

NHOH News

Volume 4 Number 1 Spring 1999

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

Who Are We?

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

District 1:

Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal

Folldal

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,

I trust everyone is enjoying the new year and is making plans for our Lag's next activity, which is participating in the Norwegian-American Bygdelaag Centennial, July 29-31, at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. As part of the event, our Lag will hold a two-hour meeting on Saturday, July 31. The meeting will include our annual business session and a guest speaker who will address the groups on the history of Hedmark. The site for the meeting will be announced later.

Thanks to the leadership of Roland Krogstad and committee, our Lag will have a banner which highlights selective contributions of the Hedemarken people to Norway's development. The banner will be carried by, yours truly, in the Parade of Lags at the Centennial celebration on Friday evening, July 30. I feel privileged to have been chosen for this high honor.

Your Directors and Officers met on Saturday, January 23, in Waunakee, Wisconsin. In addition to preparing for the Centennial celebration, we also made preliminary plans for our next stevne in the year 2000. In keeping with the practice of moving the stevne around the Midwest, Alexandria, Minnesota, was selected as the site. It will be held August 3-5, Thursday through Saturday. It will be our first three-day stevne which will provide time for a more balanced program of genealogy research and historical -

culture study as suggested by your evaluations of our last stevne. Mark your calendars for this exciting event.

Two other topics discussed at our January meeting were: a lapel pin for NHOH, which is being designed by Dixie Hansen, and a Lag trip to Norway in the fall of 2000, which is being explored by Joe Waddell. Thank you Dixie and Joe, for your leadership! (You will find more information on the latter topic elsewhere in the newsletter.)

The Board of Directors and Officers will meet again on May 22, 11:00 am. at a site to be chosen in Eau Claire.

Think Spring and recruit new members!!

Hjertelig hilsen fra
Gary M. Olson

LAG OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

President: Gary M. Olson (507)282-1090
V. President: John Reindl (608)238-0393
Secretary: Dixie Hansen (612)690-0872
Treas.: Charlotte A. Helstad (608)833-3455
Directors: Orrin Helstad (608)833-3455
Paul Romdahl (612)474-5775
Marilyn Sorensen (612)633-1329
Past Pres.: Roland Krogstad (608)238-6652

ALL-LAG CENTENNIAL

Our 1999 Lag Stevne will be held on Saturday afternoon, July 31 in conjunction with the Bygdelag Centennial at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, July 29-30-31, 1999. The Board is planning a program plus the Lag Annual Business Meeting. Please refer to the Bygdelag Centennial Registration Form, and the Luther College Bygdelag Accommodation -Summer 1999 form. Note the tours, banquet, and deadlines, and that two different checks are required to be mailed to two different mailers. A list of off-campus lodging was published on page six of the Fall 1998 issue of NHOH NEWS. Advance registration is preferable and open to all. This will enable the committee to prepare your packet and expedite your registration at the table. This is an excellent opportunity to see and hear about Norwegian Heritage at its finest. This is the last publication of registration materials. We hope to see you there!!

BOARD MEETING

At its meeting on Saturday, January 23, 1999, your NHOH Board discussed or approved the following items:

1. Minutes of October 17, 1998 Meeting approved
2. Treasurer's Report of \$2,001.94 on hand December 31, 1998 approved. Balance= \$2,130.94 as of 1-23-99. 1998 Stevne income=\$2,193.00; Stevne expenses=\$2,040.58.
3. Status of Membership Dues showed a total of 209 members. About 80 members are paid through December 31, 1998. These dues are payable now.
A reminder is inserted in this issue of NHOH NEWS
4. A policy was approved to refer requests for searches for relatives to professional genealogists.
5. Approved purchase of computer disk of 1875 census of Ringsaker. Genealogist will search disk on request.
6. Genealogy Committee will be surveyed as to what is available from each Kommune
7. A Lag lapel pin was discussed. Dixie will obtain further information from vendors.
8. A Lag Banner proposal was approved for production.
A budget of \$300 was approved.
9. Tour alternatives to Norway in 2000 were discussed.
10. Alexandria, MN will be explored for Stevne 2000
11. Discussion was held on possibility to develop a series of posters illustrating Norwegian Heritage, immigration, and examples of early settlements in America. These could be displayed at stevner, Nordic fests, and other places. Perhaps Scandinavian study departments might be interested in taking on these projects.

PHOTOS OF ØSTERDALSLAGET

STEVNE By Dixie Hansen

Special Inserts A,B,C,D, are photos produced and donated by Dixie Hansen, Board Member. The original 42" wide photo was scanned in sections and laser printed.

If you can identify any faces, please make a photo copy, circle the individuals, and send the marked-up copy to Dixie Hansen for future reference by all members, such as at stevner, etc. A tusen takk, Dixie for this very interesting project.

NAMES OF ØSTERDALER SETTLERS

The Østerdølenes Saga by Pastor K. G. Nilsen, copyright 1938, the Fuhr Publishing & Printing Co., Duluth, MN has several pages of Østerdøler settlers by state and town or city. If you would like verifications of a name(s) on the list(s), please send your request with a self-addressed stamped return envelop to Roland Krogstad, editor.

Minnesota cities are: Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Fergus Falls, Winger, Climax, Moorhead, Pinewood, Dalton, Erskine, Audebon, Bagley, Bemidji, Fosston, Saum, Thief River Falls, Kelliher, Ulen, Hitterdal, Oslo, Lake Park, Fertile, Lowry, Farwell, Eagle Bend, McIntosh, Big Falls, Pelican Rapids, Halstad, Hawley, Dillworth, Middle River, Crookston, East Grand Forks, Dan River, St. James, Watson, and other towns with fewer settlers.

North Dakota towns= Fargo, Argusville-Harwood, Edmore, Schaffer, Wildrose, White Earth, Minnewaukon, Montpelier, Hanks, Banks, Grand Forks, Williston, Oberon, Finley, Botteman, Grafton, Cooperstown, Reeder, Maddack.

Wisconsin towns= Stanley, Spring Valley, Beldenville, Hudson, Ellsworth, Superior, Wilson, River Falls, Eau Claire, Hersey, Woodville, Strum.

Washington= Everett, Seattle, Stanwood, Bremerton, Arlington, others.

South Dakota = Lebanon, Wallace, Gettysburgh.

Michigan = Ironwood, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Two Harbors, others.

Chicago, Illinois, several other states.

EARLY EMIGRANTS FROM ØSTERDAL

The above book also has lists of early emigrants from the parishes in Østerdal. Please send a stamped envelop with your request to Roland Krogstad.

NORD HEDMARK OG HEDEMARKEN

LAG By Roland Krogst d

The Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag is the newest of the Bygdelag in America and covers the northern two-thirds of Hedmark Fylke encompassing the three districts of Nord- sterdal, S r- sterdal, and Hedemarken and Hamar. Currently, these three districts include 15 kommuner as follows: Alvdal, Folldal, Os, Rendalen, Tolga, Tynset,  mot, Elverum, Engerdal, Stor-Elvdal, Trysil, Hamar, L ten, Ringsaker, and Stange. The NHOH Lag is an expanded revival of the former  sterdalslaget which was formed at Fergus Falls, Minnesota on June 18, 1910 and dissolved in 1962, as did many other lags during the 1960s and 1970s.

It took about a year of planning and promotion to form the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag during an organizational stevne at Madison, Wisconsin on August 18-19, 1995. The process began at the Seven-Lag Stevne in July 1994 when a handful of attendees expressed a desire for another lag representing the North Hedmark and Hamar areas. Mailing lists were compiled from analyses of past issues of NORWEGIAN TRACKS and VIKING magazines. Sign-up booths were set up at Norwegian festivals and announcements were made at lutefisk suppers. After 132 interested households had been identified, the President of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad gave the O.K. to plan a stevne. A stevne planning committee was convened in November in Madison, WI. A press release announcing the stevne to explore the formation of a new bygdelag for Hedmark was sent to NORWEGIAN TRACKS, 75 daily and 125 weekly newspapers throughout the midwest, and to Sons of Norway lodges in District #1 and #5. About 500 brochures were distributed to Norwegian Centers, such as Vesterheim, Norskedalen, Norwegian Consulate and other places.

Over 80 people attended the stevne held in conjunction with the Second Annual Norwegian-American Festival in Madison, WI. Get-acquainted sessions, caucuses, genealogy presentations, entertainment, and a business meeting were held. Officers and directors were elected, the lag name was established, and the nuclei of major committees were identified. Two sets of cousins were also identified during the first stevne. The first issue of the NHOH NEWS was mailed to an expanded mailing list of over 375 households in the Fall of 1995. Membership from 26 states (Hawaii to Norway) had grown to over 200 as of June 30, 1997, and reaching over 220 in 1998. Over 75% resided in the North Central states with nearly 40% in Wisconsin and 22% in Minnesota. The Western states, Texas, and the Eastern states were also represented. About 30% of the members report they have roots in Ringsaker,

the largest representation among the current 15 kommuner.

At the annual stevner about an hour is set aside for committees to meet, review needs, and plan for the coming year. An excellent computer lab with bygdeboker, readers, and computers is provided. A cousin-finding tradition was started when the Lag was formed. To date, about a dozen cousins have been identified. Members fill out a worksheet with two columns, including ancestral farms in the left column and corresponding ancestral family names in the right column. These worksheets are analyzed, matches notified, and worksheets compiled in a looseleaf notebook for review at the annual stevner. Hopefully this service will be computerized. A Genealogy Committee of about 25 volunteers representing most of the 15 kommuner is available to assist with genealogical services throughout the year.

Lying in southeastern Norway, lakes and rivers are dispersed throughout the area from Lake Mj sa on the southwest to Lake Femund in the northeast, and dense forests along the Swedish border. Mixed farming is practiced on the lowlands and gentle slopes near lakes and rivers. Historically, during the era of the Viking Kings(800-1200 A.D.)there came bad seasons and famines in southern Sweden. Many people migrated westward across the Eith Forest into Heithmork and surrounding areas. Hamar became a center of trade, church, and the Ting. Today, instead of logs floating down the Glama River they are trucked to the sawmills.

It took much dedication, time and effort to plan, promote and form this new bygdelag. The camaraderie and friendships which evolved, the skills and talents which are shared, and the ancestors and cousins who are identified, are but a few of the benefits, satisfactions, and motivations which accrue to members and volunteers who belong to a bygdelag. The search for roots becomes an exciting adventure which never seems to end.

VANG PART OF HAMAR

According to a map of Hedmark and a listing of kommuner received in January 1999 by John Reindl from Hedmark Website, Vang is now a part of Hamar Kommune.

GENEALOGY ASSISTANCE

This is a reminder to contact members of the Genealogy Committee on the last page of the Membership List for assistance between stevner.

SEEK -- YOU MAY FIND !!

--Seeking descendants of Georg Nikolay Kolstad, born 6 SEP 1851 in Stange, probably at Hjermstadeie Farm, to Andreas Kristian Kolstad and Marte Larsdatter Guthuus. Andreas and Marte were married in Stange Kirke on 13 MAY 1836. Georg emigrated 6 MAR 1879 from Stange. He settled in the mid-west per family tradition. His brother Karl Otto Kolstad immigrated to Boston shortly after Georg went to the mid-west. Their six sisters (Anne Mathea, Georgine Kristiane, Lena Bolette, Caroline Julie, Oline Amalie, and Helene Marie) remained in Stange. Contact: Priscilla C. Greenlees, Chatham Cove C-6, 1230 Weaver Ave., W.W., Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-4612.

--Searching for two relatives: (1) Knut Antonsen Stormoen, b.19.08.1879 in Aamot in Osterdalen. Emigrated 28.01.1901 aged 21 on boat Montebello, agent M.R. Raffel, for Boston. Parents=Anton Knutsen Blikkberget/Bergithe Olsdatter Blikkberget, and (2) Kari Antonsdtr Stormoen, b.14.01.1882 in Berger in Osterdalen. Emigrated 24.06.1901 age 19 on boat Island, agent=Lie to Wisconsin. Parents=Anton Knutsen Blikkberget/Bergithe Olsdatter Blikkberget. Contact: Trond E. Indsetviken, Skogvn. 2, 2340 Loten, Norway. tel:625 92319. email: tesi@online.no

FROM VESTERHEIM GENEALOGICAL CENTER & NAESETH LIBRARY

The Center has received new microfilms: Nes 1927-1932; Ringsaker 1923-1933; Sollia 1880-1933; Vang 1886-1900. The Center has also assembled a list of more than 300 internet sites that should be of interest to our members. The list is now available for \$8.00. Send request and check to the Center at 415 West Main Street, Madison, WI 53703.

VELKOMMEN

We wish to extend a hearty welcome to the following new members who have joined since the last NHOH NEWS:

Josephine Bui	Wheatridge, CO
Jennifer Bertsch	Thornton, CO
Peter Brissette	Thornton, CO
Karla Mattila	Silverlake, WA

NORWAY TOUR PLANNED FOR 2001

A trip to Hedmark, and tour of Norway is being planned for September 2000. The itinerary is not yet firm, but includes time in Oslo, Hamar, Lillehammer, Gudvangen, Voss, and Bergen. Travel will be by scheduled airlines with departures from and return to either gateway of Chicago or Minneapolis/Saint Paul. We are planning at least three days in Hedmark for

genealogy research, visiting ancestral home sites and relatives. Other planned highlights are a visit to the Lillehammer Olympic sites, a ride from Myrdal to Flam on the spectacular rail line which descends 2,800 ft. in 15 miles, a cruise on Aurland and Naeroy Fjords to Gudvangen, and a ride up to Stalheim, and perhaps an evening dinner atop Mount Floyen at Bergen.

Initial consideration is being given to traveling in September after the prime travel season has ended where we will get more value for our money than travelling in mid-summer. Breakfast and dinner each day will be included with accommodations in quality hotels.

Joe Waddell is making arrangements and promises to keep us advised when plans prices are firm..

From: HALLINGEN March, 1999 Number 346 Some Common Abbreviations Used in Norse Genealogy

ant	antagelig	probably
b.n.	barn navne	child's name
br	bruk	small farm, part of a larger farm
ca	circa	about
d	døde	died
d.b.	dreng barn	boy child
d.e.	den eldre	the oldest
d.y.	den yngste	the youngest
dlr	dalar = 5 ort = 120 skilling	
d.s.a.	døde samme år	died the same year
dvs	det vil si	that is to say
em	enkemann	widower
f	født	born
fad	fadder	sponsor
g	gift	married
gdm	gårdman	farmer
gl	gamal	old
gm	gift med	married to
h	hustrue	wife
husm	husmann	cotter
hmd	husmann	cotter
jomfr	jomfru	maiden/lady
omkr	omkring	about, around
osv	og så videre	etc.
p.b.	pike barn	girl child
qv	kvinne/quvinde	woman/wife
RD	riksdalar	silver coin used in N until 1875 = ca 4 kroner
before 1813= 6 mark or 4 ort = 96 skilling= kr. 3,20		
1813-1815 1 riksbankdalar= 6 riksdalar		
1815-1816 1 spesidalar = 60 riksdalar		
1817-1876 1 spesidalar = 5 ort= 120 skilling=4 kroner		
SPD	spesidalar	coin used to the year 1873 = about 1 dollar
s.å.	samme år	same year
ug	ugift	unmarried
unk	ungkar	bachelor
br.nr	bruksnummer	
g.nr.	gårdsnummer	
l.nr	løpenummer	

NHOH Acquires Copies of volumes III, V, and VI of *Østerdalslagets Aarbok*

From Dixie Hansen

Photocopies of 3 books of significant interest to NHOH were recently acquired with the cooperation of the Minnesota Historical Society, which agreed to allow copies to be made from the originals in their collection.

These 3 volumes were published in the early part of this century by the Østerdalslaget - a bygdelag which was formed in 1910, and which was a predecessor of NHOH (in terms of the general geographic area in Norway from which it's member's families originated).

All 3 of the Østerdalslaget volumes are written in Norwegian . Volumes III and IV are printed in that fancy old gothic typescript which makes them a bit more difficult to read... but they're worth the effort! Each of them contains a wealth of historical and genealogical information and articles about our Norwegian-American ancestors, about the valley in Hedmark Norway from whence they came, about the communities they settled in here in the U.S... as well as a record of the early history of the lag itself. Lag members are individually listed at the end of each volume and there are many photographs throughout.

NHOH already owns an original copy of Volume IV in the series, which was donated to us by Einar Olson of Sparta in 1996.

Somewhere out there there must surely be a Volume I and Volume II from this series... but a search on the Internet of many card catalogues across the country has failed to locate either one of them. If one of our members has Volumes I and II (or perhaps a later volume?) or knows where they might be found... please let us know!

These are the 4 volumes in our collection:

Østerdalslagets Mindeskrift. 1917. Volume III.. 235 p. (photocopy)
Østerdalslagets Mindeskrift. 1920. Volume IV. 186 p.
Østerdalslagets Aarbok. 1923. Volume V. 102 p.(photocopy)
Østerdalslagets Aarbok. 1925-1926. Volume VI. 160 p. (photocopy)

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Where were the early stevnes of the Østerdalslaget held?

1910	Fergus Falls, MN	1915	Fargo, ND
1911	Minneapolis, MN	1916	Cumberland, WI
1912	Fergus Falls, MN	1917	Eau Claire, WI
1913	Fargo, ND	1919	Minneapolis, MN
1914	Minneapolis, MN	1920	Superior, WI
		1921	Spring Valley, MN; Detroit, MN, Minot, ND.
		1922	Alexandria, MN
		1923	Fergus Falls, MN
		1928	Spring Valley, WI



University of ND a primary source for family history

**By Sandra J. Slater,
Head, Special Collections, UND**

The Family History Room in the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections, is located on the 4th floor of the Chester Fritz Library on the University of North Dakota campus. It has witnessed tremendous growth since its establishment in January 1980. From shelves of material in the Assistant Archivist's office, the Family History collection has evolved to include a significant number of primary records and over 4600 published materials valuable to family historians.

The geographic scope of the collection is regional, encompassing North and South Dakota and Minnesota. A variety of essential primary sources are available on microfilm. Federal census schedules enumerate residents of the three state area from 1840 through 1920. Most schedules are accompanied by a microfilm Soundex index or a published computer generated index. Mortality schedules accompany the 1850 to 1880 censuses.

The 1880 Federal census for Iowa and Wisconsin and the Ontario and Manitoba provincial census from 1851 to 1891, along with published indexes for several Mid-western states, allow researchers to trace the migration of their ancestors from these locations. The 1885 Dakota Territorial census and the 1895 Minnesota State

census, as well as the 1890 Special Schedule enumerating Civil War Union veterans and widows of Civil War Union veterans, attempt to fill the gap of the missing 1890 Federal population schedule.

Naturalization records and passenger list indexes can be useful in tracing ancestors back to their point of origin. A 1985 North Dakota state law mandated that all original naturalization records be transferred from North Dakota Clerk of District Court offices to the State Archives in Bismarck. These records, dating from 1873 to 1955, have since been microfilmed and indexed by county and surname. This indispensable index and Declaration of Intention and Petition records for Grand Forks, Traill, Walsh, and Pembina Counties are available in the Family History Room.

Naturalization record holdings also extend into five Red River Valley counties of Minnesota. The watershed year for naturalization records is 1906. After that date personal information, including spouse, children's names and birth dates, the port of embarkation and passenger ship name is available. Before 1906, naturalization records contain the individual's birth date and port of entry into the United States.

The National Archives holds thousands upon thousands of microfilms of passenger and immigration lists. Very few libraries have the resources to purchase all of these rolls. Instead, they acquire published indexes extracted from the passenger lists by ethnic group. The Family History Room houses a number of these publications, including indexes listing German, Irish, and Czech immigrants. Germans to America presently comprises 60 volumes indexing immigration from 1850 through 1891. Completion of this set will end with 1893. Filby and Meyer's general Passenger and Immigration Lists Index enumerates immigrants found in published passenger lists.

Homestead files can be very rich in family history details. First entry public domain land transactions dating from the 1870's to approximately 1920 are recorded in microfilmed tract books originally held by various land offices around the state of North Dakota and western Minnesota. A map indexes the tract books by township and range numbers. Although one may access homestead files at the National Archives through a legal land description, the

UND continued:

tract books offer the second entry point, the Final Certificate number, recorded if an entry person proved up his homestead claim under provisions of the law and was entitled to a patent.

Other resources useful in locating ancestors and providing contextual information are North Dakota and Minnesota county plat books and atlases. They indicate land ownership and often include biographical information. North Dakota Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps describe homes and businesses that an ancestor may have owned from 1884 to 1969. Regional post office indexes offer a way to find places no longer in existence. They list the first postmaster and often a brief history of the town. We also have church, county and city anniversary books, city and telephone directories, various bibliographies, and a number of histories of the region.

The Family History Room also offers an ethnic focus, besides its regional geographic scope. The ethnic group most well represented is Norwegian, although a number of items investigate Canadians of English, Irish, and Scottish descent, and Germans from Russia.

Norwegian-American family historians can study an extensive collection of bygdeboker, at present totaling 885 volumes. This collection describes the history of 501 communities or parishes in Norway, and is the most frequently used material in the room, besides census records.

Many Norwegian communities have multi-volume sets. The first volume usually relates the economic, political, and cultural history of the area, while subsequent volumes detail genealogical information about the individuals who lived on the parish farms, and frequently indicate where in the United States people immigrated.

The Bygdebok Collection was an idea conceived in 1980 by Arne Brekke, now retired UND Associate Professor of Languages, and Colleen Oihus, former Department Assistant Archivist. They solicited bygdebok donations from communities in Norway, and Norwegians reacted generously. The response was tremendous. Gifts came from individuals, businesses, community organizations, historical societies, and local governmental agencies in Norway. In 1988, a second round of letters requesting gifts of books, was accompanied by a copy of the Department's Guide to Norwegian Bygdeboker, listing those volumes already received. This

solicitation produced a significant addition to the collection. Donations continue and some money has been made available to enhance the collection. We are grateful to all Norwegians and Norwegian-Americans, and Arne Brekke in particular, who have supported the Department in its efforts to build one of the finest bygdebok collections in the country.

In addition to Norwegian reference books, such as Oluf Rygh's Norske Gaardnavne and Martin Ulvestad's Nordmaendene i Amerika, the room holds Fra America til Norge: Norske Utvandrebrev, Vare Kirker: Norsk Kirkeleksikon, an encyclopedia of 1900 churches, and other books useful for Norwegian ancestry investigation.

Another valuable research tool is the micro-filmed set of American Lutheran Church records for North Dakota. They are particularly effective for those wishing to find vital record information about Norwegian settlers before 1900. They include congregational minutes and ministerial records for 333 congregations in 209 cities and towns dating from approximately 1871 to 1977. The early records are written in Norwegian and register birth dates, baptisms, confirmations, marriages, death dates, and burials. An alphabetical listing of post offices accesses these church records.

Family History Room holdings do not circulate, but two complimentary guides are available, Guide to Genealogical/Family History Sources and Guide to Norwegian Bygdeboker. You may write, telephone or e-mail the Department to receive either one or both. Also available is a "Norwegian Words" handout that lists the English equivalent of words and abbreviations commonly found in the bygdeboks.

The Department of Special Collections opens Monday - Friday at 8:00 a.m. and closes Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday at 9:00 p.m. and Friday at 4:30 p.m. Staff is available to assist family historians. Although staff is unable to perform general searches, they will attempt to answer specific mail, telephone, or e-mail inquiries. Researchers may contact the Department at: Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections, Chester Fritz Library, Box 9000, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202-9000
Phone: (701)777-4625 FAX: (701)777-3319
e.mail: slater@plains.nodak.edu

1 Ivar Sather

2 Mr Nelson

3 Mrs Nelson

formand

4 Amund Torsen

5 Mrs

6 Mrseth

7 hustru

8 datter til

Anne ~~hustru~~ Mrs Haakensen hendes søster datter til Kirsti Gjølten

9 mig selv

10 Marit Rise eller i stenov

11 Lars Jørdet Edith man og hustru

12 Sigmund Dølgaard

13 og hans hustru

14 Rikart Volden

15 Ingeborg Helblad

16 og hendes mand Volden han er søskende barn til Volden sønner

17 Thia Volden

18 Jens Volden

19 Esten Rise

20 og hans hustru

21 Lien som var hysse kar i gelten ved ikke hans første navn

22 og hans hustru

23 Gea Nybacke

24 og hendes mand Kvilvang - han døde 2 uger siden

25 Mikkel

26 Knut

27 Amund Storbakken fra Erlin

28 Lars

29 Holøien og

30 hustru nu kjender jeg ikke flere

31 Einar Stengil sønnen til postmester paa Tølgem

32 Per Helblad

33 og hustru

Østerdalslaget Stevne at Fergus Falls, MN June 14-16, 1935

Photographer: Oxley, Fergus Falls, MN



Section 1 of 8

Section 2 of 8



At the 1935 Østerdalslaget Stevne - this remarkable group photograph was taken. Printed and framed... it stretches 42" wide. The detail in the original is exquisite. It has been scanned and reproduced in sections here.

Take a close look at the faces. Can you pick out any friends or relatives? If so, make a photocopy, circle the individuals you can identify, and send the marked-up copy to Dixie Hansen, 1411 Osceola Ave, Saint Paul, MN. 55105. We'll keep an annotated copy with the NHOH resources for reference by all of our members.

Østerdalslaget Stevne at Fergus Falls, MN June 14-16, 1935
Photographer: Oxley, Fergus Falls, MN

Section 5 of 8



Section 6 of 8



Østerdalslaget Stevne at Fergus Falls, MN June 14-16, 1935

Photographer: Oxley, Fergus Falls, MN



Section 7 of 8



Section 8 of 8

The Norwegian immigrants' educational movement:

Published by the Royal Norwegian Embassy

From farms to colleges

Some of the first Norwegian immigrants to reach American soil left the ocean behind for the inland, where land was available. Far from beloved salty breezes and towering mountains, they built their homes and formed new communities. Most of them had been farmers in the old country, so many continued working the soil in the new.

Several thousand Norwegian immigrants would follow in their tracks. Leaving possessions and relatives behind, they brought little other than a willingness to work hard and a strong faith. Some continued on in search of milder climates, settling in the coastal area in Washington State and in the heart of Texas. But the Norwegian-American center remained in the Midwest, and this is also where in the 1860s a growing movement began toward educating the younger Norwegian generation in separate Lutheran institutions.

Out of this movement grew a number of academies, schools that went beyond the elementary level. In 1944, a survey by B.H. Narveson lists as many as 75 schools in the US and Canada. But most academies only lasted a few years. In many places, these academies filled a void where public high schools had not yet made their entrance. The schools also proved to be good publicity for the towns and the curricula could be adjusted to the needs of newcomers.

Most of the schools were backed by a synod. Between 1846 and 1900, conflicts over doctrine led to no less than 14 synods created by the Norwegian immigrants. The Low Church was the Hauge Senate and the High Church was called the Synod. Not only did the competition between the numerous synods stimulate the creation of schools, but it also explains why non-Lutheran soci-

eties gained little support among the Norwegians.

In the academies, the rules were strict and aimed at keeping the young in the Lutheran faith. For many it was the first step of a theological education, and many would continue on at "presteskolen" (Luther College) in Decorah, Iowa.

Luther College inaugurated the college movement when it was established in 1861. It had been founded as part of the Synod's effort to train pastors. Until the 1920s, close to half of the entire Luther College graduates would enter the ministry, said Odd Lovoll, editor of the Norwegian-American Historical Association and professor at Luther College.

Educating clergy and doctrine disputes weren't the only incentives spurring the Norwegian immigrant's educational movement. A third factor was education itself. According to Lovoll, the Norwegian Lutheran Church stressed the healthiness of developing the intellect, something the immigrants brought with them to the United States.

Together with the Norwegian-American press, the schools provided the immigrants with a tie to Norway. Until the latter part of the century, most instructions were given in Norwegian. Though the academies strengthened a national Norwegian self-assertion, at the same time, they assisted the immigrants in adjusting to the New World. "It assisted the young people in moving into the general American setting," said Lovoll.

The academies were eventu-

ally pushed aside by the free, tax-supported, secular American high schools in the first decade of the new century. But the self-assertion had not been lost, and the Norwegian-Americans just like Americans sought to keep the younger people at home while giving them a higher education in a specifically Christian spirit.

A few academies survived by transferring into colleges, and today these six four-year liberal

arts colleges and one junior college have very much become American institutions. They are more Lutheran than Norwegian, Lovoll said.

Luther College is the oldest Norwegian-

American college in the US, and it still resides in Decorah, Iowa.

In 1874, Augsburg Seminary started out as a training institution for pastors. This forerunner to Augsburg College had one college division, the Greek department. In 1879, five young men completed the four-year program and were awarded the Bachelor of Arts degree.

St. Olaf College had been established in 1878 in Northfield, Minnesota. This institution employed English as the language of instruction from the beginning, and emphasized what it termed a broad Christian education. It was less influenced by the classical ideals employed by Luther College and from the start had a co-educational institution.

Augustana College traces its roots back to the Scandinavian Augustana Synod and was located in Canton, South Dakota, from 1884. When relocating in Sioux Falls, South Dakota,

Augustana College merged with the Lutheran Normal School, which the Synod had built in 1889.

Concordia College was established as an academy in Moorhead, Minnesota, in 1891 by the United Church. Both Concordia and Augustana College were remodeled into complete colleges after the design of the American church schools in New England.

In 1890, Pacific Lutheran University was founded in Tacoma, Washington, mainly by Norwegian immigrants led by Bjorg Harstad. In 1905, the United Church had opened an academy in Everett, which was later merged with Pacific Lutheran. The institution was reorganized as a university in 1960.

In addition to these six schools, there is also a two-year junior college founded by Norwegian immigrants. Waldorf College was founded in 1903 as an academy and business college rather than a preparatory program for future pastors.

Today, six of these schools are affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Augsburg College remained under the Lutheran Free Church.

Out of the 28 four and two-year colleges affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church, six are Norwegian-American. The number of schools can be accredited to the Lutheran Church split, said Lovoll, referring to the ongoing doctrine conflicts among the Norwegian immigrants which resulted in the formation of the many different Norwegian Lutheran churches. In comparison, the Swedes have two colleges and the Danes have one. One-third of the full time students enrolled in colleges affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church attend the six Norwegian-American schools.

"The Norwegian-American schools have without a doubt affected the Norwegian-Americans' success as an ethnic group."

Royal Norwegian
Embassy

Administering the Storting

The roots of the Norwegian parliament, the Storting, reach back into the Viking age. Around 800 AD, free men met in various districts to discuss legal and to a certain extent, political matters of general concern. This meeting form was called an *allting* (common assembly).

Over 1000 years later, 112 men would gather at Eidsvoll to iron out a constitution, laying the foundation for the Storting. On May 17, 1814, the constitution was signed and sealed. It was in part modeled after the American constitution.

The young nation would not become entirely independent until its union with Sweden was dissolved in 1905.

Through this union, under a Swedish King, Norway still operated its own parliament. In its beginning phase, the Storting met at the Cathedral School of Christiania (1814-1854), then the old University auditorium (1854-1866) before moving into its present building in downtown Oslo in 1866. In 1871, the Storting began meeting annually. At this time, a more permanent administration was required.

In Norway, when talking about the administration of the Storting one is referring to a completely non-political body. It should not be confused with the U.S. concept of administration, which refers to a group constituting the political executive in a presidential government.

"Before [1871], the Storting met every third year, only, and convened for no more than three months," said Hans Brattestå, secretary general of the Storting's administration. "Back then the support functions were covered through temporary hiring of needed personnel."

According to Brattestå, it wasn't until after the turn of the century, and especially after the Second World War that the

administration—in accordance with society's development and the Storting's role in governing the country—grew to its present size.

The Norwegian national assembly is comprised of 165 elected members from 19 electoral districts. Norway has a system of proportional representation; hence, the number of seats at the Storting allotted to each party in each district is determined by the proportion of votes cast for the respective party in the election. Whereas seating in the U.S.

the Storting in nearly all fields of politics and is dependent on retaining their confidence. The principles are not written into the Constitution but have been created by political precedence over the years.

For the representatives to be able to tend to their work and tasks outlined in the Constitution, a range of administrative support functions need to be in place.

"The majority of the tasks we are talking about, has been viewed as beneficial to be undertaken by

Department and the International Department.

The administration numbers about 350 people, who partly occupy space in the main Storting building and the three office buildings, which are connected to the Storting with an underground tunnel system. They are all hired on a non-political basis.

But what keeps all these people busy?

Just like everybody else, the representatives of the Storting need a place to stay when the national assembly is in session (convenes on the first weekday in October), in addition to office space and food.

The Storting has at its disposal 140 apartments lent to representatives who live outside Oslo and it operates a nice cafeteria.

By the way, everybody from the Prime Minister to the window washers have to get in the same line in order to get everything from those famous Norwegian waffles to open-faced sandwiches and dinners. (Rumor has it that the dinners are the most popular items on the menu!)

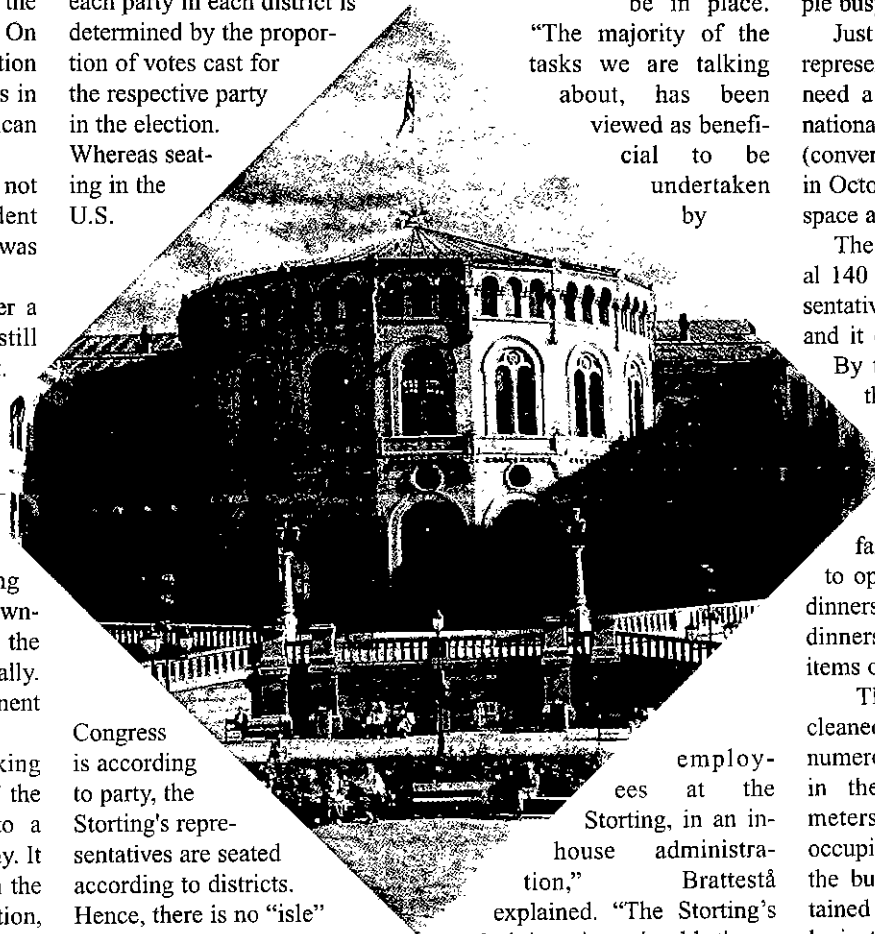
The offices need to be cleaned and kept in order, the numerous light bulbs for lamps in the about 50,000 square meters of space the Storting occupies need to be changed and the buildings need to be maintained and equipment needs to be installed.

"In a modern parliament, this isn't enough," Brattestå said. "Qualified personnel to aid with reviews of various matters in the committees, the Storting and its divisions, the Odelsting and the Lagting [is needed]."

Basically, the Storting is a one-chamber parliament. Officials are elected through one general election every fourth year. **Information**

For more information about the Storting, please visit their homepage at

www.stortinget.no



Congress is according to party, the Storting's representatives are seated according to districts. Hence, there is no "island" dividing the parties. Voting age in Norway is 18.

The most important powers of the Storting is to pass new laws and amend existing laws, to adopt an annual fiscal budget, to supervise the Government and the public administration and to authorize plans and guidelines for the activity of the state.

In a parliamentary system like Norway's, the parliament (the Storting) is given authority over the executive branch (the cabinet). In short, this means that the government is accountable to

employees at the Storting, in an in-house administration," Brattestå explained. "The Storting's administration should therefore handle all such general (non-political) support functions deemed necessary for the representatives to effectively be able to do their job as elected parliament representatives."

Brattestå is the head of the Storting's entire administration, which is divided into departments with subdivisions and includes the Constitutional Department, the Information and Documentation Department, the General Services Department, the Administrative Affairs

The Flag is 100

Source: *Nytt fra Norge*,
translated by Edna Rude, Gary, MN

"Norge i rødt, hvitt og blått" synger vi 17.mai.

OSLO - The Archives of Norway's Parliament contain much information on the history of the Norwegian flag. Some of that information has been made public as of 15 December, 1998, the 100th anniversary of Norway's beloved flag.

There was considerable debate all through the former century regarding a flag, but the earliest suggestions for a new flag were entirely different from what we eventually got, says Archivist Bjørn R. Rønning.

Prior to 1814 Norway used the Danish flag known as Dannebrog. After 1814 the Norwegians were generally not satisfied with either of the two flags they were permitted to use. The one was Danish and the other more or less Swedish.

Most people wanted a flag of their own, and there were many ideas of what it should look like, so a committee in Parliament was formed to work on it.

There were suggestions for colors: many wanted gray and green — green as the forests and gray as the mountains, says Rønning. Other suggestions were gold and blue (the old Norse royal colors), or red and gold, or red and white or even black was nominated.

As a last resort, Frederik Meltzer, the representative from Bergen, suggested placing a blue cross within the white cross on the red flag of Denmark. (It has been said that Meltzer's 12-year-old son had drawn such a flag and his father "stole" the idea from him, but that is considered a myth).

Meltzer explained that the cross was an old Norwegian flag shape. In Norway that design was directly connected to both Christianity and royalty of the Middle Ages.

The genuine Norwegian flag was accepted in 1821, but became a law in 1898 after a long political struggle. That put an end to the "union" of Norway/Sweden (known as herring salad) on the commercial flag, but not until the independence of 1905 did Norway have its beautiful red, white and blue flag of the Royal Navy.

The myth referred to in the Norwegian (previous) article is reprinted for your enlightenment and in recognition of the centennial celebration of the Norwegian flag observed at this time.

The first Norwegian flag was drawn in 1821 by a 12-year-old boy named Gerhard Meltzer. His father, Frederik Meltzer, a member of the Norwegian Parliament, was part of the committee that was to design a new flag. Gerhard decided to draw a Danish flag and put a blue cross inside of the white. His father liked the idea and took it to the flag committee. Gerhard's flag was unanimously chosen the winner.

Imagine how Gerhard would feel today if he could see the thousands and thousands of his beautiful red, white and blue flags, lining the many 17th of May parades, 174 years later.

Reprinted courtesy of Western Viking. Jan. 8, 1999.

Photo: Western Viking.

Luther College:

By permission from
NEWS OF NORWAY

In the bluff country of northeast Iowa lies the first college founded by Norwegian immigrants, Luther College. This four-year liberal arts college is located among the rolling hills—snow-decked during winter and lush green all summer—in the community of Decorah. In 1961, it was founded to prepare Norwegian boys for seminary, which earned it the Norwegian nickname "presteskolen." The education model was built on classical ideals and classes were held in Norwegian and English until after the turn of the century.

As the Luther College Norse are heading for another turn of the century, it does so on the same pillars on which the Norwegian pioneers built its foundation.

"Luther is a community, and really a community with deep Norwegian Lutheran roots," said Luther College president Jeff Baker. "The heritage is still very much evident out here and we intend to do everything to keep that identity and that part of our heritage alive and renewed."

The students at Luther College come from 34 different states and 50 countries. The international students total around 150 students. At Luther, they choose between 60 different majors, professional and certificate programs. This year the enrollment at Luther College stopped at exactly 2,400.

President Baker said that he thinks the reason behind Luther's success is that the college is not just about academic excellence. "It is about excellence across the whole spectrum of activities and learning experiences," he said. "I think that is what we are trying to emphasize and I think that when our graduates leave, they leave well rounded and ready to take on the kinds of tasks that they are going to find in their careers or in the professional schools that they enter."



ODD S. LOVOLL

The Promise Fulfilled

A Portrait of Norwegian Americans Today

On October 9, 1825, the sloop *Restauration* sailed into New York harbor with the first fifty-three Norwegian immigrants to America. During the next hundred years, over 800,000 people would leave Norway to become members of a proud new community in the United States. Today, the Norwegian-American population numbers nearly 4 million—almost as many people as live in Norway.

The Promise Fulfilled is an enlightening—and not uncritical—presentation of Norwegian-American history, continuing the story begun in the best-selling *Promise of America*. Prominent historian Odd S. Lovoll details where Norwegian Americans live, what kinds of jobs they hold, how their ethnic heritage is passed on, and to what extent their dreams and expectations of life in the United States have been achieved.

Lovoll researched historical documents, conducted an extensive survey with a detailed questionnaire, and performed hundreds of follow-up interviews. He introduces us to wheat farmers in North Dakota, halibut fishermen in the Pacific Northwest, and carpenters in Brooklyn who all consider themselves Norwegian Americans. He talks with prominent

Norwegian Americans, such as Walter Mondale, and everyday people—factory workers, at-home mothers, small-business owners, and teenagers. One unique aspect of *The Promise Fulfilled* is Lovoll's pioneering consideration of the social history of all seven generations of Norwegian Americans.

From the traditional lutefisk dinners to civic activism, Lovoll uncovers the festive spirit of contemporary Norwegian-American culture. This vibrant ethnic community, with large enclaves in New York City, California, the Pacific Northwest, and the Midwest, maintains ties through genealogy, family reunions, and a shared culinary and arts and crafts heritage. Lovoll's lucid, engaging, and nuanced history will be essential reading—and a popular gift—for anyone interested in Scandinavian culture.

"Odd Lovoll provides fascinating and important insights about the distinctive presence in American life of Norwegian immigrants and their ancestors. Then again, I might be biased." *Walter F. Mondale, Norwegian American and former U.S. Vice President*

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Østerdalslaget Stevne at Fergus Falls, MN June 14-16, 1935
Photographer: Oxley, Fergus Falls, MN

Section 3 of 8



Section 4 of 8





Luther College extends a warm welcome to the attendees of the Norwegian American Bygdelaag Centennial celebration. In addition to the facilities being provided for your celebration, the College is offering air-conditioned housing on campus and meals in the newly renovated Centennial Union Dining Hall.

- Air conditioned housing is available in one- or two- person sleeping rooms. All beds are single beds, each guest will be provided with a linen packet containing bed and bath linens. No beds will be made for you, but each has a pillow and blanket. Some rooms have bunk beds. If you are unable to utilize a bunk bed, please check that box on your reservation form. Bathroom facilities are located on each floor. Rooms do not have clothes hangers, reading lamps, televisions or radios. Please bring these items with you if you wish.
- No charge or permit required for parking on campus.
- Meal service is provided in the Centennial Union Dining Hall. The facility was renovated last summer, and provides cafeteria style dining at its best. At breakfast, select a hot entree, make your own waffles, select cold cereal and fresh fruit or have it all. Noon and evening meals have even more offerings including soup, a deli counter, salad bar and often self serve ice-cream.
- Full payment is required with your reservation. The nightly cost includes breakfast the next morning, and we will offer housing for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Meals must be pre-ordered, please order your meals on the accommodation form below. Cancellations received by July 19th will be refunded in full, later cancellations will be prorated. If you have questions about the accommodations, please feel free to call Cindy Womeldorf (319) 387-1538.
- Meal and housing reservation deadline is **July 1, 1999**. Make checks payable to Luther College, and mail form to: Cindy Womeldorf, Summer Conferences, Luther College, 700 College Drive, Decorah, IA 52101-1045

Courtesy: NEWS OF NORWAY published by the Royal Norwegian Embassy

From Norwegian train to Alaskan trails

Ski for Light began as a chance meeting between two men on a train in Norway. On his way to Voss, a couple of hours east of Bergen, Olav Pederson ended up sitting next to Erling Stordahl. Stordahl shared with Pederson his dream and ideas about sports and people with disabilities.

Stordahl would shortly after realize his dream, partly through the establishment of Ridderrennet, a cross-country skiing race for the blind and mobility impaired.

Years later, Pederson would emigrate from Norway to the U.S., and he would take Stordahl's ideas with him. In

1975, he founded Ski for Light, an American counterpart to Ridderrennet. The idea behind Ski for Light is to promote the physical fitness of visually and mobility impaired adults.

This winter, Ski for Light's 24th international event will be hosted in Anchorage, Alaska, on Feb. 21-28. . . . will feature a talent show, social gatherings in the evening, a Norway night where Norwegian dishes will be served, dog sled and sleigh rides, a bonfire and an outdoor(!) picnic.

The social aspect has over the years become a very important aspect of Ski for Light. Many friendships have been formed both across state lines and oceans.

When Ski for Light first began, the annual international competition was the only event. But over time, regional events have formed as well. The number of regional events vary, but there are established chapters in the Puget Sound area, Colorado, Sierra Nevada, South Dakota, Ohio, New England, Mpls.

According to Ski for Light president Nancy McKinney Rowan, about 270 participants, skiers and guides, are expected to make the trip. "We could use about 8-10 more guides," Rowan added. The deadline for the skiers was in November.

Ski for Light

Ski for Light is a non-profit organization founded in 1975.

Its purpose is to promote the physical fitness of visually and mobility impaired adults.

At Ski for Light, there is no such thing as "We can't."

"We can!" is the motto in an organization where mobility,

and visually impaired and able-bodied people join together in

a one-on-one partnership to learn from each other through

physically demanding activities. The mission of Ski for

Light is to sponsor physically demanding sports events

throughout the country.

Information

If you would like more information about

Ski for Light's international race or the local chapters, please visit their homepage at

web.telepath.com/sfl

or contact their office

Ski for Light, Inc.

1455 West Lake Street

Minneapolis, MN 55408

Ph.: (612) 827-3232

All participants have to pay their own way, which usually means around \$650, which covers room, board, local transportation to the trails and social gatherings. In addition, participants have to pay their airfare or costs for other means of transportation to get to the venue.

First time skiers and guides can apply for a small stipend. All the work done by the Ski for Light administration and organizers is volunteer work.

In the last five years, Ski for Light has enjoyed some support from sponsors but the gifts have mostly been in the form of products Ski for Light can sell or hand out to participants.

4-1-18