

Aurland Newsletter

Past and Present

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From the editor: Yes, I am now married to Lars Romo. We were married at Urland Church, on March 13th. And yes, Romo, is a Norwegian name, but Lars was adopted and 6 years ago found out he is actually Finnish. We will tell his heartwarming story of finding his birth family hopefully in the next issue. See some wedding pictures on page 2.

Richard Urevig visited Millie a couple weeks ago in preparation for his trip to Norway. He has done some research into his family history. See Millie's "Connecting Cousins" on page 3.

Richard Fretheim of Kalispell, Montana, has done lots of research in Montana on Norwegian immigrants. He has sent some information about his own family and has questions, which Millie has re-typed for me. (Thank you so much Millie). See if you can respond to his questions. His article starts on page 4.

Roger Ostby responded to our earlier article about Galdane, where some of his relatives lived. See page 8 for his comments.

Bygdelogs are organizations comprised of descendants of emigrants from Norway to North America. We have some information on them on pages 9 & 10. Visit their WEB site at www.fellesraad.com or call a contact person for information on individual lags.

Frazier LaForce sent a greeting to Millie and commented about Wade Nygaard's hiking trip. (February 2004 issue). Look for it on page 11 along with a list of books that Kenton Moen has and is willing to do some "look ups" for members of Vestlandslag.

Ivan Underdahl has sent his ancestor charts to share. We have printed three of them starting on page 12 with an intro on page 11.

Rasmus Sunde, Vik, is bringing a group of Norwegians, (including Ingvar Vikesland from Aurland), to the Midwest July 16-28. They will be joining us in Spring Grove for Aurlandslag Stevne on Sunday, the 25th. Brit Eddy has translated his trip plans from the **Aurlendingen** paper. Find it on page 15.

Gordon Eddy has been busy again. His article "**Out on the Black Hammer**", about the '**Pioneering Hemri Family**', starts on page 16.

Find future events, including lag meetings (stevnes) on page 19 and information about Aurlandslag stevne on the back page, with directions to Spring Grove and places to stay if you need lodging. Please check if you are interested in either/both '**Pioneer Cemetery Walk**' or '**Black Hammer area Tour**'. Dr. John Christianson, Professor Emeritus of History, and former History Dept. Chair, Luther College will be our speaker along with various entertainments from Spring Grove. **Plan to attend and bring your friends and relatives.**

Ann (Esterby) Forsman, Pine Island, was united in marriage to Lars Romo, Cannon Falls on Saturday, March 13 at the Urland Lutheran Church rural Cannon Falls. Pastor Scott McLaughlin officiated at the double ring ceremony.

Matron of Honor was the bride's sister, Judy Huggett, of Medford, WI. Best Man was the groom's newfound brother, George Rosch, of Maple Grove, MN. Other attendants were: Rose Barclay of Burnsville and Debbie Rosch of Maple Grove, the groom's newfound sisters and Gary Esterby, Dennison, and Roger Esterby, Cook, MN, brothers of the bride.

Ann's daughters, Emily Forsman of Eyota, MN, and Laura Forsman of Stevens Point, WI, escorted her down the isle. Lars' sons--Andy, Jon and Daniel Romo were ushers. Lars' stepson and daughter-in-law, Steve and Sheri Hart were candle-lighters. Grandchildren of Lars--Shiana, and Saywer Hart, escorted by their brother Steel, spread flower petals down the isle in front of the bride.

Special guests that evening were Ann's godmother, Clara Esterby, Josie Swenson, (Ann's "Other Mother"), and Ann's cousins Millie and Ray Ohnstad.

The couple resides in rural Cannon Falls—40225 90th Ave. - 2 miles west of Hader.

Lars and Ann Romo

