



SONS OF  
NORWAY



2005

# 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](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 cursive script, reading "Eivind J. Heiberg".

Eivind J. Heiberg

*A Little in English...*

## Norwegian National Anthem

Yes, we love with fond devotion  
This our land that looms  
Rugged, storm-scarred o'er the ocean,  
With her thousand homes.  
Love her, in our love recalling  
Those who gave us birth.  
And old tales which night, in falling,  
Brings as dreams to earth.

Norseman, whatso'er thy station,  
Thank thy God, Whose power  
Willed and wrought the land's salvation  
In her darkest hour.  
All our mothers sought with weeping  
And our sires in fight,  
God has fashioned, in His keeping,  
Till we gained our right.

Yes, we love with fond devotion  
This our land that looms  
Rugged, storm-scarred o'er the ocean,  
With her thousand homes.  
And, as warrior sires have made her  
Wealth and fame increase,  
At the call we too will aid her,  
Armed to guard her peace

Visit  
[www.geocities.com/artscience/syt-1.html](http://www.geocities.com/artscience/syt-1.html)  
to hear the melody



*Litt på norsk...*

## Nasjonalsangen

Ja, vi elsker dette landet  
som det stiger frem,  
furet, værbitt, over vannet,  
med de tusen hjem, -  
elsker, elsker det og tenker  
på vår far og mor  
og den saganatt som senker  
drømme på vår jord.

Norske mann i hus og hytte,  
takk din store Gud!  
Landet ville han beskytte  
skjønt det mørkt så ut.  
Alt hva fedrene har kjempet,  
mødrene har grett,  
har den Herre stille lempet,  
så vi vant vår rett.

Ja, vi elsker dette landet,  
som det stiger frem,  
furet, værbitt over vannet,  
med de tusen hjem!  
Og som fedres kamp har hevet  
det av nød til seir  
også vi når det blir krevet,  
for dets fred slår leir.



## Sons of Norway Ends 2004 with Award-Winning Magazine

Minneapolis – On November 11, at the eighth annual Minnesota Magazine and Publications Association (MMPA) Excellence Awards, Viking magazine received a silver award for “Best Single Cover” in the category of Professional Magazines with circulation over 50,000. The winning cover appeared in April 2004 and featured a member of the Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers. The photo was taken by Rob Northway and the cover was designed by Tari Johnson, Viking’s art director.

Because of Sons of Norway’s commitment to quality and high standards, Viking magazine has been well-known at the MMPA awards, winning 5 Gold and Silver awards in the past 4 years. Fraternal Director Eivind Heiberg said, “Sons of Norway is proud of its publication and we are excited to provide a high quality magazine for our membership.”



## Big Plans for Norway’s 100th Anniversary

This year marks 100 years since Norway broke out of its forced union with Sweden and restored its own monarchy. The country plans to celebrate the start of its next 100 years by hosting dozens of concerts and exhibits both at home and overseas, highlighting Norway’s music, art and history.

Officials hope the country will be gripped by a massive “people’s party” starting June 7, 100 years to the day since the union with Sweden was formally ended.

Ironically yet intentionally, part of the 2005 celebration will feature the formal opening of a new bridge connecting Norway and Sweden at the popular southern border crossing at Svinesund. Sweden’s King Carl Gustaf will come to Norway, and both he and Norway’s King Harald V will travel down from Oslo to open the bridge on June 10.

On the 7th itself, the Norwegian Parliament will hold a memorial ceremony and a special concert will be held in Oslo’s Concert House. A new Nobel Peace Center will open on June 11 and then the Norwegian royal couple will make a courtesy call to Sweden.

Concerts and exhibits are taking place all year long, while the Bank of Norway is issuing commemorative coins, cities are hosting festivals, Norwegian Broadcasting is producing special programming and churches are hosting memorial services and activities.

Norway’s foreign ministry will actively spread the celebrations outside Norway. While the main focus will be on Sweden, events are planned in Russia, Denmark, Great Britain, the US, Germany, France, Japan, China, South Africa and India.

In Oslo, several major construction projects are underway already, including one that will limit traffic around the Parliament and create more pedestrian-friendly areas along main boulevard Karl Johans Gate.

*Celebrate The Centennial!*



*A Little in English...*

## Norwegians Gave Most to Tsunami Aid

Norway's 4.6 million inhabitants don't amount to much in global numbers, but they have contributed nearly 16 percent of all privately raised funds in aid of the tsunami victims in Southeast Asia.

Norwegians have given around NOK 560 million in private donations via organizations such as the Red Cross and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), newspaper *Stavanger Aftenblad* reports.

According to an updated list released by the United Nations, private contributions to the tsunami victims on a world basis reached \$551.6 million, with Norway's share being \$87.5 million, or 15.9 percent of the total.

In addition, the Norwegian government agreed to public demands to give NOK 1.1 billion (\$170.4 million) above budgeted aid. This means that the average citizen paid a total of NOK 360 (\$56.00) to help out the tsunami victims.

-from *Aftenposten*



*Litt på norsk...*

## Nordmenn ga mest penger til flodbølgeofrene

Norge utgjør rundt 0,7 promille av verdens befolkning, men nesten 16 prosent av all privat donasjon til flodbølgeofrene i Asia ble gitt av nordmenn.

Totalt har nordmenn gitt rundt 560 millioner kroner i private gaver via organisasjoner som Røde Kors og Kirkens Nødhjelp til flodbølgeofrene.

Ifølge en oppdatert liste som FN offentliggjorde er de private donasjonene på verdensbasis på 551,6 millioner dollar. Penger innsamlet i Norge utgjør 87,5 millioner dollar, eller 15,9 prosent, av totalsummen.

I tillegg har den norske regjeringen bevilget 1,1 milliarder kroner til flodbølgeofrene over statsbudsjettet. Inkludert beløpet som er samlet inn privat, har hver nordmann dermed gitt over 360 kroner til flodbølgeofrene.

-fra *Aftenposten*



## New 'Kon-Tiki' Exhibition Postponed

The group of adventurers, which included a grandson of Heyerdahl, had high hopes for their so-called "Tangaroa Expedition," named after a Polynesian god of the sea. They planned to set off April 28, on a 101-day voyage across the Pacific.

The tsunamis that hit Asia on December 26, however, doused those plans. Important sponsors decided to redirect funding grants to tsunami victims instead of to the Tangaroa project.

"We have deep respect for their priorities, and support them wholeheartedly," the expedition team announced recently.

Expedition leader Torgeir Sæverud Higravf said the voyage, in a papyrus raft from Lima to Polynesia, is now set to begin on April 28, 2006.

-from *Aftenposten*



# KON TIKI



## Ancient Church Found

The site of a nearly 1,000-year-old church has been found in Skien, making it likely Norway's oldest. Norway may have been converted to Christianity far earlier than believed.

The remains were found in 2001 but have only now been dated radiologically. Experts believe the find strengthens theories that Norway was Christian in several spots long before Håkon the Good, Olav Tryggvason and Olav Haraldsson began their missionary raids.

"It is fun to see confirmation of what we have long believed, that there was a Christianization of Norway long before the two Olavs came," said Jan Brendalsmo, archeologist at the Foundation for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU).

Associate Professor Jon Vidar Sigurdsson at the Medieval Center at the University of Oslo said that new finds in recent years would likely push the date of Norway's conversion to Christianity to the 800s.

Archeologists believe the post church may be the "Hakastein" mentioned in writing from 1354.

Researchers have also found two Christian graves from 885-990 at the same site.

"The two graves may mean that there is another church on the site. In addition, there can be about 1,100 people buried here over a period of 400 years. So we believe that there is absolutely unique information still buried at the site," said Brendalsmo. Nevertheless, the site is currently destined to become a park.

-from *Aftenposten*

