



2026 Newsletter  
 Agnes Mathilde Wergeland  
Daughtersofnorway#52@gmail.com  
 Lodge #52  
 Willamette Valley, Oregon  
 Producer & Editor: Jean Payne  
 This may be viewed by the public

## Meetings



We will start up our usual meeting schedule with:

Board Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, January 10, 10:00 am online. Kae will send out a reminder Wed., Jan. 7 with log-in info.

General Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, January 17, 10:00 am at Faith Lutheran Church, 926 W 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Junction City. We will be installing our 2026 officers. Kae will send out a reminder on or near Wed. January 14.



Slottsparken (Norwegian Palace) in January



Edla

Prayers are needed for Edla. Her son emailed on Dec. 28 that she was under Hospice care after a serious event-possibly a heart attack. She was resting but unresponsive at that time.

## Brain Teaser Month

Since Candice was unable to do a culture article this month I'm going to go for some fun. It is brain teaser month, look for at least one on each page. Here is the first! All answers on page 11.

Sam's mother had 4 children in all. The first one was named May. The second and third were called June and July respectively. What was the fourth child's name?

## Stay Connected

Email: [daughtersofnorway52@gmail.com](mailto:daughtersofnorway52@gmail.com)

Face Book: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/amw52>

Email us with questions or comments. Check out our Face Book page. We try to post Scandinavian items often & we do post pictures of our in-person meetings.



# Information (Informasjon)

## Brain Teasers

A brain teaser is a form of puzzle that requires thought to solve. It often requires thinking in unconventional ways with given constraints in mind; sometimes it also involves lateral thinking. Logic puzzles and riddles are specific types of brain teasers. One of the earliest known brain teaser enthusiasts was the Greek mathematician Archimedes.<sup>1</sup> He devised mathematical problems for his contemporaries to solve. A brain teaser is a puzzle, riddle, or problem that challenges your thinking and problem-solving skills, requiring ingenuity, logic, and creativity to solve, often by thinking "outside the box". These mental exercises are designed to be fun, stimulate the brain, improve focus, and test reasoning, ranging from simple riddles to complex logic games, and are meant to be mentally engaging rather than serious. Did you know that doing brain teasers and logic problems can improve short-term memory loss? Challenging your mind with math brain teasers and other types of puzzles keeps the connections between your brain cells sharp. Plus, learning how to solve brain teasers improves your ability to concentrate and focus, too!

What five letter word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

## Stamps for the Wounded

<https://www.stampsforthewounded.org/>  
Representative Shirley



### KEEP COLLECTING & SAVING THOSE STAMPS!

Shirley has sent 2025's.

We will continue saving stamps for Stamps for the Wounded Project. Please save all of your stamps until the Jan. 2026 meeting. The box will be next to the door to put them in.

## Check It Out



Carol: Scandinavian names info:

<https://www.genealogyexplained.com/blog/your-scandinavian-grandpa-wasnt-actually-named-johnson/>



Traci: Janteloven-Norwegian:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17pYofvMve/?mibextid=wwXIf>



## Yule Fest

Several of us attended Yule Fest in Junction City on December 6-7. But Linda & Amey actually took a few pictures. Thank you both.



## Our Library

Managed by Shirley

will be open for you to check out books at our January meeting. We have quite a few books including the complete series of Bill Sullivans' and some of Randis'.

Be sure to check them out with Shirley.



## Member News (Medlemsnyheter)



Jill

(This was sent before the notice on page 1). Regarding some of my contacts recently: Edla seems to be settling in to her new facility. She's made some good friends at bible study. Marcy has been busy with finals week. Sonia & her husband have been remodeling a bedroom. Michelle S moved to Winnemucca, Nevada but decided to remain in our lodge. Randi is doing well. Lauren & Nancy miss lodge meetings. Lamee & Elaine have the most beautiful handwriting!! Oh, another note for Edla. Her granddaughter just graduated from medical school!



**Even Trolls like Santa**  
Jean's husband, Steve as Santa at Yulefest, Dec. 6.



Traci

A joyful weekend in Portland, first with our sister-in-law, Claire, then joining Lindsey for their Christmas!

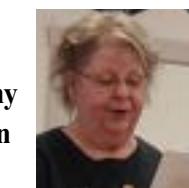
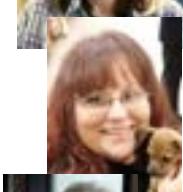


Karen P.

Playing the bells:

[https://www.facebook.com/messenger\\_media/?attachment\\_id=1198889715076631&message\\_id=mid.%24cAABa9u\\_DRdehjUH8WbXN-53h5BN&thread\\_id=100014822590637](https://www.facebook.com/messenger_media/?attachment_id=1198889715076631&message_id=mid.%24cAABa9u_DRdehjUH8WbXN-53h5BN&thread_id=100014822590637)

Dec. 22nd I had a Norwegian Christmas Recital at Fox Hollow Senior Living. I wore my Grandmother's 125 year old bunad. I had one of my students accompany me while I sang the Norwegian Christmas song "I Am So Glad on Christmas Eve" in Norwegian. After that two sisters played the song while everyone sang it in English. At the end of the program everyone sang it in English while a student and I accompanied them. Before the recital a couple students came to my house to make krumkakes so we could have them at the recital. I mixed real whipped cream and strawberry jam together to put inside the krumkakes. I took small trolls and dolls and pictures to decorate the room with the Grand Piano! It was a lovely recital!!



**Linda**  
Before Christmas I taught my 9 year old grandniece, Jazlyn how to make Almond Bread. We had a fun time & the family loved the cake.



Before Mount Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

Traci

Fun Amtrak trip in early Dec. up to Seattle for Steve's company party. Fabulous lobby in the beautiful Edgewater hotel!



Lynn

Congratulations to Melodie and Josh who were the winners of my Chocolate Sleigh tray. And thanks to everyone who purchased from me during Yule Fest. I am so very grateful for your support!



Kathy

Today is St. Lucia Day (December 13) When I was in high school, we had a girl from Stockholm, Sweden as an exchange student named Katrin Onno (or Kati) as we called her, she was crowned the Lucia for the entire country of Sweden in 1979. Her's was the main photo on their December TV Guide that year. One of her friends posted the video of the television production of Kati as Lucia on YouTube. I am so happy I finally get to see this after all these years. I also got to visit her last year. What a joy! Kati & I last Sept. on an amphibious vehicle tour in Stockholm.

Amey

A large choir in Roseburg performs the Messiah every other year, and I was part of the small chamber orchestra this year. The acoustics in the church were amazing. My other two orchestras also had performances, which went really well. One has concerts in the evenings at the Wildish Theater in Springfield and the other does Sunday afternoons at Willamette HS. I have three concerts remaining this year, in March, May and June. Still lots of pickleball, which includes tournament play and even some medals! It was fun to be part of Julefest in Junction City, which brought a little Scandinavian touch to my seasonal festivities. (see pg. 2 pics) It started to rain so I skipped the burning of the straw goat, but maybe next year I'll plan for warmer clothing to stand outdoors.

## Our Holiday Get-Together (Vårt Ferietreff)

Our Holiday Get-together was attended by 12 members & officers at Judy's lovely Senior Living Home. We had a lot of cookies to snack on & Amey had brought baggies to take extra home & there was plenty! The home graciously provided coffee, tea & water! Gifts were exchanged by playing "The Right Family" game which we all enjoyed. Amey played (without music) on her Hardanger Fiddle several Christmas carols which we all enjoyed attempting to sing to. Lynn came but had to leave to take care of an emergency before we even got started. Sorry Lynn. Carol called her while Amey played, so she could hear some of the music. I think a good time was had by all. Thank you to the Gardenway Retirement Community for providing us with a lovely place to hold our get-together & giving us our beverages.



There is only one time in your life when you're twice as old as your child. When is that?

## Our Sister Lodge

<https://www.daughtersofnorway.org/>

Submitted by Amey

## Turid Jespersen Lodge #44

in Mission Viejo (Orange County) California was founded in 2003. They meet the third Saturday of the month at 10:30am, skipping July and August. Unlike many lodges who meet at churches or a community center, this lodge uses a room in an office building. They host many Nordic activities including a lutefisk and meatball dinner, a heritage festival and a family Christmas smörgåsbord.

### Lodge Name

Turid Jespersen was a relative of a lodge member. She was born February 22, 1917 in Oslo. She was an avid skier and in the 1930s was a leading downhill ski racer with plans to represent Norway in the 1936 Winter Olympics in Germany, but she fell during the trials and couldn't go. She was a courier for the Norwegian resistance during WWII, using her ski skills to get memorized military information between outposts. When this became too dangerous, she joined her brother in Canada, where he was a pilot. She married a Norwegian pilot herself, and they eventually moved back to Norway where he worked for commercial airlines. He tragically died as a passenger, and Turid moved to the US where she taught ski lessons. One of her first students was the future astronaut John Glenn. She skied into her 70s, but suffered a stroke in 1991 and is buried in Norway at an old Viking church next to her first husband and son.



I glide on snow both fast and free, through forests white and hills to see. A Nordic sport both old and grand, across the frozen Swedish land! What am I?

## The Scottish Engineer Who Saved a City from Starvation: Thomas Telford's Canal Miracle



In 1801, the city of Gothenburg, Sweden, faced the threat of starvation due to harsh winters and blocked supply routes. Enter Thomas Telford, a brilliant Scottish engineer renowned for his groundbreaking work on canals and bridges. Telford was commissioned to design and construct the Göta Canal, an ambitious project that would connect Sweden's western and eastern coasts, providing a vital supply route. Despite challenging conditions, Telford's engineering expertise helped complete the canal by 1832, allowing food and goods to flow into Gothenburg. This engineering feat not only saved the city from the brink of starvation but also revitalized Sweden's economy and cemented Telford's legacy as one of the greatest engineers of his time.



# Culture (Kultur)



Icelanders' ability to read ancient sagas is a testament to their language's remarkable resilience. Despite a millennium of change, Icelandic has remained closer to its Old Norse roots than other Nordic tongues, thanks in part to Iceland's geographic isolation. This linguistic continuity allows modern Icelanders to access their rich literary heritage with relative ease, connecting them to their Viking ancestors.

Toss the blocks, take careful aim, a Viking past still in this game. Knock them down, but don't be rash, the king must fall in this fun clash! What am I?

From skárta (thin ice on water) to cuoju (hard snow crust), each word captures subtle differences in Arctic conditions.

The Sami people of Norway have over 180 words for snow and ice.



## Norwegian Words for Snow

Submitted by Kae

Norwegians have a rich vocabulary for snow, reflecting the importance of it in their culture and daily life. Here are some examples:

1. Snø (snow)
2. Snøfonn (snowdrift)
3. Snøfall (snowfall)
4. Snøvær (snowy weather)
5. Kjørevei (slippery road)
6. Pudder (powder snow)
7. Fokk (drifting snow)
8. Snøfokk (snowstorm)
9. Værskare (snow on mountains)
10. Firn (wet snow)



Some specific types of snow in Norwegian include:

- Snøbre (avalanche)
- Snøskare (hard snow crust)
- Snøsjø (large snowfield)

The variety of words highlights the complexity of snow in Norway's climate and its impact on daily life, from skiing to driving.

What are other Norwegian snow terms?

Norwegian snow terms are diverse and reflect the country's culture and climate. Here are some key terms:

### Types of Snow

- Nysnö (New snow): fresh snow that has just fallen, often light and powdery.
- Pudersnö (Powder snow): light and powdery snow, ideal for downhill skiing.
- Flingsnö (Flake snow): refers to snowflakes falling from the sky.
- Kornsнö (Corn snow): small, grainy snow formed in stratocumulus clouds.
- Snöhagel (Snow hail or Graupel pellets): larger grains of snow.
- Blötsnö (Wet snow): compact, heavy, and sticky snow.
- Lössnö (Loose snow): light and porous snow, making it easy to travel on.

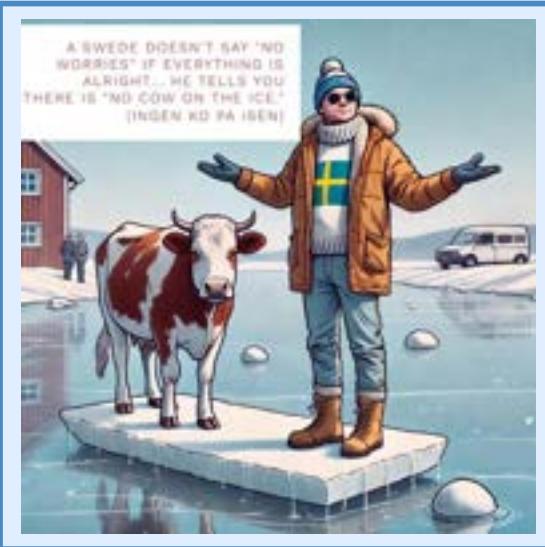
The Three-Country Cairn marks the tripoint of Finland, Sweden, and Norway. The yellow concrete cairn, built in 1926, stands on a small artificial island in Lake Goldajärvi and is the northernmost international tripoint in the world



# Culture (Kultur)

Submitted by Karin  
Her sister shared this with her.

Norwegian determination is what happens when stubbornness gets caffeine. ☕



In Norway, abandoned oil rigs are transformed into eco-hotels, powered entirely by wave energy, offering unmatched ocean views.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=623388400834563&set=a.10132716393470>

## Series Suggestion-The New Force

Submitted by Amey

In 1958, Stockholm Sweden was facing a shortage of male police officers, so they decided to conduct an experiment by hiring some women. Each woman was assigned to a male beat cop, and the men were mostly hesitant and chauvinistic, so the program only lasted a short time. Netflix helped produce a series to tell the story, called "Skiftet" in Swedish and translated to "The New Force" in English. The series is in Swedish with English subtitles, and mostly follows three young women as they navigate their exciting new jobs as police officers. Not a typical crime drama, more like other British series that have focused on female cops at specific times in history.



Submitted by Traci



IN 1932, NORWAY PROVIDED EVERY CHILD WITH THE SAME SIMPLE SCHOOL MEAL: MILK, WHOLE-GRAIN BREAD, CHEESE, FRUIT, VEGETABLES, AND A SPOON OF COD-LIVER OIL. IT WASN'T FANCY, BUT IT TRANSFORMED AN ENTIRE GENERATION

## Night Train

Submitted by Carol

Norway launches the world's first panoramic night train for Northern Lights watching.

<https://www.ndtv.com/travel/norway-launches-worlds-first-panoramic-night-train-to-see-the-northern-lights-9994288>



## Medieval Riddles

People in Scandinavian countries (like Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Iceland) have loved riddles for a very long time. Almost all the riddles that survived from medieval Scandinavia are found in an old Icelandic story called Hervarar saga ok Heiðreks.

Fjórir hanga,  
fjórir ganga,  
tveir veg vísa,  
tveir hundum varða,  
einn eptir drallar  
ok jafnan heldr saurugr.  
Heiðrekr konungr,  
hyggðu at gátu!

Four are hanging,  
Four are walking,  
Two point the way out,  
Two ward the dogs off,  
One ever dirty  
Dangles behind it.  
This riddle ponder  
O prince Heidrek!

# Recipes (oppskrifter)

## Fiskesuppe (Creamy Norwegian Fish Soup)

<https://scandinaviancookbook.com/fiskesuppe-creamy-norwegian-fish-soup/>

This is a simple and delicious creamy Norwegian fish soup. You can use any type of fish except for herring. You can also use whichever vegetables you prefer or have already, including frozen vegetables – I've included my favorites in the recipe.



### Ingredients

1 pound fish fillet (fresh or frozen) – eg.  
half salmon, half cod  
1 clove garlic  
2 medium potatoes  
2 carrots  
1 leek  
3 tbsp butter  
5 tbsp flour  
4 and 1/4 cups fish stock  
1 cup milk  
1 1/4 cup crème fraîche (or sour cream)  
1 cup shrimp, peeled and cooked  
(optional)  
1 tbsp chives (or dill or parsley)

### Directions

1. Cut the fish fillets in cubes or strips. Crush or chop the garlic. Rinse the vegetables and cut into thin strips.
2. Heat the butter in a pot and add the garlic. Once the garlic starts to turn golden add the flour, whisking well.
3. Add the fish stock and continue to whisk until there are no lumps.
4. Add the vegetables and milk and bring to a boil. Cook for about 10 minutes.
5. Add the crème fraîche (or sour cream). Bring the soup back to a simmer and once the soup begins to bubble again turn off the heat. Keep the soup on the burner and add the fish. Let the fish cook in the hot soup for 5 minutes. If using shrimp, add right before serving.
6. Sprinkle with chives (or dill or parsley) before serving.



## Judy's Recipe Corner

### Beans, Greens & Cream-Vegetarian Dinner

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/food-network-kitchen/beans-greens-and-cream-18084054>

### Directions-Serves 6

1. Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the shallot, a good pinch of salt and several grinds of pepper & cook, stirring occasionally, until tender & translucent, about 4 minutes. Add the garlic & continue to cook until tender & fragrant, about 1 minute more.
2. Add a couple handfuls of spinach & cook, stirring frequently, until wilted, 1 to 2 minutes. Repeat, adding a couple handfuls of spinach at a time, until all the spinach has been added & is wilted & tender. Stir in the Havarti, cream, 1 teaspoon salt & several grinds of pepper. Bring to a simmer, then continue to cook until the cheese is melted & the sauce is smooth, about 2 minutes.
3. Stir in the beans & lemon zest until well combined, then simmer until the beans have warmed through, 1 to 2 minutes more. Taste & adjust the seasoning with salt & pepper.
4. Serve immediately with toasted crusty bread for dipping.

**Ingredients**

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick) unsalted butter  
1 large shallot, minced  
Kosher salt & freshly ground black pepper  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
One 10-ounce container baby spinach  
8 ounces dill Havarti, shredded (about 2 cups)  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
Two 15.5-ounce cans navy beans, drained & rinsed  
Finely grated zest of 1 lemon  
Toasted crusty bread, for serving

**With swirls of spice and sugar so sweet, I make your coffee break complete. A golden twist in a spiral tight, a Swedish favorite, a pure delight!**  
**What am I?**

# Brain Food Page (morsom side)

## RIDDLES FOR THE MONTH (GÅTER FOR MÅNEDEN)

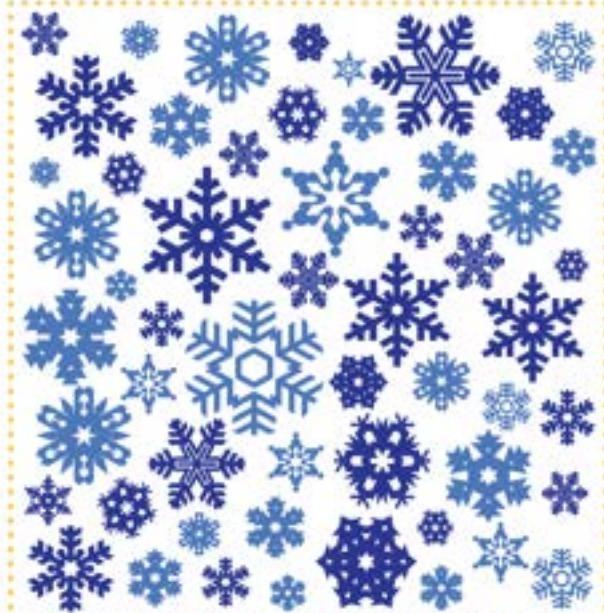
### Brain Teasers

1. What's the currency of the North Pole?
2. What do superheroes add to their drinks during winter?
3. How does Jack Frost get to work?
4. What does Jack Frost call his parents?
5. What did the wool hat say to the scarf?
6. What did the icy road say to the truck?
7. What did the snowflake say when its friend was upset?
8. What is a winter ghost called?
9. How do you build a snow house?
10. How does a mountain stay warm?



### I Spy Snowflakes

How many of each can you find in the box below?



### Ski Trip



BOOTS  
CHAIRLIFT  
GLOVES  
GOOGLES  
GONDOLA  
POLES  
POWDER  
RESORT

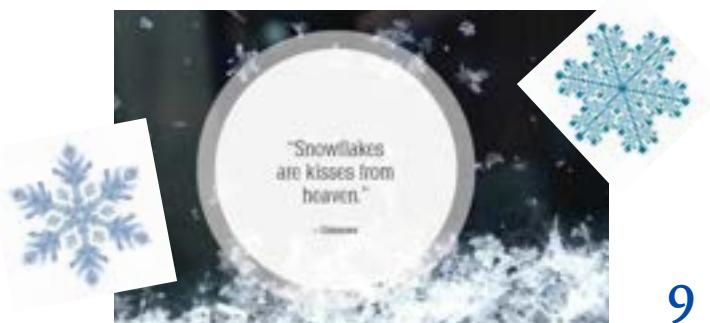
SKIS  
SLOPES  
SNOW  
SUNGASSES  
SUNSCREEN  
TRAIL  
WINTER



### DID YOU KNOW? (VISSTE DU?) Snowflakes



- The size of a snowflake depends on how many ice crystals connect together.
- Each snowflake is made up of about 200 ice crystals.
- Snowflakes always have six sides.
- They're clear ice, but light scattering off their facets makes them look white.
- Can range from tiny "diamond dust" to massive, 15-inch wide flakes (like one recorded in 1887, Montana).
- Can fall up to 9 miles per hour.



# Upcoming Events (Kommende arrangementer)

## Nordic Northwest Events for January

<https://www.nordicnorthwest.org/upcoming-events>



Go to website for more info, tickets, etc.

- **Jan. 3- New Years Celebration**
- **Jan. 17-Crafting the Northwest: The Legacy of Henry Steiner and His Iconic Log Cabins**
- **Jan. 23-The Humbling of Thor**
- **Jan. 24-Dala Horse Carving Workshop**
- **Registration now open for: Solheim Nordvest-June 11-15**

There are also multiple knitting, conversation, etc. events on a monthly basis



**Sonja Sons of Norway Lodge  
2026 Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner  
Sunday, January 25th**

**Tickets are on sale now!  
<http://sonjalodge.org/Lutefisk>**

**"Family style" all you can eat!**

**Lutefisk, Meatballs, Potatoes, Coleslaw, Flatbread, Lefse, Prune Pudding & Traditional Norwegian Cookies.**

**\$45 for adults, \$20 for kids under 12**

## Bunad Making Classes-Submitted by Traci



**4 day Bunad class fee is going up Jan. 1st!**

**Secure your spot and pay in full by year-end and pay 2025 price of \$450!!**

**Jan. 1st it will be \$495**

**Here's the 2026 Bunad class schedule:**

**Jan. 16-19**

**Mar. 27-30 almost full!**

**Apr. 17-20 almost full!**

**Jun. 5-8**

**Sep. 11-14**

**Nov. 6-9**

**See my website for more details: [www.bunadcreations.com](http://www.bunadcreations.com).**

**And call 509-999-8499 or email [gina@bunadcreations.com](mailto:gina@bunadcreations.com)**



**A.**

**What can you keep but cannot share and once you share it, you can't keep it anymore?**

## Miscellaneous (diverse)

### Trollkreme

Submitted by Traci

My new favorite dessert! Easy! Also can do it in a standup mixer. And I used half the sugar (1/2 cup) since I was using jam. Also squeezed a bit of lemon juice over egg whites and let them sit awhile first. So yummy! Light after a heavy dinner.

Ingredients:

2 egg whites

1 cup sugar

1 1/2 cup Lingonberries

1 tsp. vanilla sugar

zest from 1 lemon

Directions:

Put all ingredients in a food processor & blitz until you have a firm meringue.

Serve with extra berries & perhaps rosette cookies.

Note: feel free to substitute other berries for lingonberries.



**Vikings at the Traffic Signal, Aarhus, Denmark**

**B.**

**There are 7 loaves of bread that need to be shared equally among 12 people. How would you do this if you are not allowed to split any loaf into 12 pieces?**

# Answers & Extras (svar og tillegg)

## Jokes Answers page 9

1. Cold, hard cash!
2. Just-ice.
3. By icicle
4. Mom and Pop-sicle
5. You hang around while I go on ahead.
6. Want to go for a spin?
7. Don't flurry, be happy.
8. Casp-brrrrrr.
9. Igloo it together.
10. Snowcaps.

**Ski Trip**



BOOTS SKIS  
CHAIRLIFT SLOPES  
GLOVES SNOW  
GOOGLES SUNGLASSES  
GONDOLA SUNSCREEN  
POLES TRAIL  
POWDER WINTER  
RESORT

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

## I Spy Snowflakes

How many of each can you find in the box below?



## Brain Teasers

page 1: Sam!

page 2: The word short.

page 3: Mount Everest was the tallest mountain even before it was discovered.

page 4: When your child reaches the age you were when he or she was born, you'll stay "twice as old" until your next birthday.

page 5: Nordic skiing

page 6: Kubb

page 7: A cow, it has four udders (hanging), four legs (walking), two horns (point the way), two back legs (ward off dogs), and one tail (dangles behind).

page 8: Kanelbullar

page 9: see box above

page 10 a: A secret.

page 10 b: Split 4 of the loaves into 3 pieces and the other 3 loaves into 4 pieces. Then, give each person one of both types of pieces.



**Takk, Tack, Tak, Kiitos, Takk Fyrir**

**For all the help you have sent my way for this newsletter.**