



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

The First Lodge in Ohio
Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway
August 2010

Meeting Schedule

August Lodge Meeting

Our next regular lodge meeting will be Saturday, August 21. It will be at Jerry and Tillie Elvrum's house at 6724 Trillium Ct., Maineville, Oh 45039. It will begin at 4:00 p.m.. Please bring a snack to share. We will have our regular monthly raffle.

The speaker will be Michael Lindner, who is Vice President of the Scandinavian Club of Columbus. He will tell us all about Runestones, when and where they were used.

Please RSVP to Tillie Elvrum at 513/683-5826 or elvrumtj@aol.com.

September Lodge Meeting

On September 18, we will be at the IHOP on Colerain Ave for our lodge meeting. The address is 9540 Colerain Ave., 45251. We will gather at 4:00 p.m. and enjoy dinner. Then Tom Varland one of our own members will give us some of his travel highlights from Norway, Russia and Antarctica.

Please RSVP to Esther Charlton at 513/923-3798 or esthersofn@aol.com.

President's Message

Hello, all! I hope that this letter finds you well and enjoying the summer. And even though we didn't have a lodge meeting in July, your Edvard Grieg Board has been very busy making plans for upcoming meetings, events, and even looking farther out into the future of our Edvard Grieg Lodge.

We have some fun and informative meetings coming up and my family and I look forward to hosting you at our home for the August meeting. We

are very excited to learn all about Norwegian Runes and we hope that you'll bring your family, children, and maybe even invite a friend!! We will be meeting in September at our usual room at the IHop, too.



Tourist season is in full swing, here in Geiranger, in this issue there will be three pictures of Geiranger, all from different perspectives from Webcams in Norway.

I'm very excited to announce a unique and fun opportunity for the children of the Lodge. Last year we held our first Waffles and Raffles Meeting with all the proceeds from the day going to the Sons of Norway Foundation, and we will be holding our 2nd annual Waffles and Raffles Event this year on October 16th. We would like to invite your children to take part in a little Variety Show Program this year as well. This is for all ages...tots to teens. Musicians, dancers, artists, poets, aspiring comedians are all encouraged to participate. Small children could do a poetry reading or tell some knock-knock jokes; older children might want to play a musical piece or maybe bring some artwork

they've done for school. Please contact Carol Luiso for more information or to sign up for the Variety Program.

I also have some very good news to share with you. Every year, Sons of Norway International gives Founders Awards to lodges achieving membership growth. I'm happy to report that Edvard Grieg 5-657 received a \$50 check for the lodge treasury as an award for that growth. Thanks to everyone who recruited new members this year, and also to our Membership Chair Esther Charlton, for all of her hard work throughout the year.

I would encourage you all to attend our upcoming meetings – your Board is working on some very exciting projects and opportunities. Opportunities that will help our lodge to grow and maintain a healthy membership – but we can't do it without your input and support.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and we'll see you in August!

Fraternally, Jerry Elvrum



Geiranger from a little higher. This is the one most viewed.

Membership

We can all pat ourselves on the back. Burt Bittner, our district Vice-President, has sent us a congratulatory email on our increase in membership over the last two years. Of district five's fifty-seven lodges only nine had an increase in membership, and Edvard Grieg was one of them. Our increase of 18% was third in the percent of increases.

Here is a little background on the structure of the Sons of Norway organization. Each year, usually in the April Viking, is published a lodge directory. At

the beginning of the directory are graphs and a map showing which states each district covers. There are eight districts, with district seven covering British Columbia with district eight all of Norway. Our district five is basically the Midwest. Remember, as a member of Sons of Norway, you are always welcome as a guest at any other lodge meeting. If you may be traveling and you notice that there is a lodge meeting where you are visiting, go and enjoy the meeting.

If you have ideas that will help in membership recruitment, please contact me. There are some members at large, and we have some on our prospect list that we hope to encourage to be part of Edvard Grieg lodge.

Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary

Holiday Craft/Boutique Saturday, November 13 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our lodge will participate with a couple of tables in this Holiday Boutique. If you might have some handmade craft items that you would like to donate to this fundraiser, please contact Esther Charlton. The Boutique will be at the Colerain Township Community Center.

Reading Circle

Reading Circle will meet at 2:30 PM, Sept 11, 2010 at Panera Bread, 5095 Deerfield Blvd, Mason. Your choice of a Norwegian-related book for this meeting. Everyone invited. For more information, contact Carol Luiso @ 513.683.3631 or CHLuiso@aol.com

Raffle request

I am looking for items for the meeting raffles. We have only 1 or 2 things left and would love to have items you may not use anymore (gently used are acceptable), or new items purchased for this purpose. They don't need to be large or expensive, in fact lesser expensive items probably work better for the raffles. If they are Norwegian that is great, but not mandatory.

Give me a call or email (I accept snail mail as well) if you have any item you would like to donate. (11409 Geneva Road, Cincinnati, 45240. 742-9504 or nelda1961@cinci.rr.com)

Thanks for your help, see you at the next meeting.
Have a Good Day
Nelda Chandler

Exchange Students ICES has Norwegian teens for placement this coming school year. Contact Kim Shreve, ICES Regional Administrator Office - 513-729-7061. See our website for more information.



Geiranger from Dalsniba, notice the small piles of stones left by Norwegians, a favorite “thing to do”. Those small whit dots in the center are the ships in the fjord.

Facts (and fiction) from Nordic Mythology and Norwegian History

Aksel Sandemose wrote a book in 1933 called “En flyktning krysser sine spor” (A fugitive crosses his tracks). In the book Sandemose formulated the concept of “Janteloven” (The Law of Jante).

Aksel Sandemose was born in Denmark in 1899. His father was Danish and his mother Norwegian. Most of his writings had a theme from his upbringing in Nykøbing in Denmark, but The Law of Jante has been widely attributed to Norwegian culture since Sandemose moved to Norway in 1930, three years before the book was published.

In short The Law of Jante describes in the form of 10 commandments the collective oppression of an individual’s initiatives, ambition and aspirations. Jante is described in the book as a small town where everyone knows everyone else and anonymity is impossible. If a person in such a town harbors any ambitions and try to live up to them it will be noticed. “Janteloven” describes how everyone will do their best to keep any ambition from blossoming.

This collective oppression has been present in all Scandinavian countries for years, but Sandemose was the first to put it in writing. The book “En flyktning krysser sine spor” was Sandemose’s break through as an author, and thus “Janteloven” became a recognizable phenomenon in Scandinavia. Suddenly there was a name to this collective oppression of individual initiative. In particular since the rebuilding after the 2nd World War the fight against the mentality of The Law of Jante has picked up. The law still lives on today, it is hard to rid a nation (or three) of something that is so ingrained in their culture. But since the 1980’s many organizations and individuals have promoted the celebration of individual achievement. This has been an important part in the “Repeal of The Law of Jante”.

As I mentioned above the law consists of 10 commandments, all built over the same theme: “Don’t think that you’re anyone special or that you’re better than us”. These are the 10 rules / commandments:

1. Don't think that you are special.
2. Don't think that you are of the same standing as others.
3. Don't think that you are smarter than others.
4. Don't fancy yourself as being better than others.
5. Don't think that you know more than others.
6. Don't think that you are more important than others.
7. Don't think that you are good at anything.
8. Don't laugh at others.
9. Don't think that any one of us cares about you.
10. Don't think that you can teach others anything.

There is also an eleventh rule described in the book: “Don’t think that there is anything we don’t know about you”.

Anders Marstarnder

Birthdays

August

Sandy Nelson[12], Austin Scherbarth[13], Diane Flautt[14], Jean Crocker-Lakness[15], Helen Hippert[22], Benjamin Downs[27], Melanie Petreman[29].

September

Kjell Evensen[3], Nancey Bridston Hocking[3], Ordell Hill[4], Nancy Vallette[6], Christina Kodobud[10], Charles Reeder[15], Ciera Bannick[16], Glenn Kinney[17], Larry Welin[19], Robert Jorgensen[21], Per Flem[26], Jimmy Bowman[28].

October

Brian Rudie[6], Sally Lund[8], Chris Buselmeier[9], Roby Bowman[12], Curtis Anderson[13], Judy Pieper[15], Bailey Stone[15], Ken Soberg[10], Jens Bassberg[20], Catherine Berberich[20], Nelda Chandler[25].

Remember to go to:

website: www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html

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KALENDER

Saturday August 21, Runestones

Saturday September 18, Tom Varland

Saturday October 16, Variety Show-Waffles