



SONS OF NORWAY

Edvard Grieg Lodge 657 District 5

Cincinnati-Dayton, Ohio & Kentucky

- First Lodge in Ohio -

Sons, Daughters and Friends of Norway Newsletter

May 2023

Greetings from the Lodge President

Hei alle,

This has been a continuing roller coaster in the office of the President of the lodge. At times I am rolling downhill with my hands raised up in celebration and happiness and at other times I am clutching the handlebars with fear.

This has been a busy time; we had a nice turn out for the film "Lutefisk Wars". Thanks to Jim for ordering and arranging for the showing. Good dry Norwegian humor. In April a nice gathering of folks that brought their talents to share, who knew we had so many talented people that were willing to share the gifts with others. Events like this provide time for getting to know each other and just have a good time; we had a visitor at our meeting, she had seen one of the flyers that Kathy Skinner has been working on. She expressed an interest to join. Not sure if this is the first time that has happened when someone has walked in the door but what a nice surprise. This month we will celebrate Settende Mai. Details will be on the way.

Make sure you read Esther's article on the gift of adding several new members. They come to us from the Akron area. We will expand our zoom capabilities. I am seeing the power of the media to reach out to folks.

Jim suggested that we explore a bus trip to Vesterheim, in Decorah, Iowa. It is a great Norwegian museum with many artifacts that have been donated. I have contacted a tour company and they will propose a trip and projected cost. This may be something that will bring us together, we could invited members of the Scandinavian Society and advertise this is churches in the area. I am

clutching my hands on this one. Let someone one on the board know your thoughts or send an email.

The lodge is still looking for a Social committee chair. Also Lois Evenson is going to resign from the being the webmaster, she has done this for 20 years. We will need to find someone that can develop and maintain a new address and information. One suggestion is that we pay someone to develop the site and then have one of our able members take over the maintenance. Let a board member know if this is something you can do or would be able to maintain once it is complete.

Larry Austin Bannick

Membership

We have a new family that has joined our lodge. The family includes Alex and Sarah Bakkum along with their children Maxwell and Natalie. Hope to find out more about the Bakkum's soon. I do know that Alex's mother is a member of the Sons of Norway lodge in Fargo, North Dakota.

Welcome Transfers

We welcome to our lodge, these members from the Arctic Circle lodge which has now disbanded:

Rolf Bergman (Cleveland Hts), Donald Brott (Akron), Richard Distad (Cleveland), Kenneth Leque (Massillon), Tony Torgersen (Uniontown), and Karen Warden (Chesterland).

We will be doing some zoom meetings, so hope these people from the North can join us on zoom.

Birthdays

May

Nathaniel Powers[1], Nikki Powers[14], Liv Ramstad[15], Randall Twistol[19], David Bruestle[22].

June

Lance Larsen[2], Shane Russell[4], Clare Williams[7], Pam Nelson[13], Karl Hoalst[14], Theodore Powers[19], Gail McGinn[22], Dominic Sedler[25], Carol Stone[25], Carol Luiso[28], Marilyn Lau[30].

July

Sorem Russell[5], Janis Ohlsen Betscher[7], Angel Shirkey[8], Tim Holmen[9], Benjamin Powers[11], Maria Luiso[13], Roy Solvik[16], Jorgen Jorgensen[17], Anna Reeder[28], Amy Rone[28], Tom Varland[29], Kristin Szava[31].

Recent events:

On April 15, the meeting program was about Woodcarving and crafts and their histories



Elisabeth Sonoff: a billy goat and horse



Elisabeth Sonoff: Mirror with shelf



Elisabeth Sonoff: hutch

The three above pictures from Elisabeth Sonoff, are all hand carved in Norway and brought to the US. "The first picture is of a billy goat and horse carved by somebody my parents knew, probably in the

seventies. The mirror with shelf and the hutch was carved for my parents by a friend of the family that my mother helped with food during the war. The hutch was made for my parent's cottage that was finished in 1946."



Members at the April 15 meeting with more Norwegian wood carvings.

Upcoming calendar event:

Saturday, May 13 at 3:00pm –Syttende mai Celebration

Location: Karen & Ed Barth's home
6904 Stonington Road, Cincinnati, OH 45230
Park on the driveway, or street parking on the opposite side of the house.

For those out of town or state, the Zoom will start around 3:10p. We will have brief introductions and greetings, share in the Norwegian anthem, and follow with a short program and any lodge business items. For those attending in person, dinner will begin after the Zoom meeting, around 3:45p.

Main items on the menu are polse & lompe (hotdogs & buns), Norwegian meatballs, kransekake, ice cream. Lodge members, please bring an appetizer, salad, or side dishes.

Remember to invite family or friends to this celebration of Norway's Constitution Day!
RSVP with your number count by May 11th to Karen, either by text/call 513-309-1582 or email kabarth61@gmail.com.

Questions? Contact Susan Herman, 513-227-8790 (text or call) or susan.herman3501@gmail.com.

Volunteer signup for May 13th (17.mai Celebration) at the Barth's home:

Arrive ~2:40p to put up Norwegian yard flags in the grass. Also help take down after event.
(1 person needed)

Arrive 2:45p to greet members and guests as they arrive and help with nametags.
(1-2 people)

Help members with food items (carry from car or entryway and place at food station).
(1-2 people)

Help with cleanup and pack any unused paper products into lodge boxes.
(1-2 people)

Share 3-4minutes of Nordic News.

Lead the 'Hipp hipp hurrah!' during the Zoom meeting.

Take charge of getting the polse (hotdogs) heated (boiling 2-3min) pre-dinner.

A World A'Fair:



A World A'Fair, the Dayton International Festival is back after a three year hiatus. It will be held at the Greene County Expo in Xenia May 5 - 7. Our lodge has a booth at the festival. There are over 30 countries with exhibits and foods from their countries.

We still need some help at our booth on Saturday afternoon and evening. If you need more info on the festival contact Esther at 513-923-3798 or esthersofn@aol.com

Future events

Friday, June 2 at 1:30pm (EDST)

Cooking/Baking Social Zoom:

Topics & recipes to share: cold dishes for hot days; fish/seafood; milk; Sankthansaften (Midsummer or St. John's Eve)

For more information or the Zoom link please contact:

susan.herman3501@gmail.com or call/text 513-227-8790.

June 17 – Summer Solstice

Our annual Summer Solstice pool party and potluck will start at 3:30.

At Susie & Glenn Mikaloff's
7472 Stone Ridge Dr. Springboro, OH 45066

Bjorn burgers provided! Please bring a dish to pass. RSVP by June 15 to Susie: text 937-689-8693 or email: g_mikaloff@msn.com

May 20 – Saturday

The Scandinavian Society will celebrate Syttende Mai in the auditorium at Maple Knoll Village.

Doors will open at 3:30 with the program to begin at 4 p.m.

One of our own Ed Barth will be presenting an interesting program.

This will be a potluck so when you rsvp, also let us know what you will bring.

The cost will be \$10.00. RSVP to Esther Charlton at esthersofn@aol.com

Masse Moro Heritage Camp in WI:

Do you have children or grandchildren who are at least age 9 and under 16 years old on July 16, 2023? Hurry and check out information on the District 5 website here, as initial deadline was April 15 but they have some camper spots available:

https://sonsofnorway5.com/programs/masse_moro_heritage_camp.php

Foundation:

Heard of a 'Happy Bucks' jar? There will be one at our May, June, August, and September meetings. If something good or happy has happened recently in your life or for someone you know, or perhaps something you are grateful for, share it with the lodge and put a donation in the jar for the Foundation! Our October meeting will round out Foundation month for 2023. Tusen takk in advance.

Rosemaling

Rosemaling is a decorative and ornamental style of painting on items like furniture, interiors and wooden household items starting around 1740. It was developed when the Baroque and Rococo artistic styles of the upper class were introduced to rural cultures in areas such as Hallingdal and Telemark and Vest-Agder.

Rosemaling can be translated into "rose painting." However, because "rose" in some Norwegian dialects means "to decorate", the art form may also be called "decorative painting."

In the beginning it was mostly chests and beer bowls that were decorated with rosemaling. However, early on it was also used to decorate whole rooms. Walls and ceilings as well as hutches, beds, door and door frames were decorated with rosemaling. At this time fireplaces and iron stoves connected to chimneys had replaced the use of open fire in houses. The smoke from the open fires would have covered all surfaces with soot, and any decorations on the surfaces would have been destroyed when the soot was washed down.

Rosemaling uses stylized ornamentations such as fantasy flowers, scrollwork, fine line ornamentation and sometimes geometric elements. The designs use "C" and "S" brushstrokes that feature scroll and flower lines. The inspiration for these strokes may have been the acanthus wood carvings used in rural churches. Both vibrant and subtle colors are used. Sometimes lettering, animal and human figures and scenes may be included. The traditional paint colors were derived from local raw materials such as iron oxide that yielded rust red. The brushes were made from hair from squirrel's tail or from cow's ear.

The rosemaling artists often came from the poorer classes in the country side. They were often itinerant workers and would travel from county to county to paint in churches or in private homes. Sometimes they were paid with money or they might do the work just for room and board. Although rosemaling started in the south-eastern part of Norway these artist traveled across the mountains to the western part of the country where they were far removed from painters' guilds and could try new ideas and motifs. Strong regional styles developed, each style is named after the region where it developed.

The Telemark style is the most popular. The motifs are not symmetrical. It shows flowers and leaves on a foundation of scrolls. The flowers do not resemble flowers in nature. The colors are often translucent.



Telemark Style

The Hallingdal style features a central flower enclosed by scrolls. This style was often used to paint walls and ceilings. The background color is often red, dark green, or grey-blue.

The Rogaland style is dominated by flowers and less by scroll work. The flowers are often tulips and roses. The background is dark and the flowers are painted with heavier strokes.



Hallingdal Style



Rogaland Style

The Os style comes from Hordaland. There are fewer flowers and leaves painted in this style but more geometric designs. Background is often red, black, or white. The designs can be translucent and the colors clear.

The Valdres style shows flowers true to nature, often in a bouquet or vase. The leaves are often in an S-curve. The Background is often blue and plates and bowls painted in this style often have text painted upside -down around the edge.

The Gudbrandsdal style is often based upon the motives used in wood carvings. The Acanthus motif is central to this style and scrolls are frequently part of the design. Figures are often included. The colors are most often soft green and ocher and with heavy shadowing.



for those interested in learning more advanced techniques.

Norwegian immigrants brought the art of rosemaling with them to the United States. Many immigrants came from areas where rosemaling was well established. They brought along beautifully decorated chests and other items. Rosemaling in this country became a way for immigrants to hold onto their heritage. Today there are rosemaling clubs and rosemaling classes regularly meeting throughout the United States.

Elisabeth P. Sonoff, Cultural Chairperson

Gudbrandsdal Style

There are three more recognized styles. The Vest-Agder style features oval, symmetric flowers, usually light colors on a dark background. The Romsdal style shows flowers in urns, animals and some scroll work. The Viksdal style is known for meticulous S and braided spiral designs.

Rosemaling went out of style around 1860 -1870. The decline has been attributed to the Industrial Revolution. However, it never really died out. In 1891 Norges Husflidsforening (Norwegian Association for Home Art and Craft) was formed. They sought to identify crafts that were uniquely Norwegian, one of which was rosemaling. Today rosemaling painted items which are painted by local craftsmen can be bought in Husfliden's many locations and also in museum stores. Bowls, plates, jewelry boxes and a multitude of furniture items may be offered for sale.

Courses in rosemaling are also offered all over Norway. There are courses for beginners as well as

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