

NHOH News

Volume 7 Number 1 Spring 2002

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:

Kjaer Venner,
Planning for the **Twin Cities Stevne** has begun in earnest. At our recent Board of Directors meeting, which was held in Tomah, Wisconsin, an outline for our stevne program was developed. Once again, we will follow the three-day format, which has proven very popular with our membership. The first day, Thursday, August 1st, will be devoted to genealogy. A lab will be available with bygdeboks, maps, microfilms and microfilm readers. We also plan to have a demonstration on computer-assisted genealogy research. And, trained genealogists will be available for assistance.

On Friday, August 2nd, class sessions will include a variety of Norwegian and Norwegian-American topics. We hope to focus the presentations on the life and contributions of Norwegian emigrants who settled in and around the Twin Cities. We will also have a tour to view some of the Norwegian-American historical sites in the area. That evening, we will have our traditional banquet with a Norwegian theme. Entertainment will be provided by LeRoy Larson's Minnesota Scandinavian Ensemble.

On Saturday, August 3rd, our annual meeting will be held and we will continue with class sessions.

Anyone interested in serving on the planning committee for the stevne or

anyone having suggestions of sites to include on the tour, are asked to contact me by phoning 507-282-1090, or by e-mail, Golson6638@aol.com.

Plans are also continuing for a Lag stevne in 2004 in Hamar, Norway. While there are few specifics at this time, we are exploring a two-week trip, that would include a four-day stay in Hamar, which would allow time for our stevne and personal trips to family farms in Hedmark. We expect to have more information to share with you at our stevne in August.

The Board of Directors also took action to explore the possibility of holding a joint-stevne with our sister lags—Solør-lag, Gudbrandsdal Lag, and Tronderlag—at some point in the future. If this were to materialize, it would provide an opportunity to share genealogy materials and hopefully, increase attendance at stevner and thereby reduce costs. We think it is an exciting idea and one that would be mutually beneficial to everyone. With this in mind, letters have been sent to the other lags inviting them to meet with us to explore this idea.

Don't forget to mark your calendars and begin making plans to attend the **Twin Cities Stevne**, which will be held **August 1,2,3**, at the **Red Lion Inn and Convention Center** in **St. Paul**.

Hjertelig hilsen fra,
Gary Olson, President

STEVNE 2002

Is scheduled for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, August 1-2-3, 2002 at the Red Lion Inn and Conference Center (formerly Ramada Inn), St Paul, MN, north of I-94 at White Bear Avenue. Phone: (651)735-2330. Please see President's Letter for more details.

VELKOMMEN!!

We extend a hearty welcome to the following new and/or reinstated members:

Lisa Christopher	Chicago, IL
Peter Helstad	West Salem, WI
Marian Howard	Tulsa, OK
Larry Lyseng	Edmonton, Canada
Beatrice Morrison	Edgerton, WI
Diane Resvick	Chippewa Falls, WI
Margaret Schmieding	St. Joseph, MI
Thomas/Elaine Smiley	Mazomanie, WI

IN MEMORY OF . . .

Lavon E. Davison of Pueblo West, Colorado, who died since the last issue of NHOH NEWS.

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

One way to bring forth our Norwegian Heritage is to give gift memberships to our children and/or grandchildren. They will then receive three issues of NHOH NEWS per year and perhaps attend our annual stevne. You'll note several examples in our membership list.

NEW HEDMARK MICROFILMS AT VESTERHEIM GENALOGICAL CENTER

Elverum	1891-1909
Valer	1894-1919
Asnes	1903-1929

OUR LAG WEB SITE IS AT:

www.nhohlag.org

Now the good news: WSGS will host the **2002 Conference of the National Genealogical Society** in Milwaukee from 15 through 18 May 2002, the nation's largest annual genealogical event. The 2002 Conference will take place at the Midwest Express Center in downtown Milwaukee, and has the theme "*An American Sampler*."

The complete brochure will also be available online at the NGS Web site:

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

MAP SERVICE

The Lag has over 45 large-scale topographical maps showing farms and other features in each kommune of the NHOH Lag areas. If you want a "zerex" copy of the part of the map showing your ancestral farm in Norway, please indicate the farm names and the vicinity such as kommune, parish, city, village, or town, and mail a stamped self-addressed envelope to Roland Krogstad, editor of NHOH. The maps will also be at the stevner.

SEEK: YOU MAY FIND!!

Anyone with information about the Sollia Church or the Sollien Family, please contact: Brian K. Teller, 2419 NW 153rd, Beaverton, OR 97006-5559.

Celebrate Syttende Mai in Oslo With New Sons of Norway Tour

There is no better place to celebrate Norway's constitution day than in its capital city, Oslo. You can be part of the festivities on May 17, 2002, with our new member tour, Viking Capitals, offered in conjunction with Global Holidays.

This fabulous 10-day tour takes you to best of Oslo, Stockholm, and Copenhagen, and includes a cruise on Norway's famous and breathtaking Sognefjord. Best yet, you'll be in Oslo on May 17th, to witness first-hand the awesome annual celebration of Syttende Mai. Airline, accommodations, most meals, and experienced guides create a worry-free, wonderful spring trip through beautiful Scandinavia. The cost per person starts at \$2,349. For more information or to reserve your spot, call Global Holidays at 1-800-842-9023 today.

LAG OFFICERS/ DIRECTORS

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GENEALOGY NEWS GROUPS/ EMAIL LISTS By John Reindl

There are many resources available to genealogists on the Internet, including a number of Norwegian related email lists and news groups. This article briefly reviews four.

First described are the news groups. Formerly called bulletin boards, the idea of these systems is that messages are posted on an electronic "bulletin board" for others to come by if they want, read the messages, and respond if interested.

There are three news groups of special interest to Norwegian genealogists. One is soc.genealogy.nordic, on which almost all messages are in English. A second is no.fritid.slektsforsking.etterlysing, where most of the messages are in Norwegian and most of the members seem to be from Norway. Both are extremely helpful; I typically get answers within a day or two and often which provide exactly what I am looking for. Both of these news groups are accessed through the email portion of most Internet connections.

The third news group is a hybrid system and is access most directly through a Web browser. Hosted by Rootsweb.com, it is specifically set up as a system for those of us searching for information related to Hedmark fylke. It can be found by going to <http://boards.ancestry.com/> and searching for the Hedmark Message Board. Once located, it can be then saved in your Favorites files. One of the nice features is that it is archived and can be searched. As of the latter part of February, it had 652 messages that are either active or in its archives.

Two email lists that are useful for Norwegian genealogy are Norway-L@rootsweb.com and Gen-Nordic-L@rootsweb.com. Both can be subscribed to either by going to the web page <http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/intl/NOR/> or by sending a message of subscribe to either Norway-L-request@rootsweb.com or Gen-Nordic-L-request@rootsweb.com. Searchable archives are available for both lists on a year-by-year basis from 1997 to date.

There is no charge to use these lists.



Something About Counties By Carol Olson

From: Landings Laget, February 2002

If you want to know the county of the towns, townships and/or parishes where your ancestors lived, go to the website: <http://www.mit.edu/geo>. After clicking on the website and waiting for the home page to appear, key the town in the box and it will show all the listed counties. I tried Burlington and it turned out that the name Burlington appeared over 45 times and the one in Wisconsin is almost at the bottom of the list. It is in the county of Racine and Burlington is not the county seat. Next, I tried Green River which I know is in Wyoming. It is in Sweetwater County and that is the county seat.

It appears to me that counties are becoming more and more important, especially when it comes to locating county seats and writing to county courthouses for vital records. There is another website - if you know the county and want to know if the county has some online information. Try this address: http://www.netronline.com/public_records.htm. Not all the counties have online information.

Another good site is the U.S. Geological Society GNIS (Geographic Names Information System) at http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis/web_query.gnis_web_query_form. This site will find not only counties, but other features such as lakes. Of special interest to genealogists is that it often has country churches, cemeteries and townships (use "civil" for feature type) listed as well—pretty much anything that will be named on the 7.5 minute quadrangle topographical maps. It also links to Tiger Maps from the U.S. Census Bureau to show locations of these places. To see the topographical maps on which this database is based, enter the name as found in the GNIS database into <http://www.topozone.com>.

As not all places include the county, I am using the website <http://www.mit.edu/geo> in updating all the place names I have keyed into the Land genealogy database.

GENEALOGY TIP

If you'd like more information about the place of your roots, one easy way is to consult the Lag Membership List and contact members who have the same kommune as you do. Good Luck!

MOVING??

This is a plea to those who plan to move. Please let the Treasurer or Editor know of your new address; so that you will continue to receive the NHOH NEWS. Several issues have been returned due to forwarding being expired.

On behalf of Valheim Lodge 1-364, Spring Grove, Minnesota, we would like to take this opportunity of inviting your lag to join us on May 18, 2002 for our day-long festivities when the bronze sculptures of "Han Ola og han Per" are unveiled. **507.498.5617.**

Ancestral Chart

2 (Father of no. 1) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Place _____ Died Place _____ 1 Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Place _____ Died Place _____ (Spouse of no. 1) 3 (Mother of no. 1) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died Place _____	4 (Father of no. 2) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Place _____ Died Place _____ 5 (Mother of no. 2) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died Place _____	8 (Father of no. 4) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Died _____ Place _____ 9 (Mother of no. 4) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died _____ Place _____ 10 (Father of no. 5) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Died _____ Place _____ 11 (Mother of no. 5) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died _____ Place _____ 12 (Father of no. 6) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Died _____ Place _____ 13 (Mother of no. 6) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died _____ Place _____ 14 (Father of no. 7) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Married Died _____ Place _____ 15 (Mother of no. 7) Born/Chr _____ Place _____ Died _____ Place _____
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Your name and address

Email address

Telephone number

Date prepared

Some abbreviations used in the 1865 to 1900 censuses (a)

KJØNN = SEX:

m = mann = man

k = kvinne = woman

!! = ubestemmelig kjønn = unable to determine sex

BOSTATUS = RESIDENCE STATUS:

b = bosatt på stedet = resides permanently at this place

mt = midlertidig tilstede = temporarily residing at this place

f = (midlertidig) fraværende = temporarily absent from this place

STILLING I FAMILIEN = STATUS IN THE FAMILY:

hf = husfar = husband

hm = husmor = housewife

hp = (selv) hovedperson = head of household

hu = hustru = wife

s = sønn = son

d = datter = daughter

tj = tjenestetyende = servant

fl = losjerende, hørende til familien = lodger, related to the family

el = enslig losjerende = single lodger, not related to the family

b = besøkende = visitor

EKTESKAPELIG STILLING = MARITAL STATUS:

ug = ugift = single

g = gift = married

e = enke/enkemann = widow/widower

s = separert = separated

f = fraskilt = divorced

SYKDOMSTILSTAND = ILLNESSES:

b = blind = blind

d = døv/døvstum = deaf/deafmute

s = sinnssyk/sinnssvak = mentally ill

a = åndssvak = mentally retarded

NASJONALITET = NATIONALITY:

n = norsk = Norwegian

l = lappisk = Sami (Lapp)

lf = lappisk, fastboende = Sami (Lapp) permanently settled

ln = lappisk, nomadiserende = Sami (Lapp) nomadic

f = finsk (kvensk) = Finnish (Kvensk) - a Norwegian minority of Finnish origin

k = kvensk (finsk) = Kvensk (Finnish) - a Norwegian minority of Finnish origin

b = blandet = mixed nationality

SPRÅK = LANGUAGE:

n = norsk = Norwegian

l = lappisk = Sami (Lapp)

f = finsk (kvensk) = Finnish (Kvensk) - a Norwegian of Finnish origin

UTSÆD = PLANTINGS IN THE FIELDS:

hv = hvete = wheat

ru = rug = rye

by = bygg = barley

bl = blandkorn = mixture of two grains, usually barley and oats

ha = havre = oats

er = erter = peas

vi = vikker = vetch (various climbing plants of the pea family, usually with blue or purple flowers, often used as fodder).

gr = grønnfôr (havre e a) = fodder (usually oats)

po = poteter = potatoes

ro = rotfrukter = root crops
gu = gulerøtter = carrots
tu = turnips = turnips
ka = kålrabi = rutabaga
fr = gressfrø = grass seeds

HAGE OG FRUKTTRE = GARDEN AND FRUIT TREES:

aah = areal av hage = garden area
kj = kjøkkenhage = vegetable garden
ft = frukttrær = fruit trees

KREATURHOLD = FARM ANIMALS:

he = hest = horse
fø = hest under 3 år = foal (horse under 3 years of age)
0-1he = hest under 1 år = horse under 1 year of age
1-3he = hest 1 til 3 år = horse 1 to 3 years old
3-5he = hest 3 til 5 år = horse 3 to 5 years old
5-16he = hest 5 til 16 år = horse 5 to 16 years old
16-he = hest over 16 år = horse more than 16 years old
hi = hingst = stallion
va = vallak = gelding
ho = hoppe = mare
ox = okse = ox
ty = tyr = bull
ku = ku = cow
ka = kalv, ungnaut = calf
0-1st = storfe under 1 år = cattle under 1 year old
1-2st = storfe 1 til 3 år = cattle 1 to 3 years old

2-st = storfe over 2 år = cattle over 2 years old
få = får, lam = sheep, lamb
0-1få = får under 1 år = sheep under 1 year old
1-få = får over 1 år = sheep over 1 year old
gj = geit, kid = goat, kid
0-1gj = geit under 1 år = goat under 1 year old
1-gj = geit over 1 år = goat over 1 year old
sv = svin, gris = pig
0-1sv = svin under 1 år = pig under 1 year old
1-sv = svin over 1 år = pig over 1 year old
re = reinsdyr = reindeer
0-1re = rein under 1 år = reindeer under 1 year old
1-re = rein over 1 år = reindeer over 1 year old
hø = høns = chicken
æn = ender = ducks
gjæ = gjess = geese
kl = kalkun = turkey
bi = bier = bees

KJØRETØY OG MASKINER = WAGONS AND MACHINES:

1arbv = arbeidsvogn (4-hjulede og 1-spendte) = work wagon (4 wheels and 1 hitch)
2arbv = arbeidsvogn (4-hjulede og 2-spendte) = work wagon (4 wheels and 2 hitches)
arbv = arbeidsvogn (4-hjulede) = work wagon (4 wheels)
arbk = arbeidskjerrer (2-hjulede) = work wagon (2 wheels)
sm = slå- og meiemaskiner = mowing machine/reaper machine
søm = såmaskiner = sowing machine

These terms were prepared by John Follesdal, and are on the Internet at http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~norway/census_abbreviations.html, and is a translation of these terms on the site <http://draug.rhd.isv.uit.no/histform/appendix.htm>

(a) This is a follow up to article in last NHOH NEWS "Learning Norwegian" which was presented by John Reindl at stevne.

OLE SAMULSON: IMMIGRANT WITH MORE THAN MOST

Translated by Vidar Stoen. Submitted by Elaine Smiley

Ole Samulson Stalan (Staaalen) was born June 23, 1860 in Follidal, Hedmark, went to the U.S.A. on October 17, 1880, married May 17, 1893 to Petra Mathilda Dahl who was born July 30, 1875 at Starbuck, Minnesota of Norwegian parents. Petra died November 26, 1943 and Ole died August 27, 1946 (Both at Stanley, Wisconsin).

Ole and Petra had children: Selmer Norman born April 4, 1894 and died 1974 (took over the farm); Richard Alvin born 1899 and died 1901; Alva Rosabel born June 17, 1903 (school teacher). In addition eleven other children had their home with the Samulsons.

FOLLDAL TO AMERICA

Ole Samulson spent much of his childhood with Uncle Hans who had invited his daughter's son to live with the family at Sandom. An item written in 1865 states that the five-year old boy became a member of the family household there---and it was good and economical---Ole writes in his biography. These relatives wanted to do all they could to help the boy get ahead. Later he got a double dose of schooling in that he was sent to another of his mother's cousins, Ragnhild, who was married to Gravmobakken for a teacher held school in that area. This additional schooling got results. Ole was confirmed in very good Christian relationship by the priest Skavang and teacher Aspeggen wrote "Ole is a willing and interested boy who has been given more than average intelligence, also he has a quiet and pleasant manner." Uncle Hans decided that he should become a minister. While he was at Gravmobakken Ole became acquainted with a young man his age named Martin Baker. Martin later settled in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He became a building contractor for a big company. These two had much pleasure seeing each other in America.

Other memories from this time in Foldalen has given strong impact on Ole. One day in 1868 cousin Anne Sandom said farewell and waved her large handkerchief at him. He replied by a swing of his little gray hat just as the horses moved out past the gate. Anne settled a short way from Ole in America. Ole attempted to find her at an address in Minnesota without any luck.

Immigration continued as more folldaler joined the migration for miners and other young men had to find work in other cities. Ole left at the age of 17 because the mining town of Follidal didn't provide the young people work or an adequate living. During the next three years Ole was a clerk for storekeeper, M. Tangen at Tynsett. To the store came many travelers and occasionally home wanderers or visiting Americans. Ole was told by one of them that America was the place for him, and a ticket he got from a friend Ole Bersvennson (Ole Vold) who could not leave that fall, 1880, because his sweetheart hadn't made up her mind to go. His ticket had been sent from a brother, Ben Vold, from Hay? River, Wis. The America ticket could immediately be transferred as long as their birth dates were recognized ahead of time.

At the wharf in Oslo he had an immediate problem with the ticket controller who said there was a mistake in the previous payment of the ticket for it was false as the named person was another. Later another expediter checked the ticket and told him he should say "Ya" when the name of Ole Vold was called. Ole hadn't thought to check the birth date before he left Tynset. Anyway the way lay open to the land of freedom, democracy and well being.

The trip went from Oslo to Hull on the Cunard Steamship line, from there by rail to Liverpool, and the boat cast anchor in Boston after a 13 day trip. A little over two days took him to Menomonie, Wisconsin on the exact date President Garfield was elected, November 2, 1880. His welcome was overwhelming if one were to judge by the circus being created. The streets overflowed with many drunken lumberjacks and Ole's first acquaintance to America was not a quiet one. He began to think that he had made a wrong choice.

Things became a bit better after he came in contact with someone who understood Norwegian. He made contact at a sawmill where there was a Norsk foreman. He told him he would surely get work. He had a speech problem when he was to be recognized by the man in charge. The immigrant controller wrote his name incorrectly and wrote it without the "e". Samulson became his name in the new land.

A TYPICAL IMMIGRANT

Using the elementary English Tangen's son, Per (Peter) had taught Ole in Norway, the young Samulson ventured to see the Norwegian foreman at the world's largest sawmill in a town called Menomonie. Here he got work and was required to keep busy the whining saw blades with logs floating on a big dam by attaching an iron hook fast to a log and drawing it toward the blade. This was a hard and dangerous job for an inexperienced person as they had to keep working fast so as not to get behind. For this work Ole got \$16.00 per month, and the working day was eleven hours long with one hour off at mid-day. If he quit before the contract was fulfilled he must pay \$3.00 for each month of his contract that was not fulfilled. The sawmill operated until the ice covered the dam in the fall. After this they went up to the lumber woods of northern Wisconsin. There was a four day march through knee deep snow by these young Germans and Norwegians. Most of the men were worn out after the 150 kilometer walk, only to get food that was unfamiliar.

The work bosses drove the lumberjacks to the limit wrote Ole. The unhappy men drove their oxen into the woods, pulling the heavy loads of logs. Finally Christmas came to the woods also. Alcohol was not permitted, but some of the teamsters were paid extra money if they brought some brandy from town when next day they were there. The Christmas celebration ended in fights.

Ole worked in the woods in winter and at the sawmill during the summer until his America ticket was paid. The times were such that he did not receive much pay so his economical and social status was poor as newcomers usually got the hardest jobs and the poorest pay. Therefore he accepted a job as an assistant to a merchant at Baldwin, a town a little east of the sawmill, but his health did not tolerate inside work. After a while he again hired out as a logger.

Like Ole, other immigrants had come to the USA to get themselves a piece of ground of their own. Now they had the chance to own that piece of land under the "Stars and Stripes" states Ole. As the woods were cleared away the land was sold to farmers. Many Osterdalers settled around Pierce and St. Croix counties and in Spring Lake township, both Follidalers and Alvadallers. Ole knew that his friend Ole Krogan had bought recently cleared land near Stanley, Wis. Only oak and "bok"? were left standing. Different from the pine these trees would not float down the streams as easily and therefore the lumber companies were not as interested in these woods for their mills after 1887. The bark was sent to iron smelting over at Black River Falls or Spring Valley, Wis.

Now Ole had thought some of going west to Minnesota and taking up "homestead" land on the flat prairie but changed his mind and bought wooded land for four to six dollars per acre (about 4 dekar). The bonds of friendship were strong and fellowship more important than money, so that Ole Krogan and Ole Samulson became neighbors with just the Wolf? River separating them in the woods near Stanley. The woods were more to their liking than the treeless flat vastness.

That same fall Ole's parents came over. Ole's two brothers, Andrew and Sam (Anders and Sven) as they were called in the USA had come in 1882. The family was together again. Andrew and Sam became neighbors on adjoining farms. Ole bought a 120 acre farm on which was a log house where he lived with his parents. This house was later used as a workshop in 1890. They worked the ground by plowing among the stumps that as yet had not been removed. The property grew as the economy permitted. Ole bought a span of oxen together with Ole Krogan. With these they took on contract jobs at timber cutting and in their spare they chopped down and sold timber from their own places. They earned \$1500 in the winter of 1888 for bringing in 500,000 feet of logs to the coal kilns in Stanley, about one-half mile outside of town.

The work was hard at the beginning. They cleared land with "hand power" after the long work day just so they could earn a living and pay the required taxes and such. Helping each other was a strong quality among the neighbors, as they helped in building houses or other buildings. Such work days were called "Bees". One summer Ole took part in 17 such gatherings where they often erected an entire building in one day.

NEWCOMER OLE SAMULSON, A HUMANIST

Here Ole's history differs from that of many other newcomers. More and more he became involved in local politics. The first was a job as supervisor for the township of Thorp. History tells us that Ole was selected after an influential Irishman, McCaffery presented his name for vote. The Irishman came up with the idea they should give the lumberjacks who voted free drinks if they'd vote for Ole. Ole had his doubts but the result was that he received the majority vote and

was elected. Later he was elected representative for the same township or community (as it is best described). A short time later he brought about a division and established the township of Worden where he was elected chairman for seven years, until 1901. His activities among others was to register names in the area for the first census in 1900.

It wasn't just in local politics that Ole had interest. The greater recognition he received in 1901 was when the people (Clark County) set up a new office to review taxes on properties and rectify present taxing. Politicians, it was discovered, were attempting to raise taxes on land the lumberman had bought cheap, for half a dollar per acre. They had destroyed the woods and sold all saleable timber and finally intended to sell the land to the newcomers for a market price which was as much as two dollars per acre. Thus the company books were listed low so as to escape taxes. The percentage of taxation was relatively high in the USA for the government needed money to finance the public schools. Politicians saw themselves as having to accept these taxes and thus agreed that the landowner must pay proportionally more than they.

Ole became elected as County Supervisor of Assessment to lead the local taxmen in their work in making property evaluations. He did the job most satisfactorily and put the rate seven times higher than the companies had placed their evaluations. Therefore the lumber companies went to court against Ole. They lost the first time and the second. Then three companies went together and appealed to a higher court, but this Folldaler made it not so easy for the companies to win for he was fighting a cause he believed in, the weak against the strong. It was to be noted that Ole had to pay costs himself to go to the state capitol at Madison in 1906. As a result, in order to be practical, Ole had to argue his case himself. The judges listened to his brilliant presentation with considerable interest for the most part and their decision lasted for many years. Ole was refunded his outlay and victory was with the landowner.

But, many other activities were in the offing and in this work fellowship centered around this northman. Ole was active in the organization of a cooperative for the farmers and a bank that took into consideration the plight of a farmer. Later he was elected as manger and secretary by a large margin. He was also included in the establishment of a school as well as a church. Ole Samulson was certainly interested in the building up of a new area after the pattern of Norse traditions--to the benefit of the present locality. These activities are still going strong.

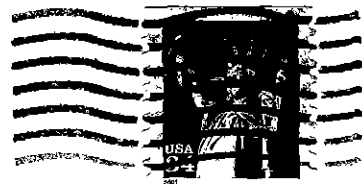
Ole says of himself that he has not done anything remarkable. The thing most satisfying to him was owning his own farm. He said, "A real pioneer needs few compliments, he and his family have gone a milepost in their lives without a thought about whether the project was a financial success or not." He had great sympathy for the farmer and in a letter he says, "For the average Man it looks as if our government system down through the past 50 years has favored Capital and Industry and has forgotten the important farm related activities, to its own advantage." Thereafter he compliments the Norwegian new politics during the past 30 years.

Recording he felt necessary and Ole was greatly interested in history. He wrote a history of their church and one of the early history of the Folldaler who settled around the Stanley country. In addition he wrote his own personal biography and personal recollections for the coming generations of his own family.

It is plain to see Ole Samulson has been a busy and community minded man. Beside his other activities he built up a farm of 480 dekar. In addition he found time to be with his family. Family responsibilities he felt spread widely. Many immigrants from Folldal also came to the Samulson farm near Stanley. Among them were three cousins, Ed (Even), Sigrid, and Annie Lien--who had their homes there until they were able to care for themselves. In all there were eleven children who made their homes with Herr and Fru Samulson, in addition to their own three children. Here was both house room and heart room.

Finally there are some thoughts Ole has about his life and work. The majority of the farmers from Folldalen used a generation to clear the land and build up a sizeable farm. Likewise they set a good value on this new fatherland which they felt was a good place. Unlike many other immigrants Ole Samulson did not plan to get rich in America, but he felt it was a fine place where one could work for his food. In this case he was lucky and much more. He said he'd do the same again, with perhaps by-passing a few failures. He states in addition that his life had not been unlike that of many other newcomers who had come to America empty handed with a strong will to make something of themselves in the free land "in this great country".

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News
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Madison, WI 53705-3714



2002 DUES DUE !!

If your mailing label has 2001 on the top line, it means your **Lag dues** expire on December 31, 2001 and are now payable for the calendar year January 1 to December 31, 2002. When paying dues it is a good time to update addresses, etc., as indicated on the **DUES RENEWAL FORM**. Make checks payable to NHOH and mail to Charlotte Helstad, Treasurer, 8 Sebring Court, Madison, WI 53719-3521.

DUES RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____
Mailing _____
Address: _____
E-mail _____
Address: _____ PH: _____
Roots in _____
Norway: _____
Genealogy Fund: _____ \$
Dues: 1 yr=\$10; 2yr=\$18; 3yrs=\$25 \$
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

First Class Postage

At the same time Ole had a longing for Norway and his home village. He compliments Norway and Sweden for their peace efforts in 1905 and the Northman's resistance during their last war. This increased respect by Norse-Americans as they read of Norway's difficulties. Ole Samulson never revisited his home town of Folldal but he writes in a letter to Henrik Brendryen dated March 15, 1946, "Now then I have seen quite a bit of life in various situations but when I think back to the cozy life on a Norsk gaard I think it was as lovely a life as one could have and if I were younger you'd see me up in Folldalen and I'd arrange to get a farm there and I'm sure I'd like it."

COUSIN FINDING SUCCESS

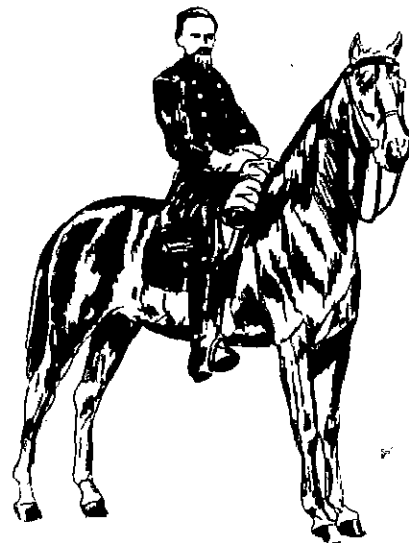
Dear Dean Hjelle, Fergus Falls, MN

My name is Gunhild Kolstad and I have seen the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News (NHOH News) number 3 Fall 2001 where you are asking for informations about your Grandmothers ancestors in Norway or in USA. And here is some informations from Norway:

I am living on that special farm, Tangnes nordre, you are mentioning. My husband and I have been running that farm, my husband is born there and our son is the owner today.

It is right that Mathias Børresen was born here August the 10th 1828. His father was the owner of the farm at that time. I did not know until I read this paper what had happened to Mathias. He had 3 sisters and 1 brother, I could tell you a little about them if you are interested..

My job is to write the history of all the farms around here.. And I am very interested to get more information of the people who went to America.



Colonel Hans Christian Heg
(1829-1863), the hero of the
Civil War, symbolized patriotism
to the new homeland.