



# Solglimt Newsletter



Palm Desert

Editor: Steinar Johansen

January 2010



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## Ord fra Presidenten

I'm feeling a little melancholy as I reflect upon this past year: a difficult time for my business; a difficult decision made in another organization; my first hospital stay; friends passing away; and friends moving away.

Change is inevitable, and not always pleasant. A constant through everything else has been Sons of Norway. Not that Sons of Norway doesn't change – it does. But it has been there for me through the years as a source of pride, a source of inspiration, a source for personal growth and development, a social activity, a learning activity, a place of security, and a place for friendships. That will never change.

2010 will provide us with numerous opportunities to learn about and share our heritage, to be entertained, to meet old friends, and to make new friends. Besides our monthly dinner socials and programs, we will have other opportunities for fun cultural activities.

2010 is a convention year. Our District 6 Convention is in Modesto, June 23 – 26. The International Convention is in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Anyone is welcome to attend as a non-delegate. (Plan a vacation to coincide with a conven-

tion.) We will soon be electing delegates and alternates to the District Convention. If you are interested in being a delegate or alternate, or have questions regarding such, please let me know.

Solskinn Lodge's two year term of office means that we will not be having installation of officers in January. However, due to resignations, regrettably accepted, we will have to have an election for a new Secretary, Cultural Director, and Social Director to fill out the term of office. We already have nominations for a Cultural Director and a Social Director, but we still need a Secretary. Would someone please volunteer to be Secretary?

We have a great year planned.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

*Fraternally,  
Nancy Madson*

## Lutefisk Dinner

**Don't forget to send in your lutefisk dinner reservations before January 10. We will sell out. Flyer was in the December newsletter. Call John Strom, 760/568-3483, for reservation inquiries.**

**Call Nancy Madson, 760/343-0848 to volunteer to serve, cook, or set-up.**

# Solskinn Lodge's Events

|           |     |                         |   |
|-----------|-----|-------------------------|---|
| January   | 16  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Soup & Salad Dinner. Norse Myths by James Story Magic |
| February  | 20  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Lutefisk Dinner.                                      |
| March     | 20  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Scandinavian Heritage Day                             |
| March     | 27  | Coachella Valley Museum | International Day                                     |
| April     | 18  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Knut Erik Jensen Piano Concert. Tickets \$10.00       |
| April     | 24  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Potato Bar Dinner (4th Saturday)                      |
| May       | 15  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Cold Food Potluck/smørbrød 17 mai Celebration         |
| June      | 19  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Midsummer (St. Hans Aften) event with VASA            |
| September | 25  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Potluck   |
| October   | 16  | Hope Lutheran Church    | 20th Anniversary Celebration                          |
| November  | 20  | Hope Lutheran Church    | Potluck Dinner  |
| December  | TBA | Hope Lutheran Church    | Christmas Party                                       |

## Januar Birthdays

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 9  | Candelaria Harriet C |
| 13 | Dorn Florence R      |
| 19 | Ness Chris           |
| 21 | Wisler Lavonne M     |
| 27 | Jacobsson Ingeborg J |
| 30 | Natwick Vernon R     |
| 30 | Richardson Brandon   |
| 31 | Espedal Beverly D    |

Hurra for deg som fyller ditt år, ja deg vil jeg gratulere.

Alle i ring omkring deg vi står, og se, nå vil vi marsjere.

Bukke, nikke, neie, snu oss omkring, danse for deg med hopp og sprett og spring, ønske deg av hjerte alle gode ting og si meg så, hva vil du mere?

GRATULERE!

## Scandinavian Heritage Day – Saturday, March 20

Mark your calendars now. There will be food, entertainment, craft demonstrations, and children's activities. Come participate; be part of it and volunteer. For more information call:

Luella Grangaard 760-363-7704

## Business/Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 12 @ 4:30  
Nancy Madson's home in Thousand Palms  
760/343-0848

# Events Beyond our Valley

|            |       |                           |  |
|------------|-------|---------------------------|--|
| February   | 5-6   | Cal Lutheran University   | Thousand Oaks. Nordic Spirit Symposium |
| February   | 9     | Yuma, AZ                  | Scandinavian Fest                      |
| March      | 13    | Arizona                   | Arizona Krettsstevne                   |
| April      | 17-18 | Cal Lutheran University   | Thousand Oaks, Scandinavian Festival   |
| May        | 17    | San Bernardino            | Flag Raising Ceremony, City Hall       |
| June       | 23-26 | Modesto CA                | District 6 Convention                  |
| Aug - Sept | 29-1  | Coeur d'Alene, Idaho      | International Convention               |
| September  | 17-19 | Pine Cove, near Idyllwild | Southern California Krettsstevne       |
| September  | 25-26 | Norge Lodge               | Viking Festival                        |

## Supper club

On December 2, the Solnedgang (Sunset) Supper Club met for a festive evening at the Cava Restaurant (Esmeralda Resort). We enjoyed a delicious dinner. It was complete with homemade mushroom soup, a beautiful salad bar and many choices for the main dish. The majority of us chose the sea bass. For a finishing touch, we enjoyed coffee and an elegant dessert



bar with pumpkin tiramisu, creme brulee and a brownie topped with whipped cream, a cherry and a straw-shaped cookie. After dinner some of us toured the Christmas tree displays that were set up for a silent auction fundraiser for MS. There were around 20 trees, including ones by Paris Hilton and Carol Channing. Nancy placed a couple bids for fun, but she's not planning on being the high bidder since close outs were \$1000 to \$3000. The Christmas tree in the center of the hotel was huge. You can see just a bit of it in the picture. There were eight of us attending this year. I'm sure you'll want to consider joining the group next December. It's a delightful way to get to know members better.



Seated at the table from left to right are: Shirley Severtson, Jerry Tallackson, Luella Grangaard, Miriam Hendrix, Nancy Madson, Harriet and Richard Candelaria and Richard Selle.

*Article submitted by  
Miriam Hendrix*

*a little in English...*

## Celebrating the New Year and the End of Christmas

As in many countries, in Norway the change from one year to another is celebrated on both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. New Year's Eve is celebrated with a party or get-together either at home or out on the town, which often culminates with counting down to the new year's beginning at midnight. On the table one typically serves among other things lamb ribs (pinnekjøtt), pork ribs or turkey on New Year's Eve.

In olden times New Year's Day was an important day for the whole country to look for signs of how the new year would be. The signs people looked for had mostly to do with how the crops would do, or what the fishing would be like. The weather on New Year's Day was also taken as a sign of how the weather would be for the rest of the year. Today New Year's Day is an official holiday and is usually celebrated at home and is for many people a day of rest after New Year's Eve. The Prime Minister gives a speech, called the New Year's Address.

The thirteenth day of Christmas (January 6th) is called Helligtrekongersdag ("Three Holy Kings' Day") in honor of the three kings who came to Jerusalem to honor Jesus. In the Catholic era a pageant was performed on this day, a living demonstration of the three kings' journey, but today it is more of a symbol that Christmas has come to an end.

Adapted from the book "Merkedager"  
av Ann Helene Bolstad Skjelbred

## Norwegian Language Resources

Want to impress your relatives? Need to learn a few phrases for that trip coming up? Got some old letters you'd like to translate? Whatever your goals, Sons of Norway can help you get started learning the Norwegian language.

The Sons of Norway website, [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com), has two great language programs for members. The

first one, "Norwegian in 5 Minutes a Month," consists of 37 audio lessons of simple phrases, written in Norwegian with English translations and pronounced by native speakers. They are all aimed at the beginner level, but will give you a sense of what the language sounds like and how it works.

The second, newer program is called "Norwegian for Reading Comprehension." As the title indicates, this program focuses on reading for general understanding, rather than speaking or writing. Norwegian for Reading Comprehension shows you how the Norwegian language works and teaches you a strategy for breaking down sentences, paragraphs and passages piece by piece. This program includes instruction on the two different forms of the written language as well as tips about reading older texts. To try either of these programs, just sign into the "Members Login" section of [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com).

If you need to hear more Norwegian spoken, check out our Media Lending Library, which features several video titles in Norwegian. For a complete list, log in to [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com) and click on "Member Resources" and then pick "Lending Library" from the menu on the right. That page lists all titles available, which are free to borrow for members - just email [culture@sofn.com](mailto:culture@sofn.com) or call

1-800-945-8851 ext. 659 to make a reservation.

## Luther College Nordic Choir

Luther College Nordic Choir from Decorah, Iowa, one of the top college choirs in the nation, will present a concert at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 27, at Hope Lutheran Church. The Choir is conducted by Dr. Craig Arnold. They will perform sacred choral works, including selections from Fritschel, Gjeilo, Schumann, Paulus, Christiansen, Vaughan Williams, and Courtney. Suggested donation is \$20 adults, \$10 students; tickets will be sold at the door. However, come early as it will be open seating, and they expect to sell out. Don't miss this one.

Also needed is housing for the 76 choir members. If you can house two or more of the students, please sign up at the Church Information Centre or call Nancy Madson, 760/343-0848. Hope Lutheran Church will be feeding the students. Sons of Norway members wishing to contribute cookies please contact Nancy as well.

## After Christmas

'Twas the month after Christmas and all through the house

Nothing would fit, not even a blouse.  
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste  
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.

When I got on the scales there arose such a number!  
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber)  
I'd remember the marvelous meals I prepared:  
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,  
The wine and the rumballs, the bread and the cheese  
And the way I never said "No thank-you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt  
And prepared once again to battle with dirt –  
I said to myself, as only I can,  
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"

So– away with the last of the sour cream dip.  
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip,  
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished  
"Till all the additional ounces have vanished."

I won't have a cookie – not even a lick  
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.  
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread, or pie.  
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.

I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore –  
But isn't that what January is for?  
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.  
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet.

*From Lorraine Tucker, Valhall Viking Feb. 2009  
Submitted by Nancy Madson*

## Hardanger Class

Hardanger group next meeting will be on Saturday January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting starts at 11:00 ending around 3:00. Lunch will be served. Location: 51066 Mecca Rd, Morongo Valley. Everyone is welcome. Call for information and directions—Luella Grangaard 760-363-7704

## Dance Class

We have started a dance class with Scandinavian Folk Dances. The turn out so far has been low and we really hope some more people would like to join us. If you can walk, you have met the criteria to participate. Next meeting will be Monday January 4. 5:30PM at 74-350 Allesandro in Palm Desert.

# Solskinn Lodge Christmas Party 2009

Solskinn Lodge had its annual Christmas party December



11 and what a success that was. We had over 60 members showing up and that was such a wonderful turnout. People came there happy as they could be and we had a wonderful time together.

Norwegian Christmas Pork Rib with red cabbage, weis wurst (medister pølse) chicken, potatoes, peas were served and what a great Norwegian meal it turned out to be. In Norway this is a very common meal to have for the Christmas evening dinner.



Dessert was real delicious riskrem together with cookies that members of the hardanger class had made.

Nancy showed us a nice slide show about the Christmas



celebration in Norway and together with the slideshow was a sing along to traditional Norwegian and international Christmas songs. We also had a gift exchange while we were eating dessert and hopefully none had to go home

with exactly the same they brought there. We all enjoyed this so much and we are looking forward to repeat this next year.

The pork was ordered from Alpine Village in Torrance, LA. Even they called it Swedish Christmas pork rib, they should have known who it was meant for.

*Article submitted by  
Steinar Johansen*



## Kransekake (Almond Wreath Cake)

*From The Norwegian Kitchen*

**Cake:**

- 2 ½ cups (6 dl) finely ground blanched almonds
- 2 ½ cups (6 dl) finely ground unblanched almonds
- 4 ⅓ cups (10 dl) sifted confectioner's sugar (sift first, then measure)
- 3 egg whites

**Icing:**

- scant 1 cup (2 dl) sifted confectioner's sugar
- 1 egg

Wreath cake can be temperamental. Even if we make it in "exactly the same way" each time we bake it, the results may vary from absolute perfection to complete failure.

Preheat the oven to 200 degrees C (400 degrees F). Combine almonds and confectioner's sugar in a large saucepan. Add the unbeaten egg white and mix to a firm dough. Place the pan over low heat and knead until the dough is so hot that it is almost impossible to handle. Grease the ring pans for a 16-18 ring cake. Spoon the dough into a cookie press or pastry tube with a wide round tip. Press the dough into the rings, pressing the ends together to look as seamless as possible. Bake 12-15 minutes, until dry and firm outside, but still slightly soft inside. Cool slightly, then remove from the pans and cool completely. For the icing, sift the confectioner's sugar and combine with egg white to make a thick icing. Make a small cone of paper and cut off the tip. Pipe on garlands of icing and stack. Decorate with flags, bonbons or candy.



## Solnedgang (sunset) Supper Club

January Supper Club  
 Devanes at 40101 Monterey ,  
 Rancho Mirage, on  
 Tues. 19 Jan at 6:00.

Call Richard Selle to R.S.V. P.  
 760-863-4898



## Editor's Corner

There are two ways to send the editor information for the newsletter:

Email: jo60nor@dc.rr.com

Mail: Steinar Johansen  
 1820 N Mira Loma way  
 Palm Springs CA 92262

Note: My email address contains the number sixty.

Cell: 898-3340

I am looking forward to receiving information for the newsletter.



### Single Premium Deferred Annuity Rates

| <u>Deposit Amount</u> | <u>Current interest rate</u> |   | <u>First Year interest Bonus</u> |   | <u>Total 1st year return</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| \$ 10,000 - \$ 24,999 | 3.70%                        | + | 1.00%                            | = | 4.70%                        |
| \$ 25,000 - \$ 49,999 | 3.90%                        | + | 1.00%                            | = | 4.90%                        |
| \$ 50,000 - \$ 99,999 | 4.15%                        | + | 1.00%                            | = | 5.15%                        |
| \$100,000 - \$249,999 | 4.25%                        | + | 1.20%                            | = | 5.45%                        |
| \$250,000 and over    | 4.25%                        | + | 1.65%                            | = | 5.90%                        |

Cerificates are credited a first year interest bonus from 1.00% to 1.65%(1% in Oregon) in addition to the current interest rate. The total first year return above includes the current interest rate and the first year interest bonus. Current interest rates are subject to change.

Contact: Dennis Burreson, (800) 448-2499 or  
 Email: res03knl@charter.net

## Solskinn Lodge Officers - 2010

|                        |                    |          |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| President              | Nancy Madson       | 343-0848 |
| Vice President         | Steinar Johansen   | 898-3340 |
| Secretary              | Harriet Candelaria | 360-6669 |
| Treasurer              | Ronna Clymens      | 464-3893 |
| Financial Secretary    | John Strom         | 568-3483 |
| Social Director        | Harriet Candelaria | 360-6669 |
| Asst. Social Director: | Luella Grangaard   | 363-7704 |
| Cultural Director      | Sandra Kennedy     | 366-8486 |
| Editor:                | Steinar Johansen   | 898-3340 |
| Publicity Director:    | Luella Grangaard   | 363-7704 |
| Counselor:             | Vaughn Simon       | 203-0279 |
| Trustee:               | Richard Selle      | 863-4898 |
| Trustee:               | Norman Larsen      | 328-1791 |
| Marshal:               | Shirley Severtson  | 202-8214 |
| Asst Marshal:          | Sandra Kennedy     | 366-8486 |
| Greeter:               | Inez Murdoch       | 346-3934 |
| Greeter:               | Beverly Espedal    | 360-8104 |
| Sunshine Girl:         | Charlotte Larsen   | 328-1791 |
| Photographer:          | Steinar Johansen   | 898-3340 |
| Foundation Director:   | Vaughn Simon       | 203-0279 |
| Stamp Chairman:        | Lois Strom         | 568-3483 |
| Tel. Tree Chairman:    | Donna Lenander     | 365-6886 |
| Historian:             | Marie Maher        | 346-2066 |
| Musician:              | Louise Selle       | 863-4898 |
| Auditors:              | Bob Haagenson      | 324-3992 |
|                        | Glenn Bell         | 340-3985 |

## Solskinn Lodge January Social

**Saturday, January 16**

Hope Lutheran Church Social Hall  
45-900 Portola Avenue, Palm Desert

### Soup & Salad and Dessert

\$5.00/member \$8.00/non-member

Pay at the door, no reservations required

Social Hour 5:00 P.M.

Dinner 6:00 P.M.

Program 7:00 P.M.

NORSE MYTHS

by *James Story Magic*

When Thor Lost his Hammer  
How Odin Gained His Wisdom  
The Building of the Wall of Asgard

[www.jamesstorymagic.com](http://www.jamesstorymagic.com)

If weather permits, wear your Norwegian sweater  
Drawing for the TRIP TO NORWAY,  
by TUBFRIM CHAIRMAN, Knut Karlsens

Save stamps  
for tubfrim  
cut 1/4 inch  
around the stamp

Steinar Johansen  
1820 N Mira Loma Way  
Palm Springs CA 92262

