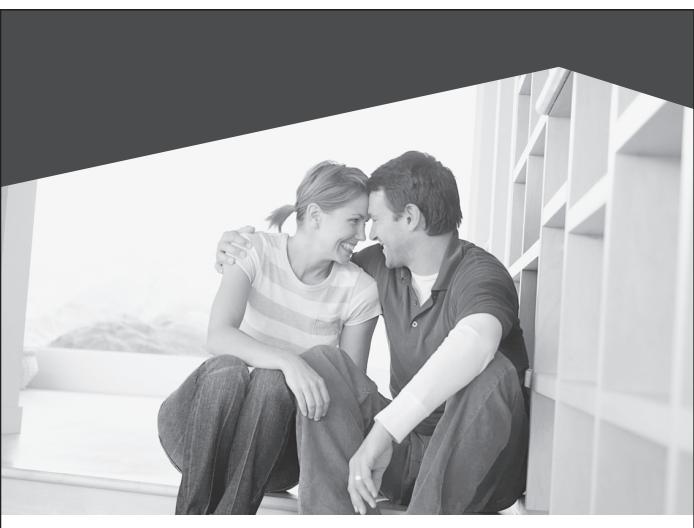




Stephanie Smith, of Waconia, cracks up during the Ole & Lena joke contest. She said she would like to try to tell a joke at next year's contest, but worried that she'd start to laugh before getting to the punchline.



# Ole and Lena face off

## Nordic Heritage Club holds its second-annual joke contest

Photos and Text by Mark W. Olson

Joke tellers were out for blood, or at least for lutefisk, as they faced off in the Nordic Heritage Club's second annual Ole & Lena joke contest last Friday night. (For those new to Minnesota Ole and Lena jokes are a staple among the Scandinavian population.)

About 25 people attended the event at Victoria City Hall, where the club meets the second

Friday of the month.

After a couple stories by professional storyteller Heidi Hoks, eight people took the microphone to tell Ole and Lena jokes.

Even a joke-off between the animated Ross Hanson and Galen Tongen (members of the Waconia Sons of Norway Lodge) couldn't settle who won, so first place was declared a tie.

Here are the five winners (as determined by audience applause) and one of their jokes.



### Online

■ For more Ole & Lena jokes, visit [www.chaskaherald.com](http://www.chaskaherald.com) for a short video of the event.



Ross Hanson was one of the two first-place winners at the Ole and Lena joke-telling contest.

### First-place tie: Ross Hanson

Ole and Sven are sitting at the bar, and Sven says to Ole, "Well are still sweet on that Lena?"

"Oh ya, I sure am ya. That's a solid relationship."

Well Sven says, "Have you kissed her yet? Well no, but I know I could any time."

"Oh, I bet you couldn't"

"Oh, yes I sure could, I could kiss her any time. I'll get a kiss anytime I ask for it."

"Well if that's the case, let's go over to her apartment right now, I want to see you get a kiss from Lena."

They walk over to her apartment. Ole knocks on the door. "Lena, this is Ole and I've come for my kiss. And I think it's time I get a kiss."

Well Lena is so disgusted with all of this she turns around at the keyhole and whispers here through the key hole when I can get a kiss."

Ole is listening. He pops up. Sven says, "Well what did she say?"

Ole: "Well I think she said Tuesday, but her breath is so bad, I'm not going to ask her again."

Lena: "And is that that no good Sven I hear back there

with you too?"

Ole: "Well ya, Sven's here too."

Lena, "Well you're certainly not going to get a kiss tonight."

"Well come on Lena," says Ole.

Ole: "We are such close friends I think its time I get a little kiss."

Lena: No, and especially when you've been drinking."

Ole: "Well Lena come down here to the keyhole and whisper here through the key hole when I can get a kiss."

Well Lena is so disgusted with all of this she turns around at the keyhole and lets a little fart right through the hole

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