

NHOH News

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Spring 2012

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

Reservations – call (701)235-3333 group rate is \$81.00

**You need to identify yourself as part of the Tre Lag
Stevne group and indicate the date of arrival.**

Reservations can also be made toll free at (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

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Hilsen Fra

Presidenten Joy Shong,



Well, the NHOH board had a busy working session in February. We have begun a preliminary investigation of a lag sponsored trip to Norway sometime in 2014, which is the 200th anniversary year of the signing of the Norwegian Constitution. We are exploring several options for when to go including

- 1) during May to be in Norway over May 17
- 2) late June to take advantage of the long days and warmer weather, and
- 3) leaving in April before the summer season rates start in order to keep the cost down.

We also discussed various itinerary options to include time to visit with relative, either during the tour or before/after the main tour. Since we cannot see all of Norway in 10 to 14 days, we want to include a variety of scenic, historic, and cultural activities.

I would like to hear from our members to get opinions on what would tempt you to participate. If you have never been to Norway, what would you like to see? If you have been before, where would you suggest we go – north, south, east, west? Would you like time in Hamar to do research in the local archives? What time of year appeals to you the most for traveling? Please send me an e-mail or call in the evening or weekends at 262-567-9263. I will pass on your suggestions to Joe Waddell, who is doing the initial research for the tour.

The board also began work on the project to survey members about the genealogy software they use. Our goal is to encourage members to share information about best practices for use, and to help each other with troubleshooting by having user groups for the most-used three software programs. Perhaps the User Groups could be started at the Stevne?

Watch for a survey in your e-mail or in the June NHOH News.

Joy Shong

HARDANGERSOM KLUBB

Something very special happened at last Tre Lag Stevner. Those who attended the Hardanger workshop led by Virginia Nelson of Madison, WI gave rave reviews of the class and asked for more Hardanger.

We are getting our wish come true. Ginny will again teach us – both beginners and advanced, and provide her excellent “how to” kits if you take the class. They will again be held two mornings of the stevne from 9 am to noon. They will again be semi-formal, so if you have to go out of the class to fit in another session, that will be fine. Be on the look out in the registration forms in the next newsletter.



Ginny says, “I believe Hardanger is one part of our Norwegian heritage that can be easily learned. Once learned, it can become a part of our daily life by enjoying finished pieces in our homes. And once learned, it can be taught to others and passed on for future generations and thus preserved. I cherish it and hope that others will come to cherish it. The best way I can think of to do this is to find other stitchers and

join together in a “klubb” to share patterns, ideas, new techniques and learn from each other.”

One of the resources Virginia uses is a video showing the six basic stitches produced by Joy Shong, our President. Those who enroll will go home with the DVD showing clearly, step-by-step, how-to-begin Hardanger stitches. The Hardanger packets will be included for the class.



Ole was visiting Sven and had brought over his photo



album of his camping trip into the wilds with Lena. One picture showed a brown bear helping itself to their food.

“Vhat kind of bear is dat?” Sven asked.

“It’s called a Kodiak!” Ole replied

“Oh, ya,” Sven shot back, “and I spouse’ dose white vuns in da Arctic are called Polaroids!”

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

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Hamar
Løten
Nes
Ringsaker
Romedal
Stange
Vang



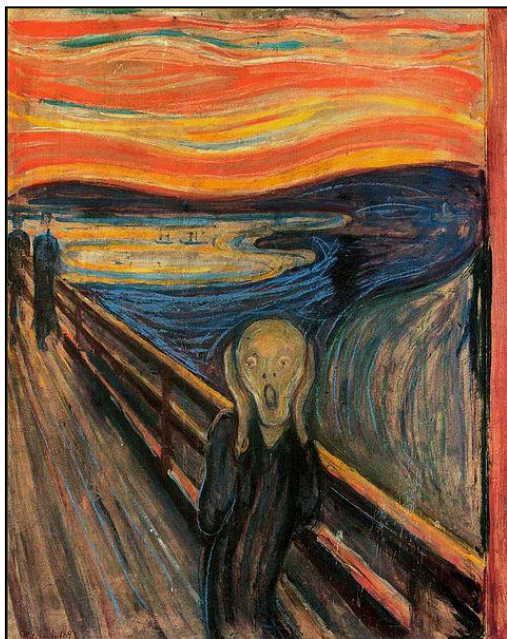
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The Scream

Edvard Munch's masterpiece "The Scream" is headed to Sotheby's auction block in New York, and it's expected to fetch more than \$80 million. It's the only version of "The Scream" in a private collection, and it's creating quite a buzz among art enthusiasts and Norwegian circles...from Norwegian American Weekly

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.

Stevne Planning

The Tre Lag Committee has made substantial progress in the planning of the Stevne to be held in Fargo ND for August 1-4, 2012, according to Robert Fossum.

The site will be the Doublewood Inn & Conference Center in Fargo, ND. The website is www.fargodoublewood.com. For more details about reservations, see page 1.

The theme will be: About Face: Our Legacy

After some discussion it was decided that the Genealogy Laboratory would be open on Wednesday, 1. Aug. 2012, from about 7:30 (after the opening ceremony) to 10:00 PM. It would be open during the normal hours on Thursday and Friday. Opening on Saturday morning would be optional---up to each lag genealogist.

Registration would be open on Wednesday noon, and during regular hours the remainder of the stevne.

Tentative plans for a tour on Wednesday afternoon include Prairie Public Broadcasting Studios (where many programs involving immigrants to the midwest have been made), the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County at the Hjemkomst Center, the Center itself, the Stavkirke near the Center. There are plans to have a dinner or supper before returning to the Conference Center for the Opening Ceremony and the evening program. Perhaps the Memorial Service will be included in the tour.

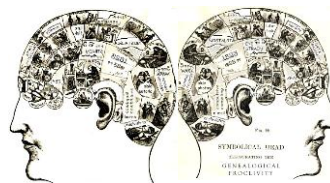
The traditional stevne events will take place on Thursday and Friday. The Genealogy Laboratory and the Vendors' Room will be open on Thursday and Friday. Thursday evening during Movie Night the Norwegian movie "Kitchen Stories" will be shown. Also several of the productions from Prairie Public will be shown in another room.

Friday afternoon will include the Keynote Address. The picture taking and banquet will take place in the evening, as usual. The Keynote speaker and Banquet program have not yet been arranged.

Once again Saturday morning will begin with the popular Norsk Frokost (Norwegian Breakfast) after which we will finish with a few more lectures.

Rick Scott (Skotte) from Superior, WI., has agreed to talk about the involvement of Norwegians in the history of skiing and the ski industry. Jackie Henry (from NAHA) has also agreed to speak on a topic yet to be determined (see page 5)

"About Face" ...? Genealogical Mind



Joke: putting two good minds together would make fast work of genealogy...ss



Martyrs, Monsters, Magic at Vesterheim Museum



DECORAH, Iowa —Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum announces “Free First Thursdays” in 2012, free admission with a special event on the first Thursday of each month, sponsored by Decorah Bank & Trust Co.

On January 5, Vesterheim had a open house called “Martyrs, Monsters, Magic” to view the “primstav” murals in the Amdal-Odland Heritage Center. Martha Griesheimer, Vesterheim’s Volunteer Coordinator, was on hand to answer questions about the “primstav,” or Norwegian calendar stick, and how it inspired a room full of paintings.

“The Norwegian painter Sigmund Aarseth depicted so many interesting stories and traditions in these murals,” Griesheimer said. “The Gathering Room is a unique space that everyone should see,” she added.

Check vesterheim.org for a schedule of future “Free First Thursday” events.

Vesterheim is a national treasure that explores the diversity of American immigration through the lens of Norwegian-American experience, showcases the best in historic and contemporary Norwegian folk and fine arts, and preserves living traditions through classes in Norwegian culture and folk art, including rosemaling (decorative painting), woodworking, knifemaking, traditional food ways, and textile arts.

Exciting Class Schedule for 2012

DECORAH, Iowa — Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum announces its 2012 class schedule with some exciting new class options. A full class list can be found at vesterheim.org, or by calling 563-382-9681.

The schedule started out with two classes in February. In “Dry Needle Felting—Sculptured Norwegian ‘Folktail’ Critters with Nancy Sojka and Gyle Moen” on February 18, they learned to make three-dimensional

needle-felted figures inspired by Norwegian folktales. From February 17-19, they learned carving in “Scandinavian Flat-Plane Style Figure Carving” with renowned figure carver Harley Refsal.

“We are offering our usual fantastic, traditional folk-art classes this year,” said Vesterheim’s Education Specialist Darlene Fossum-Martin. “Plus we’ve included some classes to enhance our traditions by looking at the many similarities and connections we have with our Nordic neighbors,” she added.

One new class, offered in May, is “Fine Art to Folk Art—a Good Marriage: Beginning Drawing and Design Composition” with Doug Eckheart. This three-day creative journey, organized with the folk artist in mind, includes projects that will improve the students’ ability to train their eye to see and organize the world around them in a new way,” Doug Eckheart said. “I hope students will get in touch with the power of their own creative potential,” he added.

Other new classes include sculpture, hand carving bowls, chip carving, Swedish decorative painting, knitting Swedish and Danish sweaters, Danish papercutting, brewing beer and mead, carving table décor, and planning and preparing a Norwegian buffet.

“Darlene came to Vesterheim this fall as our new Education Specialist, and we couldn’t be more thrilled about the class line up she’s planned for the year,” Vesterheim Executive Director Steve Johnson said.

“Darlene grew up in Spring Grove; she’s lived in Norway; she’s studied Norwegian folk art—she’s got traditional background with lots of new ideas and energy,” he added.

Another new aspect to Vesterheim classes this year includes youth. “The museum strongly believes in the importance of keeping Scandinavian traditions alive by passing them on to our youth,” said Fossum-Martin. “We are a gathering place where folks of all ages can come and share stories and experiences tied to their heritage and we value the importance of nurturing inter-generational learning,” she said. Therefore, some of the courses this year are open to students ages 17 and under, provided they are accompanied by a fully enrolled adult in the same class. Youth tuition will be discounted 25% of the full tuition price. Youth and parents can check the class list for information about which classes are open to them, as well as age requirements.

Vesterheim’s Education Program includes rosemaling (Norwegian decorative painting), woodworking, fiber arts, knifemaking, cooking, and other traditional arts. Each class is geared toward different levels of experience, from beginning to advanced, so there is something for everyone. Whatever your ethnic heritage, and whether you’ve been studying Norwegian folk art for years or have just begun, Fossum-Martin believes that Vesterheim will inspire you to make a tradition into something new.

Vesterheim is a national treasure that explores the diversity of American immigration through the lens of Norwegian-American experience, showcases the best in historic and contemporary Norwegian folk and fine arts, and preserves living traditions through exhibitions and educational experiences. For complete schedules of events, exhibitions, and classes, and more information about ways to donate, check out Vesterheim online at vesterheim.org.

Another century's worth of oil for Norway High-impact oil discovery in the Barents Sea



The Aker-Barents drilling rig in the Barents Sea.
Photo: Harald Pettersen -Statoil

On Jan. 9, Statoil announced a substantial oil discovery with its partners Eni

Norge AS and Petoro AS at the Havis prospect in the Barents Sea in northern Norway. This is the second high-impact discovery on the Norwegian Continental Shelf (NCS) in nine months.

Statoil estimates the volumes in Havis to be between 200 and 300 million barrels of recoverable oil equivalents (o.e.). The updated total volume estimate for the Skrugard and Havis discoveries is in the region of 400 - 600 million barrels of recoverable oil equivalents.

Havis lies approximately 7 kilometers southwest of the Skrugard discovery in the Barents Sea. Havis lies within the same production license, but forms an independent structure. There is no communication between the two discoveries.

"The discovery's volume and reservoir properties make it Skrugard's twin. Skrugard and Havis open up a new petroleum province in the North," said Helge Lund, President and CEO of Statoil.

Øystein Noreng, professor of oil at the BI Norwegian School of Management in Oslo, told NRK that the new discoveries on the NCS show that Norway's oil fairy tale is far from over. "The area's size and prospects indicate that the Norwegian petroleum activities may have a resource base for the rest of this century," wrote Noreng.

It has been a quite a year for Statoil: The Skrugard prospect was characterized as the most important discovery for ten years when it was discovered in the Barents Sea in April 2011. In October 2011, the Aldous and Avaldsnes discoveries were twice as large as previously thought, making it one of the larger finds ever in Norway.

Until 2011, the Barents Sea was marked by many disappointments in the form of empty wells.

"The Skrugard and Havis discoveries will be important for industrial development and will further boost activity in the supplier industry, providing new jobs and generating spin-off effects throughout the region," said CEO Helge Lund.

Professor Dag Harald Claes at the University of Oslo told NRK he is not surprised that there are new major discoveries on the Norwegian continental shelf, and show that pessimism has turned to optimism in the Barents Sea.

"There is plenty of oil left to find. The predicted end of the 'oil age' for Norway and the world is continually shifting forward. It's always been like this, and it will be for decades to come," said Claes.

Source: NRK

This article is from Norwegian American Weekly. To subscribe, call (800) 305-0217 or email subscribe@norway.com.

Real life history detectives

*Jackie Henry, the administrative director of the **Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA)**, provides help to researchers and genealogists to access the organization's extensive archives.*



Photo: Leslee Lane Hoyum

The Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA) helps researchers and genealogists fill in the blanks of family history - **Leslee Lane Hoyum, Rockford MN**

I am a big fan of PBS's History Detectives program, and consider myself a bit of a detective when it comes to hunting down my family's history, whether fact or legend. So, when I had an opportunity to visit the Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA) at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., I donned my Detective Gwendolyn Wright red glasses, spiked my hair and headed south.

It was a cold overcast day in Northfield, but I was greeted with a warm, sunny smile from NAHA Administrative Director Jackie Henry. "Welcome to NAHA," she said as she whisked me off to learn about opportunities that would allow me to understand better who I am through the experiences of my immigrant ancestors.

The NAHA collections consist of books, newspapers, manuscripts, photographs and other materials relevant to the Norwegian emigration to America and to the immigrants' experience in America. The organization was founded in 1925 with Ole E. Rølvaag, an ardent collector himself, as its first secretary. It is significant to note that 1925 also marked the centennial of the first organized emigration from Norway to New York.

Our first stop was at NAHA's manuscript and photo archive. I thought about what Gwendolyn always says, "A good, scientific investigation has to have clarity – a specific question and strategy – since the results, as in science, may be unexpected." My cousins and I always have had questions about Bethlehem Norwegian Methodist Church in North Minneapolis that, for a while, was my family's home church. So I thought I'd test the archives. "Let me see what you have on this church," I asked Jackie. She went immediately to a file that referred to Norwegian and Norwegian-Danish Methodist congregations in Minneapolis. Yup, there was the file: Bethlehem Norwegian-Danish Methodist Church.

This was amazing to me. We opened the file, and although there wasn't much, the collection did have a copy of the roster of founding members, including my great-grandparents, Charlie and Dorothea Swensen and my grandmother, Bertha Swensen Lane. Thinking back to my own collection, I asked Jackie whether NAHA accepts information from the outside. She just smiled and said, "Absolutely. Our archives are ever-changing, and we welcome new information about families, organizations,

churches and more, at any time.” So, I offered her a photo of the 1921 Bethlehem church choir, which includes my grandfather and several of his in-laws, whom I promised to identify. First stop and we both win.

Next we went to the Rølvaag Library and visited NAHA’s library collection, which includes family histories, *bygdebøker* (regional histories in Norway), and a variety of historical books about Norway. “We always welcome *bygdebøker*,” said Jackie. “They are very popular and are always in use. In fact, you can order them for personal use through your local library via the interlibrary lending agreement.” That was new and helpful information for me.

Once again, I heard Gwendolyn whispering in my ear: The best and most reliable historical documents always are primary sources. Bam! I saw the Grue *Bygdebøker* from the area from which my mother’s family hails. I definitely need more information about the Halvorsens from Solør. Here it is and another trip to the library is imminent. I also was amazed by the bound family histories created by many Norwegian-American families. I commend them and see a very big project for me yet to come.

Next, we visited the Rowberg files. There are more than 200,000 clippings of a biographical nature about Norwegian Americans from a variety of sources mounted on 3 x 5 cards and filed alphabetically. Again, I thought about Gwendolyn’s methodology: Even when there’s a break in the investigative action, some corner of the brain is still sifting through puzzle pieces. Ok, I thought, what’s listed under Lane? Lane sounds more British than Norwegian, but it was Lanne in Norway. Had my family been overlooked?

I was surprised to find many Norwegian Lanes who had lived in the Seattle area. Somewhere I remember reading about Minnesota Lanes that moved to Seattle. Now I can start to make connections to them. I thought they were lost to us. Then I ran across MaryEllen Halvorsen Lane, my mother, who died April 17, 2011. Her card referred the researcher to her obituary in the April 24 Minneapolis StarTribune. I was so excited to see her listed. But what was missing? My father, his brothers and my grandparents. So, once again, NAHA and I both win, since I will provide copies of the obituaries for all the Lanes, Swensens and Halvorsens not listed. That may help another researcher down the road.

NAHA is not just a collection of archives; it is also a publisher of historical books that reflect the Norwegian-American experience. It was Theodore C. Blegen, University of Minnesota historian, who served as the association’s first editor. His high intellectual and editorial standards have characterized NAHA publications which, to date, total nearly 100 volumes. “In the tradition of Blegen,” said Todd Nichol, current publication editor, “we continue to focus on the day-to-day life of the everyday Norwegian. We also have unparalleled information about Norwegian-American women, which is indispensable to American women’s studies.” Publishing, a library, manuscripts and photos are all a part of the NAHA experience.

The organization also offers many of its collections online. Go to <http://www.naha.stolaf.edu>, which will walk

you through documents that may help you write papers, increase your knowledge of the Norwegian-American experience, or locate clues to your family’s past. If you wish to visit NAHA in person to do hands-on research, call (507) 786-3221, or send an e-mail to naha@stolaf.edu for an appointment. You may join NAHA’s 1,100 members and use the facilities for free or pay a nominal daily fee.

You should also consider contributing copies or originals of photographs or manuscripts about Norwegian-American life, including pieces from your family, church or Norwegian-American organizations or businesses in which you may be involved.

NAHA is currently interested in obtaining documents about post-World War II emigration and immigrant life. Assumptions about that group abound, but many of them are poorly documented. Who came? Why? What kind of life did they lead? Were they more professional and urban than farmers and rural? Perhaps you can help solve these mysteries.

So, my day at NAHA was over and my mind was spinning, full of new information. But I must continue to think like Gwendolyn: Think outside the box. Carefully organize the clues and weigh the evidence. It’s time to get back on track and follow the twists and turns of my ancestors’ journey and learn more about how they helped shape America – and me!

This article was originally published in the January 13, 2012 issue of the Norwegian American Weekly. For more information about the Norwegian American Weekly or to subscribe, call us toll free (800) 305-0217 or email subscribe@norway.com.

From Church to House to History House

In 2008 Tye and Sandy Schwalbe won an award for their adaptive restoration of this 1912 Greek Revival Style Christian Science Church in La Crosse, WI. It was their home until they donated it to the



La Crosse County Historical Society, to become our home, in 2011. LCHS is now planning how to renovate it into an exhibition and programming space that will continue to preserve its unique period elegance and spaciousness while providing safe public access. The main central space is illuminated by a row of white stained glass windows that fill it with filtered light, and the two balconies, one at either end, give the space depth and interest. This building has been a landmark on West Avenue for 100 years; as the new home of the Historical Society it will be a place of engaging, artifact-based educational exhibitions, programs and activities pertaining to La Crosse County history and its material culture. It will be a public space dedicated to the history and people of the region, and it will lend its own classic design and history to the events that will take place there.

17th May and the Memorable Year 1814

by Geir Ottesen, Norway

This article was posted on the [Norway List](#) by one of Geir's US friends. She introduced him and this article as follows:

"The author, who is an amateur genealogist and historian, explains how Norway, at the time one of the poorest countries in Europe with a population of 800,000, managed to obtain independence as a result of the Napoleonic wars, the bickering between the great European powers, national determination and a portion of luck."



To a Norwegian the 17 May 1814, is what 4 July 1776 is to an American - if not more. Not only school children have their day off. Everyone who possibly can has the day off. The day is an official holiday in line with Sundays. In every town and small place, the children go in a procession, waving their flags. To the young ones, too young to understand, the grownups explain it as Norway's birthday.

It started way back in 1319. King Haakon V died without male issue and the country went into a monarchical limbo with several kings who hardly knew where the country was, let alone put foot on it. Some order was brought about in 1397 when Norway, Sweden and Denmark were united under one Crown.

Sweden broke out after a short time, but Norway and Denmark remained, with Denmark as the stronger part. After 400 years, few in Europe, apart from the Norwegians remembered that the land had once been an independent and mighty one.

Then came Emperor Napoleon who ravaged, tried to and almost succeeded in conquering Europe during the years 1796-1815. He passed the summit of his power in 1812 trying to conquer Russia. The campaign became an unprecedented disaster costing the lives of more than half a million French soldiers. From then on it was downhill. In 1813 he lost a decisive battle at Leipzig in Germany, a battle which proved to have a profound effect on Norway's destiny. The victors from Leipzig assembled in Kiel in Germany January 1814 to share the dividends. That is the start of the modern Norway.

But let's go back a little, to 1800. The still free nations of Europe watched with growing anxiety the success of Napoleon and concocted various countermeasures. The twin countries Denmark/Norway entered into what was to be known as armed neutrality with Russia, where Russia had a big army and Denmark/Norway a naval fleet of no negligible size. England, who was Napoleon's main opponent, was the undisputed ruler of the seas with a navy larger than all other navies put together. Yet, the English regarded the Danish/Norwegian navy as a possible threat,

encompassing 61 ships counting big and small. On 2 November 1805 an English squadron sailed into the Bay of Copenhagen and kindly asked if King Frederick VI would give them his fleet. If not.... they had other means. King Frederick refused. After all, he regarded England as friend and ally and there was no need to give up his fleet. The English did not buy that argument and for three days bombarded Copenhagen with red-hot cannon balls. Eventually the King had to give in and the English sailed away with the Danish/Norwegian fleet in tow. It is a well known fact that bombing is not the best way to make friends and King Frederick of Denmark/Norway took a little dislike to the English after that. Understandably, but unwisely, he entered the war on Napoleon's side.

The English answer was as often before, blockade. Starve the enemy out! For Denmark with its wheat fields, the blockade was a source of irritation, but for the not self-sufficient Norway it was a disaster. In every lead, and outside every port there was an English man-of-war effectively stopping all traffic and taking the crew as prisoners, including peaceful natives minding their own business. The blockade not only stopped the food supplies, but the timber trade where England was the principal customer also came to an abrupt halt. (England was dependent on timber for their wharves, and needless to say, an agreement was soon made, allowing the timber trade to continue). To make matters worse, the harvest failed completely in 1807. The grain was still green in the fields when the snow came. Matters did not improve till 1813. Thousands died from starvation, the old ones first, then the small children and finally men and women in their best years. Reading the church records from these years is a heartbreaking experience. In Norwegian history, the years 1808-1812 are known as the Hunger years, known to any school child. The mighty epic poem *Therie Wiighen* by Henrik Ibsen, gives a vivid description of the conditions.

But let's return to the world affairs and direct our attention towards Sweden and Finland. The latter was not a sovereign state, rather a shuttlecock between Russia and Sweden, depending on war's luck. In 1809 the ball was with Sweden, but Czar Alexander invaded Finland and the Swedes had just time to flee. The Swedish nobility did not find this to their liking and removed the King from his office, choosing another one answering more to their expectations. Unfortunately, they discovered a little too late that the new King, a cousin of the former, was a little off his marbles, not putting too fine a point upon it. In reality, it was the Crown Prince, the new King's son, who was the ruler. Unfortunately, he died suddenly in 1810, and Sweden was faced with a useless King without issue in an international situation which demanded brains and determination.

They had to act quickly, and instead of shopping around in the Royal houses, they asked one of Napoleon's generals, Jean Baptiste Bernadotte if he kindly would be their new Crown Prince with firm prospects of becoming King. Bernadotte conferred with his superior, Emperor Napoleon,

who consented, believing he then could add Sweden to his empire. Unfortunately for Napoleon, his best General, now known as Crown Prince Carl Johan, turned against him and joined the allies. What Napoleon said when hearing the news is not known, but can be imagined.

Let's now return to the assembly in Kiel, January 1814, where the victors were sharing their spoils. Because Bernadotte, or Carl Johan, had been so obliging, he deserved a reward. Bernadotte wanted Finland back, but as Czar Alexander also was among the victors, that was regrettably impossible. But as compensation, would he accept Norway? What the Norwegians thought of it, nobody bothered to ask. England, however, wasn't too interested in this upstart becoming too powerful and lodged objections, but in the end gave way, and Norway was ceded to Sweden as thanks for Carl Johan's efforts against Napoleon.

The news from the Kiel assembly traveled remarkably fast. King Frederick of Denmark/Norway realized that Norway was lost, and issued a bulletin to be read in all Norwegian churches. The bulleting relieved the Norwegians from their allegiance to the Danish King. He also recommended the Norwegians to elect his cousin, Prince Christian Frederick as their new King.

Prince Christian Frederick acted quickly. By an open letter dated 19th February he called a meeting in every parish where two steps were to be taken. One was that the people should bind themselves by oath to defend the independence of Norway and be prepared to sacrifice life and blood for the beloved fatherland. Second, having thus committed themselves to the defiance of the Kiel Treaty, each parish was to send two representatives, one of whom must be a farmer, to a national assembly to be held at Eidsvold 9 April. The representatives, known as the Eidsvold Fathers, a medley of 47 officials, 37 peasants, 16 townies and 12 military, gave the country a 110 clause constitution, much inspired by the American from 38 years before, and the French revolution constitution 23 years earlier.



The constitution stated that Norway was to be a free, independent and indivisible monarchy and they elected Prince Christian Frederick as their new King. On the May 17th the job was done and the constitution signed. As

the final symbolic act they all joined hands and said in unison: United and Faithful till Dovre falls. (Dovre is a massive mountain plateau in the central region - not very likely to fall).

The new Swedish ruler did not like the turn of events, and prepared to take Norway by force if they wouldn't come

voluntarily. It also came to skirmishes along the border, but no decisive battle. In the meantime, diplomatic battles were fought, particularly between England and Sweden. It was not in English interests to have a strong Scandinavia. No country, not even Denmark, had so many connections with Norway as England, and there was no secret that England preferred Norway as a British protectorate rather than a Swedish province.

For ex-general Bernadotte with many successful battles behind him, he just couldn't lose a war against a small starved, ill-equipped and inexperienced army, so the outcome seemed given. However, if he was too assertive and powerful, he might get England and the other powers against him. The outcome of the Napoleonic Wars was still finally to be decided by the Vienna Congress - yet to come. Neither England nor Austria liked the Swedish upstart, so if not careful, he might lose his gains.

To save face, he won a couple of minor battles, enough to bring him to the negotiation table. The entire war lasted eight days. The negotiations took place in Moss, a small town south of Oslo. Here he promised to honor the new constitution, provided he was elected King. King Christian Frederick formally abdicated in favor of Carl Johan and Norway and Sweden went into a union under a common Crown.

Seen in retrospect, the terms were extraordinarily generous and Norway was in a considerably better position than she would have been if a war was fought with the inevitable result of becoming part of Sweden.



Norway remained a separate country with its own laws and its own government, but in union with Sweden under a common King. It lasted 91 years. 7 June 1905 Norway broke loose and elected her own King. But that's another story.

So, in the memorable year 1814, the Norwegians woke up as Danish subjects at war with England, drew up a constitution, declared independence, chose a king, fought a war, chose another King and went to bed in peace as Norwegian subjects, albeit with a Swedish ruler who only spoke French.



In Remembrance of Elaine Anna (Samuelson) Smiley

MAZOMANIE - Elaine Anna (Samuelson) Smiley, age 68, passed away on Friday, December 9, 2011.

She was born on September 9, 1943, in Stanley, the daughter of Arthur and Joyce (Flora) Samuelson. A 1961

graduate of Stanley High School, Elaine married Tom Smiley on June 22, 1963 at Our Saviors Lutheran Church. She earned a bachelor's in education and a major in voice at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1968 and a master's in music education in 1994. Elaine taught music at Waunakee High School and several other area schools.

She had a variety of interests including traveling, camping, watercolor painting and Norwegian genealogy. She sang in the Unkalung Choir, Gilda's Glee Club, Madison Opera Chorus and the Song of Norway; directed the Capital Chordsmen, State Line Harmony Chorus, Yahara River Sweet Adeline Chorus and was involved with the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon IL.

Elaine is survived by her loving husband, Tom; her daughters, Wendy (Alan) Matney of Alexandria, Va. and Deanna (Michael) Gulliford of Minneapolis, Minn.; her grandchildren, Liam and Thomas Matney and Maxwell and Carson Gulliford; a sister, Sandra (Mark) Johnson of Jacksonville, Ark.; and a brother, Dean (Barbara) Samuelson of Stanley.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services were held at ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 2427 Church Street, Cross Plains at 11 am on Tuesday, December 13, 2011, with the Rev. Richard Lund presiding. Visitation was at the church on Monday, December 12, 2011, from 5 pm until 8 pm. and also on Tuesday from 10 am until the time of service. Burial was in East Side Cemetery in Stanley.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Martin's Lutheran Church or to the East Side Cemetery.



VELKOMMEN



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

Julie (Haakinson) and Bob Mzaurek
Scotts Valley, CA
e-mail is bobmcpa@got.net

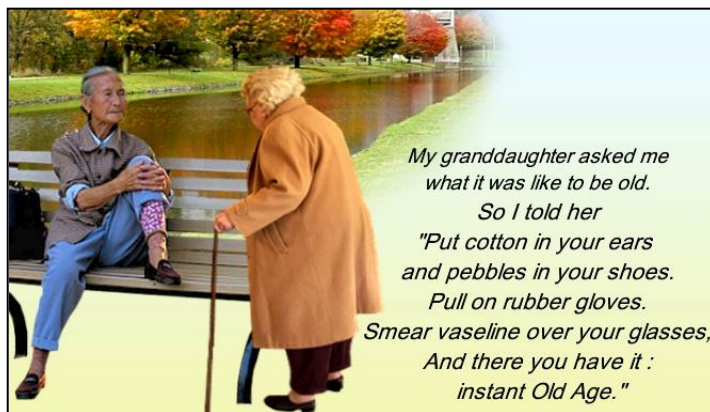
National Library of Norway – Periodicals
Oslo, Norway



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

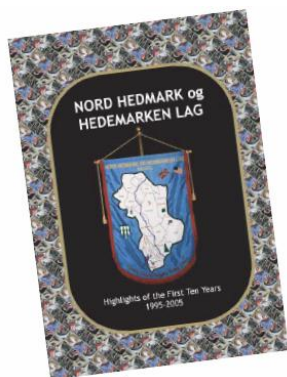
President: Joy Shong.....pres@nhohlag.org
Vice-Pres.: Chris Falteisek.....chrisfalteisek@gmail.com
Secretary:
Treasurer Ron Helstad..... treasurer@nhohlag.org
Membership: Dixie Hansen dx@dxhansen.com
Director: Gene Nelson.....garthnelson@charter.net
Director: Roland Krogstad.....phone 608-238-6652
Director: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



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



Stevne Storytelling



Grandma (May Wick) with my brothers and me

“A Grandma Memory” (2nd place winner) by Shirley Sundgren Braswell



By way of explaining, Dixie Hansen and I share a Grandma, so everything you know about my Norwegian half, is what Dixie may have shared with you. While I am the eldest of the living cousins, Dixie is the more inquisitive, industrious, and detail oriented. I am more into riding on her coat tails for all my family history. I am sure you can appreciate her work in the field of genealogy, and perhaps are a bit envious of my treasure trove! Dixie, thank you for your perseverance and your commitment to discover our roots.

My Grandma, **Marit Tobiasdatter Steivang, a/k/a, May Thompson Hansen Wick**, was a wonderfully industrious Norwegian woman. Widowed when my mother and her brother were very young, she was energetic, wise and managed her home with efficiency and great love. One of the ways she created income was by selling the rugs she wove out of fabric scraps and ribbons and such. I had so much fun in her wonderful flower gardens on either side of the back walkway....making earrings out of Snap Dragons, picking Zinnia and Daisy blossoms and sometimes even the stems with them! She was jolly and loved to laugh. Later in life she married a second time to a wonderful Norwegian gentleman, Fred Wick. I spent many days and weeks with her during the summer. Often we would go to the basement to weave the rug she was working on. We would talk and talk as she operated the huge loom. I have one of her smaller rugs with my mother's ribbons woven through it. She had a chair for me to sit upon next to her, a “grown up chair”. The legs had been lowered, and my feet could touch the floor! I was so proud to sit in that chair! Grandma would offer a “cold drink” to us. This was way before many soft drinks were found in any

vending machine. The cold drink was always a different flavor. Grandma would save all the juice from canned fruits, mix them together, add a little ginger ale, and we were well satisfied. No Kool-Aid for us!

Our Dad's company moved us from Minneapolis and from then on, Grandma would visit us at Christmas for three months or so. What a pleasure to have her with our family in the many cities in which we found ourselves living. She shared milestones of our lives with great joy. When my brothers and I had families, Grandma was re-named GG for the little ones that came along.

The bracelet story is by far the most amusing tale about Grandma. My mother inherited a lovely 18 karat gold bangle bracelet from Grandma and wore it on very special occasions. When it was passed down to me I was very happy to wear it almost every day, for inside it was inscribed “May, 12/25/08”. I treasured it knowing it was a gift from the Grandpa I never knew, Alfred Maynard Hansen. I have often repeated to friends how I came to own the bracelet, and how romantic it was with the inscription. As years went by, my very wise Uncle and Aunt and cousins, along with my Mom began to “interview” Grandma about coming to America at age 16, how later she came to Minneapolis, and about her courting life. It seems she had many callers...my Grandpa being one, and another young man, a jeweler, she said. “He gave me a gold bracelet...but... I liked you father better.”....sigh. So much for my romantic notions...

I am very proud to be a Scandinavian, being half Norwegian and half....(shhhh) Swedish. It has been well noted that I am STUBBORN on both sides! If you see me this weekend, I will be wearing the bracelet. Grandma would be so happy to know I am with you all.

In the last newsletter, we featured the 3rd place winner, Becky Olson Johnson, “From Indifference to Obsession”



In the next newsletter (June), we will feature the 1st place editor's winner, Elaine Helgeson Hasleton, “Finding New Relatives While on a Quest to Find a Missing Family Photo”

And in the November newsletter, we will feature the “People's Choice” winner - Rollie Krogstad, “Growing Up On a Farm During the Great Depression”



Thanks to Dixie for getting them on the web site.



Genealogical News

By Lag Genealogist John Reindl

Searching for genealogical information in Oslo

For those cases in which a family tree has branches in Oslo, finding information on the Internet can range from easy to challenging. I recently helped someone do some research in the capital city and will share some things that I learned.

Of course, the censuses are easily accessible on the Digital Archives, and very useful. While the 1875 census is only partially available for Oslo, the 1900 and 1910 censuses are fully on-line.

Once past this level, however, things can become a bit more challenging.

A good starting point is the DIS-Norge site 'Slektsforskning i Oslo', <http://oa.disnorge.no/slektsforskning-i-oslo>. This page has two links which are especially useful. First, on the main page, there is a link to the cemetery data for Oslo (gravferdsetaten i Oslo). This will take the reader to the web page <http://www.begravdeioslo.no/>, on which the name of the person can be entered along with a date if available. Click on the word "søk" to the lower right to find possible matches. Sometimes, entire families are found buried together. Also, see the separate database on the DIS-Norge site mentioned in the next section.

Another useful link from the <http://oa.disnorge.no/slektsforskning-i-oslo> site is on the left, where it says "10 Tips Oslo". Ten tips are given, with links to resources, including address books from 1912 to 1950, special censuses, and, for especially difficult cases, a link to a forum for posting questions for others to perhaps provide help. Unfortunately, these tips are available only in Norwegian, but the site can be translated by Google Translate or the tips themselves can be copied and translated.

A second useful DIS-Norge site for Oslo is at <http://oa.disnorge.no/samlagsafstemningen-i-kristiania-1899>. On this site, a description is given of the 17 Kredse (also krets - districts) into which the city was divided as of 1899 and a list is provided of all the streets in Oslo and which Kred they are located in. Since people usually used their local church, this allows the researcher to know which church books to start with for records, if the street of the person being researched is known.

Of course, these sites will not have all the information one needs, but I found that people were very helpful both on the DIS-Norge forum as well as the message board on Rootsweb at <http://boards.rootsweb.com/localities.scan-balt.norway.counties.oslo/mb.ashx>.

Locating Graves Throughout Norway

DIS-Norge is compiling a list of grave sites in Norway and this information is searchable at their web

page at <http://www.disnorge.no/gravminner/>. Fortunately, it is also available in English, which makes searching it very easy.

At the top of the page, under the English heading of 'Cemeteries in Norway', there are five boxes:

Home Page
Choose Cemetery
Search
About the Project
Norwegian

Clicking on the box of 'Choose Cemetery', the fylke or county can be chosen. If Hedmark is selected, the next screen will bring up individual municipalities (kommuner) and selecting a municipality will bring up the individual cemeteries. If desired, the individual cemetery can also be selected.

For example, Hedmark fylke has 110,600 records in 22 municipalities, while the municipality of Ringsaker has 17,500 records in 11 cemeteries. The number and span of years covered in individual kommuner and graveyards varies greatly. Two of our kommuner have no records, while two have over 15,000. One kommune has records back to only 1941, another has records back to 1737. Pictures are also being entered into the database.

At any level (all of Norway, fylke, kommune or individual cemetery), a search can be done for the individual person. The search box allows searching on 21 criteria, including:

Last name
First name
Maiden name
Year of birth
Date of birth
Year of death
Date of death
Residence
Sex



For each of these criteria, the search engine allows three choices: starts with, contains, or equals. This is especially helpful when the name might have a variety of spellings or uncertain information.

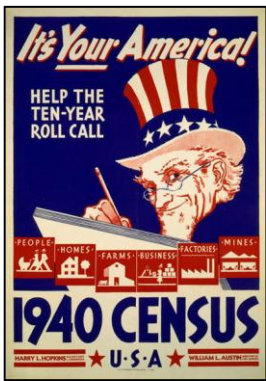
The database is constantly growing, and the compilers also welcome any corrections.

Donation of Alvdal and Folldal bygdebøker

Shirley Schoenfeld has donated both parts of volume 2 of the Alvdal bygdebok. These books, published in 1973, cover farms G.nr. 1 to 12 in part 1 and the remainder of G.nr. 12 through G. nr. 36 in part 2.

Joe Waddell donated Volumes I and II of the Bygdebok for Folldal. These books revised in 2000 and 2001. Volume I starts with farm number 7 and goes through farm number 117, as well as covering miners. Volume II starts with farm 118 and goes through 228. Volume II also has a collection of 17 line maps showing the farms with their farm numbers along with some farm names. Our thanks to both Shirley and Joe for these donations!

The 72-year Wait is Almost Over... The 1940 US Federal Census will be released on April 2nd!



By Dixie Hansen

On Monday, April 2nd at 9:00 AM EDT, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will provide public online access to the digital images of the 1940 US Federal Census. Better yet: access will be free!

For family historians this is a much-anticipated day. Some of our NHOH members

will be able to find themselves, and their siblings, cousins, and childhood friends among the 132,164,569 individuals who were enumerated in the 1940 census. And those of us who were born in later years will be able to find parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other relatives. There are many untapped clues about our family history buried in these 1940 records and, if we dig around a bit, we're sure to find some tidbits of information about our families that we didn't know before: Grandma Severine earned \$2,000 in 1939 as a rug weaver? Uncle Otto was a veteran? And I finally finally finally have a chance to figure out some more details about my evasive second cousins in West Virginia!!

On day 1, the public will be able to browse through the 3.9 million 1940 census images and narrow their search by address, geographic location, and enumeration district. However, since we're all getting a look at the images for the first time on April 2nd (no indexing organizations got an early peek), the records will not initially be searchable by name. But, with an army of help from volunteers across the US working from the comfort of their own homes, it won't take long for the first name index to follow. All hands are welcome to help. Interested?

The 1940 Census Community Project indexing software can be downloaded now and it's easy to use. It works like this: You download a "batch" (typically a single page) of the census into the software and, as you view the image in one pane, you enter what you see in a customized, labeled grid in another pane. The software provides a very well organized, intuitive layout and there are handy tools to enlarge or rotate the image and provide answers on "what am I supposed to enter in this field?". Basically, if you see "Rasmussen, Otto" you type "Rasmussen" in the last name field and "Otto", in the first name field, etc. When you're done filling out the

form for that page, a quality-check routine runs which points out any incomplete fields and which highlights data that might be "questionable". You can "accept" the data you entered (yes: the census DOES say that Otto was a female!) or you can make a fix (oops... got the first and last name backwards!). Once you've completed a page, you hit the "submit" button and the software takes it from there. All of the names, dates, places, etc. that you entered become part of the online search for everyone else.

As we all know, the census records aren't always a study in good hand-writing. But volunteer indexers don't need to sweat the fact that they sometimes need to make a rough guess as to what the record says. Two or more volunteers independently index every page and a trained "arbitrator" reviews any variances in interpretation and determines whether the field will be indexed one way, the other way, both ways, or neither. And, of course, ordinary database users will also be able to suggest "corrections" when they later access the data you've indexed and their I-know-what-it-really-says variations will eventually be included in the indexes.

Do you want to see how the indexing software works and try your hand at a "simulation page" from the 1940 census to see if volunteering for duty might be something you would enjoy doing? Go to familysearch.org and click on the "Indexing" tab or go to the1940census.com website and sign up as a volunteer (they have the software download link there too).

What's the URL for the images in the 1940 census release? For some reason (maybe they are worried about 1 million genealogists clicking in at once on 9:00:01 AM!) the URL has not been released yet. But, for the latest information you can check at the 1940 US Census Community Project website at the1940census.com. You can also get information on the NARA's 1940 census website at 1940census.archives.gov or on any of the websites of any of the 3 major genealogical organizations which are sponsoring the indexing project: Archives.com, FamilySearch.org, and Ancestry.com.

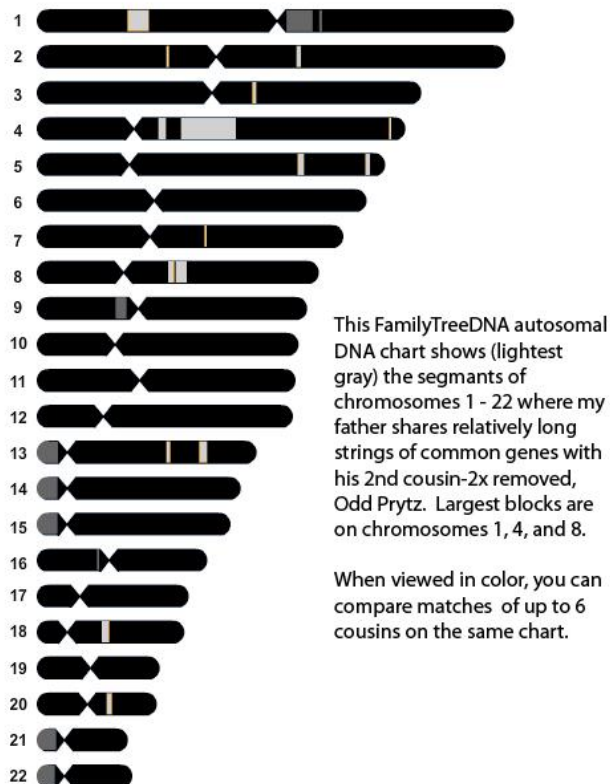
State Minnesota Incorporated place Minneapolis Ward of city

County Hennepin Township or other division of county _____ Block No. _____

LOCATION	HOUSEHOLD DATA	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION
1	101	OTTO	Head	M W 37
2	102	Julitta	Wife	F W 34
3	103	WIFE	Son	M W 4
4	104	WIFE	Son	M W 2
5	105	Peter	Head	M W 57
6	106	WIFE	Wife	F W 50

Uncle Otto!

It's Official: Autosomal DNA Project for Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag is Underway !



The autosomal DNA project for the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag is off the ground - though just barely clearing the runway so far.

As announced in the November newsletter, the NHOH Board of Directors has approved the sponsorship of a 2012 geographic-based DNA project for our membership. NHOH will fund \$50 of the (gulp) \$289 cost of autosomal DNA testing for each of the first 10 NHOH members who join the project.

Although autosomal DNA testing is relatively expensive, it is more relevant for recent generation "cousin finding" than the more traditional testing which analyzes only straight maternal lines (mtDNA testing) or straight paternal lines (Y-DNA testing).

Analysis of autosomal DNA (inherited from both parents, all four grandparents, all eight great-grandparents, etc.) will 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. Caution: autosomal testing tells you that you likely ARE related

to a genetically matched cousin and gives you an idea of how close - but it can't/doesn't tell you how you're connected. Rather it identifies common blocks of DNA on 22 chromosomes which predict a degree of genetic relationship. Once the DNA test has identified a probable cousin, it's up to the "matchees" to compare notes and do traditional research to connect the dots.

Because members of our group all share heritage from a relatively small geographic area in Norway, our theory is that we'll confirm some cousin-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 this emerging field of DNA testing for genealogical research. For those of you who are mixed-breeds like I am - through this testing, you'll also find cousin matches on all of your non-Norwegian lines.

The testing company we're using for this project is FamilyTreeDNA.. and, specifically, we're using their "Family Finder Testing." If you are interested and want to take advantage of the \$50 NHOH price break, visit www.familytreedna.com and purchase your DNA kit. Once you've done that, send an email to NHOH project manager, Dixie Hansen at dx@dxhansen and she'll fill you in on additional project details and get your rebate processed.

As of March 2012, we have 2 NHOH members enrolled in the project... and we're hoping for several more.

- See next article: *Cousin found in Røros Norway through DNA Testing*

Cousin Found in Røros Norway through DNA Testing

In February 2011 I submitted a cheek-swab sample of my father's DNA for "Family Finder DNA" testing at familytreedna.com. Both of my father's parents immigrated to the US in the first decade of 1900... his father from Grytøya up north in Troms and his mother from Alvdal (then called Lille Elvedalen) in Hedmark.

It wasn't too long (a month or so) before the Family Finder results were in and posted on the website. Since that day, Family Finder has found 47 DNA "matches" for my father. Of those, 32 matches are estimated in the "remote" range, 6 are likely in the 4th-5th cousin range, 6 are estimated in the 3rd-5th cousin range, 2 are in the 2nd-4th cousin range, and the last one is an almost scary close match - namely, to me! (if I had any doubt about my paternity - I don't now - clearly no milkman involved!). The

[FamilyTreeDNA](#) website gives you an opportunity to directly email any gene-matched participant who has opted in (most do) so that you can work together to determine what the connection might be.

One of the very first relatively close matches to my Dad was a fellow named Odd Prytz from Røros Norway. The DNA results were posted to Odd's page a few days before they appeared on my Dad's so Odd emailed me (we've set me up as my Dad's email contact). [FamilyTreeDNA](#) makes provisions for each participant to optionally post the geographic areas of their ancestry, their ancestral surnames (though not often so useful in Norway), and a pedigree chart. I had done all of that posting for my Dad. Odd is an avid genealogist and checking the detailed information we had posted, it was relatively easy for him to figure out exactly where my father's lines and his intersected. They connect on the Sorken farm in Tolga, Hedmark with common ancestors Ingebret Torbersen Sorken and Juditta Fredriksdatter Skancke. As we've since determined, Odd and my Dad are 2nd cousins, 2x removed and Odd and I (although our randomly inherited DNA didn't produce an official match) are 3rd cousins, once-removed.

From this new "DNA cousin-finding" relationship, I've now got a new friend/relative in Norway who shares my interest in family history research, a photograph of my Grandmother's first cousin, Elen Larsdatter Bukplass, and a bit more information on my ancestral family.

I don't want to leave you with the idea that it's a walk in the park and that every apparent DNA match is "solvable." That's not true. I've tested my own DNA too (which is a bit more geographically diverse than my Dads, with 10 generations of Americans on my Mom's side with ancestral roots in several European countries). So far, of the 115 [FamilyTreeDNA](#) matches found, I've been able to officially confirm 3 cousins (plus my father!) through traditional follow-up research, with good leads on several more. DNA testing isn't a solution to the hard-work of proving and documenting your ancestry - but it certainly is a great tool to have in the arsenal. And, of course, the more people who participate, the more the useful the tool. Dad and I both get new matches almost every week.

The DNA project that NHOH has undertaken, if successful, should both scientifically confirm known cousin-relationships within our membership as well as identify probable new inter-connections waiting to be discovered and proved. It's an interesting way to learn more about your personal heritage and stretch your brain a little at the same time. Plus... it's fun.

If you're interested in joining the NHOH DNA project - please see separate article: *It's Official: Autosomal DNA Project for Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag is Underway!*



NHOH WEB SITE UPDATE

Bob Christensen, Webmaster

Bob's email address:

NHOHBobC@Comcast.net

NEW ON THE WEB SITE

Preliminary information about the 2012 Stevne and hotel can be found under the "Stevner" tab of the web site. Watch for additional information to be posted there as it is released.

MEMBER AREA ACCESS REMINDER

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**" 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 Web site URL is

www.nhohlag.org

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

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News
Shirley (Lokstad) Schoenfeld, Editor
2208 Sunrise Dr.
La Crosse, WI 54601-6831

Spring 2012



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Theme for the stevne this year is:
About Face: Our Legacy



NHOH Lag Membership Renewal or New Memberships Form

Memberships include your spouse, so please include both names if applicable. Gift memberships welcome. Make check payable to **NHOH Lag** and send with completed form to:

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

Name(s) _____

Phone: _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

☐ Renewal ☐ Gift Membership ☐ New

Ancestors in Hedmark from kommune: (check all that apply)

☐ Åmot ☐ Alvdal ☐ Elverum ☐ Engerdal ☐ Folldal ☐ Furness ☐ Hamar ☐ Løten ☐ 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 / 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** _____

Genealogy Donation _____

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

Total Enclosed _____

CELEBRATE YOUR BYGDELAG

Congratulations to Sunnfjord Lag on Reaching 100 Years
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

JUNE

14-16 - Valdres Samband, Plaza Suites and Hotel, Eau Claire, WI
Bob Skogman, 320.684.2078

21-23 - Vestlandslag, Days Inn, La Crosse, WI
Bob Hanson, 763.441.4463 or H4414463@juno.com

SUNNFJORD CENTENNIAL, Hardanger, Møre og Romsdal,
Nordhordland, Rogaland, Sognalag, Sunnhordland, and Voss

26-28 - Nordlandslag, Stillwater, MN, Owen Wiig, 780.758.6736

JULY

18-21 - 7 Lag Stevne, Olympia Resort & Conference Ctr, Oconomowoc, WI

Peter Christianson, northloop@centurytel.net or www.7lagstevne.com

Toten (host lag), Helen Buche, 651.224.3246

Telelag, John Haugo, 715.381.1430

Sigdalslag, Jean Knaak, 651.483.9261

Ringerike-Drammen Districts, Narv Somdahl, 952.831.4409

Numedalslågen, Chet Habberstad, 218.826.6268

Hadeland, Jan Huesinkveld, 507.285.9483

Landingslag, Sandra Hendrickson, 952.892.5402

AUGUST

01-04 - Tre-Lag Stevne, Best Western Doublewood Inn, Fargo, ND

Gudbrandsdal, John F. Peterson, 701.361.7015

N. Hedmark og Hedemarken, Joy Shong, nhohpres@gmail.com

Trønderlag, Robert M. Fossum, president@tronderlag.org

09-11 - Sognefjord, Spring Grove, MN, Kathy Johnson, 608.238.1785

23-26 - Hallinglag, Chase on the Lake, Walker, MN, Bob Helling, 218.556.7090

SEPTEMBER

08-09 - Opdalslag, Scandia Church, Centerville, SD

Pauline Strait, phstrait@gmail.com

12-15 - Romerikslag & Solør Lag, Hilton Garden Inn, Fargo, ND

Joel Botten, 507.388.1995; Doug Johnson, 608.238.1785

16 - Nordfjordlag, Green Lake, Spicer, MN, Betty Rodi, 320.796.6800

CONTACT ONE MONTH PRIOR TO EACH 2012 EVENT
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