spends much of the year at the Mao Tao Clinic in Myanmar (for those of us who went to school back in the 20th century, this is the current name of the country formerly known as Burma. The current regime there has a reputation for being very repressive.)

The article mentioned that Norway provides some of the clinic's funding. In point of fact, based on our own research, we find that **Norway** has recently provided about **\$770,000 US** for this clinic. The clinic's founder and director, **Dr. Cynthia Maung**, is an exile from the Karen people of Myanmar, and some have referred to her as the Mother Theresa of Myanmar.



(continued on page 8)

Sidebars from the Editor, continued from page 7)

The May 10th issue of *The Sacramento Bee* contained an article on the sale of the local **Crystal Creamery and Butter Co.** ("*For Decades, Crystal was the Home Team;*" the article is available via e-mail transmission from the editor for anyone who wants a copy.)

At one time Crystal was California's largest on-site milk processor, and one of Sacramento's largest employers. The huge D Street facility once produced 10 million pounds of butter and as much milk as 100 dairy farms.

What caught your editor's eye was the fact that the early owners of the company were named **Carl and Gerda Hansen** – they must have been Norwegian, your editor said to himself (lately, he has found himself talking to himself more than usual).

It turns out that no, they were not Norwegian, but Danish (Carl) and Swedish (Gerda). Nevertheless, Carl's history is interesting. He was born in 1876 in Bandholm (Laaland), Denmark. Carl grew up in his native city and attended the local public schools while working after school at a large, local creamery. It was there that he learned the art of butter making. At the age of 20, Carl entered the Danish Agricultural College, graduating two years later with a degree in Creamery Operations.



Interestingly, the Russian government, interested in colonizing Denmark at the time, financed Carl's college education. After college, Carl served a one-year term of service in the Danish Army, and then spent two years working for a Danish cow testing association. In 1901, Carl declined a job offer

as a dairy instructor in Russia, and at the urging of his brother, Christian, traveled to Loleta, CA, to accept a job managing Sunset Creamery, a very small operation with only 1 full time employee. Carl lived in the manager's living quarters located on the second floor of the creamery.

In 1921 Carl and Gerda invested their life savings and purchased the struggling Crystal Cream & Butter Company located on D Street here in Sacramento. Carl, Gerda, and their sons put in long hours to bring the struggling creamery back on solid footing. Carl would spend from dawn to dusk in the valleys and foothills surrounding Sacramento developing a cream supply



allowing production to increase. Carl's older sons, Vernon and Kenneth, worked in the creamery before and after school. Soon their hard work paid off and Crystal's business was booming. In 1926, Crystal expanded production to include bottled milk that was followed by ice cream in 1931. In the early years, Kenneth delivered all the milk before he went



to school in the morning. Sometimes milk had to be delivered twice a day because of the lack of refrigeration. In 1928, Vernon graduated from Stanford University, Summa Cum Laude and returned to Sacramento to help his father manage the family's growing business.

Gradually Carl turned more of the day-to-day responsibility for managing the business over to his sons, choosing instead to spend time on his dairy farm in the northern part of Sacramento County.

The company has been sold to **HP Hood LLC**, a dairy operator out of Massachusetts. A Hood representative said, "Hood's investment in Crystal will allow us to better serve our existing customers in the West and position us for future growth."

Your editor is recovering from a little surgery, which will be a good excuse, in case this issue of **The Navigator** is late getting to you...

NORWEGIAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL CENTER HELPS WITH FAMILY STUDIES

Wondering where your great-grandparents were born in Norway? Unsure why the family seems to have changed its last name?



Located in Madison, Wisconsin, **The Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library (NAGC)** was organized in 1974 to stimulate interest in and promote the study of Norwegian-American Genealogy by providing:

a unique facility in which to research, collect, preserve and interpret resources relating to Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogy; assistance, interpretation and education by trained staff to patrons and correspondents; and continuing education and outreach for genealogists and other interested parties worldwide through cooperative information exchanges, publications, tours, displays, seminars, resource lending programs and merchandise sales.

The facility holds one of the world's largest collections of materials relating to Norwegian immigration and Norwegian family history, including: Norwegian parish records (dating from the 17th century to the 20th century) that provide information about baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials and emigrations; Norwegian local histories (known as *bygdebøker*); family histories; Norwegian census records; American cemetery records and obituary files; some North American port records; and American Lutheran Church records. The core of the collection was assembled by Professor **Gerhard Naeseth**, who was internationally renowned in the field of Norwegian genealogy.

The NAGC is a private, non-profit organization and therefore charges research fees. Members may use the facility at no charge. In-depth research help for members is \$20 per hour. Non-members pay a daily \$10 use fee, plus \$30 per hour.

The price of mail research for members is \$20 per hour plus \$.25 per copy. For non-members, mail research is \$30 per hour plus \$.25 per copy. The user fills out a Research Questionnaire that is available on their web site. The center also gives genealogical search classes. Check out their web site at www.nagcnl.org.

CAMP NORGE UPDATE



We promised to keep you updated on the progress of our building program at Camp Norge. Construction of the social hall has begun.

We are now awaiting a visit from the County Building Inspector, and the weather to cooperate so that we may proceed. The rough plumbing is in and the next step is pouring the concrete slab.

The long-awaited ground-breaking ceremony is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 25, 2007 following the meeting of the Board of Directors (Probably already held by the time you read this.). All members of District 6 are encouraged to attend. Many have waited a long time for this occasion and we hope to have a good turnout.

For many years, members and lodges have told us that when they see some progress on the building, they would be happy to donate to the fund. **NOW IS THE TIME.** Please send your donations directly to our bookkeeper at Camp Norge, P.O. Box 622, Alta, California 95701.

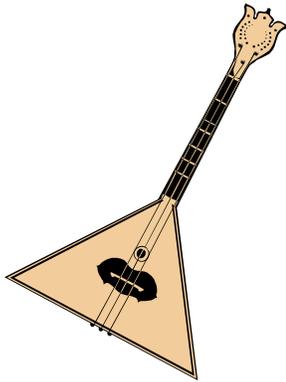
Of course, volunteers will be needed from time to time, and if you will tell us what you are good at, we will notify you when we need you. Thank you so much for your continued support and enthusiasm. - **Harry Bjerkhoel, President, and Alex Scheflo, Treasurer and Project Manager.**

THE NAVIGATOR DISTRIBUTION

If you wish to receive it electronically, contact the editor. If you wish not to receive it in the mail, contact Carol Lee Solheim at solheim2636@earthlink.net.



Roy Myer explaining to Bill Owre how to make soup at the Soup Dinner.

SCANDIA CAMP MENDOCINO, 9 – 16 JUNE

Scandia Camp Mendocino, an annual week-long residential camp founded in 1980, presents participants the opportunity to learn in depth about the folk music, dance and cultural traditions of Scandinavia. Over the years, teachers (many of them the original researchers and documentarians of their country's folk traditions) have

come from Norway, Sweden and Finland to share their knowledge through daily dance, music and singing classes and cultural sessions. In the process, a community has developed of people exploring their cultural roots and of people with curiosity about and appreciation for the rich folk culture of Scandinavia. For a week, the Mendocino Woodlands becomes their common village, a second home. For more information go to www.scandiacampmendocino.org/

MORE PHOTOS FROM PEA SOUP DINNER...

Tove-Lise Miller with Mary Beth Ingvoldstad, President of Vikings of the Lake 166; Zone One Director Carl Ingvoldstad delivering his message; Ed and Ruth Owre.

Amundsen's visit to LA (continued from page 5)

From Los Angeles, Captain Amundsen went on to a similar lecture engagement in Santa Barbara. His appearance there, however, was not without some embarrassment and awkward moments. When local dignitaries arrived at his hotel to take him on a tour of the surrounding countryside, the cars in the entourage were draped with Norwegian and American flags. Immediately noticing the flags, Amundsen complained to his hosts that such a display was contrary to the terms of his contract, and the flags were then removed. A short while later, in a stop at the local country club, arrangements had been made by the local committee for a film company to take moving pictures of their honored guest. Amundsen objected, quickly ducking out of camera range, stating that although still photographs were permitted, he was not allowed to appear in motion pictures.

These reported lapses notwithstanding, his appearance in Santa Barbara was a rousing success and he continued on his tour for further engagements in California and along the Pacific Coast to Portland and Seattle. (*Editor's note: This article was first published in another lodge newsletter, and Dr. Gilman has graciously allowed us to reprint it here.*)



PHOTOS FROM LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, CAMP NORGE



Clockwise from U/L: The leadership workshop gang; touring dorms; touring cabins; the main house; Darlene Thompson conducting workshop.



Multi-Lodge Picnic

**Sunday, August 19, 2007
Camp Norge, Alta, CA**

All Zone 1 Lodges are Invited

Hosted by Roald Amundsen Lodge

Host will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns and condiments. Charcoal and the cooking will be provided

**Come early, stay late
Food serving starts about 1:30 pm**

All attendees will provide their own place settings and drinks plus a side dish for sharing

Cost is \$6.00 each which includes \$3.00 day use camp fee

Bring friends and neighbors and enjoy the beauty of Camp Norge

RSVP with total number from each lodge to Joe Hannon by August 12th at 916-451-3853 or jhannon@lanset.com

**SONS OF NORWAY
ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE**

ANNUAL STEAK DINNER

**STEAK, BAKED POTATO, CORN ON THE COB,
SALAD, DESSERT AND BEVERAGE**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2007

TIME: 6:30 PM

PLACE: SAN JUAN MASONIC CENTER

5944 SAN JUAN AVENUE, CITRUS HEIGHTS



**ADULTS – S/N MEMBERS: \$15
ADULTS – NON MEMBERS: \$18
CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER: \$5**

**RESERVATIONS
REQUESTED BY
AUGUST 21ST**

LIMITED SEATING

**CALL: LaRena Hannon at (916) 451-3853
for reservations. Send checks to
LaRena at 4161 65th Street,
Sacramento, CA 95820-3317**

Roald Amundsen 6-48
 Sons of Norway
 P.O. Box 3734
 Citrus Heights CA 95611-3734

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SEE INSIDE, LAST TWO PAGES, FOR FLYERS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS!

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