

# Aurland Newsletter

## Past and Present

Volume VIII, Issue 2

Ann Romo, Editor annromo04@yahoo.com

April, May, June 2007

Millie Ohnstad, Asst Editor-36735 Cty 1 Blvd, Cannon Falls, MN 55009—mohnstad@frontiernet.net - Published quarterly

From the editor: Our **Aurland Stevne** is going to be **Sunday, July 29th** at the **Black Hammer Lutheran Church, Spring Grove, MN**. Gordon Eddy has found a **speaker** for us from the **Norman Borlaug Foundation**. See the right column for more about the foundation and see the **back page** for **directions** to Spring Grove, **motels** to stay in, and a tentative **schedule** of things going on during the Stevne.

**Helny Ohnstad** of Grand Forks, ND sent us information about the **Aadalen Free Lutheran Church** in Fairdale, ND. This year's celebration is July 1st. Contact Helny at 701-746-7175 for more information about it. The article starts on **page 2**.

**Anders Ohnstad** has written "**A Heritage Journey from Iceland to Aurland in the 10th Century**". Arne Brekke has translated it for us and added some interpretive comments. It starts on **page 6**.

Many of us have heritage in other areas of Norway. **Bygdelags** can be a helpful place to find your ancestors and meet with others that came from the same area of Norway. The national council of bygdelags is called the **Bygdelagens Fellesraad**. See more about this on **page 10**, including **dates** of this year's stevnes, a map to show the different lags, and on **page 11** the **contact person** and **genealogist** for each lag. The stevnes have interesting speakers, and various entertainments each year. Some stevnes have vendors selling books, photos, or clothing with rosemaling painted on them. Millie and I belong to Vestlandslag besides others. **Vestlandslag** includes six lags of western Norway.

The newspaper **Adresseavisen** ran a series called "**Brevet Hjem**" or "**Letter Home**". A letter from **Hans Staven** appeared in it in 1975. It was translated from Norwegian into English by Britt Eddy. Find it starting on **page 12**.

**Arne Brekke** has a **query** about **Knute Askjellsen**

**Flom** born in 1840, brother of Nels Askjellsen Flom. Find it on **page 13**.

We have received some **obituaries**, namely for **Lenora Hauer** from Perham, MN, **Glenn C. Otterness** formerly of Black Hammer, MN, and **Raymond Thompson**, of Naperville, IL. Find them starting on **page 14**.

**Gordon Eddy** has written about **Guttorm B.** and **Clara Kinneberg Otterness** family in "**Out on the Black Hammer**" section. It starts on **page 16**.

Gordon is including in his section, a **five generation** picture of the **Johnsrud family**. Find it on **page 18**. He has also written some more back-ground about **Norman Borlaug**, which you can find on **page 19**.

### The Norman Borlaug Foundation

For over a half century, the scientific and Humanitarian achievements of Dr. Norman Borlaug (**Nobel Peace Prize winner, Congressional Gold Medal Winner**, and recipient of over 50 honorary Doctorate Degrees) has worked tirelessly around the world developing improved strains of food grains and training thousands of scientists and small land owners. His scientific and humanitarian contributions have led the way in the fight against malnutrition and starvation. Norman Borlaug grew up on a 103 acre farm south of Cresco, Iowa, which is now owned by the Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation.



