



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 2025

## Greetings from the Lodge President

Hei all:

On August 23rd 2025, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of Edvard Grieg Lodge. We had a wonderful event, attended by some 50 members and special guests from the International Board of Directors (Duane Kittleson), our District 5 Sons of Norway president (Cheryl Wille-Schlessner) and Katie Brink, the District 3 vice-president. We were honored to have Teresa Thomas from the Scandinavian Society of Cincinnati join us as well. We were honored to have 12 of our original Charter Members in attendance.

The program included congratulations from Duane and Cheryl, introducing and hearing from our Charter members, and special music (piano duets by Grieg of course) by Susan Herman and Nancy Woodin. At the end of the ceremony, we extended our special appreciation for Esther Charlton, who was a (perhaps THE) driving force behind mustering the needed support for starting the lodge, and has been instrumental in holding us together all these years. She has for years led our recruitment efforts, and was still on duty at the anniversary event, signing up a new member on the spot! We thank Esther for all she has done and is doing for us!

We ended the ceremony with a robust skål, and then had a marvelous dinner (with salmon, of course) and great sharing time.

I'd like to thank the Board for making the event so special, and offer our special thanks to Pam Nelson for coordinating the catering, Kathy Skinner (and her friend Dana) for making the venue so special with decorations and floral arrangements, and especially

the Nelson/Lawson family for all their hard work setting up and taking down the venue. We are also grateful to Nicholas Soto for all his help with the audios and visuals.

We arranged to have the event recorded for those who couldn't be there in person. Please let me know if you would like a link to the presentation.

I will end by saying how proud I am to be a member of Edvard Grieg Lodge. Thanks to all who came, and I hope to see all of you who were unable to attend the anniversary at future meetings. As you will see, we have a lot coming up!

Jim Herman

## Birthdays

### September

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

### October

Susan Herman[16], Nelda Chandler[25], Arlene Nelson[31].

### November

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

## Membership

We have several new lodge members to introduce.

First, at our anniversary event, Carol Carpenter joined. Larry Bannick recruited Carol to the lodge. Also, at the big event, Daphne Mitchell transferred her Sons of Norway membership to our lodge. She recently moved to Beavercreek from California to be near her daughter.

Only recently we learned that Manville Flugum was a member of our lodge. When he joined, the computer had put him in a different lodge. But the situation got fixed and he is part of our lodge.

Remember to pay your dues!  
Esther Charlton, Membership Secretary

## St. Olaf's Day



Maybe next year the lodge will have a program honoring St Olaf.

St. Olaf's Day, is celebrated on July 29th to commemorate King Olaf II of Norway, who later became the country's patron saint. In 1030 Olaf was killed in one of the most famous battles in the history of Norway. After the battle the king's body was carried away and buried secretly in the sandy banks of the Nidelva River south of the city of Trondheim.

The year after the battle, his grave and coffin were opened and the body was incorrupt and the hair and nails had grown since he was buried. The coffin was then moved to St. Clement's Church in Trondheim. It is here that the beatification actions took place.

A monument was erected on top of the stone against which St Olaf died. The stone is supposedly still

inside the altar of the church. During the pontificate of Pope Alexander III, the Roman Catholic Church declared Olaf a saint in 1164.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Monthly Food Zoom

**Friday, September 19th at 1:30pm (EDST)**

Our monthly Food Zoom class resumes this month.  
TOPIC: "Favorite Apple Recipes"

We share recipes with each other on the monthly topic, discuss, ask questions and spend an hour of fun conversing over food and stories. If you are interested in joining us, please email [susan.herman3501@gmail.com](mailto:susan.herman3501@gmail.com) to receive the Zoom link prior to the class.

### Foundation Event

**Saturday, October 18th at 3 pm**



It's time to gather all those nickels, dimes, large denomination bills, senses of humor and come out to the Sons of Norway Foundation event for the Edvard Grieg Lodge's annual auction and waffle frenzy. Gather up new or gently used handmade (or not) and Norwegian items to sell. This is our time to support the Sons of Norway and their endeavors to provide grants, scholarships, and cultural awareness and exchange programs in the US, Canada and Norway.

This year we will be meeting at the home of Glen and Suzie Mikaloff, 7472 Stone Ridge Dr, Springboro OH 45066

Please RSVP (call or text) Sharon Smythe at 937-371-6621.

## **An Afternoon of Fun and Games**

**September 20, 2025 – 2:00 PM**

The Mallards of Mason Clubhouse  
On the corner of Mallard Creek and Cedar Village Drives

Please join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship as we play some games and enjoy some snacks.

Drinks will be provided.

Please bring an appetizer or snack to share.

## **Cincinnati Readers**

**Monday October 20 at 11 a.m.**

The Scandinavian Society of Cincinnati Readers will be reading the Norwegian book, *The Bell in the Lake*, by Lars Mytting. and discussing it on Monday October 20 at 11 a.m. The book takes place in a small town in rural Norway in 1879 and centers around a Stave church.

You are invited to join us. If you have any questions Esther and Liv (ramstad.liv@gmail.com) would be glad to talk with you.

We will meet at the gorgeous new Forest Park Library, 660 Northland Blvd, 45240, Meeting Room A.

Liv Ramstad

## **Ski for Life Presentation**

**November 15, 2025 – 2:00 PM**

Midpointe Library Liberty Location  
6716 Yankee Rd. Liberty Twp 45044

Please join us in welcoming Julie Coppens, President of Ski for Light. She will give a talk about the Ski for Light organization. This is an organization that our lodge supports with an annual donation.

She has indicated that she may even have a visitor from the Norwegian Ridderrenn with her who could offer their perspective on Ski for Light and the cross-cultural connection. Or possibly a local visually impaired participant who could share what the program has meant to them.

This is sure to be an informative and enjoyable program for us!

## **Julefest**

Save this Date, December 13, for Julefest, our annual Christmas celebration.

It will be at Friendship United Methodist Church  
1025 Springfield Pike, Wyoming, Oh 45215

1:00 for Appetizers, Bake and Butikk Sales

2:00 Dinner

Program after dinner.

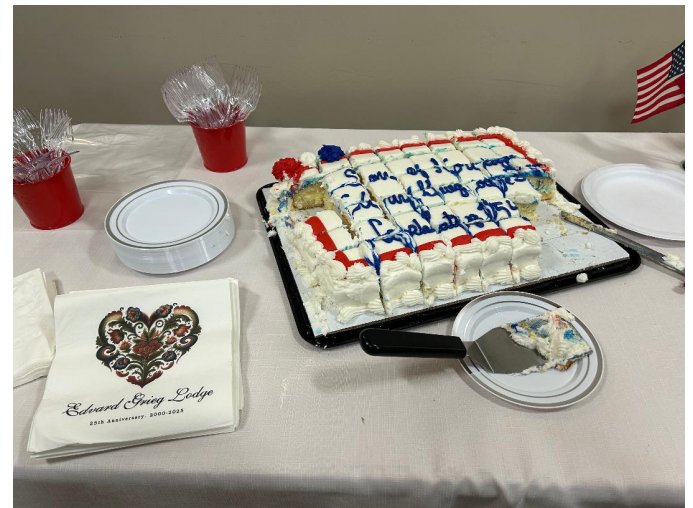
Lodge will provide meatballs, gravy, mashed potatoes and Lefse.

Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

Please rsvp to Esther Charlton esthersofn@aol.com or 513-923-3798.

## **Past Event**

### **25th anniversary of Edvard Grieg Lodge**





## Officers & Chairpersons

### President

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### Social Chairperson

Open

### Cultural Chairperson

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### Edvard Grieg website:

<https://son-swohio.org/>

### SofN financial info:

[https://www.sofn.com/financial\\_products/products\\_we\\_offer/](https://www.sofn.com/financial_products/products_we_offer/)

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