

## History of Lorraine Ostroot and Lorna Tyson May 21, 2000

Lorna and Lorraine were born in Astoria, South Dakota, May 10, 1916. Their father's family came from Stavanger and their mother's family was from Valdres. There were 5 girls and 1 boy in their family, this included the twins.

In 1924, the family moved to Crosby from Astoria after a fire destroyed several stores in Astoria, including their dad's General Mercantile Store.

Later the family moved to Minot and the girls graduated from Minot High. They both sang in the Glee Club. Lorna played the trumpet in both grade school and high school. She played in both the Orchestra and the School Band.



Lorna was married April 30, 1955 to George Tyson. He passed away August, 1973. George was Assistant Chief Engineer for the State Highway Department. Lorna has been in Bismarck since 1936. Lorna went to Reishus Beauty School in Minot. She owned her own beauty shop in Bismarck from 1948 to 1983, when she sold it.

She was the North Dakota Hairdresser of the year in 1963.  
Vice President of the North Dakota Hairdressers and Cosmetologists in 1949.  
President of the North Dakota Hairdressers and Cosmetologist in 1950 and 1951  
Organized the North Dakota Hair Fashion Committee in 1952  
Won 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award in Hair Styling contest in 1953  
She was Secretary of the North Dakota Hair Fashion Committee in 1954

Her name was placed on the "Wall of Honor" in 1983 in St. Louis, Missouri. This inscription was written on the plaque she received:

"Our Deep Appreciation for your Continued Faith and Service to  
the North Dakota Hairdressers and Cosmetologists, Association"

Lorna wrote the first history book of a 50-year period for the North Dakota Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association. This included the years from 1937 to 1987. Lorraine typed this book.

They enjoy traveling and have traveled to both Alaska and Norway.

Lorna enjoyed hunting and fishing. She has been on elk hunts in the Tetons of Wyoming. Her first gun was a double barrel shotgun. She can't remember what her last one was, but she did shoot a mule deer down in a ravine. Her husband went down to drag it up, but it was so small he carried it around his neck up the hill. They fished in Lake of the Woods in Canada. Their guides were hockey players who needed jobs for the summer.

Lorraine stayed in Minot after graduating from high school, she graduated from the Bemis College of Commerce. Her first job as a secretary was at the Minot Transient Bureau, at \$3 a

week. She was paid as a transient because that was the only way they could hire her. A few months later that changed and her salary was then increased to \$11 a week. When the Bureau closed, she worked at the Minot Used Car Market as a secretary and bookkeeper. From there she went to the Ward County Agricultural Conservation Association and worked as a clerk-stenographer.

In 1941, she took a Civil Service exam and got a call to report to Washington, D.C. She went to work in the Western Region of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, US Department of Agriculture. She worked for several agencies during her 34 years there including:

- Crop Insurance Corporation
- Production and Marketing Administration
- Foreign Agricultural Service, and
- Office of the Secretary of Agriculture

These jobs took her on several trips abroad. The first one was in 1955 to Rome with the food Agriculture Organization. In 1960, she went to work in Geneva for the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. She was there for six months. In 1968, she went to Tokyo to work as Trade Fair Assistant on an Agriculture Trade Show. It took 2 months to set up the show and a month for the show.

In 1971, she received the SUPERIOR SERVICE AWARD, for outstanding service as Private Secretary to the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Economics.

While in Washington, she was active in Luther Place Memorial Church. She was on the church council for a three-year term and was head of the Altar Committee. She also belonged to a Circle.

Lorraine retired from the Department of Agriculture in 1975 and moved to Bismarck to be with her sisters Lorna and Rhoda. Later Helen, another sister, moved in with them, so now there are 4 sisters living together.

Lorna and Lorraine are active members of Trinity Lutheran Church. They volunteer for Meals on Wheels and other needs at the church. They are also Circle members.

Lorraine joined Sons of Norway in 1977 and Lorna joined in 1984. They didn't become active until Janet Esser got them involved. They have been Historians of the lodge for the last 10 years. They both do Hardanger embroidery, are in the Book Club and the Chorus. They work each year at the Lutefisk dinners. They are chairmen of the cookie committee and acquire cookies needed for the dinner. They also do Meals on Wheels for Sons of Norway.

Lorna has been a volunteer at the MedCenter One Gift Shop since 1983. She has 3000 hours of volunteer service there.

In 1997, they received a Volunteer Award from KCLICKS Radio Station. The plaque read "For your dedicated Service to the Sons of Norway, Sverdrup 4-107".

Lorna has been a member of Zonta Club for 25 years.

Lorna and Loraine have been an asset to our community. We thank you for all of your involvement and service to us.

Lorna has taken many pictures of our various events. They have clipped newspaper articles of information about our lodge, and have been diligent in keeping up the history of our lodge. In 1990, they received 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the history book that was placed in competition at the district Convention. There have been no competitions of the history books these later years; however they do bring them to the convention for others to see.

We thank you for the efforts in the making of these books. They are valuable members of our Sverdrup Lodge.