



# North Carolina Vikings

Founded in 2007



April 2021

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2020-2021

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## President's Message

I pray since my last correspondence that everyone, including you and your families, are well and safe as we continue to deal with concerns and restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 coronavirus. I am sure that we all have watched the news updates highlighting reduced cases in North Carolina but are still dealing with the tragic loss of lives to this virus. As we all hope for a speedy resolution to this difficult situation, as well as seeing some restrictions being lifted, we must continue to remain diligent. I ask that we adhere to CDC recommendations so that we can protect ourselves, our loved ones and the public-at-large and look forward to once again enjoying our Sons of Norway fellowship.

Spring came in like a lamb on March 20th! We are now on daylight savings time and there will be more daylight to enjoy the outdoors. The April issue of Viking Magazine covers LIFE IN THE OPEN AIR or Friluftsliv. It's a way of life in Norway, part of our DNA, so let's get out close to nature and improve our sense of well-being in an environmentally friendly activity. America, like Norway is a beautiful country, lets dream ourselves into some beautiful pictures!

Syttende Mai (17th of May) will soon be upon us, a day for parades, speeches and remembrance of the Norwegian Constitution signed in 1814. While those activities may not be possible this year, we can certainly do some flag flying to commemorate the day.

We have lots to look forward to this Fall when we will finally resume our meetings culminating in our annual December Juletreffest.

Med Vennlig Hilsen,

Asgeir (Andy) Kristoffersen  
North Carolina Vikings Lodge 3-675



## Upcoming Vikings Lodge Program and Lodge Meetings

Later in the year, meetings will be held at Underwood Hall at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (7000 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC 27613) unless noted otherwise.

### April Lodge Birthdays

Mike Tilder	April 10	Jennifer Axness	April 18
Norm Miller	April 12	Marcy Weston	April 22
James Lorentzen	April 15	William Underseth	April 24
Sonja Stripling	April 17		



## **Gratulerer med dagen!**

### Help Plan a Meeting

Can you invite a professional, expert or overall fun person to help us with cultural programs at our lodge meetings? Call Andy Kristoffersen or Frank Bell to pick an activity you can line up for the lodge!

### Items for the Newsletter

If you've got an announcement, or just have something interesting to share with the group, please email Andy Kristoffersen at [asgeirkristoffersen@gmail.com](mailto:asgeirkristoffersen@gmail.com) or Frank Bell at [bellfrank2@gmail.com](mailto:bellfrank2@gmail.com).



# Påskekrim: The Norwegian Obsession with Crime at Easter

by David Nikel

<https://www.lifeinnorway.net/easter-crime/>



It's a mystery! This is the bizarre story of how and why crime fiction took over the Norwegian easter holiday.

What springs to mind when you think of easter? Chocolate eggs, roast lamb, or a family get-together? For Norwegians, the most common easter tradition is something altogether more... sinister. For each easter, hundreds of thousands of Norwegians indulge in crime fiction, known in Norwegian as *påskekrim* (easter crime). Whether on TV, at the cinema or in novel form, crime fiction is consumed in massive numbers throughout the easter holiday.

If you're in any doubt, take a look at a bookstore during early March. They'll be clearing out the shelves to make room for *påskekrim* displays. Acknowledged in global media as one of the world's more unusual holiday traditions, Norway's *påskekrim* has become internationally known. But what's behind it? Let's take a look.

## **The History of Påskekrim**

When I first encountered the phenomenon, I assumed it was a modern marketing campaign. However, it turns out that the origins of *påskekrim* go back almost 100 years.

In February 1923, two young Norwegian authors Nordahl Grieg and Nils Lie wrote a crime novel. But it was the involvement of publisher Gyldendal that would both propel the novel to fame and create a nationwide obsession for years to come. The publisher arranged a front page advertisement on the Norwegian newspaper *Aftenposten* with the slogan *Bergenstoget plyndret i natt* (Bergen train looted in the night), referring to the world-famous Oslo to Bergen railway. So many people confused the stunt for a real news story that the stunt achieved widespread coverage and the book became a bestseller. Ever since, crime novels and easter have been happy bedfellows.

Gyldenhal's Bjarne Buset told Visit Norway that the easter tradition of staying at a cabin enables *påskekrim*: "Few other countries have as many days off during easter as Norway. The length of our holiday means that we have time to read."

## **Crime Fiction During the Easter Holiday**

So, what does *påskekrim* look like in the 2020s? While books are still at its core, the phenomenon has spread into other forms of entertainment.

Crime shows and films from Scandinavia and beyond are shown on TV, with British shows a particular favourite. From what I can gather, season 2 of *The Bay*, season 2 of *McDonald & Dodds*, *Grace*, and *The Pembrokeshire Murders* will all be shown on NRK this year. Meanwhile, TV2's offering includes *The Sister*, *The Sommerdahl Murders* and *Bloodlands*.

In previous years, I've seen some true crime podcasts heavily promoted too, although these are popular in Scandinavia year-round. If you've not yet checked it out, listen to my own podcast with one of the hosts of *Death in Ice Valley*. As for books, you'll find special offers on classic detective novels and modern thrillers in all Norwegian bookstores. Big names such as Jo Nesbø's *Harry Hole* series and Jørn Lier Horst's *William Wisting* series are big sellers every year.

Another big seller is the annual collection of crime short stories and novellas from Strawberry Publishing. This year's *Påskekrim 2021* contains 15 stories from authors including big names such as Unni Lindell, Thomas Anger, Jørn Lier Horst and Tom Egeland.

### **Crime Writing Festival**

Krimfestivalen aims to celebrate and explore the phenomenon of Scandinavian crime fiction from an international perspective. It is, of course, held a few weeks before easter each year. The 2021 Krimfestivalen was held as a fully digital event. John Grisham, Harlan Coben, Lars Kepler, David Baldacci and Val McDermid were among the authors taking part.

### **Not in Norway? No Problem!**

If you want to join in the påskekrim tradition this easter, you don't need to be in Norway. Many Norwegian authors have been translated into English.

If you like 'locked room' mysteries, try *1222* by Anne Holt, which by the way starts off on the Oslo to Bergen railway for that extra påskekrim touch. For something grittier, try *Dregs* by Jørn Lier Horst. It's the story that introduced the William Wisting character to the world in English. Another popular crime author Karin Fossum is known as the "Norwegian queen of crime." Her dark procedurals dig deep into the human condition. All of her *Inspector Sejer* books have been translated into English.

If you are learning Norwegian, why not try the crime books written for children by Jørn Lier Horst? They are shorter than Horst's full-length novels with simpler language, but the stories are just as compelling!

Depending on where you are in the world, you can also enjoy some Scandinavian crime dramas on many streaming services. Look out for Wisting or Swedish-Danish production *The Bridge* to get you started.

Will you be reading or watching any påskekrim this year?...



## Deceptive Cadence / NPR Classical From Norway with Horsepower: Soprano Lise Davidsen is Conquering Opera

<https://n.pr/3u8sNoJ>



A young, mild-mannered soprano from Norway with a huge voice has been turning heads in the opera world.

Lise Davidsen is an emerging star whose voice has been called one-in-a-million. It can soar like a rocket over enormous orchestras. And yet on her new album, in the Verdi aria, "Pace, pace mio Dio!" it can dial down to a single gleaming strand of polished silver.

Not so long ago, Davidsen was a guitar-strumming, handball-playing kid from Stokke, a rural town in southern Norway. It took her a while to discover opera; she was 20 before she saw her first staged production. Now, only in her early 30s, Davidsen sings at distinguished venues such as New York's Metropolitan Opera and London's Covent Garden. Her second album, simply titled *Beethoven, Wagner, Verdi* – with Mark Elder leading the London Philharmonic – shows us where she's at today, but also hints at her destiny. And that destiny points directly to Wagner.

Davidsen's performance of Wagner's set of songs called *Wesendonck-Lieder* offers moments of tenderness and torrential power. Opera mavens are always on the lookout for the next great Wagnerian soprano, and Davidsen's voice appears tailor-made for the mammoth Wagner roles like Isolde and Brünnhilde. Those will come in time, perhaps, but only if she's smart and doesn't try on roles that are too big too soon.

Wielding this super-charged instrument must be like driving a high-performance sports car. In the big aria from Beethoven's opera *Fidelio*, Davidsen can push from zero to sixty on a dime, in terms of amplitude, but the key factor is that she knows how to control her voice.

While Davidsen might be considered a specialist in the German repertoire – especially Richard Strauss and Wagner – this new album displays her Italian appetite. Along with scenes from Verdi's *Otello* and *La forza del destino*, she includes arias from two operas she's already sung on stage: Pietro Mascagni's gritty thriller *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Luigi Cherubini's gut-wrenching *Medea*.

Really big voices like Davidsen's can sometimes be steely and cold. But hers has both heft and beauty up and down the registers. Recordings, alas, rarely do justice to the real thing. For instance, there are places on the album where Davidsen's voice is inexplicably too far back in the audio mix for my taste.

This is the kind of voice you need to hear in person. Still, until we can safely take our seats in the opera house, Lise Davidsen's album shows off a beautiful, formidable instrument, and a singer poised for the history books.

**Listen here** (*right click on link*) – [Beethoven: Fidelio, Op. 72 / Act 1 – Abscheulicher! Wo eilst du hin?](#)



April is Charitable Trust Month

## Do you know about the Charitable Trust?

<http://3dsofn.org/charitable-giving/third-district-charitable-trust/>

### Third District Charitable Trust

The Charitable Trust *taking care of our own.*

Unique to our District 3. Its existence parallels the origins of the Sons of Norway whose purposes and goals were to protect members of Sons of Norway and their families from the financial hardships experienced during times of sickness or death in the family. As reported in the Spring 1971 Sons of Norway Bulletin [1], a motion made at the 1936 District Convention to start an old age fund became a reality in 1938. Over time, the old age fund became known as the Benevolent Fund.

New York, and Brooklyn in particular, was the destination for many Norwegian immigrants. Our Norwegian brethren came with little but the clothes on their back, hearts filled with hope and strong backs ready to work. The newly arrived Norwegians, learning of the Sons of Norway, were drawn to the familiar sounds, tastes and companionship in the Third District lodges. It became apparent that some of the new immigrants needed help over the rough spots and the Benevolent Fund was the mechanism.

Eventually the Benevolent Fund was formalized in 1971 as the Charitable Trust. For almost 50 years now, the Charitable Trust has provided modest support to District 3 members with subsistence support critical to their physical, social and psychological wellbeing.

The fraternal chain, a symbol of everlasting friendship, is exemplified by the work of the Charitable Trust which provides assistance to our fraternal brothers and sisters in time of need. The need could be as simple as helping with the very high cost of prescription drugs or it could be help getting back on your feet from a devastating loss. A member may need assistance only for a few months or a little longer. It is comforting to know that the Charitable Trust has assisted members for over 50 years.

To qualify, a recipient must be a District 3 SON member at least five years, be recommended for a helping hand by a member and complete an application form. These criteria are then reviewed by the Trustees which include the District Counselor, and a President appointed Financial Administrator and three District members at large. The application process and results are confidential for privacy reasons.

The Counselor manages the day-to-day business of administering the Charitable Trust and communicates monthly with the beneficiaries who continuously express their gratitude and heartfelt appreciation.

***Supporting funds come from the members and lodges of District Three as well as the dividends and interest earned from our investment portfolio at Morgan Stanley dedicated to the Charitable Trust.***

# Slow Cooker Lamb Chops

<http://thankstothefood.com/slow-cooker-norwegian-lamb-chops/>



PREP TIME / 5 mins

COOK TIME / 6 hours

TOTAL TIME / 6 hours 5 mins

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 large onion, cut and separated into rings
- 1.5 kgs. (about 3.4 lbs.) lamb chops, extra fat trimmed off
- 4 cloves of garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar (balsamic is a good substitute)
- 2 tablespoons fresh rosemary
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper, freshly ground

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the onion rings in the bottom of the slow cooker, covering it completely.
2. Add the lamb chops on top of the onions, then add in the garlic, red wine vinegar, rosemary, salt and pepper.
3. Turn the slow cooker on low for 6-8 hours, and cook until very tender, and the meat is falling off the bone.

## NOTES

Dried rosemary can be substituted for fresh rosemary.

## From the District 3 President, Kathy Dollymore



Well, here we are, in most of our Third District, spring is starting to arrive. I am skeptical to say spring has sprung as we are still having cool spells during the morning hours, but it's a new beginning and things have gotten a little better.

I hope that everyone is trying to stay safe and healthy as possible. As of this time, the restrictions and the guidelines from my state (Pennsylvania) are still in effect. So, we are limited as to what we can or can't do as a lodge. Vaccines are being given out and hopefully you will soon be able to be vaccinated. At some point in time, we will be back to our normal meet and greets, programs and events. But first and foremost, I hope you and your families are staying safe and warm.

While some lodges have not been meeting in person, we are fortunate to live in a time that the technology is available that allows us to keep connected remotely. Communicating remotely keeps our members safe. The Zoom application can be a valuable tool for your lodge. The lodge can apply for Fraternal Funds for the yearly cost of the Zoom. Ask any District Board member how to apply. We want to keep our lodges connected via any means deemed safe by the states.

We as a Third District Board will continue to host remote meetings as needed, but will also prepare for the traditional in-person meetings as we keep a close eye on the COVID situation. In addition, I am engaging other Districts via District President's Advisory Council to share ideas and look into new and better ways to provide member services during these times. However, your current lodge board cannot do it alone. We are going into this year with multiple vacant board positions unfilled. Lodges are totally run by volunteers. Your lodge may need your help in order to provide the support and services your lodge deserves. Volunteering for your lodge should not be thought of as just a job to do, but as an opportunity to gain skills and knowledge. We all have to do our part to maintain a successful lodge. Look into sharing a role. One or two extra people will make light work of positions. You can add lodge members to help others in positions or to a vacant position, just let our District Secretary know so we can update the directory. **TEAMWORK: Together Everyone Achieves More.**

Thanks to all of you who have, and are, working so hard for your Lodge and our Third District. It is your individual and collective efforts that will continue to make us successful.

Kathy Dollymore  
3D President

## **Find out more about Sons of Norway!**

Sons of Norway Website	<a href="https://www.sofn.com/">https://www.sofn.com/</a>
Facebook	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorway/">http://www.facebook.com/groups/SonsofNorway/</a>
Twitter	<a href="http://twitter.com/#!/SonsofNorway">http://twitter.com/#!/SonsofNorway</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="http://www.linkedin.com/company/2080826">http://www.linkedin.com/company/2080826</a>

### **... and here are some informative Genealogy Websites!**

A comprehensive list of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~norway/>

Oldest church registers in Norwegian Parishes. Shows the year in which different parishes began keeping church records.

<http://www.nndata.no/home/jborgos/register.htm>

<http://www.cyndislist.com/norway/>

### **List of sites related to Norwegian-American genealogy**

The National Library of Norway, including Norwegian newspapers / <http://www.nb.no>

The Norwegian Emigration and Genealogy Center / <http://www.emigrationcenter.com/index.cfm>

Norwegian National Archive. Includes the 1660, 1801, 1865 and 1900 censuses / <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/cgi-win/WebFront.exe?slag=vis&tekst=meldingar&spraak=e>

Search amongst 16,000 documents from Norway during the period 1050 – 1590 / [http://www.dokpro.uio.no/dipl\\_norv/diplom\\_field\\_eng.html](http://www.dokpro.uio.no/dipl_norv/diplom_field_eng.html)

### **And here are some interesting sites related to travel to Norway / Scandinavia –**

Norway's Official Site	<a href="http://www.Norway.org">www.Norway.org</a>
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Washington D.C.	<a href="http://www.norway.org/embassy/washington/">http://www.norway.org/embassy/washington/</a>
Royal Norwegian Consulate General New York	<a href="http://www.norway.org/News_and_events/CG-New-York/">http://www.norway.org/News_and_events/CG-New-York/</a>
Norway's Travel Requirements	<a href="https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/norway.html">https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/norway.html</a>
Hurtigruten Voyages	<a href="http://www.hurtigruten.us">http://www.hurtigruten.us</a>
Viking River Cruises	<a href="http://www.vikingrivercruises.com">http://www.vikingrivercruises.com</a>
Norwegian American Genealogical Center & Naseth Library	<a href="http://www.nagcni.org">http://www.nagcni.org</a>
Vesterheim Museum: "A Norwegian	<a href="http://vesterheim.org/index.php">http://vesterheim.org/index.php</a>

