



SONS OF NORWAY

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

| Sept 2022

Notes from Lodge President

Greetings to all. I hope everyone has had a good summer. I am very much looking forward to cooler weather. As you will see, we have a good slate of Fall meetings and look forward to meeting in person and via Zoom where possible.

I was fortunate to be able to attend this year's International Convention August 31 and September 1 as a delegate, via Zoom. The format didn't work very well for such a large meeting, as discussion and questions from the delegates were limited. Nonetheless it was interesting to learn about the business (insurance) side of Sons of Norway, which has grown considerably over the last several years. The finances are still tight, and there will be some cuts at the level of the international office in Minneapolis, which is unfortunate. We continue to receive support for our Lodge, and now have access to the names of people in our region that have purchased financial products. Esther is reaching out to these folks to let them now about our Lodge. It appears that some reorganization of the zone and/or district organization may be undertaken. International President Ron Stubbing encouraged us to work toward attracting new (and younger) members.

I am sad to announce that Randy Twistol has relocated to South Dakota, where he will be close to his family. It was great to have him as a member of our lodge for the last two years.

Volunteers Needed

We remain in need for a new slate of officers for the next two years. The President (me) and Vice President (Adam Sokol) have reached our term limits and will need to be replaced, and the positions of Secretary and Treasurer are also up for election. Please consider stepping up to take on one

of these positions, as we require the positions to be filled to conduct Lodge business.

Jim Herman

Membership

We have members to introduce to the lodge. Karen and Ed Barth have joined Sons of Norway. They joined at our lunch at IKEA on July 13.

At our last board meeting it was decided to have a Member Care Committee. This committee will contact our members to check on them and see if they need a ride to a meeting. If you could help, on this Care committee contact me for more information.

Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary

Birthdays

September

Kjell Evensen[3], Ordelle Hill[4], David Bratten[9]
Noel Julnes-Dehner[13], Larry Welin[19], Chris Butterworth[20], JoAnn Krugh[26], James P. Herman[28].

October

Judy Pieper[15], Susan Herman[16], Diana Kay Owens[24], Nelda Chandler[25], Bailey Stone[28].

November

Dario Sedler[1], Dianne Clark[5], Harold Shirkey[10], Glen Mikaloff[14], Trine Wernes[15], Michael Luiso[29], Karen Barth[30].

Upcoming calendar events:

September 2022

Lodge Meeting:

Saturday, September 10 at 2:00pm– In-person and Zoom option.

Business meeting, and presentation by Kathy Skinner on “Ohio Gardens”.

Location: Sharonville Library (meeting room), 10980 Thornview Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45241.

Bring a dessert to serve 12-15, and enjoy tasting several desserts with coffee, tea and light beverages!

Friday, September 23 at 1:30pm -- Cooking/Baking Zoom Social

Topic: Celebrating Apples (last Tuesday of the month is Norwegian Apple day) and Fårikål (last Thursday of the month is Norwegian Fårikål day). Share apple recipes you like to make in the Fall (they do not have to be Norwegian recipes). We will also talk about fårikål: do you make it and if so, share your experiences, memories, recipe.

Contact our Social Director if you are interested and would like to join us for this or future cooking/baking meetings.

October 2022

Lodge Meeting:

Saturday, October 8 at 2:00pm – SofN Foundation Fundraiser!

Heart Waffles, Silent Auction & Raffle

Location: Mallards of Mason Community Clubhouse, located at the corner of Cedar Village Drive & Mallard Creek Drive.

4821 Mallard Creek Drive, Mason, OH 45040

(additional information herein from our Foundation Chairs Pam & Konrad Nelson)

November 2022

Lodge Meeting:

Saturday, November 12 at 2:00pm – Regular Lodge Meeting

Location: Laurie & Paul Johnson's, 2765 N. Waynesville Rd, Oregonia, OH 45054-9620

Program: TBA

Bring an appetizer or snack to share. Light beverages will be provided by the lodge.

December 2022

Julefest

Saturday, December 10 at 4:00-7:00pm

Shop Baked Goods & Butikk, enjoy appetizers (4pm), Dinner (5pm), program (5:45pm)

Location: Mason United Methodist Church

6315 S. Mason-Montgomery Rd.

Mason, OH 45040

There are lots of opportunities for volunteering to make Julefest a memorable celebration together and we ask for your help in that endeavor! If you are able to help in some way (day before: unloading boxes/bags of supplies from 2-3 cars, tablecloths and setting tableware, decorations; at event: greeters, help with food prep or serving, music, cleanup, packing up, loading cars) please email or give me a call. I will be doing the same to fill the areas of need.

Susan Herman, Social Director

For questions, Zoom link, or more information on any of these events please contact me:

513-227-8790 or susan.herman3501@gmail.com

Recent events

We had a nice pop-up gathering of 13 at IKEA for lunch in July and we hope to do this again in the future. New lodge members Ed and Karen Barth joined that day.

Our August lunch in the park and afternoon outing at Dayton Carillon Historical Park was a big hit with 19 attending. Everyone enjoyed box lunches from Dorothy Lane Market that were purchased by the lodge. It was a pleasure to have the Russell family of four join us and meet them for the first time. There was time for one game of Kubb before the tour guide arrived and we started on the park tour. The weather turned out to be pretty perfect that day, and members enjoyed their choice of 1 or 2 hours walking the trails, visiting different buildings, listening to historical details and stories from our tour guide Mike. Many said they wish to go back to the park when it is all decorated for the season of Christmas, and we may decide to schedule another lodge meeting there next year. It was a great afternoon! Takk to all who were able to attend. - Susan Herman, Social Director



Attendees of August lunch in the park

Foundation News

Recently, Konrad and I had the opportunity to join a zoom meeting with Darlene Arneson the District 5 Foundation Director and several other foundation chairs from other lodges in District 5. We learned so much and we hope to be better about sharing foundation information with our lodge.

As October approaches, it is time to plan our annual event that raises dollars for the Sons of Norway Foundation. Since the Waffle and Basket event at the Mallards of Mason clubhouse was such a success last year, we have decided to do it again! It will be held Saturday October 8, 2022, at the Mallards of Mason clubhouse.

This means we need members who would be willing to donate their time and talents to provide new items to include in the silent auction and baskets. These can be handmade, baked or purchased. If you would like to help with this, please email me (Pam Nelson) at nelsonkap@cinci.rr.com. The more items we have, the more money we can raise for the foundation. This event last year rose over \$1000! I would love to see that happen again.

It is a perfect event for guests, so feel free to invite friends and family! Who doesn't love Norwegian waffles and the opportunity to win some amazing prizes?

Hope to see everyone there!
Pam and Konrad Nelson

Handicrafts

Veving (Weaving)

Woven fabrics were common in Norway in the Viking Age. Finds from this period show that the vikings had textiles made of wool, linen and silk. Silk was not produced in the Nordic countries but was imported or brought back home from Viking trading expeditions or raids in southern areas. Wool and linen were produced locally.



Weaving was the work of Viking women. They would weave fabric for clothes which could be felted to make them extra warm and water resistant. This type of fabric is called "vadmél", wadmál, and is still produced by wool mills in Norway for outdoor clothing. Vadmél was even sometimes used for sails on the Viking ships. They would also weave what is known as "Åklær". The old Nordic meaning of the word is "sengeteppe", bed blanket. They were used as covers on the beds, sometimes sown onto animal pelts for extra warmth. Another use was as wall hangings, either for ornamentation or for insulation. They could be woven without patterns or with patterns. The patterns would vary from farm to farm and from valley to valley. The technique used to produce the pattern was also depended upon the location where the hanging was woven. Early on they were also hung in churches for ornamentation. Åklær have also been used as shrouds.



Oppstadgognen (Upright Loom)

The loom used to produce the åklær was an upright loom. The oldest loom of this type is called Oppstadoggen. The warp is stretched out vertically and tightened with weaving weights. It is woven from top to bottom. There is a later version of this loom in use today. It has a fabric boom at the bottom and a warp boom at the top. The weaving is done from the bottom up. This type of loom makes it possible to weave longer fabrics.

The flat weave loom was probably introduced in Norway around 1500. It was invented in China around 3000 years ago. Similar looms were not introduced in the West until the Middle Ages and eventually came to Norway. The flat loom weaving became a male profession while the women used the upright loom.

Starting around 1900 åklær were mostly woven for decorative items such as wall hangings, bedspreads table runners and pillow cases. Today they can be found in many Norwegian homes and very often in the mountain cottages loved by Norwegians.

Norwegian Tapestry - Billedvev

Norwegian tapestry has a very long tradition from prehistoric times to present day. Remnants of tapestry have been found at several historic finds. The earliest find is a square found at Enebø which dates back to around 500. Pieces of a pictorial frieze were found in the Oseberg ship from around 800.



The Baldishol Tapestry

The oldest known tapestry, the Baldishol tapestry, was found in the remnants of a church on a farm at Nes in Hedemark in late 19th Century. It is believed to have been woven around 1200. Both the material and workmanship were of very high standard.

Tapestry weaving became well established in Norway in the 17th Century. It blossomed during the baroque and rococo periods and became part of the folk tradition. They often illustrated religious themes. It was primarily young, unmarried women who wove the tapestries. The center for tapestry weaving was in the northern villages of Gudbrandsdalen. The weavers were generally daughters of civil servants who learnt the craft from their mothers.

At the end of the 19th century, there was a renewed interest in Old Norwegian folk culture and the old art of weaving. At first weavers would copy old style and old colors. Later textile artists started to work more independently using stronger colors and motives from Norwegian sagas and poetry. The artists would make "cartoons" for tapestry weavers. Cartoons are working designs or templates for a tapestry and are placed as a guide for the weaver back of the warp.



'Daughters of the Northern Light' tapestry by Gerhard Munthe

Gerhard Munthe and Frida Hansen were well known artists during this period. Munthe created a series of aquarelles illustrating folk tales. These were made into tapestries at the workshop for art weaving at the Nordenfjelds Museum of Industrial Art in the years 1897 to 1901. He considered himself foremost as a painter and could be rather condescending of translating his "real art" into soft wooly hangings. He was awarded a gold medal for his tapestry at the World Exhibit in Paris in 1900 but was disappointed that it was not the paintings he had contributed that won the price.



'Melkeveien' tapestry by Frida Hansen

Frida Hansen created designs that she wove herself. In 1880 she founded the Workshop for National Tapestry Weaving and her own dye house in Oslo. Frida Hansen was very prolific and her tapestries were regarded as among the best in Europe. In 1900 she won a gold medal at the World Exhibition in

Paris. She is considered to be one of the first Norwegian artists to gain international fame.

After World War 2 tapestry weaving had a renaissance in Norway. Many fine tapestries were created in the 1950s and 1960s. Several well-known painters associated with Norsk Billedvev Workshop created the design for a tapestry called Solens Gang, The Way of the Sun, which hangs in the central hall of Stortinget.



'The Way of the Sun' tapestry

Today tapestries are considered to be an art medium, just another vehicle for artists to express their ideas. They may incorporate materials other than wool and may be figurative or contemporary design.

Traditional weaving is time consuming. It is difficult for a weaver to make a living from it considering that it can take five to six hours to produce one meter. There are only about 30 certified weavers in Norway and not all of them are actively weaving. However, many Farm Women Associations and Handicraft Associations give courses in weaving. Many of these hobby weavers sell their textiles at Christmas shows and markets. More needs to be done to support the future of old handicrafts.

Elisabeth P. Sonoff, Cultural Chairperson

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