



SONS OF NORWAY

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, ranging from current news and culture related articles to word finds and crossword puzzles. The Newsletter Service is also available on the Web at www.sonsofnorway.com, under the “Members Only” section. We hope you enjoy this issue and find its content to be beneficial.

Fraternally,

Eivind J. Heiberg

A Little in English

How many are named...?

Norwegian Name Statistics, 2003

Do you have a typical Norwegian name? If you're curious as to how many Norwegians share your name (first or last name), there's an easy way to find out!

Visit www.ssb.no/emner/00/navn/, click on "English" in the upper right-hand corner and type in your name. This service is offered by Statistisk Sentralbyrå in Norway. Their website also offers a variety of other statistical information about Norwegians.



Litt på norsk

Hvor mange heter...?

Navnestatistikk, 2003

Har du et typisk norsk navn? Hvis du lurer på hvor mange som har samme navn som deg (fornavn eller etternavn), er det lett å finne ut!

Besøk www.ssb.no/emner/00/navn/, klikk på "engelsk" i høyre hjørnet på toppen og skriv navnet ditt. Denne tjenesten er tilbudt av Statistisk Sentralbyrå i Norge. Websiden deres tilbyr også mange andre typer statistisk informasjon om nordmenn.



Norwegian Trivia

1. What is the name of Bergen's harbor?
2. Who unified Norway in 872 A.D. and became the first supreme ruler of Norway?
3. What is the Norwegian word for the stew made of potatoes, carrots, onions and meat?
4. Which Norwegian poet wrote the poem "Elvira," about a young girl at a dance?
5. Where in Norway did most of Sons of Norway's founding fathers originate?

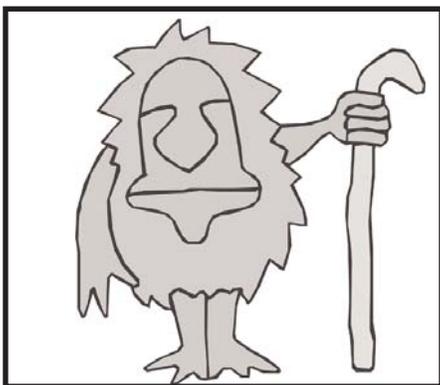
Norwegian Folk Tales

The valleys in western and northern Norway are full of folk tales, sagas and myths, many of them relating to or 'explaining' curious geographic features. In the north, they're an especially rich part of Nordland coastal culture.

In one story, a lonely island-dwelling giantess shouted across the water to a giant named Blåmann (blue man) on the mainland, asking him to marry her. He agreed, provided she brought the island along with her but, by the time she'd packed everything up, the sun rose and turned her to stone, as did Blåmann, who'd stayed out too long waiting for her. The island became known as Gygrøy (giantess island), but local fisherfolk renamed it Landegode (the good land), lest the giantess take offense.

To delve deeper into Norwegian folk tales and legends, many of which have been translated into English, look for works by Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe, in particular.

-From Folklores and Legends, Lonely Planet Norway 2002



Sons of Norway International Folk Art Exhibit and Competition

Opening on August 18, 2004, in Washington, D.C., the Folk Art Exhibit and Competition will be part of the International Convention. The following categories are included:

- ♦ Weaving
- ♦ Relief carving
- ♦ Crocheting and tatting
- ♦ Rosemaling
- ♦ Hand-knitting
- ♦ Hardanger embroidery
- ♦ Photography
- ♦ Figure carving
- ♦ Chip carving and bentwood
- ♦ Plus many others!

You may download registration forms from www.sonsofnorway.com. Call (800) 945-8851 with any questions. Send completed registration forms to:

Sons of Norway
Attn: International Folk Art
1455 West Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408



August 2004

A Little in English

Typical Norwegian, what is that?

Some years ago, 30,000 Norwegians sent in suggestions to the radio (NRK) about what was typical Norwegian. Goat cheese won first place. That is the most Norwegian of everything Norwegian, and it is used as a bread spread in lunch packs for hundreds of thousands of school children. Also at the top of the list were the knitted sweater, May 17 parades and Norwegian mittens, for example Selbu mittens from Trøndelag.

Other typical Norwegian things are the cheese slicer, ski boots, cabin stoves, bunads and the Hardanger fiddle.

A typical Ola Nordmann or Kari Nordkvinne therefore wear Norwegian sweaters and Selbu mittens, sit in front of their cabin's stove and spread bread in their lunch packs with goat cheese slices while they listen to Hardanger fiddle on the radio. Outside their cabin the goats graze on grass so there is more goat milk to make brown goat cheese. A large Norwegian flag waves on the cabin's roof.

-from Norge Kulturkunnskap

www.mh.is/~norska/kult_b.htm

august 2004

Litt på norsk

Typisk norsk, hva er det?

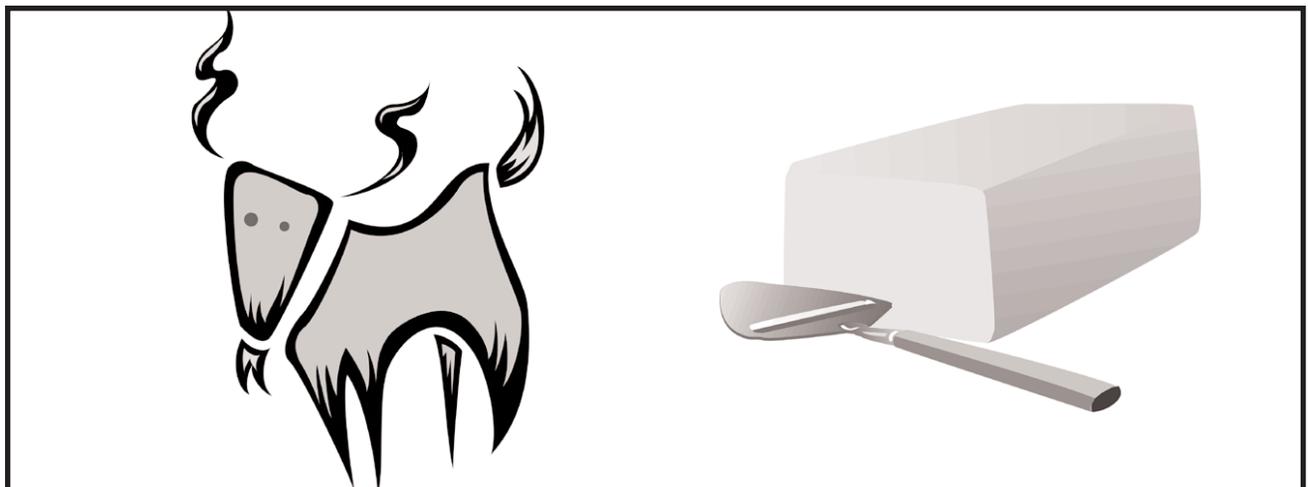
For noen år siden, sendte 30.000 nordmenn inn forslag til NRK radio om hva som var typisk norsk. Geitosten vant førsteplass. Det er det norskeste av alt norsk, og blir brukt som pålegg i matpakkene til hundretusener av skoleelever. På annenplass kom lusekofte, 17. maitoget og norske votter, f.eks. selbuvottene fra Trøndelag.

Andre typiske norske ting var ostehøvelen, skistøvler, hyttepeis, bunader og hardingfele.

En typisk Ola Nordmann eller Kari Nordkvinne har altså på seg lusekofte og selbuvotter, sitter foran hyttepeisen og smører matpakke med geitost mens de hører på hardingfele på radioen. Utenfor hytta går geitene mens de eter gress så det blir mer geitemelk til å lage brunost. På hyttetaket vaier et stort norsk flagg.

-fra Norge Kulturkunnskap

www.mh.is/~norska/kult_b.htm



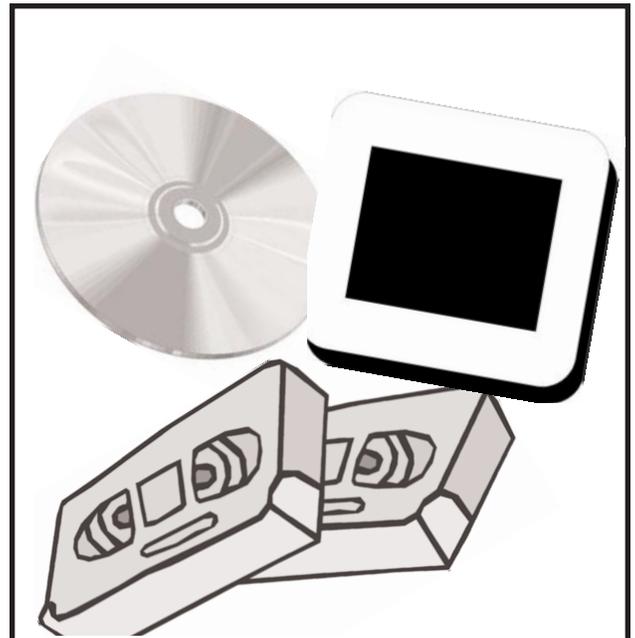
Check out Sons of Norway's Media Library

If the responsibility for planning the next lodge meeting rests on your shoulders, consult the Sons of Norway Headquarters for help. The media library consists of videos, slides and CDs and is available to members, free of charge (members are responsible for return shipping cost). These items are useful in providing entertainment, serving as visual aids or simply for educating fellow lodge members.

To request an item in the media library, contact Anna Johansson, culture assistant, at (800) 945-8851, ext. 659, or culture@sofn.com. You may also request a brochure listing the categories and titles of videos, slides and CDs available or visit www.sonsofnorway.com for a list of videos and slides. Please provide your name, contact information, membership number and lodge number with your request. Sons of Norway must be notified of your media request **eight weeks** before the intended viewing date. You have one week to return the media item upon viewing.

Current popular titles of video rentals include *Edvard Grieg's Mountain Odyssey*, *Building a Dream: The Moorhead Stave Church*, *Sapmi - The Sami People of Norway* and *Cooking Norway Style*. Popular slide shows include *Bunader* and *Karl Johans Gate in Oslo*. As for CDs, members frequently request *Mari Boine - Eight Seasons*.

Take advantage of these cultural and educational resources offered by Sons of Norway!



Ole and Lena Jokes

Ole's Job

Ole: I lost my job again, Lena, but it wasn't my fault dis time. Da boss told me to do whatever da sign say.

Lena: So, what did da sign say?

Ole: "Vet Floor."

Ole's Ill

Ole: (calling from bed) Lena, dat hotdish sure smells good. Can I haf some for supper?

Lena: Ole, you know I'm saving dat for da funeral!

- from *Ole and Lena Live via Satellitite*,
Adventure Publications, Inc.