



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

The First Lodge in Ohio  
Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway  
February 2012

## Meetings

### February 18th Lodge Meeting - Genealogy

Members will present how they have done their own genealogy and a discussion of resources available to do work on genealogy. Meeting will begin at 4 p.m. at IHOP's Community Room, 9540 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati. 45251 RSVP to Esther Charlton at **513/923-3798** or [Esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:Esthersofn@aol.com)

### March 24th (4th Sat ) Lodge Meeting - Rosemaling and Woodcarving

Laurie and Paul Johnson recently attended classes in Rosemaling and Woodcarving at Vesterheim Norwegian- American Museum in Decorah, IA. Come and hear about their experiences and see the beautiful items they created. Meeting will take place at the Johnson's home 2765 Waynesville Rd., Oregonia, OH 45054 at 2 p.m. Please bring an appetizer or dessert. RSVP to the Johnson's at 513.932.8291 or Carol Luiso at 513.683.3631, [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

### April 21 Lodge Meeting - Meet Norwegian Exchange Students

Meet and greet Caroline and Marthe, Norwegian Exchange Students from Haugesund and Kongsberg, Learn about the areas of Norway they are from and their experiences here in America. We'll meet at 2 p.m. at the home of Carol Stone, 224 Countryside Drive, Lebanon, OH 45036. Open-faced sandwiches and snacks will be served. RSVP to Carol Luiso, 513.683.3631 or [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

### May 17 - Syttende Mai - Norway's Constitution Day

Mark your calendars. Kari Poe will host this special event again. Dinner at 5:30. Children's parade at 7 p.m. Casual potluck, so bring your favorite dish to share. RSVP to Kari Poe, 579 Belle Meade Farm Dr., Loveland, OH 45140 Tel. 513.697.7142 or Nina Downs 513.608.0364 [ninadowns@fuse.net](mailto:ninadowns@fuse.net)



*If you get the newsletter by email, this picture of Alesund is a great desktop photo. It is taken from the top of the mountain, near the restaurant.*

### Presidents Message:

Hallo Allesammen og Godt Nytt Aar!  
(Hello Everyone and Happy New Year!)

I hope that everyone had a Warm and Wonderful Holiday Season!

Here's to a Fantastic 2012!

Thank you to Dr. Christine Anderson for the presentation for our November Meeting at IHOP. Those who attended found it to be interesting and enjoyable.

In early December we had our Annual Familie Julefest, and what a celebration it was! Thank you to all who helped, from volunteering time, to setting up, to cleaning up. This is an event that has started to be a tradition for many families and it so wonderful to see everyone every year.



*Dancing around the Christmas Tree.at Julefest.*



*Sammy Risma and one of his fans, Nancy Flem.*

Unfortunately, December also brought sad news. It is with a very heavy heart that I write of the passing of our Lodge founder Helen Hippert. She was very active in her Lodge in California and after moving here, Helen wished for a local Sons of Norway Lodge. It started with a desire and an ad in the paper, and what developed became Edvard Grieg Lodge.

Helen grew up like many second generation Norwegians in America, not speaking Norwegian or talking of things Norwegian. I used to love listening to her tell stories of her childhood and her friendship

with a Norwegian neighbor that opened her eyes to her heritage. When she spoke about her or her involvement in her Lodge in California, her eyes would sparkle and dance. Occasionally, I would give Helen a ride to and from meetings, and as she got out of the car she would always gleefully say, "Mange Takk!"

Had it not been for Helen, and her love for her heritage, our Lodge would not exist. Thank you Helen for making sure your wish came true! All of us who have become members because of you, are truly grateful We will remember you with love in our hearts, and a light in our eyes. Helen, our dear friend, "Mange Takk!".

Nina Downs

### **Reading Circle**

Our next Reading Circle will meet March 10th, at Panera Bread, (across from Tri County Mall), 405 Kemper Road.. For those who would like to read *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Norwegian author, Asne Seierstad, several copies are available through the Cincinnati/Hamilton County Library system.

In November 2001, after the fall of the Taliban, the Norwegian journalist, Åsne Seierstad, befriended a bookseller in Kabul, Afghanistan. Shah Muhammad Rais agreed for her to live in his home for three months in order to write a book about his family. *The Bookseller of Kabul*, became an international bestseller and was translated into thirty languages. After the book was published, Shah Muhammad Rais sued the author for defamation of character.



Asne Seierstad

On July 24, 2010 Seierstad was found guilty of defamation and negligent journalistic practices and ordered to pay 125,000 kroner in damages to Suraia Rais, wife of Shah Muhammad Rais”, On Dec 14, 2011, Seierstad was cleared by an appeals court in Oslo. Rais' lawyer, said he would lodge an appeal to Norway's Supreme Court.

## Membership

Let me introduce you to our newest member of the lodge, Gunn Gronnerud Hysell. She has only been our country two and half years and hails from Stravenger. In my welcome call, she let me know that she would love to chat with some of our Norwegians. She lives in Delaware, up near Columbus.

Since we have had some of our members move to far away locales, we plan to step up our efforts to recruit new members to our lodge.

Do you know of someone that might be interested In Sons of Norway? Let me know of them and I will send them information about Sons of Norway and our lodge.

Thanks, Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary.

## The World Choir Games, July 4-14

The Choir Games will be here in early July, and we are checking on all the details. There will be several choirs from Norway and Denmark participating in the games. By the next newsletter, April 1, we should have more details relating to the schedule of events and performances.

There will be some volunteer opportunities, so should that interest you, let Esther know. She is checking on the various areas to volunteer and should have that information soon.

## Festivals

Our lodge participates in two annual festivals to promote our lodge and Sons of Norway. At these festival booths we sell Norwegian themed items that help our lodge treasury.

The first festival is the Ashville Viking Festival, which takes place the last weekend of every April in Ashville, Ohio. This year is the ninth year for the festival and our lodge has participated in every one whether rain, sun or wind. It is an outdoor festival. Ed and Nancy Vallette, who chair the festival, are members of our lodge and have presented a couple of programs at lodge meetings over the years.

The second festival, in which we are participating, is the Dayton International Festival. It takes place on the third weekend of May. This festival is in its 39th year. We only found out about it a few years ago. This will be our fourth year with a booth at the festival. This festival is in the Dayton Convention Center and annually attracts around 15,000 people over the weekend. There are over 30 countries participating, over half of them have food from their respective countries. As a plus, there is continuous entertainment on two stages. It is a great festival for your children and or grandchildren. We will have tickets available at the March and April lodge meetings.

Do you have any craft items or some Norwegian items that you might be ready to part with? You could donate them to the lodge for our festival booths. Contact Nelda or Esther if you might have items to donate.

A big thank you to Paul Johnson for the wood carved items that he brought to the Julefest Buttik.

## Humor



Two Wisconsin mechanical engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walks by and asks what they were doing.

'We're supposed to find the height of the flagpole,' said Sven, 'but we don't have a ladder.'

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then

she took a tape measure from her pocketbook, took a measurement, announced, 'Eighteen feet, six inches, and walked away.

Ole shook his head and laughed. 'Ain't that just like a woman! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!'

Sven and Ole are currently working for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation designing "round-a-bouts".

### Norwegian Lottery

Ole and Sven were waiting at the bus stop when a truck went past loaded up with rolls of sod.

Ole said, "I'm gonna do dat when I win da lottery."

"What's dat, den?" asks Sven.

"Send my lawn away to be mowed."

### Helen Hippert



*Bob, Helen, and Benjamin Downs during a visit. From Nina Downs.*

Helen S. (nee Scowden), age 91, beloved wife of Robert D. Hippert for 69 years, died December 12, 2011 of pneumonia. Mother of Signe Hippert,

Patricia Nisperos and Charles Hippert (Mary Anne); grandmother of Robert Russell (Linnea), Koren Russell, Jesse McQuarrie (Heidi) and Amanda Keith (Alan) and great grandmother of 6. Graduate of Hughes High School and attended the University of Cincinnati from 1938 to 1940. Married Lt. Hippert on April 3, 1942 in Ft. Myers, FL and then became a defense worker at Bendix Aviation in New Jersey. She lived extensively in Maryland, California and New York. Upon returning to Cincinnati after an absence of over 50 years, she volunteered at the Library Friends Shop and initiated an effort that established our Edvard Grieg Lodge, the first Sons of Norway lodge in Ohio. Helen donated her body to the UC College of Medicine.

It was at a lodge meeting in the fall of '07 when Helen told us she had read a wonderful book by the Norwegian author, Per Petterson, titled Out Stealing Horses. Helen's enthusiasm prompted several members to read the book and form a Reading Circle (Book Club). Our first book discussion was Petterson's book. Helen was an avid reader and attended meetings whenever she could. Her sharp mind was amazing!

Tillie Elvrum, former member said it best: "Helen was a gem and I know how much she will be missed by everyone who knew her."

A donation in Helen's memory was given by our lodge to the Sons of Norway Foundation.

### Winter on the snow



Ski jumping is a favorite sport all over Norway, so hand made jumps are built to satisfy those so inclined. Foto: Olav Stubberud.



*Others climb the tallest mountains ....*



*...so that they can go downhill on untouched powder.*



*And then there are others.....perhaps they are just recovering.*

## **Birthdays**

### **February**

Aaron Nelson[5], Patsy Bannick[6], Richard Glatfelter[6], Lee Luiso[12], Sylvia Casas[15], Robert Bowman[17], Linda Burge[17], Mark Kosobud[20], Helge Bjorvik[21], Jennifer Burge Reeder[26], George Borvik[28].

### **March**

Kari Watts[2], Robert Charlton[11], Robert Hippert[13], Megan Luiso[15], Larry Bannick[17], Alene Rice[23], Alex Crocker-Lakness[24].

### **April**

Sonja Kinney[1], Katherine Sanders[2], Braden Watts[8], Logan Opals[13], David Johnson[19], Sharon Smythe[22], Donna Kent[25], Robert Price,Sr[26], Walter Varland[27], Laurie Johnson[30].



*Meteorologists and space experts forecast an especially spectacular appearance of the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis), linked to what they call the “strongest solar storm” in more than six years. The Northern Lights could be seen over most of the country where the weather was clear, and are likely to reappear throughout this winter and next.  
From Views and News from Norway.*

### **One liners from Alene Rice**

If you don't pay your exorcist, you can get repossessed.

With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.

Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.

You are stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.

Local Area Network in Australia : The LAN down under.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

When you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.

Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

If you take a laptop computer for a run, you could jog your memory.

Remember to go to:

website: [www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html](http://www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html)

## Officers:

### President

Nina Downs  
513-608-0364  
[ninatdowns@fuse.net](mailto:ninatdowns@fuse.net)

### Vice-President

Carol Luiso  
513-683-3631  
[CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

### Membership

Esther Charlton  
513-923-3798  
[Esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:Esthersofn@aol.com)

### Newsletter

Per Flem  
513-791-8942  
[Perflem@rectomolded.com](mailto:Perflem@rectomolded.com)

### Secretary

Nelda Chandler  
513-742-9504  
[nelda1961@cinci.rr.com](mailto:nelda1961@cinci.rr.com)

### Treasurer

Sandy Nelson  
513-336-9810  
[sneL1234@fuse.net](mailto:sneL1234@fuse.net)

### Publicity

Siri Timo  
614-389-2518  
[Siri@Columbus.rr.com](mailto:Siri@Columbus.rr.com)

### Foundation

Trine Wernes  
513-467-9568  
[twernes@roadrunner.com](mailto:twernes@roadrunner.com)

### Webmaster

Lois Evensen  
513-281-8408  
[Lois@evensens.net](mailto:Lois@evensens.net)

### Tubfrim

Alene Rice  
513-771-4378  
[Clocks@zoomtown.com](mailto:Clocks@zoomtown.com)

### Social Chair

Open

### Cultural Chair

Susie Mikaloff  
937-748-8121  
[G Mikaloff@email.msn.com](mailto:G Mikaloff@email.msn.com)

## KALENDER

February 18th Geneology

March 24th Rosemaling and Woodcarving

April 21st Norwegian Exchange Students

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio

C/O Esther Charlton  
3798 Susanna Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45251