



SONS OF NORWAY

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

| August 2015

From the President

First, let me thank Susie and Glen Mikaloff for hosting our Summer Solstice picnic in June. They are the superb hosts.

As I receive many newsletters from other lodges, a couple of items jumped out to me.

One item that caught my attention is that July 29, is St. Olaf's Day and it coincides with the official Flag Day in Norway. King Olaf ruled Norway from 1015 to 1028. He was the great, great grandson of Harald Fairhair, the first King of Norway. During his reign he was instrumental in spreading Christianity in the predominantly pagan Norwegian interior. His impact was so large that a year after his death, a Bishop named Grimkell formed a cult to celebrate the king. Under the occupation of the Danish forces, this served as a unifier for the Norwegians. The early celebration of King Olaf, coupled with his support for Christianity, led the King to be made a Saint and named the Patron Saint of Norway soon after. Today, St. Olaf continues to be a major influence in Norwegian culture.

Another item on the opposite end of the spectrum was featuring of Norwegian Salmon Burgers. From the descriptions they sounded delicious and yummy. Maybe we should have them at a future lodge meeting.



Hopefully, you have heard that there is a Viking exhibit at the Field Museum in Chicago. The

exhibit titled "We Call Them Vikings" will be in Chicago thru October 4. It was created by the Swedish History Museum in Stockholm to tour museums in Europe and around the world. Chicago is the only scheduled stop in the U.S. If any of you do have the time to see the exhibit, we would love to hear about it in a future newsletter.

We keep brainstorming ideas and ways to recruit new members. If you have some ideas for us to help the lodge with recruitment, do pass them on to one of the board.

The future lodge meetings are planned out thru the rest of the year and the next couple are written up in detail in the newsletter. Hope to see you at the picnic on August 15 and hear about how you spent your summer.

Make a note now on your calendar for our Julefest on December 6.

Esther Charlton

Upcoming Meetings

Mark your calendar and save the dates for these meetings:

Aug. 15: End of Summer Picnic 12 noon at the Pillman's, Milford

Sept 5: Reading Circle 2:30-4 Panera Bread, 405 E. Kemper Rd.

Sept 19: All About Grieg - 4 PM IHOP Restaurant, Colerain

Oct 17: White Elephant Auction & Dinner- 4 PM Mikaloff's, Springboro

Nov 14: Making Lefse, 2 PM Sandra Nelson's Clubhouse, Mason

Dec 6: Julefest 4PM -Augsburg Lutheran Church, 11676 Hamilton Ave, Cincinnati

End of Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 15, 12 Noon

Join us for a picnic lunch at Kim and Mike Pillman's at 12 noon on Sat., August 15.

We'll socialize and play the Viking game Kubb. Kim will have her Norwegian items on display, also.

Hamburgers, hotdogs and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

The Pillman's live at 19 Laurelwood Dr. , Milford 45150. Go east on route 50 from I-275 for about 4 1/2 miles, turn left on Dry Run Road, and then a left on Laurelwood. Follow the signs back to 19 Laurelwood Dr.

Call or email Kim to RSVP:

513.239.6121, kimpillman@gmail.com

Reading Circle

September 5, 2:30-4 PM

Our next meeting will be a "Free Read" when you can choose any Scandinavian book to read and tell us about.

Need an idea for a book? The July Viking magazine has a Summer Reading Guide with many titles to choose from.

Everyone is welcome to join the group!

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

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

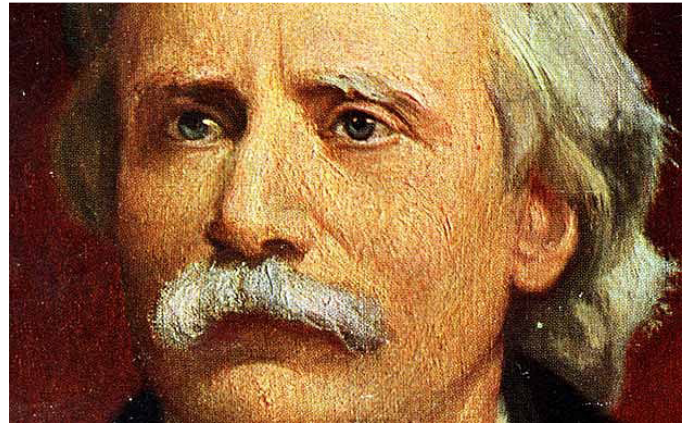
"All About Grieg"

Saturday, September 19, 2015. 4PM

Fifteen years ago, when our lodge began, members voted to have "Edvard Grieg" for our lodge's name.

Come and learn about Norway's greatest composer. Lodge member Trine Wernes will tell us about the life, times and music of Grieg.

This meeting will begin at 4 PM at the IHOP restaurant, 9540 Colerain Ave, Cincinnati 45251.



For more information and to RSVP, contact Esther at 513.923.3798, esthersofn@aol.com

Birthdays

August

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

September

Kjell Evensen[3], Ordelle Hill[4], Nancy Vallette[6], Charles Reeder[15], Ciera Bannick[16], Glenn Kinney[17], Larry Welin[19], Christine Butterworth[20], Per Flem[26], JoAnn Eleanor Krugh[26], James P. Herman[28].

October

Roby Bowman[12], Curtis Anderson[13], Judy Pieper[15], Susan Herman[16], Ken Soberg[19], Bryce Pillman[20], Jens Basburg[20], Nelda Chandler[25].

Cultural Skills Program

The Cultural Skills Program provides a framework for learning about traditional and contemporary Norwegian culture.

Each unit consists of three levels of skill-specific activities to guide you as you learn. You can complete the units on your own, through your lodge or through a special class or group. For each level, you'll complete a few activities, email (or mail)

them in to Sons of Norway Headquarters, get feedback, and earn a pin in recognition of your accomplishments.

Pins are awarded to participants as they progress through the units within the program. For instance, when you complete part 1 of your first unit you'll receive a Cultural Skills pin, a skill bar, and a level 1 bar. You'll receive additional level bars when you complete parts 2 and 3 of that skill, and new skill bars when you complete level 1 of a new skill.

Some of the more popular units are Literature, Rosemaling, Knitting and Genealogy. To learn more about the Cultural Skills program visit the SON website to download a particular unit. Or you may contact our lodge cultural chairman Susie Mikaloff or Esther Charlton for questions on this program.

Ole & Sven Humor

Two Norwegian engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A Swede walks by asks what they were doing. "Ve're supposed to find da height of dis flagpole," said Sven, "but ve don't haff a ladder." The Swede took a wrench from her purse, loosened a couple of bolts, and laid the pole down on the ground. Then she took a tape measure from her pocketbook, took a measurement, announced, "Twenty one feet, six inches," and walked away. Ole shook his head and laughed. "Ain't dat just like a Swede! Ve ask fer da height and they give us da length!"

*From Greg Nelson, San Leandro, California
and A Prairie Home Companion®*

Oslo Introduces Highway For Bees

article by Viking e-post

Norway's capital has built the world's first "freeway for bumblebees" to promote recovery of its struggling apian population. Fast-paced city life and a lack of nectar-rich flowers are posing an increasing threat to bees. The City of Oslo is partnering with environmental organizations, various companies, and private citizens to encourage the planting of bee-friendly plants on their land, as well as installing rooftop and balcony flowerpots on an east-west axis.

City-dwellers may not consider how important bees and other pollinating insects are to their well-being: agriculture relies on them to pollinate plants, and many food sources are threatened as a result. In a situation mirroring the plight of bees in other parts of the world, six of Norway's 35 bee species are near extinction, which some experts say is due to pesticides, pollution and other environmental factors. Nearly one fourth of Europe's bee population is in jeopardy, as reported in 2014 by the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).



This floral freeway guides bees through the urban landscape, providing pollen-feeding stations every 275 yards. Citizens have been encouraged to pitch in and build their own feeding stations, or plant flowers. A Norwegian organization called BiBy (Bee City) came out with an app to highlight areas where bee stations are still needed, and hopes that the public will be motivated to bridge the gaps.

"The idea is to create a route through the city with enough feeding stations for the bumblebees all the way," says Tonje Waaktaar of the Oslo Garden Society. "Enough food will also help the bumblebees withstand man-made environmental stress better." Another solution is to provide bee lodging:

"Some bee species like to live in solitary rooms. They need small hollows like a crack in an old tree trunk. It's very important to have some old wood lying around," according to Agnes Lyche Melvær of BiBy.

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