

NHOH News

Volume 11 Number 1 Spring 2006

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Hilsen Fra Presidenten

Oh well, it's only March. Oh no! It's already March!

On this miserably icy gray day in March, the hot dry days of August seem a long way off...but the Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee knows that it just ain't so. Representatives from all 3 lags are already hard at it, putting some shape to the 2006 Stevne in Eau Claire, Wisconsin (August 2-5).

On February 18th (our 2nd meeting of the year) the Steering Committee laid in a rough schedule of events and chose the theme of *"Following the Timber Trail."* Our host site, in the Chippewa Valley of Wisconsin, offers many opportunities to reflect the theme. We'll have speakers on that topic (as well as on many other subjects), we'll visit the Chippewa Valley Museum, and we will make a guided tour of Trempealeau County (probably with a stop at the Norske Nook for coffee and pie!)

By chance, the timber theme perfectly illustrates a little part of my own family history – as four of my great uncles (Martin Olesen Brandvold, Johannes Tobiassen Steivang, Karl Pedersen Brandvold, and Mads Gustavsen Fjelstad), worked as laborers in the mills in Stanley Wisconsin in the years following their immigration. It didn't go perfectly for them (Karl died young from TB and Mads took to drink and bad behavior) but Johannes raised a large family and worked the remainder of his life in Stanley, and Martin (who also fathered a large brood) eventually moved on to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he continued to labor in lumber. You can bet I'll be interested in what our speakers have to say about the timber trail. We're also making a particular effort to include a "cultural" track in the Eau Claire stevne – so come prepared to sing and dance and stomp your feet!

At the same meeting, the TreLag Steering Committee accepted the recommendation of the 2007 Site Selection Committee that the 2007 Tre Lag Stevne be held at the Stoney Creek Inn in Onalaska, Wisconsin. This is a great facility in the beautiful LaCrosse area – and will be a perfect jumping off place for exploring the extension of our Norwegian heritage in the southern corners of Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as northeastern Iowa. Thanks to Gary Olson and Ron Helstad who represented NHOH on the 2007 Site Selection committee.

Yet another Site Selection Committee is already at work for 2008. Trønderlag was formally organized on 17 September 1908 with a meeting in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. There were 120 charter members. Tre Lag's goal is to help Trønderlag celebrate their 100th anniversary by returning to the place of its birth for the 2008 Stevne. I just got back from a site visit (my first, but the 2nd of the committee) to the Bigwood Convention Center and Best Western Falls Inn and Suites in Fergus Falls, where we met with the hotel staff and with a representative of the convention and visitors bureau. Although we haven't signed on the bottom line yet (there are a few hassles about dollars to work out first!)...Fergus Falls looks like a promising venue. Early notice: NHOH Lag 100th anniversary will be in Madison, 2095?! ?!?! Dixie

TRE LAG STEVNE 2006

This year's Tre Lag Stevne will be held at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire, Wisconsin from Wednesday through Saturday, August 2-5, 2006. The Steering Committee is busy at work. Registration materials will appear in our June issue of *NHOH News*.

NOW IS THE TIME

Now is the time to start preparing for the upcoming stevne! The more time you put into preparation for it, the more you should get out of it. Update your family tree and family group sheets in order to identify gaps and missing information to look for in the genealogy lab at the stevne. Try to resolve your searches down to specific questions as to who, what, when, and where

VELKOMMEN!!

We extend a hearty welcome to the following new members who chose to join Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag:

Rick & Pam Helstad	Stoughton, WI
Terry Ann Helstad	Highland, CA
Oliver Westby(604)869-2570	Hope, B.C.

He will help with translation of Norwegian to English.

Oliver Westby, P.C. Box 1514, Hope, B.C.

Canada VOX ILO. Email Oliver pi@telus.net

Please let us know how we can be of assistance to you!

A TUSEN TAKK!!!

A Tusen Takk are gratefully extended to those members who responded to our request to critique the rough draft of *HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FIRST TEN YEARS*, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag last fall. Your comments and suggestions were very helpful. A meeting of the Madison-Sullivan contingent was held on January 21, 2006 to discuss and incorporate many of your fine suggestions. We hope to meet again and have a "final" draft or progress report at the next stevne. We have yet to arrive at some cost estimates and funding. Mange Takk!!

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Norway Popular Among Foreign Students

The number of foreigners studying in Norway has increased from 6,000 to 10,000 students in four years. One out of four foreign students in Norway studies social sciences, law, or business administration. Natural science is the second most popular field of study with nearly 20 per cent of students. Recently, the website www.studyinnorway.no was

NORWEGIAN FJORDS ON "WORLD HERITAGE LIST"

UNESCO added two Norwegian fjords to its renowned World Heritage List this summer. The Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord now enjoy the same recognition as the Great Wall of China, the Great Pyramids of Egypt, Zambia's Victoria Falls, and the Grand Canyon in the U.S.



Holmenkollen the Most Favorite Attraction

NEW BRIDGE BETWEEN NORWAY AND SWEDEN

The Svinesund Bridge between Norway and Sweden opened in June. "I can hardly imagine a more appropriate event to symbolize the centennial anniversary than the opening of a new bridge between our two countries," His Majesty King Harald V said

The baker's mistakes are eaten;
The carpenter's mistakes are covered up;
The undertaker buries his mistakes,
But woe onto the editor—
The people read his mistakes!!!!

THE BEST OF NORWAY TOUR HAS GREEN LIGHT, STILL TIME TO BOARD

By Mike Bovre (Tour Guide)

Please join our tour to Norway June 21--July 3, 2006, including 2 days in Hedmark. Time is running out for those who are undecided about joining us on this trip. **Contact Ed-Ventures, Inc for application form before April 20, 2006!**

The tour begins in Oslo then on to Hamar for the night. The next day we drive through Ringsaker stopping at the Ringsaker Church on Lake Mjosa. We then drive a short distance to Lillehammer, where we have some free time for lunch and shopping. We continue north through Otta and Dombas, and then travel east to Folldal, where we visit the Iron Mine Museum. After a short visit to the museum, we continue on to Tynset to visit the Occupation and Folk Museum. Finally we continue on to Roros for the night.

The next day we continue on to Trondheim for two nights and one day after which we drive on to Andalsnes near the west coast. The next day we drive over the Trollstigen (Troll's Highway), on the way to Geiranger for lunch and a one hour cruise through the most scenic fjord in Norway, the Geirangerfjord. We continue south finally arriving in Sogndal where we spend the night. We proceed to Laerdal on our way to Flam for the famous Flam Train ride Myrdal and on to Voss and Bergen where we again have two nights and one day in Bergen. The next day we drive east along the Hardangerfjord to a night in Gol and then on to Oslo for our return home.

This trip includes all breakfasts, seven dinners, and airfare from Chicago to Oslo and return for only \$3,139. Please contact Ed-Ventures, Inc at 1-800-658-7128 in Rochester, MN **before April 20, 2006** for more detailed information and application form, or Mike Bovre at 608-277-1119 in Madison, WI

When the Norwegian Parliament declared its independence from Sweden on June 7, 1905, troops on both sides of the border mobilized. Yet the neighboring countries were able to resolve the conflict without going to war.

Seek and You Shall Find!

We are trying to find ancestors and any living and deceased relatives of the Karlstad family. Here is what we know about them:

Mikkel (Michael) Karlstad was born Feb 14 1819, probably in Ringebu. His wife Hellibor was born on Oct 15, 1819 in Ringsaker. Their children were:

1. Hans M. Karlstad born Dec 10 1851, at Karlstad, Prestigferd, Hedemarken
2. Michael M. Karlstad born about 1854 Norway
3. Martin M. Karlstad born about 1859 Norway

They emigrated about 1873 or 1868, first settled in Wisconsin and then moved to South Dakota, to the area near the town of Volga.

Any information can be sent to Allen J. Krueger, Canby, MN, email akrueger@frontiernet.net

Looking for information on Melkor Oien, also spelled Øien, Oyen or Øyen, and details of his life in America. He was born on September 28, 1872 in Ytre Rendal and came to the US on December 21, 1891, arriving in New York on the ship *The City of Chesterfield*. He lived in the US for approximately 14 years, and, although his ship record said that he was destined for Wisconsin, we have not been able to locate any information on his place of residence. He and his brothers Andrew and Gustav are said to have written poetry that was published in the US, perhaps in Norwegian language newspapers.

In the early 1900's, Melkor returned to Norway, married, had a children and then came to Canada in 1910, and in his application for Canadian citizenship listed himself as a citizen of the United States.

Any information or leads on his life in the US would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Sandy Oyen-Cumberford at sandy@cumberford.com P.O. Box 932, Iowa City, IA 52244-0932

FROM HEDMARK TO CHIPPEWA VALLEY, WISCONSIN

Adapted from a Paper by Blaine Hedberg

Eau Claire is the largest city in northern Wisconsin with more than 62,000 inhabitants, and is located in the heart of the Chippewa Valley, an area comprised of the Wisconsin counties of Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Rusk and Taylor. The Chippewa Valley was settled during the lumber boom of the early 1850's. Lasting less than fifty years, the huge white pine forests were depleted changing life forever for the regional Indian communities who depended on the forest.

There are many genealogical resources with several excellent collections you may wish to pursue. Located in Eau Claire's scenic Carson Park, The Chippewa Valley Museum, PO Box 1204, Eau Claire WI 54702 (715) 834-7871 <info@cvmuseum.com> mission is to discover, collect, preserve and interpret the history and culture of the region. It is home to the Glenn Curtis Smoot Library and Archives which maintains nearly 26,000 archival items. The largest categories are historic images, primarily photographic prints, which are included in their general photographic collection and number over 14,000 images. This collection offers an unparalleled resource for understanding life in west central Wisconsin during the past two centuries. The library and archives maintains images, business documents, personal correspondence, journals, diaries, maps, and other archival materials related to the lumbering industry. The photographic and archival collection also includes materials on farming and rural families in the Chippewa Valley area.

A special feature of the Chippewa Valley Museum complex is the Anderson house, a 1975 donation to the museum. Built in approximately 1866, this home replaced a small, older log structure that sat on the Anderson farm until it was dismantled in the 1950's. The 1853 immigrants from Asker, Akershus, Lars Andersen, born 1825, and his bride, Grethe Poulsdatter, born 1830, settled for several years near Waupun and in 1856 settled again in Pleasant Valley Township, in western Eau Claire County. They wintered on the banks of the Chippewa River and lived the next year in Pleasant Valley Township, Eau Claire County. About 1857 they moved to Chippewa Falls Twp., in Chippewa County, where they would all live out their lives. The Big Elk Creek cut across their land. The Big Elk Creek Norwegian Lutheran Congregation, organized in 1862, held many of their early meetings in their home. The History of Dunn County states that when the Andersons built their first home, "there was only one house between Anderson's place and Eau Claire." The Anderson's had a total of ten children, although several died at an early age. The Anderson House was donated to the Chippewa Valley Museum by descendants, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Anderson of the Town of Wheaton, Chippewa County. The house and its collections are maintained and interpreted by the Chippewa Valley Museum.

The McIntyre Library at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire contains Special Collections and an Area Research Center (ARC) coordinated by the Wisconsin Historical Society containing a great many genealogical sources. Special Collections is located in Old Library 1133, just off the Grand Corridor of McIntyre Library and are normally open from Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Special summer interim hours will begin on August 6th and the hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 715-836-2739. <library.archives@uwec.edu> Special Collections includes public records, immigration records, map and directories, church and cemetery records, newspapers, and other regional and local history. Of special interest will be the pre-1907 Wisconsin vital records for the six county area (Chippewa Valley); also probate records, many as early as 1854; circuit court case files, including divorce records, may be found as early as 1854; land records and some homestead records. Naturalization records for the six county areas will also be found there; including naturalization declarations back to 1850 and naturalization petitions back to 1858. A large collection of plat maps and atlases as well as the Sanborn Insurance maps will also be found. Many Eau Claire city directories from 1880-present are also included in Special Collections. A large collection of cemetery records from the Chippewa Valley as well as some church records are included. A complete run of the Eau Claire newspapers since 1859 will also be found in the 2nd Floor periodicals department.

The L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library in Eau Claire, 400 Eau Claire Street, has an excellent genealogy collection including an index to obituaries from the Eau Claire newspapers from 1858 to the present. This index contains mainly the names of individuals who died in Eau Claire, but occasionally include those who died elsewhere and are buried in Eau Claire or were former residents. A partial cemetery index for Eau Claire County is also available. Several printed volumes of Eau Claire cemetery records will be found in the library's reference area. A bride and groom index to the Eau Claire county marriage records is also available for the years 1854-1928, as well as many other localized sources. The library also provides access to several indexes created and maintained by the Genealogical Research Society of Eau Claire

(GRSEC). Contact the libraries Information & Reference Center (715) 839-5004 or by email <librarian@eauclaire.lib.wi.>

Many Norwegians from Hedmark settled in the Chippewa Valley, especially around the Eau Claire area during the nineteenth century. Eau Claire was considered a destination point and many immigrant tickets were paid through to this settlement. As early as 1864, the 1st Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran church was organized in Eau Claire and a prominent family among the membership rolls is Bernt H. Enger, born 1859 from Hedmark and his wife, Paulina Thompson, born 1858 in Nes.

Johannes Johansen Holt, born in Furnes, 1850, had immigrated to Eau Claire in 1869 and took a job with a sawmill owned by Chapman, Thorp & Company. The following year he worked for the railroad, west of Eau Claire; then farmed for about a year in St. Croix County, before returning to Eau Claire. Holt was married in Eau Claire in 1873 and worked as a cook in a lumber camp for many years before settling in Colfax, where he died in 1944 and is buried in the Norton Lutheran Cemetery. Others from Furnes who immigrated to Eau Claire include 1882 family Mikkil Christiansen, born 1822 and his wife, Gønner, age 58 and daughter, Agnette.

One of the prominent Norwegian Lutheran ministers, who lived in Eau Claire during the 1880s, was Ulrik Carl Severin Hjermstad, born in Stange in 1840. Ulrik immigrated to America in 1867 where he taught at a parochial school in Red Wing, Minnesota. Later he attended Luther Seminary and was Pastor in Eau Claire during the years 1880-1886, before moving to the LaCrosse area. Others from Stange who settled in and around Eau Claire include 1880 immigrants, Ole Knudsen, born ca 1860 and Ole Olsen Elton, born 1856. In 1881, sisters, Pernille and Oline Dillerud emigrated from Stange to Eau Claire; also Mikkil Olsen, born 1836 and his son, Johan, born 1872, arrived the same year. In 1882, Stange immigrants Martin Olsen, born ca 1849, and businessman, Johan Gulbrandsen, immigrated to Eau Claire. In 1884, Stange immigrant, Anders Martiniussen, born ca 1857, arrived in Eau Claire. In 1885, Markus Larsen, Eline Amundsen and Tea Larsen, all unmarried workers, arrived in Eau Claire. Many others from Stange settled in nearby Trempealeau County, including many from the Frang family.

There are many from Vang who arrived in Eau Claire and settled in the Chippewa Valley. The earliest immigrant from Vang that we have found in Eau Claire was Mikkil Christoffersen, born about 1857. He immigrated in 1876. The largest group from Vang arrived in June 1881 and included Kristina Pedersen, age 45 and her children, Andreas, Mathias, Gustav, Olaf and Emilie. Hired girls, Marthe Haarstad and Marthe Enger and Ole Jørgensen Kjøstad arrived in Eau Claire in September 1881. In October of 1881, Rikard Pedersen, age 45 and his traveling companions Lars Eriksen and Ole Mortensen arrived in Eau Claire. In 1882, Simen Mikkelsen, born 1860 and Elias Johansen, born 1862, arrived in the Chippewa Valley. A Lars Flagstad, possibly from Vang is said to have arrived in 1882 and settled in Eau Claire. He was married to Gurina Nikolaissen and had several children.

Several immigrants from Rendal immigrated to the Eau Claire area. The earliest found was Anna Johnsdatter Rindal and her two children, John and Gjertrud, arriving in 1871. In 1872, sisters, Ragnhild and Johanna Johnsdatter Lie, arrived as hired workers from Rendal. In 1880, arriving in Eau Claire from Rendal we find Ole Jonsen, age 19; Ingeborg Nilssen, age 22; Gjertrud Jonsen, age 17 and Ingebrigt Olsen, age 35. The cabinet maker, Christian Tollefsen Otnæs and his son, Thorvald arrived from Rendal in 1881. Marie Ingebretsen and her children, Even, Reinhard, Anna, Christian, Peder and Mina & laborer, Einar Pedersen, arrived in Eau Claire in 1882. The Rendal tailor, Peder P. Lambnæs and his family arrived in Eau Claire in 1882. In 1890, Even E. Fugelsøy, age 30, arrived in Eau Claire.

From Løten, the following immigrated to Eau Claire in 1871, Jørgen Jensen Grønsveen, born 1841. In 1881, the worker, Helmer Pedersen Topsrud, age 19, arrived in Eau Claire. In 1882, the widow Anne Olsdatter, age 57, arrived from Løten. Mathias Pedersen, his wife, Annette and children, Palmar and Per arrived the same year. In 1887, Julie Hagen and her children, Kristian and Kristoffer arrived in Eau Claire.

From Åmot, the widow, Anne Andersen, age 57, arrived in Eau Claire in 1881. The following year, the widower, John Gundersen and his children, Emil, Gunder and Berthe arrived in the Chippewa Valley.

From Elverum, the earliest immigrant found arriving in Eau Claire was Peder Jensen and the married man, Martin Olsen in 1882. Oline Johansen and her two children, Emma and Marta arrived from Elverum in 1883. Elise Evensen, age 30 and Hans Haagensen, age 24, both arrived from Elverum in 1883. In 1893, Landgraf O. Sætre, born ca 1870, arrived in Eau Claire. A Gunder Gundersen Rude, born on the Skjelmoe farm in Elverum is said to have settled in Eau Claire in the 1880s.

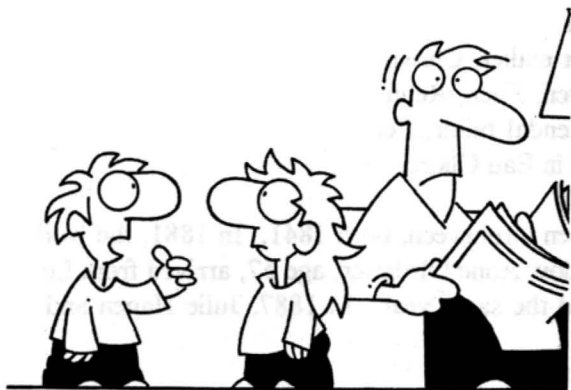
From Ringsaker, businessman, Gulbrand Evensen, arrived in Eau Claire in 1877. In 1883, Sivert Bjerkelid, born ca 1847, and Ole Johannesen, age 16, arrived in the Chippewa Valley. Johannes Hansen and his wife, Marit and their two children arrived in Eau Claire in 1885. In 1888, Karen A. Borch and her two daughters, Alma and Desideria arrived in the area. In 1896, businessman, Otto Nyborg, arrived in Eau Claire. Johannes Klungseth is said to have emigrated from Ringsaker and settled in the Strum and Eau Claire area. He is believed to have married Mary Mathison and had several daughters who lived near Strum, Wisconsin.

Several immigrants from Tysnet settled in the Chippewa Valley. The earliest we found was Lars Olsen Høiberget, born ca 1854, who immigrated to Eau Claire in 1871. Bersvend Nilsen and his wife Marit emigrated from Tynset in 1880. They may have had a son named Bersvend Bersvendsen who immigrated to Eau Claire in 1876. A Thore Bersvendsen, born 1832, also immigrated from Tynset in 1882.

From Nes, arriving in 1878, we find Simen Johannesen, age 23 and in 1893 arrivals we find Peder Børresen, born ca 1875, arriving in Eau Claire.

By far the largest groups of immigrants from Hedmark came from the area of Folldal and settled east of Eau Claire in and around Stanley in Chippewa and Clark Counties. The brothers, Simen Pedersen Brennodden and Anders Pedersen Brennodden, immigrated in 1871 & 1872 respectively, eventually settling near Stanley. Peder Andersen Lien immigrated in 1880 to Stanley as did his wife, Jørgine Pedersdatter Fallet in 1885. They both died in 1926 and are buried in Stanley. The Oslo police immigration records list many who came from Folldal to Eau Claire including in 1872, Simen Simensen and his wife, Jøran Andersdatter and three children; in 1874, Simon Andersen Kjølle, age 35; in 1888, Ole Strømbloom and his children, Peter and Hanna and in 1893, Many siblings from the Flyen farm in Folldal immigrated in the mid 1880's including, Esten Larsen Flyen, born 1861, died in Stanley, 1942; Ingrid Larsdatter Flyen, born 1862, died 1940; Lars Larsen Flyen, born 1864 and Marit Larsdatter Flyen, born 1867, settling near Stanley and Fall Coulee, Wisconsin. Folldal immigrants, Peder Hansen Sagholen and wife, Kari and daughters, Marie and Marit, also immigrated from Folldal. Sagholen died in 1904 and is buried in Spring Lake, Wisconsin, another large settlement of immigrants from Folldal.

Plan to join us in Eau Claire at the Stevne next August and learn more about your own heritage through participation in the Tre Lag Stevne.



"Dad said his new computer is wireless,
but I found lots of wires inside it!"

MORE INFORMATION...
 is available about our Lag on our Website at:
www.nhohlag.org



"If it's so important to have different colored foods, why
can't I just have a bag of jelly beans?"

FROM HEDEMARKEN TO KOSHKONONG

From Family History Book of Ancestors and Descendants of Frantz Larsen Engelstad(1850-1936) and Johanne AndersdatterEngelstad (1851-1932) by Judith Engelstad Gambrel, Great Granddaughter, Published 2004. The following excerpts are by Roland Krogstad

Frantz Larsen was born May 1, 1850 on the Ragnerud or Raknerud Farm on the island of Helgoya and was baptized in the Lutheran Church of Nes. Johanne Andersdatter was born February 22, 1851 and was also baptized in the Lutheran Church of Nes. She was confirmed on October 1, 1864, her home at that time was Molstadmoen on the mainland.

On April 15, 1873, Frantz, age 23 of Raknerud and Johanne, age 22, were married in Nes. They had ten children, five daughters and five sons: Agnethe (Agnes) Molstad-eie born 9 JUN 1873; Peter Salvsbergs born 11 APR 1875; Ludvig (Ludwig) Hoel born 2 OCT 1877; Anna Hoel-eie born 17 SEP 1879; Gunda born 13 JUL 1881; Amelia born 29 SEP 1883; Helga born 20 MAR 1885; Bendi (Bendie) born 16 JAN 1887; Fred (Jony) Engelstad born 28 SEP 1889; and Alvin Christian Engelstad born 22 JUL 1891. The first four were born in Norway, and the other six were born in Wisconsin. Frantz Larsen assumed different surnames at different times: Molstad-eie, Salvsbergs-eie, Hoel, and Hoel-eie. Land was scarce in Norway and many Norwegians emigrated to America in hope of fulfilling their dream of owning land. They dreamed of going to America to earn enough money to return to Norway and buy their own land. Frantz and Johanne fulfilled their dream to own land—but it was in America, not Norway.

The Frantz and Johanne Family emigrated to America in the 1880s. Whenever someone wanted to leave from the area in which they lived in Norway, they needed some kind of identification paper. The usual way was to ask for an attestation from the church. The church would note in their records those who left the parish and those who moved into the parish. Lutherans in Norway registered with their parish when they were moving out of the parish. They were required to declare their destination. In April 1880 Frantz and Johanne were signed out of the church at Nes, with the intention of moving to America. On April 16, 1880 Frantz was issued a passport in Oslo showing his destination being Edgerton, Wisconsin. Frantz sailed April 16 on the SS Angelo. He traveled with other people from Nes, some were destined for LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Johanne and the children were unable to leave with Frantz, possibly being due to one of the children being ill. On September 2, 1880, Johanne Andersen Simenstad and her four children: Agnette, Peter, Ludvig, and Anna, were issued passports in Oslo showing their destination as Edgerton, Wisconsin. Their fare had been pre-paid (presumably by Frantz). Johanne packed together everything they needed with four children, ages 7,5,3,and1 to leave Norway and to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Johanne took a small wooden trunk to hold extra food for her family. Johanne and children sailed September 3 1880 on the SS Hero. The weather was bad and most of the children, had been really seasick. Son Ludvig told his family that they arrived in Philadelphia. (no record). Johanne's final destination was the home of her uncle Barre Simenstad in Stoughton, Wisconsin, Barre later returned to Norway.

Frantz met them at the Edgerton train station. Mabel Nelson (daughter of Johanne's eldest daughter, Agnes) told the story that Johanne was angry with Frantz when he met her at Edgerton because he didn't wear his best suit. He took them to a little wooden hut. Originally, they thought they'd be here 4-5 years, make money and take it back to Norway and buy a little farm there. That never happened. Frantz and Johanne settled in Deerfield, Wisconsin. Their first home was a one-room log cabin built in 1847 on the Rothe Farm one mile south of St. Paul's Liberty Lutheran Church in Deerfield, Wisconsin. (NOTE: Members of the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag visited this cabin on a tour of Koshkonong during its stevne in Madison in August 2001.) Frantz and Johanne later moved to Cambridge, Wisconsin in Dane County. The villages of Deerfield and Cambridge lie east of Madison in the Koshkonong Prairie that became a well-known Norwegian Settlement which served as a "stepping stone" for many Norwegian settlers as they moved on farther west. Life was easier there for immigrants because of the friendships and traditions upheld by the Norwegians on the prairie. On June 5, 1880, Frantz Larsen (age 30, born in Norway) was listed on U.S. Census for Christiana Township, Dane County, Wisconsin. He was a farm laborer in the Household of Inez Kilitson, age 74. After moving to a tenant house on a farm west of Rockdale for a few years, the family moved to the H.B. Howe farm and farmed it for many years.. In the 1900 U.S. Census Frantz and Johanne Engelstad and their children were living in Deerfield Township, they had been married 27 years, had been in America 20 years, and that Frantz was a farmer, and his oldest son Peter was a farm laborer. They never were rich with money, but they had a big family rich with children. Frantz and grown sons worked

on the farms growing corn, hay, oats and tobacco, while Johanne spun and wove all the wool needed, knitted sox, gloves, sweaters; baked, made sugar, soap, and grew a big garden. She missed Norway, "my homeland, just as I left it. But I'm here, have you all, we can dream, and make the best of it."

Immigrants to America could file a Declaration of Intent to become citizens after residing in America for two years. This allowed the immigrant to vote. Residency in America for five years was required before an immigrant could become a U.S. citizen. Wives automatically became a citizen when their husbands were naturalized. Frantz Engelstad and his brother Anders (Andrew) Engelstad became citizens on the same day, Frantz became a citizen on September 20, 1906, 26 years after coming to America from Norway. Congress passed the Basic Naturalization Act of 1906, which framed the rules for naturalization still in effect in the 21st Century. This Law encouraged state and local courts to relinquish their naturalization jurisdiction to Federal Courts. This may have prompted Frantz's citizenship. By 1910, Johanne was able to speak English, and Frantz had become a citizen of the U.S. in 1906.

On March 13, 1914 Frantz Engelstad became a land owner at last when Iver E. Bendickson in the Town of Christiana granted a Warranty Deed for 140 acres to Frantz L. Engelstad of the Town of Deerfield, Dane County, Wisconsin. Frantz executed three mortgages in 1914, 1934, and 1934 which were released in 1935, 1946, and 1957 respectively. On February 21-22, 1920 U.S. Census, Frantz and Johanne Engelstad were living in Christiana Township, Dane County, with their children: Bendie (known as Benjamin and his wife, Peter, and Fredrick. Frantz was a farmer owning his own farm, and three sons were farm laborers. Other children lived close by.

Frantz and Johanne were Lutherans. Life was easier in Wisconsin for immigrants from Norway because of the Lutheran Church. The area in which they settled was populated by many Norwegians, most of whom were Lutherans. Social life often revolved around church activities, and friendships were formed because of common interests and common language. St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Liberty Prairie in Deerfield conducted services in Norwegian. Frantz and Johanne and many of their descendants attended and were very active in this church. Many Engelstad family reunions were held there for many years from 1903-2004. Frantz and Johanne Engelstad and their descendants have a long history of involvement in St. Paul's Liberty Lutheran Church. Settlers on the Liberty Prairie had to go to the nearest Norwegian churches: the two Koshkonong Congregations were organized 1844. Most pioneer churches were built of logs, but the Liberty Prairie congregation decided to build theirs from stone. Nothing like it had been undertaken by the Norwegians before construction began in 1851. It was one of 27 congregations forming the Norwegian Synod. The ninetieth Anniversary of the church was in 1941, and a commemorative booklet was published. Many members of the Engelstad family donated funds to help in restoration of the church.

During the 1920s things generally went well until the Great Depression came in the 1930s. Frantz gave up his farm and turned what interest he had in it over to son, Bendie who obtained a government loan. Son, Bendie took over operation of the farm which is now in the third generation. Frantz and Johanne moved nearby to a rented house owned by A. Dahl now owned by Vasby's. Johanne died at age 81 on May 20, 1932. After her death, Frantz lived with their children. He died at age 86 on May 8, 1936.

Engelstad Descendants By Judith Gambrel Engelstad

Frantz and Johanne Engelstad had 31 grandchildren and 77 great-grandchildren. Many of their over 320 descendants remained in the Dane County area including: Grace Birkrem Dahl of Deerfield; Ruth Henderson Kerr of Cambridge and Marion Henderson Hub of Cambridge (and Naperville, IL); Robert Rutlin of DeForest and Russell Rutlin of Sun Prairie; Doris Swain Bilstad, Delbert Swain and Ray Swain of Cambridge; and Gladys Mikkelson Maly of Deerfield. Grandson Roger Engelstad is the current owner of the Engelstad family farm in Cambridge passed down from Frantz to his son Bendie to his son Roger.

Three great-grandchildren have been on staff at the University of Wisconsin, Madison: Yvonne Swain Bushland (daughter of Ed Swain) is a Senior Lecturer in Food Science in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Roxann Engelstad (daughter of Roger Engelstad) is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Al Swain (son of Art Swain) worked as a biologist at the University for 13 years before retirement.

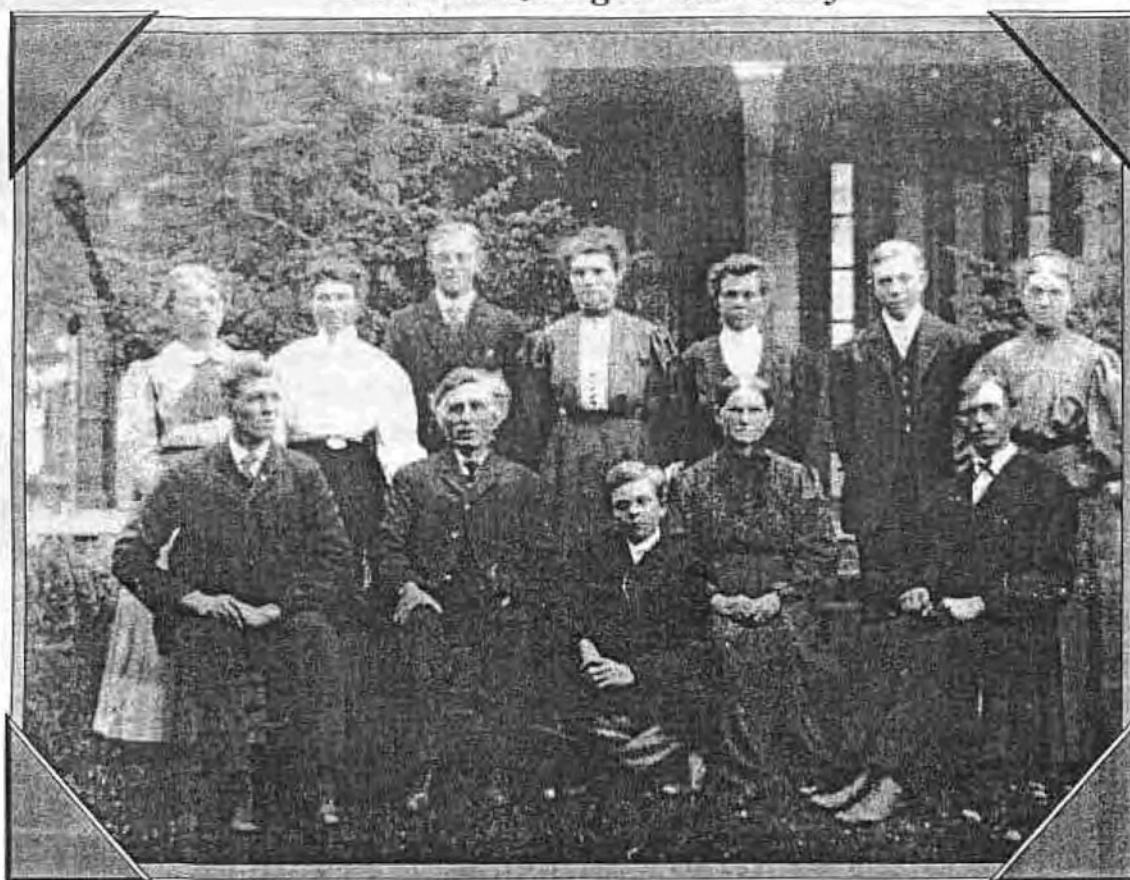
Bob Swain (son of Art Swain) of Deerfield received a Masters Degree in Biology at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and taught high school biology in Milton for 39 years. Bob also continues the family tradition of operating a dairy farm with his son.

Engelstad descendants are scattered coast to coast: Grandchildren LaVerne Johnson of Port Orange, FL; Lila Swain Nelson of Muskegon, MI; Alice Engelstad Smith of Atlantic Beach, FL and George Engelstad of Crystal Lake, IL. Great-grandson Dr. Barry Engelstad (oncologist, son of George) resides in San Francisco.

After service in World War II, two of Frantz and Johanne's grandsons settled in the Washington, DC area: Julian Engelstad of Stuart, Florida was the former head of the 10 Most Wanted Section of the FBI before his retirement. Julian's daughter Karen Engelstad Benson, currently works for the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms; his son, Bob is a Senior Vice President of the United States Fannie Mae mortgage program; son John restores old homes and son Gary formerly worked for Vice President George H. Bush and Vice President Dan Quayle. Julian's late brother, Francis served as an auditor for the General Accounting Office and Francis's son, Paul is a Program Officer with the United States State Department. In 2005 Paul served as Public Affairs Officer for the State Department in Rwanda, Africa.

Paul Engelstad has made many trips to Norway, is fluent with the Norwegian language, and maintains close relationships with Engelstad relatives in Helgoya. Other descendants of Frantz and Johanne who have visited Hedemarken are the late Francis Engelstad and his sons Paul and Peter; Julian Engelstad; Gladys Mikkelson Maly and her late sister, Ruth Mikkelson Hoibe, Ruth's daughter Linda Hoibe Swenson and her daughter Julie Welch; Vicki Engelstad (daughter of Glenn); Roxann Englestad (daughter of Roger); Karen Engelstad Benson (daughter of Julian); and Judy Engelstad Gambrel and her sister, Barb Engelstad Tracy (daughters of Howard).

The Frantz Engelstad Family



***Front Row: Peter, Frantz, Alvin (sitting), Johanne, Ludvig
Back Row: Helga, Agnes, Fred, Anna, Gunda, Bendie, Amelia***

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



First Class Postage

2006 DUES DUE !!

If your mailing label has 2005 on the top line, it means your **Lag Dues** expired on December 31, 2005 and **are now due** for the calendar year January 1 to December 31, 2006. 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 Joy Shong, Treasurer, N4695 Highland Drive, Sullivan, WI 53178-9705

DUES RENEWAL FORM

Name(s) _____
Mailing _____
Address: _____
E-Mail _____
Address: _____ Ph: _____
Roots in _____
Norway: _____
Genealogy Fund: _____ \$
Dues: 1yr=\$10; 2yr=\$18; 3yr=\$25; 4yr=\$30; 5yr=\$35; 6yr=\$40; 7yr=\$45; 8yr=\$50; 9yr=\$55; 10yr=\$60
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$

NECROLOGY

Following is a registry of deaths to members of Nord Hedmark og Hedmarken Lag who died during the past ten years since when our Lag was organized in Madison, Wisconsin in 1995. Sharing the feelings of loved ones who survive and grieve their loss, members of our Lag wish to extend our feelings of sympathy to the families and friends of the following members who passed on:

- Nena F. Dexter, Member NHOH Lag Planning Committee, died ca 1996
- Paul H. Nyckelmoe, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, died from heart attack, March 7, 1997
- Paul Graham, Charter Member, Barneveld, Wisconsin, died on January 17, 1999
- Ella G. Johnson, Member of NHOH Lag Planning Committee, Richfield, Minnesota, died February 18, 1999
- Gerhard N. Holte, Charter Member, Elk Mound, WI, killed in tractor accident, on August 16, 1999
- Genevieve Hagen, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Struck by a car, on January 7, 2001
- Jane N. Olson, Charter Member, Sparta, Wisconsin, died of cancer, on July 21, 2001
- Eleanor Hogenson Webert, Charter Member, Chair of 1997 Eau Claire Stevne, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, died of heart problems September 27, 2002
- Agnes Hoel, Spearman, Texas, died on February 10, 2004
- Merlin H. Jacobson, Charter Member, Stoughton, Wisconsin, died on March 29, 2005
- Charlotte A. Helstad, Charter Member, Lag Treasurer and Board of Directors for seven years, died July 9, 2005 of congestive heart failure at Coventry Village Retirement Community

The above list is to appear in our upcoming history book. Please submit any names and/or pertinent information to the editor. Takk