

The 74th Annual Sloop Meeting was held Sunday, October 10, 1999 at the Norway Community Building with 70 Sloopers and friends attending. Potluck was served at 1:30 p.m. with grace given by Rev. Wes Hougsted.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag led by President Pat Hayes.

Our program, given by Mark Astle of Ottawa, was a presentation of slides and an informative talk of the past year that he and his family spent living in a rural area of Norway as an exchange teacher.

Marv Platten introduced Sigurd Jansen, President of The Norwegian Immigration Association, Ellis Island, Project 2000. He told of the planned exhibit to open in May at the Ellis Island Museum in New York and ending on October 9th.

Door prizes were given to:

- Ruth Hougsted
- Marguerite Hougas
- Nell Raymond
- Ashley DeVries
- Wayne Borchsenius

Burt Severson representing Sons of Norway of Aurora announced upcoming events.

Secretaries report was read and approved. Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$1,521.43 filed for audit.

Dan Hougas reported that all Sloop Books are sold at this time and there will be more available in 3-6 weeks.

Pat opened the floor for discussion re: a charter bus trip to Kendall, New York in October of 2000. There were 12 persons present showing interest in the trip.

Families in attendance from hand count were as follows:

Nelsons	11
Rosdails	24
Hougas'	16

Collection was taken with \$113.⁰⁰ received.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Hougas Wise

Approved 10-7-01

Balance of "98" meeting
\$1300.21

Income

1998 collection 133.00

Book sales 283.38

416.38

Expenses

Norway Imp. dogue 50.00

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Jan Wie - Postage 28.72

Norway Socy - Gifts 41.44

195.16

Balance on Hand
10-10-99

\$1521.43

The Norwegian

SLOOPER SOCIETY OF AMERICA

The Norwegian Mayflower People
Organized at the Ottawa Centennial, October 9, 1925

September 9, 1999

Dear Sloopers and Friends:

You are invited to the 74th annual meeting of the Slooper Society of America on Sunday, October 10, 1999 at the Norway Community Building just off Route 71 in Norway, Illinois. We will have a potluck dinner and ask each family to bring two dishes to pass and their own table service. Drink will be provided. Plans are to serve at 1:30 p.m.

Our program this year will be given by Mark and Janis Astle from Ottawa who exchanged teaching jobs with a teacher from Grong, Norway for the 1998-99 school year. Along with their children Ian and Erin, they traded homes with Ole and Barbro Mangen and daughter Hanna. We will hear and see of their experiences in the rural heart of Norway in Grong, population 2,600.

We have learned that Roy Swenson of Ellis Island, New York, President of Standard Oil, is sending a representative, Sigurd Jansen, President of Norwegian Immigration and also a crew member on the Sloop reenactment, to speak to us about the reenactment in October of 2000.

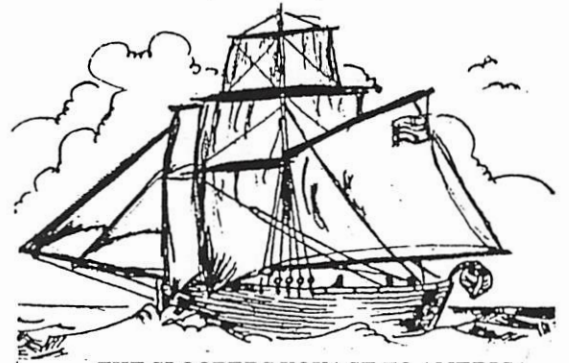
We will discuss a bus trip to Kendall, New York in October 2000. Bill Andrews of Brockport, New York has asked if we would be interested in having next years meeting in Kendall where the reenactment will be held celebrating the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the Sloop to America.

We hope you and your family will make plans now to join us for an afternoon of good food and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Lou Wise

Lou Wise, Secretary
Slooper Society of America



THE SLOOPERS VOYAGE TO AMERICA

The first group of Norwegian Immigrants to America departed Stavanger, Norway - July 4, 1825 on the Sloop - Restoration and these 52 persons entered New York Harbor October 9th - 98 days later. Cleng Peerson led this group first to Upstate New York . . . then to this area of Illinois near Norway where the first Permanent Norwegian Settlement was established. Descendants of these Norwegians who came over on the Sloop have formed the Norwegian Slooper Society of America, that meets annually at the Norway Community Center in Norway, Illinois the Sunday nearest to October 9.

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"God Velsigne den Norske Heritage"