



SONS OF
NORWAY

November, December 2008

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 in PDF format on the web at 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 scrolling 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 and publicity director 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 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

November 2008

A Little in English...

Genealogy

Genealogy always ranks as one of the biggest interests for Norwegian-Americans. Many sources can only be found in Norwegian, and so it can be useful to get acquainted with the language. However, you don't need to be a linguistic expert to search for your roots. Here are a few important words about genealogy. Many of them are similar between English and Norwegian. Look at the list in Norwegian and see how many you can guess.

barn

bestefar, bestefedre, bestefedrar

bestemor, bestemødre

bonde, bønder

bror, brødre

bruk

bruke

budeie

bygselbrev

døpt

døde

dreng

ekte

ektefelle

elv

enke /enkemann

far, fedre, fedrar

fattig

fetter

fjell

flytter

foreldre

forpakter

født

gammel, gammal, gamle, gamla

gård, gard

november 2008

Litt på norsk...

Slektsforskning

Slektsforskning regnes som en av de største interesser for norsk-amerikanere. Mange kilder finnes bare på norsk, så det kan være nyttig å bli kjent med språket. Men man trenger ikke å være språkeskspert for å søke etter sine røtter. Her er noen viktige ord innen slektsforskning. Mange ligner de norske ordene – kan du gjette hva de betyr?

child / children

grandfather / grandfathers

grandmother / grandmothers

farmer / farmers

brother / brothers

small farm

farmer

dairy maid

lease

baptized

died

boy / hired man

legitimate

spouse

river

widow/ widower

father / fathers

poor

male cousin

mountain

moves / moving

parents

caretaker

born

old

farm

Sons of Norway Blog

As you may know, Sons of Norway launched a blog (e.g. an online journal that is updated frequently with news and other tidbits) earlier this year. Since then it has provided real-time coverage of the 2007 Norwegian Experience winner's trip to Norway, Norway's participation in the 2008 Summer Olympics in China and the 60th Biennial International Convention in San Diego.

During the holiday season the Sons of Norway Blog will host a number of articles on Norwegian Christmas traditions, holiday recipes and links to interesting Norwegian-related websites. Please take a moment to visit the blog and see all the new posts. To view the blog go to www.sonsofnorwayblog.blogspot.com.

Also, to keep up on all the newest information and announcements from the Sons of Norway Headquarters, make sure to add sonsofnorway@sofn.com to your "trusted" e-mail list. We've heard from a lot of members who have been missing out on important announcements because they have not done so and the e-mails have been redirected to their spam folder.



What Souvenirs Tourists Want

The Italians love trolls. Germans can't resist anything with a moose. Russians like things with gold. The Spanish want Vikings. The British buy tea-towels and Americans take home T-shirts and caps.

"Actually, as long as you write Oslo or Norway on it, you could probably sell anything," says Stine Steen at Visit Oslo.

Russians and eastern Europeans are coming to Norway in greater numbers than before. Steen thinks the tourist trade could be better at catering to Russian tastes.

"The Russians especially like decorative plates to hang on the wall. The more gold, the better," says Steen.

The French are best known for buying lots of post cards. "They buy as many as 50 in one go. With big French tour groups in town, we often run out of stamps," she says. The Japanese like key-rings.

"I once sold NOK 800 (USD 160) worth of key-rings to one man from Japan. I think they hand them out to friends and relatives when they get home."

The latest figures from tax-free sales show that tourists from the United States spend more in Oslo than anyone else.

Even so, Oslo's tourist trade has noticed that American purchasing power is lower. Tax-free sales in Oslo are down 10 percent, compared to 20 percent in the rest of the country.

"Americans are unsure of what will happen to the economy and they are taking holidays in their home-country, if they go on holiday at all," says Sissel Guleng at Global Refund.

"It looks like the bulk of tourists will increasingly come from Russia and China," she says.

Aftenposten English Web Desk/NTB

December 2008

A Little in English...

Christmas

“It’s a shame to dream of summer at Christmas time,” according to the old Norwegian proverb. Here are some Christmas words – can you guess what they mean? Many resemble the English equivalents, and many start with “jul-“ meaning Christmas, so pay attention to the end of the word. Compare these to the English words on the other side.

advent

barn / barne

gløgg

grønn

hilsen

jul

julaften

julebord

julegave

julegris

julegrøtt

julepynt

juletre

kake

lefse

lutefisk

rød

sanger

slektninger

småkaker

snø



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Litt på norsk...

Jule

“Det ville være en skam å lengte etter sommeren så lenge det er jul i huset,” ifølge norsk folketro. Her er noen juleord – kan du gjette hva de betyr? Mange ligner de engelske ordene, og mange begynner med jul- så ta hensyn til ordets ende. Svarene finnes på den norske siden.

advent

child / children

gløgg – Norwegian mulled wine

green

greeting

Christmas

Christmas Eve

Christmas Table – a traditional meal

Christmas present

Christmas pig, slaughtered for dinner

Christmas porridge

Christmas decorations

Christmas tree

cake

lefse

lutefisk

red

songs

relatives

cookies

snow



'Skål' most popular with beer

Beer remains the drink of choice in Norway, but wine continues to steadily gain popularity. New figures from Norwegian state statistics bureau SSB show that consumers in Norway prefer beer when it comes to drinking alcoholic beverages.

The average Norwegian bought around five bottles of wine, 30 half-liters of beer and one bottle of liquor during the first three months of the year. The biggest increase was seen in wine sales. A total of 15.7 million liters of wine were sold in Norway during the first quarter, up 4.7 percent from the same period last year.

Since 1996, wine sales in Norway have nearly doubled, while beer sales have increased around 10 percent.

State health officials estimate that 10 percent of the population in Norway is behind half of all alcohol consumption in the country. More than 50,000 persons drink alcohol amounting to a half-bottle of liquor every day.

Going out for a traditional half-liter glass of beer has gotten expensive this summer, though. Recent surveys found prices for a half-liter as high as NOK 85 (USD 17), with about 17 kroner going to the brewery, 8 kroner to the state in taxes and the remainder to the serving establishment.

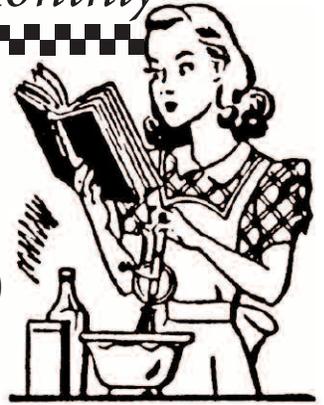
Aftenposten English Web Desk/NTB



Matlyst Monthly



Vanilla Wreaths (Smørkranser)



Ingredients:

3/4 cup and 1 tbsp butter

2/3 cup sugar

1 egg

1 3/4 cup flour

1/2 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. vanilla sugar

Cream butter and sugar until light and airy. Add remaining ingredients. Chill. Force through cookie-press to make about 1/2 inch wide and 4 3/4 inches long bars. Form into wreaths. Place on parchment covered cookie sheet. Bake in preheated 350 fahrenheit oven and bake until light golden. Cool on rack.

*From Authentic Norwegian Cooking
by Astrid Karlsen Scott*

