



SONS OF NORWAY

# Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

June 2015

## From the President

It is good to have the summer months upon us. We have our traditional Summer Solstice celebration at the Mikaloff's on June 13. This is truly a fun afternoon, and we hope you all can join us.

We do not have a lodge meeting in July, so take time to enjoy the summer.



*A Summer Day - By Norwegian Painter Hans Dahl*

Carol Luiso, our social director, has been hard at work on planning our lodge meetings thru the end of the year. In September, Trine Wernes will talk about Edvard Grieg, our lodge's namesake. October will find us doing something we have not done for a while. We are having a White Elephant Sale. Be thinking of what you can bring for the sale/auction. This will be our meeting in honor of the Sons of Norway Foundation.

We have some ideas for our August 15th lodge meeting, but we are still open for a location and perhaps even an end of summer picnic. Would you like to host the August lodge meeting at your place or some other favorite location? The lodge will help with some of your expenses. We are also looking for locations for lodge meeting locations for early next year. Contact Carol Luiso or Esther and we will work out the details of hosting a lodge meeting.

For those of you who came to the Johnson's in April, it was truly a delight to hear about the details of building their house. Especially fascinating was hearing about how the grand piano got into the loft. We will enjoy going to the Johnson's again in the future.

We want to thank Larry Bannick for helping us set up at the Ashville Viking Festival. Ashville being an outdoor festival really depends on good weather. Usually the best day for people to visit the festival is Saturday, but sad to say this year it rained most of the day. This put a real damper on things.

The Dayton International Festival was a great success for the lodge. Our hot item was the Fuzzy Vikings and we sold 67 of them to help our treasury. This festival is our major fundraiser for the lodge.

The theme of the festival was Architectural Wonders of the World. For our display we had a poster board display of Stave Churches. We will bring the display to the September meeting for you all to see. It was wet! We want to give a big thanks to Carol Olson for things she brought to us from the Hjemkomst Center in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Another huge round of "Thank You's" to those lodge members that helped in our booth. Without them we could not have done so well at the festival: Tim and Connie Holmen, Sharon Smythe, Nelda Chandler, Teresa Lowen, Larry Bannick and Ciera, and Bob Charlton really helped.

These festivals give our lodge marvelous exposure and it is delightful talking to the people that stop by our booth. Next year hope some more of you can join our greeters.

Come to a lodge meeting and enjoy camaraderie with other members.

Esther Charlton

## Syttende Mai

There was the annual Syttende Mai potluck at Susie and Glenn Mikahoff's on May 17, and although it was a bit rainy outside, we had a wonderful time celebrating Norway's Constitution Day indoors. Thank you Susie and Glen for hosting!

## Summer Solstice Celebration

Midsummer Fest Pool Party!

Saturday, June 13 – 3 p.m.

Have you marked your calendars for 3 PM on June 13? This is the Saturday afternoon you can bring your family for a fun afternoon at the Mikaloff's in Springboro.

We have an additional activity this year...Kubb! Kubb has Viking origins and a lawn game enjoyed by many Norwegians. The object is to knock over wooden blocks by throwing wooden batons at them. According to Wikipedia, "Kubb can best be described as a combination of bowling and horseshoes."

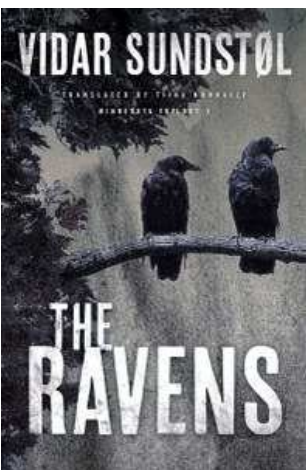
Susie and Glenn have hosted our Midsummer Fest Pool Party for 16 years! Glenn will grill his famous "Bjorn Burgers" and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

RSVP to Susie 937.748.8121

[g\\_mikaloff@email.msn.com](mailto:g_mikaloff@email.msn.com) or Carol 513.683.3631  
[CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

## Reading Circle

July 11, 2:30-4 p.m.



The Reading Circle's choice for our July 11 meeting is *The Ravens*. This is Vidar Sundstøl's final installment of his award winning Minnesota Trilogy. We'll find solutions to the murder of the Norwegian tourist on the shore of Lake Superior and the tangled Hansen family situation.

The Cincinnati/Hamilton County Library system has several copies.

Meeting is from 2:30-4 p.m. at Panera Bread (across from Tri-County) 405 E. Kemper Rd., Cincinnati 45246.

Everyone is welcome!

For more information or to RSVP contact Carol Luiso 513.683.3631 or [CHLuiso@aol.com](mailto:CHLuiso@aol.com)

## New Member

Welcome to new member, Arlene Nelson! Arlene lives near Madison, WI and is 100% Norwegian American.

Her grandparents are from the island of Helgøya, Vik and Hallingdal. She has been fortunate to travel to Norway five times and visit the areas where her grandparents lived.

Arlene and Carol Luiso have been 'friends forever' since they grew up in the same Norwegian community in Wisconsin. When Arlene visited Ohio in April, she attended the meeting at the Johnson's. Hopefully, Arlene will be back soon to attend more of our meetings.

## Birthdays

### 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].

### July

Janice Ohlsen Betscher[7], Tim Holmen[9], Elaine Varland[10], Maria Luiso[13], Roy Solvik[16], Jorgen Jorgensen[17], Gary Morem[26], Charles Romano[29], Tom Varland[29], Kristin Szava[31].

### August

Yvonne Joy[5], Sandra Nelson[12], Austin Scherbarth[13], Diane Flautt[14], Jean Croker-Lakness[15], Arlene Goodison[22], Benjamin Downs[27], Alisa Suzanne Jordheim[29].

## Russ Time

At a couple of our recent events, Peach, a graduating high school senior and one of our Sons of Norway prospective members, came dressed in her russetid overalls. Many of us were curious about this Norwegian tradition, so Solveig and Elisabeth, two of Carol Luiso's Norwegian friends, have supplied us with a little background.

After having finished 13 years of schooling, the Norwegian pupils start a celebration which lasts approximately one month. They are called "russ" and this is their "russetid" (russ time). They are partying and fooling around, doing all kinds of silly things like drinking a lot of alcohol, bathing in fountains, inviting their teachers to the cinema, not going to sleep for some nights, and staying overnight in roundabouts. Some buy second hand cars, painting them red, and driving around having fun. The school authorities try to warn them not to do the dangerous things.



They dress up in red clothes and have red caps. In earlier times the girls used to have red dresses, but now they all have a kind of overalls. This tradition dates back to 1905.

## The Sons of Norway Foundation



### **Celebrating culture. Expanding horizons.**

The Sons of Norway Foundation is a charitable organization dedicated to preserving Norwegian heritage and helping students achieve their educational goals. We offer a variety of scholarships and grants to students who wish to make a positive impact on their community and the world at large.

The Foundation offers many scholarships, some with specific requirements that you can look up on the Sons of Norway web site at [sonsofnorway.com/foundation](http://sonsofnorway.com/foundation).

If you have a son or daughter, or grandchildren who are interested in looking into this, it is well worth the time to look this up. There are deadlines to apply for these scholarships, most of them due between March & May of each year.

The Foundation also offers grants that help not only Lodges around the country, but for members in need as well. Some have a deadline of February 1st or 15th, so look into this if you are interested. Our own Lodge, Edvard Grieg, has benefited from one of these grants.

You can donate to the Sons of Norway Foundation by placing your gift in the piggy at any of our meetings or give your gift to Trine Wernes.

If anyone has any questions regarding any of this, please feel free to contact Trine Wernes at 513-467-9568, or [trinewernes@zoomtown.com](mailto:trinewernes@zoomtown.com).

## Ole & Sven Humor

Ole is the pastor of the local Norwegian Lutheran Church, and Pastor Sven is the minister of the Swedish Covenant Church across the road.

One morning they pounded a sign into the ground, which said:

DA ENDISS NEAR!  
TURN YERSELF AROUND NOW  
BAFOR IT ISS TOO LATE!

As a car speeds past them, the driver leans out his window and yells, "Leave people alone, you Skandahoovian religious nuts!

From the curve, they hear screeching tires and a big splash.

Shaking his head, Rev. Ole says, "Dat's da terd one dis mornin."

"Yaa," Pastor Sven agrees, then asks, "Do ya tink maybe da sign should yust say, 'Bridge out?'"

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### Tubfrim

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