



November, 2011

Dear Members of Synnøve-Nordkap SON Lodge,

The Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge is researching and developing for early 2013 a museum exhibit of 20 to 24 panels of text, photos, maps and graphics on the "Norwegian Immigration to Minnesota, 1825-1925". The exhibit will be on display in The Landmark, first floor north gallery, St. Paul. The exhibit will include 5 display cases of artifacts loaned from our lodge members, illustrative of what Norwegian families in Minnesota made, brought from the homeland, or used/enjoyed in America.

The 5 display cases are made of plexiglass and will be under lock and key, surveillance cameras, and in the locked building overnight with security. We shall be the guest-exhibitors of the Ramsey County Historical Society, which is officed adjacent to our exhibit space and downstairs as well.

The exhibit will feature a television on a stand with a repeating, 8-hour loop. We shall also make hand-outs available on a guest book table below the Acknowledgements panel.

Our inaugural exhibit will show February 21 through June, 2013. Set-up of artifacts in display cases will occur within the week prior to our open house reception in The Landmark in downtown St. Paul. Thereafter, we intend for the exhibit panels (without the artifacts) to travel around the state of MN to secure sites, where there are other SON lodges. It is ultimately our dream to have our research assist the Minnesota History Center in developing a permanent Norwegian exhibit in the state museum.

The purpose of our exhibit is to promote and preserve Norwegian history and culture. Side benefits will include raising our visibility state wide and increasing membership. Work and fun on the exhibit preparation will draw us together as a lodge for quite an amazing experience, that will reach so many new and young people in our state, where 1 out of 5 Minnesotans claim some Norwegian ancestry.

A small steering committee has met a few times to help launch the project and secure the approval of our Board of Directors. Many thanks to Ron Stow, Leif Erickson, Ruth Gibson, Jeane Pearson, and Susan Stow for their service, and to the Board for its support.

Our Lodge now needs the support and help of sub-committees to develop the exhibit. We have 7 panels in draft form, and the Photo Committee has started its search. We invite our members to volunteer and get involved in this exciting project. We need 4 to 8 people on each of the seven (7) committees for OUR museum exhibit. The committees and their chairs include: Research/ Writing (Jeane Pearson), Photo Selection (Ruth Gibson), Artifacts and Display (Ron Kvaas), Graphic Design (Leif Erickson), TV AudioVideo (Ron Stow), Contacts and PR (Lowell Johnson), and Grant Writing (Jeane Pearson). Help out and sign up for a committee. Let our ancestors' achievements shine and inspire others in their life journey.

- Jeane Pearson, Museum Exhibit Chair, 651-772-4984, [jwpearson@q.com](mailto:jwpearson@q.com)

