

TRONDHJEM HOLIDAY CONCERT PLANNED FOR NOVEMBER 20, 2005

A holiday concert is planned by the Trondhjem Community Preservation Society to be held Sunday, November 20, 2005 in the Old Trondhjem Church near Lonsdale. The concert will feature Marilyn Sellars and there will be two performances; 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

A true country girl, Marilyn grew up in a small farming community near Northfield, MN. She studied classical voice at St. Olaf College while singing gospel songs with her family in the tiny Dundas Methodist Church. One of Marilyn's most well known songs is "One Day at A Time", recorded in 1974, and charted nationally for forty three weeks. Marilyn's favorites are 30's and 40's standards, Broadway, classic country, and down home gospel. Marilyn and her husband reside in the Twin Cities area.

Trondhjem Lutheran Church is located one mile south of the intersection of Hwy. 19 and Garfield Avenue, just one mile south of the current Trondhjem Lutheran Church. The building, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was built in 1899. It has been restored to its original appearance by restorationists, contractors, and volunteers. The design of the painting and the symbols in the church reflect the Norwegian heritage of the settlers who built the church so many years ago.

Ticket cost is \$15 and may be purchased from the Preservation Society's board and committee members or from ticket chairperson, Ramona Pumper (507-645-8358). Each concert is followed by a time of fellowship. Coffee and bars will also be served.

Proceeds from the concert will be used to continue the preservation and maintenance of the Old Trondhjem Church.



Marilyn Sellars
Concert at Trondhjem – February, 2004

Plans for New Museum and Reception Hall Move Forward

An update from Board President, Merle Fossum

Plans for a new addition to the old church moved forward on several fronts this summer. The existing fellowship hall was built in the 1970's as a temporary location for Sunday School classes and fellowship until the congregation could build their new church. Today, the structure has many problems including inadequate bath rooms, mold, and no good space to tell the story of old Trondhjem or to safely store and preserve the hundreds of valuable photographs in our historical collection. Something must be done with it, and the question is, what shall we do. After many attempts to design a building that would fix up and use what we have and expand on it, the board finally decided that we were only preserving many problems. The best solution is to remove this building and design a new one.

Architect, Steve Edwins has designed an attractive new structure to be placed behind the church where it will complement without overpowering the main reason for our existence, the old church itself. It gives us a space to tell our history, care for our collection and safely preserve future contributions of photos and artifacts, and will seat as many people at tables as the church pews can seat for weddings, community events, and tour groups. The building committee met in St. Paul with Tim Glines and other staff of the Minnesota Historical Society for their advice on protecting our central mission of caring for this National Historic Site.

Zoning regulations required us to get a variance from Rice County to locate the building where we need to place it. So, in July and August Carol Johnson, Nancy Hiner, and Mark and Deone Ward helped us mount a petition drive among

people in the surrounding neighborhood and in the Trondhjem Lutheran Congregation to support our application for a variance to the Board of Adjustment. When six of us appeared at the hearing in August, Merle Fossum spoke on behalf of the application and presented the petitions. Ross Nelson, who is chair of the zoning commission and a resident of Webster Township, came to this meeting and spoke enthusiastically for our project. Rice County board of adjustment officials expressed strong support for preserving this community asset and unanimously approved our request for a variance.

There is still much more ground work to do. Dallas Berg is coordinating the building committee's contacts with the architect and these two have had many meetings. Don Pavek is contributing his expertise and the resources of College City Homes to review plans and develop an estimate of construction costs. He will be a big help as we move into the construction phase.

We hope to go forward with construction as soon as possible but we aren't sure yet when we can break ground. Everyone knows that construction costs are high. At this moment, preliminary cost estimates come in at \$335,000 and we are forming a fund raising committee and we will mount a formal fund raising drive soon. We need generous contributions from our members to make this a reality. The whole effort got a kick start from Russell Anseth, a native son of the Trondhjem community with two gifts this summer of \$25,000 each. His gifts make it clear that our plans have substance and credibility. consider now what you can give...this year and next. Your contribution before the end of this year will be deductible on your 2005 income taxes.

Gifts and Blessings

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas from the Board of Directors!

As I write this note, Trondhjem hill and the surrounding countryside is showing all the signs late autumn. The days are shorter, nights are chillier and the trees are turning color and losing their leaves. We had a fine summer and at our ice cream social on July 31st we had the biggest turn-out of visitors ever. I keep hearing a similar comment from people: "We must be doing something right! Look at all the interest there is in this old place!" Our annual Syttende Mai Celebration saw the church packed and this year we hosted several weddings, baptisms and family reunions.

Now we enter the season of thankfulness and gift giving. When I think about the gift we have received from the early settlers who stretched their resources to build this beautiful building, and those who took care of it in the last hundred years, I wonder if they are looking down from above like a choir, saying "Good going everyone!" Certainly the interest and attention we have received from the people in the community attest to the value of what our society has done. I wish you could all hear the enthusiastic comments we receive from the Minnesota Historical Society, from Rice County officials, and even the National Park Service which placed us on the National Register of Historic Places. They say this old church is a gem and one of a kind. They comment on the quality of our completed restoration and the great support we receive from our membership.

This year the board members have been busy working on the building plans for a new museum and reception room. See another article in this newsletter for more information on the progress. I want to express here the hope and faith of your board of directors that this gift from our past can now be matched by your gifts to the present and the future. We feel the responsibility to do something about our current facilities. You have experienced the crowded conditions in the fellowship hall when we host events. You've seen the need for better display conditions for our

amazing photo collection. You've entered the bathrooms and see how inadequate they are.

We can now envision a space that will tell the stories of old Trondhjem. There are many stories to tell in an updated museum, such as what daily farm life was like among the community, the annual Fourth of July picnics shared with the people of Solar Lutheran Church in Webster, tragedies that occurred, and the development of a co-operative Creamery. Our new facility could tell these stories to the present community, to all descendants of Norwegian immigrants wherever they live, and to all citizens of Minnesota. I won't detail here the meetings we have held in St. Paul with Minnesota Historical Society personnel but, they are very worried about our photos and other museum artifacts slowly fading into nothing but faint images if we don't take action to preserve them now. They are helping us design a museum that will tell Trondhjem's stories and provide safe preservation for posterity as part of a new museum.

We envision a building with a beautiful design, created by architect Steve Edwins, who has created many tasteful additions to historic buildings. It will be a gift that will stand a hundred years from now. Church minutes from 118 years ago state that each farmer was asked to contribute one or two good logs, depending upon what they could give, for the construction of the first church. Those very logs, hand cut and delivered from the surrounding hills still under gird and support the building today. They went beyond a practical plan and created something special. We can't contribute logs today, but our gifts of money and volunteer time can create a fine building that will add to what we were given, and it will stand far beyond our time to tell the story of this old Trondhjem settlement a hundred years into the future.

Merle Fossum, President

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Submitted by Joyce Fossum Pflaum

Trondhjem 1905 – 100 years ago

New Items from various newspaper columns:

...Baby Alice Myrtle was baptized last Sunday at the home of Mr. B. Tarlson near Trondhjem by the Rev. H.L. Halter, of Minneapolis.

...Alf Berg of Trondhjem went hunting for “deer” in North Dakota, bringing to his new home a bonnie bride, Miss Anna Reone.

...A surprise party was given to Amund Fossum, Tuesday, Feb. 21 on his seventy-fifth birthday anniversary at his home by many friends and relatives. They presented him with a handsome rocking chair and cupboard.

...Peter Torseth died on Friday evening (June) at the ripe old age of 77 at the home of his son, S. Torseth. The deceased was born in Norway in 1838.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY – June, 1934

A pleasant event took place Sunday afternoon when friends and relatives gathered in the church to help Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Johnson celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary. The bridal couple and their family entered to the strains of a wedding march played by Miss Marjorie Barlindhaug. The program consisted of speeches by several pastors, solos, and a song by Alice, Clifford, Lester, and Raynard Johnson. A very delicious and bounteous lunch was served to about 150 guests.

OBITUARY - Peder Anderson

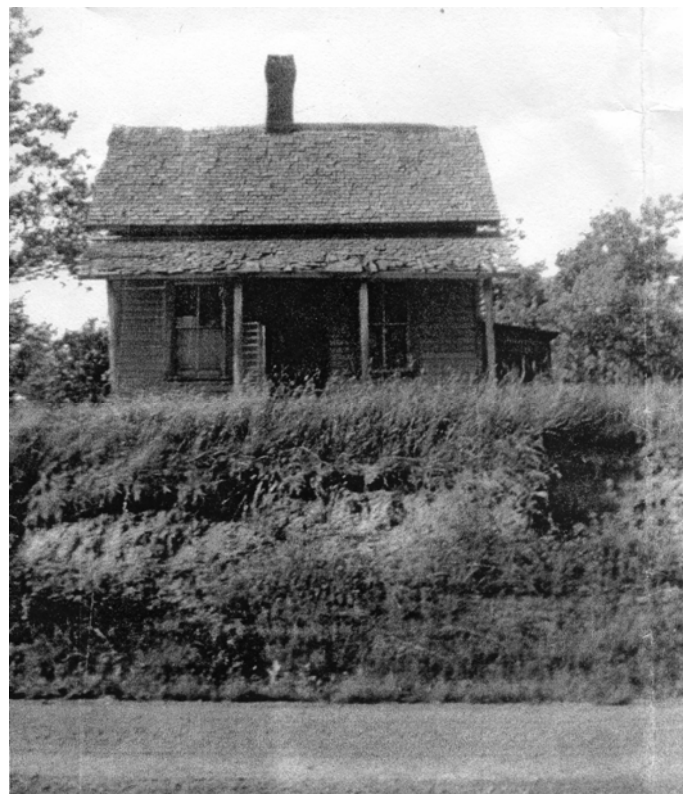
Peter Anderson passed away Friday, Aug. 31, 1934, after a week's illness. He was one of the pioneers of this community, and operated the Trondhjem post office for 15 years. He was born Nov. 2, 1851 at Skadsberg, Solor, Norway, emigrated to America in 1874, and was married to Anna Johanson Dec. 26, 1883. She preceded him in death 34 years ago. (Anna died Nov. 19, 1900 at age 52 years. Death notice gave her cause of death as typhoid fever.) Funeral services were held

OBITUARY - Peder Anderson, cont'd.

Tuesday, Sept. 4 at 1 o'clock at Flicek's undertaking parlors in Lonsdale from which the remains were taken to Trondhjem Church and burial made in the adjoining cemetery. Rev. B.L. Sundal officiated. Mrs. Louis Fossum sang two songs. The pallbearers were Louis Johnson, Adolph Thornby, C.A. Gunderson, Martin Thompson, A.C. Fossum, and Louis Fossum.

Peder is survived by one son, Alf, at home, and one daughter, Mrs. Albert Høglund (Elvira) of New Brighton. (Note: Son, Alf, (Alfred) was buried at Trondhjem. Daughter, Bendikke Elvira, was born August 29, 1889.

Peder Anderson was one of the earliest Norwegian settlers on Trondhjem. His home became the post office, a store where staple grocery items could be purchased, and a gathering place for the area people when the mail would arrive by horse back or horse and buggy from Northfield every Wednesday and Saturday around four o'clock. (To quote another written article: “Pete's house would become a swarming meeting place for many neighbors on these days”.)



Home of Peder & Alf Anderson
Trondhjem Village

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRONDHJEM:
Syttende Mai – May 21, 2006**

The 2006 Syttende Mai celebration will be held on Sunday, May 21 at 2:00 pm. The program for the day will be a musical concert given by Margaret Heglund, the long time pianist for the Trondhjem Congregation in the 1950's and 60's.

Accompanying Margaret will be her son Andy, a percussionist from Nevada and daughter Siri, a violinist from Missouri - all professional musicians. The Heglund's are heirs to the musical talent of the Halverson family who were early settlers in the Trondhjem community. Also on this day, Margaret and Gene Heglund will contribute a new piano to the old church which will be dedicated during the celebration.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2005 RECEIVED
AFTER THE SPRING NEWSLETTER**

- 52. REINHOLD & LORRAINE LEMKE-In honor of ELVAH FOSSUM'S birthday
- 53. MILDRED JOHNSON-In memory of ORVILLE JULSETH
- 54. CHARLES & HELEN HILL-In memory of ORVILLE JULSETH
- 55. DOUGLAS FOSSUM
- 56. LAVONNE FREDERICKSON-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 57. EDWARD & MAXINE DOWNS-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 58. A.M. NELSON-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 59. RENATE STEFAN-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 60. NORMAN & KAREN VINNES-In honor of all those who worked so hard to restore OLD TRONDHJEM CHURCH
- 61. CURTIS SAMUELS-In memory of LOIS JEAN SAMUELS
- 62. KENNETH & CINDY HALVERSON-In memory of BARBARA HALVERSON
- 63. WILLIAM(BILL)JOHNSON-In memory of ART & HAZEL JOHNSON
- 64. WARREN VELENCHENKO-In memory of MARTIN, FINA & MELBA GORDER
- 65. RICHARD W. SELLENTINE & PAULA SCHMIDTKE-In memory of NANCY J. SELLENTINE

- 66. LINDA POWELL (GARDNER)-In honor of MYRTLE HAGEN'S 95th birthday
- 67. LAVERNE & BERNICE KLAHR-In memory of HAROLD MADSON
- 68. BILL & GUDRUN JOHNSON
- 69. HARRIS & RUBY HAGEN
- 70. DAVID & RACHEL SCHWANDI
- 71. R. WAYNE & EILEEN OLSON-In memory of ALICE STROM
- 72. REV. DAVID & KAREN JOHNSON-In memory of ERIK P. N. JOHNSON & REV. NILS NJUS
- 73. ALLEN (BUD) KINDSETH
- 74. VAL KUCERA
- 75. INES M. TREBESCH
- 76. DAVID & SHERRY GRAY
- 77. DR. EUGENE & MARGARET SKIBBE-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 78. MARDONNA BARTHOLET-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 79. HARRIET MENARD-In memory of HAZEL JOHNSON
- 80. HARRIET MENARD-In memory of PERCY JOHNSON
- 81. RODNEY & ELIZABETH SCHMIDT-In memory of LEONE MARTIN
- 82. DAAVID & JUDITH SAXERUD-In memory of MORRIS, CLARA & HERBERT SAXERUD
- 83. JUDY FOSSUM MATHERN
- 84. BJORN & JENNIFER VOGEN
- 85. RUSSELL ANSETH -In memory of EVELYN ANSETH
- 86. MERLE & MAVIS FOSSUM-In memory of LEIF & MABEL FOSSUM
- 87. DALLAS & MILDRED BERG-In memory of MENS & EDNA BERG
- 88. ALVIN & EUNICE JOHNSON
- 89. RICHARD & ROXANNE SIMON-In memory of LLOYDE & RUTH LITTLE
- 90. REV. CLIFFORD & RUTH JOHNSON-In honor of our two great-grandchildren, JACEY & MASON ECKHOLM
- 91. ELVAH FOSSUM-In memory of RAY FOSSUM
- 92. SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN-In memory of EDDIE & HELEN HALVERSON
- 93. RALPH & LYL A ARNESON-In memory of loved ones
- 94. REV. GENE & MARGARET HEGLUND-In memory of loved ones

95. CLAYTON & PATRICIA MELBY-In memory of LESTER & SADIE JOHNSON, ALICE & ELLEN STROM
96. DAVID & JUDITH SAXERUD-BUILDING FUND
97. RUSSELL ANSETH
98. SEDONA MILLER-In memory of ESKEL & JOHANNAH QUINNELL & THEIR DESCENDANTS
99. SANFORD & KATHRYN HAUGEN
100. MILDRED JOHNSON-In memory of PERCY JOHNSON
101. GORDON & MAXINE HALVERSON
102. HAZEL PETERSON
103. JANICE RAPPE
104. JOYCE PFLAUM-In memory of DUANE PFLAUM & LEIF & MABEL FOSSUM
105. REV. FRANK & ELIZABETH ANDERSON
106. LINDA STORLIE
107. JOE & LORNA DOCKEN
108. GLORIA & ARVID BOYUM-In memory of EDDIE & HELEN HALVERSON
109. BETTE QUINNELL-In memory of "HUNTS" QUINNELL & IN HONOR OF NAOMI QUINNELL
110. DARRELL & ARLYS WIESE-In memory of EDDIE & HELEN HALVERSON
111. NORMAN & ELLA HALVERSON
112. ESTHER BARSNESS
113. GERALD & MARY ANN CLELAND
114. CAROL GEMSEY
115. GERALD & CAROL STAI
116. AHNA MARIE BUROW
117. ROBERT & BERIT ANFINSON
118. EDYTHE & ORVILLE PETERSON
119. ERLING & JOYCE KINDEM
120. GRACE & HARLEN SKJEFTE
121. LUVERNE WARNBERG
122. DORIS HUSBYN-In memory of MENS & EDNA BERG
123. RUTH KIELMEYER-In memory of ALFRED & MARIE QUINNELL
124. DONNA & BURTON PAULSEN
125. ALVIN & EUNICE JOHNSON-In memory of EDNA LAWRENCE
126. STANLEY NELSON-In memory of LYDA NELSON
127. BRENDA PFLAUM-In memory of DUANE PFLAUM
128. FRANK & DONNA PFLAUM-In memory of DUANE PFLAUM
129. MILLIE JOHNSON-In honor of HELEN HILL'S 90TH birthday
130. DAVE & NANCY TOPP-In honor of HELEN HILL'S 90TH birthday
131. RAYMOND & LORAYNE BECHTLE-In memory of LEONE WALSTAD MARTIN
132. SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN-In memory of LAVERNE KLAHR
133. DR. CATHERINE A. MALEY-In memory of LEONE WALSTAD MARTIN
134. LANAI CONSTRUCTION (JAMES ANSETH)-Dining Room Hall Donation
135. JEAN & DOUGLAS CHURILLA-In honor of HELEN HILL'S 90TH birthday
136. JEAN & DOUGLAS CHURILLA-In memory of PERCY JOHNSON
137. DAISY QUINNELL-JUVLAND-In memory of DIXIE QUINNELL & VEOLA ELLINGBOE
138. CAROL JOHNSON-In honor of MYRTLE JOHNSON HAGEN'S 95TH birthday
139. DAVID & PAMELA DUDLEY
140. MARK & KATHY BABCOCK-In memory of ARCHIE BABCOCK
141. ALVIN (PETE) & JOYCE MADSON-In honor of their Golden Wedding Anniversary
142. LENORA RICHTER
143. NANCY & DALE KALINA-Use of Fellowship Hall for their Call Committee
144. OBERT GRINDE
145. SANFORD & KATHRYN HAUGEN-In memory of GORDON HALVORSON
146. JAMES & MARLENE LEGROS- In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
147. ALICE KLINE CAROL ZAPFEL & ROGER SJULSTAD-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
148. DONALD & BONNIE PAVEK-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
149. RICHARD & DONNA ALSTRUP-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
150. PHYLLIS MATTILL-In memory of GORDON HALVORSON
151. HAROLD MOHAGEN-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
152. RAMONA & ELMER PUMPER-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
153. MARILYN HAGEN-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
154. LUVERN WARNBERG-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
155. DAVE & NANCY TOPP-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON

156. MONROE & LOLITA STENERSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
157. JOYCE PFLAUM & PAUL FLIGGE-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
158. DORIS NELSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
159. SEDONA & JOHN MILLER-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
160. BERNICE KLAHR-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
161. MILDRED JOHNSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
162. REV. CLIFFORD & RUTH JOHNSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
163. REV. GENE & MARGARET HEGLUND-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
164. SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
165. DOUGLAS & PATRICIA FOSSUM-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
166. MERLE & MAVIS FOSSUM-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
167. ELVAH FOSSUM-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
168. JOE & LORNA DOCKEN-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
169. ROBERT & BERIT ANFINSON-In memory of GORDON HALVORSON
170. ED & ARLENE WILLIAMS-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
171. BOB & LIL PAGEL-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
172. IRENE BONHUS & FAMILY-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
173. MAXINE HALVERSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
174. RUSSELL ANSETH
175. LYL A & RALPH ARNESON-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
176. REV. GENE & MARGARET HEGLUND-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
177. ANDY & NICHOLE HEGLUND-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80th birthdays
178. RICHARD & SIRI GEENEN-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
179. MAXINE HALVERSON-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
180. GLORIA & AVID BOYUM-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
181. ARLYS & DARRELL WIESE-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80TH birthdays
182. KIA & TIM EMERSON-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
183. CLAYTON & PATRICIA MELBY-In memory of GORDON HALVERSON
184. MILDRED JOHNSON-In memory of DAVID ARNESON
185. JOYCE PFLAUM-In memory of SHIELA CRANE
186. JOYCE PFLAUM-In memory of KENNETH HERSCHLEY
187. DON & YVONNE PAVEK-In honor of SHERWIN HANSEN'S 80TH birthday
188. ARVID & GLORIA BOYUM-In memory of DAVID ARNESON
189. DARRELL & ARLYS WIESE-In memory of DAVID ARNESON
190. CAROL JOHNSON-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80th birthdays
191. CAROL JOHNSON-In honor of RUSSELL ANSETH'S 85th birthday
192. JOYCE PFLAUM & PAUL FLIGGE-In honor of SHERWIN & ELNA HANSEN'S 80th birthdays
193. REV. STEVE SWANSON-In honor of the baptisms of CARTER & BLAKE BERG-JENSEN
194. SHELDON & ERIN HANAFIN-BERG-In honor of BLAKE DALLAS JENSEN baptism
195. MILDRED & DALLAS BERG-In honor of BLAKE DALLAS BERG baptism
196. MILDRED & DALLAS BERG-In memory of MENS & EDNA BERG
197. JOANNA (PHELPS) TANGEN-In memory of DINA (BERG) DANIELSON
198. PALMER & ELSIE BERG-In memory of OSCAR & EDNA BERG
199. ELMER BERG-In memory of INGA BERG
200. EVA PHELPS DAHL-In memory of DINA BERG DANIELSON

Hope to see you at Holiday Concert
on Sunday, November 20!

And remember to visit us
on the web at:

www.trondhjempreservation.org

My Contribution to Help Restore Historic Old Trondhjem Church

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please Accept my gift of \$ _____

To be Given
In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

We will gladly send an acknowledgement of your gift to someone you choose, if you would like. Simply write the name and address below, of where you would like an acknowledgement sent.

**Old Trondhjem News
Trondhjem Community Preservation Society
P.O. Box 259, Lonsdale, MN 55046**

Trondhjem Community Preservation Society

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