

# NHOH News

Volume 27 Number 1

February 2021

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



## *Fra Presidenten*

During this cold winter in the time of COVID we need a celebration. The NHOH Lag is 25 years old. Hurrah!

In 1994, Rolle Krogstad, and a small group of people (Ella Johnson, Thelma Johnson, Marilyn Sorensen) attending the Seven-Lag Stevne in July came up with the idea of forming a new bygdslag for people with ancestors from the northern two-thirds of the fylke of Hedmark. They began researching how to form a bygdslag, and by November 1994 received approval from the Bygdslagenes Fellesraad to proceed with forming a new lag.

A new twelve-member planning committee was formed, with Rolle being elected chairperson. After a year of planning, promoting, and collecting names of possible members an initial meeting was scheduled in August 18-19, 1995. The goal of this meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, was to explain the bygdslag concept and promote the need for the underserved area of Hedmark. The attendees broke into small groups based on heritage or interest. Their purpose was to come to a consensus on whether to proceed with forming a new lag. The result was the decision to form the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag. The first elected officers of the new lag were Rolle Krogstad, President, John Reindl, VP, Kathy Cobleigh, Secretary, Roslyn Waddell, Treasurer, and three directors, Kari Diesen-Dahl, Dixie Hansen, and Orrin Helstad.

Building the lag reference collection, developing a genealogy support program including a cousin finding program, and planning annual meetings were top priorities during the early years. In the seven years after formation, the lag held a stevne each August in various cities in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa. The 1996 stevne was the first one planned and held after the formation of the NHOH Lag. In 2003 the lag joined Gudbrandsdalslag and Trønderlag in a three-lag meeting, the Tre Lag Stevne. Up until 2020, when the stevne was cancelled due to the COVID19 pandemic, the three lags have met together.

So many members have participated to the success of our lag as board members, newsletter contributors, stevne planners, donors to the resource collection, photographers, web page and social media managers, and participants in the annual stevne. We have shared knowledge and made lifelong friendships as members. This is a lot to celebrate. A big thank you to everyone who has made the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag what it is today.

More information and photos from the early development of the lag in this issue are from the book *Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag: Highlights of the First Ten Years 1995-2005*

Hilsen fra  
*Joy Shong*

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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:

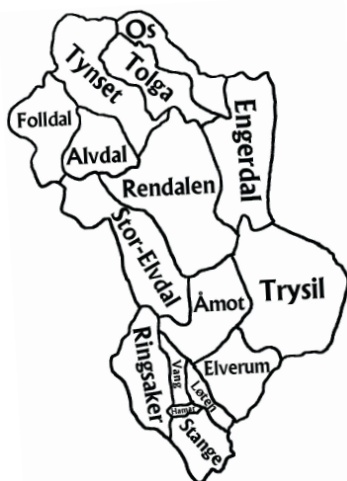
#### Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot  
Elverum  
Engerdal  
Stor Elvedal  
Trysil

### District 3:

#### Hedemarken. And Hamar

Furnes  
Hamar  
Løten  
Nes  
Ringsaker  
Romedal  
Stange  
Vang



## Our NHOH Purpose

The Lag is organized exclusively for educational purposes. To the extent consistent with this general purpose, the specific purposes of the Lag are to help people learn more about the history, culture, and customs of the Nord Hedmark and Hedemarken area of Norway and to aid in the preservation of that heritage; to teach and assist people in genealogy research; to gather immigration and settlement history and develop immigration data; to develop a library of resources, such as bygdebøker (farm histories) and Norwegian church, census, and probate records; and to encourage the research and writing of family, immigration, and settlement histories.

## Membership

NHOH Lag members benefit from expert genealogy research assistance, are invited to participate in our annual 3-day conference and receive our newsletter three times a year.

## Membership Renewal

Members need to check the year next to their name on the newsletter address label, especially on the fall newsletter.

Reminders will be sent for expired memberships early in the year following the year of expiration, with a renewal deadline of Mid-March, prior to the spring newsletter.

Members who get their newsletters via e-mail will be sent a reminder.

## NHOH Website

The NHOH website can be found at: [www.nhohlag.org](http://www.nhohlag.org) with information on how you can become a full-fledged member of our organization.

Photos taken at previous stevner are posted on the NHOH web site. Click on the "Stevner" tab to access available photos from all past stevner. For most, you can click on the image for a larger view. And if you want to copy or save it, right click on it to use browser commands. Our newsletters, genealogy information, photos, and scholarship information are there too.

## Join Our Facebook Page

Members and non-members alike are encouraged to join our Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Facebook page and participate in the discussion. We welcome those who have an interest in and/or have ancestry in the Nord Hedmark and Hedemarken areas of Norway. You don't have to be a NHOH lag member to join our Facebook page.

New Facebook page joiners must request to join on their own (we don't accept members added by others) and new joiners must briefly answer the "why do you wish to join" security questions.



## NHOH Board Members

**President: Joy Shong**  
president@nhohlag.org

**Vice-President: Chris Falteisek**  
chrisfalteisek@gmail.com

**Secretary: Jeri Johnson**  
jerijon@aol.com

**Treasurer: Ron Helstad**  
ronh@eacpas.net

**Membership: Dixie Hansen**  
dx@dxhansen.com

**Director: Linda Domier Lowry**  
lflowry1@cogeco.ca

**Director: Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld**  
SASLAX@aol.com

**Director: Julie Glowka**  
julieg0503@gmail.com

**Past-President: Dixie Hansen**  
dx@dxhansen.com

**Newsletter Editor: Julie Glowka**  
julieg0503@gmail.com

**Genealogist: Chris Falteisek**  
chrisfalteisek@gmail.com

**Webmaster: Dixie Hanson**  
dx@dxhansen.com

## Meet the New Lag Board Member

**Director**  
**Linda Domier Lowry**



I was born in Winnipeg, MB and raised in Edmonton, AB, Canada. I studied business at the University of Alberta, where I managed to squeeze in a Norwegian language course as an elective. I currently work as an academic business librarian in St. Catharines, ON, Canada and I live near Niagara Falls.

You might say that I inherited the genealogy bug from my late father, Ken Domier, who passed away unexpectedly in March 2020. I attended my first Tre Lag Stevne in 2011 in Sioux Falls, SD, where my father presented a seminar on searching the Norwegian Digital Archives. I enjoyed putting my librarian 'sleuthing' skills to work to help him solve a few mysteries. I look forward to having more time for genealogy when I retire – hopefully soon!

According to my family tree, I am 1/16 German, 2/16 Swedish, and 13/16 Norwegian. My mother's father was born and raised in Evenes on the Ofotfjord in Nordland, Norway. My maternal grandmother's Norwegian roots were in Rogaland (Finnøy and Hjelmeland). On my father's side, my Norwegian roots are from Gudbrandsdal (Nord-Fron), Hallingdal (Ål), and Hedmark (Alvdal, Ytre Rendal, and Åmot).

## NHOH Newsletter

The newsletter is published three times each year – Spring, Summer and Fall

Members are encouraged to submit to the newsletter. Articles, photos and graphics relating to Norwegian history, culture, emigration and Lag activities, especially those with ties 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. Articles about Norwegian/American community events of interest to our members are welcome.

**Send your contributions to the Newsletter Editor: Julie Glowka: [julieg0503@gmail.com](mailto:julieg0503@gmail.com)**

**Policy on advertising in the 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.

## Happy Anniversary NHOH!!

"It is fair to say that a historic event occurred in 1995. After a year of promoting, planning and gathering information, a new bygdelag was launched. The hard work of the Planning Committee was rewarded by the number of persons who showed sufficient interest in their Norwegian heritage to attend the first stevne and subsequently become dues-paying members and particularly by those who volunteered to serve the new organization as officers, directors and committee members. By the end of 1995, Nord Hemmark og Hedemarken Lag had 80 members and \$1593.50 in the treasury."

### November 1994 – First Meeting of the Hedemarken Stevne Planning Committee



L-R, Katie Cobleigh, Shirley Puhl, Mike Bovre, Blaine Hedberg  
Dee Grimsrud, Roland Krogstad, John Reindl, Nena Dexter

### During the 1995 Stevne, the following officers were elected:



Back Row L-R: Laura Sloan, Planning Committee; John Reindl, Vice President/Genealogist; Roland Krogstad, President;  
Orrin Helstad, Director  
Front Row L-R: Dee Grimsrud, Genealogist; Rosslyn Waddell, Treasurer; Kathryn Cobleigh, Secretary; LaDonn Peterson,  
Newsletter; Kari Diesen-Dahl, Director;  
(Not shown: Mary Benson and Thelma Johnson, Newsletter; Dixie Hansen, Director; Mike Bovre  
and Ulrick Larsen, Genealogists)



## Charter Members of Nord Hedmark of Hedemarken Lag

"Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag was founded in 1995. The 112 members (some individuals, some couples) who joined in the first 12 months are honored as Charter Members. Sadly, many of our early members have passed away during the last quarter century. Others have simply let their memberships drop. But 23 Charter Members (indicated in bold type below) are still active members of the Lag. Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!"

Adams, Stephen C. Winnetka, IL	Diesen-Dahl, Kari Deer Park, IL	Hoel, Agnes Christofferson Gruver, TX
Alander, Rune Alvdal, Norway	Ecklund, Evangeline M. Upland, CA	Hogenson, John J. & Marjorie Minneapolis, MN
<b>Amundson, Audrey H.</b> Hixton, WI	Faland, Magnhild Norridge, IL	Holte, Gloria D. Eau Claire, WI
Anderson, Barbara F. (Donald) Tioga, ND	Faust, Sylvia L. Oshkosh, WI	<b>Howland, Carolyn M.</b> Bloomington, MN
Anderson, Carl J. Seattle, WA	Finstad, Eunice O. Eau Claire, WI	Jackson, Leonard W. Saint Louis Park, MN
Anderson, Paul & Joan La Crosse, WI	<b>Finstad, Victoria E.</b> Eau Claire, WI	Jacobson, Merlin & Patricia K. Stoughton, WI
Anker, Jens T. Minneapolis, MN	Fisher, Harold R. Yuma, AZ	<b>Johnsen, Gretchen</b> Woodbury, MN
Beck, Charles I. Blair, WI	Gagne, Mary B. Glastonbury, CT	<b>Johnson, Etta M.</b> Hixton, WI
Bekkum (Flugstad), Naomi L. Madison, WI	Gjenvick, Lawrence & Deann Pewaukee, WI	Johnson, Sandra A. (Fjestad) Fergus Falls, MN
Benson, Mary E. Minnetonka, MN	Graham, Patricia K. Barneveld, WI	<b>Johnson, Thelma L.</b> Edina, MN
Benson, Noreen J. & Leonard A. Northfield, MN	<b>Greenlees, Priscilla C.</b> Bainbridge Island, WA	Johnson, T. Rogness Jr. Costa Mesa, CA
Bogar, Richard W. Hoquiam, WA	<b>Grimsrud, Dee Anna</b> Madison, WI	<b>Kittelson, Marcia L. &amp; John</b> Sioux Falls, SD
Borchert, Larry L. Madison, WI	Grundset, Eric and Paula Fairfax, VA	<b>Koxlien, Louise</b> Eau Claire, WI
<b>Bovre, Michael J.</b> Verona, WI	Gulbranson, Hazel O. Minneapolis, MN	Krogstad, Gary R. Madison, WI
<b>Bredeson, James C.</b> Medicine Hat, AB, Canada	Gunderson, Aleck E. & Margaret Richfield, MN	<b>Krogstad, James G.</b> Madison, WI
<b>Bredeson, Marilyn</b> & Clemens J. Sierra Vista, AZ	Hadfield, Marilyn Lakeville, MN	Krogstad, Kevin J. Middleton, WI
Carlson, Truman & Edna Morris, MN	<b>Hagen, Nicholas S. &amp; Mary Lou</b> Mesa, AZ	Krogstad, Roland J. & Irma B. Madison, WI
Colbeigh (Bissen), Kathryn Madison, WI	<b>Hansen, Dixie</b> Saint Paul, MN	Krogstad, Ronald W. Middleton, WI

Crane, Robert L. & Verene A. Chippewa Falls, WI	Hanson, Borger & Susan Bloomington, MN	Krogstad, Wilbur C. Red Wing, MN
Cruze, Randi Berntsen Castro Valley, CA	Heiberg, Elvin F. & Corrine Northfield, MN	Larsen, Jerome E. & Janet M. Portland, OR
Davison, Lavon E. Pueblo West, CO	Helstad, Orrin L. & Charlotte A. Madison, WI	Larsen, Ulrik J. Wauwatosa, WI
<b>Larson, Jean L.</b> Spring Valley, WI	Otterholt, Thelma M. Janesville, WI	Solberg, Ruell F. Jr. & L. Jane Helotes, TX
Larson, Mildred A. La Crosse, WI	Papcke, Harry W. & Virginia M. Madison, WI	<b>Sorensen, Marilyn E.</b> Edina, MN
Lee, Donald B. & Jean La Crosse, WI	Prestrud, Mabel Shawano, WI	Spidahl, Walter B. & Elizabeth Fergus Falls, MN
<b>Losen, Joan Fjeldstad</b> Richmond, VA	Quinn, Barbara Levorsen Radcliff, KY	Stennes-Spidahl, John & Naomi Cashton, WI
Ludwig, Lester A. Madison, WI	Reindl, John Madison, WI	Stevens, Bettie Waukesha, WI
Mathisen, Arthur F. & Isabelle P. Sarasota, FL	Rennord, Paul A. & Ardell E. Federal Way, WA	<b>Teller, Brian K.</b> Portland, OR
McFadden, Marlys S. Advance, NC	Rockswold, Betty & Palmer Eagan, MN	Ternes, Constance J. Roseville, MN
Moore, Magla & James Elroy, WI	Roelke, Beverly & Marcus Waunakee, WI	Thornton, James A. & Elinore J. Los Angeles, CA
Morrison, Beatrice & Bob Edgerton, WI	<b>Romdahl, Paal</b> Osprey, FL	Tunheim, Lucille Pelican Rapids, MN
Ness, Lyle J. & Pat Eau Claire, WI	Ronningen, Johan Honolulu, HI	Turmo, Francis J. & Linda Maryville, TN
Nottestad, Klareen M. Madison, WI	Ronningen, Vik Edina, MN	Ugstad, Esther Bergerud Mesa, AZ
Odegard, Ruth M. & Ralph Blaine, MN	<b>Schoenfeld, Shirley Lokstad</b> Holmen, WI	Van Wieringen, Nola Mount Vernon, WA
Olson, Einar O. and Jane N. West Salem, WI	<b>Shong, Joy Carol &amp; Glenn E.</b> Oconomowoc, WI	Vollriede, Mitt Synnove Medford, WI
Olson, Evelyn D. Pidgeon Falls, WI	Simenson, William C. & Katherine Vienna, VA	Waddell, Joseph K. and Roslyn Madison, WI
Olson, Gary M. and Lynn Rochester, MN	Sloan, Robert & Laura Baraboo, WI	Webert, Eleanor Hogenson Eau Claire, WI
Olson, John T. Whitefish, MT	Smith, Sandra Jo Novato, CA	
Olson, Tom G. Pigeon Falls, WI	Solberg, Dr. Kristen & Opal Ellensburg, WA	

## The First Annual Stevne – “Building Bridges to Hedmark”

“The stevne was held at the Ramada Inn in Madison, Wisconsin on August 18-19, 1995. Eighty persons attended the stevne, evidence of the successful publicity efforts of the Planning Committee, “the purpose of this stevne is to facilitate the bridge building process through orientation to genealogical resources and procedures, discussion of the administration of the bygdelager and opportunities for organizational business meetings”.





## Great Memories: Nord Hedmark of Hedemarken Tour 2000

By Dixie Hansen

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

NHOH's first tour to Norway was a resounding success. There were 17 travelers... with tour members originating from 7 states and ranging in age from pre-teen to retired. Although it was an eclectic group, it didn't take long for them to establish that they had many things in common – not the least of which was a mutual interest in the people (past and present) in the Østerdal valley of Hedmark, Norway.

The 12-day trip was designed to focus on genealogy and the group's shared heritage in Nord-Hedmark but also to allow a comfortably paced exploration of some of the other sites and scenes in Norway. The mixed itinerary was a key part of the fun.

There were two and a half days in Oslo, three plus days for independent heritage visits radiating from Hamar, followed by a 3-day cross-country bus traverse up to Lillehammer and then on to Geilo along the southern side of Sogn or Fjordane to Voss and finally to Bergen, where the travelers had two warm and sunny days to explore that beautiful city with all it's history.

In retrospect every traveler probably had their own unique set of highlights even for those parts of the trip that were choreographed ... but surely they include Frogner Park in Oslo with it's Vigeland sculptures, the half-day seminar at the Norwegian Emigrant Museum in Hamar, the community meeting up in Tynset with the folks at the Ramsmoen Museum, the "share your experiences" dinner in Hmar following the 3-day heritage visits, the spectacular train ride from Myrdal to Flåm followed by a cruise on the Aurland Fjord, the incredible bus ride up the hairpin turns to the Stalheim Hotel and the simple concert at Fana Church.

### Participants in the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Tour to Norway in 2000



Back Row L to R: Dixie Hansen, Solveig Peck, Gene Nelson, Øyvind Andersen (bus driver/guide), Joe Waddell, Marshall Seversen, Joyce Todd, Audrey Fosshage, Roslyn Waddell  
Middle Row: Joan Losen, Ginny Nelson, Nancy Severson, Virginia Morgan, Sylvia Faust  
Front Row: Becky Herman, Keith Johnson, Jeri Johnson, Bob Christensen

Undoubtedly the penultimate experience for many in the group, however, was the time in Nord-Hedmark and Hedemarken spent visiting the farms, driving the road, and meeting the kinfolk in the mountains and valleys where their ancestors lived. Nearly every traveler had stories to tell of incredible hospitality, happy



coincidences, meal after meal, stunning vistas, genealogical breakthroughs, and thrilling connections with the past.

And with group dinners and time on the bus for visiting, tour members developed friendships, shared funny moments, and marveled about some idiosyncrasies of traveling in a foreign land (e.g. the raised-up trip-provoking door sills, heated bathroom floors, shower squeegees, cloud berries and more cloud berries, and those perplexing feather bed “tacos” as Keith Johnson named them.)

NHOH owes many thanks to the careful planning of Ed Ventures Travel and to the skilled driving and able leadership of bus driver/tour guide Øyvind Andersen. They helped create a perfect trip. This was the first Norway tour for NHOH but it ought not to be the last.

## Highlights of Year 1996

By the end of 1996, the Lag had completed a full year of existence, and a successful one it was. The major highlight of the year was the very successful La Crosse Stevne, with its genealogy lab setting the pattern for years to come. Equipped with books, maps, microfilm and microfiche readers and other resources, plus the availability of assistance from experts in genealogical research, the lab proved to be a very popular place for many attendees. Three issues of *NHOH NEWS* were mailed to more than 350 households, libraries and other organizations. By December 31, 1996, membership had reached 173, and the treasury balance at year's end was \$2,212.09. The Lag was steadily making progress,



Winnie Fernstrom painted this beautiful rosemal for the masthead for the NHOH website when it first launched. It's been used many times since in the newsletter and other NHOH publications.

## 2021 Tre Lag Stevne

### 2021 Tre Lag Stevne planning progressing ... with hope

Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee, with cautious optimism, is currently planning to hold our annual stevne from 11-14 August 2021 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton, Wisconsin. Between now and then, the planning committee will continue to monitor the pandemic situation and will respect both CDC and local recommendations regarding group gatherings in August. If proceeding with the Stevne becomes untenable due to continuing pandemic risk levels, we will cancel plans and consider other options. Each individual member should, of course, make their own independent decision on whether to attend the Stevne based on their own health situations and concerns. Hotel rooms booked in advance can be cancelled without penalty under whatever standard notice policy that the Madison Marriott West in Middleton has. A decision will be made in late spring whether to proceed with the stevne so we can notify members via email and in the June newsletter.



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## Welcome New Members

NHOH Ancestors from:

Robert Price - Sandy Springs, Georgia	Elverum and Rendalen
Kathleen Magrew - Maple Grove, Minnesota	Åmot, Elverum, and Rendalen

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### NHOH TREASURER'S REPORT

October 31, 2020

#### CHECKING

BALANCE 7/31/2020	\$1,272.49
Income	401.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,673.49</b>
Disbursements	
Total	401.61

BALANCE 10/31/2020 **\$1,271.88**

#### SAVINGS

BALANCE 7/31/2020	\$4,425.48
Interest Income	1.11
<b>BALANCE 10/31/2020</b>	<b>\$4,426.59</b>

**BALANCE – CHECKING plus SAVINGS \$5,698.47**

### Stange Church

“Stange Church is one of the oldest medieval churches in Norway. The church is first mentioned in sagas from 1225, but the church as it can be seen today was built in 1703.” A beautiful church to visit on your next trip to Norway.

Quote from VisitNorway.com



Photos courtesy of lag member Chris Falteisek

## In Memorium

### Kjell Barstad

By Chris Falteisek

On January 7, NHOH member and my cousin Kjell Barstad of Elverum, Norway passed away after a courageous and long battle with cancer. I first met Kjell and his wife, Solveig when they surprised me by attending my concert at the Guldsmidshyttan Church in Sweden in 2014. In my next two trips to Norway, Kjell played host by taking me and my tour guests, Dixie Hansen and Birgitta Åryd around historical Elverum. In 2016, he arranged for me to perform in concert with his daughter and son, Audi and Bjørn at the Dalen Church in Follidal, Norway which preceded a Barstad family reunion. Kjell was the perfect host, fellow genealogist, cousin extraordinaire and I am so blessed that he felt it was important to keep our families connected. I will miss visiting Kjell when I return to Norway in 2022. Kjell, you are gone, but not forgotten. Takk for alt!



Chris Falteisek, Kjell Barstad and  
Kjell's wife Solveig Barstad.

### Bygdebok – Core of our collection

Bygdeboker are the core of the NHOH Lag's research collection. Thanks to donations of members, both financial and direct gifts of books, the lag has successfully acquired most to the available books for Hedmark. The books are brought to the annual stevne for use in the genealogy lab. Between meetings they are kept by the genealogist, Chris Falteisek, who will use the books to assist members with their research questions.

As new books are published, we try to acquire copies. We recently received a donation from David Opsahl of the new *Nes Bygdebok, bind II*. Thanks to David for the generous gift. We will also be purchasing the recently published *Vangsboka 5 – Vasshulet* which covers farms Gnr79-87.

In the 25 years since we began collecting and sharing our bygdeboker we have only mislaid one book. Several other titles not in the collection are out of print and difficult to locate. Any member who has them and would like to find a good home for the following books may donate them to the lag.

- *Tynset Bygdebok*, Ivar Streitlien, 2 volumes, 1972-1973
- *Ytre Rendal. Gard og Ætt*, Odd Nytrøen, 1970

Please contact Chris Falteisek if you have these, or any other books you would like to donate.



Vår kjære  
**Kjell Barstad**  
født 10. mai 1942  
sovnet stille inn  
Elverum 7. januar 2021.  
**Solveig**  
**Bjørn** **Siri**  
**Aud Ingebjørg** **Halvor**  
**Eirill og Sigrid**  
**Anne Dorthea**  
Bisettelsen har funnet sted med  
nærmeste familie tilstede.  
De som vil minnes Kjell, kan gi  
en gave til Kreftforeningen på  
kto.nr: 5005.05.05151



## Fellesraad Update on the Archive and Bibliotek at Norway House

By Elaine Hasleton, Bydelagenes Fellerad President

We are making solid progress toward finalizing the design of the John Haugo Bibliotek and Archive at Norway House! We have worked and reworked the floor plan and design several times for this new area, and we think the final design is going to work well for individuals and groups, both young and old, who visit there.

There are two sections of this facility:

One) The climate-controlled Archive will be in the north end and will have movable shelving and computer workstations. At the Information desk, there will be a scanner and printer available. All Bygdelag will have priority to place their genealogical collections, including Bygdebøker. The advantage is to preserve these and make them available year-round. Of course, Lag materials can be checked out for their Stevne.

Two) The Bibliotek Discovery area will be a modern interactive area with numerous “stations.” It will be a discovery experience. These are some of them:

Emigration & Immigration; Famous Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans; Norwegian-American and Norwegian-Canadian Settlements; A “Record My Story” area for recording and preserving our family histories.

The southeast corner will be an Activity area where a person can learn such things as Where Do I Come From; All About Me; How Do I Look in My Ancestors’ Shoes.

A DNA area will be included, with explanatory DNA info. Our tentative plan is to provide a method to purchase DNA kits at the Bibliotek.

A multi-purpose room will be available for groups and families. We will have an Alcove to place monitors with pertinent information in the tunnel leading from the current Albert H. Quie Education Building to the Archive and Bibliotek in the Events Building.

You may ask yourself: “How can I assist with this huge undertaking?” We need you! You are the ones who know your geographical localities. First, share your Bygdelag charter members and famous Norwegians information. Several Bygdelag have already done so. A big “thank you” to them.

But there are many more Lags whose “famous” information would be valuable to incorporate. If you have information on Norwegian settlements in the U.S. or Canada, that is critically needed. The more we populate these databases, the better the whole discovery experience will be in the Bibliotek.

If you want to volunteer, please contact me at [hasleton@familysearch.org](mailto:hasleton@familysearch.org) or [eehasleton@gmail.com](mailto:eehasleton@gmail.com) or by cell phone 801-718-0379.

Below you will see several photos which Lag member (Gudbrandsdalslaget and Teleslaget) Jessica Bunderson took of her children and their cousins at the Lehi Discovery Center. [These photos are used with her permission.] We envision the Bibliotek at Norway House to have many of these same features!



I'm related to these famous people



The discovery experience with Grandma and Grandpa

# A Child Remembered

By Julie Anderson Glowka

My 2x great-grandfather emigrated from Ytre Rendalen, Hedmark in 1870. He brought his wife, 5 children and widowed father-in-law to the new land. He followed two of his three brothers, who had emigrated earlier. The family first stopped in Ossian, Iowa, in the north-eastern corner of the state to join his brothers, before all three of the brothers and their families headed to Lac qui Parle County in west-central Minnesota.

Over the first years the brothers used multiple last names including their patronymic name, Jørgenson and farm names Illevold, Myre, Hornset and Quernemoen. All of the brothers were born on the farm Quernemoen or Qvernmoen (now spelled Kvernmoen) in Elverum. The eldest brother owned the Quernemoen farm when he and his family emigrated and eventually the brothers all settled on the surname Quernemoen.

Luckily, the name Quernemoen is very unusual and every person that the family genealogists have found with that name (with the exception of one person) are descendants of the three brothers who emigrated from Hedmark--Ole, Johan and Martinus.

Because the Quernemoen family tree, which I inherited from a distant cousin, which was well researched but not well sourced, I had a lot of work to do to verify what had been recorded. On one particular Saturday, I went to the Minnesota History Center Library to look for Quernemoen death certificates to verify the dates of death that were in the family tree. While searching the records, I found a certificate for Alberta Edith Quernemoen. At the time I found her death certificate, Alberta was not in our Quernemoen family tree.

The death certificate listed her date of birth as January 9, 1929 and her death as February 28, 1931. Cause of death was listed as a Diaphragmatic Hernia and was probably congenital. The place of death was listed as the State Public School in Owatonna Minnesota and burial was in the State School Cemetery. Her parents were listed as Albert J. Quernemoen and Edna Augusta Bentley. Albert J. was in my family tree and was the son of Julius Olsen Quernemoen and the grandson of Ole Jørgensen Quernemoen.

Finding this little girl who was part of the family, that sadly no one seemed to remember, made me want to find out more about her.

Not long after I found Alberta, the program for the 2003 Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival was published. One of the films showing that spring was a documentary titled "The Children Remember - Life at the Minnesota State Public School for Dependent and Neglected Children."

This documentary was a heartbreaking look at the life these children had at the State School as told by the former students who lived there. I had found where Alberta spent most of her very short life. The documentary explained the history of the school and how the children lived.

The children lived in "cottages". Each "cottage" housed 25 children and a Matron to act as a surrogate mother. Between 1886 and 1945 approximately 13,000 children were sent to the school. Many of them thrived, but many were scarred by their experience and over 300 children died at the school.



**Statue dedicated to the Children of the State School.**



When a child died, if there was no one to claim them, they were buried in the school cemetery. At the beginning the graves were marked with headstones, however, eventually they were simply marked with the child's identification number. As a result of the hard work of a group of former school attendees, the school is now a museum dedicated to the lives of the children. And each of the graves, which had no headstone, has been marked with a cross and the name of the child. The children are no longer numbers.



**Alberta's new grave marker and the old marker with the number below it.**

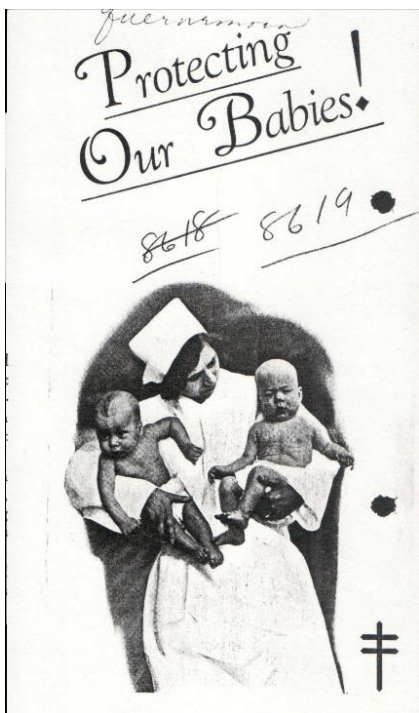
The entrance to the cemetery has a marker which reads:

"1888-1942"

"To the children who rest here  
May the love you lacked in life  
Now be your reward in heaven  
You are remembered"



The former school residents who had attended the showing of the school documentary told me that the school records were at the Minnesota History Center Library. As soon as I had a chance, I went back to the Minnesota History Center and asked to see the school file for Alberta Quernemoen. What I found there was amazing. Not only did Alberta live there, but so did her twin brother Albert Philip.



Alberta and Albert were born in the Glen Lake Sanatorium in Oak Terrace, Minnesota while Edna was hospitalized there with tuberculosis. At the same time, Albert J. was hospitalized, also with TB, at the VA hospital in Minneapolis. Because Edna and Albert were unable to care for them, the children became wards of the state and were sent to the State School.

Continued on next page

Photo: While living at the Glen Lake Sanatorium Albert and Alberta had their photo taken to be used on the front of a 1929 Christmas Seals brochure published by the Hennepin County Tuberculosis Assn.



While hospitalized, Albert J. sent several letters to the school inquiring into the health of his children and his desire to have them adopted. He even went so far as to find a couple he thought would be suitable parents.

In the file for Alberta, I found out that Albert was adopted. Because of the laws regarding adoptions, I wasn't allowed to look into his file. Although I was never able to find Albert, his son was able to access Albert's State School records and a few years ago Albert (now named Dale) was reunited with his Quernemoen Family at the annual Quernemoen family reunion.

The Star Tribune published a story in 2017 about Dale. You can find it here:

[https://www.startribune.com/orphaned-as-a-baby-88-year-old-bloomington-man-finally-finds-his-family/448823603/?fbclid=IwAR2k4KIY3HoAmWv6un22DVqcNz1f\\_MVykbuJuTI8rfu3UgZ7ry96SF3A7gJk](https://www.startribune.com/orphaned-as-a-baby-88-year-old-bloomington-man-finally-finds-his-family/448823603/?fbclid=IwAR2k4KIY3HoAmWv6un22DVqcNz1f_MVykbuJuTI8rfu3UgZ7ry96SF3A7gJk)

For more information on the Minnesota State Public School, go to their website at: [orphanagemuseum.com](http://orphanagemuseum.com).

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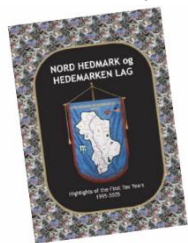
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## Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News

Julie Anderson Glowka, Editor

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