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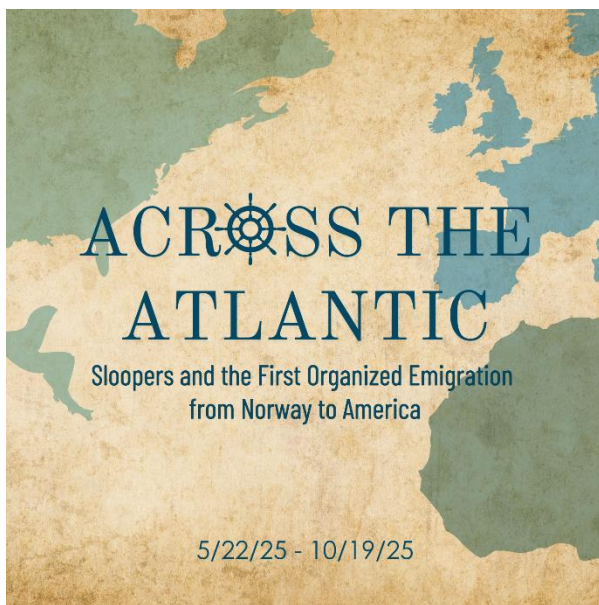
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– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

Celebrate 200 Years of Norwegian Immigration to the US at ASHM!
Across the Atlantic: Sloopers and the First Organized Emigration from Norway to America
May 22, 2025 – October 19, 2025



Philadelphia, PA- 200 years ago, a group of Norwegian immigrants made the trek across the ocean to start a new life in the United States. This May, discover the story of this 1825 voyage when *Across the Atlantic: Sloopers and the First Organized Emigration from Norway to America* opens at the American Swedish Historical Museum.

The Sloopers of Stavanger, a group of fifty-two Quaker Norwegian emigrants named for the single-masted sailboat, or sloop, they traveled in, were the first large group to come to settle in North America from Norway. Traveling aboard a small sloop called the *Restauration*, the 1825 voyage took a lengthy 98 days and tested the

resolve of its passengers and crew. Their arrival began a wave of Norwegian migration to America that lasted into the next century. *Across the Atlantic* delves into the Sloopers' motivations for leaving Norway, their experiences on the open sea, and their eventual arrival and settlement in the United States.

This balcony exhibit will be on view at ASHM from May 22, 2025 through October 19, 2025. Admission is included with ASHM general tickets. ASHM is open Tuesday through Friday 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and weekends 12:00 - 4:00 pm.

Across the Atlantic: Sloopers and the First Organized Emigration from Norway is part of Crossings Bicentennial in North America. The exhibit is made possible with support from the [Sons of Norway Foundation](#). Additional support for the exhibition opening is provided by [NorCham Philadelphia](#), [IK Start](#), and [Sons of Norway Restauration Lodge 3-555](#).



**SONS of
NORWAY
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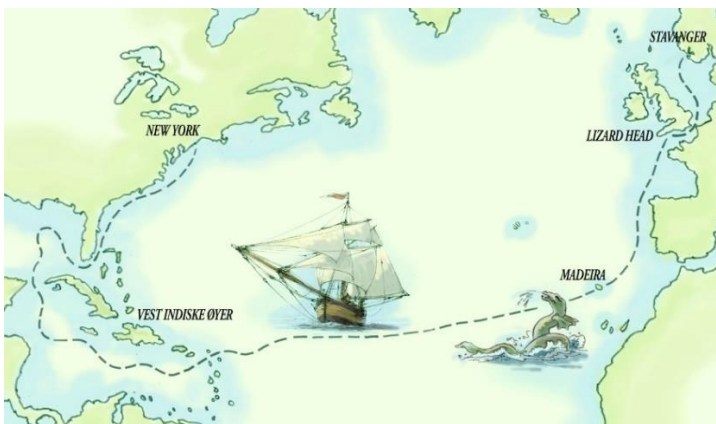


We are grateful for support from the ASHM Auxiliary, Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation, Midsommarklubben, Red Moose Charitable Trust, SWEA Philadelphia, and an anonymous foundation. Funding for the American Swedish Historical Museum is supported by grants from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia Cultural Fund.

Images:



Painting of the *Selen* by Ole Johnsen Sebøy (1791-1843), 1828. Since there are no extant depictions of the *Restauration*, the *Selen* is often the model for depictions of the other ship.



Map outlining the *Restauration*'s approximate sailing route, illustration by Jens Flesjå.

Exhibition Events:

Exhibit Opening: Across the Atlantic: Sloopers and the First Organized Emigration from Norway to America

Thursday, May 22nd

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Join us for the opening of the ASHM Balcony exhibit *Across the Atlantic: Sloopers and the First Organized Emigration from Norway to America*.

Enjoy traditional Norwegian recipes, a special kransekake from MANDEL bakery, and the opportunity to meet Susan Satkowski, Honorary Consul General to Norway.

Across the Atlantic explores the trans-Atlantic journey of the first organized group of Norwegian immigrants to sail to the United States. Traveling aboard a small sloop called the Restauration, the 1825 voyage took three months and challenged the strength and resolve of its passengers and crew from the very onset of the journey. The exhibit highlights the Sloopers' experiences on the open sea and their eventual arrival in the United States.

The exhibition event is free to the public, with light refreshments served. Please RSVP to help us plan.

<https://www.americanswedish.org/events/balcony-exhibit-opening-across-atlantic-sloopers-and-first-organized-emigration-norway>

Celebrate Norway Free Family Day

Sunday, August

12:00 – 4:00 pm

Join us for a free family day at the American Swedish Historical Museum! Families can learn about Norwegian culture through craft activities throughout the Museum galleries. Try out Norwegian folk art styles and experience some of early Scandinavian Viking life.

About the Crossings Bicentennial in North America:

The Crossings Bicentennial in North America commemorates the anniversary of the voyage of the Restauration and the beginning of Norwegian immigration to the United States and Canada. Visit their website to learn more about the voyage and 2025 exhibits and programs at organizations around North America:
crossings.norwegianamerican.com



About ASHM:

Visit the American Swedish Historical Museum to learn the forgotten history of Swedes in Philadelphia. Built in 1926 during the Sesquicentennial, the Museum has a unique interior divided into a dozen galleries designed to highlight Scandinavian influences in America. The galleries explore a range of topics including the New Sweden Colony, women's history, scientific innovations, and Swedish craft arts. ASHM hosts a variety of programs from Swedish holiday celebrations to history lectures to family programs.

The American Swedish Historical Museum welcomes everyone to explore cultural identity through stories of Swedes and all Scandinavians and to connect with a vibrant community dedicated to preserving and interpreting culture through celebrations, exhibitions, and opportunities to learn, experience, and grow. No matter your age or interests, ASHM has something for you! Visit our website www.americanswedish.org to learn more.

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Plenty of free parking is available. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street Subway's NRG/Pattison Avenue stop is within walking distance or SEPTA's Route 17 (to Pattison) can bring you right to the Museum.