

MellomVenner



Brubyen Lodge 4-576, Saskatoon
Saskatchewan, Canada



March 2016
Newsletter

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Norwegian Tapestry

Fra presidenten



Happy Leap Day! It gets us one day closer to spring. Will March come in like a lamb or a lion and do we need to beware the Ides of March? Only time will tell.

A total of 15 members came out for the February Indoor Games at the Fairfield Centre. Thanks to our host Group 2 led by Eldon, Mildred and Kathy who coordinated a fun evening. We started with a presentation by Inger Anderson on the story behind the wall hanging that was donated to the lodge. It is all written in a long poem which Inger paraphrased as she “acted” out some of the characters and the story.

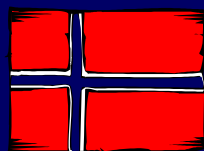
Then we were divided into four groups and the games began.



We did carpet bowling – a first for almost everyone and



not as easy as it looks! We pitched bean bags and counted points. We had to solve some puzzles by matching English and Norwegian numbers and words. A couple of groups had the advantage because they could read Norwegian.



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 provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.



Gratulerer med dagen!



- 2 Ralph E Johnson
- 10 Murray Willoughby
- 17 Sarah Anderson
- 19 Ava Schick
- 20 Dreena Horner
- 26 Ellwood Jones



- 12 Richard Olafson
- 17 Deanne Dowling

Fra presidenten continued...



Lastly we had an apple peeling contest to see who could cut the longest apple peel [won by yours truly!!]. The apples were put to good use in an apple salad prepared by Kathy. As usual a delicious lunch was served.

A short business meeting was held during lunch. The 2015 Financial Statement was presented by the Audit Committee. Alfred Hovdestad/John Fowler moved that the statement be accepted as presented. Carried. A discussion was then held regarding delegates to the District IV Convention to be held in June at Helena, MT. Myrna Kennedy/Betty Brewer moved that Alfred Hovdestad and Diane Berg be appointed as delegates with the lodge paying their registration fees. Carried. Eldon Norum/Ellwood Jones moved that Sharon and Marcel Voyer be appointed as alternate delegates.

The Lodge Achievement forms, the Financial Statement and the names of delegates and alternate delegates have all been forwarded to the rightful places.

Congatulations to Bjorn Hunter and his team of 4 fellow MBA students who travelled to Burbank, California to take part in a competition. They had to present a case and do some simulations. They finished 7 out of 25. Bjorn was the master mind behind this project. He researched possible competitions; got a team together; and made the arrangements, all without an advisor. The whole team deserves a big pat on the back!



Nisse Lodge, North Battleford, has invited us to join them for lunch followed by cards and bowling. Location is the Bowling Alley. 1102 – 99th St. NB
 Saturday, March 12, 2016
 Please let Ellwood [306-373-1618] know if you are going so that we can arrange car pools.

Brubyen Lodge is planning to return the invitation sometime in May. Watch for details.

Members, if you have children or grandchildren who will be going on to post-secondary education, don't forget about the scholarships available through the Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada. Application forms are available on line. You might also be thinking about the Culture Camp next summer, July 18-22, ages 6 and up.



Fra presidenten continued...

Unless otherwise indicated,
all events are held at:

Fairfield Senior Citizens
Centre
103 Fairmont Court
Saskatoon

Dead Fish Society
Social Hour
at Smitty's in Market
Mall, 7:00 pm
March 4th
April 1st
May 6th
(1st Friday each month)

Norwegian Whist
Mar. 9th, 7:30 pm
Apr. 13th, 7:30 pm
(2nd Wed each month)

Lodge Monthly Meeting
Mar. 17th, 7:30 pm
(3rd Thurs each month)

Monthly Event
Membership Dinner
April 21st
(3rd Thurs each month)



A new genealogy group will be meeting at 2:00 pm, Sunday, March 13 at Kevin Moore's place at 315 5th Ave N. At that time we will establish a few other dates to meet. Let Phyllis know if you are interested in attending. We will be working on our Genealogy Cultural Skills pin.



March 17 is the date for our next general meeting – St. Patrick's Day – will we be wearing green? It will be hosted by Group 4 which is our young adults group. I hope to see a good turnout of members for that meeting. To help you plan ahead, the New Member Dinner will be held on April 21 hosted by Group 3, coordinated by Diane and Alice. Now is the time to invite family or friends or neighbours to join us that night for dinner. We need to have at least 10 guests in order to qualify for a grant from Sons of Norway. Group 3 will meet over lunch at the March 17 meeting to discuss plans for the dinner.



Lastly, don't forget about the Zone 4 Sports Weekend to be hosted by Solglyt Lodge, Edmonton on June 10 – 12, 2016. Watch for more details to come. This is a very enjoyable gathering of Alberta and Saskatchewan lodge members to play games, visit and eat!

The next Board meeting is at 7:30 pm, Thursday, Mar 10. Place TBA.

Fraternally –

Diane 306-373-3156 edberg@sasktel.net

Fra sekretæren

The sekretærenreport is not available this month. In its place here is an announcement about Tubfrim. ed.



Sympathy extended
to

**GET
WELL!**

Notify Dorothy if
sunshine required
at 306-373-6478.



Fra sekretæren continued...

Tubfrim Winner Announced

Thursday, January 14, 2016 was a lucky day for Vegas Viking Lodge 6-152. The lodge was the winner of the Tubfrim drawing to give away a ticket to Norway, worth up to \$1,000. Their postcard was drawn from among 1,331 other cards. With one card for every pound sent to Norway that means that Sons of Norway sent at least 1,332 pounds of stamps to Tubfrim in 2015. Vegas Vikings contributed 220 pounds to that total.

For the past 30 years, members have been clipping canceled postage stamps and sending them to Tubfrim, who then sells them to dealers and collectors.

Originally the money raised went to help children afflicted by tuberculosis. Since tuberculosis is no longer the threat to health that it once was, today the proceeds from the resale of stamps helps improve the quality of life for children and youth with disabilities and special needs. Sons of Norway members are the largest contributor outside of Norway to Tubfrim's efforts, sending nearly 30% of all stamps collected.

While helping children is a great motivation for our members to participate, there is a special incentive to say "*Thank you*". For every pound of stamps collected, the member or lodge can enter a drawing, held in mid-January every year, to win a round trip ticket to Norway, worth up to \$1,000. The official postcard to enter the drawing can be order from the Sons of Norway Supply Department, 800-945-8851 ext 645 or supply@sofn.com.



**Board of
Directors**

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Membership Secretary
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Phyllis Byers

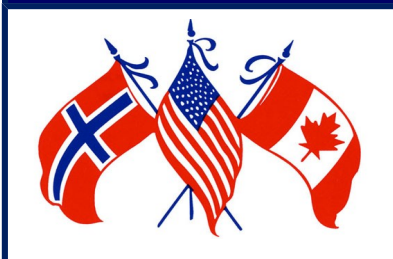
Cultural Director
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Myrna Kennedy

Social Director
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Kathy Fenton

Sports Director
306-374-4505



Cultural Skills

If anyone is interested in doing any of the cultural skills programs please contact Phyllis by phone at 306-373-6478 or email at jp64@sasktel.net. There is a Cultural Skills brochure from Sons of Norway attached to the newsletter.

There will also be a Genealogy Cultural Skills day on Sunday, March 13th at 2:00 pm at 315 5th Ave North. Please email Phyllis by March 9th to let her know that you are coming.

Lemongrass Broth with Norwegian Cod and Prawns

Adapted from seafoodfromnorway.co.uk/recipes

- 150g (5¼ oz) Norwegian Cod
- 2 tbsp ground ginger
- 1 chili pepper, red
- 1 package glass noodles
- 1 bunch fresh coriander
- ½ cup fish sauce
- 10 spring onions
- 1 cucumber
- 1-2 limes
- 100g (3½ oz) prawns, peeled
- 1 tbsp sweet chili sauce
- 8 cups chicken stock
- 2 carrots
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 stalk lemongrass
- 1 tbsp sugar, unrefined

To make the broth, slice chilies and roughly chop the coriander leaves. Use the back of the knife to crush lemongrass stalk. Add to a pot with chicken stock, sugar and fish sauce. Heat to a boil and set aside. Strain the broth and boil again. Flavor with lime juice. Marinate cod in a bowl with salt, ginger and chili sauce and set aside. Prepare glass noodles according to instructions on the package. Shred carrots, cucumber and spring onion and add to the fish broth. Add cod and shrimp to broth and bring to a boil. Serve with glass noodles.



Notices – March Social/Cultural Event

- Ellwood Jones** - Assistant Sports Director
- Mildred Norum** - Counselor
- Dorothy Haroldson** - Sunshine
- Myrna Kennedy** - Greeter
Caroline Tradal - Assistant Greeter
- Eldon Norum** - Foundation
- Lyla Dalen** - Historian
- Nancy Iverson** - Librarian
Myrtle Dixon - Assistant Librarian
- Wanda Fowler** - Assistant Librarian
- Warren Wulff** - Marshall
Chris Byers - Marshall
- Lois Campbell** - Trustee
Marcel Voyer - Trustee
Kayla Ingram - Trustee
- Inger Anderson** - Auditor
Dennis Akins - Auditor
Alfred Hovdestad - Auditor
- Eunice Begg** - Volunteer Coordinator

Editor

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Brubyen Lodge members are invited to join Nisse Lodge members for an afternoon of cards and bowling. The date is Saturday, March 12 starting with a lunch at noon.

Place is the bowling alley in North Battleford. Please let Kathy Fenton [306-374-4505] know if you are interested in attending so we can arrange car pooling.

Fra redaktøren

March. In like a lion, out like a lamb? We will have to wait and see.

Inger told a story at the last meeting about a story told on a quilt. The translation goes something like:

"Gudmund Storbingen lifted the bride high in his arms and jumped in the water."

In the story the bride was betrothed to his opponent but his adversary was afraid of the water. When they came to a river between them and the church, Gudmund seized the opportunity and carried the bride to the church where they were married.

Later in the evening we enjoyed some indoor games that everyone could enjoy. We played three ends of carpet bowling, bean bag toss, apple peeling and Norwegian translations. Later we enjoyed the apples in a salad along with cake, cookies, and other snacks.

Each month the Sons of Norway distributes material to the Lodges for use in their correspondence. This month the *Liit på norsk* is a story about wedding traditions. The story is too long to put both the English and Norwegian on one page so you will find an extra page in your newsletter.

Easter falls on March 27th this year. Enjoy the holiday and let's hope that this cold snap marks the end of winter and that March goes out like a lamb.

Fraternally,
Alfred Hovdestad

Deadline for the next newsletter

Mar 31st



At the Lodge



Telling the story.



Brubyen Lodge at the Heritage Festival



Carpet Bowling



It's all in the wrist action!



Norsk translations.



Apple Peeling.



Litt på norsk...

Bryllupsgavene som forsvant

Den eldgamle norske tradisjonen overlevde helt fram til midten av 1800-tallet før den ble ulovlig.

Herleik Baklid har gransket sagaer, kongebrev, testamenter, rettsprotokoller, skrifteprotokoller og gamle lover for å finne spor etter en bestemt norsk bryllupstradisjon. Nemlig brudegavene. Baklid har funnet tegn til denne skikken helt tilbake til 1100-tallet. Folketradisjonen overlevde kirkens egne ekteskapstradisjoner og ble holdt i live helt fram til midten av 1800-tallet, da en ny norsk lov avskaffet retten bruden hadde på gavene.

Enkeforsikring

Når vi tenker på bryllupsgaver i dag, tenker vi gjerne på kjøkkenutstyr, sølvtøy og lekre designvarer som det lykkelige paret får av venner og familie på den store dagen. Men i middelalderen hadde gavene et helt annet formål. Men for å forstå tanken bak disse gavene er det viktig å forstå hvorfor folk giftet seg før i tiden. Stort sett lå det nemlig økonomiske hensikter bak parets union. Gjennom historien viser det seg at brudgommen ofte har gitt én eller flere tradisjonelle gaver til bruden.

Disse gavene kunne bruden ta ut dersom hun ble enke. Det lå som et grunnleggende prinsipp bak disse gavene at hun skulle sikres dersom mannen falt fra, forteller Baklid til forskning.no. Dette var et samfunn uten offentlige støtteordninger. Derfor var det brudgommen og hans fremtidige svigerforeldres ansvar å skaffe bruden økonomisk sikkerhet, fortsetter han. Opp gjennom historien har det vært tre ulike kategorier for gavene bruden fikk av sin kommende ektemann. Festegaven og benkegaven er det nok få som har hørt om. Mens morgengaven lever videre i beste velstand. Alle de tre variantene finner Baklid igjen langt tilbake i norsk historie.

Styrket avtalen

Ekteskap i norsk middelalder og fram til slutten av 17- og 1800-tallet var altså først og fremst en økonomisk affære. Ekteskapet ble som regel avtalt mellom bruden og brudgommens slekt. Da avtalen, eller festemålet, var i boks, ble det fremtidige ekteparet omtalt som festefolk, bedre kjent som forloveder i dag. Allerede nå begynner gavedrysset fra den kommende brudgom. Festegaven ble gitt ved festemålet. Dette var en gave som skulle styrke avtalen om ekteskap, forklarer Baklid. Gaven kunne være alt fra sølvskjeer, sølvkanner og smykker til jordeiendom. Alt dette hadde bruden krav på å få utbetalt dersom hun skulle bli enke.

Underholdning og humor

Før selve vielsen måtte brudgommen komme med løfter om gaver som skulle overbevise bruden om å reise fra foreldrene sine. Dette ble ofte forhandlet fram mellom ulike parter på bruden og brudgommens vegne, hvor bruden skulle «løses fra benken», altså slutte å sove i sengen hos foreldrene sine. Derav navnet på den andre tradisjonelle gaven: benkegave. Benkegaven kan mest sannsynlig koples til brudekjøp, en enda eldre tradisjon. Enkelt sagt: gaven sier hva brudgommen er villig til å betale for sin fremtidige kone. Denne gaven kunne bestå av alt fra hest og sal til smykker og eiendom.

En siste gave ved dagry

Morgenen etter bryllupsnatten fikk bruden den siste gaven fra brudgommen. Dette er det vi kjenner også i dag som morgengaven, som er den eldste av de tre gaveskikkene. Morgengaven kan spores blant germanerne helt tilbake til Romerriket, sier Baklid. Denne gaven kunne bestå av så mangt. For eksempel gav Knud Nielsen fra Tinn i Telemark, Helge Torgrimsdatter blant annet en hest, en sal, tre skinnfeller og 120 riksdaler i benkegave og morgengave. I høyere klasser, som for eksempel blant de kongelige kunne morgengaven være eiendom.

Fjernet fra loven

Men utpå 1800-tallet begynte tradisjonene etter hvert å dø ut. Det var det flere grunner til. Det som kanskje overrasker mest er at Baklid ikke har funnet bevis på at kirken motarbeidet disse tradisjonene. Det var gaver som hadde en klar praktisk-økonomisk funksjon som egentlig ikke kom i konflikt med kirkens lære om ekteskapet, forklarer han. Men de norske lovene som gav enken rettslige krav på gavene ble fjernet i 1854. Noe av årsaken kan ha vært fordi de kunne skape krøll i rettssaker. Utvidet arverett skulle i stedet kompensere for de verdiene hun mistet. Noe annet som kan forklare tradisjonenes bortgang, er forestillingen om at man giftet seg med hverandre av kjærlighet, og ikke av økonomiske hensyn. Men før gavene forsvant helt, fikk de en litt annen vri. Benkegaven fortsatte som et underholdningsinnslag noen tiår etter, før de falt bort. Festegavene endret karakter til mer personlige gaver, som for eksempel en salmebok eller ei klokke, sier Baklid. Til slutt hadde synet på ekteskap endret seg såpass mye at det ikke lenger var plass til de gamle skikkene. Ekteskapet ble sett på som et økonomisk anliggende fram til slutten av 1700-tallet, men så kommer det romantiske idealet inn, sier Baklid.

Spør i dagens samfunn

Gamle norske tradisjoner har likevel en tendens til å snike seg inn i vårt moderne samfunn. Det skal ikke mye til for å se at vi fortsatt delvis praktiserer våre forfedres gamle skikker. Benkegaven har forsvunnet, men morgengaven har jo derimot blusset opp igjen. Selv om festegaven forsvant rundt 1870, kom forlovelsesringer inn i stedet, forteller Baklid. Symbolikken er kanskje en litt annen, nå skal de uttrykke kjærlighet og ikke nødvendigvis sikre en eventuell enke, fortsetter han.



and a little in English

Wedding Gifts That Disappeared

The ancient Norwegian tradition survived until the mid-1800s before it became illegal.

Herleik Baklid has investigated sagas, kings' letters, wills, court records, legal documents and old laws to find traces of a certain Norwegian wedding tradition, namely bridal gifts. Baklid has found evidence that this practice dates back to the 1100s. Folk traditions survived the church's marriage traditions and were kept alive until the mid-1800s, when a new Norwegian law abolished the rights the bride had to these gifts.

Widow's Insurance

When we think of wedding gifts today, we tend to think of kitchenware, silverware and gorgeous designer items that the happy couple receives from friends and family on the big day. But in the Middle Ages the gifts had an entirely different purpose. To understand the idea behind these gifts, it is important to understand why people got married in the past. Economic reasons stood behind the couple's union, for the most part. Throughout history, it turns out that the groom often gave one or more traditional gifts to the bride.

"The bride could take out these gifts if she became a widow. The basic principle behind these gifts was that she would be secure if her husband died," Baklid tells forskning.no. "This was a society without government aid. Therefore the groom and his future in-laws were responsible for providing the bride with economic security," he continued. Throughout history there have been three different categories of gifts that the bride got from her husband-to-be. Probably only a few people have heard of festegaven (the engagement gift) and benkegaven (the bunk gift), while morgengaven (the morning gift) lives on. Baklid has found all three of these extending far back into Norwegian history.

Strengthening the Agreement

Marriage during the Norwegian medieval period until the end of the 17- and 1800s was primarily an economic affair. The marriage was generally agreed upon between the bride and groom's family. When this agreement or betrothal was settled, the future married couple was referred to as betrothed, better known today as engaged. Immediately the flow of gifts started from the future groom. "The betrothal gift was given at the engagement. This was a gift that would strengthen the marriage arrangement," explains Baklid. The gift could be anything from silver spoons, silver jugs and jewelry, to land. The bride was entitled to cash in all of this should she become a widow.

Entertainment and humor

Before the actual ceremony, the groom had to promise gifts that would convince the bride to leave her parents. This was often negotiated between the various parties on the bride's and groom's behalf, how the bride would "be released from the bunk", i.e. stop sleeping in a bed at her parents. Hence the name of the second traditional gift: benkegave or bunk gift. A bunk gift can most likely be connected to bride purchasing, an even older tradition. Simply put: the gift says what the groom is willing to pay for his future wife. This gift could consist of anything from a horse and saddle to jewelry and property.

One last gift at dawn

The morning after her wedding night, the bride received a final gift from the groom. This is what we know today as morgengaven, the morning gift, which is the oldest of the three gift practices. "The morning gift can be traced through the Germans all the way back to the Roman Empire," says Baklid. This gift could consist of so many things. For example Knud Nielsen from Tinn in Telemark gave Helge Torgrimsdatter among other things a horse, a saddle, three animal pelts and 120 thalers as a bunk gift and morning gift. In higher classes, such as among the royals, the morning gift could be property.

Removed by law

But after the 1800s, the traditions began to eventually die out. There were several reasons for this. What may surprise most is that Baklid has not found evidence that the church opposed these traditions. "These were gifts that had a clear practical-economic function that didn't actually come into conflict with church teachings about marriage," he explains. But the Norwegian laws that gave the widow legal claim to the gifts were removed in 1854. Part of the reason may have been because they could cause problems in litigation. Extended inheritance would instead compensate for the valuables she lost. Something else that might explain the tradition's demise is the notion that you married one another out of love, and not for economic considerations. But before they disappeared completely, the gifts took a slightly different turn. "The bunk gift continued as a form of entertainment for a few decades, before going away. Betrothal gifts changed style, into more personal gifts, such as a hymnal or a watch," says Baklid. Finally the face of marriage had changed so much that there was no longer room for the old customs. "Marriage was seen as an economic matter until the end of the 1700s, but after that, the romantic ideal came into play," said Baklid.

Traces in today's society

Old Norwegian traditions still have a tendency to creep into our modern society. It does not take much to see that we still partially practice our ancestors' ancient customs. "The bunk gift disappeared, but the morning gift on the other hand, has sprouted up again. Although betrothal gifts disappeared around 1870, engagement rings came into practice," says Baklid. "The symbolism is perhaps a little different now; the gifts are supposed to express love and aren't supposed to provide financial security in the event of widowhood," he added.