

The 76th Annual Sloopers Meeting was held Sunday, October 7, 2001 at the Norway Community Building with 43 Sloopers and friends attending. Potluck was served at 1:00 p.m. with grace given by Rev. Wes Hougsted.

The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence for the victims of the September 11th attack in New York. The Lord's Prayer was recited in unison.

Old business: Erma Fruland brought up that the Sloopers pins have been sold out and she has \$400 in the pin fund. She questioned if more pins should be ordered. Discussion followed. Motion made to place order for 25 pins. Vote taken and motion carried.

Pat brought up the fact that the Sloopers officers have all held present positions for many years and questioned the group about their feelings re: this. Discussion followed. A motion was made to retain present slate of officers as all have indicated willingness to continue to serve. Vote taken and motion carried.

Due to ill health Dan Hougas has asked to be relieved from the Sloopers Book contact, sales and printing job that he has handled for many years. Si Peterson and Wes Hougsted kindly offered to share in this job and will take over at this time.

Families in attendance from a hand count were as follows:

Nelsons - 10
Rosdails - 14
Hougas' - 12

Pat shared thoughts re: the group of 19 Sloopers and friends that took the train trip to Kendall, NY last October 5 thru 9th. They had been invited by Bill Andrews to come to help celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Norwegian immigrants to America and the 175th Anniversary of the opening of the Erie Canal. Photographs, books and other souvenirs were on display for all to look at after the meeting.

Our program consisted of a dramatization of "The Sloopers 15 Years Later: Interviewing the Larsons" written by Kathryn Parke for the Kendall, NY celebration. Those participating in the presentation were Wayne Borchsenius, LaVerne Arntzen, Angie DeVries, Lou Wise and Si Peterson with Pat Hayes narrating.

Door prize winners were: Violet Waterman
Wayne Borchsenius
Witha Hougas

Collection was taken with \$82.⁰⁰ received.

Respectfully submitted,



Lou Wise

Approved 10-6-02

Balance at 1999 Meeting
1521.43

Income

1999 Collection	113.00
Book Sales	<u>1770.94</u>
	1883.94

Expenses

Lau Wise (Postage)	31.70
Mark Astle (Inter.)	75.00
Dan Houges (Books)	1043.08
" " (Postage)	13.72
Ar. Peterson (Door Prizes)	<u>33.69</u>
	1197.19

Balance on Hand

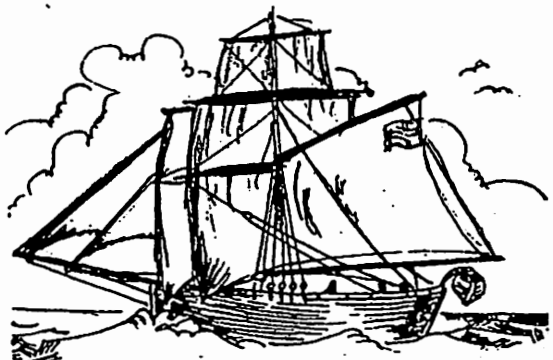
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\$2158.18

The Norwegian

SLOOPER SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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



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 Sloop Society of America, that meets annually at the Norway Community Center in Norway, Illinois the Sunday nearest to October 9.

September 7, 2001

Dear Sloopers and friends:

Last October we didn't have a meeting in Norway, IL due to our Sloop group being invited to Kendall, NY for a planned celebration for the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the Sloopers to Kendall. A group of 19 Sloopers and friends did make the trip and toured Kendall seeing the land our ancestors cleared and farmed and many other places of historical importance. Bill Andrews and Betty Allenger did a wonderful job in making the three day visit to Kendall very interesting, fun and memorable.

Our 76th annual meeting will be held Sunday, October 7, at the Norway Community Building just off Route 71 in Norway, IL. Dinner will be served at 1:00 p.m. Please note the time change! We ask that each family bring two dishes to pass and their own table service. Drinks will be provided.

Our program this year will include a skit "The Sloopers 15 Years Later: Interviewing the Larsons" that was written by Kathryn Parke for the celebration at Kendall.

There will be a sharing time for those who would like to relate their thoughts about the trip to Kendall. We will have a display table available for photographs, etc. of interest.

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

President
Pat Ainsley Hayes
1972 N 3013 Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-0061

Vice President
Rev. Wesley Hougsted
1307 Radcliffe Road
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
847-368-8085

Secretary
Lou Hougas Wise
3544 E 2250th Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-434-0322

Treasurer
Silas Peterson
3755 N IL Rt. 71
Sheridan, IL 60551
815-496-2679

"God Velsigne den Norske Heritage"