

Aurland Newsletter

Past and Present

Volume IX Issue 3 Ann Romo, editor - annromo04@yahoo.com

July, August, September 2008

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From the editor: It's time for our **Aurland Stevne** again. Time does fly. See the back page for a schedule and directions to Umland Church.

The picture on this page is of one of the graves markers of the **Rondestvedt family** that was recently dedicated at Umland church to mark the graves of their ancestors. Millie Ohnstad and Forrest Brown of NAHA helped them find these graves. See their story starting on page 2.

Al Stevens from Granite Falls, MN sent us a story on the **Styvi Post Office** several years ago. It's a delightful story and interview of the postmistress. See it starting on page 5.

Åsmund Ohnstad of Aurland, Norway, published his book in 2006 "**Aurland bygdebok—Undredal og Nærøy**". He has translated a couple pages for us. Thank you Åsmund! We hope you have time to translate more for us in the future so we can benefit from your book. Find the translation on pages 8-9.

Millie picked up a GOOD TIMES newspaper published by the Northfield News. In it she found an article about the **Valley Grove church** which is about 2 miles NW of Nerstrand. Find it on pages 10-11.

Dr. Rasmus Sunde of Vik I Sogn is bringing a tour group from the Sognefjord to America. They will be attending our Aurland Stevne July 27th. Find a list of tour participants on page 11.

Mary Dalbotten, of Kenyon, MN, one of our subscribers arranged for the **Kolbotn choir** that her cousin, Unni was a part of, to perform at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenyon. See the story on pages 12-13.

Gordon Eddy in "**Out on the Black Hammer**" has included "**a Visit to Aurland from America—Summer 1923.**" **Jens M Otterness** from Washington, DC wrote a letter home to his mother **Gjertina Larsdtr Skajem Otterness** in Brookings SD, after his return home from Norway. Gordon also has included a picture submitted by **Margo Otterness Seaman** of herself and distant cousin, Knut Lie in Norway. See pages 14-17.

Aurland Stevne (Reunion)
 Sunday, July 27th
 Umland Church, rural Cannon Falls, MN
 See the schedule on the back page
 Please call Millie Ohnstad 507-263-5542 to make reservations for the meal.



Umland Lutheran Church

Markers Dedicated on June 25, 2008 at Umland Lutheran Church Cemetery Cannon Falls Photo by R Waltz

