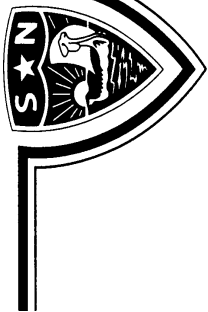


2001 Nordtex News: December Issue

a newsletter for the NordTex Lodge 1-594 of Sons of Norway

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God Jul

O Jul Med Din Glede . . .

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Nordtex Meetings -

December 16th - Julebord Dinner

Christmas party at 5:30 - music, refreshments and dinner. The lodge will be supplying: Meatballs, salmon, potatoes, lingonberries, lefse, saft and coffee. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite dish and share. There will be a short lodge meeting. Don't forget your donations to the area food bank.

January 27th - movie and snack

Will be a social evening (movie night) with a short meeting to install the newly elected officers for 2002. Please bring a snack/dish to share. The evening begins a 5:30pm at Gus Stangeland's home 1917 Drew Lane Richardson, TX.

February 26th . Details to be announced.

Other events -

January 26th

An Evening with Astrid Karlsen Scott

Discussions on her latest book *Defiant Courage*. Begins at 7:00pm, Saturday January 26th at the Plano Repertory Theatre, located at 1028 15th Street. Entrance price - \$8.00 at the theatre. Book signing and refreshments at the Wooden Spoon, check with Gwen for more information.

April 27-28, 2002

Viking Fest

Details in next newsletter.

Aid the Sept 11 victims

SofN established the "9-11-01

Relief Fund", to accept your donations. Visit http://www.sofn.com/forms_pub/relieffund.html for a donation form. You may also phone 800-945-8851 or e-mail for information on how you may contribute.



Velkommen to the 2001 Nordtex News Volume Number Issue Number

Nordtex Upcoming Events:

Christmas

The Nordtex lodge annual Christmas dinner will be on Sunday afternoon, December 16th at 5:30 p.m. at the Wooden Spoon. The lodge will furnish Reindeer meatballs, salmon, potatoes, lingonberries, lefse, saft and coffee. Everyone is asked to bring their favorite dish and share. Everyone wishing to attend should RSVP to Becky Hanson at bhanson@strattoncom.com or call her at (972) 494-4284 so the lodge can plan for the number attending. - Thanks Becky

Music will be provided by two artists. Megan Nixon will be singing some of the Christmas songs from her new Norwegian Christmas Songs CD. Also, Al Beck will be playing, with his band, some Cajun accordion music. This music is going to be great - you don't want to miss this!

Following the dinner, there will be a short business meeting with the election of officers for 2002. The officer candidates are: President - **Open**, Vice President - **Arne Hatlestad**, Secretary - **Becky Hanson**, Treasurer - **Gus Stangeland**, Financial Secretary - **Gus Stangeland**, Social Director - **Al Beck**, and Publicity Director - **Becky Hanson**. **John Eberly** has agreed to be our Newsletter Editor for 2002. John is a member of the Fort Worth lodge now, but he is an associate member of our lodge.

January

Gwen Workman and the Plano Repertory Theatre, 1028 15th St. will be hosting the famous author Astrid Karlsen Scott who has penned many books about Norway and Norwegian culture including *Ekte Norske Mat* (Authentic Norwegian Cooking), *Norway's Fest Days* and the *Ekte Norsk Jule* (Traditional Norwegian Christmas) series. She has also contributed to *Viking* and *Western Viking* publications.



Revealed finally, the complete and astounding story of Jan Baalsrud and the people who helped him escape from the Gestapo. In late March of 1943, during WWII four Norwegian saboteurs arrive in Northern Norway on a fishing cutter and set anchor in peaceful Toftefjord. They are to establish a base for sabotage operations with the eventual goal of liberating occupied Norway. . . . The people of Norway's Troms District step forward to assist Jan. Selflessly defying Nazi dictates, more than 60 people risk their lives to help fugitive commando. Readers will never forget this carefully researched action-packed account of the courage of Jan Baalsrud and the people of Northern Norway.

- From the back cover of the book of her latest book

Members in the News

NORSKE NOEL TO YOU AND YOURS!



Did you ever wonder where you can get Christmas carols sung in Norwegian? Wonder no more. 15-year-old Megan Nixon recently recorded a selection of favorite Norwegian Christmas songs. She had a little help from her mother, Charlotte, who sings one of the carols on the CD. Megan works weekends at Gwen Workman's Scandinavian shop, the Wooden Spoon, and Gwen supplied the bunad for Megan to wear for the CD cover.

Gus Stangeland made it all happen. Gus had been working on a CD of Norwegian Christmas songs and was

looking for a vocalist. When he learned that Megan and her mother were fluent in Norwegian and that Megan was taking private voice lessons, he asked Megan if she would like to sing these songs and make a CD. She said, "I can do that!" so the project was go. Retired from Rockwell International and Alcatel, Gus grew up in a family of musicians.

As a freshman in college, he set out on a music major. A sophomore, he switched to a science and math major but continued to play and sing in small on-campus groups and on the local radio station as well. His career change choice was a good one in terms

of being able to make a living, but now after retirement, he decided it was time to get back into his first love, music. So he set up a digital recording studio using his computer, various hardware gear and special music software to record and produce CDs.

On this CD, Gus sequences the bass and rhythm and plays the harmonica, while his son, Gordon, principal French Horn player for the Chattanooga Symphony, plays the French horn and Megan with the help of her mother on one song, sings the vocals.

But why Norwegian? Gus is a native of North Dakota and he graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN which is steeped in Norwegian culture. Concordia's summer language camp, Skogfjorden, is also where Charlotte Nelson Nixon learned to speak Norwegian, the language of her father's family. All four of her father's grandparents emigrated to America from Norway in the 1860s. For a while, the new Americans maintained their Norwegian language but eagerly learned English. Two generations later, the emphasis was on forgetting Norwegian and speaking only English.

However, when Charlotte was eleven years old, her mom read in the newspaper about Concordia's language camp in Minnesota's beautiful lake country. Not only is there a Norwegian language camp, but German,



Italian, Swedish and others. Each is in a separate location where the language is taught using the total immersion system. That is, the first day of camp is orientation, and from the second day on, only the new language is spoken. These language camps offer an ideal opportunity for a delightful camp experience and for young people to learn and understand the language and the customs of their ancestors. History and culture are emphasized. Campers enjoy foods typical of their chosen country and use the currency of that country to shop in the camp store.

Charlotte was an enthusiastic camper and became fluent in Norwegian after attending the camp for several summers. As a graduate school drama major at the University of New Orleans, she translated Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* in a style that maintained the Norwegian ethnicity of the play which, in other translations, had been scrupulously scrubbed out.

Fast forward another generation. When Charlotte's daughter, Megan, was 13, she attended Concordia's 2-week Norwegian Language Camp session. At age 14, she attended the 4-week session and received one high school language credit. She repeated the 4-week, for credit, session the next two summers to satisfy the foreign language requirement for graduation.

So, three Concordia "alums", Gus, Charlotte, and Megan, have conspired to bring to an eagerly awaiting world the CD, "Norwegian Christmas Songs" by Megan Nixon.

For all you who want a unique approach to Christmas carols, here is an ideal stocking stuffer. Gus has set up a website at www.musicbygus.com where you can listen to a short clip of each song and also order on-line with a credit card. At this website, Gus has several other CDs for sale including *Scandinavian Dance Songs*, *Norwegian Folk Songs* and a CD from Norway of Christmas songs. Of course, you can also buy Megan's CDs at the Wooden Spoon or directly from either Megan or Gus. The CDs are just \$15.00

For info. on Skogfjorden, the language camp, go to : <http://www.cord.edu/dept/clv/skogfjorden.site.html>

This Press Release was written by June Towers, Megan's grandmother. The picture of Megan, courtesy of Gus Stangeland and the picture of Charlotte, taken by her mother, June Towers

A Little in English

Polar Bear Steals C-Vitamins

Manager Trygve Steen of the Svalbard Wildlife Service was impressed by the sensibility of a fur-covered thief that visited a tourist campsite on the island of Spitsbergen. While the tourists were away on a glacier-trek, a polar bear made his way into the mess tent munched on vitamin-C tablets and a tube of toothpaste. The mutton was left to hang, untouched. Lack of vitamin C is a severe health issue among the human population of Svalbard. Polar bears tend to have pretty bad breath due to all the seal meat they eat, so Mr. Steen understood he needed a little freshener.

-Nytt fra Norge

Litt på norsk

Isbjørn stjaler C-vitaminer

Daglig leder Trygve Steen i Svalbard Wildlife Service er imponert over selvinnsikten til den pelskledd tyven som besøkte turistleiren på øya mens turistene var på brevandring. Isbjørnen befant seg straks i messeteltet, der den mesket seg med C-vitamentabletter og en tube tannkrem. Fenalåret fikk henge urørt. Mangel på C-vitaminer blant menneskene på Svalbard er et helseproblem der. Og isbjørner har dårlig ånde some følge av selkjøttet de spiser. Steen sier at han forstår godt at bamsen trengte tannpuss.

-Nytt fra Norge

From the Kjøkken (Kitchen) . . .

A Recipe for Rømmegrøt

Here's a real Norwegian Christmas tradition, perfect for Christmas Eve dessert:

- 1 pt. very thick, slightly sour cream
- 1/2 cup water (to rinse cream from jar)
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 pt. hot milk
- sugar and cinnamon

Cook cream and water very gently for 45 minutes to 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Add paste of salt and flour, with a little cold water, stirring top. Remove fat and save. Stir in hot milk and whisk briskly with flat wire

beater. Pudding should be very smooth and creamy. Pour into a bowl and make a depression on top of butterfat. Serve hot in dessert dishes and pass sugar and cinnamon to sprinkle on top. The pudding is not a success unless the butterfat comes out on top after flour is added. *God appetitt!*

-From Sons of Norway Scandinavian Cook Book

A Recipe for Norwegian Pancakes

Here's a rich Norwegian dish to add a unique touch to Thanksgiving dinner or to any other meal:

- 3 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup cream
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 cup sifted flour
- 1 tbsp. Sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt

Beat eggs till creamy. Add the milk and cream. Sift and add dry ingredients. Beat well. Fry on hot skillet, covering bottom of skillet with dough. Fry as regular pancakes. When done, serve hot with butter and jelly or powdered sugar. Roll up or fold into quarters when serving. *God appetitt!*

-From Sons of Norway Scandinavian Cook Book



Trivia . . .

Can you answer these trivia questions about Norway and America?

1. What is the period between Christmas and New Year's Day often called in Norway?
2. Who introduced Christianity to Norway around 1000 AD?
3. What is the name of the sour-cream porridge eaten in Norway, especially around Christmas time?
4. Who wrote the popular Norwegian Christmas songs *Musevisa* and *Julekveldsvise*?
5. In making lutefisk, what substance is the cod soaked in?
6. What is the name of Norway's Santa Claus?

Euro Currency Coming Soon to Norway's Neighbors

Starting January 1, 2002, the Euro currencies will be distributed throughout 12 European nations. In Finland alone, some 300 large trucks have already begun distributing the currency to banks large and small. Many Norwegians are paying close attention to this because of the amount of business they conduct with the countries involved. Experts in Norway say it is too early to say what kind of an effect it will have on the Norwegian kroner. And economists do not believe the effects will be very dramatic for Norway, since its closest neighbors, Sweden, Denmark and the United Kingdom, while members in the EU, have chosen not to join the Euro currency..

-Fom *Nytt fra Norge*

A Little in English

Christmas Eve Traditions

According to some Norwegian traditions, it was imperative that the lady of the house remembered to set out a bowl of porridge for the nisse, or elf. If she forgot, the elf would leave the farm and take all of the farm's fortune with it. It has also been tradition to leave the Christmas candle burning until the sun came up. If the candle is not lit, trolls will enter the house and celebrate Christmas in the living room. When the sun does come up, it is the oldest in the house that blows out the candle.

- From *Hva Dagene Vet*

Litt på norsk

Skikk Julaften

Julaften måtte ikke matmor glemme å sette ut et fat med grøt til nissen. Glemte hun det, ville nissen reise av gårde og ta gårdens lykke med seg. Det var også skikk at julelyset brant helt til solen sto opp. For brant ikke lyset, kom trollene inn og holdt jul i stua. Når solen eller dag var kommet, slukket husets eldste lyset.

THE CHRISTMAS PAGES

Christmas in Norway

http://www.sofn.com/forms_pub/relieffund.html

Know your beneflits...

Resource Center Opening Soon

Do you need a place to start your genealogy research, or are you preparing for a trip to Norway and want to know more first? Then come visit the new resource center at Sons of Norway Headquarters in Minneapolis. Sections include: 1 Genealogy (incl. bygdebøker) 1 Norwegian language 1 Norwegian Cookbooks 1 Rosemaling 1 Bunader 1 Children's books It is a user-friendly, self-service library, open to all members, with Internet access provided. The hours for the library are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Thursday, and 8:30 am to 11:30 am Friday.



SofN Christmas Catalog

Can't find the perfect gift for your Norwegian grandmother or uncle? The Viking Treasures gift catalog features a wide variety of authentic Norwegian items, including genuine Norwegian *kofte* sweaters, *lefse* grills, *krumkake* irons and glass *nisser*. \$5 member discount for purchases of \$50 or more! Catalogs were distributed starting October 15th, and orders can be placed by mail, phone or at www.sofn.com.

Norway's New Royal Couple Honeymoon in New York

Following their fairy-tale wedding on August 25, Crown Prince Haakon and his new bride Mette-Marit managed a short game of cat and mouse with the Norwegian press. It was not public knowledge where the couple had gone for their honeymoon until they were finally discovered in New York City a few days later. The Norwegian people, however, quickly dropped their curiosities when they learned of the events of Tuesday, September 11. It was only after the initial shock that people again began to wonder and worry about the new couple. To Norway's relief, it was quickly and thankfully revealed that the royal couple was safe and not anywhere near the affected area at the time.

-From *Aftenposten* and *Nytt fra Norge*

Trivia answers: 1. Romjul 2. Olav T ryggvasson 3. Rømmegrøt 4. Alf Prøysen 5. Lye 6. Julenissen

Sang til juletreet

Song to the Christmas Tree

EDVARD GRIEG

Andantino

1. Du grøn - ne, glit - ren - de tre, god - dag! Vel - kom - men du som vi
1. O green and glit - ter - ing tree, to - day We wel - come you with a

ser så gjer - ne med jul - le - lys un - der hjem - mets tak og
song of glad - ness, With toys and can - dles in grand dis - play, Thy

høit i top - pen den blan - ke stjer - nel! Ja den må skin - ne, for
beam - ing star which re - moves all sad - ness; For ev - er shin - ing And

den skal min - ne oss om vår Gud. _____
us re - mind - ing a - bout our God. _____

CHORUS

Ja den må skin-ne, for den skal min-ne oss om vår Gud. —
 For ev - er shin-ing and us re-mind-ing a - bout our God. —

2. Om Jesus barnet fortalte mor
 så mangen aften vi satt derhjemme.
 Vi kan hans bud og hans milde ord,
 vi vet at aldri vi dem kan glemme.
 Når stjernen skinner
 om Ham vi minnes, vårt juletre.

2. *Thou bringest memories of childhood days,
 When mother told us the Christmas story
 How Christ, our Savior, by God's own grace,
 Was sent on earth to bring peace and glory.
 Now bells are ringing
 And children singing His praise today.*

Glade Jul

Silent Night

S.A.T.B.

Andante

FRANZ GRÜBER

pp
 1. Gla - de jul! Hel li - ge - jull! Eng - le da - ler ned i skjull
 1. *Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright*

Hid de fly-ver med Pa - ra-dis-grønt, hvor de se hvad for Gud er skjønt,
Round you vir - gin moth-er and Child! Ho - ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,

løn - lig i - blandt os de går, løn - lig i - blandt os de går.
Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.

2. Julefryd! Evige fryd!
 Sangé full av himmelsk lyd!
 Det var engle som hyrderne så
 den gang Jesus i krybben lå.
 Evig er englenes sang,
 evig er englenes sang.

2. *Silent night, Holy night,
 Shepherds quake at the sight,
 Glories stream from heaven afar,
 Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
 Christ the Savior is born,
 Christ the Savior is born!*

O Jul Med Din Glede

O jul med din glede og barnlige lyst, Vi ønsker dig alle velkommen; Vi hilser dig alle med jublende røst: Titusene ganger velkommen. — Vi klapper i hendene, Vi synger og vi ler, Saa gladelig, saa gladelig, Vi swinger oss i kretsen, og neier.

I Østerlands vise, I tre stjernemenn, Vi vet jo nok hvorhen I drage; Ti vi vilde ogsaa gjerne derhen, Og eder paa reisen ledsage. — Vi klapper i hendene, Vi synger og vi ler, Saa gladelig, saa gladelig, Vi swinger oss i kretsen, og neier.

Saa rekker jeg dig nu med glede min haand, Kom skynd dig og gi mig den anden. Saa knytter vi kjaerlighets hellige baand, Og lover at elske hinanden. — Vi klapper i hendene, Vi synger og vi ler, Saa gladelig, saa gladelig, Vi swinger oss i kretsen, og neier.

From - <http://christmas.com/pe/739>

Who to Contact in Nordtex Lodge

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Plublicity open

Social Director open

Cultural Director open

Youth Director open

Foundation Director open

Sports/Recreation Director open

Counselor open

To recieve the Nordtex News contact the editor at 817-633-9610 or email: JEberly@vlkarchitects.com

THE BACK PAGE

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Please use the on-line store on norskland.com as a means to help off-set the cost of the norskland.com and the nordtex lodge web sites.

Fort Worth's Sons of Norway Hvor Vesten Begynner Lodge

<http://www.jeberly.com/SofN/FW.html>

