

The 78th annual Sloopers Meeting was held Sunday, October 12, 2003 at the Norway Community Building with 48 Sloopers and friends attending. Potluck was served at 1:20 pm with grace given by Rev. Wes Hougsted.

President Pat Hayes opened the meeting by welcoming all present then leading the pledge to the flag. The secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report showing balance on hand of \$1,602.20. All present spent a few moments honoring the memories of Erma Fruland and May Ainsley.

Pat brought up the fact that the Cleng Peerson Memorial site is in need of a replacement plaque on the memorial rock and had been asked if our group might be willing to contribute toward this. A motion was made and seconded to give Sloopers officers discretion in deciding the amount of the donation.

Pat explained Keith Wheeler's Sloopers Monument Project proposed for Tulocay Cemetery in Napa, California from information recently received. The Wheeler's are requesting the Sloopers group's endorsement in their project to mark the grave site of Jakob Anderson Slogvik and his wife Serena Madland as Norwegian-American immigration pioneers that settled further west than any of the others in this historic Sloopers group. Thru a show of hands our group indicated unanimous support in this project.

Families in attendance from hand count:

Nelsons.....	4
Hougas'.....	12
Rosdails.....	20
Visitors.....	12

Door prize drawings:

- Kay Ainsley
- Jack Wise
- Truman Eddy
- Jay Rosdail
- Judy Hougsted

Collection taken with \$239.00 received. Meeting adjourned.

Lou Wise, Secretary

*Program by Bill Injerd of Washington, Michigan
re: The Top River Settlement Project*

*Approved
10/16/04*

~~Balance~~

Income

2002 Collection	237.00
Book Sales	<u>565.00</u>
Total	802.00

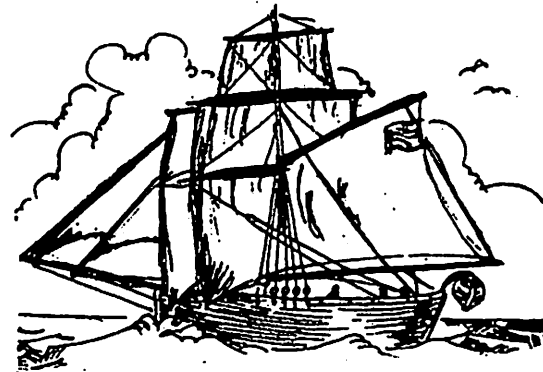
Expenses

Jan Wise (Postage)	37.00
Folk Dancers	200.00
Norway Impr. League	50.00
Midwest Badge + Novelty	392.70
Six Speedy (Brake)	757.50
Bindery of America	349.50
Book Freight	11.00
Norway Store - Don Prices	<u>47.14</u>
	1549.82

Balance on Hand 10-12-03
\$1602.20

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.

President

Pat Ainsley Hayes
1972 N. 3103 Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
Ph: 815-433-0061

Vice President

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

September 2, 2003

Dear Sloopers and friends:

You are cordially invited to the 78th annual meeting of the Sloop Society of America. Please make plans to join us on Sunday, October 12th, 2003 at the Community Building, Norway, IL, just off Route 71. Dinner will be served promptly at 1:00 p.m. We ask that each family bring two dishes to pass and their own table service. Drinks will be provided.

We are excited to welcome Bill Injerd of Washington, Michigan, as our presenter for our afternoon program. Bill is a third generation Norwegian-American. Bill's connection to Illinois through his father and grandparents has brought him to the Fox River to recall a portion of Americana that will always remain in Norway, Illinois. He is a member of the Norwegian-American Historical Association and is currently working on publishing a book on the history of the Fox River Settlement. The story of these early settlers -- Cleng Peerson, the fifty-two (plus one) Sloopers, Elling Eielsen, and others -- is the topic of "The Fox River Settlement Project".

Bill encourages any who may have some historical pictures to bring them to this meeting for possible inclusion in his project. He will take a digital picture of them without needing to borrow them.

Thanks to the efforts of our treasurer, Si Peterson, we will have Slooper pins available for purchase. The current cost of pins is \$19.00 each.

Locally, the Norsk Museum will be open for your enjoyment. Also, the Norway Store has many Norwegian items and goodies and will be open until 5 p.m.

Please join us for an afternoon of good food and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Lou Wise
Secretary
Sloop Society of America

"God Velsigne den Norske Heritage"