



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 2026

Greetings from the Lodge President

Hei all,

I hope everyone's summer has been healthy and fun. The lodge enjoyed a nice August get together at Carillon Park, organized by Adam Sokol. We had a scrumptious lunch together, and the guided tour of the park was fantastic.

This month, we will be attending 'The Scandinavian Home: Landscape and Lore' exhibit at the Taft Museum on **September 2**.

Our October meeting will be held on **October 24, 2026** at Friendship United Methodist Church at 2 PM. This will be our annual fundraiser for Sons of Norway/Nordic Legacy Foundation.

We are fortunate to have a concert by Alisa Jordheim this fall, sponsored by a grant from the Sons of Norway Foundation, which we help support at our October events. Alisa will be performing a beautiful collection of songs by Scandinavian composers. The concert will be on **November 8, 2026**, Armstrong Chapel United Methodist Church at 2:30 PM. Mark your calendars now!

IMPORTANT: We continue to need the help of the lodge as we move into 2027. Three of our four board positions will need to be filled by the end of the calendar year (Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President). Larry Bannick has agreed to serve as President if elected. These are elected positions and **MUST** be filled for us to remain in compliance with our by-laws and those of Sons of Norway.

Please consider nominating yourself (or someone else) for one of our open positions. Some details on the work involved for each position:

Secretary: Record minutes of lodge and Board meetings, maintain the membership roster, send out emails and keep our board roster up to date on the Sons of Norway website.

Treasurer: Maintain and update financial transactions for the lodge, arrange for an internal financial audit each year, file lodge financial statement with the Sons of Norway, and file tax forms.

Vice-president: Preside over Lodge or Board meetings in the absence of the Board President, assume duties of the Lodge President should they become unavailable.

In addition, we will be needing someone to take over management of the Newsletter.

Please consider serving on the Board to help keep our momentum moving forward, it is not a ton of work. We have a strong history of working together to celebrate our Norwegian heritage, and would all love to move our legacy forward but need your help. Please send nominations (or self-nominations!) to me (jpherman.edvardgrieg@gmail.com).

Jim Herman, President

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Food Zoom Group

Friday Oct. 23 at 1:30pm EDT

Our group continues on and will resume meetings by Zoom to discuss food, recipes, tips and tricks on a selected topic each month.

Discussion and recipes for October will revolve around Fall recipes or recipes using potatoes.

To join us simply email susan.herman3501@gmail.com to be added to the list. Attend as often as you wish.

October meeting

October 24, 2026, 2 PM



Our October meeting will be held at Friendship United Methodist Church at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will feature our annual fundraiser benefiting Sons of Norway and the Nordic Legacy Foundation.

Bring your appetite—and something to sell! Items may be Norwegian, handmade, or holiday-themed.

And don't forget to bring a little spending money!

Please RSVP to Sharon Smythe at shanannohio@gmail.com.

November meeting

November 8, 2026, 2:30 PM

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Birthdays

September

Kjell Evensen[3], Ordelle Hill[4], David Bratten[9], Christina Kosobud[10], Noel Julnes-Dehner[13], Jane Doorley[15], Larry Welin[19], Chris Butterworth[20], JoAnn Krugh[26], James P. Herman[28].

October

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

November

Dario Sedler[1], Dianne Clark[5], Glenn Mikaloff[14], Michael Luiso[29].

Remembering HM King Harald V



On August 28th at 6:35 a.m. King Harald V passed away at Oslo University Hospital Rikshospitalet after being hospitalized for a rare blood illness. Harald V served as Norway's king for 35 years and passed away just two days before his 58th wedding anniversary with Queen Sonja.

Like his father and grandfather, King Harald adopted the motto "Alt for Norge" – Everything for Norway. He became a king of the people known for his compassion and sense of humor. He was often called "all of Norway's grandfather" – hele Norges bestefar.

Over the weekend, citizens gathered outside the palace on Slottsplassen (the palace plaza), laying an abundance of flowers, flags, and artwork in tribute to their beloved King.

Sunday, the Church of Norway invited people to attend memorial services all over Norway in the

king's memory. His Majesty King Haakon, Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Ingrid Alexandra, Queen Sonja and Prince Sverre Magnus attended the memorial service in Asker kirke (church). The service began with the psalm Jeg er i Herrens hender, (I am in the Hands of the Lord) and closed with Kongesangen (The Royal Anthem of Norway).

On Monday, King Haakon, Crown Princess Ingrid Alexandra, Prince Sverre Magnus and other royal family members carried the late King Harald's coffin from Den røde salong (the red drawing room) to Slottskapellet – the chapel within the Royal Palace in Oslo, and were followed by dignitaries and palace staff. The King's coffin will be available for viewing from Tuesday September 1 until one day before the burial ceremony.

King Harald will be laid to rest on September 9th in the Royal Mausoleum at Akershus Fortress, beside his parents and grandparents. His sarcophagus was designed by renowned architectural firm Snøhetta.

At the time of King Harald's death, the Crown Prince became His Majesty King Haakon VIII.

Dugnad: Unique Societal Ritual



In Norwegian culture, there are several unwritten social laws that guide the way people conduct themselves and act towards each other. To paint a few examples: one should always greet strangers with “hei” when hiking and one should never show up to someone's house unannounced.

There is another unique social norm in Norway that gets its own name and is practiced by many. It is known as “dugnad.” This term does not translate to any English word but can be summarized as a

“volunteer day.” It actually comes from the Old Norse word “dugnaðr,” which means “to be useful.” Norwegians who live in the same area, are part of the same church, or participate in the same sports group, will participate in a voluntary contribution to the community, usually in the form of manual labor.

The funny thing is though, it's not really that voluntary. It's an unspoken rule that you must attend if you get invited, for fear of being socially “shunned” by your community if you do not. It's not necessarily something that people actively want to partake in, but they do so anyway for the benefit of their community and environment. Some examples of dugnad include reorganizing office space at work, participating in a school bake sale, or painting a neighborhood building.

Although dugnad is not always looked forward to, it is the perfect place for socialization to occur. It provides participants with a more comfortable setting to converse with those they may not normally go out of their way to meet. According to thesocialguidebook.no, “It can be seen as a way to flatten social classes both at work and in society.” So, the next time you're asked to volunteer, live like a Norwegian and “do the dugnad.” You may gain far more than you give.

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