

NHOH News

Volume 2 Number 3 Fall 1997

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

Who Are We?

NHOH Lag includes the following districts and kommuner in our bygdelag:

District 1:

Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal

Follidal

Os

Rendalen

Tolga

Tynset

District 2:

Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot

Elverum

Engerdal

Stor Elvedal

Trysil

District 3:

Hedemarken &

Hamar:

Furnes

Hamar

Løten

Nes

Ringsaker

Romedal

Stange

Vang

Hilsen fra Presidenten

Kjaere Venner,

Our 1997 stevne is now history. For those who were unable to attend, you missed two exciting days in Eau Claire. Members of the planning committee can take pride in putting together an outstanding program. As always, the genealogy lab was the favorite attraction. However, other presentations proved very interesting especially the computer/technology demonstrations. The banquets and picnic at Carson Park provided opportunities for camaraderie and an understanding of the local history. Our sincere thanks to the Eau Claire Planning Committee including Eleanor Webert, Gloria Holte, Norman and Myrtle Berget, Verene Crane, Ruby Hanson, Victoria Finstad, and others for a job well done.

The annual business meeting held at the stevne showed that the state of affairs of Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag is excellent: Our membership remains strong with approximately 205 members; we have a balance of over \$2,700 in our treasury; and a balance of \$491 in our genealogy fund. We owe a debt of gratitude to last year's officers and board of directors for their excellent leadership in maintaining a very strong lag. A special thank you is in order to Roland Krogstad the first president of NHOH, who decided to step down after three years and to Roslyn Waddell, who also decided to relinquish her duties as treasurer. Our sincere thanks to both of you.

Congratulations to Charlotte

Helstad, who was elected Treasurer. As the two new members of the Board, Charlotte and I look forward to working with you.

The Planning Committee for our 1998 stevne, which will be held in Rochester, Minnesota on August 7 & 8, will hold its first meeting on Saturday, January 10, 1998, at 11:00 a.m. in the Ramada Inn, in Rochester.

As we begin a new year for NHOH, we need to rededicate our selves to the following goals: first, to maintain the services of the Lag to our members, especially genealogy services; two, to seek out new members which will allow our Lag to grow; and finally to encourage more members to attend the annual stevne. I know that other officers and members of the board join me in pledging our leadership to achieve these goals in 1998!!

Hjertelig hilsen fra

Gary M. Olson

NHOH LAG OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Please refer to Membership List for addresses.

President	Gary M. Olson	(507)282-1090
V.President	John Reindl	(608)238-0393
Secretary	Kathryn Cobleigh	(608)271-8255
Treasurer	Charlotte A. Helstad	(608)833-3455
Directors:	Kari Diesen-Dahl	(847)438-6882
	Dixie Hansen	(612)690-0872
	Orrin Helstad	(608)833-3455
Past Pres.	Roland Krogstad	(608)238-6652

1997 STEVNE A SUCCESS

In addition to the many presentations, the excellent genealogy lab, and enjoyable entertainment, a few new wrinkles to this year's stevne included an enjoyable picnic and presentation at Carson Park, a social hour with the craft exhibitors, a group picture, and more informative displays.

A tusen takk should go to the Stevne Committee: Gloria Holte & Eleanor Webert, Co-Chairs; Myrtle Berget, exhibitors; Verene Crane, registration; Vicky Finstad, Carson Park arrangements; Ruby Hanson, obtaining photographer; Dixie Hansen, producing & donating stevne programs and name badges; Roland Krogstad, obtaining presenters; John Reindl, genealogy materials and lab; Roslyn & Joe Waddell, finances, logistics, and mailing labels. The Committee did a GREAT JOB !!!

A tusen takk should also go to the presenters: Dixie Hansen, Linda Zastrow Herrick, Leonard Jackson, Bernard Johnson (photographer), Roland Krogstad, John Reindl, Betty Rockswold, John Russell, Bill and Bob Simenson (able substitutes), Walter Spidahl, and Joseph Waddell. They also did a GREAT JOB !!

WHY ATTEND A STEVNE ??

By Elvin Heiberg

Is attending a stevne worthwhile? Besides the good fellowship and good food, there are frequently chances to make important contacts. At the 1995 stevne, I discovered the resources of the Vesterheim Genealogical Center. I found it extremely worthwhile to pay their research staff to document, translate and copy many pages of ancestral records.

At the 1996 stevne, one of the exhibitors offered to make contact with the current residents of named farms in Norway. I received several letters with many photographs of my grandfather's birthplace farm in Nes. My son was a member of the Vesterheim Genealogical Center's tour of Norway this summer. He found genealogical records in Bergen, Sogndal, Hamar, and Oslo. He was given a tour of the Heiberg Museum in Kaupanger by a member of the Heiberg family. The highlight of this tour was a chance to visit the birthplace farm of his other great-grandfather in Nes, Hedmark. The current owners of the farm who had written to us even took a framed aerial photograph of the farm off the wall and presented it to him for our family in America!!

ACTIONS AT BUSINESS MEETING

Major actions at the Third Annual Business Meeting were as follows: (1) Approved minutes of 1996 Annual Business Meeting; (2) Accepted Treasurer's Report. After anticipated bills are paid, we should have a balance of

about \$2,700; (3) Approved holding our 1999 stevne at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa in conjunction with the All-Lag "Norwegian-American Bygdelaag Centennial 1899-1999", scheduled for Thur-Fri-Sat, July 29-30-31, 1999; (4) Borger Hanson, John Hogenson, and Paal Romdahl volunteered to develop a Lag Banner which will be used at the Centennial and future stevner. Please send your ideas to the above. Takk. (5) William Jersey volunteered to update our Membership Application Brochure. Supply is exhausted. (6) Elected the following officers and directors: Gary Olson, President; John Reindl, Vice President; Kathryn Cobleigh, Secretary; Charlotte Helstad, Treasurer; Kari Deisen-Dahl, Director; Dixie Hansen, Director; Orrin Helstad, Director. (7) Voted to reimburse Roland Krogstad for the cost of four slightly used microfilm readers for \$1,688. We could use one or two more. (8) Roland Krogstad agreed to continue as editor of NHOH NEWS. Please send your articles to him. Your input is needed. Takk.

MORE COUSINS

By Bill Simenson & Chris Falteisek

After talking about my successful search in Folldal for the farm where my great grandfather Simen Furuhoide lived before he emigrated, Chris Falteisek from Prescott, WI, came to me and said he too was descended from the Furuhoide Gaard. Our common ancestors were Ole Hansson and Marit Eiriksdtr. Simen's dad (Hans Oleson) was a brother to Chris' great-great-great-great grandfather (Lars Oleson). We are fourth cousins twice removed. Such are the things you learn at a stevne!!

MATERIALS PRESERVATION TIPS By Linda Herrick, Origins, 4327 Milton Ave., Janesville, WI 53546

Acid eats up paper. When acid occurs naturally in wood, it is called lignin. It is commonly found in kraft paper and low-quality mat board. Chemical contamination by acids can cause pictures to fade and paper to become yellow and brittle. Proper storage of paper and pictures in acid-free protectors (paper or plastic) can slow the chemical changes. Deacidification of paper by use of Wei T'o solution would also be a good idea.

* Do not keep your photographs in a "magnetic" album. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) used to make the pages breaks down to form hydrochloric acid and emits harmful fumes. These fumes can be identified by the strong plastic odor found in these albums. Use only Mylar or polypropylene acid-free sheet protectors for your photos.

* Any collection that is valuable to you should be protected by archival-quality materials. Polyester (also called Mylar), polypropylene, and polyethylene are considered safe for long term storage of photographs, prints, artwork, paper, fabrics, newspapers, etc. Acid-free and lignin-free

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papers are also safe. Do not store these valuables in wooden chests, shoe boxes, and vinyl envelopes. They contain materials that speed up the deterioration process.

* After you put your photographs in archival storage containers do not keep them in environments that have extreme changes. Never keep valuables in the attic or basement. Extremes of heat and cold affect the paper. Harsh light with ultraviolet rays cause fading. Large humidity changes cause damage. Keep your valuable photos in the same environment that you are comfortable in.

NES INFORMATION NEEDED

By Elvin Heiberg

Gunhild Kolstad, who compiled the 1990 and 1995 volumes 1 & 2 of the Nes Bygdebok, is planning to write a history book about emigrants from Nes to America. She would like to have information about their destiny: where they lived, what they did for a living, etc. She would also like to have copies of photographs of those people. She plans to publish her new book in the year 2000, 175 years after the emigration from Norway started. Her address is: Gunhild Kolstad

Tangnes
2355 Gaupen
Norway

1998 STEVNE

This is a reminder to mark your calendars for the 1998 Stevne to be held at the Ramada Inn, Rochester, Minnesota on Fri-Sat, August 7-8, 1998.

DECORAH SELECTED FOR 1999 CELEBRATION

A celebration of Norwegian - American culture and heritage has been set for the year 1999 at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa from Thursday through Saturday, July 29-30-31, 1999. The official name for the event is "NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN BYGDELAG CENTENNIAL 1899-1999." The stevne(meeting-reunion) will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the first Norwegian Bygdelag in America. This occurred at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis in 1899 when a group of immigrants from Valdres, Norway met for a picnic. Today there are thirty-two bygdelag in America which cover many districts of Norway. During the third annual business meeting at our Lag Stevne in Eau Claire, WI on Saturday, August 2, 1997, the membership voted to hold our 1999 stevne at Luther College in conjunction with the Centennial Celebration. Please mark your calendar and plan to participate with our Lag at the Celebration. Takk.

HISTORIELAG ADDRESSES

(e-mail: Jostein Molde/John Reindl)

- Historielaget "Frederiks Gave" for Alvdaal og Folldal, v/Arild Alander, Krokhaug, 2580 Folldal, Norway
- Os Historielag, Jon Ola Gjermundsen, 2550 Os i Osterdalen, Norway
- Rendalen Historielag, Ajas Kjaer 2482 Stoersjoen, Norway
- Tolga Historielag, Jarle Torgersbakk 2540 Tolga, Norway
- Tynset museums-og historielag, Postboks 150 2501 Tynset, Norway
- Elverum historielag, Magne Stener St. Olavsgt. 1, 2400 Elverum, Norway
- Stor-Elvdal historielag, Ola Klefsaas Skolevn. 32, 2480 Koppang, Norway
- Trysil historie-og museums-lag, Asbjørn Busk, 2420 Trysil, Norway
- Aamot historielag, Kaare Halverson 2450 Rena, Norway
- Furnes historielag, Tordis Skyberg Moerkvedvegen 175, 2380 Brumunddal, Norway
- Hamar historielag, Postboks 476, 2301 Hamar, Norway
- Løten historielag, Loeten folkebibliotek, 2340 Loeten, Norway
- Nes historielag, Johanne Finden, Kise, 2350 Nes paa Hedmark, Norway
- Vang historielag, Ole Jacob Tomter 2323 Ingeberg, Norway
- Ringsaker, Brottum, Veldre, 2380 Brumunddal, Norway
- Ringsaker historielag Postboks 55, Moelv, Norway
- Stange og Romedal historielag, Postboks 108, 2310 Stange, Norway
- Furnes Historielag, Thor Bohmer, Stor-Galas 2320 Furnes, Norway
- Engerdal (No historielag)

LUR OBTAINED

Thanks to Walter Spidahl for information and to Diane and Howard Lerohl who purchased it in Oslo and took it with them on the plane to Minneapolis, we now have a high quality 52" Norwegian Lure by Storbekken. We await the "Call of the Lure" at our next stevne!!

"PRILLAR-GURI:" THE COUNTRY GIRL WHO SAVED NORWAY (by Arthur Stavig and Marvel Arseth DeSordi from: ROMSDAL BUDSTIKKE)

Perhaps you have seen a picture of a Norwegian girl playing a long horn called a "lur." If so, it was likely meant to be "Prillar-Guri." It's a story that inspires courage and patriotism. The year was 1612. There was war between the joint kingdom of Denmark-Norway and Sweden.

The political decisions for the joint kingdom were made in Copenhagen. King Christian IV was the leader of a kingdom joined by the "Union of Kalmar" in 1397, when Margaret was queen. In this war, the Swedish King had recruited mercenaries from Holland and Scotland to come to his aid.

Guri was an orphan and had been reared by foster parents in Romsdalen, near Molde. She had been a sickly girl and for this reason was taken to an old stave church up in the File Mountains (Filefjell) for prayers of healing.

St. Thomas Church was the place for pilgrims to visit on Annunciation Day (March 25). Many of them left their crutches behind as they journeyed home. Whether it was the prayers, the long hike in the mountain air, or both, we do not know, but Guri became radiantly healthy. She was getting ready for her wedding to Kjell, just as soon as he returned from the war. Little did they suspect that their lives would be tragically changed by an event already in progress of which they were innocent. Invading mercenaries would pass directly through their valley.

The Scots might have traveled through to Sweden with little incident, as did the Dutch through Trondheim, if their leader, Col. George Sinclair, had not decided on a campaign of terror to conquer Norway first. Sinclair was a soldier with a charisma for leadership but whose ambition would not hesitate to employ the vilest treachery. His army was a band of cut-throats from the lowest dregs of society in western Europe. Their arrival on August 10 began a 16-day reign of terror. Every farm building was burned to the ground, children and old people murdered and maidens ravished. They looted and feasted on whatever food and liquor they could find. Sinclair had a huge bloodhound that was able to sniff out people and farms at a great distance.

Because of the war with Sweden, there were only men with crude weapons to defend the valley which led to Gudbrandsdal, Kjell's home. Beyond that lay the ungarded heartland of central Norway. It was Guri, the seter girl, who carried the warning to the unsuspecting farmlands. She traveled through streams and underbrush, hiding from Sinclair and his dog. He had seen her and had

resolved to make her his prize of war. She traveled without regard to pain and danger of the wild animals in the mountains. She prayed, "Lord Jesus, lead me to warn the people and to save Kjell's family from this terrible enemy". When she arrived at the end of her journey, she didn't look much like a bride. But the people had been warned and now worked feverishly to build an ambush at a narrow pass near Kringen, upstream from Lesje and Dovre.

In the strangest of happenings, Mary Sinclair was also hurrying through the mountains, trying to stop her husband. Carrying her new born son, she wept bitter tears at her husband's deeds.

An avalanche of rocks was constructed to greet the invaders. Just beyond a bend on a narrow pass, a barricade was built. Across the river in plain sight of the enemy stood Guri. She was dressed in her bridal clothes, her wedding with Kjell having just been completed, as he had unexpectedly returned from the war. Guri played her lur as a signal to the defenders that the hated enemy was approaching. A musket shot from the bushes killed Sinclair. Then the rocks began to roll. Almost all of the 800 invaders perished, and only 16 of the survivors escaped massacre by the angry farmers.

The victory for Norway brought a tragic end to Guri's dreams. In the aftermath of the melee, Kjell tried to save Sinclair's son from harm. However, the child's mother, overcome with grief and, and fearing for her son, misunderstood Kjell's intentions and stabbed him to death. Guri's marriage lasted only hours, but she is remembered for what took place at Kringen that day, August 26, 1612. "Prillar-Guri" will live forever as a national hero in Norway's long struggle for freedom. Today, a monument stands by the highway commemorating this historical event.

THE LURE (From: Grove's Dictionary of Musical Instruments)

"Lure" is the name used in Scandinavia for bark and wooden trumpets played by herdsman until late in the 19th century, to frighten away wild animals and to round up cattle. They were used for signaling and communication since their sound carried well across the valleys from high points in the mountains. The wooden lur was usually made from two halves of a long piece of wood, cut lengthwise, hollowed out, and re-glued. Sometimes the air duct was bored through the center. The bore was usually cylindro-conical with a flared bell. The Naverlur was made of wood, but also was covered with birch bark. This is a common lur and is considered a folk instrument of the Norwegians.

PERSISTENCE

By Don Quickstad

My ancestors had come from various places and it was a real challenge when I started tracing my family tree 40 years ago. I became interested in my genealogy while home from the U.S. Navy in 1957. Rummaging through an old dresser inherited by my mother after her father passed away, I discovered the entire bottom drawer heaped with old photographs. That was the beginning of my 40 years' labor of love.

None of the photographs were labeled with names and, wondering who they were, I sat down with my mother at the kitchen table and she started going through them one by one, identifying and naming all but 10 or 15. I took them back to San Diego and made negatives and prints of many of them. I still have the negatives but gave most of the prints away.

Where to start? Mother didn't know where in Norway her or dad's grandparents came from, so it was starting from scratch. First mailed hundred's of letters to addresses that my mother and other relatives had given me - a shotgun approach. Well, many people back then did not give a hoot about "ancestors," were too busy to answer, or didn't wish to be bothered about "all those dead people" - but luckily some did.

From an old marriage license of Gust and Hilma Tollefson emerged the name Gol in Buskerud. A reply to a letter to a pastor of the church in Gol led me to the Hemsedal Bygdebok - can you imagine the thrill of this first line of discovery! I also faintly remembered Dad talking about Eina and Toten. Eina is in Kolbu in Vestre Toten, so I wrote to the pastor of the church there and, by golly, he put me in touch with a niece of my grandfather, Olaus Quickstad. Voila! With the help of the Toten Museum people the Quickstad line was started.

My mother did not know from where in Norway her maternal grandfather, Otto Hanson, had emigrated, but knew that Otto's father, Hans Torgerson, was buried in the "old Esping cemetery." Sure enough, Hans' tall tombstone was there, but so weathered that I couldn't make out what seemed to be a farm name. Another trip was made with pencil and paper to take a "rubbing" - and the name Hans Torgerson Halmrast emerged. A letter to Gerhard Naeseth in Madison, WI, resulted in the information that Halmrast was a farm in Søndre Land, Oppland.

By this time I had become well known at the St Olaf College Library and the Wilson Library at the University of Minnesota. Both places had granted me, as a school teacher, book checkout privileges. Tons of days and weekends over the years have been spent crawling around dim and dusty book shelves. From the Land and Vardal Bygdeboks and others, together with help from Land

genealogists and members, emerged the Hanson line in Søndre Land, Nordre Land, Buskerud, Vardal, Toten, and Hadeland.

Otto Hanson's wife had me stumped for a while. A letter to a descendant of one of her brothers in Washington gave me some information, and from a descendant of Otto's brother, Ole, came the fact that Otto had been sent from his home in Waseca County, MN, to his brother Ole in Wisconsin to learn English. Well, I reckon he learned more than English, as he also met his future wife, Elena, and later went back to Wisconsin to marry her. I sent for the marriage certificate, containing the names of her parents. A Toten Lag genealogist then set me on the right track of the ancestry of her parents in Gran and Jevnaker, Hadeland.

On my side, that left ancestors of my Dad's mother, Laura Larsen, whose father's name was found spelled variously Biergo/Birgo/Berger or Lassen/Larsen. Now, I knew what they looked like, as their old-timey hardboard pictures were among those identified from the dresser drawer. Guess it was custom back then to take "casket" pictures - that's what they were!

I went to courthouses, interviewed aged relatives, read Norwegian "old script" immigrant books - nothing. Some time previously, my sister, Janice, knowing my interest in the family genealogy, had presented me with Nordmaendene I America, deres historie og rekord, by Martin Ulvestad, 1907. Believe me when I say that I read it from cover to cover, several times, picking up the translation of the old script on my own.

Months went by before I went back to it again. And there it was: Steele County, MN, "De første norske Settlers in dette County var Borge Larsen Gjermhus, fra Kongsvinger, og Martin Hanson fra Toten." How could I have missed it before! This Martin Hanson was my great grandfather Otto's brother and the "Gjermhus" farm name opened the door to Laura Larsen's ancestry, Eidskog and Vinger, Hedmarken.

Anne Olsdatter, the mother of my grandfather, Olaus, gave me the roughest, toughest time. Letters in the 1950s to an aged, single niece in Toten yielded only that Anne "was from the farm Gistad in N. Aurdal" and that Anne's father, Ole Knutson, "had emigrated to the USA with the rest of the family." (Remember that most of this time in my research I was more or less groping in the dark, grasping at straws - lots of letters and library work - unaware of the various "Lags" and their assistance. Certainly no surfing around on the web - just working on an old manual typewriter.)

The only Gisted I found was in Slidre, but there was

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no bygdebok for N.Aurdal. However, I found a Gigstad farm in Skrautval, N.Aurdal. Stymied, I searched the microfilmed parish records from the Mormons, but not much there.

Back to surfing the library shelves, where in Valdresslekten Bugge, I finally discovered the farm Gigstad. On page 170, Bind(Vol.)II, was "Ola pa Skoge, (utv. til USA)" with parents listed as "Anne Bendixdtr. Gladheim f. 1780, G.m. Knut Knutsonn Gigstad f. 1780 (90?)" There was no information concerning Ola's children, so so I wrote to a museum in N. Aurdal which sent me names of Ola's children, one of which was Anne Olsdatter, b. 1832. But that still didn't prove that it was my Anne.

By this time I was a member of various Lags. Betty Rockswold helped me and wrote Leroy Madson, the Totenlag genealogist, who sent me information that ensured me almost 100% that this Anne was the right one. A short time later I was shocked when a letter arrived claiming "my Anne" was "his Anne." But how could that be? My Anne never left Toten, dying there, but his Anne immigrated to Minnesota! He said he could prove it by an entry in an old bible that she allegedly carried with her to Minnesota.

Back to the drawing board to prove my claim. Lots of documents and letters back and forth, visits, phone calls, tons of help from Betty Rockswold and Leroy Madson. At the present time I'm 99.9% sure of my proof, but am still trying to clear up that lingering .1%. Isn't it fun!

That was only the beginning of my family tree - lots of research to be done yet, carrying all the various branches to the beginning of written records. And I also did this with my wife's genealogy with similar difficulties. Breaking down those stone walls is what is the interesting and challenging part. There are several ongoing mysteries on my wife's side that are as yet unsolved, but that is what holds the interest. Hopefully, it will be much easier now that the computer has become such a great tool.

Even before the advent of my computer days(I've only been online since the end of December 1996), I discovered that one of my Sondre Land lines went back to the Hemsedal(Buskerud) priest Tollef Steensen, b.ca. 1555, and that one of his grandsons emigrated to Slidre and became an ancestor of my wife, Alair. Upon hearing this, her mother, Alice, stood up, all four foot eleven inches of her, and said to me, "Oh no! Don't tell me we're related!" And so it goes. (e-mail: dquick@northernnet.com)

TREASURY/MEMBERSHIP

Charlotte Helstad, our new treasurer, reports that as of October 30, 1997 our Lag has a balance of \$1,454.56 in the treasury, and a paid up membership of 203 households or family units.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Evonn E. Cain, 615/794-2481
1636 Kinnard Drive, Franklin, TN 37064
Ringsaker

Richard G. Erstad, 612/690-2981
1379 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105-2858
Folldal, Alvdal, Stor Elvdal, Tynset

Linda K. Johnson, 612/487-4264
1571 Woodbridge Street, St. Paul, MN 55117
Loten, Romedal, Vang, Tynset

Terry P. Kay, 760/360-6325
78065 Larbrook Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211
Hamar, Vang

Margie J. Larsen, 715/834-9151
1327 E. Hamilton Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701-7339
Ringsaker, Stange

Franklin & Betty McCoy, 760/772-2350
78703 Links Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Theresa Nelson, 320/877-7453
56289 145th Street, Cosmos, MN 56228
Stai Farm

Sheila J. Norton, 206/824-0943
P.O. Box 98666, DeMoines, WA 98188-0666
Trysil, Elverum

Archie E. Simonson, 608/273-9388
5606 Hemstead Road, Madison, WI 53711
Hamar, Nes

Janice Stewart, 715/282-5819
7457 Highway 8 W., Rhinelander, WI 54501-9474
Ringsaker

A SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks and appreciation should go to Roslyn Waddell, our retired treasurer. At our first organizational stevne in 1995, she stepped forward to fulfill an important position in a new Lag. For her devotion and dedication to setting up and maintaining the Lag's financial records over the past two years, we are extremely grateful. As past president, it was always a pleasure to work with our Lag Treasurer. Best wishes to you, Roslyn, for a job well done!

STUDY OF NAMES IN FOLLDAL

By Rune Alander, Follidal

The use of names changes as time passes by. Some names are common only a few years, while others are in common use for many centuries. Many names have had different variants through the years. Some of these names have become independent names. Different parts of the country have their own special names.

This is a report of a study of names appearing in the 1801 census for Follidal. About 55% of the 540 people living in the upper part of Follidal(Lesja) had the following 11 most common names (number and percent in parenthesis): Ole(56=10%); Marit(49=9%); Anne(38=7%); Ragnhild(23=4%); Peder(22=4%); Erik(21=4%); Ingeborg(21=4%); Hans(20=4%); Goro(18=3%); Kari(17=3%); and Sigrid(16=3%).

For the lower part of Follidal(Tonset, 286 people), many of the same names were used. About half the people had the following most used names: Ole(26= 9%); Marit 23=8%); Peder(17=6%); Kari(17=6%); Ingeborg(14=5%); Jon(13=5%); Esten(12=4%); Anne(11=4%); and Sigrid(10=4%)

In Atndalen it seems Hans, Marit, and Ole were the most common among the 39 people.

I have standardized some of the names: Goro, Guro, and Guri=Guri. Some names had two variants, perhaps due to clerical error, such as Otter=Otte. The priests could write Giertrud/Gjertrud; Johanna/Johanne; La(e)rs, Ni(e)ls are examples.

My survey now contains almost 100 different names of people living about 1800. At that time, the custom was to name up the grandparents. Also, great grandparents and other close relatives or parents were named up. This practice resulted in the same names existing in the family for years. It occurred some times that three generations were named Ole Olsen, for example. And if Ole number two married a girl whose father was named Ole, it could be two boys named Ole in the youngest generation. If they also get names after the parents, it could even be three boys named Ole. They were then called Little Ole, Ole Senior, or something like that.

Some names(Erland, Guttorm, Jens, and Russina) existed only in the upper part of Follidal, while some names(Avle and Kannelken)existed only in the lower part. A total list of the almost 100 names are also in the report.

ALVDAL UPDATE

By Magnhild & Edwin Faland

Since I(Magnhild) am from Alvadal, I can fill in a little about what is going on there. It is a beautiful town in the northern part of Osterdalen. The farms extend up the hillside, above which are beautiful evergreens with beautiful mountains extending behind and above them. The area is very popular for tourists with hiking in the

summer and skiing in the winter. Many of the farmers who still move up to the seters in the summer have accommodations for tourists to stay over night.

In the late 1930s and early 1940s Alvadal was well known for its cross-country and downhill skiers --some of which competed at Holmenkollen.

Downtown are stores and an agriculture college which attract many young people. Last year a museum for Kjell Aukrust(a writer) was opened there. A few months ago Freia Chocolate factory paid the museum for the rights to make some of Aukrust's figures in chocolate. Three new ski hills were built last year.

NHOH GENEALOGY COMMITTEE

Feel free to contact any of the following for assistance throughout the year. Please refer to the Membership List for addresses and phone numbers. Services are free for Lag members except for materials and postage. Some of the Committee members are not Lag members; hence their phone numbers are listed. Committee listed by kommune.

ALVDAL: Dixie Hansen

ELVERUM: none

ENGERDAL: Dixie Hansen

FOLLDAL: Rune Alander, Audrey Amundsen, Dixie Hansen, Chris Falteisek

FURNES: Barbara J.Andersen, Walter Spidahl

HAMAR: Sandra Johnson

LØTEN: none

NES: Dale Herrick, Mabel Prestrud

OS: James Rokeh (507-872-6847)

RENDALEN: Jerry Larsen, Paul Ness

RINGSAKER: Barbara J. Andersen, Mike Bovre, John Olson

ROMEDAL: Sandra Johnson, John Reindl

STANGE: Barbara J. Andersen, Sandra Johnson, Ulvik Larsen, John Reindl, Marilyn Sorensen

STOR. ELVEDAL: Rev Don Wold(218)835-6275

TOLGA: Merle Gregerson(farm names) (608)526-3759

TRYSIL: Hazel Gulbranson

TYNSET: Betty Rockswold

VANG: none

ÅMOT: Timothy Martinson, Delores Holberg(Adams and Wood County, Wisconsin)

POD TO SETTLEMENT

We could use a few articles regarding the routes your immigrants traveled from their Port of Debarkation in America to the area in which they settled in America. Please send your information to the editor of NHOH NEWS. A tusen takk.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP ??

Does your address label say: "Exp: 12/31/1997"? If the answer is "yes", then your 1998 dues are payable shortly.

Dues for **Individual/couple** are:

1 year=\$10; 2 years=\$18; 3 years=\$25

We hope that you will want to continue receiving our NHOH NEWS and remain a part of our Lag. Please make check payable to NHOH Lag and send with a note indicating your name and any updates in address or phone number to: CharlotteA.Helstad, Treasurer, 8 Sebring Ct., Madison, WI 53719-3521. Please indicate if you wish to be sent any Membership Application Brochures for distribution to Norwegian groups or to others who may wish to join our Lag. This would help us to gain new members. Also, you may wish to consider a contribution to our Genealogy Fund. Takk.

THANK YOU NOTES

Thanks from all of us who receive the NHOH NEWS, are extended to the several contributors to this issue of the newsletter. Members are encouraged to keep up this important support.

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News
Roland Krogstad
2718 Regent St.
Madison, WI 53705-3714

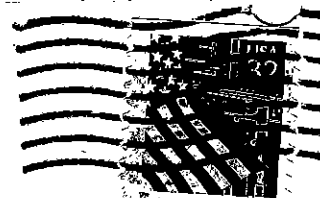
SEEK: YOU MAY FIND

--Seeking information about descendants of Ole Engebretson Husom b. 13 NOV 1836 in Folldal. Died 1926 in America. He married Synnve Jensdatter Spilde in 1871. She was born about 1840 in Granvin. They had five children: Ingbrigt b. 9 JUL 1873; Martin b. 1875; Betsey b. 1880; Mary b. 30 MAR 1882; Nels b. 14 MAY 1884. Contact: Rune Alander, Valebruveien, N-2630 Ringebu, Norway. OR rualande@sn.no

MORE COUSINS

By Chris Falteisek

Dixie Hansen and I are fourth cousins, once removed. Our common progenitors were Ole Syverson(1768-1868)from the farm, Hjerkin, and wife Marit Larsdtr(1811-1862)were the first to live on the farm, Tofthaug in Folldal. Dixie's great-great grandfather (Jon Oleson) and my grat-great-great grandfather (Syver Oleson) were brothers.



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