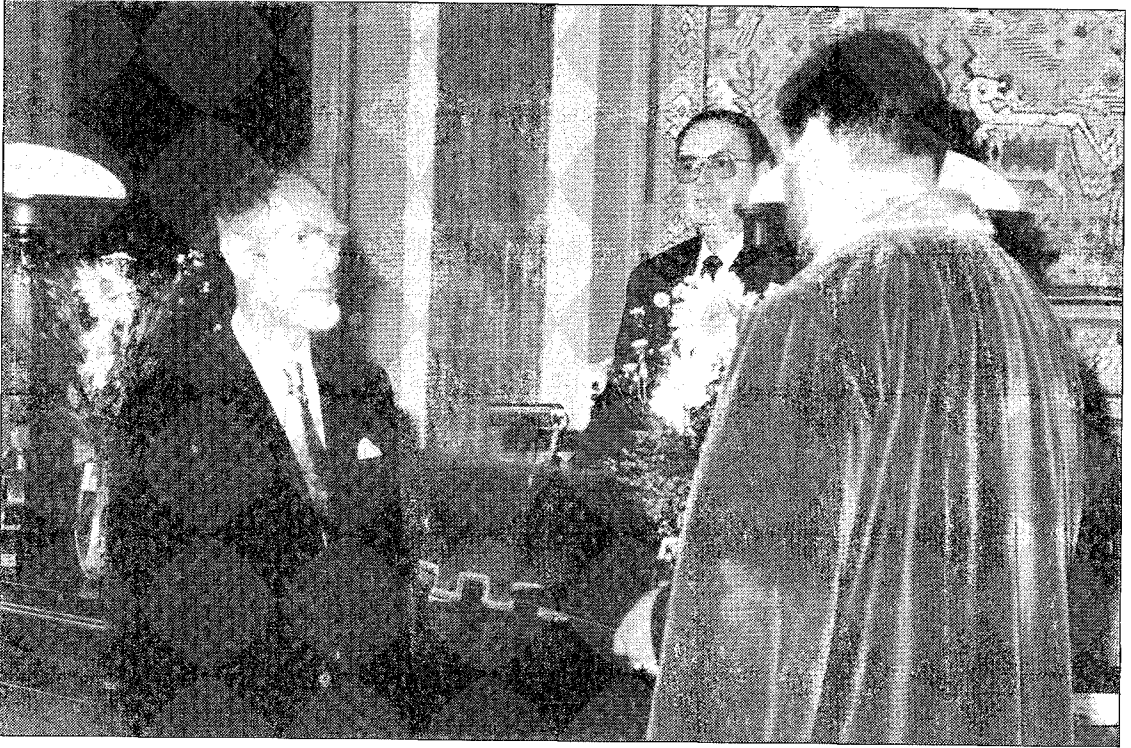


Sven Skjenneberg



Sven Skjenneberg congratulated by dean of the Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine Hallstein Grønstøl during the doctoral ceremony.

Photo: Inger Catrinus

On August 30, 1996, the Norwegian College of Veterinary Medicine, Oslo, granted veterinarian Sven Skjenneberg doctor h.c. during a ceremony in his honor. For the occasion, the Ceremoniaris (master of the ceremony), former dean Knut Karlberg, held this speech;

Sven Skjenneberg was born in 1923. He has worked with reindeer husbandry and reindeer diseases nearly his entire working career as the director of research in reindeer husbandry for the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and as the director of Norway's National Reindeer Research, an organization with an office in Harstad and a research station in Lødingen. From 1981 and until his retirement in 1994, Sven Skjenneberg was the secretary of the Nordic Council for Reindeer Research and editor of the international, scientific journal **Rangifer**. Skjenneberg is well known for both independent reindeer research and the influence he has had on the reindeer research community through the years. Skjenneberg has earned the reputation as the pioneer in modern research concerning reindeer husbandry and reindeer diseases. Together

with David R. Klein from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Skjenneberg took the initiative in establishing "The First International Reindeer/Caribou Symposium". This has now grown to become the "International Arctic Ungulate Conference", which includes all the important arctic ruminants.

It was also Skjenneberg who took the initiative for establishing the scientific journal **Rangifer**, for which he was editor the first 13 years. Skjenneberg has participated in a number of legal actions in which reindeer husbandry has been involved, either as a member of the court or as an expert adviser appointed by the court. Respect for Sven Skjenneberg's expansive international activities, the scientific work he has accomplished and the cooperative work efforts he has initiated is acknowledged by, among many things, becoming an honorary doctor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in 1993. The following year, he received the Norwegian Royal Medal of Honor.

Through his important work, Skjenneberg has become highly respected in the scientific community, reindeer husbandry management and among

reindeer herdsmen. "The veterinarian and artist" was a common expression used to describe Skjenneberg. His many individual exhibitions including both paintings and drawings has contributed to this title. The artist has certainly inspired the professional scientist, but today, it is the scientist which is honored.

A word from the editor:

A review of Skjenneberg's publications was presented in **Rangifer** (Vol. 13 (4), 229–232) after becoming an honorary doctor in Uppsala in 1993. In addition to his professional (scientific) and artistic work mentioned by Ceremoniarus, it must also be mentioned that Sven Skjenneberg has a medal of merit for participation in the World War II. He has also been a boyscout troop leader for many years. In the area of gardening, he has held a number of talks in the planting of roses and clematis in Northern

Norway. Together with his wife Ragnhild, Skjenneberg has at his home in Harstad a fabulous garden widely known for its many roses.

After almost 40 years in Northern Norway, Skjenneberg is now moving from this part of the country to join close relatives in Southern Norway. For the occasion, the county veterinarian for Troms and Finnmark has taken the initiative of arranging a dinner in honor of Ragnhild and Sven Skjenneberg. In the invitation it is written: "For reindeer husbandry, reindeer husbandry management and the veterinarians in this region, Sven has been an important cooperative partner and source of information during this entire period. Sven's contribution in reindeer husbandry has also gained extensive recognition outside Norway."

The Nordic Council for Reindeer Research would like to extend a congratulation, and wish both of you all the best in your new home.