



SONS OF  
NORWAY

March & April, 2006

# NEWSLETTER *Service*

Dear Lodge/District Editors:

We are pleased to provide the latest edition of the Newsletter Service. This complimentary service is printed six times each year and may be used as a supplement to your lodge newsletter. The Newsletter Service provides a variety of information, including current news and culture related articles. The Newsletter Service is also available on the Web at [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com), under the "Members Only" section. We hope you enjoy this issue and find its content to be beneficial.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eivind J. Heiberg'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Eivind J. Heiberg

*A Little in English...*

## How står det til?

Oct. 13th , 2005

Are you bilingual, but mix *ord* from both languages *når* you speak? Languages that share space in the brain over a long time have an easier time of “leaking” over into each other.

Research shows that the brain has trouble keeping two languages away from each other without blending them, says linguistics professor Ana Teresa Pérez-Leroux at the Universitet i Toronto.

“We have found that different languages cannot be kept totally separate in the head. You can become very good in a new language, but there will always be a sort of window in your brain where one language can ‘leak’ over into another.”

### Hitting on the right language

Language-leakage among bilinguals is a well-known phenomenon in language research, says Elizabeth Lanza, professor of linguistics with the University of Oslo.

“When a bilingual person speaks with another both languages are activated, and one switches between the languages depending on what they are talking about.

“But when a bilingual person speaks with a person who only comprehends the one language, it can be difficult for the bilingual to prevent the second language from being activated – and that can cause “leakage.”

### “I will walk to Norway.”

She can show several examples of language-leakage.

“I have heard Norwegian-Americans who say “Jeg skal gå til Norge til sommeren” – from the English “I will go to Norway in the summer.” But the word “go” in English has a much broader meaning than Norwegian “gå,” which means in this context, “walk on foot.”

Lanza is herself an American living in Norway, with children who speak both Norwegian and English fluently.

“When my daughter Maria was little there were certain periods when her Norwegian was “stronger” or more dominant. One time I was away at seminar and called home, she asked me: “Miss you me?” instead of “Do you miss me?”

“Small children find it easier to acquire a new language’s sound system compared to an adult, but adults can achieve a high level of bilingualism themselves although they possibly speak with an accent,” says American / Norwegian Elizabeth Lanza – without accent.

Germans can also mix up their sentences, wont as they are to set the verb back. A bilingual German who also masters English can end up with “I to the dining room go.”

By Arild S. Foss, freelancer for *Forskning.no*

*Litt på norsk...*

## Hvordan stands it to?

13.okt 2005 05:00

Er du tospråklig, men mikser words fra begge språk when du snakker? Språk som deler hjerneplass over lang tid har lettere for å ‘lekke’ over i hverandre.

Forskning viser at hjernen har vondt for å holde fra hverandre to språk uten å blande dem, sier lingvistikkprofessor Ana Teresa Pérez-Leroux ved University of Toronto.

Vi har funnet at ulike språk ikke klarer å være totalt atskilte i hodet. Du kan bli svært god i et nytt språk, men det vil alltid være et slags vindu i hjernen der ett språk kan ‘lekke’ over i det andre.

### “Slår på” riktig språk

Språklekkasje hos tospråklige er et kjent fenomen i språkforskning, forteller Elizabeth Lanza, professor i lingvistikk ved Universitetet i Oslo.

Når en tospråklig snakker med en annen tospråklig er begge språkene aktivert, og man veksler mellom språkene avhengig av hva man snakker om.

Men selv når en tospråklig snakker sammen med en person som bare behersker det ene språket, kan det være vanskelig for den tospråklige å forhindre at det andre språket blir aktivert - og da kan det oppstå "lekkasje".

### Jeg skal gå til Norge

Hun kan vise til flere eksempler på språklekkasje.

Jeg har hørt norskamerikanere som sier ”Jeg skal gå til Norge til sommeren” – fra engelsk ”I will go to Norway”. Men ordet "go" på engelsk har en mer utvidet betydning enn "gå", som betyr i denne sammenhengen ”gå til fots.”

Lanza er selv amerikaner bosatt i Norge, med barn som snakker både norsk og engelsk flytende.

Da min datter Maria var liten var det enkelte perioder hvor norsken var "sterkere" eller mer dominant. En gang jeg var borte på et seminar og ringte hjem, spurte hun meg: ”Miss you me?” i stedet for ”Do you miss me?”

“Småbarn har lettere for å tilegne seg et nytt språks lydsystem sammenlignet med en voksen, men voksne kan oppnå en høy grad av tospråklighet selv om de muligens snakker med aksent,” sier amerikansk/norske Elizabeth Lanza – uten aksent.

Tyskere kan også glippe med setninger, vant som de er med å putte verbet bakerst. En tospråklig tysker som også mestrer engelsk kan ende opp med “I to the dining room go”.

Av: Arild S. Foss , *Frilanser for forskning.no*

## Viking Magazine Wants Your Photos

Why not share your holiday spirit through district happenings pages in Viking magazine? These pages are a perfect way to show others how members at your lodge have honored Norwegian traditions, entertained family and friends or volunteered in the community this holiday season. Viking accepts photo submissions from all lodges and encourages every member to contribute. After all, these pages wouldn't be possible without the participation of lodges throughout the entire organization.

### “What kind of photos can I submit?”

You can submit any kind of photo that reflects your lodge; volunteer efforts, involvement in local parades and fairs, lutefisk dinners and bake sales, scholarship and award ceremonies, craft activities, lodge outings, etc.

### “What size photo should I submit?”

Larger photos work better than smaller photos. The smallest photos we accept are 3” x 5”. If you are printing on photo paper from your home computer, please make sure that the resulting photograph doesn't show any streak marks or noticeable pixelation.

### “Can I submit digital photos?”

Please check with your lodge publicity director when sending digital files. If your lodge publicity director accepts digital files, please remember that files should be at least 300 dpi and 3” x 5”. Typically, digital cameras store photos at a larger size with a smaller resolution, for example 17” x 25” at 72dpi, which are also acceptable.

### “Where do I send photos?”

Please send photo submissions to your lodge publicity director who will then forward them to the district publicity director. The district publicity director chooses the photos for each month's issue and then submits them to Viking magazine. Please do not submit district happenings photos to Sons of Norway Headquarters.

If you have any questions about these procedures, please contact Jessica Gleason at Sons of Norway Headquarters by phone: 612-821-4636 or by e-mail: [jgleason@sofn.com](mailto:jgleason@sofn.com).

## *Have You Had A Financial Checkup Lately?*

If not, contact your fieldstaff representative today to set up an appointment to discuss your financial needs at no cost to you.

*This is a benefit of membership.*

## Språk og Kultur / Language and Culture

**Dugnad** du'g/nad (noun, common gender): volunteer labor or project.

*Dugnad* usually often refers to summertime volunteer work undertaken, either in Norway or abroad, roughly akin to projects like Habitat for Humanity in the United States. It may however describe any kind of such work performed by anyone on a volunteer basis. *Dugnad* projects are typically ad hoc, oriented towards a single, concrete goal, as opposed to ongoing charity work or community services projects, typically referred to as frivilligarbeid (volunteer labor). But *dugnad* is no casual affair. Several organizations, like Internasjonal *Dugnad*, coordinate hundreds of volunteer projects around the world, into which Norwegians of all ages thrust themselves with uncommon enthusiasm. *Dugnad* is a potent Norwegian cultural institution, a powerful public realization of values Norwegians love to demonstrate to themselves and others. *Dugnad* is so popular as a cultural icon that a 2004 contest conducted by the state broadcasting service declared it the Norwegian national word in a ceremony presided over by then-Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik.



*A Little in English...*

## Norwegian Mother's Day – the Second Sunday in February

Mother's Day is an American invention, dating to the second Sunday in May in 1907. That was when the first Memorial Mother's Day Meeting was celebrated in the Methodist church in Crafton, West Virginia after the initiative of Ann Jarvis (1864-1948) as a personal memorial day for her mother who had died two years before. The year after Ann Jarvis sent out an appeal to make this Sunday a general holiday for all mothers, and her appeal was taken up by the Methodist churches in Crafton and Philadelphia, and later spread from there.

In Norway the custom of Mother's Day was first introduced in a Methodist church in Bergen, possibly as early as the first world war. But the first breakthrough for an official mother's day was an initiative from Dorothea Schjoldager (1853-1938) and Karen Platou (1897-1950) in Oslo. In the years between the two world wars they worked to get a mother's day in Norway set for the second Sunday in February, possibly because Norway has so many holidays in May.

From being a day arraigned by religious organizations the occasion has in later years become a day for the family. In Norway, father and children wait on mother on this day. The day can be celebrated with breakfast in bed, flowers, dinner at a restaurant or a nice card. The day has also become commercialized, and several shops sell cards and gifts specially targeted at mothers.



Gratulerer  
med  
Morsdagen

*Litt på norsk...*

## MORS DAG. DEN ANDRE SØNDAGEN I FEBRUAR

Morsdagen er en amerikansk oppfinnelse, datert til den andre søndagen i mai i 1907. Da ble den første Memorial Mothers Day Meeting feiret i metodistkirken i Crafton, West-Virginia etter initiativ av Ann Jarvis (1864-1948) som en personlig minnedag for hennes mor. Hun ville minne sin mor som døde to år tidligere. Året etter sendte Ann Jarvis ut en oppfordring om å gjøre denne søndagen til en almen minnedag for alle mødre, og oppfordringen ble fulgt av metodistkirkene i Crafton og Philadelphia, og har senere bare vokst i utbredelse.

I Norge ble skikken med morsdag innført først i en metodistkirke i Bergen, sannsynligvis så tidlig som under første verdenskrig. Men gjennomslag for en offisiell morsdag ble det først med et initiativ fra Dorothea Schjoldager (1853-1938) og Karen Platou (1897-1950) i Oslo. I mellomkrigsårene arbeidet de for å få en morsdag i Norge lagt til andre søndag i februar muligens fordi Norge har mange festdager i mai.

Fra å være en dag arrangert av religiøse organisasjoner har skikken blitt en dag for familien. I Norge oppvarter far og barn, mor på denne dagen. Dagen kan merkes med frokost på sengen, blomster, middag på restaurant eller et koselig kort. Kommersiell har dagen også blitt, da flere butikker selger kort og gaver spesielt beregnet på mor.



## Språk og Kultur / Language and Culture

**Koselig** ko'/se/lig (adjective): cozy, comfortable; snug, familiar.

It is impossible to capture the precise meaning of *koselig* with a single English word. "Cozy" is the most common definition, but this word cannot match the scope or intensity of *koselig*. *Koselig* is used to describe an impressive array of words: a place can be *koselig*, and so can a person; a dog can be *koselig*, an evening with friends can be *koselig*, a concert, an idea – almost any noun can be described as *koselig*. No less popular is the verb form, å kose seg, meaning "to become *koselig*." It is even possible to use the two forms in a single sentence: Sitte i en *koselig* krok og kose seg med en god bok ("Sit in a cozy corner and get cozy with a good book.").



### Sons of Norway Annuity Interest Rates

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Contact your local Field Rep  
or refer to the  
"Connections" Page in  
Viking magazine.



1455 W. Lake Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55408  
[www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com)

## Sons of Norway Member Presented with Ambassador's Award, Washington, DC

Glorianne "Glo" DeBoer, a member of Sons of Norway Fedrelandet lodge in Petersburg, AK, was presented with the 2005 Ambassador's Award while attending this year's U.S.-Norway Forum. Norwegian Ambassador, Knut Vollebæk, presented the award in Washington D.C., this October.

Ambassador Vollebæk gave the award in recognition of De Boer's leadership as chairperson for the past eight years of the "Little Norway Festival" held annually for fifty years in Petersburg, Alaska. He cited her "drive, determination, vision, volunteer spirit, and willingness to keep the traditions and history of Norway in this country alive and strong."

The Little Norway Festival is a four-day event held on the 17th of May weekend. Plane-loads of eager visitors descend for the event - and for a powerful shot of Norwegian culture. Here are just a few of the incredibly varied and fun events to relish during a stay at the Festival: the 17th of May Parade, Herring Toss, All You Can Eat Shrimp Feed, Tour of the US Coast Guard Cutter Anacapa, Bunad fashion show, Pickled Herring Scandinavian Dance, "Make it! Take it! Rosamaling class," traditional food at Fedrelandet Sons of Norway lodge, and the Armed Forces Day Barbecue at the Elk's Lodge.

In her acceptance speech, DeBoer thanked the Ambassador for his attention and respect that he gave her little town. "We have a fierce dedication to Norway and the Norwegian-American culture in Petersburg, but so often feel a bit forgotten and left out. Whether it is because of our remoteness or the independent spirit that marks a Norwegian, your [Vollebæk's] visit gave a renewed sense of worth to many," she said. "We say you are the closest thing to Royalty that we have in this country, and just as King Harald V, his sisters and Queen Sonja gave Washington, D.C. a renewed sense of vitality and strength on their recent visit, your visit left Petersburg with that same confidence. We will be talking about you for years to come."