

**Sons of Norway**  
**District Six News**  
**March 2005—June 2005**

**President's Message, Sherrill Swenson**

We have just instituted a new lodge, the 415<sup>th</sup> in Sons of Norway as of January 23, 2005, and the 56<sup>th</sup> in District Six. The Institution of a new lodge is always a thrill for me to witness, whether as the presiding officer or as a member of the board, watching Sons of Norway come to life in another venue. This new lodge is called **VIKINGS OF LAKE #166**, so it invokes our fabulous Viking heritage as well as its location in Lake County, in the small resort town of Kelseyville, on the western shore of Clear Lake. Enthusiasm, hard work and dedication to purpose were responsible for its formation in just about eight month's time. Mary Beth and Carl Ingvaldstad never wavered in their purpose and it paid off handsomely. One of the highlights of the event was to see seven more Charter Members signing up during the banquet!

This lodge was started without being bound by preconceived notions of how lodges have been formed or operated in the past—no regalia, a minimum of ritual, heavy on the cultural and social aspects of enjoying their Norwegian and other Nordic heritages. They will be practicing what others are preaching, or only giving lip service to. And, they already have the children involved—Heritage Members, for example, doing language lessons, since they a brother and sister act, both under the age of 12 and fluent in Norwegian.

As always, membership should be uppermost in our minds, be it maintaining the body that we have, or finding ways to increase it, such as every member being part of the Membership Committee, and each of them bringing in one more member than they brought in last year. That applies to every member in every lodge in the district.

Starting a new lodge somewhere where it is needed and wanted is also acceptable—any place, any time. It takes a minimum of 40 members, new or transfers, who want to enjoy Sons of Norway in their location. In the example given in paragraph one, the Ingvaldstads got tired of dedicatedly commuting for an hour and a half each way, over mountain roads, to attend their lodge meetings. So, why not start one in their back yard?

Currently, we have people who have expressed interest in starting new lodges in Hawaii, New Mexico and three new venues in Arizona. We hope they have the determination to make it happen.

Let's say, however, that you aren't in such a position (of being in an area that could support a new lodge). Are you happy with the way your lodge is progressing? If not, then you are a prime candidate, hopefully with 3 or 4 others in your lodge, who should become a force for change by attending one of the many **LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE WORKSHOPS** that are going to be put into play around the district by our three District Trainers—Lyle Berge (covering Colorado, Utah, So. Nevada and Arizona); Jo Ness (Southern California from Fresno south to the Mexican border) and Mary Beth Ingvaldstad (Northern California and Nevada).

With all of this going for you and your lodge, there is also the allure of significant prize money and other prizes. Each district is divided into two groups: lodges larger than the median size lodge for the district and lodges smaller than that median size. Those lodges in each district who achieve the greatest net increase in membership between January 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006 will receive a King Harald medallion (valued at \$250). The first place lodge in each category, for all of Sons of Norway, will receive, in addition, a \$1000 prize. For a lodge to qualify, it must have increased its membership count by at least 16.

In addition, individuals recruiting 10 or more members in a **calendar** year will receive a Sons of Norway Logo shirt and for anyone bringing in 25 or more members in the same period, he or she will receive a Norwegian wool sweater.

Start working on these projects NOW!

Fraternally,  
Sherrill

## **News from International, Jim Smith**

With the beginning of the New Year, it's time to remind everyone to check out the scholarships offered by the Sons of Norway Foundation. And be sure to watch for the Scholarships offered by District 6. The applications and requirements are listed on the web page at [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com). The 2004 applicants were a very talented group of young people, which made it very tough to pick out the best ones for award of a scholarship. It was a pleasure to review these applications.

Now that the new officers have all been installed, be sure that they have the materials needed to perform their duties. Each officer should have a copy of the Leadership Guide for their office. These guides have many suggestions on things that you can do to be successful in the performance of your duties. During the revision of these guides, many years of experience have been used during the reviews to make sure that they were current, and contain any new information that has been developed since the last revision. Copies of the latest version are available from Sons of Norway supply.

Jim Smith, International Director

## **Vice President's Column, Janie Kelly**

### **Many Hands Make Light Work**

You know who they are, your lodge members who always step up and help out. No, I'm not talking about the leaders in your lodges, not the officers, not the ones who always chair the big parties. I'm thinking of the "Indians", as some of them call themselves in my lodge. Not the "Chiefs".

These are the people who get little or no recognition, yet they are, in my opinion, the glue which holds our lodges together. You've seen them. The octogenarian who moved out of state a couple of years ago.... he always travels down for the big annual lodge dinner to help out in the kitchen. The man in the tie, tie tucked into his shirt, sleeves rolled up.... He's hunched over the sink, scrubbing pots and pans. The woman in the sparkly dress... do you think she planned on serving food in the buffet line when she left the house? Probably not. That's certainly why she's got a dish towel tied around her waist. How about the woman in her bunad, putting away leftovers and making up meals to send home to the housebound?

I know from experience one almost NEVER has to ask for extra help. These people just appear and ask "How can I help?" or "Do you need help serving?" Sometimes they don't even ask, they just jump in and start doing things like drying dishes and putting them away. They work hard, behind the scenes and rarely get recognized for their efforts. In fact, many of them prefer to keep a low profile. They seem to be embarrassed by too much attention.

I also know how very grateful the person in charge will be if just one person steps in and asks what can be done. Often, it's just one simple thing that needs to be done. It won't take much time. That one thing, like tossing the salad or slicing the bread for instance, may make the difference of getting all of the food out to your diners at one time – while the meat is hot. The next time you are at a lodge function, think about asking what you can do to help. You will be much appreciated.

Look around at your next lodge function. Find your "Indians", your most important

members. Please, please, please take the time to thank these people. Thank them in person, write them a note, give them a hug. They truly are unsung heroes and the backbone of Sons of Norway.

Fraternally,  
Janie Kelly  
District Vice President

### **Secretary's Column, Carol Lee Solheim**

Congratulations to the new lodge in District 6, Vikings of Lake 6-166, Clear Lake.

Congratulations to all the lodge officers for 2005. I know you all will enjoy your term as officers. It is very rewarding.

The 2005 Directories have been mailed or delivered to all lodges. Thank you to all who ordered by the deadline. It really makes my job much easier and timely when I don't have to email or call lodges for their input. Tusen Takk

I hope to see old friends and meet new friends at activities at Camp Norge—especially over Memorial Day Weekend. Come and join us for a fun weekend.

Fraternally, Carol Lee

### **Treasurer's Column, LaVonne Kerfoot**

Sons of Norway fraternal organization is a volunteer order, we all know that!! How often do we remember that each division of the fraternal part of the order needs to be nurtured both financially and physically? With this in mind, I would like to remind you of two District Six assets that really need your support.

We are all part owner of a beautiful piece of property in the Sierras, we call Camp Norge. The District Six Recreation Center, we all know as Camp Norge, is now being run as a business. This business needs income to operate, we all know that. At the present time, and for the past two and a half years Kay Johnson, wife of the Recreation Center member Jack Johnson, has been administering the sale of Rada Cutlery throughout the District. As of February 8, 2005, this program has sent \$2,000.00 to Camp Norge. Each lodge should have a coordinator that is anxious to sell these USA made knives and accessories. Kay or Jack can be reached at 714-630-2912 or e-mail [jj2120@aol.com](mailto:jj2120@aol.com) for brochures or answer to questions you may have. There is a bonus to your lodge for sales in increments in excess of \$100. Please support your Camp Norge by promoting the sale of Rada Cutlery.

Several years ago, District 6 sold silver jewelry to raise money for delegates to the International Convention in Norway. We have been requested to sell this fine USA, made in South Dakota, jewelry again. Lynn Moe of Snowshoe Thompson lodge #78 in Yuba City, California, will be sending your lodge information about this beautifully designed jewelry. This will be the fundraiser for the Sixth District, and again, we have an excellent product involved. There are new pieces since we last sold this line of jewelry.

Thank you all for your continued support of our District and its assets.

LaVonne Kerfoot  
Treasurer

## **Public Relations Officer, Darline Thompson**

Congratulations to Viking of Lake #6-166. It was my pleasure to attend the Institutional Banquet at Kelseyville in beautiful Lake County. How did the Ingvaldstad's find enough Scandinavians in the small communities of Lake County? Mary Beth has outlined the process in her column on page 5; In her article she does not use two little words I've heard her use before when talking about the new lodge. They are; "We asked!" At church they asked...; in line at the grocery store, they asked...; at every opportunity, they asked...

I have a unique situation—Sons of Norway comes up quickly in conversations when I meet people. You know the usual questions; Where do you live? What do you do? Where are you going? The answer to all of the above is, Sons of Norway. I'm surprised at the number of Norwegians I have met here in Placer County, most do not know about Sons of Norway and what we have to offer.

Prior to the Installation/Anniversary Dinner at Garborg #6-056 (my lodge) in January, our new president, Paul Jevert, called every member in our Lodge, who does not normally attend meetings, inviting them to the dinner. He asked! He offered to pick up one lady who no longer drives after dark. He asked! Have you asked anyone lately?

I was pleased to see that all but two of our lodges have Editors this year. Some are putting out e-mail newsletters to save on expenses. E-mail newsletters do cut down on expenses, but are we reaching everyone? How about our older members, those who do not come to meetings, those who's e-mail address we do not have, their only connection to the Lodge is through our newsletters. I am especially aware of this because I was one of these inactive members for years. At that time in my life I had no interest in the programs or socials offered at the lodge in my town. Thanks to the newsletter I saw a program that interested me... I could very well still be a member in name only...

If we keep our lodges a secret, and their activities the same month after month and year after year, how can we expect to get new members. If we want younger more energetic members we need programs of interest them. It is so easy to get in a rut and not even know it. Hopefully we will find ways to make necessary changes through the Leadership Challenge Workshops being offered.

Thank you to all who send me pictures for the Viking magazine. During the eight months (Viking publications, November 2004—May 2005) since I took office I have been able to send in pictures from one-half of our lodges. Yes, you read the dates right, May pictures were sent to Minneapolis in February.

Fraternally,  
Darline

## **Zone 1 Director, Richard Moe**

Installation ceremonies for the year 2005 are completed and with few exceptions, all offices are filled by dedicated and enthusiastic individuals. Where vacancies occur, other members are stepping up to fill the gap. We are off to a good year in the Sons of Norway.

Congratulations to all the newly elected officers.

With winter waning and the signs of spring everywhere, it is time to set the plans of each lodge into motion. The winter planning that went into development of cultural and fraternal programs for 2005 will now be fully developed. These are the programs that keep members coming to meetings and are prime reasons why new members join.

New for this year will be Leadership Challenge Seminars held at various locations

throughout the country. Zone 1 seminars will be held on March 19<sup>th</sup>. at Redding for Fram, Snowshoe Thompson, Shastafjell and Viking lodges. On April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Roald Amundsen, Gulldalen and Hvetefjell will meet at Camp Norge for their session.

Both seminars will run from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and will be facilitated by Mary Beth Ingvoldstad of the newly instituted Vikings of Lake Lodge. Mary Beth and the other facilitators have received special training in Minneapolis and we look forward to these sessions, which are limited to 3 or 4 members from each lodge.

I have enjoyed visiting each of the lodges recently and am delighted to see the progress and renewed activity as activities are fine-tuned and business meetings are kept interesting (and short). Each lodge has developed its own format to meet the needs and desires of the membership. With guidance from International and our own District 6, I expect further growth will occur in the lodges, which accept the challenge to modernize and meet the needs of new and younger members.

Our own Camp Norge has never looked better, nor has it had more winter visitors than this year, even though my attempt to visit in January was thwarted by snow and ice while attempting to drive up the hill, which made my 2-wheel drive pickup squirm and slide until I backed down and left my visit to another day.

I encourage all members to take advantage of this facility at every opportunity.

Fraternally, Rich Moe

## **Zone 2 Director, Mary Beth Ingvoldstad**

### **THE BABY CAME IN NINE MONTHS...JUST AS PREDICTED**

Vikings of Lake Lodge #6-166 was just a gleam in our eyes as Carl and I sent our New Lodge Organization Inquiry in to Sons of Norway International on April 16, 2004. We said in our Inquiry that we would consider the actual organization date of this new lodge to be in January 2005. Then, over the past nine months, we went about to make this a reality! And what did we do?

We began to run articles in our local Lake County newspapers. These public service announcements were free! The heading always began as **Norwegians Unite!** We began to get so much interest from Danes, Swedes and Finns that it was decided to select a Lodge name that would incorporate all countries of Scandinavia. Now the articles were headed up with **Vikings of Lake Unite!**

We selected a meeting place that was "user-friendly"! This was our own church's Community Center. The Pastor offered us an office for storage and small meetings if we would just get it cleaned out and cleaned up. The \$ donation to the church was up to the Lodge and we kept it reasonable. All facilities are available including a big screen TV, VCR, brand new kitchen with commercial dishwasher and piano. No limit to the hours we could use the facility on the day or night scheduled.

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, we were again greeters at an annual Scandinavian Smorgasbord in Lake County to benefit an Alzheimer/Dementia Day Program at which I volunteer and whose Norwegian Director is now a Lodge Charter Member. We used the District's Display Booth, wore our bunads, sold NordicFolk Art, and had membership packets and signup sheets. Over 100 people attend this event annually.

With flyers being circulated everywhere in the County and articles in the papers, we had our **first** Organizational Meeting on July 21, 2004. We had 26 folks attend and, after our talk about the **fun** we were going to have in this new lodge, **sharing our heritage and culture**, 17 signed up! We explained that most of the business of the lodge would occur at Business Meetings held at a different time, not at our **Heritage Nights!** We did the anthems, the pledge of allegiance and had about 10 minutes of announcements.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, we had the **second** Organizational Meeting where we talked about the duties of lodge officers, reiterated the fact that this lodge would “**Cherish the Past, Embrace the Future**”, learned some Norwegian, danced folk dances, named the Lodge, saw a video about The Foundation and ate great lefse!

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, we had our **third** Organizational Meeting with 32 people in attendance. We elected our officers for 2005, enjoyed more culture and more great lefse, made by members. When the December 2004 newsletter went out we had 43 charter members and the announcement of our Institution for January 23, 2005 was on the front page next to their names. Wow!

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we had a free Scandinavian Christmas Open House in the Community Center from 11am to 2pm. We had about 75 people come through to enjoy all the goodies our Charter Members had prepared. We sang around the Christmas Tree and watched the “Christmas in Norway” video. We’re now up to 50 members!

At the wonderful Institution, we had 7 more sign on the dotted line after they enjoyed the very special ceremonies and fellowship of the day!

Our lodge business will be conducted at Business Meetings with the Board and anyone else who is interested. The Third Wednesday of the month will be our **Heritage Night** with ...ENTHUSIASM...EXCITEMENT...CULTURE...HERITAGE.....FUN!

Vikings of Lake #6-166 is going to grow as the “New Kid” in a New Kind of World for Sons of Norway!

Mary Beth

### **Zone 3 Director, Carol Campbell**

When I think of Sons of Norway, I think of being together with friends — people who share some of the same interests and ideals. They are people with whom you feel comfortable and at home.

The installations in our Zone displayed togetherness this year. There were two joint installations. Scandia and Stordalen were installed together with LaVonne Kerfoot, District Six Treasurer, officiating. The same afternoon, Nordahl Grieg was host to Vigeland in a joint installation. Don Ansok from Nordahl Grieg stepped in as Installing Officer at nearly the last minute. There were a few surprises for Don, which he handled well. I installed the officers at Snorre; with me from Vigeland were marshals Ida Norgard and Gerd Syrstad and musician Leif Syrstad. Installation evening at Henrik Ibsen found the Syrstads in a repeat performance, joined by Zena Corcoran from Vigeland as the other Marshal. Janie Kelly, District Six Vice President, member of Nordahl Grieg was the very capable Installing Officer.

As installing “teams” came from other lodges, so did other members. They came to enjoy the formalities, the companionship and of course, the food.

The installation gatherings seemed particularly nice this year. Perhaps the reason was the togetherness. It is my hope that we can continue this feeling of community in and between lodges in the coming year.

Fraternally,  
Carol

## **Zone 5 Director, Jo Ness**

Congratulations to our new lodge, Vikings of Lake #166, Kelseyville, CA. The Institution of the lodge was great fun, fabulous location, nice people, and interesting. Outstanding leaders were installed also.

As always, I enjoy visiting lodges in Zone 5, either as Installing Officer or simply a guest at social events and meetings. Thanks to you who receive me with great hospitality. I always have lots to share with you.

I, like Mary Beth Ingvaldstad and Lyle Berge, are in the exciting process of holding our Leadership Challenge workshops around the District. Lodges have been organized geographically into "clusters", from 2 to 4 lodges each in my region. By end of June I hope to complete my 6 workshops. The content consists of processes and strategies in planning and implementing ideas in the lodges. There is a lot of interaction, conversation, sharing and prioritizing ideas which can be taken back to individual lodges by each lodge team. At this writing we all have had our first workshop. I was very pleased at the outcome of mine, held at Norrona Lodge Hall, Van Nuys. It was an opportunity for members to meet folks from other lodges, as well as have time to share, plan and work with each other. I am looking forward to meeting the rest of the teams from my 20 lodges assigned to me from Fresno/Visalia to San Diego. The Presidents outside my Zone now know who I am and are working to help set up locations and dates for their clusters. Thanks to you all.

It is imperative that lodge Boards and membership support these teams when they come back to their lodge either with new ideas or with tools to help lodges make decisions about changes to implement. This is serious stuff! The International Board is giving us current, professional tools and strategies to make our lodges better - one change at a time.

Hilsen, Jo Ness

## **Zone 6 Director, Robert Hanevik**

The elections and installations are now history and it is time to actively "enjoy our culture." First and foremost we have to concentrate our efforts on recruiting new members and retaining those presently on our rolls. Good, well qualified and motivated leadership will go a long way in achieving those goals. Keep our meetings interesting by utilizing a short order of business followed by an interesting program. Plan social events that will be attended by the largest percentage of your members. My personal efforts push for membership growth and getting members working on their choice of Cultural Skills. The Sons of Norway Web page has them all listed, including four skills designed for our Heritage Members. They all look interesting and those that I have completed are quite easy and very rewarding. I am currently working on becoming a Mentor. On my visits to Zone 6 Lodges I come prepared to give a short program on Cultural Skills. My visits have been well received and I have enjoyed them all.

Next on my agenda is completing the new Leadership seminars and encouraging all of my Lodges to get their "best" qualified. It will be challenging, but very worthwhile.

If you need to change anything to create more interest and enthusiasm in your Lodges, try changing one thing at a time until you find the right fit.

I look forward to visiting all the Lodges in my zone in the very near future. If I can be of any assistance, I'm just a phone call or email away.

Bob

## **Zone 7 Director, Arlene Christopherson**

Year 2005 — 100 years since Norway's dissolution of the Union with Sweden. A big Centennial celebration is being planned on February 26 in Chandler, Arizona with lunch, and a wonderful program including guest speaker Norwegian Consul General (San Francisco) Are-Jostein Noreim. All area Sons of Norway lodges have been invited and some members will be participating. Leif Eriksen – Salt Lake City, Utah, had a “kick-off celebration of the 100th year of Norwegian independence at their January meeting. A program/reception for the Norwegian Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, H.E. Dagfinn Høybråtten, has held at the Assembly Hall of Temple Square.

Lodge activities are getting back to normal after lutefisk dinners, Christmas bazaars and parties and officer installations. It was an honor for me to install the officers of Desert Fjord, Trolldalen and my lodge Sol Byer. I really enjoyed meeting and visiting with all the members. On March 12, Lyle Berge, Leadership Challenge, will train us all on how to be better leaders, one change at a time, at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande, Arizona.

Members of Sol Byer participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Scandinavian Dinner on January 30. Four hundred people attended and enjoyed the food, presentation of the five Scandinavian flags and entertainment, Sylvia & Fjordsong, Arizona & Seattle's Funtime Band. This dinner was sponsored in part by Sons of Norway, Sol Byer Lodge. On February 23 in Yuma, Arizona will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scandinavian Day. I have arranged to have a table for Sons of Norway to hopefully attract enough new members to start a lodge in Yuma. A new lodge is in the process of getting started in Flagstaff.

Scandinavians are “alive and well” in this part of the world and we're all cherishing our past and embracing our future.

Hilsen, Arlene

## **Zone 8 Director, Lyle Berge**

Spring, it is such a fantastic time for growing. If you have been willing to get down and dirty to plant those Sons of Norway seeds in Colorado, surely you will follow up with nutrients for sprouting. Then comes the careful pruning so that any weeds of hesitation or poor planning are tossed aside.

The crowning results of this will be the joy of sharing your lodge's membership to the “have-nots” of your area. Let us neither hesitate to bring in new members nor hesitate to encourage the inactive members to change their habits; so that all may discover the excitement in our Heritage.

In the November issue, I stated my belief that “there can be nothing better than to actively belong to Sons of Norway”. This is a constant for myself. I will sit through; dare we say not the most exciting hours of a month? For the “same old, same old”, because my bottom line of ownership in SON remains ever constant. The long-term attending members in our lodges undoubtedly feel the same.

Spring is a fantastic time for growing. You lodge leaders are being CHALLENGED TO CHANGE. Should there be any hesitation? Your oath of office must lead you to discourage any who try to buy into a self-fulfilling prophecy regarding the lifespan of our Order.

We who are visible members of the flock will follow your lead. Do you notice that “your flock” is not bringing their offspring to your monthly meeting! Too busy? Neither we nor they are too busy to do that which is entertaining. However, if the adult “child” and spouse attend a

monthly meeting, what are they later chatting up? It probably would not be about report after report of what is already printed in your newsletter. You know that YOU ARE QUALIFIED to nurture the 110-year-old seeds of our Fraternal Society as you prune out that which prevents both guest and inactive from learning about his or her Scandinavian and Viking Heritage. As members of the flock, we also just may offer gratitude as we share our wool for the “good of the order”.

Show us the Excitement of Spring. We will help you make it an all-Season.

Hilsen, Lyle

### **News from Camp Norge**

We are having a busy ski season with plenty of snow on the slopes. With the exception of a couple weeks in January we haven't had a lot of snow here at camp.

This past year we were able to get our expenses in line while increasing our income. We took care of some overdue repairs and improvements to the property, in part due to the generosity of members. We would mention that we needed to repair or replace things and Lodges and/or individuals would step forward to pay for, or donate towards the project. There is still a lot that needs to be done, when the weather warms up we can go forward with some of these projects with the funds on hand and knowing we now have additional funds coming from membership assessments.

Volunteer labor is one way we have of reducing our expenses. With spring comes the need to clean up the grounds. There are trees to be trimmed, fallen dead branches, pine needles to be picked up. The rooms can use a good spring cleaning, windows washed, etc. The flowerbeds need planting. **We will not be scheduling a “work party”** as we have in the past; instead we encourage you to come up when it is convenient for you. Come for a day or week, as a Lodge project or on your own. WE have no reservations for the first three weeks of May. This is a beautiful time of the year up here, Call me before you come up to make certain there is not a group here. Call (530) 389-2508 for more information on spring clean up.

Fraternally, Darline Thompson, Camp Coordinator

**Check out the Camp Norge Website at – <http://www.campnorge.com>**

### **Sons of Norway Announces Participation in the President's Volunteer Service Award** *Prestigious Award Honors Outstanding Commitment to Volunteer Service*

Beginning on January 1, 2005, Sons of Norway is excited to announce the organization's participation in the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service. This program is an excellent opportunity for Sons of Norway members to receive national recognition for their volunteer service to their communities.

Established in 2003, the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD gives Presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet or exceed requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed over 12-months. Different service level requirements provide opportunities for youth (up to age 14), young adults (ages 15 to 25), adults (25 and older),

families and groups/lodges to qualify for awards.

While almost all volunteer service contributes to eligibility for the Award, volunteers are encouraged to participate in service that addresses particular areas of need in our Nation: Youth achievement, parks and open space, healthy communities (including physical and economic health), and public safety and emergency response. Because youth achievement, through the *Adopt A School* program, is an international cause for Sons of Norway, members are urged to focus on this category of service.

**Program participation is easy. Each lodge should designate an individual who will verify (approve) service hours and order awards. Consider having the Sports Director, Youth Director, Adopt A School Coordinator or another officer act as coordinator for this program.**

All that members need to do is keep a record of their volunteer service hours. When a level of service has been reached to qualify for an award, members submit a copy of their record of service to their lodge Volunteer Coordinator, who will order the award through Sons of Norway Headquarters.

Information about Sons of Norway's participation in the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD and copies of all of the administrative forms are available on the Sons of Norway website ([www.sonsornorway.com](http://www.sonsornorway.com)), by contacting the Sons of Norway Volunteer Program Coordinator at 1-800-945-8851 or by sending email to [volunteerprogram@sofn.com](mailto:volunteerprogram@sofn.com). For additional information on the program and to find out how to identify additional volunteer opportunities in your community, visit [www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov](http://www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov).

I urge each lodge to get involved with this program so that deserving individuals may be recognized. Of course, with that recognition, goes recognition of Sons of Norway's presence in the community and elsewhere:

*more visibility* in your community  
*more opportunities* for media attention  
*more opportunities* to interact with potential members  
*more options* for family-friendly programming  
*more interaction* between lodge members

Sherrill G. Swenson  
President  
District Six  
Sons of Norway

### **WHO READS THIS NEWSLETTER???**

The District News is published three times a year, it is mailed to everyone in the District Directory. This means the President, Vice President, Secretary and Editor of your Lodge receives a copy. We ask you to share the contents with your members.

What would you like to see us include in the District News? What changes would you like to see? As Editor I would like your input.

I had hoped to include a District Calendar of Festivals and District Happenings such as Anniversary Dinners in this issue but I wasn't successful. We do not have space to list all the lodge dinners and events, only the major ones, if you send me the information I'll try to include a District Calendar next time. Please include the name and telephone number of a person to contact regarding the event.

Darline Thompson



