



SONS OF
NORWAY

July, August, 2007

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, 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
Fraternal Director

A Little in English...

Was Heyerdahl Right?

The famous Norwegian scientist and ethnographer Thor Heyerdahl believe that Polynesia could have been populated from South America, and not Asia. In 1947, Heyerdahl sailed on the balsa raft Kon-Tiki from Peru to Polynesia to prove that the theory could be correct. Heyerdahl's fantastic trip proved that it was physically possible to reach Polynesia with that type of prehistoric sea craft.

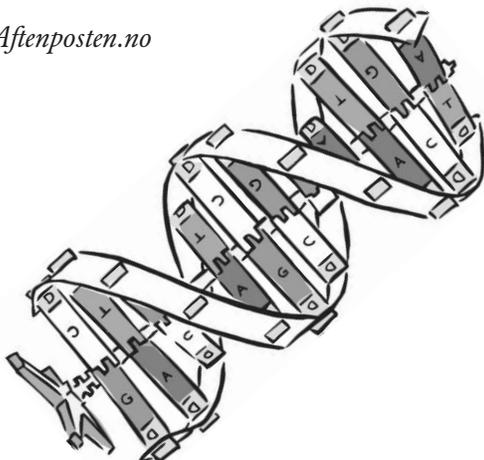
Heyerdahl's theory has always been disputed by anthropologists. Late in the 1990s, DNA tests found that Polynesians have more in common with people from Southeast Asia, which seems to prove that their ancestors most likely came from Asia.

But new DNA analysis of the population of Easter Island in Polynesia show that Heyerdahl nonetheless could have been partially correct. Professor Erik Thorsby and his team at the University of Oslo have found two genes that show that there could have been early contact between Easter Island and South America.

"Our experiments show for the first time genes among the population of Easter Island that most likely come from South American Indians" Thorsby told the research magazine Apollon.

Thorsby thinks the findings indicate that Heyerdahl can have been right in that the culture on the island was influenced by South American culture.

From Aftenposten.no



Litt på norsk...

Hadde Heyerdahl rett?

Den berømte norske vitenskapsmann og etnolog Thor Heyerdahl trodde at Polynesia kunne være befolket fra Sør-Amerika, og ikke Asia. I 1947 seilte Heyerdahl på balsaflåten Kon Tiki fra Peru til Polynesia til å bevise at teorien kunne være rett. Heyerdahls fantastiske reise beviste at det var fysisk mulig å nå Polynesia med denne typen av forhistoriske fartøy.

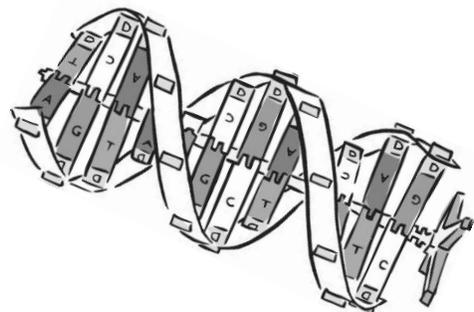
Heyerdahls teori har alltid vært omstridt av antropologer. DNA-tester sent på 90-tallet viser at polynesere har mer til felles med folk fra Sydøst-Asia enn med folk fra Sør-Amerika, noe som antas å bevise at deres forfedre mest sannsynlig kom fra Asia.

Men nye DNA-analyser av befolkningen på Påskeøya i Polynesia viser at Heyerdahl likevel kan ha hatt litt rett. Professor Erik Thorsby og hans team ved Universitetet i Oslo har funnet to gener som viser at det kan ha vært tidlig kontakt mellom Påskeøya og Sør-Amerika.

- Våre undersøkelser påviser for første gang gener blant befolkningen på Påskeøya som høyst sannsynlig stammer fra søramerikanske indianere" sa Thorsby til forskningsbladet Apollon.

Thorsby mener funnene tyder på at Heyerdahl kan ha rett i at kulturen på øya tidlig ble påvirket av Sør-Amerikansk kultur.

Fra Aftenposten.no



'Sinnataggen' Turned Pink

Vandals once again attacked Norway's arguably most famous and cherished statue over the weekend, painting the angry little boy known as Sinnataggen bright pink. The vandalism was the latest to hit statues in the Vigeland collection within Oslo's Frogner Park, and prompted calls for better security.

"This is Europe's largest sculpture park," noted Oslo tourism boss Tor Sannerud. "There's so much value gathered here that it should have its own team of security guards."

Early-morning visitors to the park found the statue of a toddler having a temper tantrum covered with pink paint on Saturday. A cryptic sign left next to the statue prompted speculation that the vandalism was part of protests over recent destruction of a center for youthful activists in Copenhagen.

It's not the first time Sinnataggen has been damaged. Thieves sawed through its lower left leg in the early 1990s and stole the statue. It was later found in a garbage dump.

All the statues created by Gustav Vigeland in the Frogner Park are covered by round-the-clock video surveillance. Police were studying video from the park taken between Friday night and Saturday morning, in the hopes of identifying the vandals.

From Aftenposten English Web Desk

Nina Berglund



Matlyst Monthly

Sea Mussel Soup



Ingredients:

- 2.2 lbs. fresh sea mussels (alive if possible)
- 3 shallots
- 3 cloves of garlic
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 gram crushed saffron
- 1/2 teaspoon curry
- Fresh herbs (finely chopped)
- 1.7 oz. butter
- Salt and pepper

Wash the mussels well in cold water. In a pan, fry finely chopped shallots, crushed garlic, herbs and spices in butter. Add the mussels and white wine. Let it steam under a lid for 4-5 minutes (until all mussels are open). Add the cream and let cook for 3-4 minutes without the lid. Season with salt and pepper. Serve the soup with the mussels (with shells) in it and some bread and butter.

From Sons of Norway's Recipe Box on www.sonsofnorway.com



A little in English...

Stiff Sentences for Munch Robbers

"We must react strongly to such a serious offense. The pictures have a value of 750 million kroner, and are two of the cornerstones of Munch's production," said Judge Dag Stousland of Borgating district court.

Petter Tharaldsen, Bjørn Hoen and Stian Skold were found guilty for the Munch robbery on August 22nd, 2004. The three were sentenced to prison for periods from five and a half years to nine and a half years. They are also sentenced to pay in total 1,570,000 kroner to the city of Oslo.

The sentences are slightly milder than the prosecution requested. District Attorney Elisabeth Ramstad thought Bjørn Hoen was the organizer of the armed robbery and asked the court to imprison him for twelve years.

Tharladsen is said to have been the driver who waited outside, something the prosecutor thought should get ten years in prison. Stian Skjold was, according to the state's attorneys, a newcomer who was going to prove that he had become something in the criminal world. He allegedly ran into the museum together with a now deceased man and tore the two paintings down from the wall.



Litt på norsk...

Streng straffer for Munch-ranere

-Det må reageres strengt for en så graverende forbrytelse. Bildene har en verdi på 750 millioner og er to av hjørnesteinene i Munchs produksjon, sa lagmann Dag Stousland i Borgating lagmannsrett.

Petter Tharaldsen, Bjørn Hoen og Stian Skold ble funnet skyldige for Munch-ranet 22. august 2004. De tre er dømt til fengsel i perioder fra fem og et halvt år til ni og et halvt år. De er dessuten dømt til å betale til sammen 1.570.000 kroner til Oslo kommune.

Dommene er litt mildere enn aktoratets påstand. Statsadvokat Elisabeth Ramstad mente Bjørn Hoen var organisator av det væpnede ranet og ba retten fengsle ham i tolv år.

Tharaldsen skal ha vært sjåføren som ventet på utsiden, noe aktor mente han burde få ti års fengsel for. Stian Skjold var, ifølge påtalemyndigheten, debutanten som skulle vise at han dugde til noe i det kriminelle miljøet. Han skal ha løpt inn i museet sammen med en nå avdød mann og revet de to bildene ned av veggen.



Immigration Sets New Record

Immigration to Norway was higher than it's ever been last year, with the biggest group of immigrants coming from Poland.

New figures from the state statistics bureau SSB counted 45,800 immigrants arriving in Norway, and 22,100 persons leaving the country. That resulted in net immigration of 23,700, nearly 30 percent higher than the number in 2005.

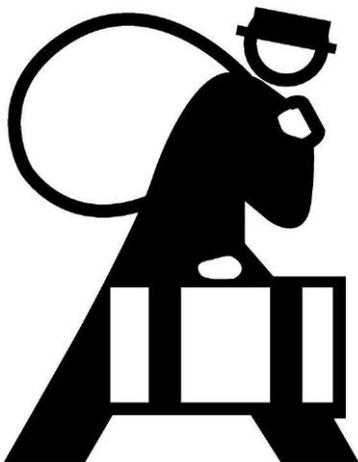
The vast majority of immigrants are coming to Norway from other European countries, followed by Asian countries. Since 2003, net immigration from Poland has risen by 6,700, and by 2,000 from Sweden.

Polish citizens accounted for 7,400 of Norway's new immigrants last year, and they made up the single largest group, followed by Swedes (3,400) and Germans (2,300). Many are moving to Norway in hopes of cashing in on the country's booming economy and demand for labour.

Net immigration from both Asia and Africa was slightly lower last year than it was between 2001 and 2005. Earlier years saw higher immigration from the Balkans, Iraq and other countries in Asia and Africa because of war and requests for asylum.

Aftenposten English Web Desk

Nina Berglund/NTB



Matlyst Monthly

Cucumber Salad



Ingredients:

- 1 European cucumber
- 2/3 cup (1-1/2 dl) vinegar, white
- 2/3 cup (1-1/2 dl) water
- 3-1/2 T. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Dash of white pepper
- Fresh parsley

English or European cucumbers are quite expensive, but there is no comparison in taste. Slice them thin for salads; a Norwegian cheese knife works well. This salad tastes good with either baked or fried foods.

Thinly slice a European cucumber. Mix dressing well and pour over cucumber slices in serving bowl. Make salad ready early enough to let dressing penetrate without making cucumbers soft (about one-half hour). Sprinkle with fine chopped fresh parsley.

Ekte Norsk Mat--Authentic Norwegian Cooking is available for purchase, through the Vesterheim bookstore.

