

Aurland Newsletter

Past and Present

Volume IV, Issue 3

Ann Forsman, Editor <amforsman@earthlink.net>

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From the Editor: I hope you are enjoying your summer vacations. Millie and Ray and I will be heading to Norway July 29th.

We want to remind you about our **Aurland Reunion** (Stevne) again this year at the **Urland Church** rural Cannon Falls, MN **Sunday, July 27th**, starting with fellowship at 9:30 am. See notice on page 17.

Starting on page 3 there is a paper written by **Kari Brekke** with a map on page 2 that she wrote while a student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It is entitled "*Early Norwegian Immigration to America- a Study of the Koshkonong Settlement and Norwegian Immigrant Attitudes Toward the American Common School*". It was printed earlier in the **Vestlandet**, the newsletter for Vestlandslag. We appreciate that their editor gave permission for us to use Kari's article.

JoAnn Wickman's story "**Glorious New Scandinavian**" was completed last issue, but we didn't have room for her pictures and maps. They are located on pages 6-11.

Betty Wulff has sent us an interesting story for our "**Sharing Memories**" column. We have printed it without editing starting on page 12.

Millie Ohnstad has contributed a **genealogy chart** for **Syvriine Tollefson Skajem** compiled from information sent to us by Erik Hansen, from Fairbanks, AK -- see page 16. We have a fun "**Uff Da**" story on page 17 along with the schedule for the **Aurland Reunion**.

Gordon Eddy has written about the "**Cemetery Walk**" in Spring Grove, MN that he guided during their Syttende Mai celebration. He has a photo with Anders Ohnstad. See pages 18-19.

We have a **query** from **Paul Grande** of South Dakota on the back page along with **Future Events**. Paul's ancestors, **Knut Andersen Dyrdal**, married to **Hansine Olsdtr** (both from Lavik) had several children. He is looking for their descendants.

9th Annual Aurland Reunion (Stevne)
Urland Church, Sunday, July 27th.
See page 17 for details.

Cruise Ship Record in Flåm

By Arne Brekke

Reported from **Sogn Avis** March 19 and 26, 2003

It appears that 2003 will be a record year for cruise ship visits to Flåm. So far, 124 ships have reserved space in Flåm Harbor compared to 100 ships for the entire year of 2002, and the total tonnage is already 700,000 tons greater.

The first ship to visit Flåm this season was **Midnatsol** (Midnight sun), which came to Flåm shortly after the fjord ice had left in the middle of March. This beautiful new ship will be used as a part of the Coastal Express fleet from the middle of April.

The cruise ship traffic to Flåm is of great importance for the Flåm Railway and for local businesses in Flåm.

Flåm, Norway

Photo by Eilef Arne Vikesland, Norway

