

MellomVenner



*Brubyen Lodge 4-576, Saskatoon
Saskatchewan, Canada*



November 2021
Newsletter

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Moose released outside Saskatoon
(see *Fra redaktøren*)

Fra presidenten

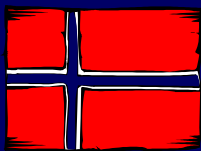
FROM THE PRESIDENT

November 2021

This morning's paper indicated "only" 178 new Covid cases – 51 in Saskatoon plus the virus count in the sewage has dropped significantly. It looks like we are making progress with more vaccinations, masking and just being careful. When they can vaccinate the 5-11 age children we will hopefully see a greater change. It would take a couple of months after their second vaccination to see the improvement.

Hopefully all of your families are safe and well and vaccinated! Have you also been able to get your QR code? Younger family members are great resources for assistance with this!

I am currently phoning our Saskatoon members re having a face-to-face meeting – November, early December or start the 2022 year off with our usual 3rd Thursday of the month meeting. Another consideration would be to explore the possibility of having an afternoon meeting on that Thursday particularly in the winter time. I



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!*



OCTOBER

16 Alfred Hovdestad
22 Marcel Voyer
27 Natasha Tripp

NOVEMBER

5 Danielle Matonovich
9 Karen Fontaine
12 Marilyn Bonstrom
13 Inger Anderson
23 Sandra Hanson



OCTOBER

1 Alfred & Lauri
Hovdestad
13 Wendy & Butch Dalen-
Johnson

Fra presidenten continued...

know that a number of people have commented about not wanting to drive at night.

NOTE: So far the “vote” seems to be to start meeting again on January 20, 2022 to give this fourth wave time to continue decreasing in daily cases. There is also much interest in exploring an afternoon meeting.

A reminder that October was Foundation Month. Our Sons of Norway Foundation in Canada is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They suggested personal donations of \$50.00 or multiples thereof. Brubyen Lodge has been making an annual donation of \$250. It isn't too late if you still want to make a donation, call me and I could pick up your cheque and send it with the lodge cheque. Or you can bring up <https://sonfic.ca/> on the internet and click on Donations and Fundraising.

I attended a Zoom call on October 20 hosted by Ron Reine of Valhalla Lodge, Calgary and attended by 13 participants representing Saskatchewan and Alberta lodges regarding a discussion on the pros and cons of a Canadian District. The major question is “Are we interested in a Canadian only District?” The topic has become current because of a referendum vote by the 2020 International Convention.

An e-mail article from Ron Stubbings, President of the International Board, indicated that there will be a lot of redrafting needed to our Constitution and the Policy and Procedures criteria to comply with the various regulatory bodies that SON has to deal with. Watch for an article in the December Viking regarding this recent referendum of delegates to the 2020 International Convention relating to the overall governance of Sons of Norway.

Our Zone 4 Director, Russell Wiigs, indicated that these changes could mean a rejigging of the Districts. Canadian lodges may be further ahead if we were to consider a Canadian District before changes are dictated from the International level.

There will be another Zoom meeting later in November to discuss the pros and cons of a Canadian District. The Covid-19 pandemic has added other dimensions to considerations for change...some lodges have grown and others have declined. How many will survive in the long run??

Members have also commented that cheques sent to SON in Minneapolis are not being cashed for literally months which means that their names show up on the monthly Activity Report as having dues that are late. I have also experienced communications problems with HQ. I don't know what is causing these problems.



Unless otherwise indicated,
all events are held at:

Fairfield Senior Citizens
Centre
103 Fairmont Court
Saskatoon

Dead Fish Society
Social Hour
at Bugsy's Pub in
Market Mall, 6:45 pm
CANCELLED

Norwegian Whist
CANCELLED

Monthly Event
Social/Cultural
Evening
CANCELLED

Mellom Venner – November 2021



Fra presidenten continued...

Brubyen Lodge has lost members during this pandemic to the point that we are now down to a total of 40 members according to the latest membership list. 5 of those members are in a more than 30 day overdue situation. At our first regular meeting in January we will have to have a discussion on where we are going as a lodge.

I had a call from the Salvation Army regarding their Christmas Kettle campaign, wondering if we could help “man” kettles this year. I told him that the Lodge would not be participating. However, if you individually would like to volunteer, you can call the Salvation Army number and they will put you in touch with the organizer.

Sorry this has been a gloomy kind of newsletter report but it outlines the position the lodge is in at this point in time.

So, until we meet again personally, keep well!

Fraternally,
Diane

306-373-3156

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12-Year-Old Boy Finds Ring From Roman Times in His Search for Grandpa's Lost Wedding Ring

Tomas Vang, a resident of Inderøy Municipality in Trøndelag, lost his wedding ring this past winter. In hopes of reuniting the ring with its owner, Magnus—Vang's grandson



—had been searching for it all summer. Magnus used his metal detector and when it started beeping he thought he had found his grandfather's ring. To his surprise, he had found another ring—a much older one. In fact, the ring that Magnus discovered was about 1,500 years old. Magnus and his grandpa contacted authorities who then involved archaeologists. The archaeologists were thrilled to hear about the ring and they believe it may date to late Roman times. To understand more about the ring, it is being sent to the NTNU Science Museum in Trondheim where it will be cleaned and cataloged. Grandpa Tomas was understandably both happy and disappointed with the ring pursuit, stating, “I would have liked to have found my own, but I'm glad we found this one.”



Condolences

Sympathy extended
to

**GET
WELL!**

Notify Phyllis if
sunshine required
at 306-373-6478



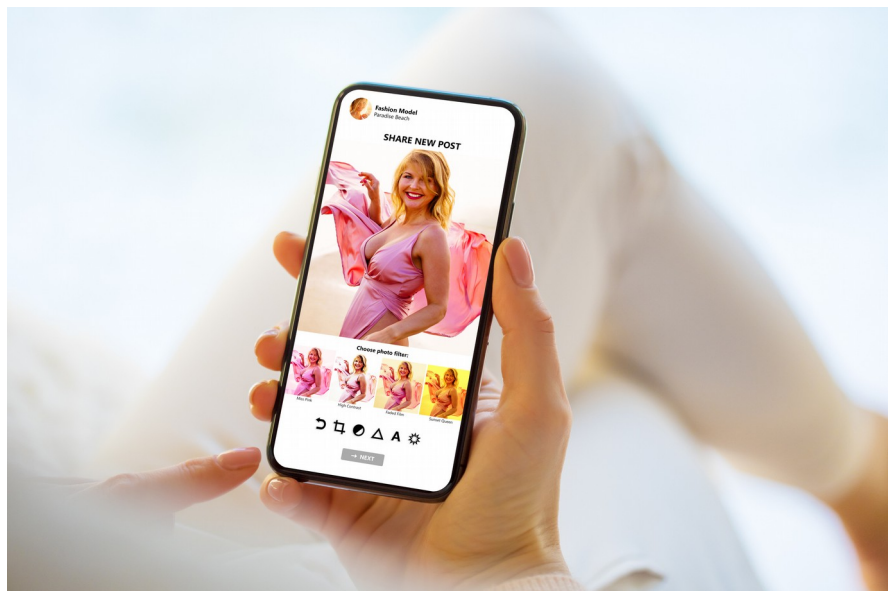
Mellom Venner – November 2021



New Law Brings a Touch of Reality to Social Media

Earlier this year, Norwegian lawmakers passed the Retouched Photo Law requiring influencers and celebrities to use a symbol indicating if their images have been photoshopped. The idea is to promote honesty in body image and beauty standards, so young viewers retain a sense of what is realistic.

According to the new requirement, social media mavens must include this symbol whenever body shape, size or skin have been altered from reality. This only applies to paid posts. The government hopes this will reduce *kroppspress* (body pressure) and stave off anxiety and eating disorders.



One influencer, Madeleine Pederson of Moss, told Radio 1 Newsbeat that she'd previously struggled with body insecurity because of Instagram. She no longer feels like she has to modify her appearance to her audience of 90k followers.

Pederson thinks influencers will edit their photos less now, as they won't want to admit to photoshopping.

The law stops short of banning photo retouching altogether. Some say that disclosure isn't enough to combat the massive number of images that youth encounter each day.



Board of Directors

Diane Berg
President
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edberg@sasktel.net

Vacant
Vice-President

Vacant
Secretary

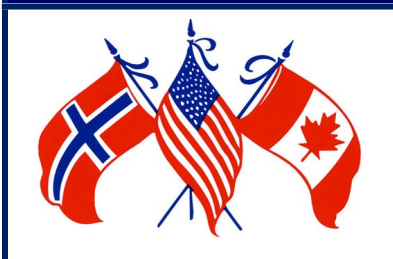
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Hope Floats

Inspired by Norway's stave churches, Hope Cathedral is a unique structure, floating on a barge near the mouth of the river Glomma in Fredrikstad, Norway. It is constructed out of timber and over a thousand plastic fish boxes. The multi-colored fish boxes, recovered during shoreline clean-ups, have been recycled into jewel-like roof tiles.



Photo Credit: <https://www.hopecathedral.no/>

Solveig Egeland, an artist and cultural advisor to the Church of Norway's Diocese of Borg, was inspired to start the project back in 2018 as she witnessed more and more plastic waste being deposited on her favorite beaches. In their stead, she envisioned an edifice of many colors rising from the sea. That fall, 35 volunteers banded together to realize her dream.

They have since been joined by thousands of people from across the globe, binding people of different faiths and nationalities together into a supportive, sustainability-focused community. Now nearly finished, Hope Cathedral was opened to the public on June 5, 2021.

To find out more, visit their website: [hopecathedral.no](https://www.hopecathedral.no)



Officers

Ellwood Jones - Assistant Sports Director
Mildred Norum - Counselor
Phyllis Byers - Sunshine
Myrna Kennedy - Greeter
Graham Begg - Foundation
Vacant - Historian
Nancy Iverson - Librarian
Myrtle Dixon - Assistant Librarian
Vacant - Assistant Librarian
Vacant - Marshall
Chris Byers - Marshall
Natasha Tripp - Marshall
Vacant - Trustee
Kayla Ingram - Trustee
Vacant - Auditor
Vacant - Auditor
Alfred Hovdestad - Auditor
Eunice Begg - Volunteer Coordinator

Editor

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Norwegian Air Has Been Saved

After struggling with the fallout of the coronavirus pandemic, the ailing airline, Norwegian Air Shuttle, "has been saved" according to former CEO Jacob Schram. Part of the solution that brought the airline back to life was solely focusing on European destinations and ceasing other operations.

Additionally, the airline cut their fleet from 140 aircrafts to 50. The other key to survival was their debt restructuring plan that helped them raise 6 billion kroner (\$721 million) through the sale of new shares and perpetual bonds. The bankruptcy courts that Norwegian worked with demanded that they raise at least 4.5 billion kroner (\$541 million) to get out of bankruptcy. These funds were attained through loan guarantees from the Norwegian government, as well as other investors.

CEO Geir Karlsen, formerly the company's CFO, was quoted as saying "We have negotiated with 30-40 large banks and several thousand creditors." Though it was an intense year, Norwegian have changed course and are working towards continued success.

Fra redaktøren

Kjære venner,

We had some excitement in Saskatoon this week. A young moose decided that it needed some further education and crashed into a classroom in the Sylvia Fedoruk school. No one was injured, and the moose was tranquilized and released outside Saskatoon.

Let's hope that everyone has a safe Christmas season and we can get back to in-person gatherings in the new year.

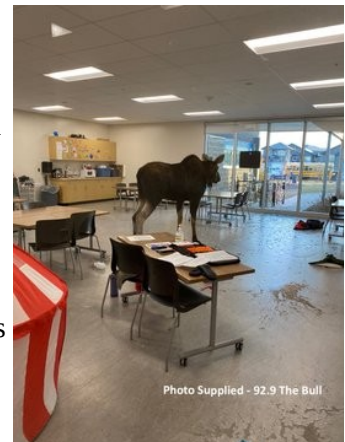


Photo Supplied - 92.9 The Bull

Brubyen Web Site

<http://sofnsaskatoon.wixsite.com/brubyenlodge/>

Fraternally,

**Alfred
Hovdestad**

*Deadline for the
next newsletter*

Jan 7th



Litt på norsk...

Skifter navn til «Laks» for å få gratis sushi

Myndighetene i Taiwan ber folk slutte med bytte av navn. Flere i landet har skiftet navn til «Laks» i det siste.

«Laks» har blitt et populært navn i Taiwan. Mange unge taiwanere har byttet navn. Noe av årsaken er et tilbud fra en kjede restauranter.

En kjede har lovet at folk kan få gratis sushi denne uka. Men da må de har de kinesiske tegnene for laks i navnet sitt. Det er «Gui Yu». Fem andre venner kan også få gratis sushi.

Resultatet er at mange har byttet navn, ifølge lokale medier. De siste dagene har rundt 150 personer møtt opp for å bytte navn. De fleste er unge.

– Jeg endret nettopp navnet mitt i dag tidlig. Nå heter jeg «Bao Cheng Gui Yu». Vi har allerede spist for over 7.000 taiwanske dollar, sa en student til en lokal TV-kanal.

Summen er rundt 2.000 kroner. Bao Cheng Gui Yu kan bli oversatt som «eksplosiv, vakker laks».

Flere har flere ulike kombinasjoner av navn med laks. Andre eksempler er «lakseprins», «meteor laksekonge» og «laksestekt ris».

– Jeg har skiftet fornavn til «Laks». To av vennene mine har gjort det samme. Vi endrer bare navnet vårt tilbake etterpå, sier en kvinne til TV-kanalen SET TV.

Men ikke alle er fornøyd med at folk bytter navn. Myndighetene ber folk slutte.

– Denne typen navnebytter er å kaste bort tid. Det skaper også unødvendig mye papirarbeid, sa Chen Tsung-yen torsdag. Han er vise-innenriksminister.

– Jeg håper folk kan være mer rasjonelle, sier han.

Torsdag er det slutt på tilbudet. Det har vart i to dager.

and a little in English

Changed name to "Salmon" to get free sushi

Taiwanese authorities are asking people to stop changing their names. Several people in the country have changed their name to "Salmon" recently.

"Salmon" has become a popular name in Taiwan. Many young Taiwanese have changed their names. Part of the reason is an offer from a chain of restaurants.

A chain has promised that people can get free sushi this week. But then they must have the Chinese characters for salmon in their name—Gui Yu. Five other friends can also have free sushi.

The result is that many have changed their names, according to local media. In recent days, around 150 people have turned up to change their name. Most are young.

"I just changed my name earlier today. Now my name is "Bao Cheng Gui Yu". We have already eaten over 7,000 Taiwanese dollars' worth, a student told a local TV channel.

That sum is around 2,000 kroner. [US\$225] Bao Cheng Gui Yu can be translated as "explosive, beautiful salmon."

Several have various different combinations of names containing salmon. Other examples are "salmon prince," "meteor salmon king" and "salmon fried rice."

"I have changed my first name to 'Salmon.' Two of my friends did so, too. We'll just change our names back afterwards," says a woman to the TV channel SET TV.

But not everyone is happy that people are changing their names. The authorities are asking people to stop.

"This type of name change is a waste of time. It also creates an unnecessary amount of paperwork," Chen Tsung-yen said Thursday. He is the Deputy Minister of the Interior.

"I hope people can be more rational," he says.

The offer ends Thursday. It has lasted for two days.



Litt på norsk...

Kunstig intelligens kan hjelpe deg å forstå musikk bedre

UiO-forsker jobber for at ny teknologi kan åpne folks ører for ny musikk.

Akkorder, takt, klang, rytme og harmoni – alle disse aspektene ved musikken gjør at den låter som den gjør. Men har du tenkt over hvorfor du liker akkurat den musikken du gjør?

– Musikk er ganske magisk, når du tenker over det. Når du lytter, kjenner du på mange følelser. Du forstår at det er et slags språk, men ser ikke hva som skjer. De fleste forstår ikke hva som egentlig foregår.

Det sier Olivier Lartillot, forsker ved RITMO Senter for tverrfaglig forskning på rytme, tid og bevegelse. Han utvikler nye digitale verktøy som han håper vil gjøre musikkens magi tilgjengelig for alle. Først ut er norsk folkemusikk.

– Folkemusikken er så rik, og en skatt for norsk kultur. Likevel er det ikke så mange som hører på den. Hvis vi lager et verktøy som kan hjelpe folk å forstå musikken, kan folkemusikken kanskje få en renaissance i Norge, sier Lartillot.

Trener opp kunstig intelligens med hardingfelle

Musikken maskinen skal klare å transkribere, er Nasjonalbibliotekets katalog med folkemusikk. Ifølge Lartillot er norsk folkemusikk og særlig hardingfela vanskelig materie for maskinen.

– Den store mengden eksempler som trengs, var i utgangspunktet ikke tilgjengelig. Derfor har vi bedt musikere, den profesjonelle felespilleren Olav Luksengård Mjelva og studenter fra Norges musikkhøgskole, om å spille for oss, og designet en programvare hvor de kunne se lydene visuelt og plassere notene for oss.

Visualisering hjelper musikkforståelse

Med appen Lartillot vil lage, vil du kunne bla i katalogen av folkemusikk og dra på oppdagelsesreise i musikken. Når du finner en slått eller et stev du liker, kan appen peke deg i retning av noe i samme landskap.

Enn så lenge vil det en slik app kunne brukes til spesifikk folkemusikk. På lengre sikt ønsker Lartillot å utvide kunnskapen til den kunstige intelligensen, slik at den kan brukes for all musikk.

and a little in English

Artificial Intelligence Can Help You Understand Music Better

University of Oslo researcher works to ensure that new technology can open people's ears to new music.

Chords, tempo, timbre, rhythm and harmony - all these aspects of the music make it sound the way it does. But have you thought about why you like the exact music that you do?

“Music is quite magical, when you think about it. When you listen, you feel many emotions. You understand that it is a kind of language, but do not see what is happening. Most people do not understand what is really going on.”

That's what Olivier Lartillot, researcher at RITMO Center for Interdisciplinary Research on Rhythm, Time and Movement, says. He is developing new digital tools that he hopes will make the magic of music available to everyone.

First up is Norwegian folk music.

“Folk music is so rich, and a treasure for Norwegian culture. Still, not many people listen to it. If we create a tool that can help people understand music, folk music may have a renaissance in Norway,” says Lartillot.

Training artificial intelligence with the Hardanger fiddle

The music that the machine must be able to transcribe is the National Library's catalog of folk music. According to Lartillot, Norwegian folk music, especially the Hardanger fiddle, is difficult material for the machine.

“The large amount of examples needed was initially not available. Therefore, we asked musicians, the professional fiddle player Olav Luksengård Mjelva and students from the Norwegian Academy of Music, to play for us, and designed software where they could see the sounds visually and place the notes for us.

Visualization helps music understanding

With the app Lartillot wants to create, you will be able to browse the catalog of folk music and go on a journey of discovery in music. When you find a song or a vocal tune you like, the app can point you in the direction of something in the same vein.

For now, such an app can be used specifically for folk music. In the longer run, Lartillot wants to expand the knowledge of artificial intelligence, so that it can be used for all music.