

Myravisen

December 2019
Myrmarken Lodge 5-609
Marshfield, WI 54449



Myrmarken's Julefest

Who is invited?

All members, friends, and those curious about the Sons of Norway

WHERE: Home of Anne-Grethe Cook,
1219 E. , 14th Street, Marshfield.

WHEN: Sunday, December 8th. **TIME:** 1:30 pm

The house is all decorated, and Anne-Grethe is looking forward to hosting Myrmarken's family and friends.



SONS of NORWAY
Celebrating 123 Years
1896-2019

Fun Fact #3

Sons of Norway was originally called Sanner af Norge, a name created by Norwegian Nationalist author Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson.

www.sonsofnorway.com

From our President

As we conclude Myrmarken's 31st year as a lodge in the Sons of Norway, I am thankful for all the work and participation of our faithful members. We have accomplished much this year, from participation in the Cultural Fair to interesting programs presented at our meetings to a "Cod Toss" picnic at the Hamus Preserve to our annual Lutefisk Supper. And as the final event for 2019, we look forward to our Julefest at Anne Grethe's home on Sunday, December 8th, at 1:30pm. We encourage all of you to join us to celebrate this wondrous time of Christmas.

Our officers for 2020 will also be installed, and the food basket will be available once more for donations to the Food Pantry as our Community Service.

I wish all a Merry Christmas and a healthy, successful new year.

Dorothy

P.S.: Don & I are now great-grandparents to Riggins Scott Johnson, born Nov. 30th. Riggins' parents are Jenna & Dylan Johnson.



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Coming programs:

Julfest, Dec. 8th, 1:30 pm, Home of Anne Grethe Cook, 1219 E. 14th St., Marshfield

Saturday, Jan. 11th
9 am, Faith Luth. Church, Marshfield,

Program: "Some Norwegian history of Iola" by Don Helgersen

Saturday, February 8,
9:00 am, **Scotty's Pizza

Program: Book Review

Saturday, February 22
Cultural Fair, UW- Marshfield, 2000 W. 5th St., Marshfield

2019 Officers

President: Dorothy Berg :
(715)-676-2336

Secretary: Sherrie Framness :
(715) 615-6675

Treasurer: Julaine Varsho:
(715) 384-9676

Newsletter Editor: Sherrie Framness: (715) 615-6675



Another successful Lutefisk Supper

Our Lutefisk Supper of November 12th is in our history now. Attendance was less than last year; however, we noticed that the attendees lingered and visited more than in any past suppers. A very good thing! Again, we had first timers, and we had old friends. Each commented: "Let me know about next year's supper ." The food was excellent, the tables were beautiful, and the raffles were wonderful. Thank you to all who made the cookies; posted and or mailed flyers of advertising; to those who donated the raffled items: Lyn Schoenleben for the two rosemaled items, Polly Nikolai for the crocheted afghan, and to Don & Dorothy Berg for a stay at the Beacons in Minocqua. Especially, a thank you to Doug & Sherrie Framness for bringing home the lutefisk, and to Dorothy for preparing it.



Sarah Kolstad, Dorothy Berg, and Anne-Grethe Cook display some of the raffled items.

Cookies, Cookies, Cookies.....

Our Cookie trays are abundant because of Myrmarken's generous bakers!



Christmas Eve Celebrations in Norway

As 5 p.m. strikes on December 24th in Norway, the church bells are ringing, families are gathering around the dinner table and Christmas medleys are playing in the background. Here are a few fun facts about how Christmas is celebrated in Norway.

Christmas Eve is the biggest day of celebration in Norway, bigger than Christmas Day itself. Houses and yards are cleaned and tidied up. The Christmas Tree is decorated with, among other ornaments, juletrekury, or pleated Christmas hearts made out of colored paper. The hearts can also be filled with small ginger cookies, raisins, caramels or other treats. Christmas Eve is also the day that the Julenisse, the Norwegian Santa Claus, makes his rounds to bring gifts to good children.



Little Christmas Eve Less known in North America is the tradition of lillejulaften, or Little Christmas Eve. Lillejulaften is the day before Christmas Eve—that is to say December 23rd. It is celebrated in different ways, but one can have a little dinner, cookies, gløgg drinking and maybe a small present that the children can open. Lillejulaften is a good way to prolong Christmas celebrations.

From all of us at Sons of Norway, Merry Christmas!

Let's keep growing to 2020!

As we come to the end of the year, our 2019 Recruitment Campaign is also wrapping up. Please help our lodge grow and win a recruitment prize. Lodges that meet the 10% new member goal receive:

- First access to an exciting new Cultural Program
- 2019 Lodge and Member Recognition Certificates

Please spread the word—Sons of Norway welcomes all!



Serina Kaker

Ingredients

- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 3 sticks salted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup sugar cubes, coarsely crushed, or pearl sugar



Directions

Step 1

Beat together 1 egg and sugar with an electric mixer until thick and pale. Sift in flour and baking powder and add butter. Beat on low speed until mixture forms a dough. Chill, wrapped in plastic wrap, until firm, at least 1 hour.

Step 2

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Step 3

Lightly beat remaining egg. Roll level teaspoons of dough into balls and arrange 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheets. Press thumb into center of each ball to flatten, leaving a depression, and brush lightly with egg. Sprinkle crushed sugar in centers and bake in batches in middle of oven until golden, 12 to 18 minutes. Transfer to racks to cool completely.

a little in English...

Where did the julenisse come from and why do we bring a fir tree into the living room?

Christmas tree

There are several theories about how this tradition came to Norway, but the very first Christmas tree that was observed in this country was supposedly at Nes ironworks owned by Jacob Aall in the 1840s. This is not a Norwegian or Scandinavian tradition, but it probably came from Protestant Germany. It was not until 1870-1880 that it became commonplace in schoolhouses for the teachers to decorate a tree.

The smell of fresh trees and the green color was, however, part of the festival in older peasant culture. You washed the floors with lye and sand, and to create a party atmosphere, you topped it with finely chopped spruce or juniper that you sprinkled on the floor.

Julenissen

Julenissen [the Christmas pixie/Santa] is a figure made up of several different traditions. As a supernatural creature, he has many names. Fjøsningen [the barn pixie] was a little fellow; he often had a beard and was clad in gray, and he lived on farms. At Christmas you needed to leave porridge or a splash of beer in the barn so that he would not pull pranks the rest of the year. If he did not receive these gifts, he might make knots in the horse's mane or do something to hurt the cows.

The Anglo-American tradition originates from St. Nicolas of Europe who is a well-known saint. During Advent, he distributed gifts to those who had been kind, and punished the bad ones. And then we have the Coca-Cola Santa, the advertising version of St. Nicolas from the interwar period.

The julenissen [Christmas pixie] as we know it often has several of these characteristics.



litt på norsk...

Vet du hvorfor vi fikk julenissen og tok et grantre inn i stua?

Julegranen

Det er flere teorier om hvordan denne tradisjonen kom til Norge, men det aller første juletreet som ble observert her til lands skal ha vært på Nes jernverk hos verkseier Jacob Aall i 1840-årene. Dette er ikke en norsk eller skandinavisk tradisjon, men den kom antageligvis fra det protestantiske Tyskland. Først i 1870–1880 årene ble dette allemannseie og da gjennom skolehusene hvor lærerne pyntet treet.

Men duften av friske trær og grønnfargen hørte med til høytidsmarkeringen i den eldre bondekulturen hvor man vasket gulvene med lut og sand, og for å få feststemningen toppet man det med finhakket gran eller einer som man drysset ut over gulvet.



Julenissen

Julenissen er en figur som er støpt sammen av veldig mange ulike tradisjoner. Som overnaturlig skapning har den mange navn. Fjøsningen var en liten kar, han hadde ofte skjegg og var gråkledd, som bodde på gården. Men til jul skulle han ha grøt eller en skvett øl i fjøset for at han ikke skulle lage krøll resten av året. Fikk han ikke det, kunne han lage knuter i manen på hesten eller gjøre noe vondt mot kyrne.

Den angloamerikanske tradisjonen stammer fra St. Nicolas i Europa som er kjent som helgen. I tiden før jul delte han ut gaver til de som hadde vært snille og straffet de slemme. Og så har vi Coca-Cola nissen, eller reklameversjonen av St. Nicolas fra mellomkrigstiden.

Julenissen vi kjenner, har ofte i seg litt av alle disse utgavene.