



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 2025

Greetings from the Lodge President

Hei all,

I hope the spring is treating you all well. The Lodge has had a fun year thus far, with several excellent presentations and plans for an exciting spring and summer. I am pleased to announce that Anna Nelson has joined on as our new Webmaster (see Anna's greetings below). Expect to see improvements to the site, including more content (prior events, long range calendar, and perhaps member Bios and stories. Anna has a lot of great ideas and it is fantastic to have her on board. Also, once again, join me in thanking Lois Evensen for her long run as webmaster, and Karl Halvorson for setting up the website platform.

At the end of March, we lost a friend and member Raymond Sonoff. Per his wishes there was no service, but the family indicated his love of raptors and if you wish to donate in Raymond's memory you can do so at www.raptorinc.org. Our sincere condolences to Elisabeth.

This year marks the 25th year of the Edvard Grieg Lodge. We are planning a celebration on August 23, 2025 at Maple Knoll Village. This is a major landmark in the life of our lodge, and is a testament to our dedication to our Nordic roots and interests. The pandemic was quite a challenge for us and all lodges, and I feel we have emerged stronger and more unified in the years since. We are planning a special program, which will include a visit from District 5 president Cheryl Wille-Schlesser. More details will be forthcoming as the date draws near. We have numerous events planned for the upcoming months, including our Syttende mai celebration in conjunction with the Scandinavian Society of Cincinnati (May 17), our annual Midsommer event

(at the Mikaloff's), our summer Ikea get together and a Dayton Dragons adventure.

Hope to see you all soon,
Jim Herman

Birthdays

May

Liv Ramstad[15], Maren Halvorson[17], Anna Nelson[21], David Bruestle[22].

June

Lance Larsen[2], Shane Russell[4], Christopher Knudson[5], Clare Williams[7], Pam Nelson[13], Karl Holst[14], Bonnie Golich[19], Dominic Sedler[25], Carol Luiso[28], Marilyn Lau[30].

July

Soren Russell[5], Magnus DuShane[6], Janice Betscher[7], James Knudson[7], Tim Holmen[9], Maria Luiso[13], Monica DuShane[13], Roy Solvik[16], Richard Knudson[17], Katherine Herman[23], Conor DuShane[25], Sky Kosobud[27], Tom Varland[29], William Rykhus[30], Kristen Szava[31].

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Norwegian Language Class

May 14th 10:30 am EST

Askeladden Lodge warmly re-invites you to attend an informal language class on May 14th via Zoom. The class is continuing with chapter 2 of the *Sett i gang* 3rd edition textbook by Kari Lie Dorer and Nancy Aarsvold. The book's subtitle is, "An Introductory Norwegian Curriculum". The textbook via Amazon runs circa \$70. One of the benefits of

this text is its companion web portal; unrestricted use of the portal resources is available for \$10.00 for two (2) years.

Come prepared to converse on topics in Chapter 1 (Getting Acquainted) and Chapter 2 (Studies, Work, and Leisure). *Please be prepared to address exercise J to the end of the chapter!* The chapters are full of interactive opportunities to speak, read and write with many graphics.

The class meets once a month via Zoom / in person at a library.

The Zoom link will be sent to you either the day of or the day before the class.

Please RSVP your interest to astutekaren@gmail.com. See you there!

Syttende Mai Celebration

Saturday, May 17th at 3:30 PM

This year, the Scandinavian Society of Cincinnati and the Edvard Grieg Lodge of the Sons of Norway will celebrate **Syttende Mai**, Norway's Constitution Day, together.

Doors will open at 3:30 PM for a social gathering, followed by our program:

- Adam Sokol will present *News of Norway*
- Lauren Keyser will speak about *Friluftsliv*
- Enjoy a selection of music by Edvard Grieg

Please RSVP to Esther Charlton at esthersofn@aol.com or **513-923-3798**, and let her know what food you plan to bring.

Directions:

Go to **11100 Springfield Pike**. Enter the Maple Knoll property at the traffic light onto **Maple Trace**. At the second stop sign, turn right onto **Rock Maple** and continue about half a block to **11100 Maple Rock**. Look for the entrance with a green awning and a circular driveway. Parking is just south of the entrance.

MAY FOOD ZOOM

Friday, May 30th at 1:30pm

Topic for discussion and recipes is:

"Cool Summer dishes for Hot weather Days"

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Susan H at susan.herman3501@gmail.com to receive the Zoom link prior to the class.



Save this date

August 23 we will hold our lodge's 25th anniversary event! Join members new and old as celebrate our Lodge heritage. Cheryl Wille-Schlessler, our District 5 President, will be in attendance to help with the festivities. We are forming a committee to organize the event and additional volunteers will be welcome. Let **Jim Herman** know if you would like to help. Stay tuned for details on the event!

Greetings from our new Webmaster:

Hi everyone, my name is Anna Nelson. I am going to be the new Webmaster. A little background info about me is I graduated in 2023 from Kent State with a degree in marketing. My parents Konrad and Pam, and my Grandmother Sandra are charter members so I have been coming to Sons of Norway events for as long as I can remember! One of my favorite Sons of Norway memories was when I got to help make the Norwegian waffles. I am so excited to be helping with our website.

Past Events

March Meeting

At our March 15th meeting, Ed Barth presenting on "Environmental Consequences of WWII Submarine Wreckage off the coast of Bergen"

Ed did a great job and it was a fascinating topic. Well attended both in person and by Zoom!



accounts of some of the travelers and the ordeals involved in making such an undertaking possible. The "Sloopers", as they are now called, were Quakers who left Norway to allow them to practice their religion freely. At the time, the state-run Norwegian church mandated infant baptism, and military service was compulsory, both of which were contrary to Quaker beliefs. They were in contact with fellow Quakers in the US who made it clear they could practice their faith in the US, and they made the hard decision to leave Norway behind for the new opportunity. The story also details the history of the ship and its ultimate fate after being sold in the US. If you would like to watch the video, the link is here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ByQgaWUKEnY>

Dayton International Festival

Our lodge has participated in the festival for 14 years. Our big sales item is fuzzy Vikings which this year we sold 78. We keep a list of those interested in the lodge and have gained new members over the years. It is work but a lot of fun talking to people about Norway. A big thanks to our helpers this year, Stacy Koffel and Teresa Thomas from the Scandinavian Society and from our lodge, Larry Banick, Sharon Smythe, Tim and Connie Holman, Adam Sokol and his wife Katherine, and JoAnn Krug.

April Meeting - The Restauration



This painting of the sloop Selen is the closest we get to a picture of the Restauration because that sloop was never actually depicted. Most later illustrations of Restauration have been modeled on this painting. Artist: Ole Johnsen Sebøy (1791-1843)

At our April lodge meeting we heard a presentation on the Restauration, the ship that brought 53 immigrants from Norway to their permanent home in the United States 200 years ago this October. The immigrants traveled aboard a sloop, a relatively small sailing ship that made for a pretty cozy journey from Norway to New York Harbor. Our story-teller related personal



Member Connie Holman, Teresa Thomas from the Scandinavian Society, and Esther Charlton



A girl with her parents answering the Norwegian Passport challenge question asked by member Tim Holman

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