

A Little in English More Engagements, Fewer Weddings

More young Norwegians are getting engaged, but only half of them have marriage plans, according to a study by the Norwegian Bureau of Statistics (SSB).

According to the survey, 50 percent of women born between 1965—1969 became engaged by the time they turned 26, whereas the percentage for women born between 1935 and 1954 was over 70.

Out of 159 couples engaged, 26 percent said that they hadn't thought about getting married, while 18 percent hadn't decided yet.

-From Nytt fra Norge



Goshawk Nuisance in Beiarn

A goshawk couple, *hønsehauk*, (a type of hawk) has nested on a shooting range for the Beiarn Hunting and Fishing Club in northern Norway. The locals are dejected about the county environmental department's decision to close the range until further notice. The range had recently undergone considerable improvements and development, and now it is possible that the range will have to be moved.

-From Nytt fra Norge



Litt på norsk Flere forlover seg, Færre gifter seg

Flere ungdommer forlover seg, men bare halvparten av dem som gjør det, har planer om giftemål, viser en undersøkelse fra Statistisk sentralbyrå (SSB).

Ifølge undersøkelsen hadde om lag 50 prosent av kvinner født mellom 1965 og 1969 forlovet seg innen de fylte 26 år. Det tilsvarende tallet for kvinner født mellom 1935 og 1954 var 70 prosent.

Av i alt 159 forlovede par sa 26 prosent at de ikke hadde tenkt å gifte seg, mens 18 prosent ikke hadde bestemt seg.

-Fra Nytt fra Norge

Member Benefits

Visit New Resource Center

Sons of Norway Headquarters is always open for a visit, especially to our members. And soon, meaning end of September to early October, we will open a new resource center with a reference library and Internet access. You can come in and get information or advice on genealogy, travel, or anything else Norway related. Don't worry if you have never used the Internet before, we can help. You can also have a look at displays on Sons of Norway and Norwegian culture, or take a look at some of the Sons of Norway products we have available. Drop by anytime between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, Central Time.

The Month of September

To many of our Norwegian friends, September is often known as the month of fish, *fiskemåned*, for it is when there is good herring to be caught. In Viking times though, the latter half of September and early October was known as harvest month, *haustmåned*, for night frost and snow are lurking on the horizon.

Legend has it that September's two dangerous days are the 1st and 18th. If you scold anyone on these days, it is supposed to bring you great despair.

-From Hva dagene vet

fishing month
fiskemåned

autumn month
haustmåned



UN Says Norway Has World's Best Quality of Life

In an annual ranking of countries' standards of human development, or quality of life, Norway has topped the 2001 list after two years in second place. Canada had been first on the list, but this year was passed by both Norway and Australia. The report arranged 162 countries using the criteria life span, level of education and gross national product (GNP).

The top seven:

1. Norway
2. Australia
3. Canada
4. Sweden
5. Belgium
6. USA
7. Iceland

-From Aftenposten



October 2001

A Little in English

Oslo, Europe's Most Expensive City

A study by *The Economist* gave Norway's capital city the bittersweet honor of being the world's fifth-most expensive city, and Europe's most expensive to live in. At the top of the list are Tokyo, Osaka and Hong Kong. The study compared the prices of everyday things like food and domestic goods, gasoline, alcohol, transportation, clothing, electricity and so on.

The world's 10 most expensive cities:

1. Tokyo, Japan
2. Osaka, Japan
3. Hong Kong, China
4. Libreville, Gabon
5. Oslo, Norway
6. Zurich, Switzerland
7. London, England
8. Paris, France
9. Geneva, Switzerland
10. Copenhagen, Denmark

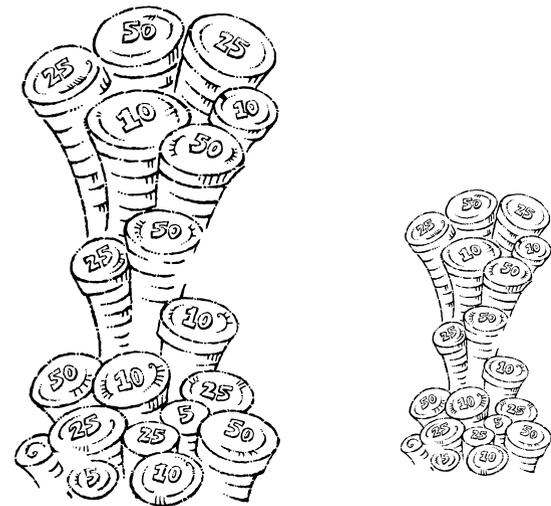
-From BBC

Happy Leif Ericsson Day!
October 9th
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Happy Leif Ericsson-Day October 9

It has now been over 1000 years since Leif Ericsson landed in North America. October 9 is the official Leif Ericsson Day, which is also Columbus Day. Perhaps it doesn't really matter if he was indeed the first European in North America. His voyage marked the beginning of an important and influential Norwegian presence here in North America.

Oktober 2001



Litt på norsk

Oslo Europas Dyreste By

En undersøkelse av *The Economist* har gitt Norges kjære hovedstad den tvilsomme æren av verdens femte dyreste by, og Europas dyreste å bo i. Undersøkelsen sammenlignet prisene på hverdagsprodukter som mat og husholdningsvarer, bensin, alkohol, transport, klær, elektrisitet og så videre.

Verdens 10 dyreste byer:

1. Tokyo, Japan
2. Osaka, Japan
3. Hong Kong, Kina
4. Libreville, Gabon
5. Oslo, Norge
6. Zurich, Sveits
7. London, England
8. Paris, Frankrike
9. Geneve, Sveits
10. København, Danmark

-Fra BBC

A Little in English

Can you answer these trivia questions about Norway and America?

1. What two main countries did Norway model its constitution after?
2. In what countries did the Royal Family take refuge during WWII?
3. What great American president's ancestry is supposedly Norwegian?
4. According to presidential proclamation, when is "Leif Ericsson Day" celebrated?
5. On what important date did the first Norwegian immigrant ship arrive in New York?
6. What is the oldest college in the US founded by people of Norwegian descent?

—Norwegian Heritage

Answers: 1. United States and France 2. United States and Britain 3. George Washington 4. October 9 5. October 9, 1825 6. Luther College in Decorah, Iowa

Member Benefits

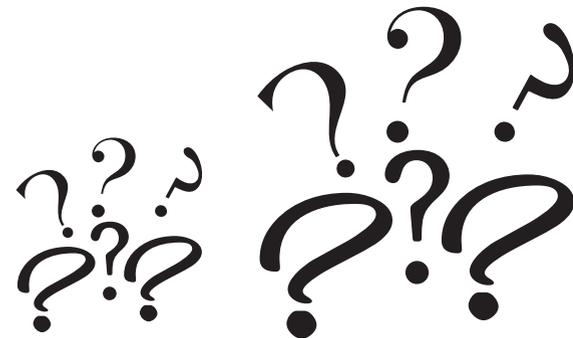
Entertain and Educate

If you are having a lodge meeting, having a Norwegian or Nordic themed event, or just plain want to learn a little about Norway, we have stocks of multimedia materials available to Sons of Norway members for loan. Selection ranges from videos on Norwegian nature and history to compact discs by Edvard Grieg and Alf Prøysen to slide shows on bunads and Norwegian superstitions. We've also gotten some new materials in, including the children's films "The Littlest Viking" and "Troll Tales" and a video on Norway Cup soccer tournament. Visit our website's "For Members" section at www.sofn.com for a list of what's available or call us at 1-800-945-8851 for more information.

Did You Know?

- Over 3.8 million Americans claim Norwegian ancestry
- Over 50 percent of them live in the Midwest, and 30 % in the West
- Minnesota comes in first place, with over 750,000 "norskies," then comes Wisconsin, California, Washington and North Dakota
- Our Nordic brothers and sisters make up a large group too. 4.6 million claim Swedish ancestry, 1.6 million Danish, 650,000 Finnish and 40,000 Icelandic

-From US Census Bureau



Litt på norsk

Kan du svare på disse spørsmål om Norge og Amerika?

1. Norges Grunnlov ble skrevet etter mønster av hvilke to land?
2. I hvilke land fikk Kongefamilien asyl under 2. verdenskrig?
3. Hvilken kjent amerikansk president skal ha hatt norsk avstemning?
4. Ifølge en presidents kunngjørelse, når skal "Leif Ericsson Day" feires?
5. Hvilken viktig dato ankom det første norske innvandrerskip til New York?
6. Hva heter den eldste collegen i USA grunnlagt av folk med norsk avstemning?

—Norwegian Heritage

Svar: 1. USA og Frankrike 2. USA og Storbritannia 3. George Washington 4. 9. Oktober 5. 9. Oktober 1825 6. Luther College i Decorah, Iowa