



Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5
Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio and Kentucky

The First Lodge in Ohio Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway February 2010

February Meeting

Our February Lodge meeting will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at 4:00. We will meet at the IHOP Community room, 9540 Colerain Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45251. You can order dinner and the enjoy a DVD - Queen Of Ice-The Life of Sonja Henie. RSVP to Esther at 513.923.3798 or Esthersofn@aol.com.

March Meeting

Join us March 20, 2010 at 2:00 PM at the home of Anders and Donna Marstrander, 5527 Woodvalley Court, Mason OH 45040. We will take a look at and discuss the making of the film Beowulf. This film was translated by our own Anders and Siri Timo and 100% of the profits go to Cancer research both here and in Norway. Please RSVP to the Marstrandens at 513.398.4285 or Anders@marstrander.com.

Looking ahead: April - White Elephant Auction at the Mikaloff's.

May- 17 Mai Celebration at the home of Kari Poe.

June- Summer Soltice Pool Party at the Mikaloff's

Presidents Message

Greetings and Happy New Year to all of our Sons of Norway Members! We ended 2009 enjoying a great time at Juletreffest. It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up in their Norwegian sweaters and some traditional Bunads from Norway. Juletreffest is a big endeavor for our Board and I'd like to thank them all for their hard work putting the event together. Please let them know how much you enjoyed Jultreffest – I know they'd appreciate it. Tillie, our Lodge Secretary, did a great job in the kitchen, and there were several great comments on how the food was prepared this year. Not that Anders and I did a bad job last year, ha-ha! Thanks to Sandy Nelson and her helpers for making the

Norwegian Butikk one of the best ones yet. The ladies really out did themselves this year by keeping the prices down so that we could all enjoy a little bit of Norway at the holidays. This was done to give back to our members to let them know we really appreciate their membership. The cookie and Lefse sale was also a huge success – which was obvious by the empty table at the end of the night! Again, thank you to everyone who helped to plan, organize, decorate, set-up, or clean-up...Nina, Carol L., Anders, J.D., Sandy (and family), Diane, Linda, Susie, Beth, Nelda, Esther, Lance, Carol S., Siri, Beth Monson, and Carolyn...it is our wonderful members who make our lodge so special.



As the night went on we even had a comedian (the President) handing out awards and longevity certificates. We gave out a certificate for 35 years of membership. Just a couple years more than my age, ha-ha, again! Of course, we also had dancing around the Christmas tree and a visit from the Julenissen. It

was also nice to see the children enjoy goodie bags and the craft table so much.

As we start the New Year, the Board is busy planning meetings and events for 2010. We are looking forward to representing Sons of Norway at the Dayton International Festival – Esther will have more information on this and will be looking for volunteers. The Board is in the process of selecting delegates to our District Convention this summer as well.

We have several interesting and educational Lodge Meetings coming up. Thanks to Anders we had a wonderful presentation in January on the history and relationships between Norway, Sweden and Denmark. We also had three new members at the meeting – it was great to see new faces, not that I don't like the old ones!

That is it for now, Tillie, J.D., and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting held on February 20th. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 513-683-5826 or email me at Elvrumjtj@aol.com or text 570-561-5108.

JULTREFEST 2009 THE NORSK BUTIKK

The 2009 Norsk Butikk has come and gone! But, we are still talking about what a great "Little Norwegian Shop" that is part of the Jultrefest!

The Butikk committee would like to thank all those who were involved. Much time and effort goes into preparing and presenting the Butikk. A special thank you to members who donated items for sale.

Each year the Butikk committee works very hard to offer quality items at reasonable prices for our members. The current economic status of our country very much affected how the committee decided what to purchase and what price to set on items.

The philosophy has been to provide items at below retail cost. At the annual fall "pricing day" afternoon, the committee looks at each item, considers the wholesale cost (adding to cover shipping and handling costs) and then add a very small profit margin to benefit the lodge. The Butikk has not been considered a fundraiser, but, rather, as a benefit and service to our lodge members.

There are some remaining items in our inventory.

In past years these items have been used at meeting raffles, community events and other lodge activities.

A major "Tusen Takk" goes out to Sandy Nelson for her chairmanship of the Butikk. Her time and effort are tremendous and her leadership is invaluable. She is meticulous in her ordering and providing all records, invoices, etc., to our Board and lodge members.

Helping Sandy with this huge project are Diane Person and Linda Burge. But, make no mistake, the real kudos go to Sandy Nelson. Sincerest thank you to her!

We feel the Butikk is a total success and provides our members to have a "Touch of Norway" they can afford and enjoy!

Tusen takk to alle!-submitted by Linda Burge
1/25/09

Prairie Home Companion on the Big Screen in HD Feb 4.

Garrison Keillor will be broadcasting from the Fitzgerald Theater in St. Paul a two-hour presentation beginning at 8 pm, with an encore showing on Tuesday, Feb 9. Preceding the special presentation, the theater will show 30-minutes of trivia. The three participating cinemas in our area are the Rave Cinemas Springdale, Rave Cinemas Florence and Regal Cinemas Deerfield Town Center.

The hilarious musical comedy **Church Basement Ladies** will be performed at the LaComedia Dinner Theatre in Springboro, OH from May 6-July 3. The play was based on the best selling books of two Sons of Norway members, Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Johnson Nelson. They were featured on the cover of our August, 2007 Viking magazine. A reservation of 20 or more qualifies for group discount pricing. If you are interested in attending as a group, contact either Sandra Nelson 513.336.9810 snell1234@fuse.net or Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 CHLuiso@aol.com.

Reading Circle

Our next Reading Circle meeting will be held Saturday, March 13, 2:30 pm at Panera Bread in the Deerfield Town Center, Mason, OH. We will be discussing the book *The Wind from the Mountains* by Trygve Gulbrandsen. A few copies are available through the Cincinnati/Hamilton County Library.

We'll also talk about *In Cod We Trust* by Eric Dregni, as more of our members are reading it. Bring and share any other Norwegian related books you've been reading. If you enjoy reading Norwegian related books, join us! Carol Luiso.

Hei,

I am now taking care of the Raffles for the meetings. If you have an item we could use please bring it to a meeting, call or email me with the information. This is fun and helps with our fundraising. It can be a new or gently used item. Something Norwegian is good but not mandatory. We will continue to have baked goods in the raffle as well. I will be asking different members to bake. If you are willing, you could let me know what you would like to bring.

Mange Takk Nelda Chandler 742-9504,
nelda1961@cinci.rr.com



Picture of Julefest, from Carol Stone.

Membership Great news! Our Julefest has again brought us new members. Brian and Sarah Rudie were recruited by their friends, Konrad and Pam Nelson, and made out their membership applications during Julefest. Yvonne Iversen gave the gift of membership to her sister Monica Barba. Monica lives in Chagrin Falls, but will stay on our membership list until she chooses to transfer to another lodge.

When you give the gift of membership to a relative or friend outside of our area, they stay listed on our membership list until such time as they may decide to transfer into another lodge. This is also happens when people who joined our lodge when they lived in our area move. They stay listed on our membership list as long as they wish. We just

learned that Tim and Connie Holmen moved to Pittsburgh. We enjoyed their helping us last year at the Dayton International Festival.

Robert Jorgensen joined on the internet January 14. We were informed of his membership, contacted him to welcome him to Sons of Norway and he attended the lodge meeting on January 16.

Caroline Schoenig, who is eight years old, is now a Heritage member by courtesy of grandma Trine Wermes.

Do not be surprised when you receive your dues renewal statements. The dues were increased on January 1. Our new lodge dues are \$41.50, and a spouse is \$34.50. This is the first dues increase in many years, including the ten years that I have as a member. The dues increase was announced in the August Viking, by International President, Dan Rude.

We ended the year with 125 members, which is really great! Each year we have had an increase in membership, which shows positive growth for our lodge. Our next milestone number will be when we reach 130 members. That could come soon as we had several prospects at our January lodge meeting.

If you have questions on membership or wish to suggest a person as a prospective members contact Esther for information.

Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary



From Julefest, farewell to members Karn, Kris, and Helen Erlandson who are moving north to Michigan. We will miss you! Picture from Carol Stone.

A Musical Journey Around The World

This is the theme of this years' 37th Annual International Festival at the Dayton Convention Center. The dates are Friday May 14, Saturday May

15, and Sunday May 16. Make a note on your calendar now so that you can enjoy some time at the festival.

Last year was our lodge's first year at this festival, and it was a great introduction to this huge event. Many people stopped at our booth to welcome Sons of Norway to the festival. Our booth consisted of a tribute to Edvard Grieg.

This year we will be selling Norwegian gift items as a fundraiser, and our musical exhibit will be about the Hardanger Fiddle.

In the next newsletter there will be more details and information on volunteer opportunities at the lodge booth. For more details on the festival check out their website from our lodge website link.

Plate! Is it yours?

Did you bring your food item to Juletreffest on a white dinner plate? If so you may have forgotten it. We found it when the clean up crew was hard at work. If the plate is yours, contact Esther to connect for the plate.



THE BLUE HOUR: 'There's an expression in Norway, called "den blå timen," describing the time of day in the late afternoon, just before it gets dark, when the winter landscape turns, well, blue. Views and News caught the effect late Saturday afternoon, in an area of northern Nordmarka at Stormyra, north of Mylla. The temperature was about minus-7C, the snow dry and light, with the fog settling over the quiet forest. From News and Views of Norway. For those getting the newsletter in black and white, think light blue.

Hei Allesammen! From Nina Downs

I just wanted to pass on some information that a few members have passed on to me...

From Pat Schott-

First-there is a gourmet ice cream parlor in Columbus that makes the most decadent ice cream I have ever tasted and as their seasonal ice cream this year they are featuring the Taste of Norway! Go to www.jenisicecream.com to check them out! They will ship all over the country. There are also two

restaurants here in Cincinnati that sell her ice cream as well now-The Melt and The Green Dog. I can tell you that the Goat Cheese with Fig and Cognac will make you swoon and I don't care for goat cheese myself!

Second- she has found a source for cloudbberries- www.polaricausa.com, phone number is 1.800.426.3872. They also sell a wide array of unusual and hard to find meats, fish and other items.

From Sandy Nelson-

I have a book that lists where you can purchase lutefisk or ling stockfish & thought you folks might be interested.

DAY FISH CO.

4409 409th Ave. N.W.

Braham, MN 55006

612-396-3468

MIKE'S FISH AND SEAFOOD, INC.

Highway 55

Glenwood, MN 56334

1-800-950-4755

NEW DAY FISHERIES

2427 Washington St.

Port Townsend, WA 98368

360-385-4600

OLSEN FISH CO

815 North 5th St.

Minneapolis, MN 55401-1126

1-800-882-0212

I have been to Olsen's & purchased back-in-the-day & the quality was good.

Diane Person has more recently purchased



Anders Marstrander explaining the inter-relationships between Norwegians and Swedes during the January meeting. Thank you for the hospitality Marstrand's.

Facts (and fiction) from Nordic Mythology and Norwegian History

There is a love-hate relationship between Norwegians and Swedes. We tell jokes about each other, and it is very important to beat the other in sporting events. When I grew up, the annual “Svenskekampen” (match against Sweden) in soccer was one of the highlights of the year. There was a saying about championships like the World Cups, European Cups and the Olympics that “the important part is not to win, but to beat the Swedes”.

Why is this rivalry there? First a very brief history lesson:
From 1396 to 1537 Norway was part of the so-called Kalmar Union. This union between Sweden, Denmark and Norway came about by intermarriage between the royal families in Denmark and Norway and political maneuvering in Sweden which won over parts of the Swedish nobility. In short this ended up as a union between three, on paper, sovereign nations. Sweden broke out of the union in 1523. The union formally ended in 1537 when the Danish Privy Council declared Norway a region of Denmark. This remained the status quo until 1814. The period between 1396 and 1814 was later called “the 400 year night” by Norwegian nationalists.

During the period of Denmark-Norway, Sweden rose to become a major power in Europe. They possessed Finland (larger than today), the Baltic States, areas of current day Poland, and Germany. Sweden was a major player in the European politics. Because the Danish kings also had ambitions, there was tension building and in the 110 years between 1611 and 1721 there were 60 years of war between Sweden and Denmark-Norway. The remaining 50 years were mostly spent to rebuild and prepare for the next war. Since Norway and Sweden shared a long border a lot of the war effort was conducted along this border. Norway suffered several invasions. After the Northern War (1655 – 1658) large areas of Norway was ceded to Sweden (Jamtland, Harjedalen and Bohuslan plus some smaller areas). The Great Northern War (1700 – 1721) ended after the Swedish king Karl XII was shot by Norwegian defenders outside the town of Halden.

After 1814 Norway was forced into a union with Sweden which lasted until 1905. During this period

Norwegian nationalism thrived and it continued after sovereignty was achieved in 1905.

All of this led to many Norwegians looking at Sweden as a “big brother”. Even after the break up of the union they were always there reminding us that they were the important one. We heard about “Swedish Steel” as if Norwegian steel wasn’t good enough. In the 60’s the term “the Swedish Sin” was coined to describe the frivolous Swedish girls. Well, Norwegian girls were no less sinners, but they didn’t get renowned for it. Maybe the most painful thing was when it was reported about foreigners learning that you were from Norway, and their reply would be “where is Sweden is that”?

There was no way Norwegians would let this pass unpunished. So the jokes about the Swedes became more popular. On the other hand there is a dependency between the two nations. Sweden is Norway’s largest trading partner. A lot of Swedes work in Norway and vice versa. And with the oil in the North Sea, Norway has gained financial freedom so the average Norwegian feels that they have gained ground on Sweden, thus the two nations are more equal now.

The jokes will never go away, though.
Anders Marstrander



The winner of the Christmas Tree drawing at Jungle Jim's International Food Market is Tommy Downs! He was so happy to receive a stuffed Moose covered cookie jar filled with chocolate chip cookies.

Birthdays

February

Luke Sutphin[1], James Lee Hill, Sr.[2], Tillie Elvrum[5], Aaron Nelson[5], Patsy Bannick[6], Richard Glatfelter[6], Lee Luiso[12], Sylvia Casas[15], Robert Bowman[17], Linda

Burge[17], Cassi Rice[19], Mark Kosobud[20], Helge Bjorvik[21], Jennifer Burge Reeder[26], George Bjorvik[28]

March

Kari Watts[2], Bob Charlton[11], Bob Hippert[13], Karl Flem[14], Megan Luiso[15], Larry Bannick[17], Patricia Nelson Schott[17], Alene Rice[23], Alex Crocker-Lakness[24].

April

Sonja Kinney[1], Katherine Sanders[2], Braden Watts[8], Angela Holman[10], Logan Opals[13], Sarah Rudie[13], Robert Price, Jr.[18], Donna Kent[25], Robert Price, Sr[26], Walter Varland[27].

Remember to go to:

website: www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html



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KALENDER

February 20th, The Life of Sonja Henie, at IHOP(Colerain)

March 20th, Beowolf at Marstrand's