



GIANTS GNEWS

Giants of the Earth Heritage
Center Newsletter

Volume III - Issue 2
September 2012

It's Time for Uff Da Fest!! Make plans to celebrate Autumn in Spring Grove

**Giants of the Earth
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**Giants of the Earth
Heritage Center, Inc.**
Located in the
Historic Ballard House
163 West Main Street

PO Box 223
Spring Grove,
MN 55974

507.498.5070

Hours:
Monday -Saturday
Noon - 5pm
Closed Sundays



Giants of the Earth once again are sponsoring UFF DA FEST. We have a great line-up of autumn events planned and welcome you to join us for plenty of food, fellowship and FUN! www.uffdafest.com

Friday, September 28

- All Day City Wide Garage Sales
- 7-11 pm Star Gazing Party – a prime event!
- 7:30 pm Alaska String Band; Spring Grove Cinema; Tickets \$15 pre-sale; \$20 at the door;

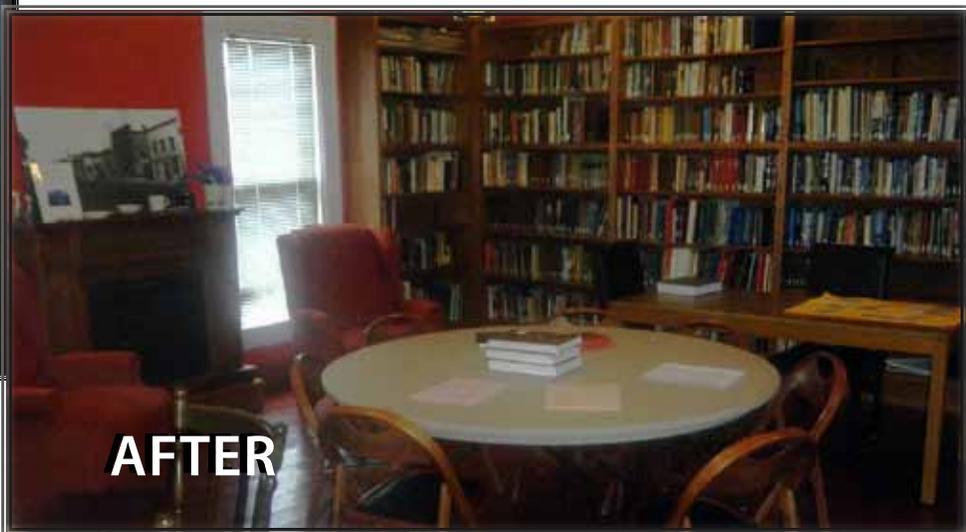
Saturday, September 29

- All Day City Wide Garage Sales
- 7:30 am - 3:30 pm Registration for Ga Pa Tur Nature Walk at the Ballard House
- 8-9 am Registration for Kubb Tournament, \$30 per team
(call or email Bill Fried 507.498.5611, bfried@springgrove.coop)
- 8-9 am Registration for Car Show
- 9:15 am Ceremonial First Toss for Kubb Tournament
- 9:30 am - 4 pm Kubb Tournament; north of Trinity Church
- 8:30-9:30 am Registration and Check-in for Run For the Arts 5k/10k at Bluff Country Artists Gallery
- 9 am-noon Classic Car Show; Trinity Church parking lot; Awards and Prizes at noon
- 9am-3pm Uff-Da Market in Viking Memorial Park
- 9am-5pm Genealogy Experts - Ballard House
- 9am-5pm Festival of Quilts Show and Sale at Fest Building
- 10 am Run For the Arts 5k/10k begins in Viking Memorial Park
- 10 am-noon Uff-Da Fest Bowl (Youth Football Game) at the Football Field
- 10:30 am-2:30 pm Norwegian Goodies by Sons of Norway at SG Cinema
- 10:30am-3pm Pork Burgers by the SG Athletic Boosters
- 10:30 am-3pm Lefse & Meatballs-On-A Stick by Trinity Youth, Viking Memorial Park
- 11 am - 1pm Homemade Apple Pie sale Dollars for Scholars Syttende Mai Hus; whole pies or by the slice a-la mode
- 11 am - 3 pm Uff-Da Fest Children's Games in Viking Memorial Park
- Noon - 5 pm "Show Us Your Art!" Local artists on display at Bluff Country Artists Gallery; People's Choice voting begins!
- 2-3 pm Historic Films Festival at Spring Grove Cinema
- 5 pm Adult Uff-Da Games (Lutefisk Toss!) - Southwest Alley
- 7:30 pm Autumn Street Dance - Matthew Kane and Greenbrier Band Norski's Saloon/Southwest Alley; \$5 Cover Charge
- 8:30 -12:30 "Tunnelvision" Band - American Legion Post 249





BEFORE



AFTER

ROSENDAHL HISTORICAL GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY

TRANSFORMATION!!! As of January 2012 the second floor of the Ballard House has experienced a great renovation. Two rooms were turned into one amazing library which now houses hundreds of books from Georgia Rosendahl's personal collection. These books are resources for genealogical research and are the foundation for the mission of the Rosendahl Library. This is a very exciting improvement to our Heritage Center.

The mission of the Rosendahl Library is to construct a bygdebok for Spring Grove and the surrounding Norwegian-American community. As a means to that end, the Library staff and volunteers will expand the Giants of the Earth Collaborative Tree at Ancestry.com, adding source records and photographs as they become available.

To expand Giants' Tree and to create the Spring Grove bygdebok, we undertake the following three projects:

Assemble family group sheets and pedigrees for each of these persons:

- a) those commemorated on the wall of the Immigrants' Hall at the Ballard House
- b) each member of the Giants of the Earth
- c) each person buried in the Old Cemetery, Trinity Lutheran Church, Spring Grove
- d) each person obtaining a land patent within Houston county
- e) each person appearing in the 1850 Federal census of Houston county
- f) each person appearing the 1857 State census of Houston county
- g) each person married in Houston county prior to 1860
- h) all Civil War veterans who mustered in or came to reside in Houston county and so on.

Locate photographs or other images for those documented in the above projects, and archiving within a searchable database a scanned copy of each of those images. Unfortunately we will not have space to provide a permanent repository for the original images.

Make available searchable digital files of the relevant source materials. These include:

- a) county histories
- b) community & church histories
- c) public vital records & church records
- d) newspapers
- e) cemetery transcriptions



Wish List for ROSENDAHL HISTORICAL GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Genealogical service subscriptions:

- Genealogybank.com
- Archives.com
- Fold3
- Newspaperarchives.com
- Norwegian-American Genealogical Center & Naeseth Library

LARGER ITEMS:

- One computer and larger monitors, preferably wireless
- small business copier
- 4-drawer legal-sized file cabinet
- (2) 4-drawer letter-sized file cabinets
- wireless flat-panel display
- wireless projector
- archival boxes & folders
- optical character recognition software
- commercial database software
- Microfilm reader/printer

LARGE WISH:

The apartment on back side of Ballard House could be converted to a storage area for filing cabinets and other paper materials relevant to our operation.

You're Invited To A Gala Event!



Saturday, October 27

Giants of the Earth Heritage Center
163 West Main Street, Spring Grove, MN

5:30PM Social

Hors d'oeuvres & Cocktails

6:30PM Dinner

Gourmet Fare

8:00PM Auction

Auction of Art & Heritage Items

Black and white formal attire encouraged.

\$100 per person.
Includes \$50 tax-deductible donation.

Since seating is limited, your check will be your reservation. Please mail your RSVP forthwith.

Questions call 507-498-5281



Invitations are in the mail and we need you to let us know as soon as possible if you will be able to attend. It is going to be a formal fun evening and you will have a great time in putting on your formal attire (if you have a tux you should wear it, but if not a suit or jacket will be great....and of course the ladies in our life will know exactly how they will dress) and sharing a wonderful evening with your friends and others who really care about Spring Grove and our Norwegian Ridge Heritage Center. The committee of Karen Bingham, Mary Ann Thurmer, Diane Schmidt have selected the menu alternatives which include your choice of Prime Rib of Elk, or Beef, or Norwegian Wild Salmon....which will be accompanied by wonderful complementary dishes and dessert. During the cocktail hour we will enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres to while we listen to music and share the beauty of the evening, hopefully on our newly constructed and sponsored grand patio. We are also still hopeful that our dear friend Sigmund Aarseth will be able to join us from Norway along with our fellow member Sallie DeReus who's decorative touch to our historic building added so much. There will be a fun and informational filled, but brief, program and tours of Rosendahl Reference Library and the Fladager Room each having been recently completed....and a silent as well as live auction (to which we would welcome and highlight items from you or a friend). As in 2010 we expect to be sold out, so please call us at 507-498-5281 to reserve your places....or just send in your check in response to the invitation you should have received.....

And for those who live now around the country we hope this will be a compelling reason to come back to your hometown and join us for the dinner party of the year!



Giants of the Earth

FINE AND FOLK ART SCHOOL

Classes and Events

Singing Songs of Immigrant Families

Price: \$15.00

Date: October 5 & 6, 2012

Learn songs in Norwegian that our forebears sang in this area 150 years ago. The songs teach the stories of our past in a fun and interesting way. Take the music home with you to keep on singing. Open to all ages.

October 5 at 6:00 PM, and October 6 at 11:00 AM followed by traditional snacks.

Instructor: Rachel Storlie

Troll Trek:

We're off to Historic Schech's Mill

Price: \$10.00

Date: October 13, 2012 10 am until about 1 pm

Watch grain being ground. Flour and corn meal are for sale. Bring a lunch to eat at the Mill Grounds next to the trout stream.

Meet at Ballard House.

Hardangersøm Embroidery

Price: \$20.00

Date: October 18, 2012 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Anyone with good eyes who can count and handle a scissors is capable of doing this form of Norwegian needlework. Kloster blocks, eyelets, button hole, satin, and cable stitches along with woven bars are used to form squares, rectangles, triangles and diamonds. Thread and drawn work techniques are worked on even-weave 22 count cloth to create heirloom household items.

Ages high school through adult.

\$20 plus the cost of class kit \$15

(The kit contains everything except a small embroidery scissors you will need to bring, one with tips that are very pointed, narrow and sharp).

Pre-register ASAP

Instructor: Gale Buhr

Making a Saami Friendship Bracelet

Price: \$25 per student, plus materials fee of \$95;

Date: October 19, 2012 10 AM until 5 PM;

The serene and dramatic landscape of northern Scandinavia is the land of the midnight sun, the northern lights and the Saami, a nomadic tribal group that follows the migration of the reindeer. Traditional Saami jewelry incorporated elements of their northern landscape – softened reindeer leather and sculpted antler. In this course you'll explore the traditional jewelry techniques of triple braiding coiled pewter wire and sewing the finished braid to a softened reindeer hide strip. A reindeer antler button finishes off the bracelet. Materials fee will be collected by instructor.

Instructor: Liz Bucheit

Hootenanny for All Ages

Price: \$2/child each time. Adults accompanied by a child are free.

Dates: October 30 and November 6, 13, 20 and 27
3:45 pm - 4:45pm

Young and old gather to sing together. Re-learn songs from your childhood as well as new ones from kid's current repertoire and teach children songs you love. Learn some Norwegian folk songs too. Life is enriched by song, and anybody can sing. Open to all ages. Free milk and cookies!

Musicians: Bovee and Heil

Bob Bovee and Gail Heil of Spring Grove have been performing together since 1980, singing and playing American traditional music of the Southern mountains, the Midwest and the West with fiddle, guitar, harmonica, banjo, and autoharp. They love to play traditional American rural music. With a repertoire including dance tunes, ballads, cowboy songs, humorous and sentimental numbers, blues and rags, their show is spiced with stories, history, and folklore that will entertain audiences of all ages.

Learn to Make Norwegian Foods

Price: \$5.00

Date: November 1, 2012 5-7 PM;

Learn the tricks to making great authentic Norwegian foods.

Pre-register by Oct. 15.

Instructors: Patty and Jill Storlie

Learn How to Sew a Busserull

Price: \$25.00 plus cost of materials (estimated at \$98)

November 3, 10 and 17 from 9 until noon

Celebrate occasions by wearing this traditional men's Norwegian shirt. Learn the history of the busserull. You may choose to bring your own sewing machine.

Instructor: Jill Storlie

Beginners Hedebosøm Mini Course

Price: \$20 plus class kit fee of \$5;

Date: November 8, 2012 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM

A person doesn't need to be Danish to master the simple techniques of hedebosøm. This class is designed to teach beginners the basic stitches of this unique form of needlework that originated near Copenhagen many centuries ago. Thread rings, buttonhole stitches and pyramids are combined to make interesting forms of needle lace that can exist independently or be used as inserts in fabric. Learn to make Christmas ornaments.

Instructor: Roger Buhr;

Ages: youth 7th grade and above to adult

Pre-registration by October 15 is necessary so the instructor can prepare the kits

Food for Your Sweet Tooth

Price: \$15

Date: November 8 from 6-8 PM

Spring Grove Public School Family Consumer Sciences Room;

Pre-register by October 15

Class limited to 12 participants.

Learn to make pie from a professional pie chef and take a pie home with you. Ingredients will be provided, but please bring your own pie tin, favorite rolling pin and pastry frame if you own one. You must also provide your own pie filling (prepared fruit or canned)

Instructor: Nancy Gulbranson

Pressing on in Clay

Price: \$10 plus materials

Date: November 9, 2012 3:30-5:30

Finished pieces can be picked up December 7

Each participant will create a unique-one-of-a-kind ornament out of squishy greenware clay - then complete the ornament with an application of glaze, that when fired will be rock-hard and ready for the Christmas tree! In the process you may get dirty - the clay does wash out - but don't wear your Sunday best to class!

Ages 10-Adult

Instructors: Nate and Hallie Evans

'Pedro' - What's that? Doesn't Sound Norwegian

Price: \$5.00

Date: December 2 from 3-5pm;

Learn a card game that defies description.

Ballard House - \$5.00

Instructor: Bill Fried

Learn to Make Norwegian Foods: Bacalao-A Heavenly Way to Get Close to Cod

Price: \$5.00

Date: December 6, from 5-7 PM

Learn the tricks to making great authentic Norwegian foods.

Pre-register by November 15 so we can buy ingredients to make Bacalao (fantastic soup that will simmer while we go next door to see the film; we will consume it following the film at the cinema).

Instructors: Jill and Patty Storlie

Final Class for Sewing Busserull

Free Event

Date: December 8, 2012 9 until noon

Celebrate occasions by wearing this traditional Norwegian shirt. Learn the history of the busserull.

Available Spaces: Unlimited

Juletrefest

Price: \$5 per person or \$15 per family

Date: Saturday December 15 from 1:00 until 3:00 PM

Learn to make traditional decorations for a Christmas tree. Decorate the Ballard House tree with one and take one home for your tree. Sing carols around the tree by joining hands and rotating in concentric circles walking in opposite directions. Enjoy eating special Norwegian food treats. Experience a visit from the Julenisse and learn what Julenissen do in Norway. Take home a bag of treats.

To enroll in a class either call 507.498.5070; drop a note in the mail with payment (PO Box 223, Spring Grove, MN 55974); or enroll on line www.springgrovemnheritagecenter.org/event-registration

JOIN or RENEW your Giants of the Earth Heritage Center Membership Today!

Your membership and support are key to our mission and vision.

Mission Statement

The **Giants of the Earth Heritage Center**, incorporated in 2009 as a non-profit educational institution, is dedicated to honoring, preserving, and interpreting the history and heritage of the people from Spring Grove's Norwegian Ridge in southeastern Minnesota. Drawing on a rich cultural history, the Center records and reflects the achievements of indigenous peoples and immigrants to the Spring Grove area. The Center draws upon varied resources, while also providing a gathering place and a sense of community and identity to its public.

To realize its purpose, the **Giants of the Earth Heritage Center** has four goals:

- to **function** as an educational center and source of inspiration for a wide public;
- to **preserve** and **share** its collections and resources that are held in trust;
- to **acquire**, through purchase and gift, significant artifacts and documentary materials relevant to the heritage and people of Spring Grove Norwegian Ridge area; and
- to **present** the collections, related exhibitions, and interpretive programming to the general public, students of all ages, visitors, and scholars in a manner consistent with the highest educational and artistic standards.

Membership Benefits:

- free admission to the Giants of the Earth Heritage Center
- the GEHC Newsletter
- discounts on genealogy research
- 10% discount at the Ballard House Gift Shop *(not the upstairs antiques)*
- guest passes, based on level of membership
- King Olav, Queen Sonja, King Harald, Robert E.A. Lee and Mons Fladager members annually receive a framed Ola and Per cartoon print

Individual Membership

Lars (Individual)	\$35/year	\$ _____
Vaermor (Senior)	\$25/year	\$ _____
Ola & Per (Family)	\$50/year	\$ _____
Viking	\$100/year	\$ _____
Giant	\$250/year	\$ _____
King Olav	\$500/year	\$ _____
Queen Sonja	\$750/year	\$ _____
King Harald	\$1000/year	\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Business Membership

Joseph Langland	\$50/year	\$ _____
Peter J. Rosendahl	\$100/year	\$ _____
Georgia Rosendahl	\$250/year	\$ _____
Robert E.A. Lee	\$500/year	\$ _____
Mons Fladager	\$1000/year	\$ _____

Business Name _____

Contact _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Website Address: _____

To become a member fill out form and return to:

Giants of the Earth Heritage Center
PO Box 223
Spring Grove, MN 55974

Happenings at the Ballard House

Glasrudag July 14, 2012



Giants' was excited to host many of the descendants of Christian & Berthe Maria Glasrud who immigrated from Toten Norway to the Spring Grove area the 1853. We were especially excited to work with Nick Bjerke who created an exciting documentary for the Glasrud reunion.

Sognefjordlag Annual Meeting August 9th -11th

Dozens of members and researchers for the Sogn region of Norway held their three day conference in the Heritage Hall and Rosendahl Library. Rumor has it that other Norwegian Lags are considering Giants' as a site for their lags. Attendees were delighted to listen to Giants' presentations by Thom Carlson and Johnathan Storlie.



PATIO PROJECT!

It may not look like much now, but work is underway to reconstruct the patio area west of Heritage Hall which will soon be used as the new southern entrance to the Ballard House.

Just imagine how beautiful this will be having hors d'oeuvres here the night of our Black and White dinner.

Remember this area provides a wonder space to honor your ancestors by naming the patio in their honor.



Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Inc.

PO Box 223
163 W. Main Street
Spring Grove, MN 55974
507.498.5070

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www.springgrovemnheritagecenter.org

CHECK LIST



*Signed up to be in Rubb
Tournament during Uff Da Fest*



*Sent in RSVP to
Black & White Event*



*Renewed Giants Membership
or joined for the first time*



*Signed up for fall Fine Arts &
Folk Arts Classes or events*