



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 2023

Greetings from the Lodge President

Hei alle,

Everyone I talked to this past week wondered where summer disappeared. My hope is that through all the heat everyone is well and ready for the fall activities. Three great activities are planned for the remainder of the year.

Just so everyone knows the plan for lodge meetings is the 2nd Saturday of the month, the board meetings are on the 1st Saturday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

I cancelled the Fort Ancient outing for September, too many things to overcome. We will try again next year as this is a hidden gem in Ohio.

We are always looking for others to step up and take on some of the responsibilities. If anyone has questions or an interest please talk to one of the board members. We are still looking for a social director but we do have plans to keep the lodge moving in the right direction.

What is it that drives people like us to want to know more about our ancestry? I recently met a man who is from Minot ND, his grandparents came from Norway, he has been to Hostfest, relations still live in that part of ND. I am encouraging him to join up with us. He has a closer connection to Norway than many of us. What about the rest of us, what is it that compels us to join a fraternal organization that keeps our heritage alive? We have wonderful programs that are not attended by the majority of our members, but I know there still is great interest. This newsletter provides information that reaches out to every member and is calling all to participate and to come and see and meet folks just like you.

Hear their stories and see how they compare with yours.

Before moving to Ohio I lived in Texas and belonged to the Norwegian Society of Texas. Texas Norwegians, arriving and settling as small rural groups, have been few. The 1900 census listed a peak number of 1,356 native Norwegians in the state, a total that declined to 1,000 in 50 years. Today, over 95,000 Texans claim Norwegian descent. Most of the emigration came from rural areas in Norway to rural areas in Texas. Cleng Peerson was the early settler that came to Bosque County and towns such as Norway, Cranfil Gap and others followed. The central area of Texas claims many Norwegians.

I would think that many of you have stories to tell as well. Come and share them

President Larry

Membership

Erin Rykhus has given her father the gift of membership. We welcome William Rykhus into our lodge. William and his wife live in Lapeer, Michigan, but we hope they might be visiting on a weekend when we are having a lodge meeting.

If you have someone you would like to give the gift of membership in Sons of Norway, contact Esther for the details on how to do it. We are in the middle of a membership drive so looking hard for new members for our lodge.

Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary

Birthdays

September

Kjell Evensen[3], Ordelle Hill[4], Abigail Bellman[7], David Bratten[9], Christina Kosobud[10], Noel Julnes-Dehner[13], Larry Welin[19], Chris Butterworth[20], Mario Mirone[20], JoAnn Krugh[26] James P. Herman[28].

October

Judy Pieper[15], Susan Herman[16], Sarah Bakkum[25]. Nelda Chandler[25], Bailey Stone[28], Arlene Nelson[31].

November

Dario Sedler[1], Diane Clark[5], Harold Shirkey[10], Glenn Mikaloff[14], Michael Luiso[29], Karen Barth[30]

Calendars

We will again be selling Norwegian calendars. They will be \$14.00 each. Let Esther know if you would like a calendar so we know how many to order. If you are not in our area, I will be glad to mail the calendar to you. Esther Charlton

Esther Charlton, membership secretary

Lefse, Lefse....



Julefest is just around the corner (December 9) so be thinking of pre-ordering lefse for your holiday and beyond needs!

Email susan.herman3501@gmail.com before November 4th with the number of packages you would like to reserve and purchase. There are 6 pieces per package. Orders can be picked up at Julefest (or at setup on the 8th).

October is Foundation Month!

We are getting closer to Fall which means our fun October Foundation gathering. Heart waffles will once again be served. We look forward to members bringing out their creative sides and thinking of what to donate for items to bid on. If you are travelling about before mid-October, you may want to look for an item or two to pick up for our Silent Auction. Or put together a basket of things. Baked goods also bring \$\$\$. Handmade/handcrafted items are always sought after among our members and friends. We hope you will join us for this fun time together, help support the Foundation, and pick up some wonderful gifts to give or to keep for yourself. Feel free to invite friends and family. It's a great event for everyone because who doesn't love heart waffles and shopping for fantastic gifts?! Hope to see you on the 14th of October.

Saturday, October 14 at 2:00pm

Heart Waffles and Silent Auction

Location: Mallards of Mason Community

Clubhouse, located at the corner of Cedar Village Drive & Mallard Creek Drive.

4821 Mallard Creek Drive, Mason, OH 45040

If you'd like to help out, or want to share what you will donate, please email

susan.herman3501@gmail.com

or call 513-227-8790.

Tusen takk.

Looking forward to seeing you all!

Susan Herman, Foundation Chair

Food Zoom Class

Elisabeth Sonoff shares her knowledge and leads our discussion in these classes! We resume on Friday, September 22 at 1:30pm (EDST). Topic and recipes to share in September will revolve around apples, and potatoes.

The October Food Zoom class will be Friday, October 20 at 1:30pm (EDST). Topic and recipes to share: eggs, and bread.

If you would like to join us for one or all Food Zoom classes this year, please email

susan.herman3501@gmail.com to get on the list for the Zoom links.

November Meeting



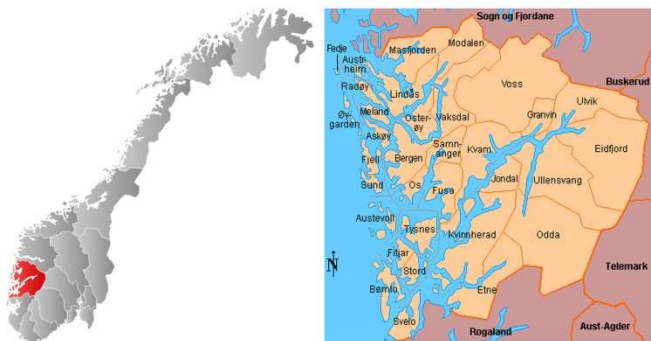
Saturday, November 11, 2023, 2 P.M.
Deer Park Library, 4020 E. Galbraith Rd
Cincinnati, 45236

Come and learn about the Norwegian Elkhound.
We have an excellent speaker that will have her dog
with her.

Bring something for the snack table.

For questions or comments contact Esther Charlton
esthersofn@aol.com

Hordaland



Hordaland was until January 1, 2020 a separate fylke, county. It was then combined with Sogn og Fjordane to form the combined fylke of Vestland.

Hordaland borders to the north to Sogn og Fjordane, to the east to Buskerud and Telemark, and to the south to Rogaland. To the west it borders the North Sea. The county is divided into several geographic regions. Located from south to north along the coastal region are Sunnhordaland, Midhordaland and Nordhordaland. The inland regions are Hardanger and Vossavelde. The first part of the name Hordaland comes from the the name of an old Germanic tribe. The meaning may have been "warrior" or "hero". Land stands for land or region in Norwegian.

Hordaland is semi-circular in shape. The nature in Hordaland is varied and in many cases spectacular. The county is split from southwest to northeast by Hardangerfjorden. The long and deep fjord is one of Norway's main fjords and a great tourist attraction. It is 179 kilometers (111 miles) long and 800 meters (2625 feet) deep. The county has many well-known waterfalls, such as Vøringsfossen and Stykkjedalsfossen. Two large glaciers, Folgefonna and Hardangerjøkulen, are also located in the county. There are three national parks in Hordaland, Hardangervidda National Park, Folgefonna National Park, and Hallingskarvet National Park. Hardangerjøkulen is the highest mountain in Hordaland at 1863 meters (5288 feet). However, the mountain summit may be difficult to see since it is most of the time covered by snow.

Hordaland was early on mentioned in literature. Julius Caesar mentioned twenty Germanic tribes in "De bello Gallico" from 52 BC. One of these was "haruder" which likely was people from Hordaland. In the sixth century the historian Jordanes listed all the Nordic kingdoms which included Rogaland and Hordaland. Before the National Assembly around 800 Hordaland was a separate small kingdom. Afterwards, kings of the unified country spent much time at the royal estates in Hordaland before cities were established. In 1070 Olav Kyrre founded Bergen close by the estate of Alrekstad from which he ruled the country. Bergen remained the capital of all of Norway until 1314. From around 1350 until about 1750 Bergen was connected to the Hanseatic League through which it became a central spot for the vending of stock fish. Bergen was the largest city in Norway until about 1830.

Hordaland is the second largest industrial county in Norway. Only Rogaland has more people working

in industry. Important industries in Hordaland have been workshop and textile industries. The workshop industry is still the dominant form. It includes mining and oil excavation. The textile and clothing industries have been in decline in recent years.

Farms in Hordaland are among the smallest in Norway. This may in part be due to the topography. However, farms can be found in most parts of the county. The most important livestock are cattle and sheep. Hardanger is known for fruit production. Apples, pears, plums, and morels are grown here. About 40 percent of the fruit production in Norway comes from this region. Ullensvang is still the largest fruit production area in Norway.

Fishing and aquaculture are also important occupations in Hordaland. Mostly salmon is produced by aquaculture but also some crayfish.

Hordaland is a tourist destination, particularly Bergen, Voss, and the Hardanger. Bergen has many tourist attractions. Beautiful mountain scenery and great ski runs and ski lifts have made Voss into one of the best known winter sports centers in Norway. Hardanger is a destination for many tourists both to see the Hardanger fjord and the fruit orchards, particularly in the spring when the trees are in full bloom.



Trolltunga

Trolltunga, (the Troll's Tongue), is a mountain formation hovering 700 meters (2,294 feet) above the lake Ringedalsvatnet. The hike up to Trolltunga is long and demanding, but the views from the top are truly breathtaking. The traditional western Norwegian farm settlement called cluster farm have been preserved at Aga in Ullensvang and Havrå in Osterøy. There are few preserved stave churches in Hordaland. The old pilgrimage church in Røldal near Odda is the best known. The Barony Rosendal is a historic estate and manor house in Kvinnesherad. It was built in the 17th century and remained in private ownership until 1927 when it

was donated to the University of Oslo. Visitors can join guided tours. The garden is often referred to as the most magnificent Victorian garden in Norway. Around 2000 roses bloom there from June to November.

Bergen is the largest city in Hordaland. It is the most popular gateway to the fjords of West Norway. The city is known as "city of seven mountains" since it is surrounded by seven steep mountains. The city center is compact and easily covered on foot. Bergen is known as a "wooden town". Few other towns still have as many wooden houses in the city center.



Bergen Norway

Because of the long tradition of wooden buildings Bergen has been ravaged by several large fires. A few medieval buildings still remain. The UNESCO Heritage site Bryggen, the Warf, is located along the eastern side of the inner harbor, Vågen. Bergen is an important cultural center. The Bergen International Festival is the largest festival in the Nordic countries. It is held for fourteen days from end of May till beginning of June. Performances are held in numerous locations including Grieg's home Tollhaugen and at Lysøen, the home of Ole Bull.

The other cities in Hordaland are Leirvik and Odda. Leirvik is located on the island Stord in the southern part of the county. The open-air museum Sunnhordalandstunet is located in Leirvik. Odda was in the 19th century a tourist destination. The German Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II visited here every year from 1891 to 1914.

Many notable people have come from Hordaland. Perhaps the best known is the composer Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) who lived and composed at Trollhaugen. The composer and violinist Ole Bull

(1810-1880) lived on an island south of Bergen at Lysøen. Both places are worth a visit. The writer Ludvig Holberg was born in Bergen but spent most of his life in Copenhagen. Leif Andreas Larsen (1906-1990), also known as Shetlands Larsen, was a highly decorated Norwegian sailor. During World War II he was among the sailors who operated the "Shetland bus" escape route. In all, he made 52 trips to Norway in ordinary fishing boats.

Food traditions in Hordaland differ from region to region and were based on what could be grown and gathered in the area. Hot porridge (grøt) served with flat bread and sour milk was served at most meals. Most of the food was boiled, fried, or roasted foods were served on special occasions.

Kumle is specialty from Bergen. Grated potatoes are mixed with oat flour and shaped into balls about the size of a fist. They are boiled in water. They can be served hot or cold with sour milk and butter on the side. Bergen is also known for fish soup, Bergens fiskesuppe. However, there is not an "official" recipe for the soup. Each family seems to have their own recipe which they, of course, claim to be the most authentic.



Smalahove (sheep's head)

Smalahove, sheep's head, is a rather unusual tradition food. After the fleece and skin have been torched the head is salted, sometimes smoked, and dried. The head is then steamed or boiled for three hours and served with potatoes and rutabaga. Aquavit is the beverage of choice served with the dish. In some families the dish is served at Christmas. Bon appetite!



Hordaland bunader

About fifty different bunader come from Hordaland, more than from any other county in Norway. Today some of the bunader are directly based on the old folk costumes; some are reconstructed in different ways. The bunader with the longest traditions are Fanabunad for women and men, Hardangerbunad and Vossabunad for women.

Elisabeth P. Sonoff, Cultural Chairperson

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