



Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5  
Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio

The First Lodge in Ohio  
Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway  
August 2011

### Meetings:

See website for more details

#### August 27<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting End of Summer Potluck Picnic

Meeting begins at 3:30pm at Dan Beckman's home on Hidden Lake in nearby Lawrenceburg, Indiana. Bring a salad, snack, or desert to share. Contact: Dan at [812-537-1330/danbeckman@yahoo.com](mailto:812-537-1330/danbeckman@yahoo.com), or Esther.

#### September 10<sup>th</sup> Reading Circle

Meeting begins at 2:30pm at the Panera Bread store across from Tri-County. This month's book is "Vikings in the Attic" by Eric Dregni. Contact Esther or Carol Luiso for information.

#### September 17<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting

**My Life in Norway/At the Kon-Tiki Museum,** speaker: Trine Wernes. Meeting will be held at the Colerain IHOP at 4:30pm. RSVP Esther Charlton.

#### October 28<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting

##### Classical Piano Concert

Knut Erik Jensen will perform at 7:00 pm at Ascension Lutheran Church on Pfeiffer Rd. in Montgomery. Light refreshments will be served. Biography for Knut is found on page#2.

### President's Message

Shrimp...Seashells...Wildflowers...Strawberries  
Mountains... Pine Trees...Ice Cream...Fjords...  
Peace...Calm...Safe. All words that come to my mind when I think of Norway.

I am sure that I am not alone when I say that after hearing of the bombing and then shooting in Norway

my first thought was..."In Norway? Really? No way!" Not in the country where you can go into a cafe and leave your baby outside in the stroller. Not in the country where police seldom carry a firearm. Not in the country I love! Shocked and stunned to numbness, I lit my candles (as a symbol for remembrance), and hung my flag outside. With tears in my eyes...and a heavy heart...I miss the land I love.



In honor of those who passed away and were injured on that tragic day, the Sons Of Norway Headquarters has asked us to have a few minutes of silence to remember them at our next meeting.

Nina Downs

### Membership

We welcome Alisa Suzanne Jordheim as a new member of our lodge. Many of you may have heard Alisa sing at our February lodge meeting. In fact, we have CD's available of Alisa singing for her recital. Because of Alisa's interest in Norwegian music the lodge has awarded her a gift of membership to Sons of Norway.

Karl Hoalst has had his membership transferred into our lodge from Norweg 3-466 in New Jersey. We may not meet Karl and his wife for a while as they have 4-month old twins.

As we have had several of our members move to far away places, we need you to help in finding some new people who might be interested in Sons of Norway, and our lodge. If you have any questions on the membership process, contact me.  
Thanks, Esther Charlton - Membership Secretary

Anders and Donna Marstrander  
Løvenskioldsgate 2a  
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## Scholars coming to America



Recently, Anders and Donna Marstrander attended a presentation at the American Women's Club (they are members) where they have been giving out scholarship/awards every 2nd year for almost 50 years now. The recipients are young Norwegians who will attend a year at a US University to further specialize in their field, usually medicine. Presentations were handled by the American Ambassador to Norway, Barry White at his residence..

## From Anders Marstrander:

A couple of years ago we had a meeting at the IHOP where a young Norwegian named Erik was telling us about a story from World War II. A German and a British plane were both shot down and the survivors were forced to spend some time together in a small mountain cabin until later into the spring when they could get out of the area.

I just watched an interview on Norwegian TV (NRK1) where the director of a new film, Petter Næss, was talking about his movie. The movie is called "Comrades at war" and is based on the very same story.



## Pianist Biography October 28<sup>th</sup> Concert

The Norwegian pianist Knut Erik Jensen was born in the small town of Hell the 6th of March 1981, and was raised in Selbu. His musical interest was obvious from the very beginning. Already from he could sit upright, he loved to sit at his mother's electric organ and make sounds. He started studying music in more organized ways in 1988 at the age of 7. His first instrument was the accordion and he was taught in different styles of music. During these first years he self taught in keyboard playing and singing, and was member of several local pop and rock bands. He was noted in his home town very early on for his unique talent and good ears. He was active in the school marching band from the age of 9 and played alto, tenor and baritone saxophones for 7 years.

At the age of 16 he moved to Trondheim to continue his accordion studies with Per Olaf Green at the Heimdal Music Gymnasium. There he also got education in music theory, composition, conducting and music history. His big interest for classical music was born when he heard Griegs concerto in A minor for the first time. Driven by a rush of inspiration, he changed his main instrument to piano after one year and had Tone Mjelva as a teacher. He ended his solo accordion career by winning the Norwegian Championship in 1999. He won another first prize together with the dance orchestra Jhohans and they toured in Norway playing concert almost every weekend. He played the 1st movement of Griegs piano concerto with Trondheim Symphony Orchestra later that year at 2 school concerts in the big concert hall in Olavshallen, Trondheim. The following year (2000) he was accepted at the Music Conservatory in Trondheim on classical piano after playing this instrument for only 2 years.

Here he studied for 4 years with Mona Spigseth Sagstad as his main teacher. He also had lessons with Jørgen Larsen working specifically with the Hungarian composer Franz Liszt. During these years he did a Russian chamber music tour with the legendary Norwegian violin professor Bjarne Fiskum and the cellist Anne Lise Fagerli. Knut Erik was also soloist with the conservatory string orchestra in Klaus Egges 2. piano concerto in 2003 and he became a popular pianist in the professional opera

and vocal society in Trondheim. He also played several solo recitals and worked as a freelance musician, both as a classical pianist and with other projects. He released several CDs with the band Perished, and toured around in Norway with a klezmer-jazz ensemble called Kilombo. He was also used as a studio musician for projects including a triple-CD for children. For a period of 4 years, he conducted, composed and arranged music for two accordion ensembles. This led to several prizes in the Norwegian accordion championships and a CD release. During UKA in Trondheim, the biggest student festival in Norway, he did a unique project with painters and visual artists. While Knut Erik performed Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" in the grand hall of Samfundet, the painters improvised new artwork to the pieces he performed live from the stage. After attending a summer masterclass in Piteå, Sweden, he was invited in 2005 to perform a concert containing music of Mahler, Strauss and Wagner with the dramatic soprano Miryam Danielsson in Munich, Germany.

He got a bachelor degree in the performing art of classical piano in 2005. At his final exam he played amongst others Chopin 4th ballad and Ravels "Gaspard de la Nuit."

Knut Erik's biggest solo project so far has been to bring Norwegian culture and music to foreign countries. The project started with a concert in Yaiza on the Spanish island of Lanzarote and a performance of Edvard Grieg for American guests in Norway. He also performed the Grieg A-minor Concerto on the Norwegian national day with the Kristiansund Symphony Orchestra in 2006. He continued by playing the music of Edvard Grieg and telling about his life and the Norwegian culture in the USA and Canada during the winter and fall of 2007 for instance at the big Norwegian Høstfest in Minot, North Dakota. Here he also performed the Grieg A-minor Concerto with the Minot Symphony Orchestra conducted by Dennis Simons. He also cooperated with the Norwegian Embassy and the Norwegian General Consulates in the USA and performed at the Rice University in Houston, Texas. In 2009, Knut Erik played his "Nordic Elegance" program about 35 times in the USA. He was also invited to the Republic of Moldova to perform the Grieg concerto with the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Moldova.

In 2006, Knut Erik was accepted as a master student of performing piano at the Music Institute in Trondheim. The musical emphasis has been Russian music centered around the composer Alexander

Scriabin. He has done Russian recitals in the Trondheim area and did his master exam in May 2009 performing the Scriabin piano concerto with the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra. Knut Erik is currently in a long-term artist residency at the Banff Centre in Alberta, Canada to improve his skills further and to prepare his new program "From Grieg to Gershwin."

## **Book notes**

Our featured author is Norwegian, Per Patterson who was born in Oslo in 1952. He is a librarian who spent twelve years as a book seller, then a translator and literary critic before becoming a full-time writer.

"Out Stealing Horses" was his first huge success in the United States. It was named one of the 10 best books of 2007 by the New York Times Book Review. It was also a stimulus for the start of our lodge Reading Circle, after Helen Hippert so highly praised it.

Per's books are considered quiet and contemplative as he writes about family relationships. His book "In the Wake" is about losing his parents and two brothers in the Scandinavian Star ferry disaster in 1990.

His most recent book is "I Curse the River of Time". In this book, he draws on tragedies in his own family to explore the thorny relationship between a mother and son. This book was discussed recently at our Reading Circle.

Do come to our next meeting of the lodge Reading Circle. It will on Saturday, September 10 at the Panera, across from the Tri-County Mall .

## **"A Second Helping"**

Would you like to see the play "A Second Helping" at the La Comedia Dinner Theater in Springboro with members of our Edvard Grieg Lodge? "A Second Helping" is the sequel to "Church Basement Ladies", the play many of us attended in May, '10.

We have reserved 20 tickets for the Thursday matinee on Oct 20. The cost is \$38 per ticket (group rate) which includes lunch.

Reservations can be made with Sandra Nelson by calling her at 513.336.9810 or email [snell1234@fuse.net](mailto:snell1234@fuse.net) by Aug 18. Please mail and make check to Sandra Nelson by Sept 8. 7487 Somerset Rd, Mason, OH 45040



## Norwegian Lesson 2: Greetings and Numbers (part 2)

When leaving people	Pronunciation	English
Adjø (formal)	a-djuh	Goodbye
Ha det (informal)	hah deh	Bye
God natt (usually used only when going to bed)	goo natt	Good night
Vi sees	vee se-es	See you (later)

Small Talk	Pronunciation	English
Takk for sist!	takk for sist	Thank you for last time [we were together]
Hyggelig å møte deg!	hee-geh-lee oh muh-teh dai	Nice to see you!
Takk for hjelpen!	takk for yell-pen	Thank you for your help!
Bare hyggelig	bah-reh hee-geh-lee	Don't mention it!

More numbers	Pronunciation	English
elleve	ehll-veh	eleven
tolv	tohll	twelve
tretten	treht-tehn	thirteen
fjorten	fjoor-tehn	fourteen
femten	feh-m-tehn	fifteen
seksten	sais-tehn	sixteen
sytten	suht-tehn	seventeen
atten	aht-tehn	eighteen
nitten	neet-ten	nineteen
tjue	kjew-eh	twenty

### Humor

So, Ole I see you got a sign up that says, "Boat For Sale." But you don't own a boat, Ole. All you got is your old John Deere tractor and your combine. "Yup, and they're boat for sale."

### Foreigners just don't 'get' Norway

Sympathy for Norwegians who have lived through a violent nightmare in recent days has streamed in from around the world, but so has criticism of Norway in foreign media. As Norwegians tried to return to some form of normalcy nearly a week after two terrorist attacks, many were puzzled by the foreign journalists' criticism and felt they'd once again been misunderstood.

Reporters suddenly flown into Oslo, with little if any background on the country and its people, simply had a hard time understanding how the police function here, for example, or how people *think*, and that's led to lots of head-shaking among the locals over reports they sent home. If anything, the experience and misunderstandings of the past week confirm a widespread belief about this small country in the far north:

It's *different* up here. And the difference can lead to the criticism that's often based on how non-Norwegians think it *should* be up here.



### 'Annerledesland'

That means, literally, "the different country," a term bandied about often after Norwegians voted for the second time against joining the European Union in 1994. They wanted to go their own way.

An estimated 200,000 Norwegians gathered for an impromptu "rose memorial" three days after the worst attacks on their country since World War II. PHOTO: Views and News

Norway has for decades been built up as an open, transparent, informal society with strong egalitarian principles and a regulated social welfare system based on what the Norwegians love to call *felleskap* (fellowship). This is a country where the prime minister bicycles to work, where approachable politicians walk freely around town and where the chief executive of the country's biggest bank can be spotted doing his family's grocery shopping, all alone, in short-sleeves.

This is a country where it's not at all unusual to hear its citizens say that they "pay their taxes with joy," because they're keen to spread the wealth and know that they can get a lot back in return, from free university tuition to total coverage of all hospitalization costs.

This is also a country that voted twice against joining the European Union but is an active supporter of the United

Nations, and which celebrates its national day with an utter lack of military display even though it's a member of NATO. Instead of having tanks or soldiers parade on the 17th of May, children fill the streets along with adults in colorful Norwegian costumes.

The police are unarmed, there is no death penalty, the penal system is based on rehabilitation of criminals instead of punishment and the maximum prison term is generally 21 years, with eligibility for parole in about half that time. This often shocks foreigners who view Norway as far too lenient, or even naive.



Most Norwegians seem rather proud of their unarmed police force, no matter what the media thinks. PHOTO: Views and News

That's what's sparking the media criticism in return from Norwegians. They were surprised to hear on a major American network, for example, that "it doesn't seem like you have very good police in Norway," or comments from a South American correspondent for newspapers in Argentina and Colombia that security was "poor." He was surprised there were no metal detectors at the courthouse, and that his bags weren't searched.

Other Norwegians have been amazed, even angered, by the errors made in haste as events were unfolding that weren't corrected later. In the rush to satisfy demanding editors or producers back home, it was easy to jump to conclusions like the widespread suspicion that Islamic terrorists were behind the attacks on Norway's government complex and a Labour Party youth group.

#### **Little criticism within Norway**

Some foreign media portrayed Norway as naive, or downright odd. Why weren't people more angry, full of fight or seeking revenge? That might have been the normal reaction in their home countries, but not in Norway.

Nor has there been much if any local criticism of the police actions, the emergency response or the handling of the crisis by Norwegian politicians within Norway. Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg can claim a 94 percent approval rating of his leadership during the past five days and the police have enjoyed praise as well. Far from being defensive, as some foreign media reported, police officials have questioned the foundation for the criticism and apologized publicly for some technical communications problems and failure to respond more quickly to the first calls of shooting on the island of Utøya. It took nearly an hour for the Oslo special forces to arrive on the island after getting their first call. They then arrested the gunman within two minutes.

Meanwhile, Norwegians were getting back to work. Businesses and stores that briefly closed after the attacks have reopened, the streets have been cleaned and even the sun has re-appeared after five days of heavy rain and gloomy skies. The Norwegians' lack of visible anger or noisy emotion illustrates their customary restraint, which also could be seen on a small post-it note mounted on the shattered glass entrance of a publishing company two blocks from the blast site: "Please use the other door."

Shortened to fit our format, see Views and News from Norway/[Nina Berglund](#) for full article.

## **Birthdays**

### **August**

Yvonne Joy[5], Sandra 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], Ordelle Hill[4], Nancy Vallette[6], Christina Kosobud[10], Charles Reeder[15], Ciera Bannick[16], Glenn Kinney[17], Larry welin[19], Chris Butterworth[20], Rob Jorgensen[21], Judy Stewart[25], Per Flem[26].

### **October**

Clare Vargas[8], Chris Buselmeier[9], Roby Bowman[12], Curtis Anderson[13], Judy Pieper[15], Ken Soberg[19], Jens Basberg[20], Nelda Chandler[25].

Remember to go to:

website: [www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html](http://www.evensens.net/sons/sons.html)

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## KALENDER

August 27<sup>th</sup> End of Summer Picnic

Reading Circle Sept 10<sup>th</sup>

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> Trine Wernes My Life in Norway

October 28<sup>th</sup> Classical Piano Concert

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5  
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