

Aurland Newsletter

Past and Present

Volume I, Issue 4

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From the Editor: I can't believe that we are already printing the 4th issue this year. Time has gone so fast for me this year with college classes and building my new town house. By the way, my new address is 240 7th St. SW, Pine Island, MN 55963. My new phone number is 507-356-2927, and I also have a new e-mail address: aforsman@rconnect.com. Like I said before, I would love for you to come and visit and see the house. Please call ahead to find me home. I am only 20 minutes down the road from Millie now.

This issue is concentrating on Bakka parish and Nærøyfjord. We are also including an index for the entire year on page 14. I plan to mark the index with a tab to make it easier to find in my Aurland Newsletter notebook.

Millie and I want to personally thank all of you for your support for the Aurland Newsletter Past and Present. Without your support we couldn't publish this newsletter. We find it fun to do together, along with Gordon and Brit Eddy, Jerome Ramstad, and Arne Brekke. We also appreciate the articles and genealogy charts that several of you have sent us. We have printed some of this material and plan to print more in the future according to our space allowances. Please keep them coming in.

Now, more about this issue. "A Perilous Pastoral Sleighride from Bakka to Aurland",

by Anders Ohnstad has been translated by Arne Brekke, starting on page 2. Arne has also written about farm names in the Nærøyfjord (page 5) along with a short article about the Lærdal Tunnel at the bottom of that page.

Åsmund Ohnstad, who helps with the archives in Aurland, has contributed "The history of the Bakka Church" (page 6). Åsmund has published a book, "Among the Fjords and Mountains", along with three others as authors.

Bjarne Aagaard, acting director of Church and Cultural Affairs of Aurland, has written, "The Lord is my Shepherd" a tribute to Dr. Olav Tönder (page 8). Dr. Tönder lived at the secluded farm of Drego and died in a tractor accident February 25, 2000.

A genealogy chart for Andreas P. Drydal is on page 10. We have comprised a list of subscribers who wished their e-mail to be published (page 11). The language lesson by Jerome Ramstad continues on page 12. Out on the Black Hammer, by Gordon Eddy, starts on page 15.

TIME TO REORDER: Each year's subscription is from January to December so we have included an order blank on **page 17** to renew for next year. We have added a line to let us know which farms you trace back to. This is part of our quest in "connecting cousins." If you know your immigrant ancestor, please add that information on the backside of the order blank. As time allows, we will fill out ancestor charts.