



SONS OF NORWAY

# Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

April 2017

## From the President

Greetings to all of you! I hope this finds you well and enjoying the Spring colors, sights and sounds.

Here is a recap of recent meetings, with thanks to those who presented, helped or attended!

At our January 14 meeting, Jim and I gave a presentation about our first trip to Norway. It was in August with our daughter, son-in-law and son, and since we had no clue if or when we would have another trip like this as a family, we planned several locations to visit. Our hope was to find the farmhouse where Jim's Mom grew up, as well as the family church. Just about three days before we left the US, we got news that we would have the chance to meet living cousins on his Mom's side of the family. It was exciting beyond what we could imagine to actually be meeting relatives in Norway. We are so grateful to the geneology work that Inger J.K. did for us and for contacting living relatives, the church, the farm, and to Einar and Sissel of Hamar Lodge who graciously opened up their meeting space for all of us to have coffee and cakes. Those two days in Hamar will remain a memory of our lifetimes!

After the presentation, we had installation of new officers who will serve for the next two years.



*Officers Pictured: Susan Herman, Nelda Chandler, Sharon Smythe, Liv Ramstad, Esther Charlton, Susie Mikaloff, Lyndsey Heatherton, and Karl Halvorson*

February we do not schedule a meeting due to the fact we typically get snow or ice storms. (Mother Nature seemed to choose March this year instead.) We did have a couple members attend a Lutefisk and Meatball dinner in Indiana on February 11, put on by the Circle City Lodge. We also offered the date of February 28, for anyone interested in meeting at the Museum Center, to meet and view the exhibit "Vikings: Beyond the Legend." It was a nice day to be inside as it was a very stormy one outside and I really enjoyed the exhibit.



*Peach waiting for the train in Norway*

On March 18 Peach Norman Owen presented and I heard that it was a wonderful and fun program full of tidbits, stories, pictures and videos (one of her host family dancing and singing around the Christmas tree) from her year living and working in Norway. Jim and I were flying to Germany that day, so I asked Sandy Nelson to help me with some highlights: Peach lived with a host family in the city of Klepp, Klepp District, Rogaland which is located on the coast south of Stavanger. She took a train to work each day and it was seldom on time! Interestingly, during Norway's election season, politicians would have free food available to woo voters and there were many of these near the train stations. Good having free food when trains are late! Peach's job was a position with the Scouts, so she was able to lead many activities, did a lot of outdoor things, climbed Preikestolen (famous Pulpit

Rock) and camped there overnight. She learned two different dialects and had lots of help learning Norwegian (especially a 4-year old cousin of her host family who helped her pronounce things correctly). Peach invited several of her friends and their parents to attend this meeting, and those of us who were not able to attend really missed a special afternoon. Thank you Peach!



*Peach sailing in Norway*

I would like to catch you up on some Lodge items as discussed at our January and March Board Meetings. At our Julefest on December 4, we had 39 in attendance. The Bake sale brought in \$389 and the Buttik sale \$467. Attendance for Julefest was up a wee bit from 2015 and the amount taken in from Bake and Buttik sales was great increased from the past few years! In November our lodge gave \$350 to the Sons of Norway Foundation Scholarship and General Fund. Lodge membership in December was 75. We have 3 new members in 2017 (see info elsewhere in newsletter).

I hope that you will be able to attend our next lodge meeting on April 22 (details elsewhere in newsletter) and I look forward to seeing you there!  
Tusen takk fra

Susan Herman

## Upcoming Meetings

**April 22:** The Norwegian Viking Ship by Kristiane Straetkvern, 3p.m., Friendship United Methodist Church

**May 17:** Syttende Mai Celebration, 6 p.m., Susie and Glenn Mikaloff's.

**June:** Summer Solstice potluck party at Mikaloff's. Date and time TBD.

## Birthdays

### April

Sonja Kinney[1], Katherine Sanders[2], Logan Opals[13], Sharon Smythe[22], Walter Varland[27], Laurie Johnson[30].

### May

Liv Ramstad[15], David Bruestle[22].

### June

Lance Larsen[2], Clare Williams[7], Pamela Nelson[13], Karl Blaine Hoalst[14], Dominic Sedler[25], James Lee[27], Carol Luiso[28].

## New Members of Edvard Grieg Lodge

We have three new members since our January newsletter: Richard Vinnece, Katherine Herman and David Bruestle.

Richard Vinnece writes "I recently learned about The Sons of Norway from a relative and simply explored the possibilities. My interest started with my father's parents, my grandparents, who were both from Norway. My grandfather is from Vinnes while my grandmother is from Haugesund. Both of their homes still are family owed. In 1910, my grandparents settled in Iowa. My interest are varied as in bicycling, golf, travel, our family cottage in N. Michigan, gardening, my motorcycle, reading, sports, enjoying family and friends.

Katherine Herman is the daughter of members Jim and Susan Herman and is married to David Bruestle. They live in Rochester, NY where Katie is completing her PhD in Immunology and will return to her MD program in July. David currently is on a one-year appointment as Principal Trombone with the RPO. He received his DMA in Trombone at Eastman School of Music and was hired by the Virginia Symphony Orchestra in 2015. In his spare time, David enjoys biking, hiking, and also works part time at a bike shop in Pittsford, NY. Katie enjoys baking, gardening, singing and continuing to play her horn as time permits.

We welcome these new members to Edvard Grieg Lodge!

## **The Norwegian Viking Ship**

**Saturday, April 22 –3 p.m.**

Kristiane Straetkvern, Conservator of The National Museum of Denmark, will present a program. She will talk about the Norwegian Viking Ship that ended up in Roskilde in Denmark. If you have been to the Viking exhibit at the Museum Center, this is the very long ship about which she will talk about. Tell your friends as all are invited.

This will be at Friendship United Methodist Church, 1025 Springfield Pike, Wyoming, OH 45215

For more information or to help with the meeting, contact Esther Charlton, [esthersofn@aol.com](mailto:esthersofn@aol.com) or phone 513/923-3798

## **Ashville Viking Festival**

**Saturday, April 29 – 10a.m. to 7 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 30 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

This is the 14th year for the festival in Ashville, which is about 20 miles south of Columbus. This is an outdoor festival, so it's a great opportunity for a day trip if the weather is good. There will be a variety of entertainment, including music, dance, sword play, and jousting.

Our lodge participates in the festival with a booth promoting Sons of Norway and our lodge. Here is their website for more information on the festival: <http://www.ashvillevikingfest.com>.

## **Syttende Mai Celebration**

**Wednesday, May 17 – 6 p.m.**

Join us at Susie and Glenn Mikaloff's to celebrate the signing of Norway's Constitution.

Come and celebrate our heritage, socialize and enjoy dinner together. Please bring a favorite dish for our potluck dinner.

The Mikaloff's address is 7472 Stone Ridge Dr. Springboro, Ohio 45066

RSVP to:

Susie Mikaloff 937-748-8121 [g\\_mikaloff@msn.com](mailto:g_mikaloff@msn.com)

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

## **Dayton International Festival**



**Friday, May 19, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.**

**Saturday, May 20, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.**

**Sunday, May 21, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

This is a wonderful international festival at which over 30 ethnic organizations have cultural exhibits. Many of the booths feature food from their countries

The festival is held in the Dayton Convention Center, which is at 5th and Main in downtown Dayton. There is a parking garage with a walkway to the convention center. Your children and grandchildren will greatly enjoy the festival. They get a passport and then go around to all the booths and have it stamped when they answer a question about the culture of that country.

The lodge will have advance festival tickets for sale at a reduced price of \$5.00. The ticket price is higher if you get them at the festival. Contact Esther or Nelda for tickets. We do need help at our booth for the festival. If you can help us during the festival, please contact Esther to discuss what times you are available.

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## **Sons of Norway Foundation**

The Sons of Norway Foundation began in 1966. It serves communities through the funding of educational goals, scholarships, grants, and humanitarian aid to our members and natural disasters. Another way the Foundation serves its members is with cross cultural exchanges.

This is important to showcase our Norwegian heritage other audiences and communities.

The Foundation expands the horizons and opportunities of its members.

## Officers & Chairpersons

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