

NHOH News

Volume 14 Number 3

Fall 2009

Published 3 times per year by: **Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag**

2010 Tre Lag Stevne August 4-7, 2010



**1501 Northpoint Dr.
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Phone 715-341-1340**

Tre Lag Stevne rates:
\$84.00 for single, double,
Triple or quad
Restaurant "Tilted Kilt"
Poolside rooms by stevne
There are some less expensive
hotels close by
More information will be
in the next issue of NHOH



Thanks Joy for a great job of
being the stevne coordinator for
the So. St. Paul stevne

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WHO ARE WE?

Nord Hedmark og
Hedemarken Lag includes
16 kommuner in the three
districts of Nord-Østerdal,
Sør-Østerdal, and
Hedemarken/Hamar as
follows:

District 1:

Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal
Folldal
Os
Rendalen
Tolga
Tynset

District 2:

Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot
Elverum
Engerdal
Stor Elvedal
Trysil

District 3:

Hedemarken and Hamar:

Furnes
Hamar
Løten
Nes
Ringsaker
Romedal
Stange Vang



Hilsen Fra Presidenten



The flags are furled. The registration desk is closed. The accordions have been squeezed and stashed. Speakers, vendors, and herd-callers are speaking, vending, and herd-calling in other venues. Books are shut, films are reeled in, and maps are folded. The tour bus is back in the bus garage. Signs and posters are unhung. And 227 Tre Lagers have returned to their homes with smiles and big bundles of friendship, memories, insight, and celebratory spirit.

We've heard from participants (both informally and via the evaluations) that Tre Lag Stevne 2009 in South Saint Paul was a resounding success. You learned, you sang, you laughed, you danced, and you reconnected with your Norwegian heritage. You can see the smiling faces to prove it in the photos published on pages 14-18 in this newsletter. It was a great 4-day gathering.

Except for one little thing.

WHERE THE HECK WAS THE LEFSE???

The unthinkable! The Wisconsin lefse vendor came well-recommended. Our order was placed well in advance of the Stevne and the delivery was scheduled with plenty of time to spare. When the anticipated rounds of lefse had not arrived by Thursday first we puzzled and joked, then we paced, and then (ever more frantically – as we got closer to the start of the Friday banquet) we made phone call after phone call (no answer). Gudbrandsdal Lag, which had placed a separate lefse order from the same bakery for their Saturday Centennial was in the same boat. The boat sank.

So what happened? It wasn't until a few days after the Stevne that we got to the bottom of the missing lefse mystery. A simple answer: the lefse was never shipped. In fact, it was never even rolled or "griddled". Apparently, the bakery manager who took both of the Tre Lag orders slipped the notes into her apron pocket, got busy with other things, hung her apron on a hook, and left for a (obviously carefree!) vacation. Of course, when she returned home to discover the stack of distraught phone messages she was appropriately aghast and very very apologetic.

Will you give us a chance to make good on the lamentable lefse lapse? Come to Tre Lag Stevne 2010.

THERE WILL BE LEFSE!!

The Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee met on October 17th and began work on the 2010 Stevne which will be held August 4-7 in Stevens Point Wisconsin. The committee selected a conference theme: **Looking Forward, Looking Back: Norwegian Spirit and Perseverance** and began the challenge of laying in the program. As we make progress we'll publish more detailed information on the NHOH website www.nhohlag.org and in the next newsletter. Meanwhile, if you've got good ideas for the Stevne (speakers, entertainment, tours, etc.) please let me know or share them with any of the other NHOH members who represent us on the Planning Committee: Joy Shong, John Reindl, Ron Helstad, Marilyn Sorensen, and Marv Lang.

The Board of Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag also met in October and set about the additional work that we've cut out for ourselves. 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of our ancestral forerunner... the Østerdalslag and the NHOH membership decided at our annual meeting that we should celebrate that centennial. We are planning a special program and an NHOH banquet on Saturday, 7 August, following the close of the Tre Lag Stevne. Invitations to the celebration will be extended to all of our members as well as to the many descendants of the Østerdalslag charter members (who we are actively tracking down). We plan to have a program that looks back on our Lag history and which recognizes and honors the Hedmark immigrants and first-generation Norwegian-Americans who put roots down and began the lag movement. Put the date on your calendar!

Finally, I want to recognize all of you who helped to make Tre Lag Stevne 2009 the success that it was. Although NHOH is the smallest of the Tre Lag triumvirate – you wouldn't know that by the size of wake we leave. Your volunteer spirit is huge. There were 55 NHOH Lag members at the meeting and you were not just passive onlookers...you rolled up your sleeves and pitched in. Thank you and congratulations!



NHOH Lag Officers & Directors

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When you contact any officer by e-mail, please use the subject line and indicate NHOH so they know it is not spam. Thank you.

Necrology:

Aleck Gunderson passed away October 10, 2008

Our Sympathy to Margaret, 6500 Woodlake Dr. #206
Richfield, MN 55423-1386

Frederick Herman Voigt

(1928) passed away March 13, 2009 at Minnetonka MN.

We extend our sympathy to his wife Joan and his family. Fred grew up in Hastings, MN, Earned a BA & MEd from Macalester College and a Masters Degree from the UW-Madison. He served in the US Army and was a teacher & counselor in the Minneapolis schools. Fred's spirit for adventure began early hearing stories from his great-grandfather Herman Voigt, who immigrated to America, milled, farmed, was a Civil War Calvary veteran who fought under Gen. Sherman, and lived with Fred's family until 1938.



Jens Trygve Anker died Sept. 7, 2008

He had been a member of the Hedmark Lag, having ancestors from Ringsaker and Hamar. Our sympathy to his family. He was from Minneapolis, and was 89 years old. His love of Norway and his family lives on in his genealogy and photographs. Jens was born in Oslo, Norway in 1918. At age five, he moved with his parents to Chicago. At age eleven, he moved back to Norway after the death of his mother, where he was raised by his aunt and uncle in Sarpsborg. In 1940, he escaped from Norway after the invasion and occupation by Nazi Germany. His sister and uncle were sent to a concentration camp in Norway, where they survived. He served in the Royal Norwegian Air Force during World War II, and was stationed in Canada, Iceland, and London. Jens moved to Minneapolis after the war. He worked for George A. Clark & Son and Consumer Goods International. Jens graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in business administration. Jens took many trips to Norway with his wife, and later with his

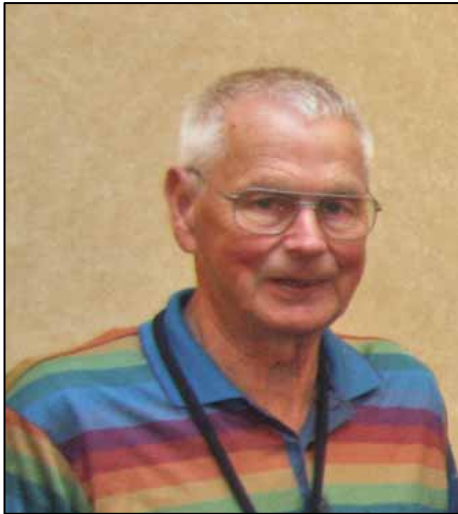


children and other relatives. While living in Minneapolis, he taught Norwegian classes at Sons of Norway and Edina Community Education. Jens was a member of Sons of Norway and Nordmanns-Forbundet (The Norse Federation). Jens compiled an extensive family genealogy, using his computer and

the Internet. He published numerous articles as well as a chapter in the book, In Their Own Words: Letters from Norwegian Immigrants, edited and translated by Solveig Zemple, published by University of Minnesota Press, in cooperation with the Norwegian - American Historical Association, 1991. As a loving family member, Jens took photographs at all family gatherings and used his computer and the Internet to share memories with family and friends.

Focus on **Ron Helstad**

Ron is the Vice President of NHOH, and also the Treasurer of the Tre Lag Stevne.



Ronald Helstad

Ronald was born in the Village of Ettrick, Wisconsin. His home was on a farm in French Creek, located about three miles west of Ettrick. He

attended a one room school house, grades one - eight. He was both the top or bottom of his class. He was the only one in his class!

His growing up years centered around the Norwegian community except for Ettrick nearby, which was an Irish community. His paternal great-grandparents and grandparents came from an area near Brumundal, Norway. His maternal great-grandparents and grandparents came from Biri, Norway. His mother, who attended Gale College, was a school teacher so her children all learned English first. The knowledge of Norwegian came from conversations with neighbors and relatives in the home. Most of the Norwegian language was learned at Christmas time and other times when Norwegian was spoken by adults, who thought the children wouldn't understand what was being said.

After grade school he attended two years of high school in Ettrick, where only two years of high school were offered. He attended the last two years at Galesville, Wisconsin, now known as Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau. Following high school, he attended Luther College in Decorah, Iowa for a year, followed by a two year duty in the U.S. Marine Corp. It was there he was placed in Accounting. Following his active duty, he completed his studies in Accounting with a year at Eau Claire, followed by a transfer to Whitewater College where he completed his major in Accounting.

At that time he met his future wife, Audrey Luhmann and they were married January 28, 1956. Their family now includes three sons, Scott (Lynn), Peter (Sheryl) and Brad, and four grandchildren, Ben, Sonja, Stephen and Laura.

His first job was with Gilmer Monument Co. of Howard Lake, Minnesota for a year. The next move was back to La Crosse, Wisconsin to the Accounting Department at Trane Co., followed by a new C.P.A. Firm, Gerhard Monson and Co. He since has worked in Public Accounting as a C.P.A. and Partner with several name changes from Gerhard Monson and Co. to Preeschl, Helstad, Shoup and Co. to the present name of Engelson and Assoc., Ltd.

His interest in genealogy started on his mother's side in the 1980's, and interest on the Helstad side started when he received a phone call from Gary Olson from NHOH, requesting him to become an officer. With the idea that V.P. would require a minimum amount of time and work, he accepted. He has continued as V.P. from that time to the present!

NHOH Lag, where he is a member, Gudbrandsdalaget and Tronderlag agreed to hold the annual Stevne together in August 2003. He has been Treasurer for the Tre Lag Stevne to the present.

He is an avid Packer fan, hunter at his Colorado cabin area, ski enthusiast, usher in his church, and "farmer at heart" in his River View Vineyard and Garden as well as outstanding in making his "Cream-Can" Dinner and Lutefisk!



Free Genealogy Software

While there are many genealogical software programs available, one of the better known programs –

Personal Ancestral File (PAF) -- is available for free from the web page of its creator, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, at <http://www.familysearch.org/>. Besides keeping track of your genealogy, this program (along with most genealogical softwares) allows the data to be saved as a GEDCOM file, which can be shared with users of other genealogical software packages.

From John Reindl, Genealogist

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Highlights of the First Ten Years 1995-2005

This long-awaited publication is now in print and available for purchase. Generously illustrated with 150+ photographs old and new, this 144-page book recounts the foundation of our lag, including our historic roots, our formative meeting in Madison, the establishment of our governing body, and a decade full of activities and stevner.



Later chapters include selected stories of emigration and settlement and articles reprinted from the NHOH newsletter. The book concludes with a full appendix of documents associated with our lag history as well as an every name index.

Purchase a copy for yourself and for the members of your family who share your Norwegian roots.

"Special articles available online to members only"

"Article about the Norwegian Centennial Celebration in 1914 available to NHOH members online."

NHOH Lag Newsletter published a serialized version of one of the chapters from the Rønningen family history, titled "Askeladden". Johan Ronningen has graciously provided another chapter from the same work called "The Midnight Sun". One portion of the chapter, covering the trip his parents made to Norway in 1914 to visit family in Trysil and participate in the centennial celebration of the signing of the Norwegian constitution, was printed and given to members of NHOH Lag who attended the Tre-Lag stevne in Fergus Falls. This publication, along with a second part covering the continuation of his parent's trip to Telemark to visit relatives, and the full Askeladden set, is available on the NHOH Lag website in the members-only page.

Refer to the "NHOH Website Update" article elsewhere in this issue for instructions on how to access the member's-only area of the NHOH website.

Order Form - Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken - Highlights of the First Ten Years

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Email _____ Phone _____

| | <u>Qty.</u> | <u>Each</u> | <u>Total \$</u> | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| NHOH Book | _____ | \$22.50 | \$_____ | Includes shipping & handling US* |
| Total Enclosed | | | \$_____ | Make check payable to NHOH |

❖ Surface Shipping to Norway – add \$5.50

Mail Your Order to:
Joy Shong
523 S. Concord Rd.
Oconomowoc, WI



NHOH WEBSITE UPDATE Bob Christensen, Webmaster

Bob's NEW email address:
NHOBobC@Comcast.net

2009 TRE LAG STEVNE PHOTOS NOW ON LINE

Photos from this summer's Tre Lag Stevne at So. St. Paul MN are now on the NHOH Website. Click on the "Stevner" button for access.

MEMBER AREA ACCESS

The member's-only area of the NHOH website **requires a user ID and password**. These will be changed every year at this time. The new user name is "NHOH2010" and the new password is "bestemor". These words are case sensitive so you will need to type them exactly as printed here (without quotation marks). They are the same for all members. You can begin using them now. The old ones, announced last year, will be phased out around the start of the new year.

To reach information in the member's-only area, first click on the "Member Area" button in the left border of most website pages. Then, click on the link for the content that you wish to view. You will then be prompted to enter a user name and password.

NHOH Website URL is www.nhohlag.org

Policy on advertising in newsletter:

The Board approved that the newsletter editor will accept advertising related to Norwegian culture, heritage and genealogy. Eighth and quarter page ads will be sold for \$15 and \$25, with funds to help offset the cost of producing the newsletter.

Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter. Articles, photos and graphics relating to Norwegian history, culture, emigration and Lag activities, especially those with meaning to the NHOH geographical area are invited. Articles may be historical in nature or may highlight current resources available to help members research their heritage. Notes and articles about Norwegian-American community events of interest to our members are also welcome.

Send to the Newsletter Editor: (prefer e-mails)
Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld at SASLAX@aol.com
Or mail to: 2208 Sunrise Dr., La Crosse, WI 54601-6831
Phone: 608-788-6596

NHOH Newsletters are published three times per year – Spring, Summer, and Fall. Members are welcome to send articles or news at any time of the year, and the editor will put them into the next newsletter, or one that is appropriate.

| Issue | Deadline to submit | Mailing Target |
|--------|--------------------|----------------|
| Spring | March 1 | March 15 |
| Summer | June 1 | June 15 |
| Fall | Nov. 1 | Nov. 25 |

NHOH Newest Members Velkommen !



Anka Haslam
1080 E. 100 N.,
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062
801-785-1420 ankamoss@aol.com
Loten, Stange, Vang Ancestry

Corella Thorbeck
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Rebecca Johnson
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218-528-3737 beckyj14@gmail.com
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Stor-Elvdal ancestry

JoAnne Schroeder
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Ålvdal ancestry

Gilmore & Virginia Sem
1822 Carl St., Lauderdale, MN 55113
651-645-8414 ggsem@comcast.net

Bruce Christopher
265 Frederick Ct
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169-3510
847-884-6195 bruce@bwchristopher.com
Ringsaker Ancestry

Chet Habberstad
25589 Anna Lake Rd., Underwood MN 56586

Marilyn Sjostrum
P.O. Box 69, Athens, WI 54411

Family Search, Library Rights – Serials
50 North Temple St, Rm 545
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-0005
801-240-1347 LibraryRights@familysearch.org



From the desk of our NHOH Lag Genealogist - John Reindl

Checking the Emigration Lists of the Digital Archives

For those looking to find information on the ship records of their ancestors, a useful resource is the list of emigration records on the internet site of the Norwegian Digital Archives at digitalarkivet.uib.no, which is available in both Norwegian and English. To start a search of the emigration records, click on the "Database selector", and, in the drop-down box "Source category", choose the category of "Emigrants". For a very thorough search, the box of "Sub-category" offers five separate choices, and, if you don't know which port your ancestors sailed from, you may need to check each of these sub-categories.

For our ancestors from Hedmark fylke, the most common port was Oslo, also known as Kristiania or Christiania, so it is useful to start with these records. To get to these records, go to the "Sub-category" drop-down box and chose "Registers". You will then see two choices:

[Emigrants from Oslo 1867-1930](#)

[Emigrants sailing from Kristiania 1871-1930](#)

The difference between these two sets of records is subtle. The two lists were compiled by two separate entities, using the same basic sources of data. Unfortunately, however, neither list is complete and the two lists differ in their completeness. The Oslo list has 259,039 entries, while the Kristiania list – which covers 4 fewer years – is longer, with 283,520 records. For any given year, the lists can differ substantially. For example, for 1889, the Oslo list has 4,774 records, while the over-all longer Kristiania list has only 89 people.

Thus, both lists need to be searched, and, even then, there is no guarantee of completeness. However, this situation should be improved in the future, as a more thorough list is being developed, which will replace these two lists.

For the search, the lists offer a wide range of criteria that can be used. The Oslo list has 26 criteria and the Kristiania list has 31. In each case, the underlying list can be searched to locate records that either are equal to, start with, or contain the selected criterion. After searching for a particular bit of information, the resulting sub-list can then be searched for more detailed records. For example, the list might be searched for the year 1889, all first names of Lars and all last names that start with Jo. For the Oslo list, there are 4,774 people listed for 1889, of which 59 who have the first name of Lars, and 2 whose last name starts with "Jo" – Lars Johnson and Lars Jolstad. The results show the month, day and year of their emigration, their former residences, the ship lines that they sailed on, their destinations and other information.

Using the emigration lists on the Digital Archives is not a difficult process, and, combined with the Utflyttede or Afgang pages of the church records (which are also on the Digital Archives), it is often possible to obtain specific emigration information for your ancestors.

Gen Tip from WorldVitalRecords.com

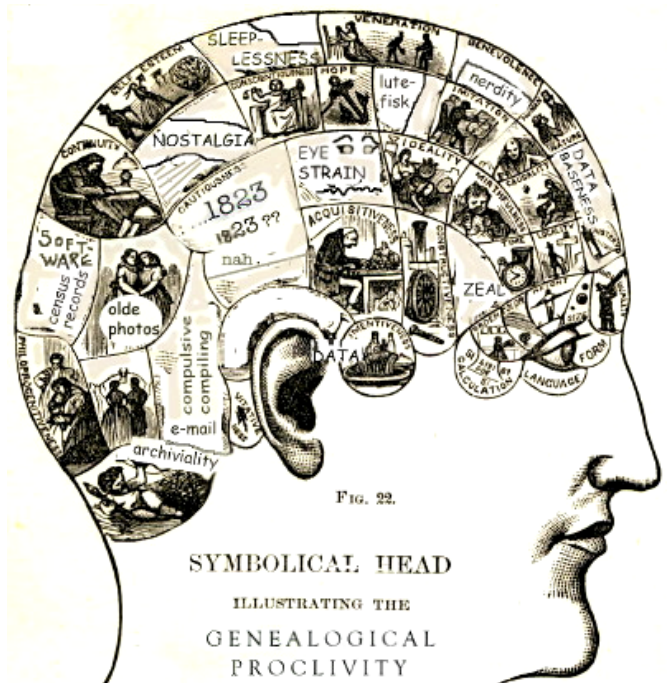
Backing up your computer

Anyone who has suffered the loss of their data due to a computer crash knows the importance of computer backups.

Unfortunately, knowing something is important and doing it are two different things. Lucky for us there are many options that can assist you in this endeavor.

Flash drives or thumb drives, are small data storage devices that are about as big as your thumb. These devices plug into your USB port and allow you to transfer data from your computer (files, photos, programs) onto the flash drive and store it. Flash drives allow you to make your genealogy portable since they are so small. They are perfect to store in a purse, car, or with your keys. They come in various capacities from about 64 MB to 32 GB. I would suggest that you buy the largest capacity you can afford so that you can backup as much of your computer as possible. Flash drives are available at office supply stores and most stores that sell computers/electronics.

Another way to backup your computer is through an online backup service. Several online companies offer online backups including Mozy, <http://mozy.com/>, SOS, <http://www.sosonlinebackup.com/>, and Carbonite, <http://www.carbonite.com/>. After their software is installed on your computer, the service runs regular backups, saving your computer data on their servers. These programs do charge a monthly fee for this service. To read more about online backup systems, see Dick Eastman's comments at <http://tinyurl.com/csh3jx> or the Genealogy Tech Podcast at <http://tinyurl.com/nklves>.



The Genealogists Mind – by Michael Oiseth

Getting Kids interested in Family History

Parts from World Vital Records, Gena Philibert Ortega

One of the problems genealogists hear is that the younger generation isn't interested in family history; that the genealogists of today have no one to pass down their genealogy to when they die. Genealogy, like most hobbies, is one of those activities that one has to be introduced to and partake in before really becoming interested. For kids, the prospect of researching in libraries, government offices and cemeteries may not sound exciting. But how you introduce the idea of learning about ancestors to the younger generation may make all the difference and help start them on a lifelong pursuit. The following three ideas can help to introduce family history to the children in your life.

Tell Stories. Grandmothers tell stories of their ancestors. They didn't tell stories that made everyone look like angels. They told stories about the hardships in their lives and what they did despite them. You felt like you knew these long-dead family members, because grandma had told stories about them.

The stories you share with children don't have to be just about dead ancestors. What about telling them what life was like when you were young? Share stories of your childhood, technology that you used, places you went to, what you did for fun. The kids are just shocked to hear that we did not have color TV when I was younger and that my mom didn't have TV until she was in high school. I think sharing this information with kids helps give them some perspective on life.

Not sure what to share about your life? Consult one of the many books that help guide you through the process of telling your life story. **Your Life and Times**, by Stephen and Julia Arthur, available through the World Vital Records store, http://store.worldvitalrecords.com/other/guides-and-manuals/your-life-and-times-sku_180.html, for \$5.50, can do just that.

Share Photos and Documents. Kids start getting the glazed look in their eyes whenever genealogy is mentioned. But when you tell them about their great-great grandfather and how he fought in World War I, they get excited. When you show them pictures of the ship he was stationed on in the Navy, it brings it to life for them. Names and dates mean nothing to non-genealogists; it's the pictures and documents that bring everything to life.

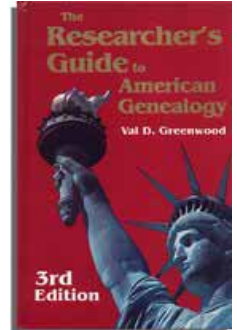
Don't have photos of your ancestor? Try online digitized image collections like **Google Images**, <http://images.google.com/>, or the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Reading Room at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/> to find pictures of occupations, military related photos, and places. For more local or regional images, check out public and university libraries for their online digital collections.

Go on Field Trips. If you live near where you grew up, take the kids on a field trip to see the old stomping grounds. Show them your elementary school, your favorite restaurant and where you lived. If that's not possible think about going to a museum and pointing out exhibits that depict events that occurred in your family's life. Living history museums provide kids with a glimpse of what life was like in the "olden days". Not able to travel? Why not take a virtual

field trip? Find websites for historical landmarks in your ancestor's hometown. Find websites depicting pioneer or colonial life. Try websites like Panoramio, <http://www.panoramio.com/>, that feature photographs taken in different cities around the world.

The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy. Third Edition

The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, by Val D. Greenwood, is this week's product spotlight at WorldVitalRecords.com. Purchase this book for only \$29.95. Here is a complete description of the book from Genealogical Publishing Company:



In every field of study there is one book that rises above the rest in stature and authority and becomes the standard work in the field. In genealogy that book is Val Greenwood's *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*.

Arguably the best book ever written on American genealogy, it is the text of choice in colleges and universities or wherever courses in American genealogy are taught. Of the dozens of textbooks, manuals, and how-to books that have appeared over the past twenty-five years, it is the one book that is consistently praised for setting a standard of excellence.

In a word, *The Researcher's Guide* has become a classic. While it instructs the researcher in the timeless principles of genealogical research, it also identifies the various classes of records employed in that research, groups them in convenient tables and charts, gives their location, explains their uses, and evaluates each of them in the context of the research process. Designed to answer practically all the researcher's needs, it is both a textbook and an all-purpose reference book. And it is this singular combination that makes *The Researcher's Guide* the book of choice in any genealogical investigation. It is also the reason why if you can afford to buy only one book on American genealogy in a lifetime, this has to be it.

This new 3rd edition incorporates the latest thinking on genealogy and computers, specifically the relationship between computer technology (the Internet and CD-ROM) and the timeless principles of good genealogical research. It also includes a new chapter on the property rights of women, a revised chapter on the evaluation of genealogical evidence, and updated information on the 1920 census. Little else has changed, or needs to be changed, because the basics of genealogy remain timeless and immutable. This 3rd edition of *The Researcher's Guide*, then, is a clear, comprehensive, and up-to-date account of the methods and aims of American genealogy--an essential text for the present generation of researchers--and no sound genealogical project is complete without it.

"Recommended as the most comprehensive how-to book on American genealogical and local history research."--*Library Journal*

This was a family history bulletin, taken from the www.WorldVitalRecords.com

Norwegian Genealogy Lag Research Trip to the Salt Lake City, Utah Family History Library

February 21-27, 2010

An Opportunity for persons interested in Norwegian genealogy.

This week provides an opportunity to improve your knowledge and skills in working with a wide variety of materials and research tools emphasizing Norwegian records. Elaine Hasleton from the Family History Library(FHL) and Marilyn Sorensen, a long time specialist with Norwegian genealogy, are coordinators of this event. There will be special classes relating to Norwegian genealogy. It may provide insights about activities at the Family History Library that will improve use and access to their reference material. Also the FHL offers a regular schedule of classes relating to genealogy. Another bonus is they have state of the art technology to work with as well as excellent help to accomplish many genealogical tasks.

Salt Lake Plaza Hotel (next door to the library)

The Plaza Hotel is located next door to the Library, 122 West South Temple, SLC, UT 84101. The webpage is www.plaza-hotel.com. Please telephone Rich Williams directly at 800-366-3684 X3007 to make reservations. . The reduced room rate for genealogical group participants is \$82.00 + tax per room/per day for either single or double occupancy. Each participant will be responsible for travel arrangements and room reservations in the block of rooms. Be sure to request the Norwegian Lag group reduced rate of \$82.00 plus tax per night for double occupancy.

Family History Library (FHL)

Salt Lake City is the site of the largest genealogical library in the world. The library has an excellent collection of Norwegian records. This includes one of the larger collections of Norwegian bygdebøker outside of Norway, a complete set of microfilmed Norwegian Lutheran Church records and other record sources such as census, probate and court records. They also have a complete set of the Norwegian farm maps.

Research at the library will be according to your own schedule. There is a very good help system available at the reference desks on all five floors of the library. Participants often help each other as they work on genealogy problems. This week is designed for independent research, taking advantage of all the materials, equipment and assistance available at the library. (see the attached tentative schedule)

If you plan to attend, keep us informed

We need to know who will be attending for planning purposes. Last year an enthusiastic group participated in the Norwegian Lag Research Week in Salt Lake City. This year is planned to provide great opportunities and experiences for all who attend. Direct your inquiries and questions to: Marilyn Sorensen, 651-633-1329 or e-mail to rddlagen@usfamily.net

Marilyn will provide you with all the details for each day, if you plan to go. She has special information for Norwegian Genealogy Lag Group, Individual registration with hotel, and for transportation. The hotel has van transport to and from airport.

All rooms have a microwave, refrigerator, and a coffee maker. Preregistration required for Saturday classes at the FHL. Regular class schedule will be posted on web one month in advance. Prep for week – bring pedigree charts, background data to assist with research, flash/jump drive to save data, plan questions about needed information. Special events in SLC for Feb., 2010 will be explored.

Tusen Takk Awards at August Annual Meeting

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld

For diligent, polished, creative, and enthusiastic contribution as NHOH Editor

Gary Olson

For governing role at President of NHOH from 1997-2004, continuing contributions to the Board as Past President, and for his skilled leadership as Chair of Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee from 2003-2008.

Marilyn Sorensen

Numerous contributions as a member of NHOH Board 1998–2009, for her representation on NHOH on Tre Lag Steering Committee and through her ongoing active service to a long list of other Norwegian-American organizations, for the knowledge and wisdom she has brought to NHOH in her unofficial role as "liaison at large."



Old Danish Handwriting styles

Until 1875 the so-called "German" or "Gothic" handwriting style, was commonly used in Denmark. This was also the handwriting style that children were taught in school. Practically all our older documents are written in this style - and it is necessary to learn how to read it, if you wish to use our records.

Difficult letters

There are some letters, that you should watch out for in particular. The letters "f", "h" and the extended "s" are quite similar and could easily be mistaken for each other. The short "s" might also resemble the latin "r" used in present-day handwriting. The letters "v" and "r" also seem quite similar.

Old-time spelling

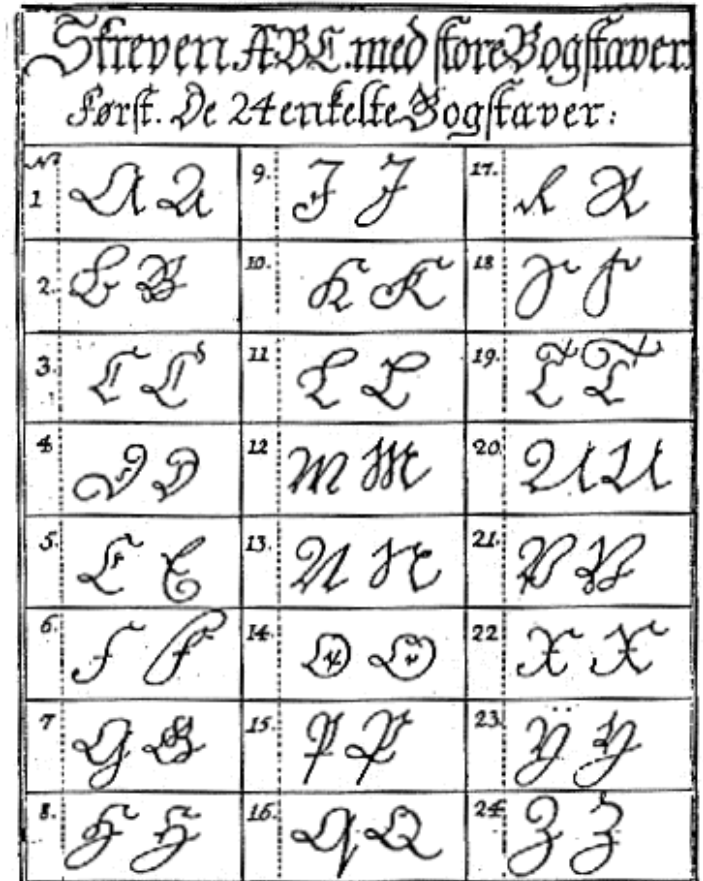
When using records of some age, you must not expect to find the same spelling of a word, as you might find in a present-day dictionary. You must not even expect the writers to spell correctly, or spell the same word in the same way every time they write it. Often you may see a word spelled in two or three different ways - within the same page. Or even within the same sentence!

In older texts - from around 1600-1680 - you might find some words spelled with an "i" where contemporary Danish would require an "e". For instance "her" (in Danish="hendes") spelled "hendis". Or "their" (in Danish="deres") would be spelled "deris". In the same way, the letter "g" could be substituted by "ck" or "ch". So, the word "and" (in Danish="og") would be spelled "ock" or "och". Another difficulty could arise, if the writer spoke a dialect. This could often influence his spelling and use of words.

Handwriting, approx. 1600

a a a a b b b c c r s c h y f y f d d d e p e r v
 f
 g g g g g h i i j k l l l l l l l l l l l l
 l l l m m n n o o o p p p p p q q r r r r
 s s s s s b b b b b s s s s s s s s s s s s
 t
 u
 v v v v v w w w w w w w w w w w w w w
 x x x x x y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y
 z

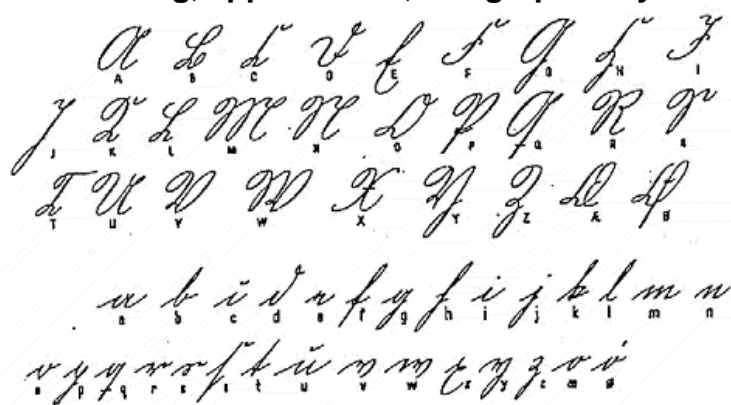
Handwriting, approx. 1700, capital letters



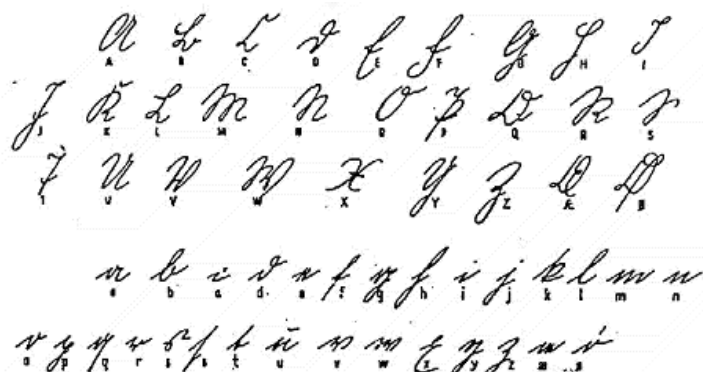
Handwriting, approx. 1700, small letters



Handwriting, approx. 1800, calligraphic style



Handwriting, approx. 1800, ordinary style



This handwriting
Information from



[http://www.sa.dk/content/us/genealogy/
old_danish_handwriting_style](http://www.sa.dk/content/us/genealogy/old_danish_handwriting_style)

Thank you!

If you would like to see each letter individually, go to
this website:

<http://www.hist.uib.no/gotisk/Gotiskalfa.htm>

It says to click on the bookmarks on the left
and you will find writing examples there.

*Klikker du på bokstavene til venstre vil du få
fram skrifteksempler på disse bokstavene her*

Here's more information for all you computer
folks that would use this information while researching
the digital arkivet. Sam Clark put this information on
the Dodge-Olmsted County Website:

With just a little fiddling, you can "Restore Down"
when the "Gothic Alphabet Window" Opens - then
"Minimize" it to your task bar.

After you open a Digitalarkivet Image - you can
click to place that nice little "Gothic Handwritten Alphabet
Window" right on top of an open Digitalarkivet Record
Image and Drag it around a little for good position - then
sort through the letter samples to compare with the
displayed handwriting on the "Image" - till the cows come
home.

If you reposition the "Image" or select a different
"Image" you will just have to remember to click again on
the Minimized "Gothic Handwritten Alphabet Window" to
place it back on top of the "Image" - and again drag it
around to position it near the handwriting on the "Image"
with which you desire to compare.

Here's what it looks like on a screenshot.

AND I think I will aim towards a Lexicon of
replicated "Distinctive/Special Letters" (that we encounter
in the records that we don't find on these lists - along the
pattern of my "Letter H" study.) Let me know of any letters
you encounter that you think are in the "Distinctive/Special
Letter" category that I might include.

And the "Special" letters that we are unable to
identify - can be placed on a "Flesberg's Most Wanted" or
"Does anyone have any idea what THIS letter is?", or some
such, list. Thank you, Sam Clark



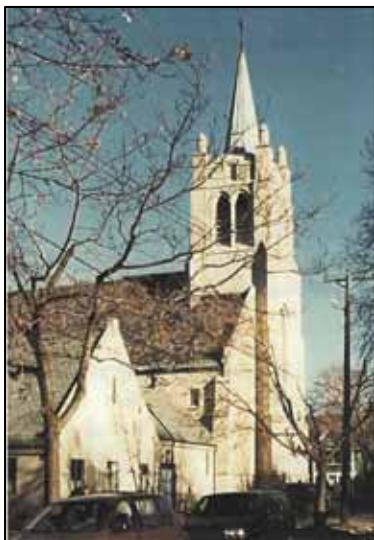
Cousin Finding Project Successes! from John Reindl, NHOH Genealogist

Our **Cousins-finding project** has taken a big
leap forward, finding over 20 pairs of matching cousins in
the last two months. The reason for this success is that
more and more members are submitting their genealogical
data, with 145 people having sent it nearly 3,800 ancestors.
We now have made over 45 matches, and I expect that we
will find more matches as other members send in their data.

Everyone is encouraged to submit their list of
ancestors from the NHOH area. Especially helpful are
dates of births, marriages, deaths; the names of the farms,
parishes and kommuner; and the names of spouses and
parents. However, any information is helpful and can be
submitted to me either electronically as text, PDF, or
GEDCOM files, or files from either Personal Ancestry File
or from Family Tree Maker, or as a paper copy, with the
easiest format being a family tree or family group sheets.

Your information can be
sent to me via email at
john.reindl@att.net or by mail to
4514 Gregg Road, Madison, WI
53705. It's a great way to get in
touch with others who are
researching the same ancestors!





Den norske lutherske Mindekirke

The Norwegian Lutheran
Memorial Church (ELCA)
924 East 21st St.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
www.mindekirken.org

The year was 1930.
Norwegian immigrants
stood proud and tall in
front of a striking
magnificent new house of
worship called
Mindekirken.

A dream had
finally become reality. Founded in 1922, the congregation
now had both a beautiful place of worship and a worthy
memorial to the heritage of all Norwegians whose pioneer
struggles had helped to build the Midwest. To keep this
memory alive they adopted a constitution that called for
Norwegian language worship as long as there was
someone to listen.

Today Mindekirken still stands as a symbol of a
proud history and a culture that continues to inspire people
of Norwegian ancestry. An English service has been
added, but it is the Norwegian language service that draws
the biggest attendance!

Unique and vital, Mindekirken faces the twenty-first
century with optimism and commitment. The pride that
completed a church structure in 1930 builds now for
tomorrow. Recently an office addition was completed.
New heritage and religious education programs are being
initiated. Neighborhood cooperation is encouraged and
challenges addressed.

Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. English Worship service
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
11:00 a.m. Norwegian Worship service
Sunday School Class (in English)
12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour

On the last Sunday of each month, the
congregation worships together at a bilingual family service
at 11:00 am. Bible study programs scheduled at various
times throughout the year.

Office Hours: 10-3 Tuesday – Friday

Location is 1 block south of East Franklin and 10th
Ave. So. in Minneapolis.

Music is an integral part of the heritage at
Mindekirken. The Music Directors continue the fine
tradition of an active choir and a program of music that is
thoroughly appreciated by guests and members alike.

In addition to local talent, concerts and programs
are performed regularly by Norwegian musicians who are
on tour in the United States.

Leiv Eriksson International Festival

Viking blood pulses with a new life, embellished
with a little pride, each October at Mindekirken as members
and friends gather to celebrate the historical discovery of
America by Leif Eriksson.

During that month Mindekirken hosts local artists
and guests from Norway, who remind us of this auspicious
aspect of our Norwegian heritage – often through an
exciting concert, a thought-provoking exhibit, or even a
memorable Midwest tour.

Events and Activities

Annual lutefisk dinner and rømmegrøt luncheons
Syttende mai celebration
Norwegian craft and bake sales
Norwegian language and culture classes
Quilting, hardanger embroidery and knitting groups

September – May

Open house with waffles and coffee on Tuesdays from 11 –
Noon, and a culture program from noon – 1 PM



Country Coon Prairie Church Westby, Wisconsin

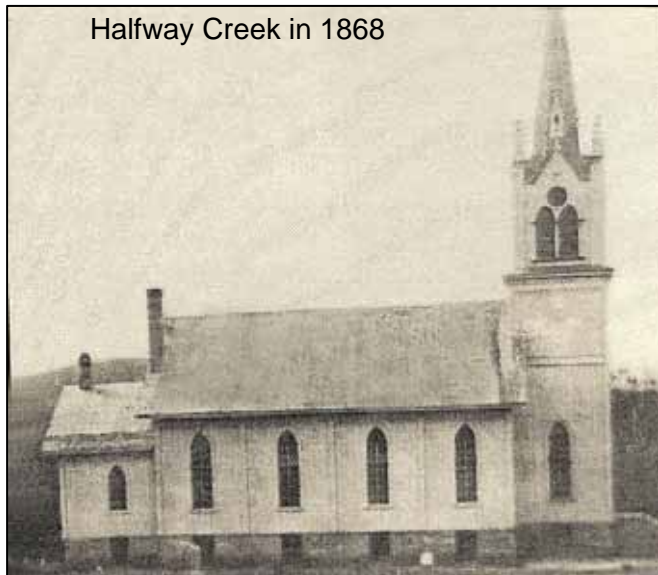


Country Coon Prairie Lutheran Church

...is the original pioneer church in this area. The
congregation was established in 1851, and the first church
was built in 1857. It served the congregation for about 20
years. During this time, the Lutheran Synod held a meeting
here and decided to create Luther College in Decorah IA.
A new and larger church was built in 1875 but was
tragically destroyed in a fire on Easter Sunday, 1909. Two
churches were built to replace it, one in the town of Westby
and one here. The present church was built in 1910 and
cost \$22,000. The pioneer church has the distinct
recognition as the mother church from which twenty-two
congregations began.

Country Coon Prairie Church Preservation, Inc.
was formed to help preserve this historic church and has
worked diligently to that end. In 1987 the church was
designated as a Wisconsin and a National Historic Site.

Halfway Creek in 1868



Early History of Halfway Creek Lutheran Church Holmen, WI

In 1852 and 1853, the Rev. Nils Brandt made missionary trips to the Holmen and Halfway Creek areas. In 1854, the Rev. H. C. Stub, who resided at Coon Prairie in Vernon County, continued the mission trips begun by Pastor Brandt. In March of 1856, he formed a four-point parish by establishing congregations in Halfway Creek, Lewis Valley, La Crosse Valley, and Bostwick Valley.

At a November 9, 1857 meeting, trustees of the four congregations decided to replace the log house parsonage with a new two-story structure, 36 x 30 feet. Completed in 1860, it was destroyed by fire three years later. The parsonage site was used until 1914, when the pastor moved to Holmen.

Meanwhile, representatives of the entire Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church had worked to establish a college to supply pastors for Norwegian congregations in the Upper Midwest; the college was to open in September of 1861 in Decorah, Iowa. However, lacking an adequate building, the church leaders chose to open the college for its first year in the vacant Halfway Creek parsonage, thus becoming the "Cradle of Luther College." Classes began on September 1, 1861 with an enrollment of 16, although the daily attendance was never more than 11. The Rev. P. Laurentius Larsen and the Rev. Frederic A. Schmidt served as the professors, with Pastor Larsen also serving as pastor of the Halfway Creek church.

By that time, 1861, the Halfway Creek congregation had grown from its original 24 families to 114 families. Pastor Larson led them to incorporate under the laws of the state of Wisconsin, with documents duly recorded in La Crosse in October of 1861, at a cost of fifty cents. The official church name was the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of La Crosse County, later changed to the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Halfway Creek, in deference to the people

of Swedish descent living in the community.

For the first 12 years of its existence, the congregation worshipped in various schoolhouses and homes in the community. The first church was built in 1868 near the site of the parsonage and was used until 1912, when it too was destroyed by fire. Its replacement was built the next year at its present location.

Congregation membership began lessening in 1870 with the organization of the Onalaska congregation. In 1906, La Crosse Valley was released from the parish, and sometime later, Bostwick Valley also left. About 1910, Council Bay members branched off to affiliate with either Lewis Valley or Holmen. Finally, Holmen organized as a separate congregation in 1915.

Tre Lag Stevne 2010

August 4-7, 2010



**1501 Northpoint Dr.
Stevens Point, WI 54481
Phone 715-341-1340**

Located in Stevens Point — a prime Central Wisconsin hot spot approximately 1.5 miles from the Stevens Point Airport and 20 miles from Mosinee, Central Wisconsin Airport.

Getting To The Hotel

From The North

I-39 South To exit 161. At First Light After Exiting Interstate - Hotel Is On Far Side Of Intersection On Right.

From The South

Take Business 51 North 2 Miles Past Hwy 10. At Traffic Lights - N. Point Drive - Turn Left. Hotel is On Left Side Of Street.

From Central Wisconsin Airport

Take I-39 South To exit 161. At First Light After Exiting Interstate Hotel Is On Far Side Of Intersection On Right.

More information will be
In the next NHOH News
about the stevne.





Roald Engelbregt Gravning Amundsen;

16 July 1872 –
c. 18 June 1928

Roald Amundsen was a Norwegian explorer of polar regions. He led the first Antarctic expedition to reach the South Pole between 1910 and 1912. He was also

the first person to reach both the North and South Poles. His parents were Jens Amundsen and Hanna Sahlqvist.

He is known as the first to traverse the Northwest Passage. He disappeared in June 1928 while taking part in a rescue mission. Amundsen with Douglas Mawson, Robert Falcon Scott, and Ernest Shackleton, was a key expedition leader during the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration.

Northwest Passage

In 1903, Amundsen led the first expedition to successfully traverse Canada's Northwest Passage between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (something explorers had been attempting since the days of Christopher Columbus, John Cabot, Jacques Cartier, and Henry Hudson), with six others in a 47 ton steel seal hunting vessel, Gjøa.

Amundsen had the ship outfitted with a small gasoline engine. They travelled via Baffin Bay, Lancaster and Peel Sounds, and James Ross, Simpson and Rae Straits and spent two winters near King William Island in what is today Gjoa Haven, Nunavut, Canada. During this time Amundsen learned from the local Netsilik people about Arctic survival skills that would later prove useful. For example, he learned to use sled dogs and to wear animal skins in lieu of heavy, woolen parkas. After a third winter trapped in the ice, Amundsen was able to navigate a passage into the Beaufort Sea after which he cleared into the Bering Strait, thus having successfully navigated the Northwest Passage.

Continuing to the south of Victoria Island, the ship cleared the Canadian Arctic Archipelago on August 17, 1905, but had to stop for the winter before going on to Nome on the Alaska Territory's Pacific coast. Five hundred miles (800 km) away, Eagle City, Alaska, had a telegraph station; Amundsen travelled there (and back) overland to wire a success message (collect) on December 5, 1905. Nome was reached in 1906. Due to water as shallow as 3 ft (0.91 m), a larger ship could never have used the route.

It was at this time that Amundsen received news that Norway had formally become independent of Sweden and had a new king. Amundsen sent the new King Haakon VII news that it "was a great achievement for Norway." He

hoped to do more he said and signed it "Your loyal subject, Roald Amundsen."

A member of the La Crosse Sons of Norway, Ernest Haugen, sent some information from the Environment – a Tribune from San Luis Obispo, CA where his relative lives. The article talked about global warming in the Arctic Passage giving the shippers a shortcut. Two German merchant ships traversed the fabled Northeast Passage after global warming and melting ice opened a route from South Korea along Russia's Arctic coast to Siberia. They believe the northern route "is going to become more and more open on a seasonal basis." It won't be consistently open because of local weather patterns that could still freeze it up for long time periods. This year is shaping up to have the third lowest amount of Arctic sea ice on record, just behind the worst year set in 2007 and in 2008.

A journey from South Korea to the Netherlands, for example, is about 11,000 nautical miles (12,658 miles). By going northward and using the Northeast Passage, approximately 3,000 nautical miles (3,451 miles) and 10 days can be shaved off. That means lower fuel costs.

We are seeing an expression of climate change here," said Mark Serreze. "The Arctic is becoming a blue ocean." Serreze told the Associated Press.

Ernest Haugen says "there are many who think global warming is nothing to be concerned about. The Norwegians are concerned about it. Ernest suggests that we drive less and let the trees grow – the trees clean the air."

Ernest's 2nd cousin Alex Frew is related to him through his mother's side of the family from Skaabu in Nord-Fron. Alex takes a lot of interest in family history. Ernest has been giving him all the family information he knows.



The United States of America



Homestead Certificate - This is the symbol that was used on the Homestead certificate in 1895 in Minnesota (the year my Grandfather homesteaded in Newfalden MN)

(Looks like they're putting the plow to the ground.)

The certificate is numbered and also has an application number. It lists the exact description of the land that was official to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General.

It was granted to the person and his heirs and assigns forever. It was signed by the President Grover Cleveland and the sections were hand written in nice penmanship.



My Grandfather and sons and grandchildren haying the property.

The NHOH attendees at the 2009 Stevne in St. Paul.



At the Banquet

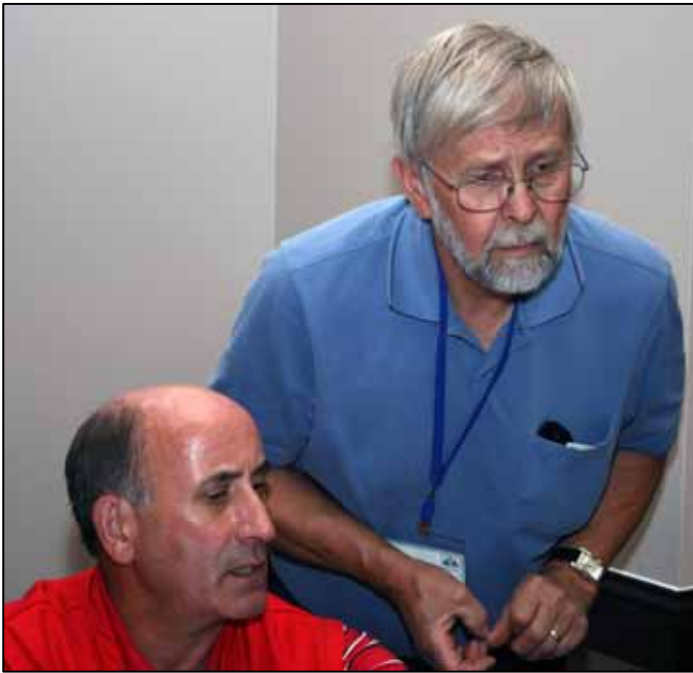




NHOH Officers and Directors for the next year
l to r: Front ; Treasurer & Membership Chair Joy Shong, Genealogist John Reindl, , President Dixie Hansen, Newsletter Editor Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld, Webmaster Bob Christensen. Back row; Director Roland Krogstad, Vice President Ron Helstad, Past President Gary Olson, Director Joe Waddell, Director Gene Nelson. Absent; Secretary Elaine Smiley



This was the bunad "parade" at the banquet – let's all consider wearing ours next time.



Serious research in the lab



and.. a friendly meeting as well.



Now follow my lead – Polly's dancers

Like this?

Thanks to the stevne band for their nice music

Our Viking Exhibit folks



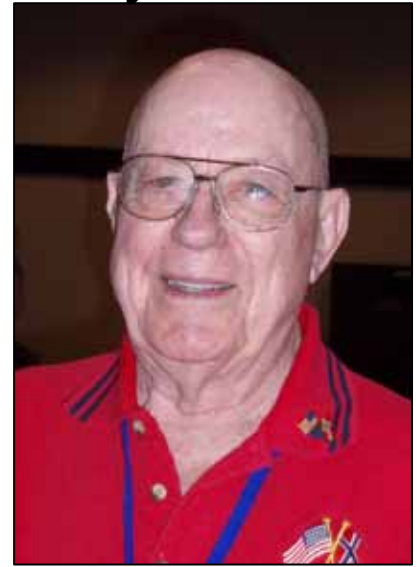
Stevne 2009 photos from Ed. Shirley



NHOH member, Joy Shong was the Person in charge of this stevne.
Mange Tusen Takk Joy!



NHOH Board Member
Marilyn Sorensen has resigned
Tusen Takk to you Marilyn



New NHOH Board Member
Joe Waddell was elected.
We are in good hands.



NHOH member, Chris Falteisek
Was a great help in the genealogy lab
Our thanks to you "cousin" Chris...



What a team here – and Bob gets a break from taking all the photos.
Thank you Bob for providing the pictures on the other pages of this newsletter. You were everywhere...



My two new "cousins" and good friend Marilyn Sorensen



Roland "Rollie" and Irma Krogstad – who got NHOH restarted in 1995. Thanks again.



Looking down from the 9th floor of the Mill City Museum to the 1st floor.
This is what remains of the explosion at the Mill – space well used.
In Betty Crocker's Testing Kitchen – at the museum



This is a Dust Collector

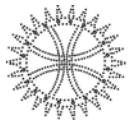
It works like a giant vacuum cleaner that sucks up flour dust. Milling machines, especially the middlings purifier, send a lot of fine flour dust into the air. This dust-laden air is sent through the openings on the dust collector, each of which is fitted with a tightly woven cloth "sock." The dust is caught in the socks, then knocked off them and carried away by conveyor to be disposed of safely.



The Mill City Museum Tour

The best part was the "Flour Tower"
The story was told "Like it was"





Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum

Preserving a culture. Connecting us all.



Steven Johnson Named Vesterheim's Executive Director

Decorah, Iowa—

The Board of Trustees of Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum has named Steven Johnson, Decorah, Iowa, as Executive Director of its world-class ethnic museum effective November 1. Johnson has been associated with the museum for over 30 years and has served as Interim Executive Director for the past seven months.

"The trustees are extremely impressed with Steve's performance as Interim Executive Director," Board Chair Sonja Peterson said, "and we feel that his service to the museum in many capacities over the past 30 years more than qualifies him for the position."

"We look forward to great progress and stability under Steve's leadership," Peterson continued.

Johnson said that he was touched and honored by such trust. "It is a privilege to be asked to lead the institution where I have spent most of my life," he added. Johnson's history with Vesterheim began in 1974, when he became the museum's Architectural Assistant, after graduating from Luther College as a history major with concentrations in art history, anthropology, and museum studies.

He left Decorah in 1976 to work as Site Manager at the Museum of Medical Progress, State Medical Society of Wisconsin, in Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin, and then as Restoration Supervisor at the Heritage Hill State Park, Wisconsin State Dept. of Natural Resources, in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Johnson returned to Vesterheim in 1979 as the Jacobson Farmstead Curator, with a brief sabbatical to attend Western Kentucky University, where he received his M.A. in folk studies in 1983. During his 30 years at the museum, he also has served as Associate Director of Development, Internal Auditor, Director of Development, and Director of Historic Preservation and Facilities. He was promoted to Deputy Director in 2002, and assumed the interim Executive Director position last March.

Johnson has been active in preserving community history as a member of Nordic Fest, Inc., the Norman Borlaug Heritage Foundation, the Winneshiek County Historical Society, Winneshiek County Tourism Council, Winneshiek County Civil War Monument Restoration, and the Winneshiek County Records Study Committee. He most recently became a member of the Decorah Board of Adjustment.

Johnson was given a standard renewable two-year contract and the search to fill the position has been closed.

Founded in 1877, Vesterheim is the oldest and most comprehensive museum in the United States dedicated to a single immigrant group. This national treasure includes a main complex of 16 historic buildings in downtown Decorah, and an immigrant farmstead and prairie church just outside the city. Vesterheim cares for over 24,000 artifacts, among which are some of the most outstanding examples of decorative and folk art to be seen in this country. Vesterheim uses the story of Norwegian Americans to explore aspects of identity and culture common to everyone. Come for our holiday festivals, special group tours, classes, or any time.

From May 1 - Oct. 31, Vesterheim is open daily, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Thursdays open until 8:00 p.m. From Nov. 1 - April 30, Vesterheim is open Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Thursdays open until 8:00 p.m. and closed Mondays. For more information on the museum's exhibits, activities, and membership opportunities, consult Vesterheim's website at vesterheim.org, call (563) 382-9681, or write to Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, 523 W. Water St., P.O. Box 379, Decorah, IA, 52101-0379.

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News
 Shirley (Lokstad) Schoenfeld, Editor
 2208 Sunrise Dr.
 La Crosse, WI 54601-6831

Fall 2009



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



NHOH Membership Renewal or New Memberships Form

If mailing label has 2009 on the top line, it means Lag dues expire December 31, 2009 and are now due for 2010. Memberships include spouses, so please include both names if applicable. Consider giving gift memberships. Make check payable to **NHOH Lag** and send with completed form to:

Joy Shong, Treasurer, 523 S. Concord Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____
 Address _____ E-mail _____
 _____ Renewal _____ Gift Membership _____

Ancestors in Hedmark from kommune:

Åmot _____ Alvdal _____ Elverum _____ Engerdal _____ Folldal _____ Furness _____ Løten _____ Hamar _____ Nes _____ Os _____
 Rendalen _____ Ringsaker _____ Romedal _____ Stange _____ Stor-Elvdal _____ Tolga _____ Trysil _____ Tynset _____ Vang _____
 If kommune unknown, list *parish*, town, or other geographic place _____

Volunteers Needed

The lag is only possible because of the work of many volunteers. Please consider volunteering for any of the following:
 Newsletter (contribute articles, assist with mailing, suggest topics for articles, etc.)
 Leadership (Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership, Board members)
 Genealogy - Web page - Stevne (planning, registration desk, staff hospitality room, help lag genealogist in lab)
 Anything you think the Lag should provide as a service!

I would like to volunteer for: _____

Newsletter delivery preference: _____ US Mail _____ Online

Dues for Individuals/Couples: _____ 1 year (\$10) _____ 2 years (\$18) _____ 3 years (\$25) **Total Dues:** _____

(2009 Special Price for new members: you will get 2 years for the price of the 1st year) **Genealogy donation:** _____

NHOH is an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization

Total enclosed