

BYGDELAGENES FELLESRAAD BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 2011

CONGRATULATIONS!! Almost all lag have dates and places set for 2012 stevner. Sunnfjord Lag celebrates its centennial this year with Vestlandslag. See the 2012 events, beginning in February, listed on the web site, www.fellesraad.com.

Please send the **name of the contact person for the print ad** in the Viking magazine with a phone number and e-mail from your lag by **JANUARY 15, 2012**. E-mail the.president@fellesraad.com.

Dues of \$5 per lag **plus** your lag's \$15 portion of the **advertising** cost are payable to the Fellesraad **JANUARY 1**. **Mail the check of \$20 to Treasurer R. Lee Brown, 2210 Spruce Trail, Golden Valley, MN 55422**

Guests are welcome to attend the **annual meeting** of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, **Saturday May 5** with arrival coffee, lunch speaker and rental fees covered by the registration fee. The board voted to hold the meeting at the Norwegian Memorial Church (even though costs have risen).

Registrations for all (lags may each seat two delegates) postmarked before April 15 will be \$16 per person; cost is \$18 per person later.

Presidents note: Names of **delegates and their mailing addresses** need to be received by President Marilyn D. Somdahl **before February 15** so that they can receive the BF Bulletin for March with program details. Possible agenda items should also be submitted in writing to the president by March so that the board may look into those having merit for inclusion.

IN MEMORY

Each year since 2004 the Fellesraad has given an annual memorial gift to Muskego Church at Luther Seminary for its maintenance fund. We encourage members to let the board or its president know of deaths in the families of past or current lag officers in writing to avoid any misrepresentation, which occurred last year.

Christian K. Skjervold II, age 74, Fridley, MN, an immediate past president of Nordlandslaget av Amerika og Kanada, died November 3 and his memorial service was held November 11, 2011, at the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church (Mindekirken), 924 East 21st St, Minneapolis, MN 55404-2952 (Because many

people were expected, your BF president successfully enlisted the aid of 20 bygdelag workers to help with set up, serve food and clean-up. *Tusen takk.*)

Even though chemotherapy had weakened him, he and Betsy attended the special reception in formal dress October 16 for Their Majesties, King Harald V and Queen Sonja, which was held at the Governor's mansion on Summit Avenue in St. Paul. All who had been awarded medals by the King of Norway in the Midwest were invited. Christian was awarded *Knight First Class, Royal Order of Merit* March 17, 2003. Also attending the reception were Peggy Miller, Lee Rokke and Marilyn Somdahl; each wore the *St. Olavs Medal* that day.

Besides teaching in high schools in the Minneapolis Schools, Christian twice served as president of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, most recently from 1988-1990. He was active in many organizations and was often a speaker about the WWII Norwegian resistance movement, a subject he investigated during post-graduate studies at the University of Oslo.

Former BF officers honored in a 2006 web picture shows Christian at left. Alex Gunderson, his BF secretary in a suit (front row) preceded him in death. (See web site photos).

In recent years he was the America-based president of the Norwegian Emigrant Museum at Ottestad, Norway, directed by Knut Dupedal. The museum's administrative building is named Skjervold Huset in honor of Christian and Betsy. Also active in Syttende Mai MN committee, the Festival of Nations, and Norway House.

He is survived by Betsy, his wife of 52 years, daughter Karin Skjervold (Brad David); son Kristian III (Jeni Loftus); three grandchildren, Klebo, Kristian IV, and Silje as well as other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hjalmar and Lillian and four brothers, Donald, Kenneth, Paul and James.

Memorials were suggested to the church. His former address will stay on the web site through December.

WELCOME TO FIVE NEW LAG PRESIDENTS

Among the newly elected presidents at 2011 events are **Martha Blomberg**, Oshkosh, WI, Sogndalag; **Patricia Kimble**, Pine Island, MN, Rogalandslag; **Jean Knaak**, St. Paul, MN, Sigdalslag; **Joy Shong**, Oconomowoc, WI, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken; and **Robert "Bob" Skogman**, Isle, MN, Valdres Samband. Officer changes have been made on the Fellesraad web site, and the president and webmaster encourage you to make let us know when e-mails and addresses also change.