



SONS OF  
NORWAY

March, April, 2008

# NEWSLETTER *Service*

Dear Lodge/District Editors:

We are pleased to provide the latest edition of the Newsletter Service. Throughout this year, you will begin to see changes to the Newsletter Service as we strive to make this resource even more valuable.

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 in pdf format on the Web at [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com), under the "Members Only" section. Using Adobe Acrobat PDF Reader, you can copy and paste text from this document by utilizing the "select text" function. If you don't have the latest version of this program, you can download it for free by going to <http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/> and scroll to the bottom of the page.

Also, we recently changed our mailing list to better serve you. From now on, lodges with both an editor position and publicity director position will only receive one copy of the newsletter service mailed to the editor. If the publicity director from your lodge would still like to receive the newsletter service, please contact Jessica Gleason at 612-821-4636 or [jgleason@sofn.com](mailto:jgleason@sofn.com) to be included on the list.

We hope you enjoy this issue and find its content to be beneficial. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve the Newsletter Service, please call or e-mail Jessica.

Fraternally,

Eivind J. Heiberg  
Fraternal Director

*A Little in English...*

## Viking King's Farm Found in Vestfold

*Archeologists say the find is sensational and that history has to be rewritten.*

The find was made in connection with scanning of the area with geo-radar in autumn 2007. Archeologists have for several decades searched for the structures that correspond to known gravesites in Borre. Earlier searches have not yielded the expected results. The new research has led to the find of two hall buildings that were between 30 and 40 meters long and 10 meters wide. This would be an aristocrat's ballroom, not just a graveyard.

Much of the history of the Viking Age is already being rewritten. Kaupang's role as a seat of power in the 700 and 800s must be seen in light of a strong power center farther north. The image of the Viking Age is becoming more complex, and we see more traces of international connections, say the archeologists.

"This is proof that this site was a center of royal power during the Viking Age," says archeologist Terje Gansum. The find is sensational and strengthens the theory that Borre was an important center for Vikings living in the Oslo fjord area.

*-Adapted from [www.nrk.no](http://www.nrk.no)*



*Litt på norsk...*

## Vikingenes kongsgård i Vestfold er funnet

*Arkeologer sier funnet er sensasjonelt og at historien må skrives om.*

Funnet ble gjort i forbindelse med skanning av arealet med georadar i høsten 2007. Arkeologer har i flere tiår søkt etter bebyggelsen som hører sammen med gravene i Borre. Tidligere søk har ikke gitt de forventede resultater. Nå har undersøkelsene ført til funn av to hallbygninger som har vært mellom 30 og 40 meter lange og 10 meter brede. Dette er aristokratiets festsaler og ikke bare en gravplass.

Mye av vikingtidshistorien er i ferd med å skrives om. Kaupangs rolle som maktsete på 700-800-tallet må ses i lys av et sterkt maktsenter lenger nord. Bildet av vikingtiden blir stadig mer komplekst og vi ser spor av internasjonale maktrelasjoner, sier arkeologene.

- Dette er bevis på at stedet har vært et kongelig maktsenter i Vikingtiden, sier arkeolog Terje Gansum. Funnet er sensasjonelt og styrker teorien om at Borre har vært senter for vikingene rundt Oslofjorden.

*- uldrag fra [www.nrk.no](http://www.nrk.no)*



# Norwegian Experience

2007 was a very successful year for recruiting within Sons of Norway and we want to congratulate all the recruiters on their hard work. Because 2007 was so successful we want to keep up the encouragement, so Sons of Norway and Borton Overseas have decided to continue the Norwegian Experience recruitment contest for another year.

From January 1 through December 31, 2008, members who recruit new, dues-paying Sons of Norway members will be entered into the drawing to win a new Norwegian Experience of a lifetime for two. What's even better is that the winner and their guest will be able to select their own adventure, courtesy of Borton Overseas. Similar to last year, the winner of this year's Norwegian Experience membership recruitment contest will have a variety of guided tours and cruises in Norway to choose from! Whether a relaxing, pampered cruise or a more active tour of Norway is preferred, Sons of Norway and Borton Overseas will work with the winner to provide the ultimate experience in Norwegian travel. No matter which experience the winner selects, they will travel in style including business class international air travel, deluxe accommodations, and U.S. \$500 in spending money!

The winner will also enjoy an exclusive excursion to Hadeland Glassworks near Oslo, complete with a private guided tour to see how some of the world's finest glass and crystal are made, an opportunity to blow their own glass, a special three-course lunch, and a NOK 1,000 gift certificate to purchase a keepsake from Hadeland's glass shop, all compliments of Hadeland Glassworks.

Also, this year Sons of Norway and Borton are working to add new elements to make the 2008 Norwegian Experience even better than last year. Be sure to keep checking the Sons of Norway website for updates and additions to this year's Norwegian Experience recruitment contest!

## Matlyst Monthly

### Grandmother's Fish Soup

Ingredients:

3 liters (quarts) fish stock

3 tablespoons butter

1/3 cup flour

2 cups buttermilk

4 apples

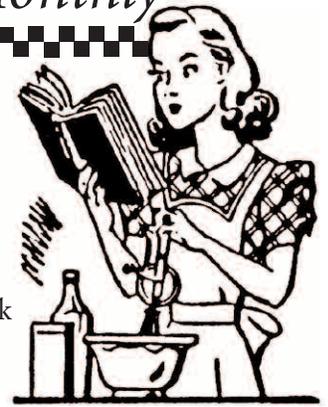
3/4 cups sour cream

2 carrots

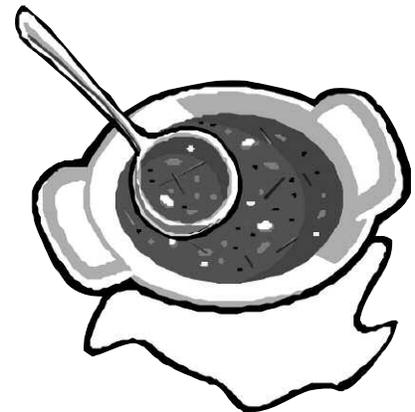
2 cups leek

1 1/3 pounds fish fillets

2 tablespoons chopped chives



Place stock in pot and bring to a boil. Melt the butter and stir in the flour in a separate pot. Gradually add the boiling stock. Return to a boil and add the buttermilk. Simmer for 30 minutes. Peel and core the apples. Add to the soup and simmer about 15 minutes. Strain and whisk in the sour cream. Slice the carrots and leek and cook each separately until tender, about 6 minutes. Add to the soup. Cut the fish into very thin slices and place in individual soup bowls or in a terrine. Reheat the soup almost to boiling and pour over the fish. Sprinkle with chives. Serve with flatbread.



*A Little in English...*

## Sissel's Secret USA Success

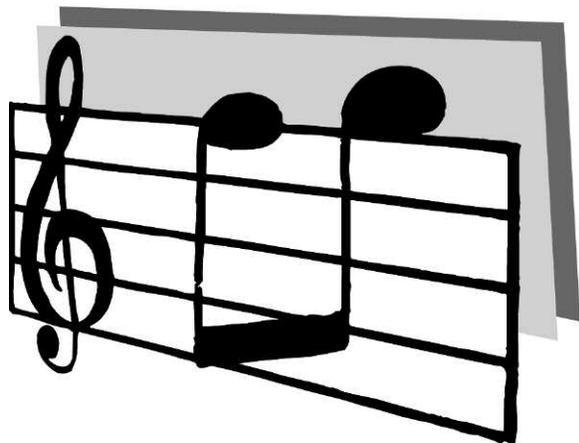
Sissel Kyrkjebø was a singing sensation last fall in the US. In Norway though it has been rather quiet.

In September 2007, Sissel topped the sales lists in the US, the world's largest music market. With the album "Spirit of the Season" the singer from Bergen topped the charts with the help of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. The album stayed on the official classical charts for nine weeks and topped five of them. The disc was nominated for two Grammys, one for best classical crossover album and one for best produced classical album. Yet this has nonetheless attracted very little attention in the Norwegian media.

The Norwegian black metal band Dimmu Borgir's debut at number 43 on the Billboard chart earlier in the year was duly discussed in the Norwegian media. And ever since the first time that Sondre Lerche went to the US to plow some new ground, Norwegian journalists have given him countless column inches. So why is it so quiet for Sissel?

"You should ask the Norwegian press about why that is, not me," said Sissel's manager Barry Matheson to the net magazine Side2.no.

- Adapted from [www.side2.no](http://www.side2.no)



*Litt på norsk...*

## Sissels usynlige USA-suksess

Sissel Kyrkjebø har i løpet av høsten blitt en syngende sensasjon i USA. I Norge har det vært heller tyst.

I september 2007 toppet Sissel salgslistene i USA, verdens største musikkmarked. Det er med albumet «Spirit Of The Season» at sangeren fra Bergen topper listene sammen med The Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Albumet lå i ni uker på den offisielle klassisklista i USA og toppet i fem av dem. Plata ble nominert til to Grammy-priser, en for beste klassiske crossoveralbum og en for best produserte klassiske album. Men dette har likevel skapt svært lite oppmerksomhet i norske medier.

Det norske black metal-bandet Dimmu Borgirs debuterte på 43. plass på Billboards albumliste tidligere i år ble behørig omtalt i norske medier. Og helt siden Sondre Lerche reiste til USA for første gang for å pløye ny mark har norske journalister gitt ham atskillige spalte metre. Så hvorfor er det så stille for Sissel?

- Du må spørre norsk presse om hvorfor det er slik, ikke meg, sa Sissels manager Barry Matheson til nettavisen Side2.no.

- uldrag fra [www.side2.no](http://www.side2.no)



## Stoltenberg stresses schools in New Year's address

Stung by recent studies showing below-average performance by Norwegian students, Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg called for speedy improvements in his annual New Year's address to the nation Tuesday evening.

Stoltenberg promised a thorough evaluation of recent school reforms that were supposed to boost student performance, not hurt it.

Instead, a recent international study sounded what Stoltenberg called a "serious warning" about the quality of schools. The so-called PISA rankings indicated that Norwegian teenagers are testing poorly in such basic areas as reading, mathematics and science.

"Have we gone too far in loosening up the framework around education?" Stoltenberg wondered in his national address. He suggested a return to more structure in the classroom, longer school days, more attention to reading skills and better continuing education for teachers. His remarks seemed generally well-received by teachers and school administrators, who also see a need for improvements.

### Climate concerns, too

In Norway, it's traditional for the reigning monarch to speak on Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK) on New Year's Eve, followed by an address by the prime minister on New Year's night. Stoltenberg joined King Harald V in also stressing the importance of battling climate change. Stoltenberg, whose government has been criticized for failing to practice what it preaches, insisted he was taking the threats of climate change seriously and that oil-producing Norway would reduce emissions at home as well as help finance emissions cuts overseas.

"The climate problem has been created by people," he said. "It can be solved by people." Wealthy countries like Norway, he said, must take the greatest share of responsibility.

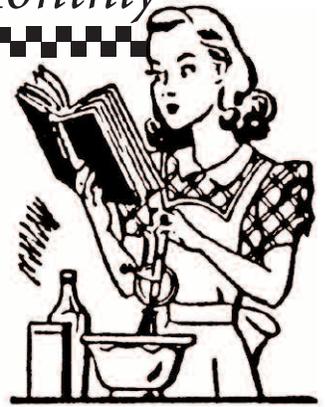
Stoltenberg also joined King Harald in sending New Year's greetings to Norwegians around the world, especially the Norwegian soldiers currently stationed in Afghanistan.

- From *Aftenposten.no*

*Matlyst Monthly*



## Bergen Water Pretzels



Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups water or milk

1 1/2 ounces fresh yeast

1/4 cup butter or margarine

1/2 cup flour

1/4 teaspoon salt

Heat the water (or milk) and stir in the yeast. Melt the butter and add with flour and salt to make a firm dough. Divide into 20 pieces. Roll each into long tubes and form into classic pretzel shape. Preheat oven to 425 degrees fahrenheit. Bring a wide pot of water to a boil. Add a few pretzels at a time and bring the water back to a boil. At first, the pretzels will sink to the bottom. When they rise back to the top, remove them with a slotted spoon and place on a baking sheet. Bake pretzels for 10 minutes.

