

Stavanger, Norway - Christmas 2008



Hi

We are quite sure you know the Norwegian tradition of sending Christmas cards... here is an attempt from us... to make one in American.

Again, thank you for all the kindness when we visited Minnesota and Iowa last spring. We had some nice days. And we returned to Norway filled with impressions: how the family over there is doing, who they are and the stories about how their ancestors did. And to see that some of the family features we see in Norway also exist 'over there'.

The summer and the fall - until October - have been nice. And we have used some vacation days and weekends at the sea and in the mountains. From October we have had much rain, and in the last weeks some snow too. But now it's Advent and Christmas time. Busy. All the preparations. Our children are coming home. Inger-Lill and her fiancé are coming from Oslo - the Norwegian capital city. She is doing TV-productions. The boys are also coming - Tor-Helge, whom studied in the US last year, and Paul Bjarte are taking deserved Christmas breaks from their studies. We look forward to having them all here.

Torgeir's mother Ingrid passed 91 years this fall, and lives at a nursing home now. She has been there for almost two years. Her health has been a little back and forth. She is not confined to bed, but she does not remember much from her former life. She lives in the here and now, and asks the same questions again and again, so we have to be patient. But she enjoys life in her way, and we are glad for that.

To all of you and your families, have a nice Christmas time and a happy new year! And if you want to visit Norway, contact us and we will help you to plan and guide The Norwegian society has changed a little since Hans, John and Nels decided to leave the country about 100 years ago.

Tor-Helge and Ingunn send their greetings.....

Hilsen

Solveig & Torgeir



PS! The background picture is the view from our cabin at Sjernarøyane



The Pulpit – a Norwegian tourist magnet in Rogaland (Solveig and some friends)



Ingunn and Solveig enjoy scrimps a late and nice summer night

The fireplace – you see Stanley's lighthouse on the shelf



On our way to Okland – you find it ca 300 meters above the sea level, where the fjord ends

