

Aurland Newsletter Past and Present

Volume VII Issue 4 Ann Romo, Editor annromo04@yahoo.com October, November, December 2006
Millie Ohnstad, Asst Editor - 36735 Cty 1 Blvd, Cannon Falls, MN 55009- mohnstad@frontiernet.net - Published quarterly

From the Editor: It's time to **renew your subscription.** Please send it in soon. It will make Millie's work easier. Thanks.

Otis A. Lee sent us some information on his ancestral family on his Ytreli side, namely **Erik Johannesen Ytreli.** He wrote the story for a Norwegian class when he was a student at St. Olaf College. Otis tells about Erik leaving Norway and coming to America. He included a family chart going back four more generations. He also had a copy of a page from George Flom's book "**A History of Norwegian Immigration to the United States**" telling about the family coming to America. You might find some names listed that you might recognize of other people leaving Norway in 1845. His story starts on page 2.

Millie Ohnstad and Jean Marthaler went on this year's **Sogn/Voss Heritage tour** as escorts. You can find a picture of the participants along with their names on page 5.

My sister sent me an article from the Altamont Enterprise in New York State about our uncle, **Donald Otterness.** His latest adventure was to New Zealand to shear sheep. See his article starting on page 6.

The **Aurland Stevne** was held on Sunday, July 30th. We asked the descendants of **Askjell Nilsen Flom** to join us for the day. They met on Sat in Minneapolis. Many of them came on Sunday to continue their fellowship and joined the **bus ride to Holden church** to see it and the cemetery where some of the ancestors were buried. See page 8.

Millie turned 80 this year. WOW! She is so active! No one would ever guess it. Her niece, Emily Law, took some pictures and the Zumbrota News Record featured an article about her. See it on page 9.

We have continued the **cemetery listings** of our **Urland Church.** We have been honoring the ancestors on three lots each Sunday during the past year. The list starts on page 10. There were many people that lived in Goodhue County before heading out west to find their dreams. Some family

members died and were buried while here so we're hoping this list will help you find relatives possibly. We will complete the list of people buried in the old part of the cemetery in the next issue.

We have **obituaries** for Kermit Flom and Eleanor Otterness on page 5. Kermit was a member of the same family that met with our Stevne July 30th. He died less than a month before the reunion. Eleanor took several family members with her on one of our trips to Norway. Gordon sent us obits for Borghild Onsgard and Andrew Bakka. Find them on page 14.

Gordon Eddy has just a wealth of information to share about families in southeast Minnesota. This time he has included a family from near Lanesboro namely the **Vangen - Thompson Pioneers** who attended the Union Prairie Church. See his article starting on page 15.

Asmund Ohnstad has recently published a new book about the family gårds in Undredal and in the Naeroy fjord. It was published in Norwegian, but he has translated two pages which we will feature in our February 2007 issue.

