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Meeting Schedule for 2004/2005

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October 2, 2004



Speaker: *Eric Dregni, Writer for The Rake magazine*

Topic: His experience of living in Norway for a year while there on a Fulbright Scholarship.

November 6, 2004

Speakers: *Gro Tjore is with the United Nations World Food Programme in Washington, D.C.*

Topic: Set-up in 1963, WFP is the United Nations frontline agency in the fight against global hunger. In 2003, WFP fed 104 million people in 81 countries, including most of the world's refugees and internally displaced people.

December 4, 2004

Speakers: *Rob Simmonds, Nordic Roots Music*

Topic: Scores of young musicians from Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Sámiland are taking the music and instruments of their ancestors and bringing new ideas, arrangements, influences and instrumentation to an often lost art. Based in Minneapolis, Nordic Roots Music distribute this music. Feel free to browse the site, listen to sound clips, read reviews, and download band photos at www.noside.com.

January 1, 2005



Speaker: *Jane Laurence, Sergeant with the St. Paul Police Department.*

Topic: Jane will talk about how it is to be a woman in the police force and how the every day reality relates to what we see on tv or read in books. She will also discuss how she has managed to juggle private life and her often 24/7 job.

February 5, 2005



Speaker: *Kathrine Nygaard*

Topic: With the world acting as a big melting pot many cultures now live together and have to deal with the differences in faith, culture and values.

This is very true in Norway as well. In 2003 333,000 immigrants were living in Norway and 233,100 of these came from a background other than Western. This often creates tensions and difficulties integrating into a new culture.

Kate spent a year researching these issues particularly from Non-western women's prospective. Kate was in Norway in 2003 on a Fulbright Scholarship and being an immigrant herself Kate was able to compare difficulties faced by non-western immigrants vs. western immigrants.

Kate graduated from St. Olaf College. This is where she developed an interest in multicultural issues and the study of displaced people. Kate is a native of Denver, Colorado.

March 5, 2005



Speaker: *Joan Mondale (wife of former Vice President Walter Mondale)*

Topic: "Many great things indeed have been achieved by those who chose not to leap into the mainstream." Joan Adams Mondale was born in Eugene, Oregon in 1930. She graduated in 1952 from Macalester College in St. Paul, after which she worked at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. In 1955 Joan

married Walter F. Mondale. In 1964 the Mondales and their three children moved to Washington, D.C. after Walter was appointed to a vacant senate seat. In 1987 the Mondales returned to Minnesota. Over the years Mrs. Mondale campaigned extensively for her husband, particularly in connection with the 1976, 1980, and 1984 presidential contests. She has also long been interested in, and served as an advocate for, the arts. In 1977 President Jimmy Carter appointed her Honorary Chairperson of the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. She has served as an official of several arts and crafts organizations. The Mondales lived in Japan from 1993 to 1996, while Walter Mondale served as United States ambassador to that country. Most recently, Mrs. Mondale has chaired the Hiawatha Project Office's public art selection committee with a feeling that within two to three years, residents living near the stations will feel part ownership in the transit line.

April 2, 2005



Speaker: *Steiner Opstad, Ph.D. from Østfold, Norway*

Topic: Dr. Opstad will talk about how important the exchanges of business, people, and ideas are to the development of strong communities - in particular the Norwegian-Midwest relationship.

Dr. Opstad has an exciting background that includes work as a journalist, editor and publisher for Norwegian newspapers, magazines and time spent with the Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK). He received a Ph.D. in journalism and mass-communication from Columbia University. He has had an extensive career with a number of large firms and public agencies in Norway that includes vice-president for the Norwegian Confederation for Small Business, vice-president Fred Olsen & Co (shipping and Timex Corp, etc.), director The Norwegian Confederation of Business and Industry (NHO). In addition, Dr. Opstad has produced documentary films/TV productions. He has worked with Thor Heyerdahl, the Kon-Tiki Man. In 2003 Dr. Opstad retired from his formal positions and now enjoys time as a writer, lecturer, TV producer, and part-time consultant.

May 7, 2005



Speaker: Cheryl Grasmoen, Liv Dahl, Sarah Baggott

Topic: Lakselaget Scholarship and Norwegian Exchange Programs

Join us for the May meeting where the theme is the Lakselaget scholarship and Norwegian exchange programs. Cheryl Grasmoen will share more about the scholarship committee and the many great applicants they reviewed. Liv Dahl will introduce our Minnesota recipient of the Lakselaget Scholarship, who will then tell us about herself. Sarah Baggott will introduce and tell us about the Norwegian recipient. Our 2004 scholarship recipient, Jaya Shoffner, spent last summer in Norway studying at the University of Oslo's summer program. Jaya is not able to join us at this meeting as she is full-time at the University of Illinois working on her masters. She has written a delightful essay about her experience that we will share with you.

June, 2005

**Potluck Picnic
and Book Sale**

Where: Nancy Gossell
Address: 19 South First Ave.,
Minneapolis, MN 55401

To sign up, please e-mail Cheryl Grasmoen at cheryl.grasmoen@thelcf.org or JoAnne Jorud at JJJorud@WMconnect.com