



SONS OF NORWAY

# Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

April 2013

## From the President

Are you tired of all the snow? Here I sit on March 25, watching it snow, as it has been doing for hours.

We had not planned a February lodge meeting, but the opportunity presented us with a movie made in Norway. Margay Skogen, Alene Rice's daughter was here visiting from Norway with the movie. The movie, "Into the White," is based on the true story of British and German planes that shot each other down. They crashed near Grotle, Norway, on the family farm of Margay's relatives.

In March we did our "Bring a Thing" for our lodge meeting. We do this meeting every few years. Below is a photo of some of the treasures that people brought to the meeting. A big thanks to Nina Downs for making the arrangements for the meeting.



Our April 20, lodge meeting will be at The Claddagh Irish Pub, in the Deerfield Towne Center. See the note elsewhere in the newsletter.

April and May are busy months for our lodge. We have a booth at the Ashville Viking Festival (4/27 & 4/28) and at the Dayton International Festival (5/17 to 5/19). Then, on May 25, the Scandinavian

Society has invited us to join them for their Norwegian meeting in honor of Syttende Mai.

Hope to see you soon!  
Esther Charlton, President

## Birthdays

### April

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

### May

Taylor Luiso[9], Vicki Petreman[15], Dan Beckman[18], Rachel Jorgensen[22].

### June

Lance Larsen[2], Clare Williams[7], Fred Sanborn[9], SiriTimo[11], Pam Nelson[13], Karl Hoalst[14], David Johnson[19], Foster Opals[23], Joyce Kosobud[23], Dominic Sedler[25], Carol Stone[25], James Lee[27], Carol Luiso[28], Laurie Johnson[30].

Finally, we can now enjoy it all year!



## April Lodge Meeting

April 20 – 4:30 p.m.

Two of our own, Glenn and Sonja Kinney will present a program on their trips to Norway. They have been there twice in recent years, 2008 and again in 2012. Come to the meeting and hear about the highlights of their trips.

The meeting will be at the Claddagh Irish Pub, 5075 Deerfield Blvd, Mason, Ohio 45040. We will order off of the menu.

Please RSVP to Esther Charlton, 513/923-3798 or email [esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:esthersofn@aol.com) by April 17.

## Ashville Viking Festival

April 27 & 28

The last weekend of April (April 27 & 28), is the 10<sup>th</sup> year for this festival. Our lodge has participated in every one of them. There is entertainment and food at this Viking themed outdoor festival. The festival is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Its locale is in the village of Ashville, Ohio, which is about 20 miles south of Columbus. It makes a great family day trip, and is pure fun.

Ed and Nancy Vallette, who chair the festival, are members of our lodge. Some of you might remember the program they gave on the festival for our lodge meeting. They bring in a Viking longship, The “Norseman” for the festival.

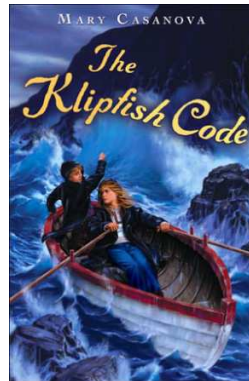
You can contact Esther for more details about the festival or check their website [www.ashvillevikingfest.com](http://www.ashvillevikingfest.com).

## Reading Circle

Saturday, May 4 at 2:30 p.m.

We'll be discussing *The Klipfish Code* by Mary Casanova, a novel based on true events during the occupation of Norway. The story centers around Marit, a twelve year old girl, who takes action to help the resistance.

A book written for young adults, it is a very thought provoking novel enjoyed by all ages.



Several copies of *The Klipfish Code* are available through the Cincinnati Library system.

Everyone is welcome to come and discuss any other Scandinavian books read, also.

We meet at Panera Bread, (across from the Tri-County Mall), 405 East Kemper Rd, Cincinnati 45246.

For additional information, contact Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 or [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

## Syttende Mai

17 May Celebration! Potluck Dinner and Parade



Our annual Syttende Mai celebration will be held on Friday, May 17, at the home of Susie and Glenn Mikaloff 7472 Stone Ridge Dr, Springboro 45066. Join us for a potluck dinner at 5:30 and a children's parade at 7 p.m. Please bring a favorite dish to share.

We will celebrate the signing of Norway's Constitution. A few brave men gathered for a number of days to create the document that was signed so many years ago. It is the second oldest constitution in the world in continuous use. Nothing is as Norwegian as Syttende Mai!

RSVP to Susie Mikaloff, 937.748.8121 [g\\_mikaloff@msn.com](mailto:g_mikaloff@msn.com) or Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

## Dayton International Festival

May 17-19



This fantastic festival takes place on the third weekend of May (17-19). There are booths from over 30 countries, some with food items and all with cultural exhibits. There is continuous entertainment on two stages. For the children we have passports stamped at the booths, after they answer a question related to that country.

Our lodge will have a booth at the festival for our fifth year. This year we are close to the main entrance of the festival. The theme for this year is global recreation

If you have things you could loan us for our cultural display, we would greatly appreciate them. Figures of a skier or hiker would be helpful as would other items related to sports and recreation in Norway.

If you buy your tickets before the festival, they are only \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for youth 6 to 18. Esther and Nelda will have the tickets to sell lodge members. Contact one of them to get your tickets as this is a great event for all ages.

Check the festival website [www.aworldafair.org](http://www.aworldafair.org) for all the details.

We do need some helpers at our booth. If you can help for a couple of hours in our booth contact Esther at 513-923-3798 or [esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:esthersofn@aol.com). When you are a volunteer you get in free and can enjoy the festival before or after your time in the booth.

## In Honor of Syttende Mai

Saturday, May 25

The Scandinavian Society has invited our lodge to join them for their Norwegian meeting in honor of Syttende Mai. The meeting will be at the Manor House restaurant at Mapleknoll at 5 p.m. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Jim Nelson, a Sons of Norway member has moved back to Indianapolis after 19 years in Norway. He will give us some highlights of his years in Norway. And, Harry Khamis and his dance partner will demonstrate Norwegian folk dancing.

If you are interested in this meeting, check our lodge website or the Scandinavian Society website for whom to RSVP. Or, if you have questions about the meeting, contact Esther Charlton.

## A Mighty Fortress is Our Basement September/October



*A Mighty Fortress is Our Basement* will be playing at the La Comedia Dinner Theater in Springboro in September/October. The original *Church Basement Ladies* and *Second Helping* were wonderfully entertaining so play number three is a must-see! These plays are based on the book *Growing Up Lutheran* and will tickle your funny bone and warm your heart.

As the playbill states: This “hilarious installment of the *Church Basement Ladies* has great new songs and more lessons reluctantly learned! The year is 1960 and a reformation is underway. The Church Basement Ladies are once again required to face change head-on. Against the changing tide, they stand strong in their faith and in their friendships”.

The “ladies” are so popular that La Comedia has added Friday matinees for this show. (Buffet is served at 11:15 am and the show is over at approximately 3 pm)

We have reserved 20 tickets for the Friday matinee on October 4. The cost is \$40 per ticket (group rate) which includes the delicious lunch buffet and parking. If you would like to join us or have questions, please contact either Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com) or Sandy Nelson 513.336.9810 [sneL1234@fuse.net](mailto:sneL1234@fuse.net).

## I Remember Mama

by John van Druten

November 8-24

This chronicle of a Norwegian immigrant family in San Francisco around 1910 is charming, funny, and moving in celebrating the Hanson family's struggles against those comedies and tragedies that make up the life of a household. The play inspired the motion picture with Irene Dunn in the title role and a popular television series starring Peggy Wood.

Loveland Stage Company will offer nine performances: November

8,9,10,15,16,17,22,23,24. Please visit the website for directions and contact information at [www.lovelandstagecompany.org](http://www.lovelandstagecompany.org)

Serious actors will audition in September. There are 22 speaking roles and several walk-on parts. Co-directors, Barbara Rugen and spouse, Steve Link, look forward to our group being involved and supporting their intentions to create an authentic staging of this warm comic classic. Help with accuracy in characterization, set design, and décor is important. (They have already engaged a dialect coach.) In any case, you will hear more about this theater event in the months to come.

## The Vikings in Ireland: a Nordic

Legacy by SON Viking E-Post

They came from the North to explore all along the coasts of the North Atlantic. They sailed in longships crafted to withstand the ocean waves and versatile enough to navigate narrow river ways; eager to raid, trade and establish new settlements. Ireland



was just one of the many lands the Vikings encountered and, to coincide with St Patrick's Day, we take a look back in time at Viking interactions with Ireland.

There were two significant eras of Viking expansion that reached Ireland: the first from c. AD 795-850 and the second from AD 914-980. Upon first contact with these visitors from the north, the Irish called them Gaill, 'Foreigners', or Locklannaigh, 'Northerners' and their presence in Ireland had a lasting effect. Even though the Vikings stole from and committed acts of violence on the Irish, they eventually built permanent settlements and brought about positive change for coastal ports through trade and urbanization. This era was well documented in Irish Annals, which were texts written by monks that mark the Norse visitors' yearly feast days, obituaries and attacks on the church. It should be noted that the motive for these attacks were not due to religious reasons, rather the monasteries were the locations where fine metal works and jewels were largely stored.

Towards the end of the first era, the Vikings began to create port settlements and longphorts or protective ship harbors for themselves in Dublin and other areas along the coast. The Irish responded by strengthening their defenses against the Vikings. Within the next 10 years the Vikings were pushed out of Ireland. But it was not over in Ireland because the second Viking Era in Ireland came about 64 years later in 914. This time their settlements would endure and become known as Ireland's Viking towns, which were located primarily on the sea where they served as vital links to the Scandinavian homelands and Western Europe.

Early historical sources note that political, military, economic and personal alliances formed between the Irish and Scandinavians at this time. The Viking longphorts gradually integrated with Irish ways and trade began to develop. Archeologists have found caches of Viking style silver pieces in early Irish settlements near the coast substantiating that trade did in fact occur. The most significant settlement for the Vikings was Dublin, which later served as a key player in the politics surrounding the Irish Sea and the Isle of Man. In fact, a Viking ruler of Dublin provoked rivalries that eventually led to the politics of early medieval Ireland.

Over time a gradual shift towards urbanization and trade was introduced that was unmatched at that time by any other Viking settlement in the North Atlantic region. The presence of the Scandinavians in Ireland from AD 915 and on was significant in the growth and development of Ireland's port cities. And as you celebrate all things Irish on St Patrick's Day, don't forget role that Vikings played in Ireland's history as explorers, groundbreakers, and catalysts for growth.

## Membership

We are looking for new places to post information about our lodge and Sons of Norway. Do you have any ideas of places where we can promote the lodge? Is there a local newspaper in your area where we could submit lodge meeting notices?

When you do recommend a new lodge member, you receive a nice pin from Sons of Norway. Many of our members have joined on the recommendation of their friends or relatives.

If you have any questions on the process of membership, or need a membership application for a friend, contact me.

Thanks, Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary

## Volunteer Coordinator: A Way to Give Back *by SON Viking E-Post*

Are you looking for a rewarding way to be more involved with your lodge and give back to your



community? If so, the newly created Volunteer Coordinator position is just the role for you! This new position is dedicated to discovering new community service projects for the lodge and organizing member participation to continue Sons of Norway's long legacy of civic engagement.

Since the establishment of Sons of Norway well over 100 years ago community engagement has been a cornerstone for the organization. Nearly a decade ago, Sons of Norway created the Adopt A School program, which gave lodges the opportunity and resources to engage youth in schools. Thanks to the program's popularity it soon expanded and became Project Framtid which focused on all youth, regardless of the setting. Since then, volunteerism has steadily increased in popularity for Sons of Norway members. In fact, it is now one of the reasons why people join the organization.

This being so, it only made sense to create a Volunteer Coordinator position to meet the needs of members. While working with children will remain an integral part of Sons of Norway's community outreach, the new coordinator will find new ways for the lodge to participate in larger community projects. In reality, many lodges are already doing this. Sons of Norway members contributes well over 500,000 hours of volunteering in communities each year, and that number will likely continue to rise.

So how can you get involved? It's simple - if your lodge doesn't already have a Volunteer Coordinator consider filling the position. Depending on your lodge, the position can either be elected or appointed. Once you're set, finding volunteer opportunities is a breeze. Check your local paper's calendar listings, contact your local government or partner with larger community groups, like a food shelf or Habitat for Humanity.

If you're still looking for ideas, be sure to check out the monthly Recruitment & Retention Newsletter. Each month it will include a lodge's volunteer success story. To receive the R&R Newsletter, contact Joe Eggers, Membership Coordinator, at [membership@sofn.com](mailto:membership@sofn.com).

## Officers & Chairpersons

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Open

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