

## **Godt nyttår**

### Ord fra Presidenten

My how times flies when one is having fun! Vennelag is back; we're on the Village's radar once again due to the efforts of our devoted members. As one person has shared with me recently, "You are active!" We have many accomplishments to our credit: saving Norwegian artifacts, supporting local non-profit organizations, protecting the environment with our bike trail adoption, bringing the Military Ridge State Trail dragons back to life, and helping to make lighting improvements at the MOHO Community Center.

Incorporating new activities aimed at younger families have also been important. Although some members have been hesitant, these efforts are essential, if Vennelag Lodge is to thrive. Risk-taking can have great rewards. Reaching others through our parade appearances, scholarships, numerous food events, and outreach projects have all helped Vennelag to meet the Sons of Norway Mission, in part, of sharing the traditions and culture of the Norse people with others.

As we seat a new president, I would like to caution the membership about how destructive negative attitudes and sharp criticism can be. Remember, that the Lodge President is responsible for the overall wellness and operation of the Lodge. It IS their concern to know what is being done in ALL sectors of its operations, because ultimately, the responsibility rests with him.

It has been an honor to serve as your president for the past six years. Thank you for the trust you placed in my abilities and for the support I received from so many members as challenges came forward during my tenure. No president can run a lodge independently; it takes the cooperation and assistance from the entire membership to make it great. For your ideas, wise counsel, support, and kindness, I offer hjertefølt takk-heartfelt thanks.

Cheryl



### **Godt nyttår alle**

Happy New Year!

For the second time in my life, I feel somewhat the way Phil Bengston must have felt back in 1968. You remember him...the head football coach of a team in NE Wisconsin, succeeding a coach named Vince Lombardi. Big shoes to fill!

Cheryl, who has worn the mantle of leadership for 6 years, has opted to step down to work more actively at the zone and district levels. We wish her well! With lots of help from everyone, which means offering advice, hard work, gentle nudges, and a smack on the head if I need it, we'll keep the progress of Vennelag Lodge rolling boldly forward. We have strong counselors available in Cheryl, Chuck Mørkri, and Duane Kittleson, and a strong, talented, and empowered leadership team.

It should be fun. Hope to see you all soon and often.

Allen Watrud, President-elect.

**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.**

Welcome to winter!

As the Norwegians say, there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing! It's time to get your woolies out of the closet, as this weather seems to be setting-in for the long haul.



### VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO RINGSAKER, NORWAY

All lodges in District 5 have been invited to participate in the Virtual Pilgrimage challenge to Ringsaker, Norway. There are 3 goals of the Pilgrimage:

- 1) to recognize the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sons of Norway in 2020
- 2) to activate our membership and promote wellness among our members
- 3) to earn money in support of Masse Moro, the 5<sup>th</sup> District's heritage camp for youth ages 9-15.

Each month, mileage from our members will be tallied and our progress will be posted on a map at the Lodge meeting. You can help by finding an activity and engaging in it. The new Vennelag Board will prepare some activities for the membership. Watch for further information.

Lodges completing the Pilgrimage will have their names posted on the District 5 webpage, and they will receive a certificate of their accomplishment suitable for framing. I encourage our athletes to take pictures of themselves in their choice of activity. These pictures will be incorporated in a Power Point slide show to be shared at the D5 Convention in Madison in June 2020. Lykke til-Good Luck!



### IT'S COMING...THE BARNEBIRKIE

The 2020 Barnebirkie or Children's Ski Race for ages 3-13 will be held in Hayward, WI on **February 20**. Help make this day more exciting for families by baking cookies for the *Celebration Tent*! Swiss Miss provides hot chocolate. Cookies from the 5<sup>th</sup> District have become legendary with the young skiers and their families. Cookies will be collected from Southern Wisconsin lodges and transported northward on **Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** or before, if inclement weather is forecast.

Should you wish to have a group baking day, that can be arranged. Please indicate your interest at: [rogcher@mhtc.net](mailto:rogcher@mhtc.net) The children like many different kinds of cookies (no nuts of any kind please), but their eyes often get as big as saucers when they see decorated options! Older guests enjoy healthier options such as raisin oatmeal, spice, granola, or pumpkin varieties.

Please pack your cookies in a disposable container, labeling it with our Lodge name and the number of cookies that are enclosed. If you do not wish to bake cookies this year, you may write a check payable to the Nordic Legacy Foundation. These checks will be forwarded to District 5 Treasurer Michael Palecek. Checks will be deposited into the 5<sup>th</sup> District's Scholarship Fund. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthy District 5 sponsored event.

Our Vennelag member, Duane Kittleson was accompanied by his son on a Badger Honor Flight to Washington D.C. Nov. 2. Duane served during the Viet Nam Conflict. He was welcomed home by District 5 Secretary Darlene Arneson and his biggest fan, his wife Nancy.



The Vennelag Lodge voted to give a monetary donation to the Mt. Horeb Veterans Memorial. Joe Williams, representing MHVMA, came to the Dec. board meeting to receive the \$500.00 check.



**Vennelag hosts its Second Annual Breakfast with Santa**

Our Vennelag “Set-Up Crew” appeared to prepare the Mt. Horeb Community Center for the arrival of our guests on Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup>. Tables were decorated with green placemats, utensils wrapped in red napkins and a collection of Santas as centerpieces. The heart waffles were enjoyed by our 16 young guests, 19 adults and 1 little one under age 3. Everyone ate but our poor Santa, who forgot to eat!

Parents were pleased to see their children enjoying themselves while **making something** rather than spending time on their devices. The crafts included different snowflakes, reindeer, Julenisse, and Swedish heart baskets. Parents worked with their kids and enjoyed spending quality time with them. The mood in the room was light, full of smiles and wonder at the creations made. It was fun to watch the interactions between the families and our Vennelag members, too. Santa brought smiles to all. No crying children visited with Santa!

Many thanks are extended to all the people who contributed their time and efforts to this delightful community event: Karen and John Eberhardt, Ann Walser, Anna and Orville Olson, Jean Grindle, Tiffany, Lynn and Ben Schwoerer, Martha Phillips, Tom and Kathy Wulff, Rita Schraepfer-Deke, Donna Corcoran, Martin Amundsen, Cheryl Wille-Schlesser, Avery and Graham Goth, Aldeen Fjelstad, Mary Stamm, Jane and Steve Frame.



Submitted by  
Jean Grindle



**JULETREFEST**

Despite snow, rain and the Packer game, roughly two dozen Hardy Vikings met to partake in our Juletreffest potluck and festivities. Our guest performers, Lisbeth Wacker (from Trondheim) and her family, shared traditions that Norwegians celebrate during the Jul season. The program started with a visit from Santa Lucia, played by Hannah Wacker and the gift of a Lucia bun was presented to each of us by Mika and Joshua Wacker. We were entertained with Norwegian songs and the skit, På Låven Sitter Nissen, about a Nisse who is pestered by mice who want to eat his porridge. Thank you to the Wacker family for the wonderful entertainment.



Our 2019 Vennelag LEFSE crew



### Velkommen to our newest members!

Jean Cohee  
Roger Cohee  
Avery Goth  
Benjamin Goth  
Noah Goth  
Glen, Lisa, and Bo Grinde  
Marla Krantz-Wilson  
Morgan Krantz  
Erik Skjervem  
Cory Skjervem  
**Velkommen tilbake** (welcome back) Lisa Burns

### **Vennelag Lodge Foundation News**

Our auctioneer, Chuck Morkri, encouraged the bids.



Our lodge members perused the baskets, deciding what to bid on.



NOW THAT'S HOW TO BID!



*A big thank you to everyone for our successful International Sons of Norway Foundation Night in October! We exceeded our 2018 goal by over \$100 dollars which itself is a major endeavor. With everyone's support in providing raffle baskets, to those purchasing raffle tickets, to donations, we raised \$870 which has been sent to the International Foundation office. I want to thank everyone who assisted in the successful evening, from those setting up and taking down the room for the raffle, to Chuck Mørkri for being the auctioneer, to those who brought food for the evening, to Cheryl and Tiffany for leading the silent auction and everyone in attendance.*

*We look forward to reaching our Foundation goal in 2020! Look for plans in midyear 2020 for another successful Foundation Night in October!*

*Your dollars contributed assist the Foundation in its mission to fund activities that promote and preserve Norwegian heritage and make our communities a more vibrant place to live.*

*Harley Skjervem*

### **Sports Update**

Due to the lack of interest in lodge bowling, the activity will not be endorsed by the 5<sup>th</sup> District this winter.

Some winter activities for your consideration:

- \*candlelight ski or hike
- \* walking outside or indoors
- \*birdwatching locally or at a bird refuge
- \*snowshoeing
- \*ice skating
- \*activities as provided by a fitness facility



### **TUBFRIM**

Save used stamps and expired or used phone cards for Tubfrim to help disabled children and youth in Norway. Cut leaving about ¼ inch around each stamp on all sides. Bring them to a lodge meeting.

It has been my pleasure being the editor of the newsletter and now I turn the "keyboard" over Cheryl. It was a learning and growing experience for me. Arlene

**THE BAKING WORKSHOP WAS A BIG SUCCESS!**

The Baking Workshop was held on [Saturday, November 2](#) at the Community Building. There were 47 people in attendance. Waffles, coffee cake, fruit and beverages were served before the eight different stations began. It was nice to see young people trying their hand at making lefse, waffles, krumkake, rosettes, smørgrøt, goro, æbelskiver and orange cardamom cookies. Each person went home with "goodies" they made. \$1,175.00 was raised. This is no small sum. A BIG thank you to the members that demonstrated and those who helped in various ways.

Mary Gullickson-Krantz and Ann Walser  
Baking Workshop Chairs



**Family traditions to continue with a little help from the Baking Workshop**



Michelle Bauer brought her friend Wendy Bakken to the baking workshop with the desire to learn to make lefse. Wendy's great aunt always made the lefse and homemade jam for their family gatherings which led to her uncle and dad having a fun competition to see which of the two could eat the most of her lefse. She always made sure they both had a bag set aside for each to take home. After her great aunt passed away, there was no lefse and no competition. Wendy wanted to surprise her dad and uncle with lefse for the holidays so the lefse tradition and the competition can continue. Under the tutelage of Harley Skjervem, she learned to roll and turn the lefse. The excitement of her accomplishment got the best of her. As Wendy said, "I couldn't wait any longer...I was so excited, I surprised my dad this morning with the lefse. His eyes lit up, and he gobbled down 2 pieces. He can't wait for his own batch."



**Board Meeting Dates**

*All Board meetings will be at Culver's Restaurant, unless otherwise noted.*

- January 7, 2020 Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Culver's Restaurant (change of date)
- January 11, 2020 New Board in-service 9 AM-12), State Bank of Cross Plains, tentative
- January 25, 2020 Zone 3 Training for all members, Mandt Lodge-Stoughton, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM (Join us to learn more about your organization!)
- February 12, 2020 Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Culver's Restaurant



**Lodge activities.....SO MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

- Jan. 19 – Installation of new officers and Trivia
- Feb. 16 – Chili and soup. Bring your cookies for the Barnebirkie! Bring LOTS!
- March 15 – Norway 2021 trip to be discussed. Genealogy presentation
- April 30 – Talent/talentless show
- May 21 – Syttende Mai Celebration and Awards
- June 23 – Lodge picnic (activities planned but could change)



Join us on **Sunday, January 19, 2020** at 2 PM when the newly elected leadership of Vennelag Lodge will take their oath of office.

Foundation Director-Harley Skjervem  
Sports and Recreation Director-Martin Amundsen  
Cultural/Social Director-Tiffany Schwoerer  
Auditors/Trustees: John Eberhardt, Arthur Ness, Rita Schraepfer  
Newsletter Editor-Cheryl Wille-Schlesser  
Membership Secretary-Linda Coughlin

Counselor-Cheryl Wille-Schlesser  
Treasurer-Anna Olson  
Secretary-Donna Corcoran  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President-Arlene Watrud-Krueger  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President-Harley Skjervem  
President-Allen Watrud

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## **Scandihoovian Fest 2020**

For some time now, Vennelag Lodge has been trying to identify a family friendly event that could be used while participating in the Scandihoovian Festival. Sponsored by the Mt. Horeb Chamber of Commerce, the event has grown over the years and its activities appeal to many age groups. This year's Fest will begin on **Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** and will conclude on **Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Vennelag's new emphasis has been on growing the Lodge younger. We have implemented a variety of events that children enjoy. This year, we would like to institute a hobby horse race for youth, ages 6-10. Children will race in heats based on age groups. The track will be organized on the lawn of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

No monetary prizes will be given, but participant ribbons will be awarded. Hopefully, pictures will capture the excitement of the race. A team of members from the Lodge will organize this first event, led by Sports and Recreation Director Martin Amundsen.

I would like to thank the youth of Mt. Horeb Middle School who built the hobby horses for us and Jean Grindle who stained and ornamented the horses. Their talents will make the race possible. As the event draws closer an e-blast will be shared about the finalized details.



## **Mark your calendars:**



**\*Calling all chili and soup makers!** For the **February 16, 2020** lodge meeting, we are going to have our annual chili cook-off. We are opening it up this year to soups. Bring your favorite chili or soup recipe. There will be traditional chili toppings and crackers provided, but if you have a special topping please bring it.

We will have a quick discussion on Cultural Medals and how to earn them. Samples of pins will be available to see. We will also be playing a game that helps us get to know our fellow Vennelag members.

\*A **genealogy class** is scheduled for **April 24, 2020**. We need at least five (5) people to sign up for the all-day class but no more than 12. The class will start at 8:30 a.m. and end around 5 p.m. Lunch will be provided. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the community center and carpool (their parking lot is small) to the Norwegian- American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library. There is a cost for the class. Details are being finalized.

### **Do you have a change of address?**

Please inform Duane Kittleson of any change in mailing address or email. You may make a request to discontinue the printed copy to receive an email copy notification when the newsletter is posted on [www.sonsofnorway5.com](http://www.sonsofnorway5.com).

Duane Kittleson  
6225 Mineral Point Rd. Apt. D90  
Madison, WI. 53705  
Phone: 608-229-6738  
email: [dkittverona@gmail.com](mailto:dkittverona@gmail.com)

## Nineteen Counties to Become 11 Regions by 2020

The Storting (Norway's parliament) recently passed the most comprehensive administrative reform since 1662. Back then, the country's administrative units transitioned from *len to amt* while under Danish rule. In this new reform, Norway's 19 *fylker* (counties) are planned to be replaced by 11 *regioner* (regions) by January 2020. Four existing counties (Nordland, Rogaland, Oslo and Møre og Romsdal) will continue using the same names and borders as they had in 2017. The rest of the country will have two- and three-county groupings rolled out as *regioner* with new names. This move aims to strengthen each region and improve coordination between municipalities, regions and state. The regions will assume oversight in areas such as infrastructure, education, culture, business development and outdoor life. As far as parliamentary elections, for now the former fylker will remain the same constituencies as they were in 2017.

### Meet the new regions:

Aust-Agder and Vest Agder will become **Agder**

Buskerud, Akershus and Østfold will be called **Viken**

Finnmark and Troms will go forward as **Troms og Finnmark**

Hordaland and Sogn og Fjordane will become **Vestlandet**

Nord-Trøndelag and Sør-Trøndelag have already merged into the region of **Trøndelag** as of January 2018

Oppland and Hedmark will be known as **Innlandet**

Telemark og Vestfold will become **Vestfold og Telemark**

### The following counties will keep the same borders and names as regions:

**Møre og Romsdal**

**Nordland**

**Oslo**

**Rogaland**



These **Norwegian Klubb Dumplings** are so tasty, filling, and a great way to celebrate Scandinavia. Whether it is a holiday tradition or a weeknight meal, these dumplings are worth the effort.

4 potatoes

3 cups flour

1 egg

1 tsp. salt

Approximately 4 ounces ham or other cooked pork cut into 8-12 cubes

5 tbsp. melted butter

Salt and pepper to taste

1. Bring large pot of salted water to hard simmer
2. While water is warming, grate potatoes and put in big bowl.
3. Add flour, egg, and salt to the bowl.
4. Mix and knead until firm. Add more flour if necessary to bring to stiff bread dough consistency.
5. Wrap dough around one cube of ham. Each dumpling should be the size of a large meatball. You should get 8-12 dumplings.
6. Drop dumplings into simmering water and allow to cook for 45 minutes, making sure dumplings does not stick to the bottom of the pot.
7. Remove with a slotted spoon and serve with butter, salt and pepper

Submitted by Mary Gullickson-Krantz



Here is Betty Martinson's new address - She is currently living with her daughter.

1 Periwinkle Drive  
Cumberland, Maine 04021

## 2020 RESERVED DATES FOR THE SONS OF NORWAY

**Cheryl Wille-Schlessler, President**  
608-219-4464

**Allen Watrud, President-elect**  
608-772-1969

<i>Sunday, January 19, 2020</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting and Board Installation</i>
<i>Sunday, February 9, 2020</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>CUPBOARD CLEANING AND REORG.</i>
<i>Sunday, February 16, 2020</i>	<i>2:00 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting (Barnebirkie Cookies due)</i>
<i>Sunday, March 15, 2020</i>	<i>2:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting</i>
<i>Thursday, April 30, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting</i>
<i>Saturday, April 25, 2020</i>	<i>ALL DAY</i>	<i>Open-face Sandwich and Cake Class (Vest.)</i>
<i>Thursday, May 21, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Syttende Mai Celebration and Awards</i>
<i>Tuesday, June 23, 2020</i>	<i>5:00 PM</i>	<i>Midtsommer Celebration and Lodge Mtg.</i>
<i>Friday, July 17, 2020</i>	<i>1-10 PM</i>	<i>PREP for the KAFFE STUE</i>
<i>Saturday, July 18, 2020</i>	<i>ALL DAY</i>	<i>KAFFE STUE Fundraiser</i>
<i>Thursday, August 27, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting</i>
<i>Thursday, September 24, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting</i>
<i>Friday, October 2, 2020</i>	<i>1-6 PM</i>	<i>PREP for the HØST FROKOST</i>
<i>Saturday, October 3, 2020</i>	<i>ALL DAY</i>	<i>HØST FROKOST</i>
<i>Thursday, October 22, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting</i>
<i>Friday, November 6, 2020</i>	<i>5-10 PM</i>	<i>PREP for Norwegian Baking Workshop</i>
<i>Saturday, November 7, 2020</i>	<i>ALL DAY</i>	<i>Norwegian Baking Workshop</i>
<i>Thursday, November 19, 2020</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>	<i>Lodge Meeting-(1 week earlier)</i>
<i>Friday, November 27, 2020</i>	<i>5-10 PM</i>	<i>PREP for Breakfast with Santa event, TBD</i>
<i>Saturday, November 28, 2020</i>	<i>7-12 Noon</i>	<i>Breakfast with Santa, TBD</i>
<i>Sunday, December 6, 2020</i>	<i>12-6 PM</i>	<i>Juletrefest-Christmas Party</i>
<i>Saturday, December 19, 2020</i>	<i>9-11 AM</i>	<i>Holiday Lefse Sale</i>

### Lodge Meeting Dates

**All Lodge meetings will be at the Mt. Horeb Community Center, unless otherwise noted.**



## Congratulations, Allen Watrud!

As the calendar turns to a new decade, Vennelag turns to the leadership of a new president. Congratulations are extended to President-elect Allen Watrud, as he becomes the next captain of the S.S. Vennelag. Additional kudos are also given to the incoming Board of Directors, many who have chosen to remain or take on a new role within the Lodge. Keeping Vennelag Lodge vibrant and visible is your charge. Growing the membership younger will enable it to live on into the distant future. Always consider how we can contribute to the greater good of this community and those around us.

Allen, you have brought much enjoyment to our members in your role as the social director. I know this lodge will continue its forward trajectory with you as the leader of the Lodge. Making a difference is something you excel in Allen, and I look forward to working with you as we make the smooth transition to your leadership in 2020.

Assuming the presidency of a Lodge can be exhilarating, but it can also give one pause. Change is healthy and energizing. Use that energy to make a mark on the people you represent in Mt. Horeb and in the Norwegian American Communities nearby. I wish you the very best in your presidency.

Cheryl

### UNDERSTANDING WHAT THE DISTRICT 5 BOARD DOES!

Vennelag Lodge sits in an unusual position, as two of its members also serve on the District 5 Board. To understand the role of the District 5 Board, it is necessary to be aware of the hierarchy of our organization. At the bottom rung of the ladder are the Local Lodges where many hours of community service are given for specified projects and cultural events. Local lodges elect a Board of Directors or group of officers to lead their organization.

Moving up the ladder is the District 5 Board. At this level, Zone Directors are elected to assist local lodges. These individuals must own a Sons of Norway financial benefit, as this is a requirement due to our insurance company status. Zone Directors receive agendas and visit lodges assigned to them by the District 5 President. It is the job of the Zone Director to interact with members, make suggestions for activities, and take part in lodge functions. They record the minutes of the lodges they visit and submit these to the District 5 President and the District 5 Secretary for review. They make certain that required rituals are followed at lodge meetings. By doing so, the District 5 Board can be made aware early of any complications a lodge may be experiencing.

Zone Directors assist the International Board by installing new officers of a lodge. They organize training sessions for all the members in their zone, annually, and they may choose to meet with a small gathering of local lodge officers for idea-sharing. Questions that cannot be answered by the Zone Directors are referred to the Executive Committee of the District 5 Board.

If an issue is complex in nature, it could be referred to the International Board of Directors, the top rung of our imaginary ladder. Much of what the International Board does is in relation to our financial division, and they do set the Lodge Recruitment Goals each year. Working with the International Board is the Sons of Norway's legal counsel, David Ness and his team. Local lodge leaders can ask questions about certificates of deposit, lodge liability insurance and extended coverage, questions about keeping a Lodge's tax exempt status, reporting the financial assets of a lodge, or they might ask questions about issues that stem from fraud within a lodge or district.

Other staff work at the International Office assisting with membership recruitment and retention, ordering supplies, celebrating the fraternal side of the Order, raising money for the Sons of Norway Foundation, and helping to write and review ceremonial procedures.

Karen and I have been especially vocal about sharing what Vennelag Lodge does right, and we have encouraged others to come to our location to see our events in operation. We want to share our ideas and encourage all Zone 3 Lodges to do the same. By encouraging members to share their ideas, many lodges benefit. Other districts across the U.S. are looking to District 5 to see what we are accomplishing.

A biennial conference has been established to help local leaders. The conference is moved to varying locations within the District to encourage more attendance from our members who live a greater distance away. The response has been enthusiastic.

You can help our lodge by genuinely welcoming visitors. Please keep negative speak to yourself, as it does not serve a healthy purpose. Encourage people you know to participate in our parades, monthly meetings, or social events. Invite your friends and family to join us in Norway in 2021! Vennelag Lodge sits poised to do many wonderful things. I thank you for your understanding when it comes to helping our Lodge. Wouldn't we be thankful if the roles were reversed?

Alt for Vennelag!

Cheryl



Vennelag News

Arlene Watrud-Krueger, Editor  
7366 Old Sauk Rd  
Madison, WI 53717-1213

**Sámi Culture Represented in Frozen 2 close up of the characters from Frozen II**  
**© Disney, 2019**



-After a debate on social media about how the Sámi culture was represented in the 2013 box office hit movie “Frozen,” Disney took the time to address the audience’s concerns and looked to the experts. The animators collaborated with a group of Sámi people to get their input on the film. The Sámi parliaments of Norway, Sweden and Finland, along with the Saami Council (a non-governmental organization of the Sámi people) reached out to Disney to collaborate on the sequel. Both parties signed a contract to work together to “ensure that the content of Frozen 2 is culturally sensitive, appropriate and respectful of the Sámi and their culture.”

-The Sámi experts acted as cultural consultants for the animation team. The group worked very closely with the filmmakers and approved of the final outcome. Anne Lajla Utsi, a member of the group said, “It has been a very, very good collaboration, I must say. We are really proud of that, and happy about the film, as it is now.” The Sámi influences can be seen throughout the sequel. The fictional community featured in “Frozen 2,” Northuldra, is inspired by the Sámi. Two main characters, Anna and Elsa, head north to meet the Northuldra, a group that lives closely with reindeer, much like the Sámi in real life. The clothing worn by the Northuldra characters was inspired by the traditional Sámi clothing known as gákti.

-Additionally, a South Sámi musician and composer, Frode Fjellheim, who wrote the intro song for the original “Frozen,” also has music featured in the sequel. This time, the Northuldra characters sing the song. Fjellheim’s music uses joik, an ancient chanting type of singing from the Sámi. In exchange for the input provided by the Sámi for the film, Disney agreed to produce a dubbed version of the movie in the North Sámi language—the most common form of the Sámi language. The Sámi version will be released alongside the Norwegian version later this month in Norway.