



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 2016

From the President

We had a great lodge meeting in March after we skipped February (as usual). Teresa Lowen had done a lot of research and presented us with the history of Norwegian sweaters. Almost everyone had on a sweater, as you can see in the photo. Trine, who said that she had knitted over 1000 sweaters in her life, gave us some extra tips for caring for our sweaters.



Front Row: Sandra Nelson, Nelda Chandler, Trine Wernes, Evelyn Rewerts, Susan Herman. Back Row: Susie Mikaloff, Liv Ramstad, Sharon Smythe, Carol Luiso, Teresa Lowen, Esther Charlton, Brandi Norman

Our next three lodge meetings, April 16, May 17 and June 18 are written up elsewhere in the newsletter. Remember our lodge newsletters are now quarterly. The next newsletter will be sent on the first week of July.

Spring, it's almost here, brings us a plethora of festivals. A new festival for the lodge is the World Culture Festival, at the Museum Center, April 23 & 24. Our next weekend is the annual Ashville Viking Festival. The third weekend of May brings us the Dayton International Festival. The details on all of these festivals are elsewhere in the newsletter. By having a booth at these festivals and selling Norwegian themed items, we give our lodge treasury quite a boost. We are also promoting both Sons of Norway and our lodge, and gaining new members with this type of exposure.

We have two new members that we are delighted to welcome into the lodge. They are Liv Ramstad, and Monica DuShane. Liv has joined us already at several of our lodge events. We look forward to meeting Monica.

Sons of Norway has district conventions and an International convention every two years. This year the district convention is in Marshfield, Wisconsin. Susan Herman and Bob Charlton will be our lodge delegates. They will then give us their report of the convention at a future lodge meeting.

As the district cultural chair, I am in charge of a Folk Art Competition and Exhibit at the convention. If you have something you have made, let me know. I can take your item to the convention for display. If you would like to help with any of our lodge events, please contact me.

Esther Charlton, President

Caring for Your Wool Sweaters Trine Wernes comments on March meeting

That was some meeting yesterday. I learned things I never knew & that was nice. I had wanted to add something after Theresa was done, but didn't get the chance. I think these points might be helpful to some people:

1. Never ever hang a knit sweater, whether it is hand knit or machine made, on a hanger! It will stretch the garment & ruin it.
2. Do not dry clean a sweater. It takes the natural lanolin out of the wool and dries it out. If you have a washing machine with a setting for delicates, wash in cold water and dry it on a flat mesh surface.

If not, hand wash, wring it out the best you can and lay it flat on a towel on a mesh surface. Most hand or machine knit sweaters do not require washing too often.

3. The wool in many sweaters made in Norway is moth proof, and also somewhat water resistant, so if you spill something on it, wipe it off as soon as possible with a towel.

4. When garment is totally dry, press with a damp cloth.

I hope this will help some proud owners of hand or machine made Norwegian sweaters.

Trine

Birthdays

April

Sonja Kinney[1], Katherine Sanders[2], Logan Opals[13], Sharon Smythe[22], Walter Varland[27], Laurie Johnson[30].

May

Rachel Jorgensen[22].

June

Lance Larsen[2], Clare Williams[7], Fred Sanborn[9], Pam Nelson[13], Karl Hoalst[14], Dominic Sedler[25], James Lee[27], Carol Luiso[28].

New Members

Edvard Grieg Lodge welcomes new member, Monica DuShane. Monica's Mother and brothers came from southeastern Norway just before she was born in Minnesota. In 2005 she visited Norway and studied the Norwegian Welfare State at the post-secondary level (college/University). She went north to the Lofoten Island area and raved about its beauty. And the Lofotr Viking Museum in Borg, Norway, was of particular interest due to its recent long house discovery on a farmer's land. She is looking forward to networking with lodge members from the Land of the Midnight Sun.

We also want to introduce new member, Liv Ramstad. Liv was born in the US shortly after her parents and brothers came here from Norway where they lived on the west coast and for a short time in Oslo. Her brother is a charter member of the Kalamazoo lodge and came to southwest Ohio and Liv became aware of our lodge. She attended the Lefse party and was impressed by the warmth of lodge members, but Julefest was particularly meaningful to her when we formed a circle around the tree and held hands - it was very moving for her to renew cultural ties. Welcome, Liv.

Upcoming Meetings

April 16: "All About Loki" Katie Lynn Daniels, speaker 2:30 PM Symmes Library

May 7: Reading Circle 2-3 PM Panera Bread, E. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati

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

June 18: Summer Solstice 3PM, Mikaloff's, Springboro

July: No Meeting-Summer Vacation!

"All About Loki"

Saturday, April 16, 2:30 PM

Join us April 16th to learn about Loki, the Norse trickster god.

Our speaker, Katie Lynn Daniels will talk about Norse mythology and entertain us with her music. Katie is a singer/songwriter hailing from Glasgow, KY. She celebrates her Scottish and Viking ancestry by writing ballads and love songs in traditional folk style.

We'll be meeting at the Symmes Township Library, 11850 Enyart Rd, Loveland, OH 45140. Enyart Road is South of Fields-Ertel off of Montgomery Road.

Please bring an appetizer or dessert. Drinks will be provided.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Carol Luiso 513.683.3631, CHLuiso@aol.com

World Culture Festival

Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 24, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This is a new festival for the Museum Center. They normally had several culture fest events during the year. This year they have decided to combine them into one festival. World Culture Fest is an international celebration of countries and cultures around the globe. They dive deeply into Cincinnati's rich immigrant history through educational booths, musical performances, dancing and much more.

The lodge will have a booth at the festival and if you could help us, do let Nelda or Esther know when you are available.

Ashville Viking Festival

Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. – Sunday, May 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



This is the 13th year for the festival in Ashville, which is about 20 miles south of Columbus. This is an outdoor festival, so it's a great opportunity for a day trip if the weather is good. There will be a variety of entertainment, including music, dance, sword play, and jousting, and many craft demonstrations.

Our lodge participates in the festival with a booth promoting Sons of Norway and our lodge. Here is their website for more information on the festival: <http://www.ashvillevikingfest.com>.

Reading Circle

May 7, 2-3 p.m.

We have two books suggested for our next meeting: One of Us: The Story of Anders Breivik &

the Massacre by Asne Seierstad and/or Doctor Glas by Hjalmar Soderberg.

I was told One of Us is an exceptional non-fiction account that is well written and covers the background and effects of the tragedy as well as the prison system in Norway. The horror of the event is not the main focus of the book.

Doctor Glas is considered to be Swedish novelist Solderberg's masterpiece.

The Cincinnati/Hamilton County Library system has copies of both books.

It was wonderful to have new member Liv Ramstad join us for our discussion in March.

Reading Circle (Book Club) welcomes all members of our lodge.

We meet every two months at Panera Bread, 405 E. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati 45246.

For more information and to RSVP, contact Carol Luiso CHLuiso@aol.com or 513.683.3631

Syttende Mai Celebration

Tuesday, May 17 – 6 p.m.

Gratulerer med Dagen! Join us at Susie and Glenn Mikaloff's to celebrate the signing of Norway's Constitution.

On May 17, 1814, 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, second only to the American Constitution.

Come and celebrate our heritage, socialize and enjoy dinner together.

Please bring a favorite dish for our potluck dinner.

The Mikaloff's address is 7472 Stone Ridge Dr., Springboro, OH 45066

RSVP to Susie Mikaloff

937.748.8121 g_mikaloff@email.msn.com or

Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 CHLuiso@aol.com

A World A'Fair

Friday, May 20, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. - Saturday, May 21, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. - Sunday, May 22. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.



This is a wonderful international festival where over 30 ethnic organizations have cultural exhibits. Many of the booths feature food from their countries. It's delightful and tasty.

The theme of this year's festival is the Marketplace. We will feature the Fish Market at the Bergen harbor. If anyone has any photos or posters of the Bergen fish market, let us know so that we can use them in our cultural display.

The festival is held in the Dayton Convention Center, located at 5th & Main in downtown Dayton. There is a parking garage, with a walkway to the convention center. Your children and grandchildren will greatly enjoy the festival. They get a passport and then go around to all the booths and have it stamped when they answer a question about the culture of that country.

Here is their website for more information on the festival: www.aworldafair.org

Summer Solstice Celebration

Saturday, June 18 - 3 PM

For the 17th year, Susie and Glenn Mikaloff will host our Midsummer Fest Pool Party.

Bring your family for a relaxing time around the pool or playing Kubb. We played Kubb at our picnic last August so if you've never played, we'll have some experienced players to teach you.

Glenn will grill his famous "Bjorn Burgers". Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Drinks will be provided.

RSVP to Susie Mikaloff
927.748.8121 g_mikaloff@email.msn.com or
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Thanks to the Vikings

article by Viking e-post



Seafaring Scandinavians sailed from their homeland on courses that would take them to places like Britain, modern day Russia, Iceland, Greenland and Newfoundland. Throughout their journeys they would be the catalysts for historical and cultural changes that can still be felt today. In fact, a recent History Channel article posted on onhistory.com highlighted six notable lasting contributions made by the Vikings. Lets take a closer look at them.

Language

Perhaps one of the largest lasting influences made by Viking travelers can be found in the English language. As the Vikings settled, traded and raided along the coast of the British Isles, Old Norse mixed with, modified and expanded upon Old English words. In fact, linguists believe that the grammar and syntax of modern English has more in common with current Scandinavian languages than Old English.

Dublin

The first documentation of Ireland's capital city began with Viking raids in the 8th and 9th century and led to the formal establishment of a permanent longphort settlement in A.D. 841. The settlement was named Dubh Linn (Black Pool) after the lake where ancient Vikings secured their boats. The Vikings held sway over Dublin for nearly three centuries until the Battle of Clontarf in 1014.

Combs

Although often portrayed as unkempt, it is believed ancient Vikings valued cleanliness and grooming more than their European counterparts. Among

items commonly recovered in Viking graves were bristled combs of varying width made from antler and bone, as well as tweezers, nail cleaners, razors and ear spoons (for removing earwax). Although various hair grooming implements existed in other cultures, Vikings are often credited with inspiring the simple combs used today.

Ships and Navigation

Equipped with navigational tools like the sun compass, innovative ship building knowledge and the wherewithal to embark on extended sea voyages, the Vikings traveled further than anyone prior, becoming true global citizens. With lightweight and shallow-hulled longships, the Vikings travelled quickly and nimbly in the open sea as well as shallow coastal waters and rivers, giving the seafarers a distinct advantage. The ships were also built with a symmetrical bow and stern, allowing for quick changes in direction.

Skis

Scandinavia has a long and proud skiing history dating back to 6,000 years ago. In fact, the Norse god Ullr and goddess Skaoi were described as being on skis in the sagas. While the oldest known discovery of skis date to Russia in 8,000 B.C. and written references to skiing can be found from China in 206 B.C., it is the Vikings who propagated skiing as recreation and transportation during their travels.

Sagas

The Icelandic sagas provide the best glimpse into Viking culture--aside from archaeological evidence--immediately before and after the year A.D. 1000. Although at one time believed to be factual, most modern historians agree that the sagas contain both valuable insights into Viking life as well as fantastical lore and mythology.

Hurtigruten offers new cultural themes in 2016



The rugged coastal landscape of Norway, and sea that surrounds it, have heavily influenced Norwegian culture, history, art and music. This Spring Norway's home grown coastal ferries will be adding a new cultural dimension to their services by tying them all together

Music

The music of Norway is highlighted through a visit to Troidhaugen, the villa of national treasure Edvard Grieg, along with a piano concert of his works in an illuminated cave. There is also a trip to the Ringve Museum of Musical History in Trondheim, which features musical instruments from around the world. Coastal churches such as Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim, the Arctic Cathedral in Tromsø and the stunning stone Church of Ålesund provide a more formal backdrop for concerts in contrast to a show staged in a fish-oil tank in Vesterålen and opera singers performing in a former mine between Kristiansund and Molde. A recent addition to Norway's music and architecture scene is "Stormen," a grand concert hall in Bodø which opened in 2014. Musicians appreciate its acoustics and designers have praised its architectural and cultural details.

History

Historical topics include coverage of the 17th century witch trials of Vardø and a viewing of the Steilneset Memorial dedicated to the 91 women who were burned as witches. Travelers learn about polar history and exploration, listen to a storyteller while inside of a World War II bomb shelter in Kirkenes, and hear about the background of the Barents Sea region. There is also an excursion to a museum in Alstahaug, dedicated to 18th Century poet Petter Dass.

Art

Fans of art can go to a contemporary gallery called KaviarFactory in Stamsund-Svolvær, and view classic Norwegian art in Tromsø and Lofoten. There is also an art tour in Harstad and a botanical garden tour.

Culture

Lectures onboard cover Syttende Mai traditions as well as an overview of Norway's culture. Storytelling includes legends and myths that stem from the local surroundings. Passengers learn about Norway's fishing and oil industries.

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