# Solskinn Nyhetsbrey

August 2023 Newsletter from Solskinn Lodge 6-150

Solskinn Lodge 6-150



## Ord fra Presidenten

Letter from President, Summer 2023

I hope you all are enjoying your summer and that you are staying cool or getting away from this crazy heat.

This summer I have had some big life changes with retiring after 40

years as an occupational therapist and manager and over 36 years at Eisenhower Health. It has been exciting but also stressful preparing for this big change. I know many of you can appreciate this. Also, now I have to see what my electric bill for the summer will be like.

I recently also celebrated my 65th birthday with close friends and family visiting as part of the celebration. Lots of things happening.

I started the summer off with a cruise up the Mississippi River which I will share with you all for our September newsletter. Remember that next social is about "Sharing Your Summer Vacation Story with the Lodge". As a result of COVID, I will be catching up with my travels which will be interfering with some of our Sons of Norway events including socials and the book group. The book group will be changing a few of the days so I can still moderate and set up the meetings on Zoom, and TJ, our wonderful VP, will be running our meetings.

More to come in September.

Fraternally, Luella

> **Board Meeting every** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 5 PM ZOOM Link will be sent prior to the meeting

> > **Book Club meets every** 3rd Thursday of the month at 4 PM To join, send an email to Luella

Arts & Craft Club has been put on hold until further notice

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## **Next Lodge Social**

September 23 at Hope Lutheran Church in Palm Desert Welcome back! **Sharing Summer Activities** 

Baked Salmon

Invitation will be sent to you by email or US Mail.



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

## **Quilt top 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 L Grangaard. PO box 832, Morongo Valley. CA 92256. The quilt will be at the September social

## Happy Birthday



## **Birthdays in August to October**

Joanna Ibsen	Aug 5
Gunhild Cross	Aug 8
Frida Jorgensen	Aug 14
Linda Kosvic	Aug 16
Joy Rogers	Aug 21
Nancy Madson	Sept 1
Janet Halverson	Sept 2
John C Strom	Sept 3
Constance Fleischner	Sept 9
Bobby Hendrix	Sept 12
Edward Karlsen	Sept 17
Berit Reistad	Oct 5
Ann Linda Dew	Oct 7
Donald Waldeland	Oct 16
Matthew Kosvic	Oct 13
Terje Berger	Oct 21
Sharon Lokke	Oct 29



# Norwegian Flag Days, Holidays and Days of Observance

Aug 19	HRH Crown Princess Mette-Marit
Sept 22	Princess Märthas Louise
Oct 24	United Nation Day
Oct 29	Winter Time



Aug 9	UN Internat. Indigenous People Day
Aug 15	Sami Flag accepted
Aug 18	Sami Council established (1956)
Oct 9	Sami Parliament established (1989)

# Solskinn Nyhetsbrev

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

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**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

## Social Calendar for 2023-2024 Season

Always a Saturday. Social at 11:00 AM

September 23 Welcome back - Sharing Summer Activities

Baked Salmon

October 21 Southern California Kretsstevne

at Banning Stagecoach KOA

Friday to Sunday

November 18 Game Day

Meatballs

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**

#### **August Book**

Us Against You by Fredrik Backman

ZOOM Meeting Thursday, August 17 at 4PM

## September Book

My First Murder by Leena Lehtolainen

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, September 21 at 4PM

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

October The Scandinavian Aggressors

by Rowdy Geirsson

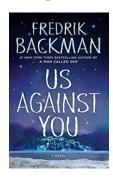
November Norske Fields: A Novel of Southern

California's Norwegian Colony

by Anne Schroeder

December A Coat Dyed Black by Don Pugnetti Jr.

## August 2023



A small community tucked deep in the forest, Beartown is home to tough, hardworking people who don't expect life to be easy or fair. No matter how difficult times get, they've always been able to take pride in their local ice hockey team. So it's a cruel blow when they hear that Beartown ice hockey might soon be disbanded. What makes it worse is the obvious satisfaction that all the former Beartown's players, who now play for a rival team in the

neighboring town of Hed, take in that fact. As the tension mounts between the two adversaries, a newcomer arrives who gives Beartown hockey a surprising new coach and a chance at a comeback.

Soon a team starts to take shape around Amat, the fastest player you'll ever see; Benji, the intense lone wolf; always dutiful and eager-to-please. By the time the last goal is scored, a resident of Beartown will be dead, and the people of both towns will be forced to wonder if, after everything, the game they love can ever return to something as simple and innocent as a field of ice, two nets, and two teams. Us against you.

Fredrik Backman (born 1981, in Brännkyrka, south of Stockholm, Sweden) is a Swedish author, blogger, and columnist. He wrote A Man Called Ove (2012), Things My Son Needs



to Know about the World (2012), My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry (2013), Britt-Marie Was Here (2014), Beartown (2017), Us Against You (2018), Anxious People (2020), and The Winners (2022).

Backman grew up in Helsingborg, Sweden. Backman debuted as a novelist in 2012 with A Man Called Ove. The novel was adapted as a film which premiered on December 25, 2015, and again in 2023. The rights to his book Beartown were bought by Swedish production company, Filmlance, and are set to be adapted for television. Many of his books have been translated into English.

From Wikipedia

## September 2023



Maria Kallio has just been assigned her first murder investigation. To prove to herself and her squad that she has what it takes to be a detective, she'll have to solve the death of Tommi Peltonen. Found floating facedown at the water's edge of his Helsinki villa, Tommi had invited his choir group to spend a weekend at his retreat. But beneath the choir's seemingly tight-knit bonds seethed bitter passion and jealousy. As Maria sets out to determine the difference

between friends and foes, she uncovers the victim's unsavory past—and motives for all seven suspects. Now it's up to her to untangle a complex set of clues before the killer strikes again.

The first book in Leena Lehtolainen's bestselling Finnish crime series starring Detective Maria Kallio, My First Murder offers hard-boiled realism from a female perspective.

Leena Katriina Lehtolainen (born 11 March 1964) is a Finnish crime novelist, best known for her series of novels about the policewoman Maria Kallio.

Lehtolainen was born in Vesanto, Northern Savonia. Her first novel was released when she was only 12 years old. She studied literature in Helsinki until 1995



and wrote crime novels from 1993 on. Since about 2007 she has written other genres of books. Her works have been translated into various languages: Spanish, Dutch, Chinese, Lithuanian, Polish, French, Swedish, German, Estonian, and Czech.

Leena Lehtolainen is married to Mikko Lensu and she has two children (Konsta Johannes, born in 1991 and Otso Olavi born in 1994). She lives in Degerby, west of Helsinki.

In 2020 she received the national Pro Finlandia medal for her artistic merits.



Viaplay is a video streaming service owned by Swedish media company Viaplay Group.

Originally owned by Modern Times Group, it was launched in May 2007 as Viasat On Demand. It was rebranded as Viaplay in 2011. Movies have been produced in Swedish, Danish and Norwegian.

Viaplay movies and series are subtitled into English as well as other Nordic languages.



#### Takk for sist!

"Thanks for the last time" is something you say to someone you haven't seen for a while, typically when you run into them at a party or something like that. That it is a big problem with this Norwegian expression: It has no expiration date! It can be 40 years after graduation from high school, or grandmother's greetings 2 weeks since last time you met.

You have any favorite Norwegian movies?

Let us know.

Send an email to our lodge. Email address on page 2

## **Margarete - Queen of the North**



More about the movie and the queen, check out Wikipedia.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Margarete:\_Queen\_of\_the\_North Margaret\_I\_of\_Denmark Erik of Pomerania

More about Kalmar Union on Page 5

More Scandinavia movies will be presented in the newsletter the next months.

Queen Margarete unites Denmark, Norway and Sweden in the Kalmar Union, which she rules in the name of her adopted son, King Erik.

Margarete was the daughter of Valdemar Atterdag, king of Denmark. The heir to the Danish throne was Christopher, who died 1363, 19 years old. Left was Ingeborg and Margarete.

Ingeborg had married Henry, Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Margrete married Haakon, who reigned over both Norway and Sweden. He died in 1380. Their only son, Olav, died in 1387, 16 years old.

Ingeborg's daughter Maria, married Wartislaw, Duke of Pomerania-Stolp. Their son, born Boguslaw, was adopted by Margrete, renamed Erik and became the king of the 3 countries.

Margrete's advicer in the movie is only called Peder.

## Peder, the Queen's Advicer

Peder Jensen Lodehat (died 21 October 1416) was the bishop of the Diocese of Aarhus and a significant political figure in Denmark during the reign of Queen Margrete I.

Lodehat was originally from a minor noble family in Zealand but

made a career in the Catholic Church as bishop of a total of 3 dioceses. He served on the Danish Riksråd (Council) and had a role in getting Margrethe appointed queen. Lodehat also had a central role in the creation of the Kalmar Union and may have authored the founding documents. The surname Lodehat stems from a type of hat,



Lodehat, featured on the family coat of arms, but although the family has become known under this name. They likely didn't use it in their own time.

In 1382 he was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Växjö, in what is today Sweden. In 1386 he became bishop of the Diocese of Aarhus and was appointed to the Riksråd

(Council). In his new position, he advocated strongly to have queen Margrethe I appointed the "fuldmægtige formynder" (all-powerful protector) of the realm.

In 1395 he became bishop of the Diocese of Roskilde, the largest and most prestigious diocese in Denmark at the time.

# The Late Medieval Ages

## The Kalmar Union

When the late Middle Ages began, Norway was in a timelimited royal partnership with Sweden. Fifty years later, the country had become part of a Nordic union. The country was to remain that way for over 400 years.

Much of the politics of the late Middle Ages is characterized by chance - who dies and survives, who wins and loses on the battlefield. But behind the jumble of events we can see a trend: Unions became increasingly common.

The unions were a result partly of the population decline, partly of the fact that the state in the late Middle Ages still lay like a thin shell over the local communities. Large areas could change at all without it meaning much at the local level.

Nordic politics in the late Middle Ages takes place in the field of tension between three power factors: kings, nobility and actors from the German area.

The kings and queens wanted as much power and leeway as possible. We are on the way to absolute power, but in this period the kings had to constantly fight back against stubborn counter-forces.

The nobility became more clearly separated as a separate group in the late Middle Ages, and it got its own political body: the Riksrådet. Both Norway, Sweden and Denmark had their own National Council. These were mostly concerned with securing the interests of the nobility, which largely consisted of limiting the king's power. The Riksrådet wanted domestic nobles in key positions, and that the king should consult the council on important matters.

In the late Middle Ages, the German-Roman or Habsburg Empire was a conglomerate of entities. Some of these became very important in Nordic politics. Holstein counts gained an important position with Danish kings, because they lent them large sums of money. The dukes from Mecklenburg to the east of Denmark were married into the Nordic royal house and were kings of Sweden from 1363/1364 to 1389.

Most important, however, was the Hanseatic League - the association of northern German cities, which controlled much of the trade throughout the Nordic region. This made them a powerful grouping tha

When the Black Death came to the Nordic countries in 1349, Norway and Sweden were united in a royal partnership that was to end when King Magnus Eriksson's sons came of age: the eldest, Erik, was heir to Sweden, the younger Håkon was to take over Norway. To prevent the eldest son from becoming too powerful, Magnus betrothed his son Håkon to the Danish king Valdemar Atterdag's daughter Margrete.



Erik of Pomeriania

In 1359, Erik died, and this whole plan was postponed. Håkon became king in Norway and after a few years also in Sweden. Through Margrete, his son would also have a good chance of becoming Danish king.

Swedish nobles perceived the threat and elected Albrecht of Mecklenburg as king as a counterweight to Håkon. A protracted war between Sweden and Denmark-Norway ensued.

Queen Margrete gave her husband King Håkon the greatest happiness: a son. But then both father and son fell away, with short intervals. In 1387 Margrete had no close male relatives. Albrecht was now closest to kingship in all three kingdoms.

From this moment on, we see Margrete's political shrewdness in full display. She was elected regent and "regent lady" in Denmark and Norway and received acceptance that the order of succession should be calculated from her. She installed a sister's daughter's son – Bugislav from Pomerania – as king and named him Erik. And she beat the Swedes, who had finally become so fed up with Albrekt's abuse of power that they agreed to make Erik king.

On 17 June 1397, the Kalmar Union between Denmark, Sweden and Norway was concluded, with Erik as joint king. Margrete was at the helm until 1412, when she died probably of the plague. After that, Erik fully experienced the great tensions on which the union was founded. War against the Hansa and increasing conflict with the Riksdag culminated in a rebellion in the 1430s.

Erik escaped, and the Riksdag sat back victoriously. Christopher of Bavaria was elected king of all three kingdoms. This marks the peak of the Riksdag's power. After 1450, the king strengthened his position, and Sweden gradually became a more stubborn union partner.

From Norgeshistorie.no Photo from Wikipedia

# Famous Norwegian-Americans

## The Olsen Sister

Mary-Kate Olsen was born on June 13, 1986, in Sherman Oaks, California.

**Ashley Fuller Olsen** was born on June 13, 1986, in Sherman Oaks, California.

Daughters of Jarnette "Jarnie" and David "Dave" Olsen, a real estate developer and mortgage banker. Olsen's parents divorced in 1996. Their father has Norwegian ancestry while their mother is of French, German and Italian ancestry.

The Olsen sisters attended the Campbell Hall School in Los Angeles. After graduating from Campbell Hall in 2004, she and Mary-Kate went on to attend New York University's Gallatin School of Individualized Study.

Following a high volume of public interest in their fashion choices, Mary-Kate and Ashley collaborated on a series of fashion lines available to the public. They released clothing in Walmart stores across America for girls ages 4 to 14, as well as a beauty line called Mary-Kate and Ashley: Real Fashion for Real Girls.

In 2004, they made news by signing a pledge to allow all the workers that sew their line of clothing in Bangladesh full maternity leave. The National Labor Committee, which organized the pledge, later praised the twins for their commitment to worker rights.

Mary-Kate Olsen married to Olivier Sarkozy de Nagy-Bocsa in 2015, the

half brother to the French president Nicolas Sarkozy.







David Brian Olsen

b. 1951, Los Angeles City, California

m. Jarnette Jones

b. 1954, Toluca Lake, Los Angeles, California

son of

Walter Gustav Olsen

b. 1921. London, England

d. 1972. Glendale, Los Angeles, California

m. Helen Irene Valentine

b. 1922, Warren Trumbull, Ohio

d. 2019, Camarillo, Ventura, California

Son of

Ole Johan Ludvig Olsen

b. 1885, Bergen, Hordaland, Norway

d. 1952, Brooklyn, Kings, New York

m. Winifred Dora Reeves

b. 1895, Watford, Hertfordshire, England

d. 1954, Pinella County, Florida

Elizabeth Chase Olsen was born on February 16, 1989, in Sherman Oaks, California. Her mother, Jarnette "Jarnie", is a former dancer, while her father, Dave, is a real estate agent. She is the younger sister of twin fashion designers Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, who became successful television and film actresses as children. Her parents divorced in 1996.

Olsen began acting when she was four years old, appearing in Mary-Kate and Ashley's projects, including the 1994 television film How the West Was Fun and the straight-tovideo series The Adventures of Mary-Kate & Ashley. As a child, she took acting classes and spent time at musical theatre camp. Olsen nearly quit pursuing acting in 2004 due to the media attention toward Mary-Kate's eating disorder. She went to Campbell Hall School in Studio City, California. Olsen attended New York University (NYU)'s Tisch School of the Arts, during which she took classes at Atlantic Theater Company and spent a semester at the Moscow Art Theatre School in Russia. She attained understudy roles in the 2008 off-Broadway production of the play Dust and the 2009 Broadway production of the play Impressionism, which led to her securing an agent. Olsen graduated from NYU in January 2013.

## What is Svalbard?

The name Svalbard was officially adopted for the archipelago by Norway under the 1925 Svalbard Act which formally annexed it. The former name Spitsbergen was thenceforth restricted to the main island. In 1827 Baltazar Keilhau first proposed that the Old Norse toponym Svalbarði, found in medieval Icelandic sources, referred to Spitsbergen. Keilhau's theory was revived by Gustav Storm in 1890 and Gunnar Isachsen in 1907, at a time when ancient Norse connection to the land would help modern Norway's contested claim to sovereignty. Svalbard is a modern Norwegian analogue of Svalbarði, which in turn derives from svalr ('cold') and barð ('edge', 'ridge', 'turf', 'beard'). The Icelandic Annals record that Svalbarði was discovered in 1194, while the Landnámabók places it four dægrs' sailing north of Langanes. Cultural studies academic Roald Berg says Svalbarði more likely referred to part of Greenland, and the 1925 renaming cemented Norwegian sovereignty as recognised by the 1920 Spitsbergen Treaty (now the Svalbard Treaty).

More in next Newsletter

## Norwegian Food

## Norwegian Meatballs

Preparation Time: 20 minutes Cooking Time: 45 minutes Total Time: 1 hour and 5 minutes

Ingredients: For the Meatballs:

1/2 pound lean ground beef

1/2 pound ground pork

l egg

2/3 cup breadcrumbs

1/4 cup light cream

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground pepper

1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/4 teaspoon ground ginger

1/4 teaspoon allspice

1 small onion, finely chopped or coarsely grated

6 tablespoons butter

## For the Gravy:

1/4 cup flour

2-4 cups chicken broth

1/2 onion, skin removed, cut into 2 pieces

1/4 cup sour cream

1/4 cup red or rose wine

Dash of gravy browning agent

Salt and pepper to taste for gravy

#### **Instructions:**

In a large bowl, whisk the egg, and then whisk in the light cream. Add salt, pepper, nutmeg, ginger, and allspice. Mix well and add the chopped onion. Stir in the breadcrumbs and let the mixture sit for a couple of minutes.

Add the ground beef and ground pork to the bowl. Knead the mixture well until all the ingredients are thoroughly combined. Adjust the consistency by adding extra breadcrumbs if it's too soft or a little more light cream if it's too dry. Form the mixture into meatballs, approximately the size of golfballs.

In a large Dutch oven or deep frying pan, heat a couple of tablespoons of butter over medium heat. Carefully fry the meatballs in batches, turning them to brown evenly on all sides. Ensure they are browned but not cooked through. Avoid crowding the pan to prevent steaming.

Once all the meatballs have been browned, return them to the Dutch oven or transfer to a deep casserole dish. Add the half onion and pour enough chicken broth over the meatballs to cover them halfway.

To Cook:

Stovetop Method:

Place the Dutch oven on the stovetop and bring the broth to a simmer. Cover and cook for about 20-30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the meatballs are cooked through. Remove from heat and discard the onion pieces.



#### Oven Method (350°F/180°C):

Preheat the oven to 350°F (180°C). Place the meatballs in a deep casserole dish and pour enough broth to almost cover them. Bake for 30 minutes.

#### For the Gravy:

In a large saucepan over medium-low heat, melt the remaining 4 tablespoons of butter. Stir in the flour to create a roux and cook for about a minute. Gradually whisk the broth used to cook the meatballs into the roux, whisking vigorously to prevent lumps from forming.

If needed, add the remaining chicken broth to the gravy and bring it to a simmer. Reduce the heat to low. Whisk in the sour cream, wine, and gravy browning agent. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Adjust the flavorings as desired.

If the gravy is too thick, add a little hot water from boiling the potatoes. Once the gravy is seasoned to your liking, pour it over the meatballs in a serving dish.

#### Serving Suggestions:

Serve the Norwegian meatballs with boiled or mashed potatoes, allowing the creamy gravy to soak into them. Accompany the meatballs with a side of sweet-sour red cabbage, green vegetable of your choice and lingonberry.

## The nickname Fairhair (Hårfagre)

He got the nickname "Fairhair" after he had promised Gyda not to cut his hair until all of Norway was united into one kingdom. Gyda also said that she would marry Harald if he could unite Norway. Many years passed, but when he finally reached his destination, he sent his men to Gyda and reminded her of what she had told him. They took her to Harald, and they got married.

After the battle in Hafrsfjord, Harald went to Ragnvald Jarl on Møre. Then he hadn't had a haircut in 10 years, but here he could finally let his hair fall. It is said that He let his hair fall at Bremsnes on Averøya. In that place, a large tree stands today with a stone wall around it, as a memorial. It was Ragnvald Jarl who gave him the nickname "Hårfagre".

The stone ring at Bremsnes can be up to 4,000 years old. This may have been an important ceremonial site for people who lived here at the time.

The history from the Viking Age is exciting. At Bremsnes, many exciting events have taken place and many important historical figures have lived here. The legend says that Harald Hårfagre had his hair cut here when he had united Norway into one kingdom after the battle in Hafrsfjord.

Ragnvald Mørejarl was sitting at Bremsnes farm at this time. He became ruler of Normandy and created family lines for the English royal house - and most European ones.

Bremsnes has had a central role in Norway's history, and the Norwegian royal line was perhaps founded here with Harald Hårfagre's marking by cutting himself after the unification of Norway into one kingdom.

(Source: Association Bremsnes Tingsted and Cultural Area)

Gyda Eiriksdotter was the daughter of Eirik, king of Hordaland. He died in 872, fighting Harald Fairfare. One of Harald and Gyda's daughters was Ålov Årbot. She married Tore Teiande, son of Ragnvald Mørejarl. Their daughter Bergljot married Sigurd Håkonsson, Jarl of Lade (Trondheim), a mighty figure in the Norwegian history.

Ragnvald Mørejarl was the possible father to Rollo, who became the ruler over Normandy, and ancestor to William "the Conqueror" and several other royalties in Europe.

Rollo (died between 928 and 933) was a Viking who, as Count of Rouen, became the first ruler of Normandy, today a region in northern France. He emerged as the outstanding warrior among the Norsemen who had secured a permanent foothold on Frankish soil in the valley of the lower Seine.



Picture: Bjørn Eide, Bremsnes, Averøy

#### Google search on Viking marriage

The two men shook hands on the agreement in front of witnesses and agreed on a date for the wedding, usually within a year. The woman's consent to the marriage might be sought but it was not necessary. Widows had more freedom than single women, as they needed only to seek their fathers' approval before remarrying.

There is no record of Vikings sharing their wives. If anything, the available evidence suggests that Viking men of high status often had several female partners apart from their wives. This left low-ranking Viking men at a disadvantage when securing partners for themselves.

Fidelity. This belief in fidelity extended far beyond the modern understanding of it, which is to remain monogamous with your life partner. They also applied this belief in fidelity to friends and family as well, which meant that Vikings had to be unequivocally loyal to those that were close to them.

Some men would have two to three wives, but the Norse sagas say that some princes had limitless numbers. So raiding was a way to build up wealth and power. Men could gain a place in society, and the chance for wives if they took part in raids and proved their masculinity and came back wealthy.

Viking women married young as early as 12 years old. By the age of 20, virtually all men and women were married. Life expectancy was about 50 years but most died long before reaching 50.

# Famous Norwegian

## Anni-Frid Lyngstad (ABBA)



Anni-Frid Synni Lyngstad was born 15 Nov 1945 in Bjørkåsen, a small village in Ballangen near Narvik, in northern Norway, to a Norwegian

mother, Synni Lyngstad (19 June 1926 – 28 September 1947), and a German father, Alfred Haase (29 June 1919 – 23 February 2009), who was a sergeant in the Wehrmacht, not long after the end of the Second World War and the German occupation of Norway. Haase had returned to Germany when his unit was evacuated.

In early 1947, Anni-Frid, her mother Synni, and her maternal grandmother, Arntine "Anni" Lyngstad, left their birthplace in Norway, fearing reprisals against those who had dealings with the Germans during the occupation. Anni-Frid was taken by her grandmother to Sweden, where they settled in the region of Härjedalen. Her grandmother took any available job while living there, whereas Synni remained in Norway and worked for a time in the south of the country. Synni joined her mother and daughter in Sweden, and the three moved to Malmköping (72 km from Stockholm). Synni died of kidney failure soon afterwards, aged 21 years, leaving Anni-Frid to be raised solely by her grandmother.

At first, Lyngstad was hesitant to perform with her boyfriend Benny Andersson, his best friend Björn Ulvaeus and his wife, Agnetha Fältskog. Their first project together in the winter of 1970–1971 was the cabaret act Festfolket, which was not a success. The following year, Lyngstad toured with Lasse Berghagen, while the other three future ABBA members started performing together on a regular basis. Eventually, she rejoined the ensemble. Andersson

and Ulvaeus were busy producing other artists, but soon discovered the qualities of Lyngstad's and Fältskog's voices combined; thus, the band was formed initially as Björn & Benny, Agnetha & Anni-Frid, later renamed ABBA.

On 3 April 1964, 18-year-old Lyngstad married salesman and fellow musician Ragnar Fredriksson. They had two children: Hans Ragnar and Ann Lise-Lotte. They separated in 1968 and were officially divorced on 19 May 1970, the same day that her 71-year-old grandmother Arntine died. In 1969, Lyngstad met Benny Andersson. By 1971, they were living together, but did not marry until 6 October 1978, during the height of ABBA's success. However, after only two years of marriage, they separated on 26 November 1980, and were divorced in 1981.

In 1982, Lyngstad left Sweden and moved to London. In 1986, she relocated to Switzerland, and lived with her

boyfriend, landscape architect Prince Heinrich Ruzzo of Reuss, Count of Plauen (1950–1999), member of the ancient House of Reuss, in his family castle in Fribourg. The couple married on August 26, 1992, granting Lyngstad the title of Princess within Switzerland. Prince Heinrich Ruzzo died from lymphoma in 1999.

Official title: Princess Anni-Frid Reuss, Dowager Countess of Plauen

From Wikipedia

Pictures: Wikipedia, TheCoast.net.nz



## 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 Charlotte Larsen 760-835-4391

## **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

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## **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