



**SONS of
NORWAY**

**SOLSYD LODGE No. 603, Zone 5,
District #7, Lethbridge, Alberta**

KALENDER

**January 17: Nordic Noir
Concert**

**February 18: Lunch in the
atrium of LSCO at 12:30 with a
meeting and Norwegian Bingo
to follow.**

January 17th will be a cultural event in place of our regular meeting. Members who have purchased tickets for the Nordic Noir concert are invited to meet for dinner at Hudsons Pub at 5:30 pm, followed by the concert at 7:30 pm at Southminster Church.

Gratulerer Med Dagen

January: Arnold Follinglo, Dorothy Follinglo, Millie Isele, Alfred Isele, Laurie Megyes, Cecil Nesmo, Barry Olson, Marilyn Richards

February: Lillian Anderson, Herman Gom, Betty Lambert, Marlene Thurlow



Everyone enjoyed the annual Christmas party, featuring music, food, games, and good cheer all around. Thanks to Kris Johnston for the photos.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Christmas party last month, complete with the traditional lutefisk dinner and special Norwegian baking, was a meaningful time for lodge members and friends. We enjoyed Dwain's Norwegian family story, singing Christmas tunes and playing a party game. We will miss the space we have called home over the last ten plus years at Parkbridge Estates Community Center where we enjoyed each other's company and the good food, did several interesting projects, learned a bit about our Norwegian heritage and made some serious decisions along the way. We said goodbye to faithful members and welcomed new ones. Laughed a lot and cried a little, too! Hopefully, moving to a different meeting place and at a new time will be an easy transition to the next chapter of the Solsyd Lodge story.

By the way, our white gift donations of food and other supplies for Lethbridge Polytechnic were delivered the day after our December gathering. Staff at Student Services were touched by our generosity and the timing was perfect as they were beginning to fill needy student Christmas hampers. Well done everyone!

2026 will be a memorable year with the change of venue, the hosting commitment to Trollhaugen Cultural Camp August 9-16, and our 40th Anniversary celebration in November. Besides our usual events, we will probably participate again with a Heritage Day booth at Henderson Park on the Monday of the August long weekend and a Christmas Around the World display at the SAEA Centre in mid December. Anyone interested in creating a float for the Whoop-Up Day Parade?

Set **Wednesday, January 14th at 1:00 PM** aside for the first meeting of those interested in planning our 40th anniversary celebration. Bring your innovative ideas and vision for what we might do or if you are unable to participate by email or text to share your thoughts: prenevsh@telusplanet.net .. cell # 403 330-3391. Address of meeting 2402 - 23rd Ave. S.

See you on **Saturday, January 17th** (Hudson's for pizza at 5:30 or Southminster United for the Nordic Noir concert at 7:30.) If you are unable to attend, please plan to connect with the group in the LSCO atrium on **Wednesday, February 18th** for our buffet lunch at 12:30 followed by a short business meeting and Norwegian Bingo.

Godt Nytt Ar!

Sharon

SOUTHERN ALBERTA ETHNIC ASSOCIATION

The event was held from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Saturday December 13th at the Southern Alberta Ethnic Association's building. In the hallway, Sons of Norway had one of the four tables used to display cultural items. Rooms adjoining this hallway had food and performances.

Barry and Edith Olson set up the display. The display consisted of many items supplied by Helga Ronningen, Sandy Brunelle, and a few items the Olson's donated. Helga's large ornately carved wooden cookie jar was a major attraction. Sandy's items included a board game, Sami doll, candles, knitting patterns and other books. Barry and Edith brought skiing gnomes, oatmeal, the Norwegian flag, an outdoor scene with houses, forest, skaters, and a snowman, and a broom! If you read the email about Trollhaugen, you will know about the oatmeal and broom! Our hosts at the table were Edith, Barry, and Sharon Prenevost. Sharon dressed in traditional Norwegian clothing. The event had a steady stream of visitors, many of whom stopped by our table asking about our display. The objects they were most curious about were the large cookie jar and the broom. It was a pleasant evening and everyone who attended seemed to enjoy themselves.



God Valentinsdag!

Happy Valentine's Day

15 Fun Facts About Norway

1. Norway is home to the world's longest road tunnel, the Lærdal Tunnel, which is 15 miles long.
2. The world's-most remote island is a Norwegian territory in the South Atlantic Ocean called Bouvet Island.
3. Norway has a 120-mile land border with Russia.
4. Norway is home to Hell, a small village within walking distance of Trondheim's international airport.
5. A Norwegian delegation introduced salmon sushi to Japan in the 1980's.
6. There are two official versions of the Norwegian language - Bokmål and Nynorsk.
7. Modern and ancient skiing were invented in Norway.
8. Norway has won more winter medals than any other country in Olympic history.
9. Europe's biggest herd of wild reindeer lives in Norway and roams Hardangervidda, Europe's biggest mountain plateau.
10. Norway has a volcano on the uninhabited island of Jan Mayen in the Norwegian Sea.
11. Norway gave the world the cheese slicer, which was invented in 1925 by Thor Bjørklund.
12. Norway isn't powered by oil - Around 98% of Norway's domestic power usage is drawn from hydroelectric power plants.
13. The Colonel-in-Chief and mascot of the Norwegian King's Guard since 1972, is a Scottish penguin named General Sir Nils Olav III, Baron of the Bouvet Islands.
14. No one knows exactly how long Norway's coastline is!
15. Norway supplies London with a Christmas tree every year as an ongoing thank you for Britain's help during WWII.