

NHOH News

Volume 16 Number 3

Fall 2011

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

2012 Tre-Lag Stevne

**Wednesday, August 1 – Saturday, August 4
at the Doublewood Inn Best Western Hotel
3333 13th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103-3404
Phone 701/235-3333 Reservations 800-433-3235**



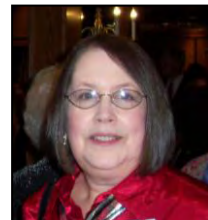
Experience the best of Fargo at this newly-renovated, full-service hotel. Located on Fargo's busiest street, guests will be minutes away from major area attractions including Hector International Airport and North Dakota State University.

Guests staying at the Doublewood Inn will find spacious, well-appointed guest rooms and suites. Each room is complete with a flat screen television, refrigerator, microwave, and **complimentary wireless high-speed Internet access**. Doublewood Inn includes an onsite casino, Dakota Grill & Restaurant and Doublewood Lounge, outdoor dining patio, an indoor swimming pool and hot tub, game room and courtesy shuttle to the airport and West Acres Mall. It has great meeting facilities and event and convention space. Pets are welcome with some restrictions and a non-refundable \$10.00 pet fee

What's Inside?

- 1.....2012 Stevne date, Pres. Letter
- 2.....Genealogical news/Who are We?
- 3.....Hardanger Klubb at the Stevne
- 4.....Stave Churches and Apple Recipes
- 5..... Prince Haakon and Crown Princess Mette-Marit
- 6.....Mourning Monarch and Norway's Tragedy
- 7..Original Østerdalslag Organizational Records in Elverum
- 8.....Genealogical trip to Salt Lake City in February
- 9-10.....Becky Olson Johnson Storytelling from Stevne
- 10.....New Members and Lag Officers
- 11.....Hedmark Lag 2011 Photo, Storytelling Winners
- 12Special Awards Given and Lag Board Photo
- 13.....EROS Photos from Stevne
- 14.....Autosomal DNA Project
- 15.....Churches we toured at the Stevne and photos
- 16.....NHOH book – first 10 years
- 17.....Website instructions from Bob Christiansen
- 18 ..Stevne photos & Norskedalen Old Fashioned Christmas
- 19-20.....Royal Visit in October / Membership Application

Hilsen Fra Nye Presidenten Joy Shong,



NHOH Lag is experiencing a 'changing of the guard' for the first time in 7 years. Dixie Hansen stepped down as president, but is still active as our membership coordinator. As your new President I have some very big shoes to fill. Not that Dixie Hansen has big feet, but she has been a wonderful president of the lag and set the bar high for quality leadership. Following the seven years of exceptional leadership by Gary Olson, and the first two years by Rollie Krogstad, it will be a 'hard act to follow'. My goal is to keep the lag activities relevant and add services for our members so there is a continued value in belonging to the NHOH Lag.

There was an additional shuffling of the board at the Annual Meeting. Ron Helstad was elected Treasurer, and Chris Falteisek was added to the Board as Vice President. He will be a fun addition and I personally look forward to the new ideas he will bring. For the first time in 14 years Gary Olson will not be a member of the board since Dixie has replaced him as Past President. We will miss him at the Board meetings, but hope to still see him at stevner.

Elaine Smiley, who has been the lag secretary for the past seven years, was re-elected in August, but has since had to resign due to health issues. We wish her well and thank her for all the wonderful work she has done while on the Board.

The Board is looking for someone to fill the Secretary's position which entails attending two meetings in LaCrosse, plus the Annual Meeting at the stevne. (Let me know if you can complete Elaine's term.)

The Board met on November 5th and began discussing ideas for projects to enhance existing services to members. We have some exciting ideas to pursue.

- To promote genealogical research, we will be seeking people who can assist others with translations of short documents.

- John Reindl has a project in mind to begin transcribing parish church records for areas with no bygdebok.

- A genealogy software project will help us find out who uses which programs and maybe get some user groups started for helping each other.

- A lag sponsored trip to Norway is being planned for in 2014 (200th Anniversary year of the Norwegian constitution).

I'm looking forward to the upcoming year.

Joy Shong

Genealogical News

By Lag Genealogist John Reindl

Ringsaker records from the west side of Mjøsa – Redalen and Vardal

Prior to 1821, the Ringsaker area included an area west of Mjøsa known as Redalen, or, in some cases, as the Redalen and Vardal area.

Now part of Biri in Oppland fylke, the church records for the following Redalen farms are included in the 1734-1821 church books for Ringsaker:

Alkytterud	Lien (Tortelien)
Amundrud	Lier
Bjørke	Markeng (Marking)
Bøvre	Roli
Dullerud	Skavdalen
Enge	Skjønshby
Etanstad	Skøyen
Flatsrud	Skulhus
Hasselknippe	Strandbakke
Klundby	Sveen
Kvatum	Sviund
Larud	Unset

Although there are no bygdebøker for Ringsaker, these farms are included in the *Biri-Snertingdal Bygdebøker. Bind III*, published in 1954, with farm numbers 78 to 104. Also, Ole M. Granum, a local historian from the Gjøvik region has prepared two valuable resources for these farms.

First, he transcribed the Ringsaker church records of these farms from 1734 to 1821. These are available both in printed form as well as electronically. The electronic version is available on the web page of the Gjøvik and Toten slektshistorielag at <http://www.slektshistorielaget.no/kilder/gjovik/kirkeboker.htm>.

Second, for three years – from 1988 through 1990 – Mr. Granum put together an annual yearbook on Redalen. Ranging from 48 to 56 pages, these periodicals include articles, census data, photos, drawings and school graduation information from the oldest times into the early 1900's. The yearbooks, transcriptions and bygdebok for Redalen are available at the Norwegian American Genealogy Center and Naeseth Library in Madison and can be used at the Center or borrowed for a fee. In addition, they can be brought to the stevne.

Redalen and Vardal are both covered by the Toten Lag and those with Ringsaker ancestors from either of these two parishes are encouraged to visit the Toten Lag web page at <http://www.totenlag.org/> and their extensive collection of resources.

WHO ARE WE?

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag includes 16 kommuner in the three districts of Nord-Østerdal, Sør-Østerdal, and Hedemarken/Hamar as follows:



(Photos below by Thorbjørg Hjelmén Ugland – Norway's Folk Costumes.)

District 1: Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal
Folldal
Os
Rendalen
Tolga
Tynset

District 2: Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot
Elverum
Engerdal
Stor Elvedal
Trysil

District 3: Hedemarken. and Hamar

Furnes
Hamar
Løten
Nes
Ringsaker
Romedal
Stange
Vang



**A
l
v
d
a
l

a
n
d

T
y
n
s
e
t**



**N
o
r
d
Ø
s
t
e
r
d
a
l**

2011 Tre Lag Stevne

Hardangersøm Klubb



At the 2011 Trelag Stevne, the Hardangersøm Klubb met on Thursday and Friday mornings. We received a kit to make a simple piece, and a DVD showing all the stitches. Thanks to Ginny Nelson for preparing the lessons, and to Joy Shong for making the DVD. We are looking forward to meeting with the group next stevne.



These wonderful Hardanger pins you see here were given to those that signed up. The Purpose of the Klubb is to preserve this part of our Norwegian heritage and the enjoyment, creativity and beauty that is brings into our lives.



This beautiful piece of Hardanger was made by Ginny Nelson and given to the NHOH Lag for stevner. It is absolutely gorgeous! Tusen takk Ginny.

The rest of these stevne pictures were taken in Ginny's class:



More stevne photos on page 5, 11-15, 17-18, and 20



And in the Vendors area, was a real expert too-



Some bunnad dolls had hardangersøm on them too.



Stave Churches

The stave churches of Norway are considered to be unique in world architecture. There are 28 preserved churches in Norway and none are alike. These wood churches date from the middle ages.

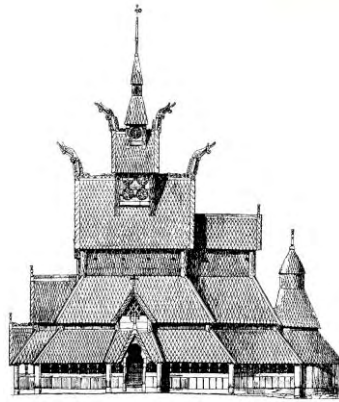
According to history, King Olav Tryggvason forced Christianity on to the people in 997. The church was Catholic throughout the middle ages. The bishops of Norway were subordinate to the Archbishop of Bremen until 1104, when an Archbishop was appointed for the Nordic countries in Lund in Sweden. In 1153, the country became a separate province of the Church directly under the Pope in Rome. Norway's Archbishop was based in Nidaros— present day Trondheim, where the northernmost cathedral was built on St Olav's grave.

None of the original or first generation of stave churches remain. Most did not stand more than 100 years because the posts on which the building stood were embedded in holes in the ground which caused them to rot. During the twelfth century the problem was solved by introducing sills, upon which the planks and staves rested, then raising the walls above the ground level and protecting them from rot. This method proved so effective churches from the twelfth century are still standing today.

It is the method of construction which has given the stave churches their name. A stave wall consists of vertical planks with their bases in a groove in the sill beam, and their tops in a groove in the wall plate. At each corner is an upright post connected to the sill below and the wall plate above. Thus, a stave wall has a solid frame consisting of sill, wall plate and two corner posts. This frame is filled with vertical planks. The sills of the four walls form a solid horizontal frame on which the whole church rests. The wall plates form a corresponding frame at the top.

When examining a stave church there is a unique mixture of the Viking ornamentation mixed with the themes common to Christianity. The stave churches are construction of high quality, richly decorated with wood carvings. In virtually all of them the door frames are decorated with carvings from the top to the bottom.

The tradition of rich ornamentation appears to go back to the animal carvings of the Viking age. The stave church doorways are among the most distinctive works of art to be found in Norway.



The Fall Season

All good Norwegians make and eat lefse all year around, but it is especially best when made in a toasty warm kitchen, buttered, and eaten when it's still warm.

Also, in the fall, is a good time to study, read, work on genealogy, Christmas letters and projects – and bake **apple pies**. Yummy!



You can make so many good foods with apples – especially in the La Crosse and

La Crescent apple-growing country. Here are a couple recipes I know you'll like.... sas

Apple cake from my friend Jean Davis

4 c. chopped apples	2 eggs
1 3/4 c. sugar	2 tsp cinnamon
1/2 c. oil	2 c. flour
1 tsp soda	1 tsp salt
1 c. chopped nuts	

Break eggs over apples and mix to coat. Add rest of ingredients and mix well. Bake 45 min at 325 in 9 x 13 pan. Maybe a bit longer.

Frosting

1 stick butter	3/4 c. sugar
1 tsp vanilla	1/4 c. cream or evap. milk
1/2 c. nuts	

Boil 3 min. and stir while cooking. Cool to frost. Add the nuts after it is cooled.

Apple Dumplings (Easy)

Oven Temperature: 350
Bake Time: 45 minutes or until brown

2 packages of crescent dinner rolls
4 apples, quartered and peeled
2 sticks of butter (no substitutes)
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 12 ounce can of mountain dew

Roll each quartered apple in crescent roll, starting with fat end of roll. Make 16. Put into greased 9x13 pan, mix butter, sugar, cinnamon. Melt on stove until boiling, stirring occasionally. Spread mixture over dumplings, then add Mountain Dew. Bake



Anniversary Celebration in Hedmark



On August 25, Crown Prince Haakon and Crown Princess Mette-Marit celebrated their 10 year wedding anniversary!

The couple travelled to Hedmark for several days leading up to the anniversary, and celebrated in Oslo with a church service and a concert.

When Crown Prince Haakon married Crown Princess Mette-Marit in 2001, their honeymoon was interrupted by an unexpected terrorist attack in New York City, trapping the couple in the United States. A month prior to their 10th wedding anniversary, which took place Aug. 25, Norway was struck by two equally terrible and unexpected tragedies.

But although the Crown Prince and Princess have been through some truly sorrowful and trying times in their ten years of marriage, they have also enjoyed the happy moments. They have welcomed two children into their family, seen the world together, and enjoyed the mass approval of the Norwegian people.

After participating in the National Memorial Service on Aug. 21, the Crown Prince and Princess began their anniversary celebration with a three-day *fylkestur* (county trip) to Hedmark, which culminated in a hike to the top of Pika, a mountain in the Greater-Elvdal area of Hedmark. "At 1,157 meters high, the couple will hold a meeting with the press and answer questions on the occasion of their anniversary on the 25th of August," said mayor Sigmund Westand, before the event. "At the top is a 360-degree view. On a good day, it is magnificent."

During the interview, the couple talked and laughed with the press, answering questions about their marriage. "She is a problem-fixer," Haakon said of Mette-Marit, asked how he would describe her as a parent. "Much better than me. I focus more on the problems."

"He is a wonderful father," Mette-Marit said of Haakon. "And very practical."

Back in Oslo for the anniversary, the pair attended a service in Oslo Domkirke with their children: Marius, Princess Ingrid Alexandra, and Prince Sverre Magnus. King Harald and Queen Sonja were also at the service, and the guests of honor included Crown Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel of Sweden, as well as Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg, Foreign Minister Jonas Gahr Støre, and many other officials, friends, and family. Two hundred free

seats were also given out to anyone in the public who wanted to help the royals celebrate. "Interest has been high," said communications manager at the Royal Palace, Marianna Hagen, before the big day.

Bishop Emeritus Gunnar Stålsett, who married the couple ten years ago and provided strong support for both of them in the time surrounding the wedding and afterwards, spoke at the service.

"Today, ten years ago, this cathedral was filled with love. A month ago, the streets were filled with love. Therefore, we may see even clearer today the relationship between love and charity, between our own happiness and others'," he said, in an inspiring speech that referenced both the joyous and the sad, especially most recent, times.

"In a challenging time, with strong opinions about the engagement, marriage and the kingdom's future, you came here to the cathedral. You were reminded about the durability of the mutual warm feelings between the royal family and the people," he said.

After the service, the *Gatekunstakadmiet* (Street Art Academy) held a concert in University Square in Oslo. Famous artists and many young people participated. The concert was put together in cooperation with the couple's humanitarian fund, and entry was free.

The event marked the relaunch of the humanitarian fund, established in 2001 after the couple married, and later in the evening the couple presented the projects the fund will work with during the next few years. In the past, in Norway, the money has gone to projects that strengthen children and adolescents and promote inclusion. Abroad, the money has gone to health and education efforts.

The evening ended with a dinner, held by Their Royal Majesties King Harald and Queen Sonja, at the Royal Palace. Princess Martha Louise, Ari Behn, Princess Astrid, Fru Ferner and Johan Martin Ferner were among the guests.

This article was originally published in the September 2, 2011 issue of the Norwegian American Weekly.



Mourning monarch topped memorial

August 21, 2011

The skies cried yet again over Oslo, and King Harald choked up as well, when 6,700 survivors of last month's terrorist attacks in Norway gathered for a National Memorial Ceremony to honor victims and their loved ones. Millions more followed the ceremony from home, since it was broadcast live on all major radio and TV channels.



King Harald's opening speech at Sunday's National Memorial Ceremony, carried live by Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK), drew sustained applause and won widespread praise.

PHOTO: NRK/Views and News

The rain started pouring on Oslo just before the ceremony began in the large local arena called Oslo Spektrum, and it seemed to reflect the mood of a city and state still in sorrow. Flags flew at half-mast all over the country on Sunday as the two-hour ceremony climaxed a National Memorial Day and formally concluded Norway's official mourning period.

It was clear, though, that the grieving will continue for a long time and a long string of participants starting with King Harald and ending with Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg urged their listeners to continue to meet those hit hardest by the terrorist's acts with compassion.

Norway's 74-year-old monarch stressed that those who have lost loved ones "will face especially tough times when the national grief gradually begins to lift, when the strong solidarity we have felt ... isn't as marked anymore.

"Then we will need people who see those in grief and those who are having trouble dealing with their lives, people who can be there when the attention starts to fade, when everyday life is supposed to be lived."

Among the dignitaries attending Sunday's National Memorial Ceremony were the prime ministers and presidents of all the Nordic countries and Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden and Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, Queen Sonja and King Harald.

King Harald's own voice cracked, and he seemed about to break into tears himself, when he told the survivors and mourners that "as a father, grandfather and spouse, I can only imagine some of your pain. As the country's king, I feel with every single one of you."

After experiences as traumatic as the bombing of Norway's government headquarters and the massacre at a Labour Party summer camp, King Harald said it will take a long time for those affected to build themselves up again. "During this time, it's important to remember that sorrow has many expressions, and there must be room for all of them," he said, including anxiety, guilt, fury and emptiness.

King Harald also said he felt "a strong need" to thank everyone at the government complex and at the summer camp on the island of Utøya "who has decided that what they have experienced won't break them." The monarch also thanked "all the helpers" including police and emergency workers, and "the prime minister, the government and ministries," as well as all political parties

for showing solidarity. "It has been clear to me that everyone has done what they could to offer support and help," he said.

The monarch, who led off his remarks by saying that nearly all words used to describe the results of the attacks had "been used up," said he wanted to repeat what he said the day after the tragedies: "I have faith that freedom is stronger than fear. I have faith in an open Norwegian democracy and society. And I have faith in our opportunities to live freely and securely in our own country."

He said the tragedy proved a reminder of "the fundamentals that tie us all together in our multi-cultural society. Let us take care of that, and of each other."

Positive response

King Harald's unusually personal and heartfelt remarks drew lengthy applause from the thousands gathered inside Oslo Spektrum and good reviews from those following the broadcast. Some said they had never seen King Harald speak so well and appear so "kingly." Comments flew on social media sites like Twitter, the vast majority highly positive.

Sunday afternoon's memorial ceremony attracted not only Norway's entire government, royal family, members of parliament and other state and church officials but also the prime ministers and presidents of every Nordic country including Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland. Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden and Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark also attended.

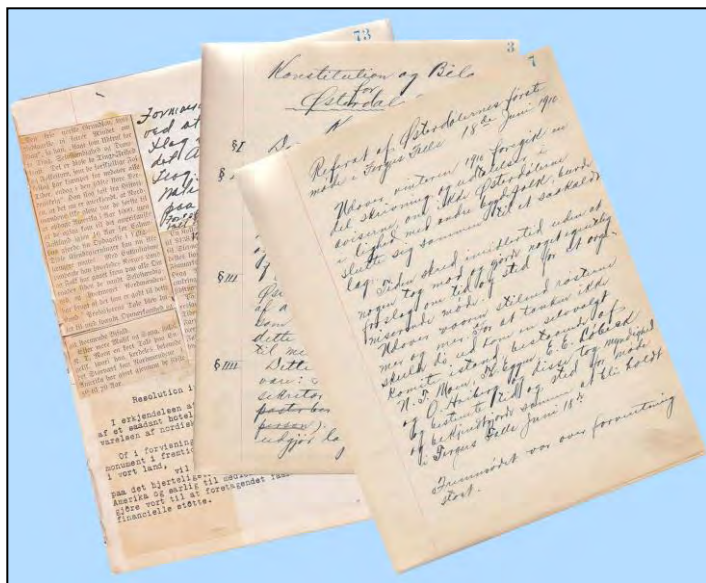
In addition to musical interludes and readings, five of Norway's leading actors and actresses read off the names of each of the 77 persons killed in the attacks. Many in attendance commented afterwards that the thousands listening inside Oslo Spektrum were remarkably silent throughout.

**To our friends in Norway – our sincere sympathy!
And also, it is time for "God Jul"**



Torill Steivang Locates Original Organizational Records of Østerdalslag in Museum in Elverum, Norway!

Written by Dixie Hansen



We thought the records were lost forever – perhaps discarded when Østerdalslag folded up its tent in the early 1960s or maybe pitched on the trash-heap by a grandchild who didn't see much value in those “old Norwegian papers” that Grandpa kept in a box down in the basement.

Fortunately, we were wrong. In June of 2011 the original organizational records of our forerunner organization, Østerdalslaget, were found safe and sound at the Glomdalsmuseet in Elverum, Norway by NHOH member, Torill Steivang. And since then Torill has spent many hours laboriously scanning the documents (329 pages!) and creating digital images for our archives.

Although it seems odd that records of a North American organization would have found a final resting place back in Norway, it wasn't actually a total surprise that they were there. In 2000 when the NHOH Tour Group visited the Ramsmoen Museum in Tynset a staff member there told us that he had knowledge that the original Østersalag banner was – at least at one time - housed at a museum in Elverum. In preparation for our 2010 Centennial I picked at that thread and attempted to track that rumor down and also to ask if –by any chance - the Østerdalslag paper records might be in the museum as well. My thought was that maybe they were donated together. But, I got exactly nowhere with those inquiries. My official letter of request and a followp-up pair of emails to the museum director were, inexplicably, never answered at all.

Since Torill lives about 30 miles away from Elverum, she volunteered to make a personal visit – but she didn't turn anything up on her first stop at the museum either (though, when she asked, the staff did acknowledge that they had received my letter). But she was persistent and last June, in a subsequent attempt, she scored – big time!

There are two volumes. The records include a complete set of minutes from Østerdalslaget meetings starting from the very beginning back in 1910; a long hand copy of the constitution and bylaws, miscellaneous newspaper clippings; attendance lists for Stevner from 1949-1958, and a brief hand-written recap our our history abstracted from the records.

Torill has loaded all of the images up to the internet as a Picassa album. She's even transcribed many of the pages. The link to the album is a little long to print here – but you can click directly to it from the Østerdalslag page on the NHOH website at www.nhohlag.org . I've also downloaded the images and printed them and they will be available for curious eyes at the genealogy lab at the Stevne in Fargo.

We're not done yet. Our hunt for additional old Østerdalslag is ongoing. In 1938, the Lag published a 500+ page book called *Østerdølenes Saga*, edited by K.G. Nilsen. The book includes many family biographies as well as records gathered from parishes in Norway. It's a valuable book and we've got a copy of it (and have scanned that, as well). But it's my theory that someplace, somehow – the dusty correspondence and research files accumulated during the book's production are waiting to be discovered. Wouldn't it be fun to find a letter about your family written by your Great Grandfather to the book research committee?? In the past 2 years I've turned over a few stones in the search for these possible files (including a phone call with Nilsen's nephew). So far, no luck. But Torill's discovery in Elverum has inspired me to keep on turning those rocks!



Norwegian Genealogy Lag Research Trip to the Salt Lake City, Utah Family History Library Combined with Roots Tech February 5-11, 2012

This is an opportunity for persons interested in Norwegian genealogy and the Roots Tech Conference to attend both events.

(Roots Tech conference is February 2-4, 2012)

Roots Tech Conference is sponsored by a number of groups and participation will require registration with their committee. The Plaza Hotel will book us for both with two separate room fees. Roots Tech combines state of the art technology and genealogy. By special request we are combining the two events next year.

The Norwegian Lag week provides an opportunity to improve your knowledge and skills in working with a wide variety of materials and research tools emphasizing Norwegian records. Elaine Hasleton from the Family Search Department at Salt Lake City and Marilyn Sorensen, a long time specialist with Norwegian genealogy, are coordinators of this event. There will be special classes relating to Norwegian genealogy. It may provide insights about activities at the Family History Library that will improve use and access to their reference material. Also the FHL offers a regular schedule of classes relating to genealogy. Another bonus is they have state of the art technology to work with as well as excellent help to accomplish many genealogical tasks.

Note: The Roots Tech Conference is a separate event. You may attend Roots Tech only or you may attend the Norwegian Lag Week only beginning on Sunday, February 5, 2012. Registration for Roots Tech is through their organization.

Salt Lake Plaza Hotel (next door to the library)

The Plaza Hotel is located next door to the Library, 122 West South Temple, SLC, UT 84101. The webpage is www.plaza-hotel.com. Please telephone Rich Williams directly at 800-366-3684 X3007 to make reservations.

Room rate for Roots Tech is \$89.00 for single or double occupancy, plus tax. The room rate for genealogical group participants beginning on Sunday, February 5, is \$85.00 + tax per room/per day for either single or double occupancy (This is a genealogy special which means that if you stay five nights the sixth night is free).

Note: **reservation cut off is December 5, 2011 with space as available after that.** Each participant will be responsible for travel arrangements and room reservations in the block of rooms. Be sure to request the Norwegian Lag group rate from Rich Williams and also he will book you in for the Roots Tech block as well with the Conference rate.

Norwegian Lag Week

The Norwegian Lag Week begins on Sunday, February 5, 2012. There will be a get acquainted meeting at the hotel around five or five thirty in the afternoon. Usually we schedule three or four classes specifically related to Norwegian genealogy research. Presently we are exploring what may be available and what types of classes should be taught. There will be ample time for research. After meeting with our fellow participants for the last few years, it has become evident that it is best to schedule classes in the evening or first thing in the morning. Should you have a special request for a class or the time to hold them, please contact us at our e-mail addresses. When we are closer to the event and we know you are coming, additional information about the Norwegian Lag week schedule will be e-mailed to you.

Family History Library

Salt Lake City is the site of the largest genealogical library in the world. The library has an excellent collection of Norwegian records. This includes one of the larger collections of Norwegian bygdebøker outside of Norway, a complete set of microfilmed Norwegian Lutheran Church records and other record sources such as census, probate and court records. They also have a complete set of the Norwegian farm maps.

Research at the library will be according to your own schedule. There is a very good help system available at the reference desks on all five floors of the library. Participants often help each other as they work on genealogy problems. This week is designed for independent research, taking advantage of all the materials, equipment and assistance available at the library.

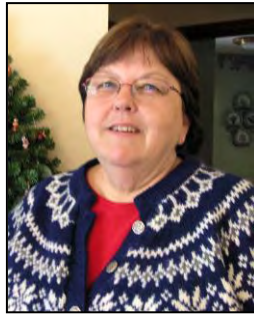
If you plan to attend, keep us informed.

We need to know who will be attending for planning purposes. Last year an enthusiastic group participated in the annual Norwegian Lag Research Week in Salt Lake City. This year is planned to provide great opportunities and experiences for all who attend.

Direct your inquiries and questions to: **Marilyn Sorensen**, 651-633-1329 or e-mail to rddlagen@usfamily.net or **Steven Hall** at shall3307@gmail.com.

Stevne Storytelling

Becky Olson Johnson was one of the winners in the storytelling contest. Her story is titled “From Indifference to Obsession”



My friend and I were very young girls playing when I asked my dad, “What is your mother’s name?” I don’t remember what he said, but we shyly giggled. I remember father telling me about his brother, Julius that built church steeples. When we took drives, sometimes our route would take us by the family farm where I would hear the disappointment in his voice about not living there. His brother Johnny had taken over the family farm. When Johnny died, it was sold and no longer in the family. The family Bible held some information, but when it came to his parents, it was simply stated “ma and pa with birth and death dates”. Uffda, that’s just not much to go on when your father has died and your mother’s eyes have deteriorated and her memory is failing.

One must know that my mother’s family history had been well documented and discussed on a regular basis. There were often family reunions for the maternal side of the family, but I only attended a couple. I knew the names from my mother and her sister talking about their cousins and families, but we did not live close, so when I attended a family reunion, there was no connection. That has since changed with my family history obsession. I now work on all branches of the family and a few limbs. I remember my mother discussing her family history with her sister, brothers and other family members; sometimes it would end in disagreements. Not always, but when you discuss family history as often as they did, it is bound to happen. In my young adult life, I remember telling mother to leave those dead people alone, let them rest in peace. Uffda!! That’s all I can say about my attitude. Fortunately, researching our family history has given me a new light.

With my new journey into family history came a new attitude. Conrad Johnson (1942-2011), a second cousin, was my inspiration. As far back as I can remember, Conrad was interested in our Olson Family History. He had many questions mother and I could not answer. My father, Otto William Olson and Conrad’s grandfather, John Albert (Johnny) Olson were brothers. On Conrad’s visit in about 2003, I realized his interest was to have someone do the research and that someone was *ME*. I was married by now and ready for the task. If there was going to be any research, I had better start. The next year he came for another visit and with him came documents and pictures from his Arizona home. His father was a great collector of family documents and photo albums for both sides of the family.

We made several trips on his visits to Minnesota from Arizona. We visited the home of my great grandparents, Andreas & Agnette Tollefson Lunde, which was also the home of my grandparents, Mathias and

Antonette (Lunde) Olson until their move to Holt, Minnesota via Hawley, Minnesota. The Lunde home farm was near Preston, Minnesota. My grandmother, Antonette was also raised in this home. For Conrad this would have been his Great Great Grandparents and Great Grandmother. We traveled to cemeteries, churches and met many new relatives. We also had the opportunity to see the inside of the Olson home near Holt, Minnesota. No one is living in the home and it is not heated. It had the same wallpaper as when Conrad was a young boy. If we were wealthy, we dreamed about purchasing, moving, and restoring the home. Maybe it could be a summer cottage on the farm where Curtis and I live and Conrad could come and stay in the home during the summer while Arizona was so hot.

As I stated earlier, I didn’t know very much about my father’s family. I didn’t know the name of his parents, but I did know where to look - The family Bible, right? Well, at least it said “ma and pa.” I don’t remember how I found their names, but the first obituary opened the door for so much more. It was suggested by Charleen Haugen at the Roseau County Museum that I use a family history program to gather my research and to find obituaries, then the census. I found a family history program and started documenting everything our family could remember along with every document and photo that was collected. Memories and documents from my brothers made for a nice collection. It was amazing to me, the story that started to develop with the bits of memory and documents that were gathered. The clues that this information supplied for further investigation.

Mother was watching the Winter Olympic Games from Lillehammer, Norway and out of the blue she said, “You know your Grandfather, Mathias, was a master carpenter in Lillehammer.” Now that was news to me. She is living with us by this time, not able to live on her own. Where in her memory bank this came, I do not know. It makes sense; his son, Julius, built church steeples in Roseau County, Minnesota. I’m sure it was a trade learned from his father.

My grandfather was born in 1854, my father in 1893, me in 1948, my youngest nephew in 1986. That’s a spread of 132 years for four generations. Wow! My grandfather, Mathias was born 94 years before me. I’m sure this is not making history, but it sure feels like it.

I credit Eleanor Lunde Schneider, Sara Greely Tollefson and Maylene Pansch Chaska for sharing what they had gathered on the Tollefson/Lunde Family. They were very helpful in understanding the early history of the Tollefson/Lunde family in America and on where they came from in Norway. With a computer report from Maylene, I would trace branches of the family looking for living descendants - making many phone calls gathering what I could of the Lunde family, but also hoping it would lead to more information of Mathias Olson’s family. The Tollefson/Lunde Family and the Olson Family both came from Ringsaker. I was wondering and looking for anything that would show a connection between the two families.

With so much research on the Lunde Family, there was still Mathias with no further information. Where did he

come from in Norway? How did he arrive in America in 1869? Through Union Prairie Church, Lanesboro, Minnesota church records, it was found that he came from Tørtop, Brøttum, Ringsaker, Hedmark, Norway. Now it was possible to find his birth, baptism records and find his family. With a lot of support from other genealogists and The Norway List the project was advancing. In my frustration of not knowing enough Norwegian History and Traditions, I made a post on The Norway List stating my lack of skills and abilities, asking if anyone would be willing to help research my family. This was the fall of 2009. In a very short time, I had an email from Even Bergsengstuen, telling me he was a distant relative and would send me a report. Shortly, the ancestor report came tracing back 18 generations and a descendant report came using the eldest ancestor that contained 22 generations (Over 300 pages in small print). Uffda again!!! Blessed, yes - that is true. Overwhelmed, oh ya! I had struggled to find the roots of Mathias for several years and now the floodgates had opened. I was thrilled. I was feeling blessed. I was also overwhelmed to the point I could not really study the report for over a year. I cannot explain the emotional roller coaster of my feelings. That being said, I was and am so thankful to Even for his willingness to share his work. I am in the process of entering the data into my family history program. It will take awhile to enter the data, but so grateful. It is such a wonderful feeling to know where all the branches of my family came from for several generations back. Being able to see the affect they have had on my life through the generations.

So you could say, I was very indifferent until I gained knowledge of my family. When I meet someone that is not interested in family history, I do understand. I have been there.

Now family history is one of my hobbies. Obsessed, maybe at times. I enjoy helping others with their start. When they say, they don't know anything about their family, I remember my beginnings and try to encourage them. Knowing my family history has changed me. I have learned how much I love my family. It has taught me a lot about life and a better prospective on what is important. I believe that it has helped shape me into a better person. It has affected the inner core of my wellbeing. My personal growth will continue as the work on my family history continues. Thank you, thank you to all that have helped me on this journey.

The hope is to stand one day on the soil of my grandfather's home farm in Norway. The place his parents and sisters once lived, laughed, cried, ate, prayed, learned, and gathered to celebrate family events – and to visit the Ringsaker Church where he was baptized, confirmed and family is buried. Hopefully, this will provide me the opportunity to meet living descendants in Norway and to find more pictures. What a day of Rejoicing that will be.

VELKOMMEN



NHOH Newest Members
Who have not been listed in a previous newsletter -

Steven J. Hall.....Salt Lake City, UT
Kathy Botten.....Belgrade, MN
Kevin Castleberry.....Minneapolis, MN
Louise Erickson.....Red Wing, MN
Sylvia Falteisek.....Prescott, WI
Lois and Chuck Laehn.....Durand, WI
Linda Domier Lowry....Stevensville, ON, Canada
Shirley Nybakken Ball.....Nashua, MT



When contacting any officer by e-mail, please put **NHOH** in the subject line so we know it is not spam. Thank you.

NHOH Lag Officers & Directors

President: Joy Shong.....pres@nhohlag.org
Vice-Pres.: Chris Falteisek.....chrisfalteisek@gmail.com
Secretary:
Treasurer Ron Helstad..... treasurer@nhohlag.org
Membership: Dixie Hansen dx@dxhansen.com
Director: Gene Nelson.....garthnelson@charter.net
Director: Roland Krogstad.....phone 608-238-6652
Director: Joe Waddell..... jkwadd@aol.com
Past-President: Dixie Hansen.....dx@dxhansen.com
Past-President: Gary M. Olson.....golson6638@aol.com
Editor: Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld.....SASLAX@aol.com
Genealogist: John Reindl.....genealogy@nhohlag.org
Web Master: Bob Christensen...NHOHBobC@Comcast.net



L to r.; Front row: Elaine Domier, Glen Brandvold, Ginny Nelson, Judy Mathison, Virginia Sem
 2nd row: Clemens Bredeson, Marilyn Bredeson, Roland Krogstad, Gary Olson, Gene Nelson, John A. Pederson, Gay Kearin, Dixie Hansen, Bob Christensen
 3rd row: Linda Domier Lowry, Marlene Lien, Polly Johnson, Don Teigen, Mary Teigen, Marilyn Sorensen, Doris Modahl, Shirley Schoenfeld, Joy Shong, Sylvia Falteisek
 4th row: Dave Kearin, Ken Domier, Hanard Lien, Vicky Finstad, Becky Johnson, Shirley Sundgren Braswell, Wynn Braswell Glass, MaryBeth Glass, Chris Falteisek, Lois Laehn, Chuck Laehn, Gilmore Sem, Sonja Olmanson
 5th row: Roy Modahl, Ronald Helstad, Bud Helstad, Art Storbo, John Reindl, Sandra Aune, Mary Benson, Dennis Johnson, Jerry Wright, Bob Olson, Louise Lang, Marv Lang, Keith Olmanson



The Great 2011 Tre Lag Stevne Storytelling Adventure

The most difficult job with the storytelling was judging them – there were so many wonderful and heartening stories! The editors of the three Lags were asked to judge them. They were told to just pick one, but that was not possible, so they let us pick three, and they also had a popular vote. The three that were picked were Emily Hazelton, Shirley Sundgren Braswell, and BeckyJohnson Olson. And Rollie Krogstad took the popular vote. It would be great if everyone continued writing their stories, leaving a legacy for your family.



Special Awards to Elaine Smiley, Ginny Nelson, Marv Lang, and Joy Shong were presented by President Dixie Hansen at our NHOH business meeting in Sioux Falls



NHOH Board – L-R: Chris Faltesiek, Rollie Krogstad, Gene Nelson, Joy Shong, Dixie Hansen, John Reindl, Shirley Schoenfeld, and Bob Christianson



The coffee and goodies were always appreciated





Dixie, carrying the World on her shoulders



Marilyn reaching for Norway?



Pictures of Earth

Entrance to USGS EROS



New members; Sylvia Fattisek, and Lois and Chuck Laehn



Gene Nelson

Rollie Krogstad



SPACE CAMERA

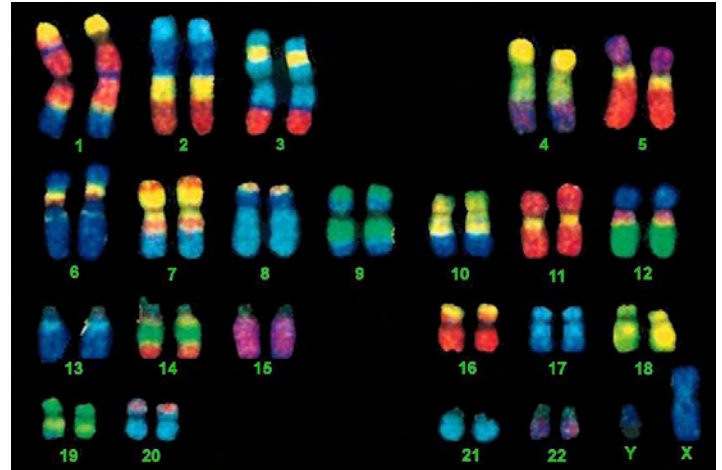
Autosomal DNA Project for Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Planned

At their November meeting, the NHOH Board of Directors approved the idea of coordinating and sponsoring a geographic-based DNA project for our membership in 2012. While full details have yet to be worked out, the concept is part educational, part genealogical, and part just plain fun.

Autosomal DNA testing is relatively expensive (current price at FamilyTree DNA is \$289) but is more relevant for recent generation “cousin finding” than the more traditional testing which finds only straight maternal lines (mtDNA testing) or straight paternal lines (Y-DNA testing). Autosomal testing can be done for either gender.

Analysis of Autosomal DNA, inherited from both the mother and father, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, etc.) can provide you with a breakdown of your ethnic percentages and connect you with relatives descended from *any* of your ancestral lines within approximately the last 5 generations. The testing doesn't tell you *how* you're connected (e.g. *which* line) to a genetic match but it identifies common blocks of DNA on 22 chromosomes which predict a degree of genetic relationship and allow you to contact and compare results with identified probable cousins.

Because members of our group all share heritage from a relatively small geographic area in Norway, our theory is that we'll confirm some matches that we've already documented and identify others that may come as a surprise. And, most importantly, through first-hand experience, we'll learn something about DNA testing.



Our goal is to line up a knowledgeable speaker (Know someone? Let me know) to come to our Stevne in Fargo to talk about genealogical DNA testing– and to give us some specific insight on the NHOH group results as well.

The Board voted to sponsor the project and to kick-in \$50 of the \$289 cost of testing for each of the first 10 NHOH members who sign up. The company we'll use is FamilyTree DNA. FTDNA sometimes has a sale on testing around the holidays – so we're watching for that. The purpose of this article is to get you thinking about the idea so that you can do a little advance research (visit www.familytreedna.com) and make a decision about whether this is something you would be interested in doing.

If you think you may want to participate – send me an email at dx@hansen.com and I'll let you know when we officially open things up.



Dixie having fun
Thanks Dixie – you were a great President! sas

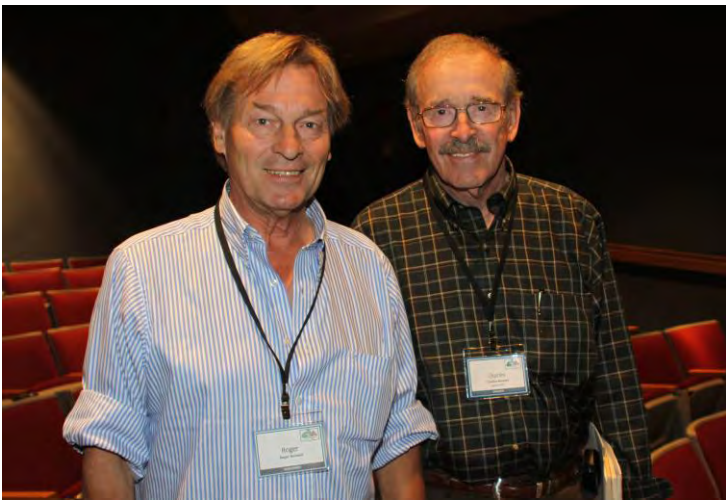
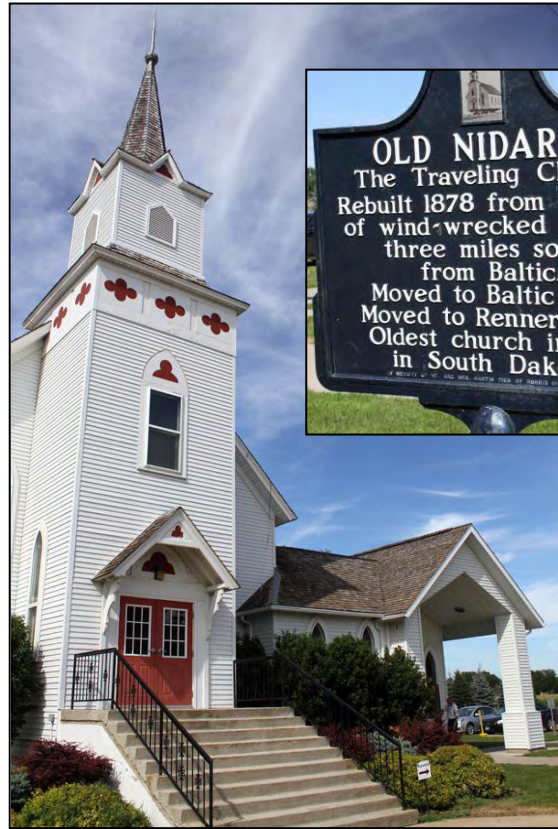


Shirley S & Marilyn

(Rokke) – Newfolden MN
Friends from way back...



Berdahl's story in song...



Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Highlights of the First Ten Years 1995-2005

This publication is still available for purchase.



Generously illustrated with 150+ photographs old and new, this 144-page book recounts the foundation of our lag, including our historic roots, our formative meeting in Madison, the establishment of our governing body, and a decade full of activities and stevner.

Later chapters include selected stories of emigration and settlement and articles reprinted from the NHOH newsletter. The book concludes with a full appendix of documents associated with our lag history as well as an every name index.

Purchase a copy for yourself and for the members of your family who share your Norwegian roots.



Membership Renewal Policy Change

At the November board meeting it was decided to change the timing of the lag membership renewals.

In the past, the membership year was the calendar year, but we allowed a very long grace period for renewals, allowing members to renew for the current year up until the stevne before sending out reminders. Then members had until October to renew before being dropped. This meant unpaid members received two "free" newsletters even if they didn't renew by October.

Members need to check the year next to their name on the newsletter address label, especially on the fall newsletter. **Reminders will now be sent for expired memberships early in the year following the year of expiration, with a renewal deadline of Mid-March, prior to the spring newsletter.**

Members who get their newsletters via e-mail will be sent a reminder.

In 2009, NHOH lag began an incentive for new members. Their first year will be paid and the second year will be free. Example:

a new 1-year membership will run for 2 years

a new 2-year membership will run for 3 years

a new 3-year membership will run for 4 years

Order Form - Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken - Highlights of the First Ten Years

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Email _____ Phone _____

	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Each</u>	<u>Total \$</u>
NHOH Book	_____	\$22.50	\$_____ Includes shipping & handling US*
Total Enclosed			\$_____ Make check payable to NHOH

❖ **Surface Shipping to Norway – add \$5.50**

Mail Your Order to: Joy Shong
 523 S. Concord Rd.,
 Oconomowoc, WI 53066





NHOH WEB SITE UPDATE

Bob Christensen, Webmaster

Bob's email address:

NHOHBobC@Comcast.net

NEW ON THE WEB SITE

Photos from the 2011 Tre Lag Stevne are now posted on the NHOH web site. Click on the "Stevner" tab to access available photos from this and all past stevner.

Torill Steivang has been scanning or photographing additional Østerdalslaget records found at the Glomdalsmuseet in Elverum. They may be accessed using "Torill's Link" on the "Østerdalslaget" page.

MEMBER AREA ACCESS

The member's-only area of the NHOH website requires a user ID and password. For 2012 the user name is "**NHOH2012**" and the password is "**fylke**" You may begin using this now. The 2011 user name and password will be phased out after the end of the year. These words are case sensitive so you will need to type them exactly as printed here (without quotation marks). They are the same for all members. To reach information in the member's-only area, first click on the "Member Area" button in the left border of most website pages. Then, click on the link for the content that you wish to view. You will then be prompted to enter a user name and password.

NHOH Website URL is www.nhohlag.org

NHOH Newsletters are published three times per year – Spring, Summer, and Fall.

Members are welcome to send articles or news at any time of the year, and the editor will put them into the next newsletter, or one that is appropriate.

Issue	Submit by	Mailing Target
Spring	March 1	March 15
Summer	June 1	June 15
Fall	Nov. 1	Nov. 25

Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter. Articles, photos and graphics relating to Norwegian history, culture, emigration and Lag activities, especially those with meaning to the NHOH geographical area are invited. Articles may be historical in nature or may highlight current resources available to help members research their heritage. Articles about Norwegian-American community events of interest to our members are also welcome.

Send to the Newsletter Editor: (prefer e-mails)

Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld at SASLAX@aol.com

Or mail to: 2208 Sunrise Dr., La Crosse, WI 54601-6831

Phone: 608-788-6596

Policy on advertising in newsletter:

The Board approved that the newsletter editor will accept advertising related to Norwegian culture, heritage and genealogy. Eighth and quarter page ads will be sold for \$15 and \$25, with funds to help offset the cost of producing the newsletter.

NHOH: Our Purpose

The Lag is organized exclusively for educational purposes. To the extent consistent with this general purpose, the specific purposes of the Lag are:

- to help people learn more about the history, culture, and customs of the Nord Hedmark and Hedemarken area of Norway and to aid in the preservation of that heritage
- to teach and assist people in genealogy research
- to gather immigration and settlement history and develop immigration data
- to develop a library of resources, such as bygdebøker (farm histories) and Norwegian church, census, and probate records.
- to encourage the research and writing of family, immigration, and settlement histories



More stevne pictures



Velkommen til Norskedalen for our Annual Old-Fashioned Christmas

Saturday December 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; and Sunday, December 4, 10a.m. - 4 p.m.



Bring friends and family to enjoy a memorable start to your celebration of the Christmas Holidays with the timeless sounds, smells and traditions of old.

- *Slow down and enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides around the quaintly decorated grounds, cabins and Bekkum Homestead*
- *Hum along with area musicians as they share Christmas carols and other musical entertainment throughout the day*
- *Make and take Christmas pine cone birdfeeders and activities for the whole family including a holiday yule log hunt, cake walk,*

spinning or carding wool and Santa Claus 12 - 3 pm. Also you can get your Christmas tree here !

- *Watch as local artisans demonstrate (and offer for sale) traditional crafts*
- *Buy delicious home-made baked goods including lefse, rosettes, cookies, pies and breads at our bake sale.*
- *Follow your nose to our delicious a-la-carte lunch with everything from Norwegian meatballs or lefse to rommegrot (cream pudding) to tables filled with holiday baked goodies.*
- *Talk with our special visitor from the North Pole and take your photo with Santa in our old fashioned sleigh or with Norwegian fjord horses.*
- *Take care of some Christmas shopping with gifts that you won't find anywhere else, in our gift shop including special Norskedalen merchandise.*
- *If we are lucky enough to have snow, you can enjoy a variety of winter activities like a snowshoe hike!*



There's more! You can either mail your Christmas cards on Saturday morning 11 am - 1 pm and get the specially designed Norskedalen postal cancellation station stamp, or you can take that special family photograph at one of our specially decorated old-time holiday scenes.



The Royal Visit – by Chris Falteisek

“On the occasion of the official visit of Their Majesties King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway to the United States of America, H.E. Mr. Wegger Chrs. Strømme, Ambassador of Norway to the United States has the honor to invite Mrs. Joy Shong and ‘Guest’ to a dinner on Sunday 16 October 2011 at 7:30 PM.”

Yes, I had the distinct honor of being Joy’s guest at the Royal Reception at the Hilton Minneapolis. Being a photographer, I was hoping to be able to take a picture of King Harald and Queen Sonja. I tried contacting the Minneapolis Embassy to have press credentials for the evening. I was notified that no press privileges would be granted. Not being able to take a picture of the Royal Couple was not going to dampen the wonderful festivities that would befall Minneapolis.

My Norwegian great-great grandmother, Karen Christ and her family arrived in America from Setskog in 1869 and her husband, Eric Steien arrived in America from Folldal in 1871. I wonder what my ancestors would have thought if they knew that their great-great grandson would be a guest at a reception for their beloved King and Queen.

October 16, 2011 arrived after much anticipation. Joy and I arrived at the Hilton Minneapolis early and were registered for the Royal reception. We were so glad to be greeted by friends from the Gudbrandsdal and Nord-Hedmark og Hedmarken Lags. It was exciting to be among friends for this special evening.

We found our arranged seating in the banquet hall. Over 1,100 guests were invited to this reception. Ambassador Wegger Chr. Strømme welcomed us and informed us about dinner protocol. During the reception before the dinner, many pictures were taken, but Ambassador Strømme informed us that all cell phones and cameras were to be put away. He joked that the secret service would not be as kind as he was if cameras or cell phones were caught recording the event. I finally admitted defeat in being able to take a picture of the Royal Couple.



The Royal couple arrived with a simple march by a Hardanger fiddle. After a welcome and introduction by Vice President Walter Mondale, King Harald shared a few remarks. He thanked us for the kindness the U.S. gave his family when they were invited by F.D.R. in 1940 to stay in the U.S. for five years after Hitler attacked Norway. He went on to share how proud he was of the Norwegian immigrants who left “footprints on the sand of time.” He was proud that we all could gather to “celebrate what it means to be Norwegian and what it means to be American.”



After Ambassador Strømme toasted the King and Queen, the Norwegian and American National Anthems were played before Rev. Kristin Sundt from Mindekirken gave a table blessing. The menu for the evening consisted of an artichoke salad, petit fillet of beef, grilled Norwegian salmon with a trio of desert and wines. The evening was magical and all too quickly the King and Queen left.

Joy and I were basking in the wonderful experience we just had. It was an honor for a Norwegian American to have participated in such a lavish gala. No, I didn’t get a picture of the King and Queen of Norway, but as we left the banquet hall, I did get a picture of another Minnesota Scandinavian royalty. Joy took my picture with Sven Sungaard - Channel 11’s celebrity meteorologist.

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News

Shirley (Lokstad) Schoenfeld, Editor

2208 Sunrise Dr.

La Crosse, WI 54601-6831

Fall 2011



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



NHOH Membership Renewal or New Memberships Form

If mailing label has the date in red, that means your Lag membership dues are now due. Memberships include spouses, so please include both names if applicable. Consider giving gift memberships.

Make check payable to **NHOH Lag** and send with completed form to:

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

Name(s) _____ Phone: _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

Renewal _____ Gift Membership _____ New _____

Ancestors in Hedmark from kommune:

Åmot _____ Alvdal _____ Elverum _____ Engerdal _____ Folldal _____ Furness _____ Løten _____ Hamar _____ Nes _____ Os _____
Rendalen _____ Ringsaker _____ Romedal _____ Stange _____ Stor-Elvdal _____ Tolga _____ Trysil _____ Tynset _____ Vang _____

If kommune unknown, list *parish*, town, or other geographic place _____

Volunteers Needed

The lag is only possible because of the work of many volunteers. Please consider volunteering for any of the following:

- Newsletter (contribute articles, assist with mailing, suggest topics for articles, etc.)
- Leadership (Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership, Board members)
- Genealogy or - Web page
- Stevne (planning, registration desk, staff hospitality room, help lag genealogist in lab)
- Anything you think the Lag should provide as a service!

I would like to volunteer for: _____

Newsletter delivery preference: US Mail _____ Online _____

Dues for Individuals/Couples: _____ 1 year (\$10) _____ 2 years (\$18) _____ 3 years (\$25) **Total Dues:** _____

(Special Price for new members: you will get 2 years for the price of the 1st year)

Genealogy donation: _____

NHOH is an IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization

Total enclosed _____