

## Myrmarken's Julefest

Sunday, December 5th

2:00 pm

Home of Anne Grethe Cook

1219 E. 14th St.

Marshfield, WI 54449

(715) 384-9678



# SONS of NORWAY



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Celebrating 125 Years  
1895-2020

### FUN FACT

In 2011 Norway ran out of butter due to a shortage of milk production during the summer. This was problematic for everyone who needed butter for cookies and cakes for Christmas. It was such a big crisis that it entered international news and is remembered as the "Norwegian butter crisis".

The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and preserve the heritage and culture of Norway and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

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It's a bit early, but the season is upon us: *God Jul*

We are looking forward to celebrating at Anne Grethe's home this Sunday at 2pm. She states that she desires only the pleasure of your company and to let her know if you are coming so that she has enough chairs. She also told me that she has plenty of food, so your presence is all that she requires.

Hopefully, all of you are feeling well and are ready for the Christmas season and to celebrate with family this year.

Stay well, and see you on Sunday.

Dorothy



# Christmas in Norway

Christmas Eve is the time when presents are exchanged. The gifts are sometimes brought by Santa Claus (called 'Julenissen' in Norway). Presents are also brought by the small gnomes called 'Nisse'. There are also hobgoblins (Nisse) decorations. Children pick up the presents from under the Christmas Tree and read the cards on the presents out loud.



During Advent/December in Norway, sometimes small gifts are given on each day of December leading up to Christmas. These are known as Adventsgave or Kalendergave. There is a similar tradition in Denmark. The gifts are sometimes used together with a chocolate Advent calendar!

As in Finland, a sheaf of wheat is often left out for the birds to eat over Christmas. Also a type of rice porridge is sometimes left for the 'Nisse' who is believed to guard the farm animals.



In some parts of Norway, children like to go carol singing. Often children will dress up as characters from the Christmas Story, such as the Shepherds and Wise Men, and go singing from house to house in their local neighborhood. Sometimes they carry with paper stars on them.

Another tradition in parts of Norway is that families light a candle every night from Christmas Eve to New Year's Day.

Christmas wasn't celebrated in Norway until about 1000 or 1100, when Christianity first came to the area. Before this people celebrated jul or jøl in the middle of winter. It was a celebration of the harvest gone and a way of looking forward to the spring. Lots of beer (juleøl) was brewed and drunk in honour of the old pagan Scandinavian gods.

Maybe the most famous custom about Christmas in Norway is the big Christmas tree that Norway gives to the UK every year. The tree is given as a present to say 'Thank You' for the help that the people of the UK gave to Norway during World War II. The tree stands in Trafalgar Square in the middle of London and often thousands of people come to watch when the lights are turned on.



<https://paradisepraises.com/christmas-in-norway>