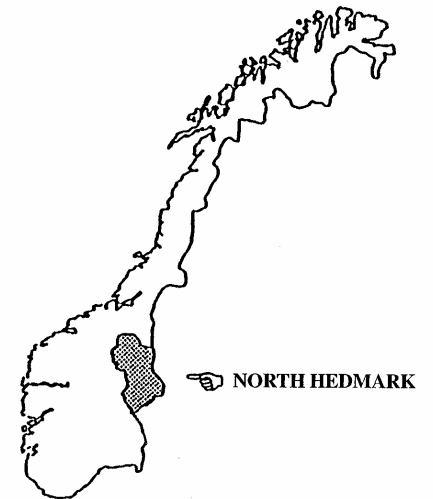




ARE YOUR ANCESTORS FROM NORTH HEDMARK, NORWAY?



Join the **NORD HEDMARK og HEDEMARKEN LAG**

THE LAND THEY LEFT

Difficult economic and social conditions in Norway during the late 1800s encouraged Norwegians to leave their homeland.

Our Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag includes 16 kommuner in the three districts of Nord-Østerdal, Sør-Østerdal, and Hedemarken and Hamar. Lying in southeastern Norway, lakes and rivers are dispersed throughout the area from Lake Mjøsa on the southwest to Lake Femund in the northeast. Forests of pine and some hardwoods are prevalent throughout especially in the east. The legacy of lumbering along the Glåma River carried over to the lumbering industry along the rivers in the upper Midwest in the United States. European elk, which resemble American moose, and other wild animals inhabit the forest lands. Mixed farming is carried out mostly in the lowlands and gentle slopes near lakes and rivers. Hamar was an early trade and church center as exemplified by the ruins of its medieval cathedral.

Today, among the places of interest are the State Archives and Norwegian Emigrant Museum at Hamar, the Forestry Museum at Elverum, and Historielag in each of the kommune. Also, many cultural opportunities, and water and winter sports activities are available for Norwegian citizens as well as for foreign travelers and visitors.

If you have questions, are interested in more information, or desire Stevne registration materials, please contact:

Joy Shong
523 S. Concord Rd
Oconomowoc, WI 53178
(262) 567-9263
nhohlagtreasurer@hotmail.com
www.nhohlag.org

NHOH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ E-mail: _____

Ancestors from Hedmark kommune: Amot _____ Alvdal _____ Elverum _____ Engerdal _____ Follidal _____
Løten _____ Hamar _____ Os _____ Rendalen _____ Ringsaker _____ Stange _____ Stor-Elvdal _____ Tolga _____ Trysil _____
Tynset _____ Vang _____ (Parish or other place: _____)

I'm willing to help with (newsletter, genealogy, annual stevne, be an officer, other) _____

Dues for Individuals/Couples are: 1 year = \$10 2 years = \$18 3 years = \$25
Dues enclosed \$ _____ for _____ year(s) [US dollars only] Membership Dues = _____

NHOH is an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization
Donation to Genealogy Fund = _____
Total Enclosed = _____

Make Check payable to: Nord Hedmark or Hedemarken Lag and mail with application to:
Joy Shong, Treasurer, 523 S. Concord Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3508

WHAT IS A BYGDELAG?

The Norwegian-American “bygdelag” is an organization of emigrant descendants from a particular area of Norway, now living in North America. Every “lag” seeks to preserve Norwegian cultural heritage, facilitate genealogical research, and strengthen bonds with its community of origin in Norway

THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN

The promise of opportunities for a better life in a new land and the Viking image of exploration tended to “pull” Norwegians to America.

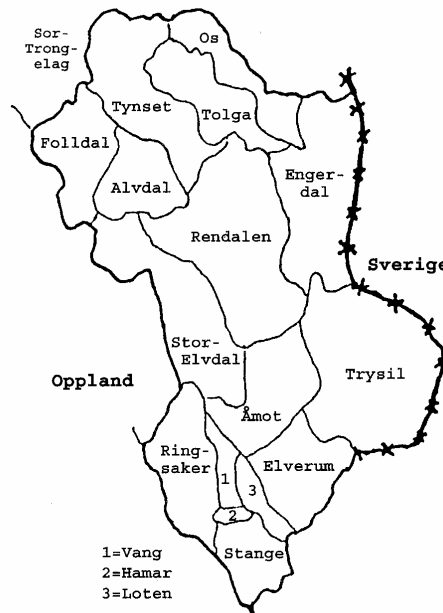
Historically, as the Norwegian immigrants settled throughout North America, many still had a desire to preserve their culture, traditions and emotional ties to the past. This caused groups (bygdelag) to form, and gatherings (stevner) to be held by people from specific areas in Norway. The “stevne” (the first one convened in Minneapolis in 1899) provided a forum in which the old “bygd” (community) in Norway could be recreated.

In the early years, the bygdelag were, by and large, social organizations of immigrants. Today, one of the primary functions is to provide genealogical resources and assistance to descendants.

The bygdelag movement grew to nearly 50 societies. Many disbanded over the years, but many reorganized later. Today, there are over 30 bygdelag in America. The **Nord Hedmark or Hedemarken Lag** was organized in Madison, Wisconsin on August 19, 1995.

NORD HEDMARK og HEDEMARKEN LAG

There are 16 kommuner in the northern part of the present day fylke (county) of Hedmark. There are 38 parishes (bispedømme) in the 16 kommuner.



AN INVITATION TO JOIN

Benefits of joining Nord Hedmark or Hedemarken Lag:

- Bridges to Hedmark are built and ties to the communities represented in our lag are strengthened. Lag members visit Norway.
- Annual Stevner (gathering of members) are held, featuring genealogical training and assistance, Norwegian entertainment, fellowship, field trips to pioneer homesteads, museums and other historical places.
- Three newsletters per year are published, providing information on Norwegian settlements, Norwegian/Hedmark genealogy, culture, heritage and traditions.
- Year-round genealogical guidance is provided by volunteer members knowledgeable in the use of genealogical records for the 16 kommuner of northern Hedmark.
- Many genealogical records on film, film readers, bygdebøker, and other references are provided for use by members at our annual stevner. The Genealogy Fund helps to support this important service to our members.
- We provide assistance through a variety of classes and Lag website: www.nhohlag.org.