

NHOH News

Volume 7 Number 3 Fall 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
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:

Kjaer Venner,

With the end of the year in sight, we can look back and say that 2002 has been a good year for our Lag.

Our membership remains strong at 210; although we have 21 members whose membership will expire at the end of the year. Hopefully, they will decide to send their membership fee in before the end of the year.

Financially, we remain stable. We have approximately \$5,000 in our treasury. And, we actually made a slight profit from our Twin Cities Stevne; thanks in part, to over \$900 in contributions from three anonymous donors.

Our Twin Cities Stevne with its theme of the 'Urban Norwegians' proved to be well received by the attendees. There were many excellent presenters and two very interesting tours. The highlight of the stevne was our banquet and the Minnesota Scandinavian Ensemble which provided the entertainment. You can view many photos from our stevne in this NHOH NEWS and at our web sight at www.nhohlag.org.

Finally, our Lag remains forward looking in our vision of the future. We took the initiative to contact other lags and invited them to explore the possibility of holding a joint-stevne in the future. We immediately

received positive responses from Gudbrandsdalag and Trondelag. Recently, we also received a positive response from Solorlag. As a result, we met with representatives from Trondelag and Gudbrandsdalag to plan a joint-stevne in 2003 (please see report on page 2) And at some point in the future, we will explore the possibility of a joint-stevne with Solorlag. Our Lag is also continuing with its plans to hold our 2004 Stevne in Hamar, Norway; and, to combine it with a travel-tour of other areas of Norway.

So indeed, 2002 has been a very good year! Our Lag remains strong and we are looking to the future.

Enjoy the remainder of the year and my best regards to everyone for a happy and joyous holiday season.

Hjertelig hilsen fra

Gary Olson
President

LAG OFFICERS/ DIRECTORS

President:	Gary M. Olson	(507)282-1090
V.President:	John Reindl	(608)238-0393
Secretary:	Dixie Hansen	(651)690-0872
Treasurer:	Charlotte A. Helstad	(608)833-3455
Directors:	Orrin Helstad	(608)833-3455
	Paal Romdahl	(612)474-5775
	Marilyn Sorensen	(612)633-1329
Past President:	Roland Krogstad	(608)238-6652

HISTORIC MEETING

Representatives from Gudbrandsdalag, Trondelag, and Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag met on November 2nd in Sioux Falls, South Dakota to establish a **Tre Lag Stevne**. While many details need to be worked out, the initial meeting proved to be fruitful.

The representatives agreed to hold the first **Tre Lag Stevne** on **August 7, 8, 9, 2002** at the **Oaks** in **Sioux Falls**. The new stevne will enable the three lags to pool their resources and talents to provide more opportunities for their members. The three-day event will include all of the features which have marked Nord Hedmark's stevner in the past several years. A genealogy lab, local tours, presentations on historic and cultural topics, and the traditional Norwegian-flavored banquet will be a part of the new stevne.

Dixie Hansen, Marilyn Sorensen, and Gary Olson represented our Lag at the meeting. As more details unfold they will keep us informed.

Mark your calendars now for this three-day event in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on August 7, 8, 9, 2002, and become a part of this history making development.

OUR LAG WEBSITE IS AT:

www.nhohlag.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 "xerox" copy of the part of the map showing your ancestral farm in Norway, please indicate the farm names, and the 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.

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 HHOH NEWS per year and perhaps attend our annual stevne. You'll note several examples in our membership.

SEEK: YOU MAY FIND!!

To help members find missing ancestors & descendants.

I am searching for information on Kiel Pedersen Ronne born in Stange, Hedmark, Norway April 11, 1816. At some point before 1844 he moved to Roros, Sor Trondelag, where he married Elen Pedersdatter Skot . They stayed in Roros until 1850 when they cam to the United States.

Judy Schoening (juscho48@hotmail.com)

I am looking for descendants of Lars Nielson Sveen; the father of Niels Larson, Regine Larsdatter, Maria Larsdatter, Ingeborg Larsdatter and Ludvig Larson; and the husband of Agnethe Jensdatter. The 1865 census indicates they lived in Nyborg, Vang, Hedmark Lars Nielson Sveen was my great-great-grandfather.

Richard Jacobsen
RNJacobson@aol.com

Looking for information on John and Pauline Blegseth, who emigrated from Innvik before 1873.

They had the children Jennie og John i USA.

Also, Lars Larsen Bleksæt, born 1831 emigrated to the USA 12. May 1884 with his wife Gunhild Claesdatter. Are they related to John and Pauline?

Jan Habberstad, Trondheim
j-habbe@online.no

Searching for descendants in Norway and U.S. of Johannes Nielsen Senstad b. 1794 at Lille Aarsud, Ringsaker, md 1817 at Nes to Ingebor Olsdatter Senstad. Children born at Nes and Ringsaker on Senstad and Lille Aarsrud farms: Maria (1817), Ole (1819), Ehlie (1822), Nikoline (1825), Gonner (1828), Johanne (1835), and Johannes (1838). Maria, Ehlie and Gonner might have emigrated to U.S. Son Johannes moved to Hemne, Sor-Trondelag.

Nicholas Hagen at nshgen@msn.com

Listings in this column are both from direct submittals to the Lag genealogist or from Norwegian genealogy email lists and newsgroups.

Permission from NEWS OF NORWAY, By Royal Norwegian Embassy

Last action hero

profile

With the death of **Thor Heyerdahl** at age 87, Norway lost an original and spectacular researcher, discoverer and adventurer.

After battling brain cancer, legendary Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl died April 18 at the age of 87. Heyerdahl is perhaps best known for his groundbreaking "Kon-Tiki," "Ra II" and "Tigris" voyages.

A state funeral was held for Heyerdahl in the Oslo Cathedral, on Friday, April 26. Their majesties King Harald and Queen Sonja as well as Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik were among the dignitaries who took part in the funeral ceremony. Oslo Bishop Gunnar Stålsett officiated the ceremony. Heyerdahl's urn was placed on the family property at Allassio, Italy, in accordance with his wishes.

Born in the small town of Larvik, on Norway's south coast in 1914, Heyerdahl was the most widely known contemporary Norwegian explorer. He attended the University of Oslo where he studied zoology and geography. After he completed his studies at the university, he began to journey out into the field to test his ideas about prehistoric cultural interaction and how different cultures spread.

Willing to risk his life

From the beginning, his approach was interdisciplinary, encompassing anthropology, botany, oceanography, mytholo-

gy and archaeology, which has since influenced many researchers and academics. Heyerdahl was a dedicated researcher and independent thinker who was willing to risk his life for his ideas. He opened new lines of inquiry and never confined himself to the limitations of a single discipline.

In Heyerdahl's view, the oceans of the world were not a barrier to ancient civilizations, but a conveyor. By testing his theories, he broadened the thought about human migration.

Experts who had claimed a balsa raft couldn't last two weeks on the ocean, were proved wrong by Heyerdahl. Though his expeditions were never meant to provide definitive answers, he challenged the scientific community to expand its thinking and to reassess accepted theories.

In 1936, he traveled with his first wife to the remote island of Fatuhiva in the Marquesan archipelago in the Pacific, to study the flora and fauna of the island. His study on the island soon turned to the question of Polynesian settlement.

Polynesia populated across the sea

The opinion among scientists at the time was that Polynesia was populated from the west. However, Heyerdahl noticed



Heyerdahl risked his life on the Kon-Tiki, a simple craft made of nine balsa wood logs lashed together.

that the winds and currents ran from east to west and that some plants on the island, such as the sweet potato, originated in South America.

He also noticed a similarity to South American culture in Polynesian mythology and artifacts. In the jungle he found stone figures of the Polynesian chief-god Tiki that were, Heyerdahl noted, "remarkably like the monoliths left by extinct civilizations in South America." He then concluded that Polynesia could have been populated across the sea from South America.

However, before he could test his ideas, World War II started. Heyerdahl served with the Free Norwegian Army-Air Force unit and was decorated for bravery. After the war, he set out to prove his hypothesis about Polynesia with the Kon-Tiki Expedition in 1947.

Heyerdahl sailed from Callao, Peru on the Kon-Tiki, a simple craft made of nine balsa wood logs lashed together, in a landmark voyage across the Pacific. It was a perilous journey, with Heyerdahl and his five companions relying on the natural elements for food and water.

Permission from NEWS OF NORWAY, By Royal Norwegian Embassy (Continued)

During the journey, the balsa wood became waterlogged, and it seemed likely that their mission would fail. However, after traveling 3,800 miles for 101 days, they at last reached the Atoll in the Tuamotu Islands south of the Marquesas.

"I crawled up on the dry sand and counted the men around me," said Heyerdahl. "That feeling can never be matched. We had really made it and we were alive!"

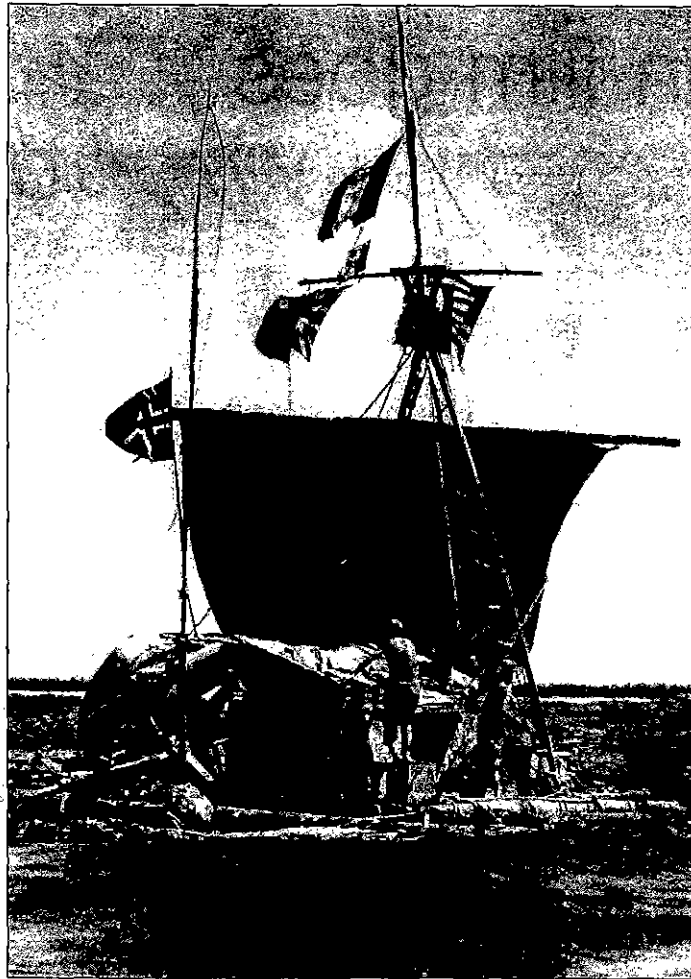
The Kon-Tiki Museum

Heyerdahl's Kon-Tiki voyage captured the imagination of people around the world. His book of the expedition was translated into 40 languages and sold over 25 million copies. The documentary film, made with simple camera equipment, won an Academy Award. The Kon-Tiki Museum in Oslo, which opened in 1949, remains a popular visitor attraction.

Penn State archaeologist P.J. Capelotti writes in his book *Sea Drift*, "The [Kon-Tiki] expedition single-handedly opened the world's waterways to experiments. . . . Heyerdahl . . . transformed the world's oceans into a global archaeological laboratory."

In 1955 and 1956, Heyerdahl began the first coordinated excavations of Easter Island, the most isolated inhabited land in the world. This work relied on more conventional archaeology and anthropology, and was more highly regarded by other scientists. The trips to Easter Island resulted in the books *Aku Aku*, which discussed the origins of the enormous stone statues found there, and *The Archaeology of Easter Island*, which is considered by many to be his finest professional achievement.

In 1969, at the age of 55, Heyerdahl wanted to prove that South American populations originated through immigrants from the African continent. He



The [Kon-Tiki] expedition single-handedly opened the world's waterways to experiments. . . . Heyerdahl . . . transformed the world's oceans into a global archaeological laboratory.

Penn State archaeologist P.J. Capelotti in Sea Drift

oversaw the construction of another raft, the "Ra," named after the Egyptian sun god and made of reeds. The expedition left Safi, Morocco, in an attempt to cross the Atlantic, and demonstrate that the papyrus vessels of the ancient Egyptians were capable of crossing the Atlantic.

Heyerdahl and his crew had to abandon the "Ra" in the east-

ern Caribbean, but a second raft, "Ra II," made the trip successfully in 1970 and proved it was possible for ancient cultures to sail on currents across the Atlantic.

On board the "Tigris"

In 1977, Heyerdahl made yet another raft expedition, this one from the Persian Gulf on board the "Tigris." He also conducted

archaeological and cultural research in Maldives, Peru and the Canary Islands.

In later years, Heyerdahl maintained his vigorous pace of work as both an explorer and as a proponent of international relations. During his explorations, he always traveled with a multinational crew and flew the flag of the United Nations. After witnessing the pollution of the world's oceans during his voyages, Heyerdahl traveled to 23 countries to express his concern and to raise awareness about the global environment.

He stayed active until just last year, launching archaeological projects from Tenerife to the Black Sea, where he worked on what he saw as possible links between the Norse culture and what is now Azerbaijan.

Heyerdahl was decorated by the late King Olav V, first in 1970 and again in 1987. He was also a board member of the Green Cross international. Heyerdahl died in his home near the town of Alassio on the Italian Riviera. His third wife Jacqueline and several of his children were with him in Italy when he died.

Bondevik mourns

After the announcement that Thor Heyerdahl had passed away, Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik issued the following obituary on behalf of the Norwegian Government:

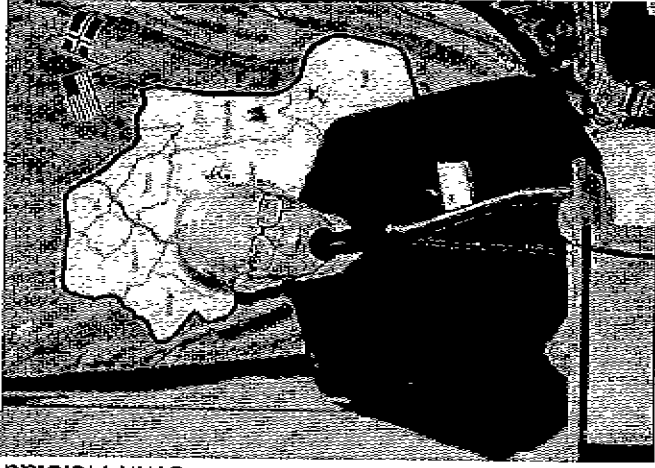
"In Thor Heyerdahl we have lost a countryman who for more than fifty years was one of the most well known Norwegians around the world. He was the happy boy from Larvik who conquered the world without ever forgetting where he came from. I had the pleasure of meeting Heyerdahl myself on several occasions, among them at the Bjørnson Festival in Molde last summer. On behalf of the Government I pray that peace may rest with Thor Heyerdahl's memory."

7-3-01

NHOH Lag Stevne - Saint Paul, MN 2002



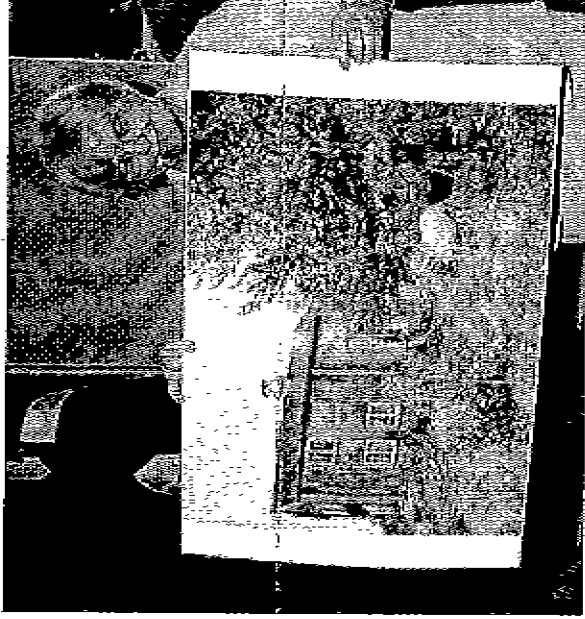
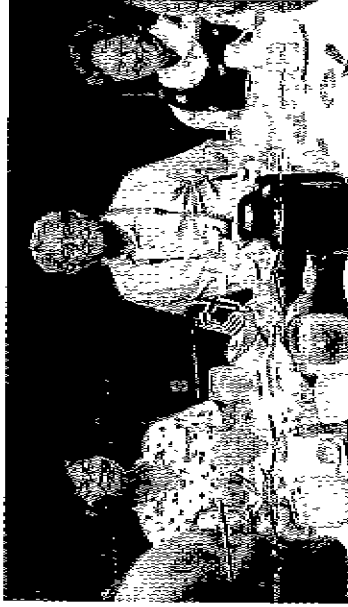
Olsen Fish Co. Tour



Orrin Helstad

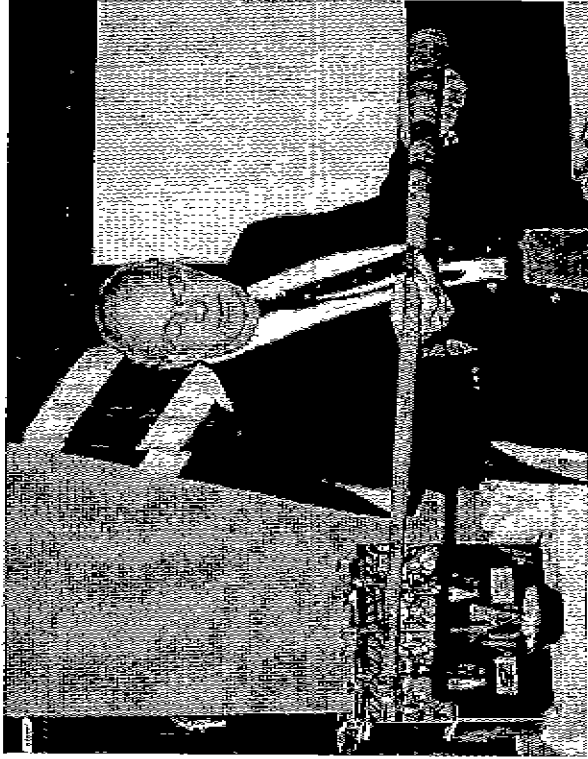


John Reindl

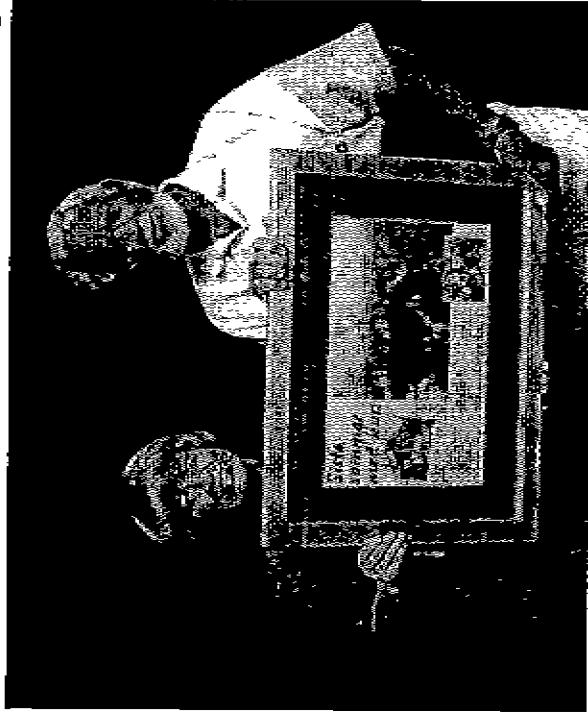


Mary Jo Thorsheim

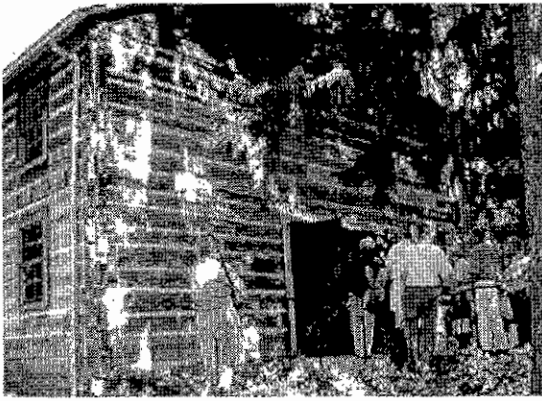
Call of the Lure



Joan and Fred Voigt



NHOH Lag Stevne - Saint Paul, Minnesota - 2002



Muskego Church

Liv Dahl



LeRoy Larson and the MN Scandinavian Ensemble



Erma and Roland Krogstad



NORWEGIAN SETTLERS IN TREMPPEALEAU COUNTY, WISCONSIN

By Orrin L. Helstad

Adapted from: Biographical Interviews (1903-1907) by Dr. Eben Pierce in HISTORY OF TREMPPEALEAU COUNTY, WISCONSIN; Professor Merle Curti, THE MAKING OF AN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, Stanford University Press, 1959; and Pamphlet, "100 Years Blair-Preston Centennial, This Our Beloved Valley, 1955.

Trempealeau County is situated in west central Wisconsin with its southern tip touching the Mississippi River north of LaCrosse. It lies in the driftless or unglaciated part of Wisconsin with hills, valleys, and plains adjacent to the river. The nature of its terrain had an important impact on the patterns of settlement. Immigrants settled along the river first, but the Norwegians seemed to prefer the hills and valleys instead of the prairies and plains. The County lies within the northwestwardly flow of the Norwegian immigrant movement during the last half of the 19th century, and therefore provides a microcosm within which to examine that movement.

Many of the people who came to Trempealeau from Norway as adults had stopovers at Koshkonong, Blue Mounds, Muskego, and Vernon County. This was common among Norwegians as they continued to move west and northwest across America. Others came to Trempealeau directly from Norway, they tended to be young married persons just starting a family or young single men. Often, the newcomers would provide cheap labor for the Norwegian-American farmer until the new immigrants were able to acquire their own land. Sioux, Winnebago, and Chippewa were among the Indian tribes which lived in the County before the white man came. French explorers visited the county in the late 1600s and during the 1700s but did not stay. The first permanent settler was James Reed, a Kentucky-born soldier, trader and farmer who arrived in 1840 and settled near what is now the village of Trempealeau but which for a while was called Reed's Landing and later Montoville. Some additional settlers continued to arrive during the 1840s, mostly Yankee stock from New York and Vermont and some from England and Scotland who settled on the southern prairie lands near the river.

Trempealeau County was officially created by the Wisconsin Legislature on January 24, 1854. The first Norwegian, Gulick Olson, arrived a few months later and settled in the Trempealeau River Valley about three miles east of what is now the city of Blair. At that time there were only a few hundred persons in the County, almost all of them living on the southern prairie. By 1870 the population had reached 10,732, about 40% were Norwegian, and by 1910 the population had reached about 23,000, of which 70% were said to be of Norwegian birth or descent. Sizeable groups of Germans, Poles, and Irish also settled in the County. Professor Curti's book indicates that the first Norwegian community to take shape, dating from the arrival of Gulick Olson in 1854, was in the Trempealeau Valley near Blair, and it was chiefly made up of migrants from Solor. The North Branch Beaver Creek settlement, originating when Iver Knudtson came in 1857, was largely immigrants from Hardanger. Hardie's Creek Valley in the town of Gale dated from 1860, and the people were largely from Biri. Other settlements were in French Creek Valley begun in 1859, Pigeon Creek Valley from 1867, and others in Sumner, Plum Creek, Eleva, and elsewhere. Many Norwegians were poor, and their first homes were often dugouts with walls of sod, roofs of thatch, and floors of dirt, some put up log huts. Most of them were religious and developed a reputation of hard working, frugal, and law-abiding folk.

Professor Curti's book continues with a story about the first settlers of Vosse Coulee east of Blair who sailed from Porsgrund, Norway in May 1854 and after a voyage of seven weeks and two days reached New York. They then traveled by canal boat to Buffalo, from which they went by boat on the Great Lakes to Racine. The husband in one of the families had died of cholera the day after arrival in Racine. The widow and children lived in Racine for two years and then went to Yorkville, 18 miles from Racine, where they joined with Lunden and Tytegraf families who owned four ox teams and wagons. They set out for the Coon Prairie settlement south of LaCrosse where they stopped for two weeks in order that Gunleik Storli might get ready to join them. He and his family wished to go west with them. From Coon Prairie the party proceeded north to Black River Falls where they learned of the Trempealeau Valley. The men concluded that they should at least investigate the land and five of them—Knut Lunden, Gunleik Storli, Johannes Nichols, and Johannes Tytegraf ---set out while the families camped out and slept in the wagons near Black Rivers Falls. The five liked the land and when they returned it was decided to settle there. The following day the party was on its way westward to Trempealeau Valley and Vosse Coulee. There was no road to be found and it was necessary to clear brush, make long detours around swamps and bridge small streams in order to cross with oxen wagons. They did not see a single white person during the latter stages of the trip and saw none for a long time after their arrival. Vosse Coulee is

one of the few major valleys in Trempealeau County named for a Norwegian Nils Anderson Evangerhougen who came from Voss. He became known locally as "Vosse Nils." Another valley in the area is Tappen Coulee named for Ole Tappen. Another pioneer family in Vosse Coulee was Lars Olson and his wife who came to U.S. in 1852 and had first settled at Koshkonong for a few years. Another was Aslak Hovdekleiv Swenson who had first settled in Muskego in 1845.

John Koien Anderson built himself a blacksmith shop and equipped it with hand made tongs, sledges and other tools. The home-made bellows made with wood and leather were fan-shaped with a pointed end leading into the hearth. It was divided into two compartments joined by a set of valves in such a way that a steady flow of air blew into the hearth as they were pumped. A rope leading over a set of pulleys hung down where the smith stood so that, with one hand he could pump the bellows by pulling the rope and with the other hand turn the hot metal in the fire with his tongs. He made much of his farm equipment and that of his neighbors, repaired broken parts, and made shoes for both oxen and horses, and shod them. His services were indispensable to the pioneers in his neighborhood.

The little amount of wheat raised in the beginning was threshed out with a flail, cleaning the chaff in the wind. This was a tedious job. Considerable relief came when brothers John and Mathias Anderson and Arndt Storfaldet Anderson got a horse-power threshing machine. This required from four to six teams of horses. Threshing began before the break of day and lasted until way after dark. This was done to accommodate as many patrons as possible in their run.

School age children between 1855 and 1871 did not have much opportunity for education in Vosse Coulee. Most important then was to teach boys and girls to read Norwegian in order to learn their religious lessons and be confirmed. The rudiments of reading and writing of English also were being taught by someone who knew a little about the language. Most parents had to teach their children at home or sent them to other homes where classes were being taught. The oldest record of a school meeting is dated May 25, 1871. They voted two months of school in the fall and three months in the spring. A male teacher was necessary in order to discipline the large boys. They voted to build a school house. Later, parochial schools were held during the summer months in the various schoolhouses.

Only three years after the arrival of the first Norwegians in Trempealeau Valley steps were taken to organize a Lutheran congregation. Religious services, baptisms, and confirmations were started in Sever Johnson's barn in the town of Preston. The Rev. H.A. Stub, an itinerant pastor who made visits to the new settlement, assisted with the organization which became an entity in 1857. It was the mother church for miles around with Rev. Stub as its first pastor. The church building was not constructed until 1868 when everyone turned out to help build it. Big timbers, requiring teams of oxen to haul just one of them from Black River Falls, were hand-hewed nearly as squarely as if done by a machine saw. Hans Nielson of Vosse Coulee was an artisan of this skill and assisted with the building.

Perhaps the biographical sketch of my grandfather, Ole Helstad, which appears among the several hundred biographies in the 1917 HISTORY OF TREMPEALEAU COUNTY will provide an illustration of the typical Norwegian immigrant to Trempealeau County. Ole Helstad was born to Ole Larson, a husmann or cotter and Berte Simonsdatter on the Borge farm near Brumunddal about midway between Hamar and Lillehammer in the farming country of eastern Norway. There were 12 children in the Larson family of which eight grew to adulthood including my grandfather. Great-grandfather Ole Larson probably was one of the victims of the agricultural revolution taking place in Norway during the last half of the 19th century. For example, in 1865 there were 50,000 cotters, and by 1900 there fewer than 25,000 and most of those were old people. Ole Larson and his wife Berte decided to emigrate and arrived in Trempealeau County in 1872, settling on 160-acres of land in the upper French Creek Valley. The land had previously been pre-empted by Ole Halverson, who had built a small log house on it, but no barn was there so Ole built one of straw. He succeeded in getting a cow the first year. He carried needed merchandise on his back about 12 miles from Galesville. He had little but his hands with which to begin work, and it was two years before he obtained an ox team. The market at Trempealeau was about 20 miles from home. There was no road and the journey with the ox team occupied two days. He had no wheeled vehicle so he had to use a jumper (a kind of sled) for a wagon. The rest of Mr. Larson's life was spent on this place, and he died in the old log cabin at age 84, his wife passing away at the same age. In the early days their home was often the scene of religious meetings, and the small Lutheran congregation held services there. Later he helped to build the church at French Creek of which he was a member until his death.

Ole Helstad, my grandfather came to America two years after his parents when he was 18 years old. For a number of years he assisted his father in clearing and improving the homestead, and finally in 1881, bought the farm and cared for his parents until their death. He erected a frame house, large basement barn and other buildings. He engaged in general farming with good stock which resulted in profitable operations. Like his father, he assisted in building the Lutheran Church, of which he was a trustee for several years. He also served on the school board nine years as clerk. He married Netta Jorgenson who was born in Norway and accompanied her parents to America at the age of two years. Ole and Netta had 12 children. One of their sons stayed on the farm and farmed it until the old folks died. Thus we see the typical pattern repeated in this personal history.

Although the vast majority of Norwegian immigrants came looking for land, a few took up occupations other than farming. Professor Curti's chapter on "Making a Living in Town" notes that the foreign-born in the early days of Trempealeau County were not well represented among the businessmen of the County. However, this situation gradually changed so that by 1880, 49 percent of the businessmen in the county were foreign-born as compared with 64 percent foreign-born in the population as a whole. Some examples include: Ole Kittelson was the first real storekeeper and postmaster in Strum; Iver Pederson, born in Biri, settled in Westby, mustered out of the Civil War, came to Trempealeau County in 1867, opened a general store at Frenchville, homesteaded some land, founded the village of Ettrick, and erected a flour mill, woolen mill, and a creamery. Henry Thorsgaard, born in Gudbrandsdalen the 12th of 24 children, worked in the pineries in northern Wisconsin, operated the mill at Ettrick, came to Blair and operated the mill there, went into farming for a while, organized a shipping business, and became County Treasurer for four years.

In addition to the examples already mentioned, by the end of the 19th century, Norwegian immigrants or their descendants were well represented as owners or operators of local businesses, including general stores, hardware and furniture stores, jewelry stores, blacksmith shops, and other business enterprises. The Norwegian settlers quite naturally preferred to deal with businessmen who were fellow Norwegians and who could speak their native language. A few Norwegian settlers even became lawyers, bankers and founders of insurance companies. Gradually they also became involved in politics and government service, first at the local village and township levels and later at the county and state levels, including election to the offices of register of deeds, district attorney, county judge and state legislator.

As times have changed throughout the land, Trempealeau County has not been immune from change. The revolution in farming methods has meant consolidation of farms and abandonment of many of the old farm homesteads. Many other ethnic groups have become residents of the County and have taken up farming or other occupations. The integration process has been at work. On the other hand, there continues to be a strong emphasis on, and pride in, the Norwegian heritage in many areas of the County. The City of Blair celebrates its own "Norwegian Day" each year, in addition to the more traditional Norwegian holidays. There is a spate of lutefisk dinners each fall. The Blair Press often has stories about visitors from Norway (often to visit relatives) and stories about local residents who have traveled to Norway. And, as is true elsewhere, there seems to be renewed interest in genealogy and even in learning to speak a little Norwegian. The influence of the Norwegian settlers has only faded, not disappeared. (This story was condensed by the editor from a much longer paper prepared by Mr. Helstad in 1982 for the Ygdrasil Literary Society of Madison, WI.)

From: Sigdalslag Saga
Vol. 22
No. 3



Continued on P.10

Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga

Opens November 23, 2002 through May 18, 2003 in Minnesota!

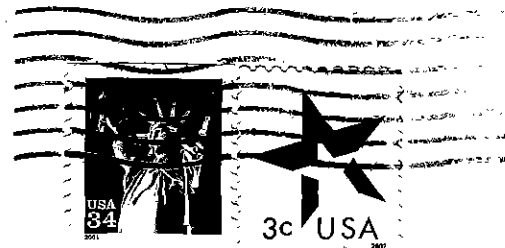
The Science Museum of Minnesota will bring the world-renowned Smithsonian Institution exhibit *Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga* to Minnesota from November 23, 2002 through May 18, 2003. The exhibit features Vikings art, artifacts, and historical objects on loan from museums and private collections from around the world. This represents one of the best

collections of Vikings artifacts ever assembled in one place.

Advanced tickets for Vikings went on sale Monday, September 16.

Vikings: The North Atlantic Saga tells the little-known story of the Vikings' westward exploration. More than 1000 years ago, the Viking people set sail from their homelands in Scandinavia to explore the Atlantic, in search of new land, new resources, and freedom from restrictions imposed by growing European central authorities.

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



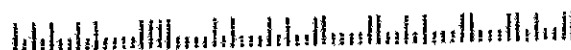
2003 DUES DUE !!

If your mailing label has 2002 on the top line, it means your **Lag Dues** expire on December 31, 2002 and are now payable for the calendar year January 1 to December 31, 2003. When paying dues it is a good time to update addresses, apprise us of moves, 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.

First Class Postage

DUES RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____
 Mailing _____
 Address: _____
 E-Mail _____
 Address: _____ Ph: _____
 Roots in _____
 Norway: _____
 Genealogy Fund: _____ \$ _____
 Dues: 1 yr=\$10; 2yr=\$18; 3rs=\$25 ~~5510542312 53~~
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$



Viking Saga (continued)

After it premiered at the Natural History Museum, the "Vikings" exhibition is embarking on a 2-year tour of North America which included New York, Houston, Los Angeles, Denver and Ottawa. It is now in Ottawa through October 14, 2002 at the Canadian Museum of Civilization, Ottawa/Hull.

You can visit the Science Museum of Minnesota site for additional details at: www.smm.org/visitorinfo/nowshowing/Vikings.php

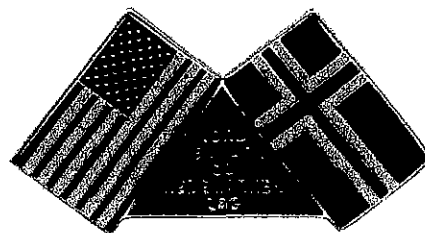
You can also visit the official Smithsonian Institution Vikings web site to learn more about this unique exhibit: www.mnh.si.edu/vikings/

The Science Museum of Minnesota is located at
 120 W Kellogg Boulevard
 St. Paul, MN 55102

You can call them or e-mail them:
 e-mail: info@smm.org
 phone: (651) 221-9444.

10

NHOH Lag Pins for Sale – only \$5.00



Enlarged. Actual Width =1.5"

It's impossible, with a black and white photocopy, to do justice to our NHOH lag lapel pin... but in full-color it's a beautiful and classy red white and blue – with gold edging and gold letters.

The NHOH Lag pin makes a great little present for family members who share your heritage - and, because they are inexpensive and easy to pack along, the pins also make a perfect gift to take with you when you travel and want to have something thoughtful to give to friends and kin who have extended their hospitality to you.

To order (\$5.00 each) send a check payable to NHOH Lag along with a self-addressed-stamped envelope to:

Dixie Hansen
 1411 Osceola Ave
 Saint Paul, MN 55105-2312

We appreciate the support!