

THE NAVIGATOR

A Publication of Roald Amundsen Lodge 6-48
Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California
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Editor: Stephen Rosenthal
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RECORD PRICE PAID FOR MUNCH PAINTING Sacramento connection to the sale is a surprise.

A world record sale at Sotheby's New York confirms the continuing popularity and respect for Norway's most famous painter, Edvard Munch. One of the painter's best known works, "**Pikene på broen**" - **Girls on a bridge** - was sold for \$30.8 million on Wednesday, May 7th. Bidding started at \$19 million.

"This is a fantastic price for a simply wonderful painting. At least five bidders for a painting at this level confirms a good and strong Munch market," said Ina Johannesen, Munch expert and head of the Gallery Kaare Berntsen in Oslo. Prominent Munchs are rare at open auctions and the painting sold for a price nearly three times the former record for his work, set when "Summer Day" was sold in 2006.



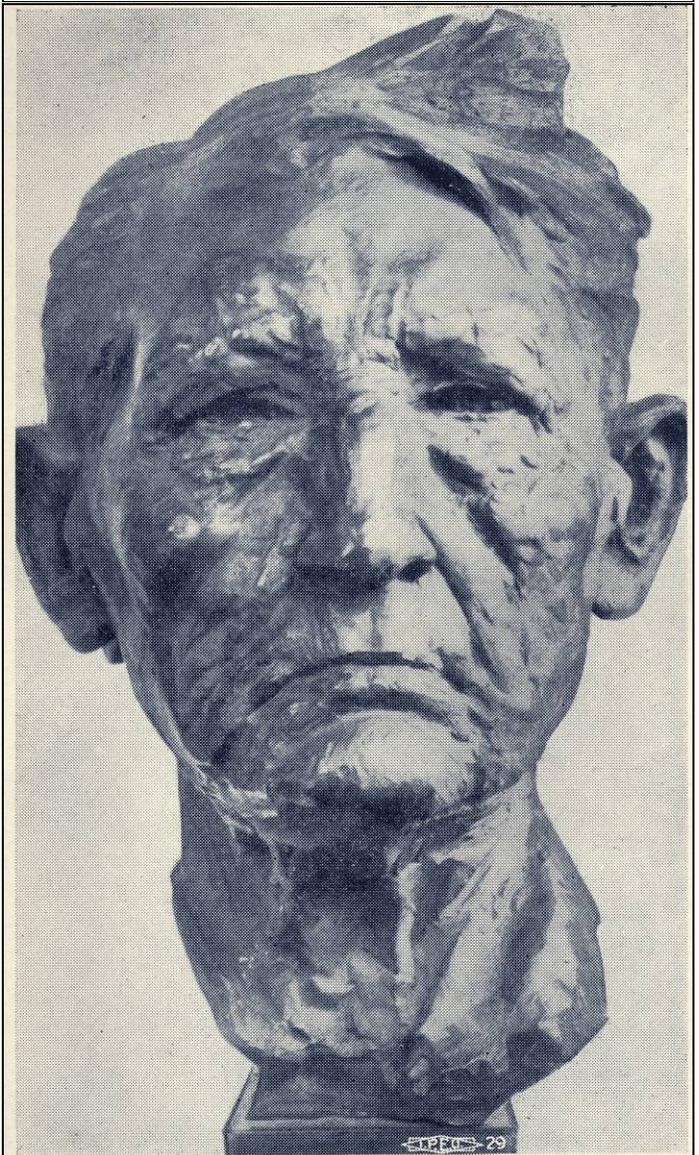
A Sotheby's security guard poses by the record-setting Munch. Photo: Matt Dunham / AP

The painting was sold to a consortium headed by the Hall and Park Association of Roald Amundsen Lodge, Sons of Norway, Sacramento, California. When this newsletter inquired about the rationale of the association making an investment in a painting of \$30.8 million, Treasurer Ingrid Sceals was quick to claim, "It wasn't my idea! It was those spendthrifts Smith and Hannon who carried the yes vote on this deal!"

(Continued on page 8)

WHO IS THIS FAMOUS NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN?

OK, this is probably a tough one. We will tell you that he emigrated from Norway. He was born in 1854 and died in 1941. And the biggest clue: this bust, or one like it, stands in front of the Sailors' Union headquarters in San Francisco. Probably most people who pass it by have no idea who the man was. (See page 7)



FROM ROALD AMUNDSEN LODGE 6-48 PRESIDENT CAROL FRANCIS:

God sommer! This wish for a good summer is very important in Norway, where they measure the number of hours of sun they get, in between rain and clouds. A good summer in Norway means warm enough weather to swim and barbecue outside. When the sun comes out in Norway, it is glorious, but they get a lot

of rain too. Here in California, at least for me, a good summer translates to the number of days I can spend in the high Sierras out of the heat. And I avoid the sun. Maybe some of you head for the coast, or cooler parts of the country.

If you want a quick trip to a cooler elevation, remember that you can camp at the Sons of Norway Recreation Center, Camp Norge at Alta on your own; call 530-389-2508. Camping spots and rooms are available at a nominal fee, and the swimming pool is wonderful. The All-Lodge picnic is on Sunday, August 17th, at 12 noon, bring a side dish and reserve a spot by August 5th to rgmoe@comcast.net. This would be a great day trip!

We have had two great socials since our last newsletter. **Ingrid Sceals** prepared a superb lapskaus of beef and pork for the dinner on April 25th; thanks also to **Carol Lee Solheim, Jim and Florence Smith, Joe and LaRena Hannon, and Steve Rosenthal. Kristy Updegraf** deserves a special mention as a very fast dishwasher, as she cleaned up in record time. The film "Sun Valley Serenade" featured three time Olympic gold medal winner **Sonje Henie and John Payne**, with a romantic triangle, great skiing and skating scenes, and a hilarious scene of a young **Milton Berle** flying down the hill out of control on skis, in a fur coat.

We had a very relaxed 17th of May picnic this year in Loomis. It was snowing in Norway, and near the century mark here, but we stayed comfortable. After singing the Norwegian national anthem, we had our first barnetog or children's parade, with young and old alike marching with Norwegian flags. The tables were decorated as Norwegian flags, and **LaRena Hannon** procured a cake with Norwegian flag from a

Chinese bakery. Our children's participation was up 300%, as we had no kids last year and three this year. Grandparents **Raye and Gary Brown** brought four year old **Kaleo Leorna**, a very masterful grand marshal on his tricycle. Member **Kristen Larson and husband Alan Nichols** brought six year old **Corwin** and four year old **Kjersti**, who enjoyed their participation awards. Thanks to **Cindy Hayashi** who found us the park, **Joe and LaRena Hannon, and Ron and Cecelia Byrd**. As **Tove-Lise Miller** noted, it was great to celebrate the 17th of May out of doors, Norwegian style.

As some of you know, I am taking history classes at Sac State, and plan to do a Master's in History. I did a research paper this semester on the lost Norse colonies of Greenland, and will be sharing the material at two lodge meetings, on June 10th and September 9th. I hope you can come to those meetings, as I have some interesting material on pirates, turkeys, and white natives.

Do you know the word "trillinger?" It is Norwegian for triplets, and I want to wish a happy birthday to two sets of trillinger, definitely fraternal. On June 11th **Cindy Hayashi, Karen Nelson, and Julie Ann Droivold** (rosemaling) will be celebrating, and on June 27th **Jerry Karlstad, Gwen Lokke, and Ann Sandner** have their big day. Congrats! Thanks to members bringing guests, as this is the way to get new members! Make your reservations for the Steak Dinner on August 22nd (see flyer), and please add two dates to your calendar: a potluck on Friday, September 26th with a speaker from Norway, and the Children's

Christmas Program on Sunday, December 28th, from 2-4 pm.

Hilsen, Carol



Pres. Carol and LaRena Hannon showing Corwin the celebratory cake.

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM 17TH OF MAY / BARNETOG PICNIC CELEBRATION



Clockwise from upper left: 1) Barnetog Grand Marshall Kaleo Leorna. 2) Barnetog in progress. Trumpeters are out of sight to the left. 3) Serious picnic participants at work; Blossom Baker in the foreground visiting with Glenice Palmer. 4) Barnetog child participants: Corwin and Kjersti Nichols, and Kaleo Leorna.



MORE SYTTENDE MAI PHOTOGRAPHS!

Three of the four people in this picture were born in Norway: guest Terje Lasen is from Oslo, Bill Nilsen was born when Oslo was still called Christiania, and Øystein Solheim was born in Nesbyen in Hallingdal. To the right is Carol Lee Solheim, who spends a lot of time in Norway visiting with Øystein's family.



Two of the three people in this picture were born in Norway: Tove-Lise Miller was born in Oslo, and guest Haakon Sande is from Hamar. This was his first event with our lodge. His guest Dorothy Butera also enjoyed the day.



AFRICA DOES NOT HAVE TO STARVE, SAYS NORMAN BORLAUG

Famed Norwegian-American **Norman Borlaug** and **Andrew Natsios** asserted in an Op-Ed piece in the May 2nd edition of the *Wall Street Journal* that, in spite of rapidly increasing world food prices that threaten a humanitarian calamity, persons in African nations do not have to starve.

They say that Congress needs to change the US' foreign food aid program so that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) can be allowed to buy food locally, particularly in Africa, instead of only American-grown food. The U.S. government currently buys grain and other foodstuffs from American farmers for free distribution in poor countries where a disaster has occurred, or sells it in food-deficit nations to generate funds for food-security development programs. Under the law, the food must be shipped almost exclusively on American vessels. Ocean shipping costs are 20%-30% of the food-aid budget; and it takes on average over four months to order, buy, ship, offload and transport food by ground. In a famine, people can die waiting for the food to arrive. Purchasing food locally simplifies the process, cuts down the time delay in delivery, reduces the logistical risks, and saves transport costs. These savings can be used to buy more food.



President George Bush, along with House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi congratulate Borlaug during the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony on July 17, 2007.

The writers make additional points in their thoughtful editorial. If you desire a full copy of the article, contact **The Navigator** editor. (*Dr. Borlaug, often called the "father of the green revolution," won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. He is now 94 years old. Mr. Natsios, former administrator of USAID, teaches at Georgetown University. Dr. Borlaug was profiled in an earlier issue of The Navigator in a "Who is this famous Norwegian-American?" piece. Certainly Borlaug is one of the truly great Norwegian-Americans – and great Americans! – of the 20th century. The editor might be able to email a copy of that issue to anyone who might like to review it again.*)

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WELCOME NEW LODGE MEMBERS!



The following persons have recently joined the lodge. Any member needing the address or phone number of one of them can obtain it from the editor or **Carol Lee Solheim**.

Linda Berry
James Updegraff
Curt Thue
Gene Jr. & Nannette Engelbrite

We offer you a warm welcome and hope that we see you at upcoming events!

SCANDINAVIAN MUSICIANS WANTED!



Bob Dahl and Arlene Berg are trying to put together a group of instrumentalists or singers who can play some of the "Old Time Scandinavian Music." They would like to put together a group of songs that could be played at some of the lodge meetings or social events. Potential participants please call Bob (916.369.1522) or Arlene (916.786.8502).

They would like to get a "Norwegian Jam" going as soon as possible!

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STILL MORE 17TH OF MAY PHOTOGRAPHS!



Clockwise from immediate left: 1) Gwen Lokke and Ray Miller. 2) Joe and LaRena Hannon marching in the Barnetog. A German would ask, "Which one is out of step?" 3) Gordon and Gwen Lokke at the picnic table. 4) The cake.



WHO IS THE FAMOUS NORWEGIAN WHOSE BUST APPEARS ON PAGE 1?

A story, possibly apocryphal, about **ANDREW FURUSETH** has it that he was sailing on the Indian Ocean in 1874 when he took ill with a terrible fever. The first mate, however, was without mercy and made him continue his duties. Furuseth was filled with anger and vowed to kill the mate when he recovered his health. However, no opportunity presented itself for such a deed, and he came to realize that such an act would come to no good end. Instead, he vowed to somehow help all seamen, who in that era were driven like slaves, to improve their lot. And, according to a cite in the Congressional Record, "He deliberately set his course for the United States, whose principles of freedom offered all sailors of the world the best opportunity for emancipation."



The Coast Seamen's Union was organized in 1885 by the famous Socialist of that era, Burnette G. Haskell, and other members of the International Workingmen's Association (IWA). The union was especially concerned with the practice of crimping, in which boarding house owners would advance living expenses (and then

some) to seamen in need of a ship, and thereafter would control their destiny by selling their availability to the ship captain who gave them the best bid.

Furuseth soon joined the union and was a member when the firemen of the Oceanic Steamship Company, owned by John D. Spreckles, went on strike over a dispute over the number of firemen one vessel should carry. The strike got vicious and several men were killed. This almost killed the fledgling union as well, but somehow it survived and Furuseth, one of the few educated seamen around (among other accomplishments, he spoke several languages), became its secre-

tary.

Eventually, Furuseth became the lobbyist for the union, and spent much of his time in Washington, where he became well-known to lawmakers, many of whom

You can put me in jail. But you cannot give me narrower quarters than as a seaman I have always had. You cannot give me coarser food than I have always eaten. You cannot make me lonelier than I have always been. – Andrew Furuseth, 1904.

referred to him as "the Abe Lincoln of Seamen." Once, when called upon to defend the moral

principles of the trade-union movement, he was quoted as saying, "The labor union received its charter on Mount Sinai when God, through Moses, handed down the law in which we read, 'Thou shalt not steal,' to which Thomas Carlyle, the truth speaker of the nineteenth century, adds, 'Thou shalt not be stolen from.'"

While well-known to many of the famous politicians of the day, one to whom he became especially close was the famous "Fighting Bob" La Follette of Wisconsin. La Follette shared Furuseth's concerns for the lot of seamen. Bob La Follette, Jr., who grew up knowing the older Furuseth, said this about him in 1938:

Andrew Furuseth was one of the truly great men I have known...

I have known many scholars, men with many degrees, But I have never known a man who made greater use of his knowledge than did Andrew Furuseth. To him history was not the study of civilization which had crumpled into dust, but rather it was an instrument to be used in the daily work of life. He had a rare intimacy with the literature of the past and present. He was familiar with law. His interests were narrow, but as wide as humanity.

He was a living justification of the principle upon democracy rests. Sprung from the masses, he devoted his great intellect and indomitable courage to the advancement of their cause...

(Material is drawn from books at the Sacramento State library, which we can identify upon request. We have not done justice here to the man's accomplishments. Perhaps we will write additional chapters about him in the future. – The editor.)

(Continued from page 1) **Girls on a bridge...**

Hannon reported to us that the painting will be stored in the shed behind the Masonic Center building and will be brought out for display during events such as the Scandinavian Festival. "We recently cleaned out the shed, and we have a good place for it there, where we can cover it with a sheet of visqueen. Also, we will be adding an additional lock to the shed door."

When asked about the effect of this expenditure on the association's treasury, Hannon did admit that some activities normally paid for by the Hall and Parks, such as publication of **The Navigator**, would have to be curtailed for a while. "Members will just have to come to the monthly meetings to learn what is going on," reported Hannon. And if we have a quorum, maybe we will wheel the painting out on our dolly so that they can have a look."

Smith was asked about a rumor that the painting was scratched upon its arrival when the members were opening the Federal Express box it came in. "Not a problem," he asserted. "We had an old pail of Sherwin Williams house paint in the shed of a color that matched the scratched area pretty well, and we just dabbed some on there to cover the scratch."

We did establish that the association has no plans to buy additional paintings anytime soon.

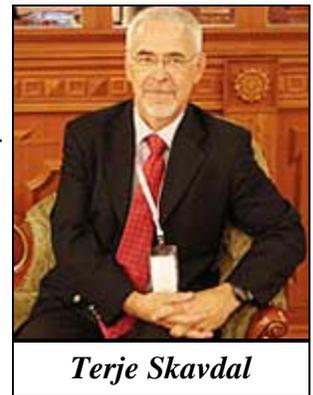
SIDEBARS FROM THE EDITOR



THANKS! The other day your editor received a letter that he recognized as being from one of the members of the Sunshine Committee. He opened it with some resignation, thinking that it probably was a report on one or more of our members having taken ill.

Instead, and to your editor's great surprise, **it was a card from the Viking Sisters**, thanking me for good work on **The Navigator!** Your editor is most surprised and gratified – thank you, ladies, for your kind words!

NORWEGIANS CONTRIBUTING TO THE WORLD. Regular readers know that we have featured UN international officer **Jan Egeland** several times in **The Navigator**, partly because he is one of the many Norwegians making a difference on the international scene. Now, have you been reading the reports on the Burmese disaster? The often-quoted UN Disaster Response Expert is **Terje Skavdal, another Norwegian.** He likely will be in the news regularly for some time to come. As he said recently about the Myanmar military's pathetic reluctance to receive aid, "We could have done much more if we'd had more openness."



Terje Skavdal

CHRISTMAS EVENTS DATES SET. For those of you into long range planning, the lodge Christmas party (Julebord) date December 13. A children's Christmas party has been scheduled for December 28th, from 2 – 4 pm. Location will be either Mills Station or the Masonic Center.

LAPSKAUS AFTER DINNER MOVIE. President Carol got the old Sonja Henie movie converted to a DVD, which was a great move. After the delicious dinner on April 25th (**thanks, Ingrid Sceals, and others**), we were able to use a DVD projector to show the movie on a large viewing wall, and it really was almost like being at the movies. It seemed as though most dinner guests stayed for the movie.

TAK to Carol Francis and Tove-Lise Miller for supplying your editor with photographs of recent lodge events, which neither your editor nor any member of his staff were able to attend.

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Here are the Camp Norge Rosemalers! Left to right, front row: Mardelle Probasco, Raye Brown, Carol Lee Solheim, Linda Kiger. Back row: Karen Nelson, Sharon Mahnken, Maggie Karlstad, Betty Malme, Cynthia Hayashi, Gloria Jean Jacobson. Look at their beautiful work!

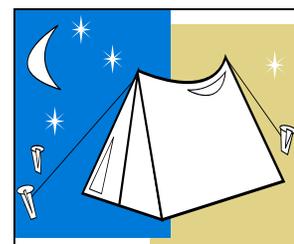
OIL-RICH NORWAY DEVELOPS ELECTRIC CAR

The Norwegian firm Think Global has developed an electric car that should soon be available in the US. Actually, the company has been manufacturing such cars for some time, but in very small quantities. The vehicle should become available this year, and will be marketed as an electric commuter car. Maximum range on a charge will be 112 miles, and top speed will be 62 miles per hour.



CAMP NORGE NEWS

We've heard it said that Sons of Norway is a well kept secret... It seems that to some extent Camp Norge is a well kept secret within our membership. We might know about the Language Camp for the children and the Rosemaling classes, etc. but from what I hear members do not think of Camp Norge as their campground. **Spread the word... Families may want to consider offsetting the high cost of fuel this summer with the low cost camping at Camp Norge.** Check it out at www.campnorge.com. (From the District 6 Publicity Officer, Jack Johnson)





PUT IT ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

ALL-LODGE PICNIC

**Sunday, August 17th, 12 noon
at Camp Norge, Alta, California**

Hosted by Snowshoe Thompson Lodge

All Zone 1 Lodges are invited

Host will provide Hot Dogs, etc.

**All Attendees to provide their own
Place Settings and Drinks, plus a
Side Dish for Sharing**

You will have to pay the day fee at Camp Norge - \$3

Rsvp's by Aug 5th to rgmoe@comcast.net



For the children: Can you find the mathematical error in Pres. Carol's letter? (Answer on other side of page.)

The increase in children, from 0 to 3, is not a 300% increase; a number (3) cannot be divided by 0. Rather, it probably and technically could be described as a percentage increase approaching infinity.

**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 22, 2008

TIME: 5:30 PM APPERTIZERS

6:30 PM DINNER

PLACE: 5944 SAN JUAN AVENUE, CITRUS HEIGHTS



**ADULTS - S/N MEMBERS: \$17
ADULTS - NON MEMBERS: \$20
CHILDREN 10 AND UNDER: \$5**

**RESERVATIONS
REQUESTED BY
AUGUST 19TH**

LIMITED SEATING

**CALL: Carol Lee Solheim at (530) 677-2006 for reservations.
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<p>President Carol Francis <u>csfnorge@jps.net</u></p> <p>Vice President Raye Brown 916.791.1908</p> <p>Secretary LaRena Hannon <u>lhannon@lanset.com</u></p> <p>Treasurer Ingrid Sceals <u>redsceals@yahoo.com</u></p>	<p><u>Viking Sisters</u> President Ann Sandner 916.366.8071</p>	<p><u>KALENDEREN</u></p> <p>June 10 Lodge Meeting June 26-28 District 6 Convention July No lodge meeting or events Aug 12 Lodge Meeting Aug 17 All-lodge Picnic Aug 22 Lodge Steak Dinner Aug 27-30 Int'l Convention, San Diego Sept 9 Lodge Meeting Sept 13 Scandinavian Festival Oct 18 Lutefisk Dinner</p>
<p>Editor Stephen Rosenthal <u>rosen@winfirst.com</u></p> <p>Publisher Robert Dahl <u>rtdahl@sbcglobal.net</u></p>	<p>Call Viking Sisters President for Viking Sisters meeting information. Meetings now held at Denny's, at the southeast corner of Watt Avenue and Auburn Boulevard, just south of Business Route 80 freeway. Generally, they meet the second Saturday of every month at 9:00am.</p> <p>Monthly lodge meetings are usually held at the Masonic Center, 5944 San Juan Avenue, Citrus Heights (just south of Greenback Lane). Start time is 7:00 pm. A cultural program is usually presented.</p>	