



SONS OF NORWAY

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

February 2016

From the President

Julefest on December 6 was our lodge's way of enjoying our Norwegian culture. We all had a great time with the tradition of Julefest. We especially enjoyed going around the Christmas tree as we sang carols.



The Julefest tradition of dancing around the juletre (christmas tree)

A few people were unable to attend due to illness. We certainly hope Carol Olson and Larry Bannick are recovered from their winter ills. A week after Julefest Jean Crocker-Lakness called to say she had just gotten home from the hospital. She had broken her leg while leaving the Bengals game on November 29. It was not until after two weeks in the hospital, (when she got home) she realized they had missed Julefest.

The bake sale at Julefest was our most successful ever. A huge thanks goes to all our bakers. Equal thanks go to Pam Nelson and the kitchen crew who stepped in when Susie Mikaloff was unable to be at Julefest.



Julefest buffet including Norwegian meatball & potatoes, lefse, the Johnson's Rømmegrøt, and many other trimmings



Julefest bake sale with Teresa Lowen(left) and Sonja Kinney(right)

Our lodge meeting in January was very informative. Tara Kressler, Branch Manager of the Symmes Twp. library, told us about the popularity of the Scandinavian crime fiction genre. She explained some of the themes of the various authors, like Nesbo, Larsen, and others. Then she explained the many services and resources of the library.



Tara Kressler, Manager of Symmes Township Library

For those of you interested in genealogy you can use Ancestry.com at the library for free. This was a truly worthwhile program.

Remember we do not have a lodge meeting in February, so curl up by your fireplace and enjoy a great book. Actually, this winter we have been really lucky with so little snow. I, for one, am very thankful that I do not live on the East Coast. Some of those areas have been digging out for over a week.

Our next lodge meeting will be on March 19 at the IHOP on Colerain. Teresa Lowen will lead us in a discussion of Norwegian sweaters. Remember to wear your sweater to the meeting.

On April 16, we will be back at the Symmes library for the lodge meeting. Details of the program will be in the next newsletter.

If you have an idea for a meeting/program or something special for the lodge, contact Carol Luiso, our social director.

Esther Charlton

Birthdays

February

Sylvia Casas[15], Bob Bowman[17], Linda Burge[17], Mark Kosobud[20], Karl Halvorson[21], James D. Herman[22].

March

Nancy Cooper[2], Bob Charlton[11], Megan Luiso[15], Larry Bannick[17], Ray Olson[26].

April

Sonja Kinney[1], Katherine Sanders[2], Sharon Smythe[22], Walt Varland[27], Laurie Johnson[30].

Membership Service Pins

Annually, we award membership service pins for every five years that you are a member of Sons of Norway. These members listed received their pins at Julefest. If they were not at Julefest, the pin is mailed with this newsletter.

5 Year pins

Alisa Suzanne Jordheim
Sharon Smythe

Edmund Charlton
Jean Crocker-Lakness
Per Flem

Jorgen Jorgensen

15 Year pins

Larry Bannick
Jens Basburg

Kelly Lawson
Konrad Nelson
Pam Nelson

Lodge Newsletter

Bi-Monthly to Quarterly

After some discussion the board decided, because of postage and other costs, to change the newsletter to a quarterly. After this issue the next newsletters will be sent/emailed in April, July and October. After a year we will evaluate the method and decide if it is the best way to stay in contact.

There are a couple of ways you may receive the newsletter besides by mail. Esther can email it directly to you. Just let her know of your wish. Or, you can get it from the lodge website (<http://www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html>) where it is posted online. If you wish to get it from the website, let Esther know not to mail it to you.

Festivals

Spring brings us great weather and many cultural festivals

The last weekend of April (4/30 & 5/1), is the Ashville Viking Festival. Ashville is about 20 miles south of Columbus. Our lodge has a booth among the Viking crafts promoting Sons of Norway and our lodge.



The third weekend of May is the Dayton International Festival. This will be our lodge's eighth year having a booth at the festival. A third of our booth is a cultural display, and the rest is used for selling of Norwegian themed merchandise. This festival is the biggest fundraiser for our lodge.



We have just been made aware of a new festival to be held in Cincinnati. There will be a World Culture Fest at the Cincinnati Museum Center, Saturday, April 23 and Sunday April 24, from 10 to 5 each day. If you would be available to help at the booth on one of those days contact Esther or Nelda.

Having a booth and participating in these festivals is one of the greatest ways we have for promoting Sons of Norway and our lodge.

Reading Circle

Saturday, March 5, 2-3 PM



Optional: Choose a biography or autobiography of a notable Norwegian.

The February, March and April, 2015 Viking magazines feature many famous Norwegians to choose from.

We're interested in any Scandinavian books you've read, so feel welcome to come and join us!

We meet every two months at Panera Bread (across from Tri-County). 405 E. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati 45246.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Carol Luiso CHLuiso@aol.com. or (513) 683-3631.

Norwegian Sweaters

Saturday, March 19, 2016. 4 PM

Do you have a Norwegian sweater? If you do, you'll have an opportunity to wear it to this meeting.

Did you know the knitting technique found in contemporary Norwegian sweaters has been practiced since the ninth century? In the 1800's patterns and colors started to emerge across the country.

Teresa Lowen, will tell us the background on some of the designs and we can all tell about our sweater or sweaters we bring.

We'll meet on Saturday, March 19, 4 PM at the IHOP Restaurant, 9540 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati 45251.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Esther esthersofn@aol.com or (513) 923-3798.

Upcoming Meetings

February: No meeting

March 5: Reading Circle 2-3 PM Panera Bread, E. Kemper Rd., Cincinnati

March 19: Norwegian Sweaters, 4 PM, IHOP Restaurant, Colerain

April: "All about Loki" by Katie Lynn Daniels 2:30PM, Symmes Library.

May 17: Syttende Mai, 6 PM, Pot Luck Dinner, Mikaloff's , Springboro.

Norway Ranks Best Country for Youth



Norway has been ranked as the top place to live for youth under 25 by the global Youthonomics index.

The Youthonomics index combined 59 indicators to rank 64 countries from best to worst based on several political, social and economic factors. The goal of the index is to help the younger generation make informed living decisions based on which nations will provide them with the most opportunity.

Some of the factors that tied into a country's ranking were political and economic aspects such as access to employment, quality and cost of higher education, political and religious freedom, the average age of elected officials and housing affordability, among several other factors. A successful ranking can depend highly on the country's willingness and economic capacity to adapt to a younger population, according to the Washington Post.

The Youthonomics index used data from sources such as the World Bank, UNESCO and OECD to determine top-ranking countries. The index relied heavily on the availability of certain information, so several countries where data wasn't obtainable were excluded from the study.

Scandinavian countries Norway, Sweden and Denmark and other western European nations like Switzerland and the Netherlands ranked highest in the study overall.

Norway's first-place ranking is attributed to several youth-friendly economic factors – one of them being Norway's accommodating job market. Norway and Sweden have an employment collaboration – if there is an open position in Sweden, Norway covers the costs for a Norwegian citizen to take the position abroad. This joint employment effort with Sweden can be extremely appealing to a younger population because of the increased opportunity available.

Low unemployment, higher chances of social mobility and access to higher education are factors that boosted a nation's ranking in the index. And although a country's wealth doesn't guarantee a higher ranking, a nation's economic opportunity does play a large role.

Ole and Lena Humor

Ole and Lena were sitting down to their usual cup of morning coffee listening to the weather report coming over the radio. "There will be 3 to 5 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the odd numbered side of the streets." Ole got up from his coffee and replies "Jeez, OK." Two days later, again they both are sitting down with their cups of morning coffee and the weather forecast is, "There will be 2 to 4 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the even numbered side of the streets." Ole got up from his coffee and replies, "Jeez, OK." Three days later, again they both are sitting down with their cups of coffee and the weather forecast is, "There will be 6 to 8 inches of snow today and a snow emergency has been declared. You must park your cars on the..." and then the power went out and Ole didn't get the rest of the instructions. He says to Lena, "Jeez, what am I going to do now, Lena?" Lena replies, "Aw, Ole, just leave the car in the garage."

Cardamom Bread with Figs



Ingredients:

1 Cup of milk, warmed (approx. 110°)
1 Package dry active yeast (2 ¼ Tsp.)
½ Cup sugar, with additional for sprinkling
3 ½ Cups all-purpose flour
1 Tsp Kosher salt
1 Tsp Ground Cardamom
3 Eggs
6 Tbsp Unsalted butter, at room temperature, cut into chunks
1 ½ Cups quartered dried figs

Step 1

In your electric mixer stir the milk, yeast and the sugar together. Let the mixture stand until foamy, this should take about 10 minutes.

Step 2

In separate bowl combine together the flour, salt and cardamom. Slowly add the flour mixture and 2 of the eggs to the yeast mixture in the mixer bowl.

Step 3

Put the dough hook beater on your mixer and mix on medium-low until the dough takes on a coarse, slightly shaggy texture. Add the remaining butter and mix until the dough is mostly smooth, this should take approximately 10 minutes.

Step 4

Remove the dough from your mixer bowl and place on a floured work surface and flatten it into a rough disk. Add the figs to your dough, sprinkle them over the disk and then gather the dough into a ball.

Knead the dough gently a few times to thoroughly mix in the figs. Gather your dough together into a ball once more and transfer it to a oiled bowl, cover your bowl with plastic wrap and place in a warm area of your kitchen. You are looking for the dough to double in size, this should take about an hour.

Step 5

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Place your dough on a floured work surface and divide it into 3 pieces. Roll each chunk of dough into a rope about 16 inches long. Lay the ropes on the work surface next to each other so that they are touching and braid them together. When you are done braiding tuck the ends underneath. Place your braided dough onto the prepared baking sheet and let rise for about 45 minutes, the dough should look puffy.

Step 6

Just before your dough has finished rising preheat your oven to 350°F.

Step 7

Beat the remaining egg with a little water in a small bowl. Gently brush the dough with the egg wash and sprinkle with sugar. Bake the loaf until it is golden brown, this should take about 35 minutes. Once your bread is done baking transfer it to a wire cooling rack to cool completely before slicing.

More Ole and Lena Humor

Ole, Lena, and Sven were lost in the woods and were becoming desperate, having run out of food several days ago. It was winter, the snow was deep, and their situation was looking very bleak. When Ole dug down into the snow to look for nuts, he found an old lamp and upon rubbing it to get the snow off, a genie came out. The genie says, "I am da great genie of the North and I can grant each of you vun vish." Ole says, "I vish I vas back on my farm." Poof! And Ole was gone. Lena quickly says, "I vish I vas back on da farm with Ole." Poof! and Lena's gone. Sven just sat there in the snow and looked very sad. "Sven, vat is it dat you vish for?" asked the genie. Sven says, "Gee, I'm so lonely, I vish Ole and Lena ver back here wid me."

Officers & Chairpersons

President

Esther Charlton
513/923-3798
Esthersofn@aol.com

Vice President

Nelda Chandler
513/742-9504
nelda4325@gmail.com

Secretary

Teresa Lowen
937/684-0132
lowenteresa@gmail.com

Treasurer

Susan Herman
513/227-8790
susan.herman@yahoo.com

Social Director

Carol Luiso
513/683-3631
Chluiso@aol.com

Cultural Chairperson

Susie Mikaloff
937/748-8121
g_mikaloff@email.msn.com

Newsletter Editor

Karl Halvorson
513/600-8324
karl.halvorson@yahoo.com

Membership

Sharon Smythe
937-438-9641
sharonadayton@gmx.com

Webmaster

Lois A. Evensen
513/281-8408
Lois@Evensens.net

Publicity

Open

Foundation

Trine Wernes
513/467-9568
trinewernes@zoomtown.com

Tubfrim

Open

Sons of Norway Edvard Grieg Lodge
C/O Esther Charlton
3798 Susanna Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45251