

## Ord Fra Presidenten Ole Olson, Jr.

Many feel Sons of Norway is like a family and it truly is. As many of you know, my sister, Ellen, passed away 3 days before sending this article in. She had been battling her treatment for cancer, until her body weakened and stopped. This is very hard for our father, Ole Olson Sr., to deal with. I want to thank all of you for showing such concern to us at the Julebord. On behalf of my father and brother and my family, thank you. Sons of Norway is truly a family.



I want to thank the Normettes for hosting our annual Children's Christmas Party. Another success with over 20 children participating in the activities with the Elf. Parents and grandparents watched the fun and all enjoyed when our dear Santa walked in with a big Ho Ho Ho. All the children got their picture taken with Santa, and you should have seen Santa's smile when Betty Heske sat on his lap. More pictures were taken with the tree so beautifully decorated by Magnhild Skovold. Bill Brooks took the pictures, and then sent them to each child as a gift. Tara, Claire Ovril's granddaughter, provided activity areas where the children could make frames for the pictures or necklaces or bracelets, plus coloring pictures. Thank you Claire and Tara for making this activity so special.

The year 2007 comes to an end. The highlight as we start the next year is how Gerry Rowe and his membership table have added 22 new members in the last 2 months.

I want to thank all of the hard workers in the Lodge who keep our programs going. Thank you to all of you for your hard work and I appreciate it very much. I want everyone to think of the hours you have donated for the benefit of the Lodge. In January, there will be forms to assist with your donation of time; this will aid the committee in completing the "Lodge of the Year" form.

Let us make 2008, a successful year. I hope all of you have a Happy New Year.

## Scandinavian Film Festival January 5-6 and 12-13

The American Scandinavian Foundation Los Angeles will host an Opening Gala Event of which Sons of Norway are sponsors. This gala event occurs on January 5th. Preceding a screening of the Norwegian entry for best foreign language film, there will be a light buffet and after a champagne toast, and gift bags will be provided for all guests.

Sons of Norway members can receive a \$5. discount on a festival pass by faxing in a registration form or calling ASFLA directly. They will need to either include a copy of their current membership card or provide the ASFLA their member number for verification with the Sons of Norway membership office. Their website (<http://asfla.org/film.html>) give a list of the feature length films as well as documentaries and shorts, all originating in Norway, Finland, Denmark, Iceland and Sweden.

### Gerry's Bug Is Contagious

I received an e-mail from Eric Herem about our membership drive. This is what he said...

The Financial Secretary, Dick Scoville, of "Norseman 91, had also set-up a kind of a Membership Table on December 1st, when "Norseman Lodge" were celebrating their Julebord.

Dick told me that he had read about what Gerry had done at "Normona" during their Lutfestsk Dinner and decided to do the same. I hereby would ask all the

Vice-Presidents/Membership Committees of the 9 lodges in Zone 5 to try and get Gerry's "BUG", he is "CONTAGIOUS!!), therefore try to get HIS FEVER!  
Congratulations Gerry