

# September 2003

*A Little in English*

## Invited to Their Own Wedding

An engaged Norwegian couple in Nes, Akershus, got quite a pleasant surprise one day from their neighbors. The kind and dedicated neighbors offered to cover the entire wedding ceremony and invited the couple to their own wedding.

At an informal gathering earlier this year, Frank Johansen and Anne Mette Stormoen were asked if they would consider getting hitched if their neighbors arranged the whole wedding. When the day came and all the guests were assembled, the couple came strolling down the road from their own house, without knowing what kind of wedding day lay before them or who was invited. Among the 37 guests were both his family from Alta in northern Norway and hers from Bergen. The couple's two young daughters, Oda and Juni, were the flower girls.

*-Dagsavisen*



# September 2003

*Litt på norsk*

## Invitert til eget bryllup

Et forlovet norsk par i Nes i Akershus fikk en dag en herlig overraskelse av naboene sine. De gode og geskjeftige naboene sto for hele bryllupsseremonien og inviterte brudeparet til deres eget bryllup.

Under et festlig lag tidligere i år, ble Frank Johansen og Anne Mette Stormoen spurt om de kunne tenke seg å gifte seg hvis naboene arrangerte hele bryllupet. Da dagen kom og alle gjestene var samlet, kom brudeparet vandrende oppover veien fra sitt eget hus, uten å vite hva slags bryllupsdag de hadde foran seg eller hvem som var invitert. Blant de 37 gjestene var både hans familie fra Alta og hennes familie fra Bergen. Parets to små døtre, Oda og Juni, var brudepiker.

*-Dagsavisen*

## Dog Robs Gas Station

A hungry bull terrier with a sweet tooth left his home to make a night raid on a gas station. The terrier named Conan, age 7, made his way to the only place open at that hour, a local Statoil station. Walking through the station's automatic doors, he proceeded to hunt down his favorite type of chocolate before being busted by a security guard. The pooch ended up behind bars for a short time before his owner, Liss-Hege Jeremiassen, came to claim him. According to her, Conan is a repeat offender who likes to sneak off and always heads for food stores.

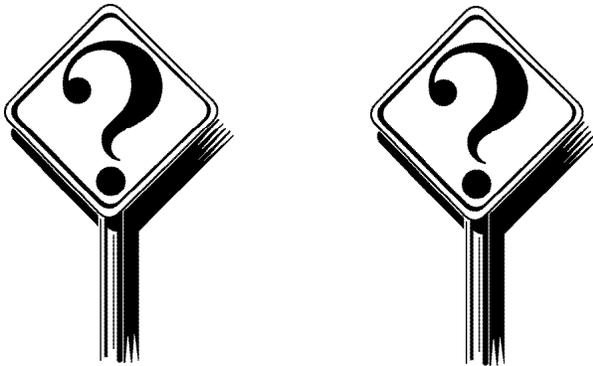
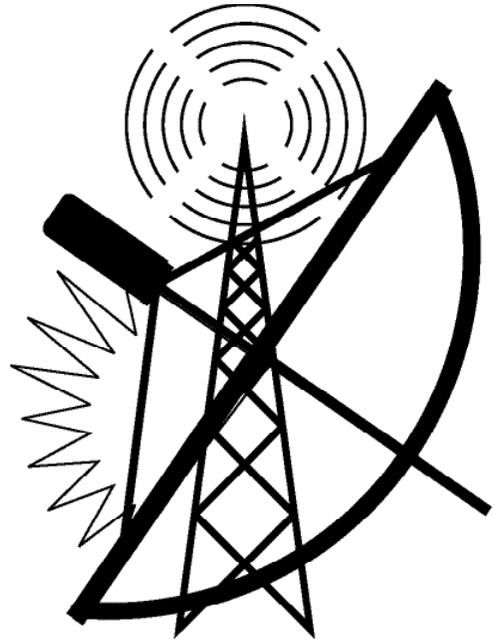
*-Afterposten*



## Norway to Wire North Pole

Norway will soon lay an underwater fiber-optic cable from the mainland to Svalbard and turn remote Longyearbyen into the world's best connected village, providing residents with 100 TV stations and a full VDSL (very powerful digital subscriber line) network. The Norwegian Space Center is behind the US \$40 million project, which will be completed by the end of 2003 and involve laying nearly 2,000 miles of parallel cables along the ocean floor from northern mainland Norway to the 1,700-inhabitant town of Longyearbyen on Svalbard. Although town residents stand to benefit from such a powerful connection to the rest of the world, the primary reason for the project is to help satellite receiver stations on Svalbard compete on the world market as they capture data from satellites in polar orbit.

*-Aftenposten*



## Famous Norwegians Trivia

See if you can answer these trivia questions on famous Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans

1. Who was the first Secretary General of the United Nations?
2. Who was the first king of independent Norway in 1905?
3. What Norwegian won the 1928 Nobel prize for literature?
4. Name two Norwegian-Americans who have been Democratic nominees for President of the United States.

## New Individual Membership Incentives Introduced

To help encourage new member recruitment, the International Board of Sons of Norway approved a new membership incentive plan for individuals on June 10, 2003. In addition to existing membership incentives, the following incentives for individuals will be instituted by International beginning in 2004:

- l Individuals recruiting 15 members in a calendar year will receive a Sons of Norway Logo Shirt.
- l Individuals recruiting 40 or more members in a calendar year will receive a Scandinavian wool sweater.

By offering these incentives, and relying on the enthusiasm and dedication of our members for promoting and preserving Norwegian culture, we will be able to reach our goals for new membership growth.

# October 2003

## A Little in English Found Several Thousand Frogs in the Yard

Brita Heitmann was bewildered when she went to sun herself in her yard one July day. The woman from Asker, just west of Oslo, found that her yard had been invaded by thousands of frogs. "I've never seen anything like it. Sure they're cute now, but I don't want them coming back when they're big and ugly," said the woman.

The frogs likely came from Svartpytt, a pond just a couple hundred feet from the yard. Heitmann points out that she's not afraid of frogs, but she thought this was something else. According to experts, seeing such large numbers isn't anything unusual for that time of year. The newly hatched frogs migrate in flocks between ponds. When they depart together, they lessen the risk of being attacked.

*-Nettavisen*



# Oktober 2003

## *Litt på norsk* Fant flere tusen frosker i hagen

Brita Heitmann skjønnte ikke et kvekk da hun en dag i juli skulle sole seg i hagen sin. Askerkvinnen oppdaget nemlig at hagen var blitt invadert av flere tusen frosker. Jeg har aldri sett noe lignende. De er jo søte nå, men jeg vil ikke at de skal komme tilbake når de er store og stygge, sa kvinnen.

Froskene kom mest sannsynlig fra Svartpytt, som ligger bare 70 meter fra hagen. Heitmann påpeker at hun ikke er redd for frosk, men hun synes dette var i meste laget. I følge ekspertene er det ikke uvanlig at enorme mengder blir sett på den tiden av året. De nyklekkede froskene vandrer i flokk mellom dammene. Når de setter av gårde sammen er risikoen for å bli angrepet mindre.

*-Nettavisen*

## *Norwegian Recipes* Lamb and Cabbage Stew

Try out this recipe for lamb and cabbage stew, known as *fårikål* in Norway, to add a touch of Norway to your dinner table. Serves 10-12.

3 kg (6.5 lbs.) sliced lamb shoulder,  
neck, or breast on the bone  
3 kg (6.5 lbs.) cabbage, in large  
wedges

salt

1 tbsp black peppercorns

1 liter (quart) boiling water

1 1/2 dl (2/3 cup) flour

1 1/4 dl (1/2 cup) cold water

In a wide, heavy pot, layer the meat with the cabbage, sprinkling each layer with salt and peppercorns. Add boiling water.

Bring to a boil and simmer until the meat is tender, about 1 1/2 hours. Season with salt and pepper. The stock should be quite peppery. Stir the flour into the cold water, then stir into the pot to thicken. Bring to a boil. Serve with boiled potatoes.

*-The Norwegian Kitchen*

## Norwegian Language Lesson

### Autumn Phrases

Here are a few Norwegian phrases relating to the fall season that you can learn. Maybe even use one in your next letter to Norway and impress a relative.

*Jeg liker høsten.*  
I like the autumn.

*Det blåser ute.*  
It's windy outside

*Bladene faller av trærne*  
The leaves are falling from the trees

*Jeg liker ikke å rake løv*  
I don't like raking leaves



## Norsk historie

### October in Norwegian History

There are at least three important dates in the month of October that are significant to freedom in Norway. In order of how long ago they occurred, they are:

October 10, 1814 – King Christian Frederik, Norway's new king and a former member of the Danish royal house, abdicated his throne as part of an agreement with Sweden where Norway was allowed to keep their democratic constitution signed on May 17th of that year and the two kingdoms were united. Sweden left Norway to rule themselves for the most part, except in foreign affairs, until Norway developed enough to declare full independence from her Scandinavian neighbors in 1905.

18 October 1944 – Many say that this date marks the beginning of the end of Nazi occupation of Norway. This was the day when Soviet military units crossed the Norwegian-Soviet border in pursuit of retreating German forces. The Norwegian exile government in London had been forewarned about the Soviet advance, and there was some uncertainty about the Soviet goals, but luckily the Soviets remained only in a small corner of Norway's northernmost county of Finnmark, and the end of the war was at last in sight for Norwegians.

October 9, 1989 – The late King Olav V opened the new Sami Parliament, elected by Sami themselves to address matters unique to Sami. The Sami are a native ethnic minority in northern Norway.

[-www.norway.org](http://www.norway.org)

### Whale Stranded on Golf Course

A 50-foot long orca whale beached on a golf course on the island of Gimsøy in the Lofoten Islands of northern Norway in July. The manager of Lofoten Golf Course, Frode Hov, had to hastily make arrangements to push the whale's remains back out to sea before the beached animal began to decompose. Otherwise the whale would become quite a distraction to Lofoten's golf enthusiasts. Most would either choose to stay away, or place the course wearing good noseplugs.

*-Nettavisen*

