



SONS OF NORWAY

# Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

October 2013

## From the President

For those of you that were unable to attend the concert by Hillary and Rick Wagner, you really missed something special. Their music, besides being very beautiful, was both historical and educational. We will have some of their CD's available for sale at Julefest.

Back in August, we enjoyed a tour of the Voice of America Museum. The museum is housed in the Bethany Relay Station, which housed six superpower shortwave broadcast transmitters used to counteract the propaganda effort from Hitler's radio network. Also at the museum is a collection of radio and television artifacts from Cincinnati broadcast history. After our visit to the museum we all enjoyed ice cream at Greater's.

Let me introduce you to Erna Solberg. She will be sworn in as the new prime minister of Norway on October 14. She is the leader of the Conservative Party and served 24 years in the Storting, beginning in 1989. Her nickname is "Iron Erna" and she has been known for her pro-American views.



Erna Solberg

We have special events coming up in November and December. You can find the details elsewhere in the newsletter. Mark your calendars now for:

**Saturday, November 16** – "I Remember Mama"

**Sunday, December 8** – Julefest

Yours,  
Esther Charlton, President

## Birthdays

### October

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

### November

Dario Sedler[1], Caroline Schlonig[1], Diane Clark[5], Bruce Southers[7], Ed Vallette[11], Ann Christiansen[12], Glenn Mikaloff[14], Trine Wernes[15], SisselRasdalUnneland[18], Michael Luiso[29], Shelby Sansom[29].

### December

Lois Evensen[5], Susie Mikaloff[7], Esther Charlton[12], Leah Sedler[12], Nicholas Chandler[13], Edmund Charlton[13], Teresa Lowen[15], Carol Olson[16], Olivia Leigh Dillon[17], Kim Pillman[25], Aida Storetvedt[26], Konrad Nelson[29].

# A Visit To Norway IL

By Sandy Nelson



*Reproduction of the Sloop Restauration*

Cleang Peerson, is known by many names including the father of Norwegian immigration, the Norwegian pathfinder, the Norwegian trail blazer, the Norwegian Daniel Boone, and the Peer Gynt of the prairies. In 1821 he was sent by Norwegian Quakers interested in emigrating to America. They provided the funds for him to find them a new home in America and in 1825 they arrived in New York on a type of ship called a sloop. The Norwegians who arrived on this ship came to be known as "sloopers" or "sloop folk" and their ship, the "Restauration," is often referred to as the "Norwegian Mayflower," for it marked the real beginning of Norwegian emigration to America. Dissatisfied with their new location, Cleang Peerson went scouting through Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin searching for a more climate friendly and farming friendly location than the sloop's first location in Kendall, New York. In 1834 Peerson brought a group of the original sloopers to the Fox River Valley of Illinois. Norway, Illinois became a departure point for many Norwegians who settled other parts of the Midwest and became known as the "mother settlement." A monument, dedicated in 1934, honors the community and its founder, Cleang Peerson (1783-1865).



*Norway Store, Norway IL*

A stop at the Norway Store is a step back in time! I stopped in a few years back on my way to Wisconsin because I was curious about the name. Little did I know the significance of this little unincorporated village. The owner of the store approached me as I was obviously not one of his usual customers. He is quite a character and his stories added to the delight of that store. Barrels of lutefisk were lined up. A delivery of fresh fish (in their original state) arrived to their "fish" room to be deboned and cut to the liking of their customers and for their many freezers full of everything you can think of. It is also an old-fashioned meat market, post office, gas station and more; a true general store. They also serve food.



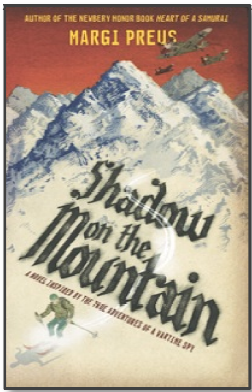
*Norway Museum, Norway IL*

The **Norsk Museum** in Norway, Illinois, is full of items donated by local families in honor of their ancestors. Once an old Norwegian Lutheran Church, the museum building was purchased by the Sons of Norway Cleang Peerson Lodge in 1977 and is located behind the Norway Store.

There is so much history to that store and the museum and well worth a stop next time you head to points north! Not far from I-39 & I-80 on IL 71. You will want to check out their Facebook page to get the latest. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Norway-Store/473597610175>

## Reading Circle

November 2 – 2:30 to 4 p.m.



The book selection for our Nov 2 meeting is *Shadow on the Mountain* by Margi Preus. This thrilling novel from Newberry Honor winner, Preus, recounts the adventures of a Norwegian boy during World War II living in Lillehammer.

During five years under the Nazi regime, Espen is a spy for the Norwegian resistance movement. The story is based on Erling Storrusten, whom the author interviewed for the book. Included in the book are archival photographs and maps.

Many copies of this book are available through the Cincinnati/Hamilton County Library system.

Everyone is welcome to join us from 2:30-4 pm, on Sat., Nov 2. We meet at Panera Bread (across from the Tri-County Mall), 405 East Kemper Rd. Cincinnati 45246.

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

## I Remember Mama

November 16 – 7 p.m.



For our November lodge event, we will go as a group to see “I Remember Mama” at the Loveland Stage Company. The play is at 7 p.m.

For those that might not be familiar with the story, it is about a Norwegian immigrant family bringing up the children in San Francisco in the early years of the 20th Century. Mama, a sweet and capable manager, sees her children through childhood, manages to educate them and sees one of her daughters begin her career as a writer.

The tickets are \$15.00. If you would like to attend the play send a check to Esther Charlton by October 18. Make out the check to Esther Charlton. If you have any questions, contact Esther at 513/923-3798 or [esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:esthersofn@aol.com)

## Julefest

December 8 – 4 p.m.



Our annual Julefest this year will be on Sunday December 8. There were some scheduling conflicts, so this year we will try it on a Sunday. It will begin at 4 p.m.

The lodge will provide the meatballs and lefse. You all will need to bring the other food items: appetizers, salads, vegetables, potatoes and desserts. Please RSVP with what you plan to bring by December 4, to Esther.

The Julefest will be at Augsburg Lutheran Church, 11676 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45240. This is exit 33 off of I-275. The church is about a half mile north of I-275 on the east side of the road.

The cost of Julefest will be \$5.00 for ages 12 thru adults, children 6 – 11 will be \$3.00 and five and under are free.

Our NorskButikk will be open for your Christmas shopping. We will accept donations for our Butikk if you have any extra Norwegian items that you would like to contribute, bring them to Julefest.

RSVP to Esther Charlton, [esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:esthersofn@aol.com) or 513/923-3798

## Officers & Chairpersons

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Open

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