

# CULTURAL NEWS

June 2020

SONS OF NORWAY DISTRICT SIX Edition #008

## HILSEN FRA KULTURDIREKTØREN

### Greetings from your Cultural Director;

My great grandmother, Guri was from Rogne, Norway, a small village in the Valdres Valley in central Norway. She was born in 1856 and grew up on a dairy farm. She arrived in the United States at the age of 16 with her family.

On the farm, she tended the goats. She spent summers in a mountain cabin keeping watch over the goats and sheep. Her job was to milk the goats and make butter and cheese. She was called a seter yenta, a mountain girl. The cabin was made of logs with a thatched roof of birch bark covered with sod. Other cabins were nearby across the valley so the girls could visit each other and yodel back and forth.

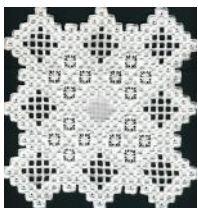
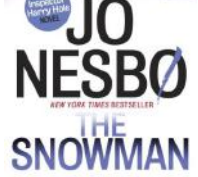
Many people believed in trolls at that time. Trolls were supposed to live under rocks and in caves, even the barn loft. Guri was afraid to go out after dark and when her mother sent her out to the loft for something, she was dreadfully frightened. Her older brothers often teased her and told her they had seen trolls, especially the bridge troll. Guri said many older people claimed they had seen them but she had not.

Check out the troll story and picture from the "Trolls of Norway" coloring album. This coloring album was published by Neilsen Publishing in Santa Barbara, CA in 1976. The authors were Eugene S. Nielsen and Leona B. Nielsen.

The photograph was taken on the family farm in Norway in 2006. The family members we met told us that they would never part with this little mountain hut, hytte in Norwegian.

Your Cultural Director,  
Judy Immel

Also check out "Norwegian Troll Tales" by Joanne Asala which can be found at **PENFIELD BOOKS**. Penfield Books distribute books of interest to those of Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Irish, Italian, Mexican, Norwegian, Polish, Scandinavian, Scottish, Slovak, Swedish, and Ukrainian descent.



# ADDITIONAL NOTICES FROM YOUR CULTURAL DIRECTOR:

I hope this finds all of you well and surviving this pandemic.

## CAMP OLDFJELL

With sadness, I must announce that there will be no Camp Oldfjell at Camp Norge this year. Several of the teachers who had graciously volunteered their time will not be able to share their talents face to face this year. Social distancing would be very difficult as would sterilizing Camp Norge during a large event. Serving meals would also be very difficult given the amount of attendees and the space available to serve. Sleeping arrangements would be very limited due to social distancing constraints. Travel concerns could further complicate the issue.

While I know it will not be as much fun virtually, we will be trying to facilitate some classes being offered virtually. We can use platforms such as Zoom or Google meeting. We can post links to You Tubes which have good directions for some of our cultural skills. We can host email discussions of books for the Literature Skill. So look for some of these things to be offered this fall in lieu of Camp Oldfjell. The September Cultural News will have what offerings we have been able to put together.

If any one would like to help with any thing in connection to a Virtual Camp Oldfjell, please contact me, your cultural director, via email.

## CAMP NORGE

Camp Norge is scheduled to reopen for our use on July 30, 2020. This is of course subject to change based upon future guidelines for the coronavirus. Watch for information about the Northern, Central and Southern California Krettstevnes. Information is in another article in this newsletter and will be posted on the District Six [WEBSITE](#).

## PRESENTERS AND SPEAKERS FOR YOUR LODGE MEETINGS:

I am compiling a list of people who are willing to do presentations or talks to lodges. This is just the beginning and I hope to keep adding to the list as time goes on. If you have a particular skill you wish to share or a talk you have developed that you would be willing to share with lodges; please contact your cultural director via email with the information, and your name and contact information will be added to this list.

Nancy Madson is willing to teach **Hardanger**. You can reach her at: [norsknm@gmail.com](mailto:norsknm@gmail.com). Bruce Fihe will teach **Tablet Weaving**. You can reach him at: [bruce@aftonranch.net](mailto:bruce@aftonranch.net). Mary Beth Ingvoldstad has a wonderful presentation on **Norwegian immigration**. You can reach her at: [MaryBeth.Ingvoldstad@sofnboard.com](mailto:MaryBeth.Ingvoldstad@sofnboard.com). Judy Immel has a presentation on **Bunads**. You can reach her at: [immelja@gmail.com](mailto:immelja@gmail.com). Please check with each presenter to see if they are willing to travel to your lodge.

I hope that you will have a wonderful and safe summer.

Judy Immel, Cultural Director, District Six

[culturaldirector@sofn6.org](mailto:culturaldirector@sofn6.org)



# SUMMER EVENTS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic most events have been canceled or postponed. Please check with your local lodge for events near you. When preparing the events section of the Cultural Newsletter I scan these sites for events. **Camp Norge Sons of Norway District Six The Norwegian American** Please call or email the event organizer in advance if you are planning to attend.

## 2020 CONVENTIONS

**Postponed until 2022**

The Sons of Norway International Board of Directors has voted to postpone the International Lodge Meeting and Convention scheduled for August 2020 in Ringsaker, Norway. In addition, the International Board, through its interim authority granted by the International Lodge, has voted to postpone all 2020 District Lodge meetings until 2022.

**June 29 to July 11, 2020**

**Virtual**

**\$50**

**TROLLFJELL FOLKEHØGSKULE** (students age 14 to 17)

Our Summer camps will be virtual this year. We will be providing Norwegian language instruction, cultural skills training, presentations on Viking era life and skills, and time for the attendees to have social time together via the Zoom video conferencing system. The registration deadline for Trollfjell Folkehøgskule is June 13, 2020. Click [HERE](#) for the registration form.

**July 13 to July 25, 2020**

**Virtual**

**\$50**

**TROLLFJELL** (students age 8 to 13)

See the description above. Camp Trollfjell's registration deadline is June 27, 2020.

**September 5 to 7, 2020 (proposed)**

**Camp Norge**

**KRESSTEVNE**

The District Six Recreation Board is monitoring Placer County's re-opening strategy. As they approach Stage 3 re-openings, the Board is poised to perform the detailed risk assessment required by The State of California. Once approved, Camp Norge will implement this protection plan, keeping Camp Norge's volunteers, staff, and visitors safe. Once this task is completed, District Six members will be notified via email about The Northern California Kresstevne. Would you like your very own Kresstevne pin? The email will tell you how to get one for yourself! The beautiful pin was designed by our very own Penny Joseph Knudsen of Andrew Furuseth Lodge #6-049 Richmond, California. You can also check Camp Norge's [WEBSITE](#) for the latest news.

**September 19 to 22, 2020**

**Postponed until 2021**

**CAMP OLDFJELL**

**Folkehøgskule for Voksne (Folk School for Adults)**

Camp Oldfjell will not be held in 2020. We encourage you to peruse your Cultural Skills activities at home and with your friends, family and fellow lodge members. We'll see you in 2021 with lots of class choices and activities, with good food, fellowship and fun!



*A Norwegian reading experience I am loving, and you won't want to miss!*

*Filled with all sorts of Norwegian cultural arts and stories from the Norwegian/Scandinavian heritage, this series also includes a "who-dunnit" element in each book. And, you will get to meet Chloe and Roelke, as different as can be, but who have a story of their own. Recommended to me by our District Six President, Luella Grangaard, I am ready for book 5. (Luella has read all 10.) I think YOU will enjoy them, too!*

*Kaye Wergedal, Vestafjell Lodge # 6-146, Grand Junction, Colorado*

## the chloe ellefson mystery series

BY KATHLEEN ERNST

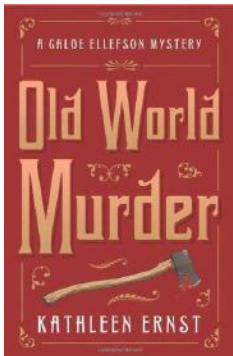
Kathleen Ernst created and writes the award-winning Chloe Ellefson Historic Sites mysteries, published by Midnight Ink. The eagerly awaited tenth book, Fiddling With Fate, arrived in September 2019. The ninth, The Lacemaker's Secret, earned this from Kirkus Reviews: "In this heartfelt tale of labor and love, Ernst produces one of her most winning combinations of historical evocation and clever mystery." Each of Kathleen's published Chloe books has been ranked in the Top 1% of all US printed book sales (out of 8 million tracked) for over 200 days to date (source: NPD BookScan). Find her books at: [GOODREADS](#), [AMAZON](#) or [BARNES&NOBLE](#).



### BOOK 1

#### TITLE

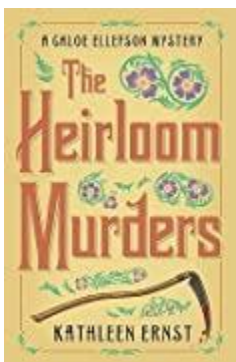
#### [CULTURAL ARTS AND HISTORICAL TRADITIONS]



### Old World Murder [Norwegian ale bowls]

Trying to leave painful memories behind her, Chloe Ellefson is making a fresh start. She's the new collections curator at Old World Wisconsin, an outdoor ethnic museum showcasing 1870s settlement life. On her first day, Chloe meets with an elderly woman who begs her to find a priceless eighteenth-century Norwegian ale bowl that had been donated to the museum years ago. But . . .

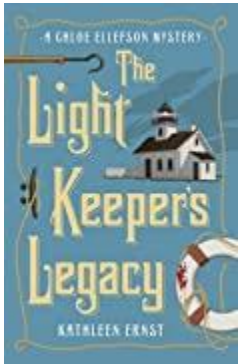
### BOOK 2



### The Heirloom Murders [Priceless Norwegian antiques]

Working for Old World Wisconsin, Chloe Ellefson delights in losing herself in antiques and folk traditions--and forgetting her messy love life. Then the outdoor ethnic museum becomes a murder scene. Does the missing Eagle diamond, a legendary gemstone unearthed in 1876, have anything to do with it?

### BOOK 3

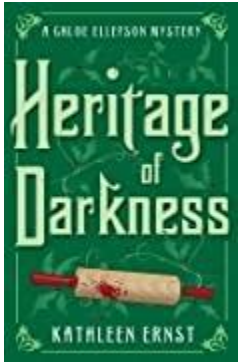


#### **The Light Keeper's Legacy [Norwegian women's stories]**

Solitude at last! Museum curator Chloe Ellefson leaps at the opportunity to be a consultant for the historic lighthouse restoration project on Rock Island, a state park in Wisconsin's scenic Door County. Hoping to leave her personal and professional problems at home, Chloe's tranquility is suddenly spoiled when . . . .

**Winner of the Lovey Award for Best Traditional/Amateur Sleuth Mystery**

### BOOK 4

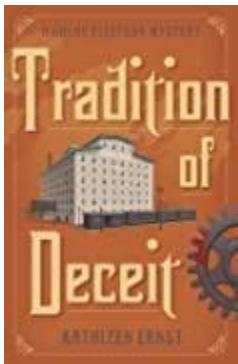


#### **Heritage of Darkness [Rosemaling, woodcarving, and Jul traditions]**

Chloe Ellefson returns with a new mystery rooted in Norwegian heritage. For curator Chloe Ellefson, a family bonding trip to the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah, Iowa for rosemaling classes seems like a great idea—until . . . .

For a look into this storyline and the Norwegian heritage housed at the Vesterheim Museum, go to <https://sitesandstories.wordpress.com/2018/04/04/heritage-of-darkness-a-retrospective/>  
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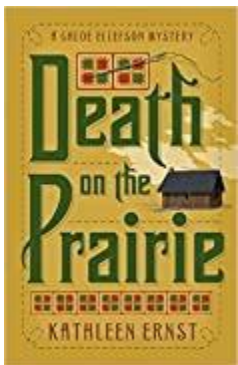
### BOOK 5



#### **Tradition of Deceit [Minneapolis restoration project]**

Curator and occasional sleuth Chloe Ellefson is off to Minneapolis to help her friend Ariel with a monumental task. Ariel must write a proposal for a controversial and expensive restoration project: convert an abandoned flour mill, currently used as shelter by homeless people, into a museum. When . . . . .

### BOOK 6



#### **Death on the Prairie [Quilting and Laura Ingalls Wilder]**

Chloe Ellefson and her sister, Kari, have long dreamed of visiting each historic site dedicated to Laura Ingalls Wilder. When Chloe takes custody of a quilt once owned by the beloved author, the sisters set out on the trip of a lifetime, hoping to prove that Wilder stitched it herself. But, as the journey begins, and trouble stalks their fellow travelers . . . .

*There are 4 more books in this series, each one better than the one before, in a variety of formats.*

*Look for them at your favorite bookstore or online.*

*Happy reading!! - Kaye*

# THREE GENERATIONS OF KRUMKAKE IRONS

**Nancy Madson, Solskinn Lodge # 6-150 Palm Desert, California**

Mom would fry, and I would roll, wearing a snug, white, cotton glove to protect my fingers from the hot krumkake. I would have to roll quickly as the krumkake hardens soon after taking it off the hot iron. I rolled the krumkake on the end of a wooden spoon. I didn't know about the conical krumkake until 20 some years later when I joined Sons of Norway. I didn't know they were supposed to be like an ice cream cone and filled with multekrem (cloudberry cream). As much as I liked cylindrical krumkake while growing up, my family missed out on the real thing. Mom kept the krumkake in a shoe box lined with waxed paper. I can only surmise that the cylindrical krumkake were more practical, taking up less storage space. Mom had to hide the shoe box (as she did with Christmas presents), as I was known to eat too many if they were readily available.

The krumkake iron at the bottom of the photo was Mom's. It was made by *Nordic Ware*, a manufacturing firm in Minneapolis, famous for the trademarked 'Bundt' pan. This krumkake iron was first manufactured in 1948. The company also developed a Swedish rosette iron and a Danish æbleskiver pan. They created a mail order venture, *Maid of Scandinavia*, to market these new 'old' favorites.

A number of years after continuing to use Mom's krumkake iron, I invested in the double, electric iron shown on the left. After many years of use, the Teflon type coating started to flake away, usually onto the first ten or so krumkake. This loss was unacceptable, so I had the surface plate sandblasted to take off the Teflon surface. So after my husband put the iron back together again (one small part excluded), it seemed to work a bit slower. I also make sure I lightly oil the surface before making a batch of krumkake. But it still works.

The two cast-iron krumkake irons at the top were given to me, not handed down from family. I'm not sure if that kind would have been used by my grandmothers or by my great-grandmothers. My grandmothers could also have used the *Nordic Ware* iron, based on the 1948 first manufacture date. Anyway the Jøtul on the box of the top iron is the name of the manufacturer. The iron in the middle has a low stand and is stamped with 'Taiwan.' I wish I had more history of these cast iron krumkake irons. Anyway, I enjoy showing my three generations of krumkake irons, probably used by more than three generations of Norwegian forebears.



Visit Sons of Norway's Recipe Box for a recipe for Krumkaker (Fødselsdagskringle) by clicking [HERE](#).





## VIRTUAL CAMP

Registration fee: \$50 per student. The registration deadline is June 13, 2020, for Virtual Trollfjell Folkehøgskule. The virtual Camp Trollfjell deadline is June 27, 2020. Click [HERE](#) for the form.

## TROLLFJELL FOLKEHOGSKULE

will be June 29 through July 11, 2020 for students 14 to 17 years old.

## CAMP TROLLFJELL

will be July 13 through July 25, 2020 for campers 8 to 13 years old.

## CULTURAL NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Cultural News is provided to District Six members on the first of March, June, September and December. Submissions for events and articles due 15 days before publication date.

### WORD SEARCH KEY

H	N	J	O	P	S	S	Y	N	G	L	Q	E	Z	F
A	U	P	G	M	T	N	T	G	E	Q	L	T	K	S
N	T	Z	N	Y	O	Q	W	I	K	K	T	T	H	
D	O	V	I	D	N	V	O	V	V	N	K	O	T	R
B	J	H	T	E	E	O	A	W	O	H	N	I	U	C
A	X	W	S	F	T	W	L	H	X	E	E	N	T	A
L	S	S	E	K	H	L	A	D	L	O	N	K	P	G
L	A	E	R	A	R	G	F	I	Y	I	L	Z	S	L
B	G	B	W	V	O	F	F	A	N	F	P	I	P	V
L	U	O	F	T	W	T	B	G	T	B	S	A	V	F
Y	S	C	T	Q	I	S	C	C	U	A	X	R	B	Z
K	U	B	B	N	N	M	X	V	P	X	F	Y	D	Q
D	J	P	G	I	G	G	P	L	E	S	M	E	J	G
L	F	A	T	U	R	T	A	V	K	H	I	E	N	N
W	Z	O	T	A	F	L	K	A	S	T	N	J	Y	H

### Sons of Norway Mission Statement

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.



**SONS of NORWAY**

# KID'S PAGES

## GAMES

### KUBB (Viking Chess)

This summer play an outdoor Scandinavian game with your entire family. Kubb is a lawn game where you try to knock over kubbs by throwing a baton at them. Kubb could be described as a bit like bowling and a bit like horseshoes. If you don't already have a Kubb game you could purchase one, or you can make one yourself using empty drink bottles. If you are going to buy one, here are a few links to purchase your own Kubb game. [Amazon](#) [Target](#) [Walmart](#) [Home Depot](#)



Play takes place on a small rectangular playing field. Mark the field with 1 field marker at each corner and 1 field marker at each side of the pitch at the center line. 5 kubbs are placed at each ends of the pitch, and the king is placed in the middle. Each team takes 6 of the batons to first knock down the kubbs. Once the kubbs have all been knocked down you knock down the king to win. The U.S. National Kubb Championship's [WEB PAGE](#) has the official rules as well as a video detailing how to play.

**Make your own set:** To make your own set, use empty water or soda bottles. Use a 16.9 FL OZ bottle for the kubbs and a 1 liter bottle for the king. Fill them with dirt, sand, rice, beans or popcorn. You can also use water. You'll have to experiment a bit to see just how much of each to full the bottles. You can also use the 16.9 FL OZ bottles for the batons. You could also use a tennis ball or bean bags. Field markers can be anything that everyone can see clearly. To see how it's done watch this [VIDEO](#). If you have someone who can make a wooden set, see the instructions [HERE](#).

If you chose to decorate your kubb game, take a picture and send it to us and we'll post your picture in the next newsletter. Send it to: [culturaldirector@sofn6.org](mailto:culturaldirector@sofn6.org)

## VIKING VOYAGES BOARD GAME

Most of us know about Viking voyages in the Atlantic, such as the discovery of Greenland and Canada. Not many of us know, however, the full extent to which the Vikings traveled and traded, especially to the east. They weren't always out pillaging and sacking villages. Many Vikings went east and earned their living as merchants, just like the people of Venice did. This game will let you learn about some of the places the Vikings went. Target age group for the game is grades 2-8, for 2 to 4 players. To download the instructions and game board click [HERE](#).

## GAMES AND SPORTS IN THE VIKING AGE

The Norse people delighted in games and sports. Both indoor board games and outdoor sporting competitions appear to have been regular leisure time activities, based on both saga literature and archaeological evidence. Read all about them [HERE](#).



# WORD SEARCH

H N J O P S S Y N G L Q E Z F  
A U P G M T N T G E Q L T K S  
N T Z N Y O Q W I K K K T T H  
D O V I D N V O V V N K O T R  
B J H T E E O A W O H N I U C  
A X W S F T W L H X E E N T A  
L S S E K H L A D L O N K P G  
L A E R A R G F I Y I L Z S L  
B G B W V O F F A N F P I P V  
L U O F T W T B G T B S A V F  
Y S C T Q I S C C U A X R B Z  
K U B B N N M X V P X F Y D Q  
D J P G I G G P L E S M E J G  
L F A T U R T A V K H I E N N  
W Z O T A F L K A S T N J Y H

## Summer games

- |                                 |                |                      |                                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Archery</b>                  | <b>Running</b> | <b>Wresting</b>      | <b>Toga honk</b> (tug of war)      |
| <b>Spear throwing</b>           |                | <b>Stone lifting</b> | <b>Taflkast</b> (Viking dice game) |
| <b>Swordplay</b>                |                | <b>Tikken</b> (tag)  | <b>Gjemsel</b> (hide and seek)     |
| <b>Stone throwing</b>           |                | <b>Kubb</b>          | <b>Jotun</b> (video game)          |
| <b>Hnefatafl</b> (Viking Chess) |                |                      | <b>Stiv Heks</b> (freeze tag)      |
- Kvatrutafll** (the Old Norse name for Tables – the medieval forerunner of Backgammon)



# the BRIDGE TROLL

There is a troll in Norway who always seems to be waiting where a bridge is being built. As soon as a bridge is finished, this troll moves underneath the bridge and makes his home there. Small trolls live under small bridges and big trolls live under big bridges.

The Bridge Troll believes that the bridge belongs to him. He does not like anyone to use his bridge. This troll has a mean temper and he does everything he can to scare everyone away from his bridge. Although you seldom see this troll, you often hear him laughing at his own tricks.

It is said that the bridge Troll will let a billy goat cross his bridge. Some Norwegians say that the only safe way to cross his bridge is to always take a billy goat with you.

