

Solskinn Ryfylke & Brevo

December 2023 Newsletter from Solskinn Lodge 6-150

 **SONS of NORWAY**
Solskinn Lodge 6-150

Ord fra Presidenten



Christmas is here. I hope you had a great Thanksgiving. We had a wonderful November social with our Viking games and meatball meal. Our winners of the Viking games were – the bronze went to Lee Rasmussen, the silver to Miriam Hendrix, and gold to Ulf Lokke. Thanks to our game managers and to our board for bringing lunch.

Now on to our Christmas social. I hope you will join us and bring a friend, neighbor, or family member to the event. Maybe bring even more than one guest. We will have our catered dinner as well as homemade Norwegian cookies. Also, we will have tickets for our Foundation quilt. The drawing will take place that day.

How do you celebrate Christmas? Do you have a special meal, a special dessert that your mother or grandmother made? Do you eat the Christmas meal on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? Do you open gifts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day after Santa arrives? We used to do both. Christmas Eve after church and at Grandma and Grandpa Grangaard's house. We would have meatballs, lutefisk, and the favorite of the kids, lefse. This year brings back an old tradition – food, song, and memories.

Maybe find a gift from Ingebretsens, Vesterheim, or other online Scandinavian websites. Have a marzipan pig for whoever gets the almond in the Riskrem or some Norwegian chocolate which can be found at World Market.

I hope to be at our social but will return from a trip in Antarctica that morning, landing when our social begins. If I don't make it, enjoy our special Christmas social, enjoy the food, share with our fraternal family, and sing out loud with music provided by TJ.

Happy Holidays and see you next year,
Luella

In this issue

Page 1	Ord fra Presidenten
Page 2	Birthdays, Social Calendar
Page 3	Book Club. December and January
Page 4	Netflix movie: Christmas as Usual Camp Oldfjell
Page 5	Norwegian History, the 1880's
Page 6	Famous Norwegian Alf Prøysen
Page 7	Norwegian Food Chocolate Rice Balls Delphia Cake Gløgg
Page 8	Social Gathering, November 18
Page 9	Social Gathering, November 18 Lodge Officers
Page 10	Back Page

**New dates for the Book Club.
Mark your Calendar!**

Wednesday, December 21, at 10 AM


Christmas Party
Saturday, December 16
Hope Lutheran Church
45900 Portola Ave, Palm Desert
11:00 AM

Solskinn Nyhetsbrev



Happy Birthday

Birthdays December 2023 - February 2024

Lauren Ashley Lunstrum	Dec 5
Jhan Schmitz	Dec 9
Jack Bjerke	Dec 21
Gail F Ryan	Dec 23
Corinne J Bjerke	Dec 24
Charlotte A Larsen	Dec 26
Joseph Kleitsch	Jan 10
Sammie Lee Lingle	Jan 10
Susan E Norby	Jan 21
Terese Olson Hartley	Feb 11
Donald Lee Lingle	Feb 16
Ulf Strandjord	Feb 23
Darlyne Johnson	Feb 26



Norwegian Flag Days, Holidays and Days of Observance

Dec 25	Christmas Day
Dec 26	Box Day
Jan 1	New Year Day
Jan 21	HRH Princess Ingrid Alexandra's Birthday
Feb 21	HRH King Harald V's Birthday



Feb 6 Sami People's Day

Editor for Solskinn Nyheter (Sunshine News)
 Terje "TJ" Berger 760.799.6660
 Send pictures, ideas, articles to
 solskinn150@gmail.com

Solskinn Lodge

Website: solskinn.sofn6.org
 Facebook: Solskinn Lodge, Sons of Norway 6-150
 Email: Solskinn150@gmail.com

Sons of Norway

Website: sofn.org
 Facebook: Official Sons of Norway Facebook Group

Sons of Norway, District Six

Website: sofn6.org
 Facebook: Sons of Norway District Six

Don't miss the last Viking Magazine
Nov Dec 2023
Lots of good articles!
Recipe for Sirupsnipper and GLØGG
and a lot more

Social Calendar for 2023-2024 Season

Always a Saturday. Social at 11:00 AM

December 16	Christmas Party
January 27	Rosemaling Program Frokost
February 24	Norwegian Sweaters Soup & Salad
March 23	Norwegian Easter Traditions Open Faced Sandwiches
April 27	Heavy Water Program Lapskaus
May 18	Syttende Mai Celebration Hotdogs & Ice Cream
June 20-24	District Six Lodge Meeting and Convention in Las Vegas

BOOK CLUB

December Book

A Coat Dyed Black
by Don Pugnetti

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, December 21 at 10 AM

January Book

Yours until Death
by Gunnar Staalesen

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, January 18 at 4PM

Want to join? Send an email to Luella. morongo2@verizon.net

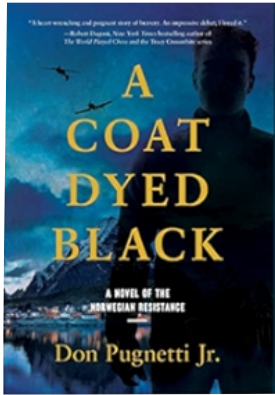
January

Yours until Death
by Gunnar Staalesen

February

Shark Drunk, The Art of Catching
a Large Shark from a Small
Dinghy in A Big Ocean
by Morten Stroknes

December 2023



A young farmer turns into a courageous resistance fighter after Nazi Germany invades Norway and steals his way of life.

Bjørn Erliksen lives a peaceful life on

Norway's west coast and has never considered himself anything but a farmer. But when Nazi Germany invades, and his country's ill-equipped military collapses in less than two months, it falls on him and other ordinary Norwegians to fight back.

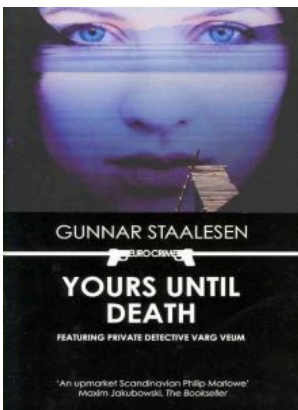
He escapes to England, trains with an elite Norwegian special forces army unit, and is smuggled back into his homeland as a commando. When Bjørn's resistance work eventually reunites him with a lost love, they join forces to carry out dangerous sabotage missions, all the while working in the shadows to evade the Gestapo. He weighs love against duty, wrestling with his own conscience as he is forced to commit unspeakable acts and unexpected betrayals. Can Bjørn survive long enough to see Norway's liberation and find his own peace?

Information from Google Books



Don Pugnetti Jr. has had a decades-long career in journalism, public relations, and public affairs, including eighteen years as a newspaper reporter and editor. He has served as policy advisor and speechwriter for a statewide elected official and has taught news writing and communications at the university level. He and his wife, Wendy, live in Gig Harbor, Washington.

January 2024



“Her eyes had turned almost violet... They didn't look as if birds might fly out of them now. They looked as if they led to dark tunnels, to smoke-filled cellar rooms, to rooms with garishly painted walls, to opium dens. To villages deep in the jungle.”

Yours Until Death (1979) by Gunnar Staalesen is about a private detective named Varg who's hired by a young boy to recover his stolen bike. Varg soon finds himself intervening in the machinations of a menacing gang of delinquent youths that is terrorizing their small town*. Little does the detective know that this simple request will seal his fate,

leading him down a labyrinth of murder and deception.

Staalesen's first installment in the series has all the ingredients of a solid Nordic noir: undercurrents of loneliness, staunch stoicism and the pervasive chill of the icy elements. The main character, Varg, is your stereotypical hard-boiled detective with a chip on his shoulder. Despite Varg's tendency to lust after anything that moves, and the author's unfortunate predilection for describing every woman's chest size, I realized I was quite fond of this morose, alcoholic (anti)hero. Staalesen has a unique, almost hallucinatory quality to his writing that I found mesmerizing and disorienting all at the same time.

From GoodReads.com

Gunnar Staalesen was born in 1947 in the historical city of Bergen on the west coast of Norway. He took his M.A. at the Bergen University, studying English and French language and literature as well as comparative literature.



Varg Veum came to life in 1977 in the first of many books that would conquer Norwegian readers and make its creator the king of crime story writing for many years. Staalesen's basic idea was to create a crime noire PI, adding his own social criticism located in the Bergen scenario - under the Nordic light - and this was a success from the very first novel. Varg Veum steps forward as a 68 generation idealist, a divorced, slightly alcoholic ex-social worker well versed in life's darker side. Behind his rough exterior and sharp verbal sallies, both typical genre markers, hides a warm-hearted and sensitive person.



Norwegian title: SÅ VAR DET JUL IGJEN

Thea is going to her rural hometown to celebrate a classic Norwegian Christmas with her family, but this year she's bringing along Jashan, her Indian boyfriend, which will put everyone's preconceived beliefs and traditions on their heads.

Released on Netflix on December 6.



Camp Oldfjell

Camp Oldfjell for adults was so named to sort-of rhyme with Camp Trolljell, the language & heritage camp for youth. This was the fourth year of Camp Oldfjell.

About 50 people attended various days of the 4-day camp the beginning of October. I attended all four days, taking 2 days to drive to and 1 day to drive from Camp Norge near Alta, CA in the Sierra Nevada Mountain range, north of Sacramento. This was a fun time to share with other Sons of Norway members from the district. I taught a hardanger embroidery class for two days using a small, relatively simple project. I also took a class in chip carving. I attended other sessions (not to learn but just to make projects) in tea towel embroidery with Scandinavian designs and needle felting to make a helper (elf) to a previously created julenisse.

Other classes included the ever-popular rosemaling, Norwegian-style knitting, lucet (old-fashioned cord making), folk dancing, Viking apron creation, making a Viking purse to accompany a Viking dress, Norwegian cooking/baking, needle felting, Viking wire knitting (to make a bracelet), Klostersom (Norweave), and 'Skald,' a Viking story-telling class. Non-class activities included Viking astronomy and navigation; smore's by the campfire; axe-throwing, happy-hour activities, too movie nights, and flag-raising for that real camp experience.

My youngest sister from San Jose came for two days of camp. After a day, I discovered 6 sets of Søsken (siblings) at camp. Also, there were three family members attending camp representing 3 generations. That was such a joy to see. Nothing says sharing our heritage more than seeing generations enjoying our heritage and Norwegian culture.

Nancy Madson



Quilt for 2023

Sons of Norway Foundation fundraiser.

Made by Luella Grangaard

Tickets are \$1 each. Drawing will be at the Christmas Social December 16

If you would like to purchase now, send a check to Solskinn lodge. Note for foundation quilt, send to

Luella Grangaard.

PO box 832, Morongo Valley. CA 92256.

The quilt will be displayed at December social

History of Norway - the 1880's

Kristiania – a city with "growing pains"

Christian Krohg depicts the Kristiania of the time as a city with a deep and insurmountable gap between the social classes. If we go to the statistics of the time, they show that the population rose from 29,000 in 1850 to just under a quarter of a million inhabitants at the turn of the century. "Growing pains" particularly occurred in the last decades of the 19th century. In the 1890s, close to 60 percent of the inhabitants were immigrants. Population explosion created tremendous social problems. The big city was like a sieve, the weakest fell through and perished.

The labor market was characterized by industrialism in its most uncontrolled form. New workplaces appeared like trolls out of boxes. Economic fluctuations were frequent and were influenced by international trends. The demand for work was strong at times, but employment was uncertain and seasonal. Working life was not regulated, and the workers were unprotected vis-à-vis their employers.

Women in working life

The most disadvantaged were the women. In contrast to their male colleagues, they were less often breadwinners and could therefore be drawn in and out of the labor market more easily because it was perceived as less morally reprehensible to fire a woman than a man. On the other hand, the women had an "advantage" – they were cheap labor and earned from a third to a half of what men earned.

While men more often found work at home or emigrated to overseas countries, primarily to the United States, small-



town girls and girls from rural areas sought "happiness" in the capitol. They made a living as maids, sewing maids, ironing maids, shop maids or as factory girls – the latter primarily in the textile industry. The working day was long. The maids had to be available for up to 16 hours a day. The wages were usually enough to live on, but extremely rarely to buy beautiful clothes or participate in things that brought joy and variety to life.

Prostitution was legal in Kristiania from the 1840s to 1888.

After intense debates throughout the 1880s between feminists, bohemians and socialists on the one hand and theologians, doctors and conservative politicians on the other, the so-called regulatory system was abolished in 1888. What was it?

The regulatory system was introduced in 1840 and in practice legalized public prostitution in Kristiania. Other cities such as Bergen and Trondheim had arrangements that differed from the one in Kristiania. The regulatory system meant that the police registered all women they suspected of being prostitutes. The women had to go for a check-up with the police doctor, and the checks were called visitation. In 1881, around 500 women were summoned to the police doctor's office for examination in Kristiania. The aim was to combat the increasing prevalence of venereal diseases which affected women and men in all population groups.

Painting by Christian Krohg, "The Struggle for Survival" depicts the distribution of bread to the poor in Christiania, a scene Krohg himself witnessed early one morning.



Not many days left for Christmas. Are you up to date about old traditions?

Christmas Day, or Christmas Day (in the liturgical context Natalis Christi), is December 25, the day on which in Western Christianity the birth of Jesus Christ is marked.

The day is marked on the primordial staff as a drinking horn, candelabra, barrel or a

sun.

A couple of these symbols clearly show that the Christmas celebration is a tradition with roots in pagan times in Scandinavia.

There was a tradition of "drinking Christmas", and a penny was often given to the tun tree to appease the underground.

How did the Vikings get stopped?

The Vikings got an opening when the Frankish Empire collapsed in the ninth century. In the tenth century, agriculture boomed and Europeans acquired things worth stealing. But there was no central government or army to protect them.

Emperor Otto I (r. 962-973) restored effective government in Germany. Hugh Capet (r. 987 to 996) did the same in France. In Britain and Ireland, raiding continued for another century.

Famous Norwegian

Loved by everyone, especially for his children songs.

Alf Prøysen (Norwegian pronunciation: [alf 'prøysn]) (b. 23 July 1914 – d. 23 November 1970) was a Norwegian author, poet, playwright, songwriter and musician. Prøysen was one of the most important Norwegian cultural personalities in the second half of the 20th century. He worked in several different media including books, newspapers and records. He also made significant contributions to music as well as to television and radio. He also wrote in the *Arbeiderbladet* from 1954 until his death.

He was also noted for his series of books featuring Mrs. Pepperpot (Norwegian: *Teskjekjerringa*). The fictional character of a series of children's books established him as a children's author. The series of books were first published during 1956 and was first published in English in 1959.

He was born Alf Olafsen at Rudshøgda in Ringsaker in Hedmark county, Norway. He grew up at the Croft farm Prøysen, which was named after the Kingdom of Prussia. He was the son of Olaf Andreassen (1880–1959) and Julie Mathiasdatter (1879–1961). He was raised as the youngest of four children born to a rural farm family.

Prøysen became an apprentice at the Norwegian School of Applied Sciences, where he was a copywriter and actor in the annual student reviews from 1942–45. He became associated with NRK, making his recording debut in 1947. Prøysen soon became a national celebrity. Through songs such as *Husmannspolka*, *Tango for to*, *Lillebrors vise*, *Du ska få en dag i måra*, *Julekveldsvis*, *Jørgen Hattemaker*, *Musevisa* and *Romjulsdrøm* he became extremely popular through the 1950s and 1960s. Prøysen contributed to many artistic fields: children's radio, short stories, theater and music. Most of his stories and songs took place in an environment similar to the rural village where he grew up.

In 1945 he debuted with *Dørstokken heme*, a collection of short stories. His only novel *Trost i taklampa* (1950) was a success both as a book and as a play. He was frequently featured on radio and television programs during the 1950s and 1960s. Prøysen was awarded the Norwegian Cultural Council Honorary Prize (Norsk kulturråds ærespris) in 1970.

A large part of Prøysen's writing consisted of short stories. Much of his production was made for children. The first stories about *Teskjekjerringa* were published in the magazine *Kooperatøren*. In 1956 the first book of a series about *Teskedsgumman* was published. From 1967, Swedish television featured a popular series. In the 1980s, a Japanese cartoon series for 130 episodes was made. *Teskjekjerringa* was published in the Penguin Books classic series becoming an international success.

He married Else Storhaug (1916–2015) in 1948. They had two children; a daughter Elin Julie (born 1949) and a son Alf Ketil (born 1951). Alf Prøysen died of cancer at age 56. He was buried at *Vår Frelses gravlund* in Oslo.

Several biographies have been written about Alf Prøysen including a book by his daughter Elin Prøysen as well as works by Helge Hagen and Dag Solberg. A book by Ove Røsbak appeared during 1992. Røsbak also wrote an article in *Dagbladet* stating that several of his sources confirmed that Prøysen had discussed his bisexuality during the 1960s. In *Samtiden*; nr 2, 2007 *Dagbladet* also had an interview with gay activist Karen-Christine Friele in which she confirmed that Prøysen had told her about his love of men and his divided life. *Dagbladet* editor Knut Olav Åmås commented later that the resulting debate revealed mixed feelings towards gay/bisexuality.



*Det var en liten gutt som gikk og gret og var så lei
Hæin skulle tegne Babylon, men lærer'n hæin sa nei
Hæin ød'la hele arket, hæin var tufsete og dom
Men så hørte hæin et sus som over furukrona kom...*

*There was a little boy who was crying and was so sad
He was supposed to draw Babylon, but the teacher said no
He destroyed the whole sheet, he was tough and judgmental
But then he heard a hiss that came over the pine crown...*



Mark the Date for the District Six
Lodge Meeting and Convention!

June 20-24, 2024, Tuscany Suites and
Casino, Las Vegas, NV

Hosted by Vegas Viking Lodge # 152
and the District Six Board

Norwegian Food

My Mother's Risboller (Chocolate Rice Balls)

- 1/2 bag puffed rice
- 1 cup (6 oz) chocolate without milk
- 1 cup (6 oz) coconut fat (delfiafett)
- 1/2 tsp vanilla sugar
- 2 tbsp cold coffee

Some recipes suggest milk and eggs.
Since this is my mother's recipe, no milk and eggs. (TJ)

Melt chocolate and coconut fat, and when melted, mix it.
Add vanilla sugar and the coffee.
When cooled, form small balls, and store them in the fridge.



Delfiakake (Delphia Cake)

- 13 oz Chocolate without milk
- 13 oz Coconut fat (Delfiafett)
- 6 tbsp Coffee
- 4 Eggs
- 4 tbsp Sugar
- 12-15 Lady fingers or sweet biscuits
- 1 bag Gel tops

Line a small greased loaf pan, approx. 1.5 litres, with food paper.

Put cooking chocolate and delphia fat in a bowl and place it over a pan of water on low heat (water bath). Add coffee when the chocolate and fat have melted. Allow the mixture to cool.

Beat eggs and sugar to make an eggnog (eggedosis). Add the chocolate mixture and mix well to a smooth batter. Place batter, biscuits and marzipan in layers in the mold. Garnish with jelly tops. Refrigerate until stiff, preferably overnight.

Serve delphia cake in thin slices. Feel free to wipe the knife after each slice you cut to achieve the best results.

GLØGG (Mulled wine)



- 2 whole cinnamon sticks
- 12 whole cloves
- 2 dried ginger pieces
- 1 tsp cardamon seeds
- 3 orange peels
- 1 cup raisins
- Almonds and Prunes (option)

- 1 cup unseasoned brandy or vodka
- 2 bottles of red wine, simple
- 2 cups caster sugar

Put all the spices in a jar and pour brandy/vodka until spices are completely covered. Seal with a tight-fitting lid. Leave for 4 days. Shake the jar occasionally.

Strain the liquid into a sauce pan. Add the red wine and the sugar. Pour into bottles and store cold. It can be kept for at least 3 months.

Scald a few cups of almonds for the cups and pan.

Have some almonds and raisins in the bottom of a large sauce pan. Pour in the wine and keep it warm, not boil.

Put almonds and raisins in the cups and pour.

Alt sugar free: Use apple juice.

Alt non alcohol: use mix of grape juice and apple juice, or apple cider.

Social Gathering November 18, 2023



Game Day and Meatball Dinner

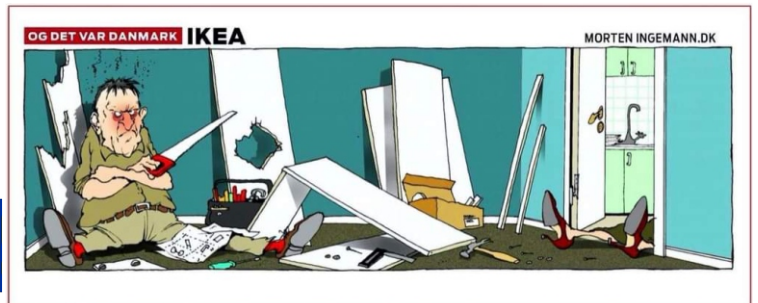


Social Gathering November 18, 2023



Some jokes

Have you tried to put together the IKEA cabinet called Billy



Solskinn Lodge Officers 2023-2024

Board of Directors

President	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Vice President	Terje Berger	760-799-6660
Counselor	Ulf Lokke	760-808-5403
Secretary	Tone Chaplin	760-408-9170
Treasurer	Nancy Madson	760-238-8819

Program Directors

Social Director	Nancy Madson	760-238-8819
Assisting Social Director	Joy Rogers	760-821-3497
Cultural Director	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Sunshine	Joy Rogers	760-821-3497

Support Positions

Book Club	Luella Grangaard	760-285-9430
Editor, Webmaster	Terje Berger	760-799-6660
Photographer	Miriam Hendrix	
Musician	Terje Berger	
Librarian	Corinne Bjerke	

Insurance Professional

James Donovan, FIC, CSA	Cell: 760-276-5529
	Office: 760-440-9905
	jdonovaninsure@gmail.com

Solskinn Lodge, #6-150
Terje Berger
52705 Avenida Obregon
La Quinta, CA 92253



Mission Statement

*The mission of
Sons of Norway
is to promote and to preserve
the heritage and culture of
Norway, to celebrate our
relationship with other Nordic
countries, and to provide quality
insurance and financial
products to its members*