

NHOH News

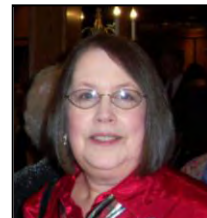
Volume 17 Number 3

Fall 2012

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

2013 Tre-Lag Stevne
August 15 to 18, 2013
Olympia Resort and Conference Center
Oconomowoc, WI
More details in the next newsletter

Hilsen!
Fra Presidenten Joy Shong



Well, the lefse was made in time for Thanksgiving. Now I need to coordinate with the sisters-in-law for making sandbakelse and krumkake for Christmas. The tradition of baking Norwegian treats for the holidays has passed through 5 generations so far. Food, and other traditions tie us to our families and our history even as our genetic makeup becomes more diverse and integrated.

Keeping with NHOH tradition, the Tre-Lag Stevne in Fargo was another great success. The variety of topics and the quality of the speakers was up to our usual standards. Check out the photos in this issue for a visual recap of the events.

As soon as the stevne ended, the steering committee began planning for 2013. We really tried to make Madison WI the site for next year because of the wonderful Norwegian heritage in the area, but the prices were prohibitive. When the quote for coffee for breaks came in at \$32 per gallon, compared to \$17 in Fargo, we knew we had a challenge keeping the costs down. A more affordable alternative at the Olympia Resort and Conference Center in Oconomowoc WI was selected.

Due to the delays in locating a good site for the stevne we did not have the luxury of selecting our usual dates in the first week of August. There will be a break from our traditional dates. The 2013 stevne will be from **Thursday, August 15 to Sunday, August 18**. Please note **the first day is a Thursday** in the **third week of August** rather than beginning on Wednesday.



Joy Shong

VELKOMMEN



NHOH Newest Members

Who have not been listed in a previous newsletter

Tim Maloney and Maureen Brosnahan
Of Cedar Valley, Ontario Canada
collectables@sympatico.ca
Don and Nancy Vergin of Benson MN
dvergin@charter.net

Who Has Bygdebøker for Lookups?

Do you have any of the bygdebøker for areas in our lag and be willing to do lookups? If so, we would like you to let us know.

Recently, we had a member wanting to use bygdebøker for doing research on her ancestors, but we could not find any libraries that had the necessary books. We were able to locate two members that had the books and were thus able to get the data needed.

This raised the question of which other books might be owned by members, and the board recommended that a list be compiled of who had any bygdebøker for our area and would be willing to do look ups for members.

Please contact John Reindl at john.reindl@att.net with information or questions.

What's Inside?

- 1.....2013 Stevne date, Pres. Letter
- 2..... Who are We? And list of officers
- 3-5.....2012 Stevne pictures
- 6.....Kon-Tiki Makes a Splash
- 7.....NHOH book – first 10 years
- 8.....2012 Stevne pictures
- 9-10.....Genealogy and Lag Information by John Reindl
- 11.....Awards and Necrology
- 12.....Bob Christensen's NHOH Lag Web Site
- 12-13.....Han Ola and Han Per Information
- 14..... The Norway House
- 15.....The Lag Photo from 2012 Stevne
- 16.....Membership Application

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 Hjølmen Ugland – Norway's Folk Costumes.)

District 1:

Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal
Folldal
Os
Rendalen
Tolga
Tynset



**A
l
v
d
a
l

a
n
d

T
y
n
s
e
t**

District 2:

Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot
Elverum
Engerdal
Stor Elvedal
Trysil



**N
o
r
d

Ø
s
t
e
r
d
a
l**

District 3:

Hedemarken and Hamar

Furnes
Hamar
Løten
Nes
Ringsaker
Romedal
Stange
Vang

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. 15	Nov. 25

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.

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 Norw/American community events of interest to our members are 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

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:

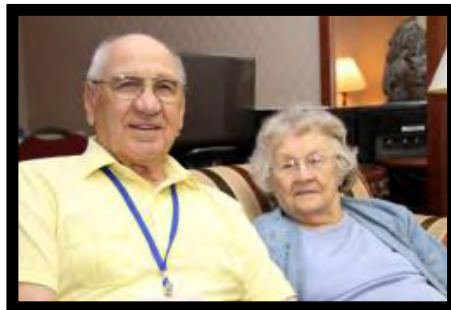
- to help people learn more about the history, culture, and customs of the Nord Hedmark and Hedemarken area of Norway and to aid in the preservation of that heritage
- to teach and assist people in genealogy research
- to gather immigration and settlement history and develop immigration data
- to develop 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

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: Gay Kearin.....Chechon@aol.com
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
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

From the Stevne – Hospitality Room Pictures:



Joy, who was caught taking cookies before the hospitality room opened?



Genealogy – the favorite hobby? of most of us.



Our lag genealogist helping others with their genealogy. Thanks John.

Ginny has a true following. The **Hardanger class** is fun and peaceful. Even going to Nordic Needle was a part of her class!



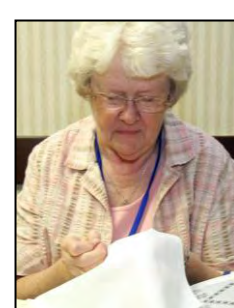
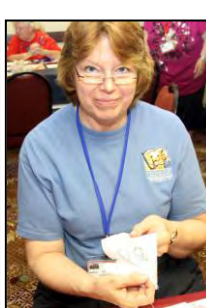
Friends, mother/daughter, Sisters, a nice hobby



Good to see young people interested in genealogy.



Good to have an expert from Norway to help out.



Many researching and volunteering.
So much to see and do...

Keynote Address,
Verlyn Anderson
Old Photos and Letters:
Voices of the Past

Editors note:
I really enjoyed listening
to Verlyn. He has such
an easy way to tell his
stories and how things
happen.



We got to see and do so many things in Fargo.



Robert Asp built the viking replica ship named
Hjemkomst between 1972 & 1980. He sailed the ship
on Lake Superior in 1980 and died in October of that
year. In 1982 his family and friends sailed the ship
from Duluth, MN to Bergen, Norway.



Full scale replica of the **Hopperstad Stave church** in
Vik, Norway. Guy Paulson began carving the replica
in 1997. Dedication was in 1998 although it took 5
years to complete.



John Peterson works at Prairie
Public, so he and his company
gave us an interesting tour there.



Saturday Frokøst – final goodbyes until 2013



We ate some
meals at the
Kringen Sons of
Norway Lodge,
and they had
entertainment for
us also.

Fargo has grown a
lot since our stevne there a few years back.



Kon-Tiki makes a splash

Film receives critical praise for portrayal of famous 1947 expedition

By Kelsey Larson for Norwegian American Weekly

After 59 days of shooting in six countries, the biggest Norwegian film yet to be made is ready to hit Norwegian cinemas Aug. 24.

The directing duo behind "Kon-Tiki," Joachim Rønning and Espen Sandberg, also directed the hit film Max Manus, which sold 1.2 million tickets and was a huge success in Norway and abroad.

Aftenposten's movie critic Per Haddal gave the film a grade five of a possible six.

"Kon-Tiki flows very well, is a visual delight and an adventurous hero epic," he writes.

Kon-Tiki tells the story of Thor Heyerdahl, a Norwegian adventurer who in 1947 set out to prove that Polynesia had been inhabited by wanderers from South America, rather than from Asia as was previously believed. To prove his theory, he sailed from South America to Polynesia on a balsa-wood raft dubbed "Kon-Tiki," after the Inka sun-god. The trip took 101 days and the raft crossed 8,000 kilometers of ocean, but made it to Polynesia intact.

The film stars Pål Sverre Hagen as Thor Heyerdahl, Herman Watzinger as Anders Baasmo Christiansen and Agnes Kittelsen as Liv Heyerdahl. Dagbladet also gave the film five stars out of six.

"Kon-Tiki is a glossy, sea-blue and pretty intense drama with scary sharks and a contagious spirit of adventure," writes film reviewer Mikael Godø.

"Kon-Tiki is Hollywood in Norwegian and it is unlikely that Norway's most expensive film will sink at the cinema," he adds.

Birger Vestmo, of NRK P3's Film Police, also rated the film with a five.

"Fortunately, the film is just as expected, which means that this is a large and wide drama steeped in history, where adventure oozes out of the film," he writes.

Nettavisen / Bergensavisen also adhered to the five rating:

"All in all, the director duo Rønning / Sandberg created a drama that conveys adventure and heroism, but which also manages to cast more modern eyes on the complexity of pursuing a dream as relentlessly as Thor Heyerdahl did. The storytelling is very Hollywood in the way it creates the dramaturgy. Every picture is perfect," writes reviewer Nils Olav Sæverås.

With such excellent reviews coming from all corners of Norway, Norwegians everywhere are excited to stand in line for the movie. "I am unimaginably excited," gushed one moviegoer on the film's Facebook page. "This is almost like a party, I just can't wait!" said another.

This article was originally published in the August 24, 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.



Also from Norwegian American Weekly:

BREAKING NEWS:

The case against Anders Behring Breivik, July 22 perpetrator, came to a close as the verdict was read in Norwegian court.

He was found to be sane at the time of the crimes he committed, and was given Norway's maximum prison sentence. Neither the defense nor the prosecution will appeal the court's decision.

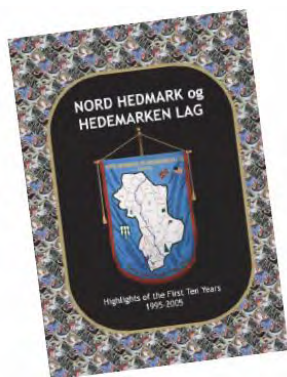
Sincerely,

The staff of the Norwegian American Weekly

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



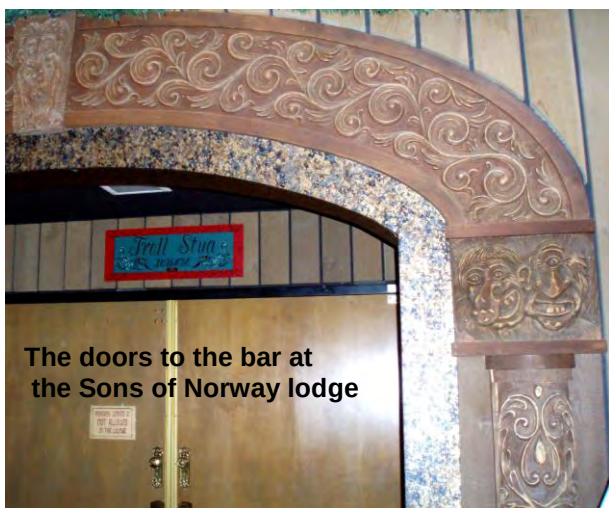
Hjemkomst Center
Hopperstad Stave
Replica church



Ship inside center



At Prairie Public



The doors to the bar at
the Sons of Norway lodge



2012-13 NHOH Lag Officers (taken at the August stevne)

Back: Chris Falteisek, Gene Nelson, Ron Helstad, Bob Christensen
Front: Joy Shong, Gay Kearin, Dixie Hansen, Shirley Schoenfeld,
and John Reindl



There were Trolls on every wall in
Their lodge bar



The Genealogy of the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag

An Update

John Reindl, Lag Genealogist



According to Ralph Waldo Emerson, "an institution is the lengthened shadow of one man". Applied to the **Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag**, that man would be **Rollie Krogstad**, who not only was the sparkplug in getting the lag started, but also served as its first president.

But another way to look at the lag is to look at its ancestry, or genealogy. The lag has previously looked in-depth at the former Østerdalslaget, which existed from 1910 to at least 1946, when it celebrated its 36th stevne in Fergus Falls, MN. Covering a number of kommuner from Elverum north in Hedmark fylke, the lag has gathered early photos, identified founding members and done research on their descendants. Our web page has a special section devoted to the Østerdalslaget.

Recently, we have learned that two other lags can also be viewed as our predecessors – **Mjøsenlaget** and **the Mjøsen-Opplands lag**, which followed in the footsteps of Mjøsenlaget.

Østerdalslaget

According to the book *A Folk Epic. The Bygdelaag in America*, by Odd Sverre Lovoll, Østerdalslaget was founded on June 18, 1910 in Fergus Falls, MN. The lag covered the valley created by the Glomma river, from Elverum in the south to Os in the north. The first meeting is said to have had 135 members, while the 1925-1926 yearbook lists about 1,250 members. The lag published six yearbooks in that time – 1913, 1914, 1917, 1920, 1923 and 1925-1926. The lag has all but the 1914 and 1917 editions.

The 1917 edition is available in a publicly accessible library, but it is not known if the 1914 edition is available publicly.

The 1923 yearbook lists members from the following areas:

Alvdal (Lille Elvdal)	Rendalen
Åmot	Storelvdal
Elverum	Tolgen
Engerdalen	Trysil
Foldal	Tufsingdalen
Indset	Tyldal
Kvikne	Tynset
Os	Vingelen
Osen	

In addition to the yearbooks for the lag, a separate publication, *Østerdølenes saga*, by K. G. Nilsen, was published in 1938. The first part is a description of Østerdal, its physical condition, its inhabitants, and the story of the coming of people into the region; articles on life in Østerdal; famous people; and the names of emigrants along with their date of emigration. The second part deals with America: migration from Europe; an account of the United States; short biographies of immigrants; lists of famous men and women; American Lutheran ministers whose origin is traced to Trysil, Norway; Østerdal soldiers in the First World War, with portraits; and minor articles by various authors. This book has been scanned and placed on our lag's web page.

Mjøsenlaget and Mjøsen-Opplands Lag

Mjøsenlaget was formed in the US to include all the kommuner surrounding lake Mjøsa, as well as few neighboring kommuner. According to Lovoll's book, an organizational meeting of about 50 people was held on August 24, 1910 and officially formed on June 7, 1911 at a meeting in the courthouse in Minneapolis, with a membership of nearly 500 people from eight states and from Canada. Lovoll notes that it was one of the large lag.

Mjøsenlaget published 10 yearbooks from 1915 through 1930, missing years 1923-1926, and having some combined issues. The lag has the 1922 yearbook, and all are available from libraries in the Upper Midwest.

The 1927 yearbook lists 856 members, of which 546 were from kommuner now represented by our lag. Ringsaker was the homeland of the largest number - 139 members - while Stange came in second at 105 and Nes third at 82 members. The kommuner include:

Furnes	Ringsaker
Hamar	Romedal
Helgøen/Helgøya	Stange
Løiten	Vang
Nes	Veldre

Mjøsenlaget became inactive in 1941. Prior to Mjøsenlaget becoming truly inactive, a successor organization known as the Mjøsen-Opplands Bygdelaag was formed in 1939 and convened in June, 1946. There was also a Mjøsen-Opplands Laget meeting at Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin, June 10-11, 1950. There are no known yearbooks for that organization.

Researching our Genealogy

Along with doing research on the genealogy of people who are current members of the lag, the lag is interested in researching the ancestry and descendants of those who were early members of the Østerdalslag and the Mjøsenlaget.

Dixie Hansen continues to lead the work on the genealogy for the early members of the Østerdalslag and has put together a comprehensive web page at <http://www.dxhansen.com/project2010/>. The lag is also interested in information on the early members and descendants of the Mjøsenlaget. Information or questions on individual members of that lag can be sent to me at john.reindl@att.net.



Mjøsenlaget - Circa 1920



Polly Johnson is awarded the President's Certificate of Appreciation



Dixie Hansen is awarded a Tusen Takk Award for the Millions of things she does for the Lag



THIS MONUMENT IS A REPLICA OF A CELTIC CROSS WHICH STANDS IN THE CHURCHYARD IN LOEN IN NORDEFJORD, NORWAY. THE ORIGINAL CROSS WAS EMPLACED BEFORE 995 AD. A GIFT FROM REV. AND MRS. MOLLIDREM



(see page 10 for the award Rollie Krogstad received – the first one called the Syttende Mai Award – 17 years of service for the lag)



Necrology

Archie O. Ellifson, Edgerton (1924 - 2012)



March 12, 1924 - April 21, 2012

Archie O. Ellifson, 88, of Edgerton, passed away on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at Agrace HospiceCare Inc., Fitchburg, with his loving family by his side. He was born on March 12, 1924, in Whitehall, WI, son of the late Ed and Nettie (Strand) Ellifson. He was united in marriage on Feb. 15, 1947, to Eunice Helstad, at the French Creek Lutheran Church in Ettrick, WI. He was a member of Central Lutheran Church, Edgerton.

Archie had been self employed as a carpenter for many years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, skiing, boating and helping build his children's homes. He loved spending time with his family and friends. Archie served in the Navy, during WW II, in the Pacific Theater, driving a LST landing craft.

He is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Eunice of Edgerton; two daughters, Sharon (Dennis) Sahr and Gail (Ray) Olson, both of Edgerton; two sons, Dennis (Theresa) Ellifson of Edgerton and Darrell (Linda) Ellifson of Arbor Vitae, WI; nine grandchildren: Todd (Wendi) Sahr, Paula (Tony) Ciebell, Ryan (Jackie) Ellifson, Bethany Price, Lindsay Ellifson, Krista Olson, Erik (Patti) Ellifson, Nick (Sharon) Ellifson and Brent Ellifson; seven great-grandchildren: Alexa Price, Alex, Jonathan and Daniel Ellifson, Trevor and Justin Ciebell and Connor Ellifson; one sister, Emily Berg of Dixon, IL; three brothers: Clifford (Tina) Ellifson of

Waukesha, WI, Edner (Eva) Ellifson of Mesa, AZ, and James Ellifson of Eau Claire, WI; many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by one grandson, Andrew Ellifson; one sister, Adeline; and three brothers: Vernal, Howard, and Jerry.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, at CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, EDGERTON, with Rev. James Johnson officiating. Burial will be in Fassett Cemetery. Friends may call on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the EHLERT FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES, (US HWY 51 S), Edgerton, from 4 until 7 p.m., and at the CHURCH on Wednesday, from 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Full Military services will be held at the Cemetery, by the Edgerton Memorial Squad, Post #2708. In lieu of other expressions of sympathy, memorials may be made to Central Lutheran Church.



NHOH WEB SITE UPDATE

Bob Christensen, Webmaster

Bob's email address:

NHOHBobC@Comcast.net

NEW ON THE WEB SITE

Photos from the 2012 Tre Lag Stevne are now posted on the NHOH web site. For the lag group photos we have added captions for all 3 lags. This should be helpful in remembering other attendees. Click on the "Stevner" tab to access available photos from this and all past stevner. For most, you can click on the image for a larger view. And if you want to copy or save it, right click on it to use browser commands.

MEMBER AREA ACCESS

The member's-only area of the NHOH website requires a user ID and password. For 2013 the user name is "**NHOH2013**" and the password is "4000Fjords" You may begin using this now. The old 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

Rommegrøt Bars

2 tubes of crescent rolls

2-8 oz packages of softened cream cheese

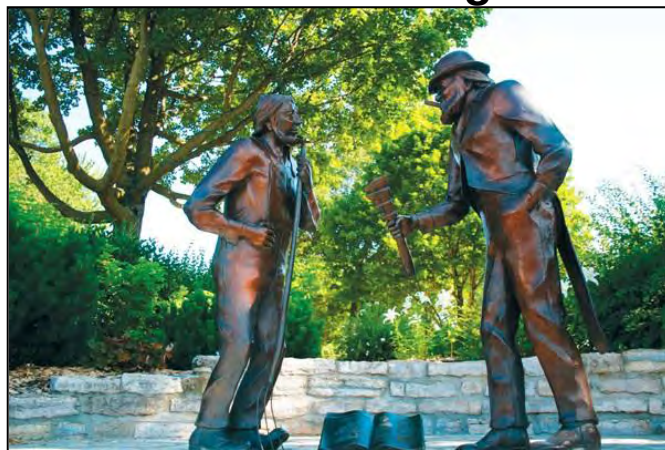
1 cup sugar

1 tsp vanilla

1 egg (yolk and whites separated)

Grease 9x13 pan. Press one tube crescent rolls on the bottom of the pan. Combine the cream cheese, sugar, vanilla and egg yolk. Save the egg white to brush on the top layer. Spread the mixture over the crescent rolls in the pan. Put another tube of crescent rolls on top of the mixture. Beat egg white until foamy and spread on top. Sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Cool and cut into squares.

Characters among us



Han Ola and Han Per sculptures in Viking Memorial Park in Spring Grove

Stories of the "Han Ola og han Per" comic

By Christy Olsen Field, Managing Editor
Of The Norwegian-American Weekly

So who are those characters that are on page seven? It's a question we get on a regular basis. With an unusual mix of English and Dano-Norwegian dialects, Ola and Per are a slapstick Norwegian-American comedy routine. Their place in the op-ed section of the newspaper is more than provide levity to an otherwise serious page - it is an anchor to continuing our rich heritage as the only Norwegian-American newspaper in existence.

In a different vein than the more famous Ole and Lena duo, "Han Ola og han Per" illustrates the Upper Midwest humor of Norwegian immigrant life in America. From 1918 to 1935, farmer-artist-turned-cartoonist Peter Julius Rosendahl created more than 700 comic strips for Decorah-Posten in Iowa, one of the largest Norwegian-American newspapers in the early 20th century. Decorah-Posten is a direct predecessor of the Norwegian American Weekly, and was acquired in 1972 by the Western Viking.

Peter Rosendahl was born to Norwegian immigrants in 1878 in Spring Grove, Minn., the earliest Norwegian settlement in the state. His father, Paul Rosendahl, was born in Hadeland, Norway, and immigrated to Spring Grove in the 1850s. He was a pioneer farmer who served in the Civil War and later became a state legislator. Peter's brother, Carl, was a professor of botany at the University of Minnesota. Peter lived his adult life on a farm in Spring Grove, and explored his artistic side with poetry and lyrics, painting, sketching and more. A quiet, modest man, he married Otelia Melbraaten – a second-generation Norwegian-American with roots in Hallingdal – and they were the parents of four children.

Drawing cartoons came later in life for Rosendahl. He did not complete high school, but had a thirst for learning, which he satisfied by reading and correspondence classes. At the age of 33, he received a certificate in machine and electrical engineering. When he was 41, he enrolled in the Federal School of Applied Cartooning at Minneapolis during the years. "Han Ola og Han Per" made their debut in 1918.



Rosendahl did not travel, but he had a vivid imagination and creative ability, which he used to put his characters in preposterous situations and wild adventures. During the summers, when he was busy at the farm, his cartoon characters took a break until the fall, which prompted readers to write and demand the comic's return. In 1935, Rosendahl turned down further offers for new strips, so the newspaper began to publish reruns.

There are several main characters who appear on a regular basis. Per, the head of the household, is tall with a beard and wears a tail coat and plug hat. He is easily excitable and reacts dramatically to most situations. His dialect is from Hadeland.

Per is married to Polla, a short and stocky woman from Fargo, N.D. She is the only character to show change in weight and style. Her speech also transitions from the old Dano-Norwegian to Americanized Norwegian. Dada is the daughter of Per and Polla, making her first appearance in 1926. She grows older as the time (and series) goes by.

Vermoor, which means mother-in-law is Polla's mother. She is a tough, industrious pioneer woman, frequently shown with a tool of some kind. Ola is Per's neighbor and friend. He is always shown without a hat and dressed as a typical farmer. In contrast to his high-strung friend, Ola is more easy going, and laughs, sings and whistles regularly. He is also a big ignorant, especially when it comes to machinery.

Lars is Per's older brother, and a newcomer from Norway. Although well-educated, he fumbles his way through adjusting to cultural life in America. He has a long beard and is often pictured with a jug of moonshine. He is also romantically inclined with Vermoor.

Norwegian-American organization Hadelandlag writes, "Today 'Han Ola og han Per' is significant because

it illustrates the traditional primary values of humor: as entertainment, for anyone able to read 'Spring Grove Norwegian,' which is discussed in Norwegian-American historian Einar Haugen's essay on the language; as literary and graphic artistry; and as history, with predominant folklore elements, which reflects mainly an immigrant society's pains and difficulties of adapting to mainstream America with its rapidly changing customs and attitudes. The artist described the roles played by Ola and Per in helping to lighten the burden in their 'Western Home.'"

Today, the spirit of "Han Ola og han Per" lives on not just on the pages of the Norwegian American Weekly, but in Spring Grove, Minn. In 2002, bronze sculptures of Ola and Per were installed at Viking Memorial Park by Craig Bergsgaard, a sculptor and artist who grew up in in Spring Grove. Bergsgaard was commissioned a few years earlier for a sculpture of a Viking called "Quest" to honor the Scandinavian pioneers in the Midwest.

"After 'Quest' was finished, it was such a great partnership that we didn't want it to end. We wanted to honor the creativity of Peter Rosendahl, and honor the work of Craig as a sculptor, so we gathered the funds to have him do a sculpture of Ola and Per," said Karen Gray, longtime resident of Spring Grove and chairperson of the Ola and Per Committee.

"It took about a year and a half from concept to installation. It's still the hardest piece I have ever done. Ola and Per were drawn in two-dimensional drawings, and I had to create a three-dimensional sculpture," said Bergsgaard.

He traveled to Spring Grove to meet with the committee, and then several members visited Bergsgaard's studio in Colorado to see the finished pieces before they were bronzed. One of the members of the delegation was Georgia Rosendahl, the daughter-in-law of Peter Rosendahl and local Spring Grove historian.

"I wanted to make sure the Rosendahls were happy with the finished pieces," said Bergsgaard.

To celebrate, the Committee planned a day-long festival, inviting Norwegian lodges and organizations in the area to participate. They also invited authors who had written about Spring Grove to come for book signings.

The turnout was far higher than expected – approximately 1,200 people attended the festival, stretching the capacity of restaurants and local businesses in the town of 1,300 people.

Today, Ola and Per stand tall in the center of town, reminding Spring Grove residents of the lasting influence of Norwegian-American heritage.

"Spring Grove is quite a Norwegian community. When I moved here in 1965, you heard Norwegians spoken at the post office and on the street," said Gray. "We honor the culture and traditions of Norway, and Ola and Per were very important in the immigrants' lives and socialization that they had to assimilate into their daily life."

This article was originally published in the October 19, 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



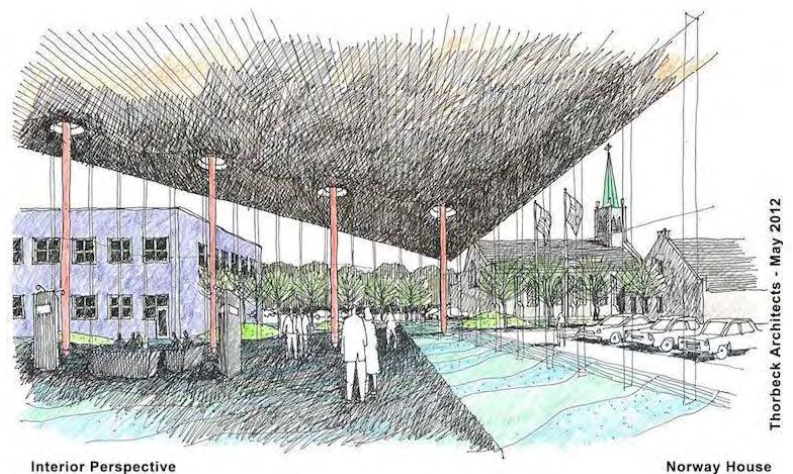
KOMM HJEM TIL NORWAY HOUSE

Imagine a place in Minnesota where all things Norwegian are located, embraced and cultivated. That dream began to materialize in 2004 when a group of inspired Norwegian-Americans perceived such a need and founded Norway House with a mission to partner with individuals, other organizations, and businesses in the Norwegian American community. Norway House would serve as a convener calling others together for a common goal, as a collaborator helping others achieve success, and as a platform, a multi-purpose building to serve as a place to conduct Norwegian-American activities.

Since its inception, Norway House has been a bridge between Norway and the United States through programs that preserve and promote an appreciation and understanding of the Norwegian-American experience and its relationship to modern Norway: Norway House Minnesota Peace Initiative is a program that serves as a global facilitator for dialogue and development of a road map for peace in the 21st century and features prominent speakers working for world peace; Edvard Grieg Society promotes the music of Edvard Grieg as well as other Nordic composers by presenting concerts featuring international and local artists; Midsommer Celebration is an annual tradition celebrating the “Going Viking” spirit by honoring individuals of Norwegian heritage who have distinguished themselves by their service to others.

Now a Norway House center will be built, and where better to locate than next door to Den Norske Lutherske Mindekirke – known as Mindekirken, which for 90 years has served as a spiritual center for the Scandinavian American Community, worshiping in both Norwegian and English and providing a rich cultural experience through language, music, arts and food. Mindekirken is honored to have His Majesty King Harald V as its patron. Norway House and Mindekirken will work together as neighbors and partners to provide cultural, educational, research, commercial and global activities.

You can help build the Norway House! Donations of all levels are needed, and you can honor your family members. For additional information visit www.norwayhouse.net and see our affiliate organizations or call Jon Pederson, Capital Campaign Chair, at 612-325-3669 or Rebecca Jorgenson Sundquist, Director of Development, at 952-221-3400.



Stevne 2011 Storytelling



(this will be in the Spring Newsletter)

**Featuring the People's Choice winner,
Rollie Krogstad (on the right)**

“Growing Up On a Farm During the Great Depression”

Are you in need of a Portable PA System?

This is a perfect set for use in a fellowship hall, or for a band in need of a first system or an upgrade. Here is a description of what we have available at Sons of Norway in La Crosse. We only used it a couple times before the place we rent from replaced their building speaker units.

Would be perfect for stevne use as well.

A Yamaha Stage Pas 500 Portable PA System with dual 250 watt class D power amplifier with versatile 10 channel mixer with monitor and record outputs. We also include an Audio Technica 3000 series wireless microphone system and two speaker stands. This is a great deal at \$1095.

Call Adrian Johnson at 608-788-7507 to examine.

Nord-Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag; Aug 3, 2012, Fargo, ND

L to r.; Front row: Charles Laehn, Lois Laehn, Sylvia Falteisek, Hans Myhre, Becky Johnson, Chris Falteisek, Joy Shong, Dixie Hansen, Ginny Nelson, Virginia Sem, John A. Pederson, Karen Christianson, Pete Christianson, Judy Mathison

2nd row: Louise Erickson, Doris Modahl, Louise Lang, Don Teigen, Mary Teigen, Vicky Finstad, Marilyn Sorensen, Marlene Lien, Polly Johnson, Gilmore Sem, Shirley Ball, Sandra Aune, Shirley Schoenfeld, Sonja Olmanson, Gay Kearin

3rd row: Gordon Spidahl, Adele Spidahl, C. Marvin Lang, Gary Flatgard, Roy Modahl, Ronald Helstad, Gene Nelson, Hanard Lien, Dennis Johnson, Keith Olmanson, Bob Olson, Dave Kearin, John Reindl, Bob Christensen

Ed. Note – rather than going sideways with this page, I have split the picture below so you could see it better/bigger. Please go from the top picture to the bottom picture with the description above.

left
side



right
side



Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News

Shirley (Lokstad) Schoenfeld, Editor

2208 Sunrise Dr.

La Crosse, WI 54601-6831

November 2012



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE



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 _____