

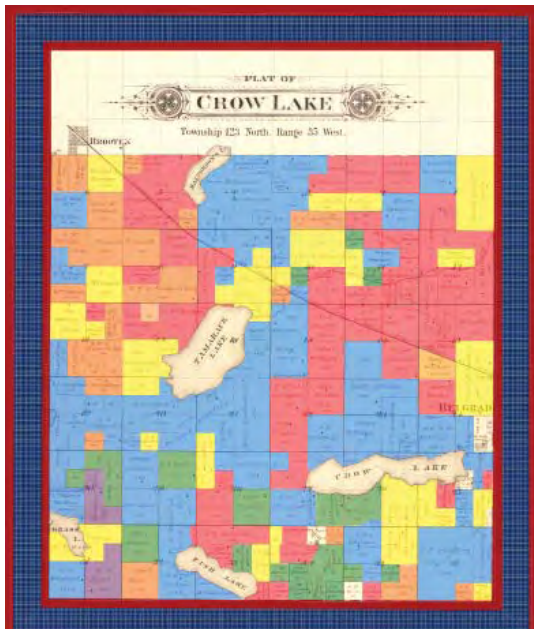
NHOFH News

Volume 19 Number 1

Spring 2014

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

Theme of 2014 Tre Lag Stevne: Country Quilt



Ethnic diversity in Crow Lake Township ca. 1896 creates a "Patchwork Quilt" of neighbors

If ever there was a year to celebrate and participate in the Tre Lag Stevne, this is the year. For 200 years our ancestors (from Gudbrandsdal, Tronderlag, and Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken) and their growing strings of descendants have been celebrating Syttende Mai to honor the creation of Norway's Constitution in 1814. We all know it's a huge year in Norway, and the stevne is our way to participate in the momentous events of the past and the subsequent legacy in America. The Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee has been working very hard to come up with a program that will tickle all your senses and leave you with memories befitting a Bicentennial year.

First the basics. The dates are August 6-9 (Wednesday to Saturday), and the location is the Best Western Plus Kelly Inn in St. Cloud, MN*. The number to call for reservations is 320-253-0606. To get the room rate of \$81 per room per night, reference the

Tre Lag Stevne and call by July 23rd. There are three room types King, Deluxe King, and Studio Queen, all at the same rate. The stevne will begin with registration and an interesting local tour on Wednesday and culminate with our Norwegian breakfast and an intriguing, engaging, participatory, and even rewarding program on Saturday.

The theme chosen for this year is "Country Quilt," a depiction of the ethnic diversity of a central Minnesota township (Crow Lake). It's like "Here a Norwegian, there a Norwegian," and then there's all the "others," neighboring farmers, merchants, school teachers, religious and political groups, linguistic varieties, etc. A patch of them and a patch of us and it all produced the blend that evolved into America's social structure today.

The usual mainstay elements of our stevne will be there, of course – the genealogy lab, the Hardanger Klubb, a Tre Lag Musicians concert, hospitality room, banquet, movies night, vendors, etc. And some of the planned seminar topics are:

- ★ The Norwegian Constitution, the Norwegian view and the Swedish view
- ★ House history, "Was my Childhood Home really a Hospital?"
- ★ Ethnic Settlement Patterns and Immigrant Architecture in Rural Minnesota
- ★ Stories of Rev. Brandt's 1887 visit to congregations in Stearns/Douglas Counties
- ★ Norwegian Troop Reciprocal Exchange Program between the Minnesota
- ★ National Guard and the Norwegian Home Guard
- ★ Knute Nelson: Norwegian immigrant and American political success story
- ★ "Antiques Road Show! – stevne style," a great opportunity to bring items (Norwegian, Scandinavian, or other) to have them appraised by knowledgeable people in the appraisals field. This will be the Saturday morning session between breakfast and departure.

Article contributed by Richard Lundgren

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:

District 1:

Nord-Østerdal:

Alvdal
Folldal
Os
Rendalen
Tolga
Tynset

District 2:

Sør-Østerdal:

Åmot
Elverum
Engerdal
Stor Elvdal
Trysil

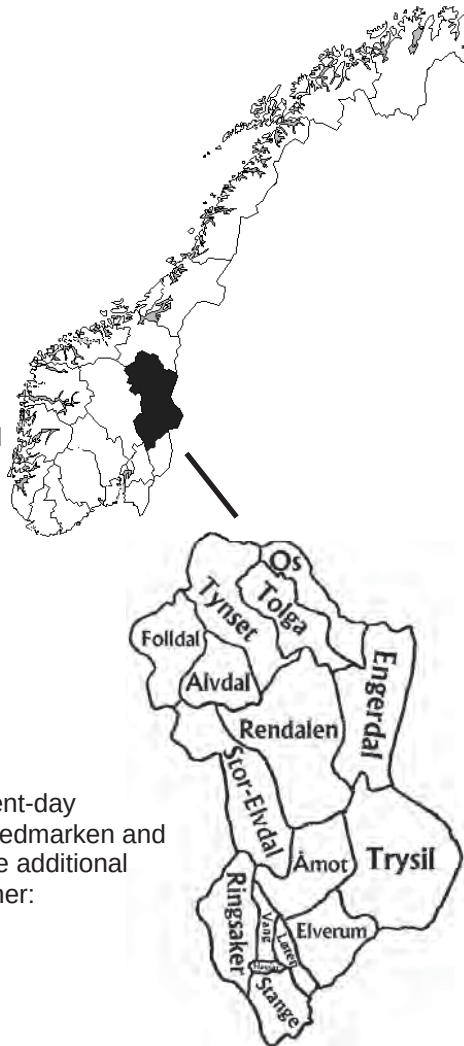
District 3:

Hedemarken. and Hamar

Hamar
Løten
Ringsaker
Stange
Vang

Within the present-day boundaries of Hedemarken and Hamar are these additional historic kommuner:

Furnes
Nes
Romedal



PLEASE CONTRIBUTE!

Members are encouraged to contribute content to this newsletter. We invite articles, photos, summaries of recent news stories, etc. relating to Norwegian history, culture, emigration and Lag activities, especially (but not limited to) those associated with the Hedmark area of Norway. Articles may be historical in nature or may highlight current resources available to help members research their heritage.

Send newsletter contributions for the next issue to President Joy Shong by email: pres@nhohlag.org Joy will be filling in as Editor for the June Newsletter.

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

The NHOH Newsletter is published three times per year – Spring, Summer, and Fall. Members are invited to send articles or news at any time of year and the editor will consider them for the next newsletter or for a future issue.

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

Advertising Policy: The Board has approved that the editor may accept advertising for this newsletter related to Norwegian culture, heritage, or genealogy. The rate for a quarter page ad is \$25. The rate for an eighth page ad is \$15. Funds received will help offset the cost of printing the newsletter.

When contacting an NHOH officer by email, please put NHOH in the subject line. It's helps us distinguish "real" email from spam. Thanks!

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: Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld SASLAX@aol.com
Past-President: Dixie Hansen..... dx@dxhansen.com
Editor: (vacancy) This could be YOU! Volunteer sought
Genealogist: John Reindl genealogy@nhohlag.org
Web Master: Bob Christensen... NHOHBobC@Comcast.net

Proud to be Norwegian?

In the documentary series **The Search for Norway**, which is being broadcast on **BBC1 Sundays**, **NRK.no** wants to determine which **person, event, or social regulation** has made their citizens most proud to be Norwegian

For 200 years since the Constitution was signed at Eidsvoll, the nation of Norway has had a great need to mark its own identity and independence according to an NRK article.

"It's probably not unique that a country wants to be noticed by other countries. But that is reinforced by the fact that we are a small country in population and have a strong self-awareness associated with it", states sociologist Ingrid Wergeland to NRK.no.



Norway has nurtured people like Thor Heyerdahl, Einar Gerhardsen, Liv Ullmann, Henrik Ibsen, Grete Waitz, and Magnus Carlsen. They invented the cheese slicer, have one of the best welfare systems, award the Nobel Peace Prize, beat Brazil in soccer, and have won the Eurovision Song Contest three times.

We would like you to share with other NHOH members what makes you proudest to be of Norwegian descent. It can be anything from sports performances or musical moments, living or historical persons, single events or a series of events, or maybe it's that the welfare system offers paternity leave and free education? Whatever you feel makes you proud to be a Norwegian, let us know.

We want your suggestions! We will post your replies in the next newsletter. Reply to Kathy Botten at: kmbotten48@gmail.com

Article contributed by Kathy Botten

Tre Lag Stevne 2014: Country Quilt

Wed 8/6/14 - Sat 8/9/14
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

Make Reservations at:
Best Western Plus Kelly Inn: 320-253-0606



Hilsen!

Fra Presidentin Joy Shong

This is a big year for Norway with celebrating the 200th anniversary of the signing of the constitution. Do you remember the Bi-Centennial celebrations in the USA in 1976? I'm sure the patriotic feelings are just as strong in Norway. Though many of us in America have never studied Norwegian history in school, this is part of our heritage, too. If you get a chance to participate in any presentations or events for the anniversary, I encourage you to take the time and learn more.



I'm sorry to report that the 2014 tour to Norway was canceled because we did not get enough people to sign up. On the positive side, several of those who had registered were able to make arrangements with other travel companies and will be traveling to Norway this summer. It is disappointing, but now we have a really good tour laid out that we can use in the future. Maybe we should have planned to go this past January. My cousin in Hamar said the winter was mild with above average temperatures. Before Christmas they had to drive to the mountains to be able to ski (unlike most of the US!)

Your Board of Directors is still actively trying to find ways to provide the members with usable information. Lag VP, Chris Falteisek, is working on a very interesting project to create photo pedigree charts. We are looking for additional genealogy materials to purchase for the lag library. Translation projects are also being considered.

We are always looking for other members to participate in making the NHOH Lag a success. If you would like to be more active, even in small ways, please contact me or one of the other Board members and let us know how you would like to help. We especially would like to hear from you if you can help with the newsletter. See the article later in this issue.



Foreign Character Cheat Chart

FOR	ALT+
Æ	0198
æ	0230
Å	0197
å	0229
Ä	0196
ä	0228
é	0233
ñ	0241
Ø	0216
ø	0248
Ö	0214
ö	0246
Ü	0220
ü	0252
ß	0223
¢	0162
£	0163
€	0128
†	0134
÷	0247
±	0177
½	0189
¼	0188
¾	0190
°	0176
·	0183
•	0149
Hard space	0160
—	0150
—	0151
»	0187
«	0171
®	0174
©	0169

There are many ways to type those special Norwegian characters that don't come standard on a US keyboard (Ø, å, æ, etc.). With software settings (and a good memory for the phantom layout) you can turn on an International Keyboard or, on a Mac, you can use some built-in alternate character selectors.

If you're a PC/Windows user, the Windows *Character Map* is a good solution. Keep it handy in the task-bar (from the Start search box type "character map" and when the program icon appears in the search results, drag it to you desktop or task-bar). Essentially, the *Character Map* is "looker upper" that allows you to browse for the special character you want and then copy and paste it to your document. But the *Character Map* can be little slow to load and hunt through. Often, an "on-the-fly" straight-from-the-keyboard method for typing special characters is the best solution. How?

For PC/Windows users a handy technique to learn is as simple as holding the "Alt" key down and, at the same time, typing in a 4-digit code using the numeric keypad. When you're done typing the 4 numbers let go of the Alt key and the special character appears like magic. (Note: you must use the numeric keypad on the right side of your keyboard. This method won't work with the number keys that lie in the row above the alpha keys).

The chart above provides the Alt-codes for a variety of foreign characters as well as some other handy symbols. Although you will probably quickly memorize the codes for the characters you use most often - you may appreciate having a cheat chart handy. Cut it out and laminate it or tape it to the edge of your monitor. Need different characters? Make your own chart using the *Character Map* as a reference tool.



NHOH WEB SITE UPDATE
Bob Christensen, Webmaster

Bob's email address:
NHOHBobC@comcast.net

Member Area Access

The member's-only area of the NHOH website requires a user ID and password. For 2014 the user name is "NHOH2014" and the password is "Bruker" 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.

The NHOH Website URL is www.nhohlag.org

Tre Lag Stevne Hotel Information

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn
100 4th Ave S
Saint Cloud, Minnesota 56301
Phone #: 320-253-0606
August 6-9, 2014



The Tre Lag Room Rate is \$81/night *plus tax*
The rate is the same for King, Deluxe King, or Studio Queen. Book before July 23rd for the Tre Lag Rate.

Website: <http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/US/MN/Saint-Cloud-hotels/BEST-WESTERN-PLUS-Kelly-Inn/Hotel-Overview.do?propertyCode=24113>

Norway's DigitalMuseum Website

www.digitaltmuseum.com

John Reindl's article on the 200th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution mentions a folder of Eidsvoll 1814 photos on the digitaltmuseum.no website. If you are not familiar with this website – it's well worth checking out.

What used to be a loosely connected set of websites for several museums in Norway has been consolidated recently into a very interesting, useful, and totally integrated searchable website.

The site hosts a digital collection of object images from the physical collections of 141 museums across Norway – including special "exhibits" and theme folders. As of this writing there are 1,368,498 individual object images on the site.

The digital images includes photos, 3-dimensional objects, textiles, paintings, sculpture, buildings, jewelry, and artwork of many kinds. If you can imagine it in a museum, you can find a digital image of it on this site. Search results include descriptions and historical notes, credits, a downloadable image, as well as links to the host museum website.

You can search for images across the all museums or you can limit your search to a specific museum. Switch to English menus and instructions by clicking the flag icon at the top of the home page. There is also an option to register, add comments to images, and to build and share your own folders of favorite objects.

For those of us with genealogical interests, if you are very lucky, you may find photos or portraits of your ancestors. At the very least you can explore historic photographs from the areas they came from, examine the clothes they wore and study the churches they attended. Sample search terms: *Folldal, bunad, Ottesen, syttende mai, sølje*, etc.



Photo of Anna
Stub from the
Romsdalsmuseet
Collection

In the NHOH geographic area you'll find images from the Hedmark fylkesmuseum, Hedmarkmuseet, Glomdalsmuseet, and the Nordøsterdalsmuseet.



NHOH Needs YOU

NHOH Lag has an **OPPORTUNITY** for someone to continue the NHOH tradition of keeping our members informed of lag activities, stevne information, cousin finding updates, and genealogy tips. The newsletter editor position is still available and is a wonderful opportunity to serve the lag.

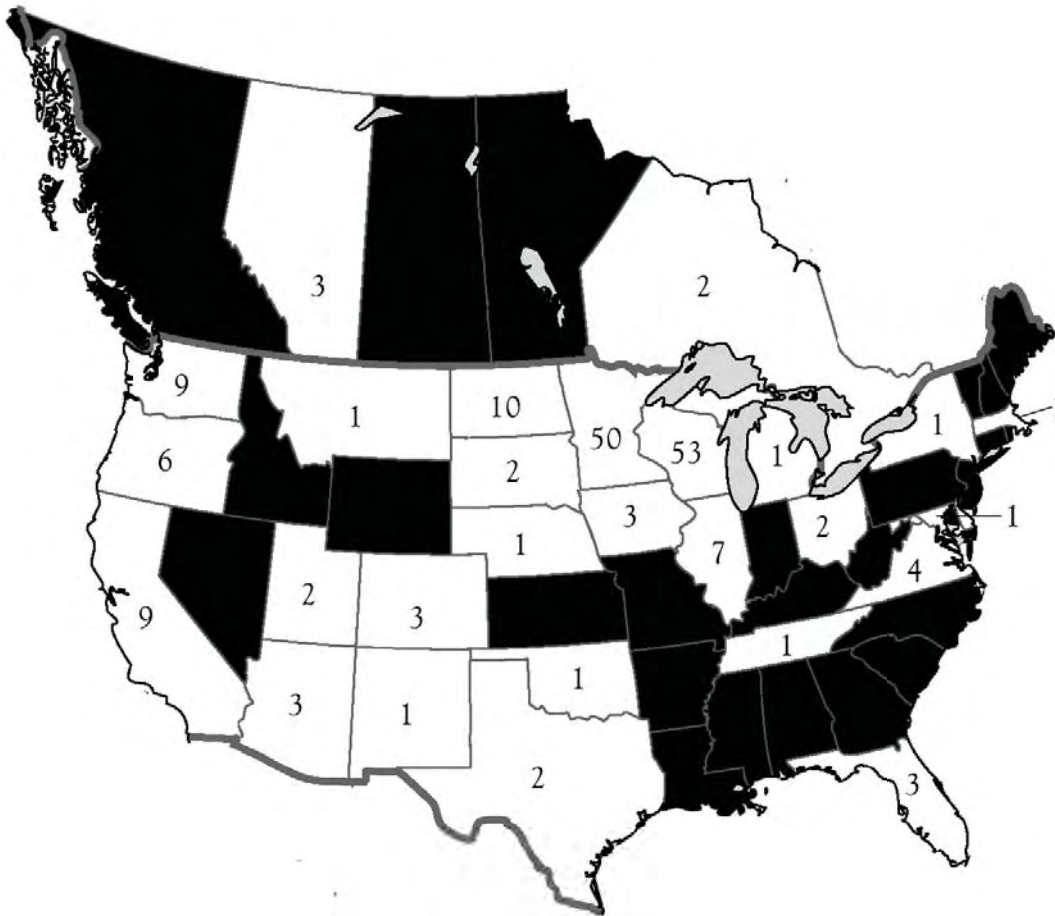
The job isn't as hard as you may think it.

- ❖ Most of the features of the newsletter, such as the president's letter, genealogist report and stevne materials are provided by other people.
- ❖ The job can be shared by several people, so if you have a friend or spouse, the tasks can be split up.
- ❖ Shirley Schoenfeld, our past editor, has a pool of sources for additional material she is willing to share with the new editor.
- ❖ The Board and Shirley will also assist the new editor with their first issue and continue to provide content to future issues.
- ❖ The format can be changed to one that works for the new editor.
- ❖ Currently the content is emailed to a printer in Madison and one of the local members there takes care of mailing the newsletters.

Please consider volunteering to be our lag's editor or to offer to help with its production.

Mail Joy Shong at 523 S. Concord Rd.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066, or email
nhohpres@gmail.com or call 262-567-9263.

WHERE DO NHOH LAG MEMBERS LIVE?



Plus:

Hawaii 1

Norway 3

Sweden 1

We also distribute free copies of NHOH News to 21 organizations & libraries in Norway and 14 in the US.

HEDMARK ROOTS OF NHOH NEW MEMBERS IN 2013 & 2014

Welcome to these new members (and cousins!)

Name	Home	Hedmark Roots
Bergitta Åryd	Rönninge, Sweden	Extended Family!
Christy Berger	Durand, WI	Alvdal, Folldal
Sharon & Max Bowen	Neenah, WI	Ringsaker
Kyle Jansson	Monmouth, OR	Ringsaker
Wesley and Jeantte Hanson	Oklahoma City, OK	Hamar, Ringsaker, Tynset
Richard and Linda Karlstad	Saint Michael, MN	Furnes, Nes, Ringsaker
Romayne Kilde	Moorhead, MN	Åmot, Elverum
Keith Lyksett	Cottage Grove, MN	Nes, Ringsaker, Trysil
Anka Magee	Pleasant Grove, UT	Hamar, Løten, Romedal, Stange, Vang
Robert J. & Betty Mathison	Neenah, WI	Ringsaker
Karen Erickson Mullen	Omaha, NE	Løten, Romedal
Gary Romsaas	Marriottsville, MD	Alval, Folldal, Tynset
Barb Soderberg	Cedarburg, WI	Stor-Elvdal
Carl D. Thompson	Milwaukie, OR	Alval, Folldal
Joy Haugan Williams	Ames, IA	Rendalen

Velkommen

The Entire Collection of the National Library of Norway to Be Digitized

In what promises to be the work of 2 or 3 decades, the National Library of Norway is in the process of digitizing every book and publication in their collection. When you consider the fact that the *Norwegian Legal Deposit Act* requires that all published content, in all media, be deposited in the National Library... that amounts to a lot of books!

The project has been under way since 2006, and it's moving right along. In addition to digitizing their existing collection, the library is also requesting that deposits of new publications include a digital source copy.

This digitization project fits in with NLN's stated vision to act as a "national memory bank." The collection houses a wide variety of content and media ranging back to the Middle Ages and forward to the present day.

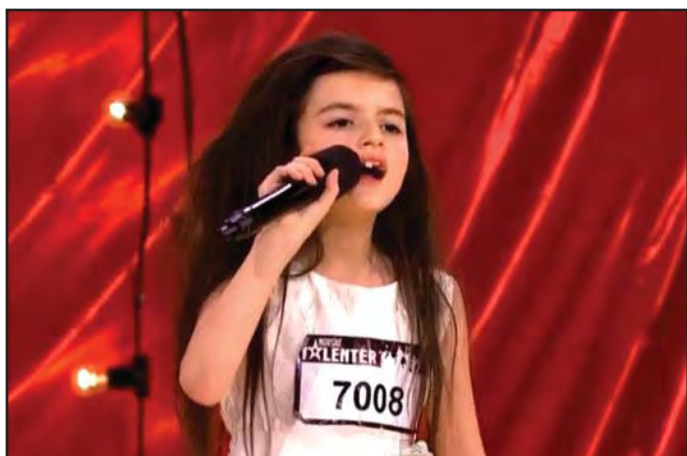
Digitized material which is not protected by copyright is available to everyone via the web – and available for download to the user's hard-drive. If the NLN has agreements in place with copyright organizations, they will also make copyrighted material available online but, in that instance, only to those with a Norwegian IP address.

I gave the online catalog search a whirl recently and had immediate good luck. Although (as you would expect) most of the books and papers are in the Norwegian language, you can switch the menus to English for searching and browsing. You can also focus your search to return only books and newspapers that have been digitized or only books that are downloadable, etc. The text of the books has been optically recognized (even books printed in that difficult old Gothic typeface) so you can bring up a book on screen and work through it quickly with a word search – looking for a specific name or location. I was successful, with just a few minutes of playing around, in locating a biography on an old Norwegian family I was researching which even included a delightful front-piece portrait!



The English-version of the homepage on the NLN website is www.nb.no/English .

Article contributed by Dixie Hansen



Screen-grab from the youtube video

WOW!

Take a listen to this amazingly-talented 7-year Norwegian girl, Angelina Jordan Astar, as she channels Billie Holiday singing the jazz standard *Gloomy Sunday* on Norway's *Got Talent* in March 2014.

Link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2da7N6ADm9s#t=19>
(or go to youtube.com and search for her by name).

As of this publication, the youtube video of Angelina's performance has chalked up over 4 million views.

Necrology

Anthony "Tony" Lofstrom

Anthony "Tony" W. Lofstrom, 48, La Crosse passed away February 23, 2014 at his home. He was born November 8, 1965 in Ironwood MI, to Shirley Lokstad and Delmar A.O. Lofstrom. He was baptized at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ironwood. He started school in Maplewood MN, and moved to La Crosse with his family in 1972. He attended school at Mt. Calvary Lutheran School and was confirmed there in 1980. In 1981, he moved to St. Paul, graduating Highland Park High School in 1984. He was employed by Doppler Gear Co. after graduation and later began roofing houses. He shared a home with his friend, Raquel Larson, and on December 5, 1990, they had a daughter, Heather Marie Larson.



On October 13, 1995, Tony was married to Shannon Kopischke. They have been estranged for six years and had no children from this marriage.

Tony was hit by a car while riding a bicycle in St. Paul, and was injured badly, making it impossible for him to find work.

Tony is survived by his daughter Heather (coming home from Afghanistan), and her ½ sister Nicole (son, Preston), his mother Shirley Schoenfeld of Holmen WI, his father Delmar of Pine City MN and step-mother Donna (Burton) Lofstrom, his estranged wife Shannon, and her two children, Christina and Michael Schoonover. Tony loved all his children.

Also surviving him are his sister Karen (Dave) DeSchepper of West Salem, his step-brother Douglas (Peggy) Schoenfeld of Holmen, three step-sisters Kerry (Richard) Stokke of La Crosse, Kathy (John) Hill of N. Idaho, Linda (Ralph) Wright of La Crosse, step-brother Allen (Amy) Burton of Pine City MN, his nieces and nephews Marissa, Kelsey, Austin, Kristy, Stephanie, Shone, Abe, Liz, Zeek, Abby, Carrie, Adam, and Alayna, their spouses and children, his Uncle and Aunt David and Judy Lokstad, Aunt Lolly Benish, and Uncle Hjalmer Lofstrom, his great aunt/ Godparent Audrey Maki, several first cousins, and

friends.

Tony was preceded in death by his stepfather Gene Schoenfeld, his grandparents Hans and Alice Lokstad, Hjalmer and Frances Lofstrom, one step-nephew Blaine Wright, Great uncle/ Godparent Elworth Maki.

Tony loved to hunt and fish, and his best friend was "Sparky", his Mom's Rat Terrier. He was a member of Wergeland Lodge Sons of Norway in La Crosse. He will be sorely missed. His family is comforted by knowing he's at peace with God, and that he believed in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

Funeral services were held at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at 2135 Weston, in La Crosse. Burial in the Folden Cemetery, Newfolden MN, will be held March 29 at 3 pm.

Tony is the son of NHOH Board Member and Newsletter Editor, emeritus, Shirley Schoenfeld.

Vicki Jo (Olson) Anderson



Vicki Jo (Olson) Anderson, age 54, of Bloomington, passed away peacefully August 11th at home surrounded by family and friends after a short, courageous battle with cancer. Born June 26, 1959, she was a guardian angel to countless people on Earth and

has accepted a promotion in Heaven where she will touch so many more. Survived by devoted husband, Jeff; parents, JoAnn and Robert Olson; brothers, Mark, Scott, and Kirk (partner Chris); in-laws, Jo Anne and Duane "Andy" Anderson, Steve (Val), Joe, Tim (Deb), Chris (partner Marissa); nieces and nephews, Samantha, Trevor, Soren, Derik, Paige, Tyra, Jett, Britt, Kim, Dani, Cody, and Josh. As well as many other family, friends, Team Vicki and her beloved pets. A memorial service was held on August 24th at Richfield Lutheran Church. Colorful attire was encouraged for this memorial celebration of Vicki's life.

Vicki Jo is the daughter of NHOH members, Robert O. and Jo Ann Olson

Schedule of 2014 Stevner

Date	Group	Location	Contact Info
June 19-21	Valdres Samband	AmericInn Albert Lea, MN	Bruce Weaver II, dakota3h@triad.rr.com
June 19-21	Vestlandslag	Radisson Paper Valley Hotel Appleton, WI	Bob Hanson, 763.441.4463 or H4414463@juno.com; Lags: Hardanger, Møre og Romsdal, Nordhordland, Rogaland, Sognalag, Sunnfjord, Sunnhordland, and Voss
June 24-26	Nordlandslag	GuestHouse TownHouse Hotel Inn Grand Forks, ND	Devon Jokstad, DevonJokstad@msn.com
July 17-19	Seven Lag Stevne	ND State College of Science. Wahpeton, ND	Numedalslågen (hosts), Chet Habberstad, habbstad@prtcl.com, 218.826.6268; Hadeland - Anne Sladky, president@hadelandlag.org; Landingslag - Eric Goplin, eig@triwest.net; Ringerike-Drammen Districts Lag - Lynn Nord, lynn8487@gmail.com; Telelaget - John Haugo, 715.381.1430; Sigdalslag - Jean Knaak, 651.357.6139; Toten Lag - Helen Buche, president@totenlag.org
August 6-9	Tre-Lag Stevne	Best Western & Kelly Inn St. Cloud, MN	Gudbrandsdal , Jim Olson, jimolson@midco.net; Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken , Joy Shong, nhohpres@gmail.com; Trønderlag , Linda Schwartz, president@tronderlag.org
August 7-9	Sognefjord	Eau Claire & Mondovi, WI	Kathy Johnson, 608.238.1785
August 21-24	Hallinglag	Holiday Inn Austin, MN	T E Lanman, telanman@comcast.net
September 10-13	Romerikslage & Solørlag	Courtyard Marriott Mankato, MN	Joel Botten, 507.388.1995; Marie Thompson, 641.423.0487
September 13-14	Opdalslag	Scandia Lutheran Church Centerville, SD	Pauline Strait, phstrait@gmail.com
September 21	Nordfjordlag	Green Lake Bible Camp Spicer, MN	Betty Rodi, 320.796.6800; Gene Rodi, 612.722.3324

Significant New Release of Norwegian Documents on MyHeritage.com

In December 2013 MyHeritage announced the launch of a major family history initiative in Nordic markets adding historical record collections covering more than 90 million names – including 10 million records and 30 million names in Norway. The Norway collection includes baptismal, marriage and burial documents dating back to the early 1600s.

MyHeritage (according to their press release) is the family history market leader in the Nordic region and has (as of March 2014) 338,311 users in Norway among 75 million registered users worldwide.

There are various levels of membership to MyHeritage – ranging from “free” to use their family tree software, keep a basic 250-member family tree on their site, and do a limited search of their record collections. Currently they charge \$9.95 per month to actually see the documents behind the “results” of your record search and \$7 - \$10 more per month for the ability to build and store larger or multiple family tree with enhanced functionality. They offer discounts for annual subscriptions, new subscriptions, and multi-year subscriptions.





200 Years Later – The Descendants and History Associated with the Norwegian Constitution

by John Reindl, NHOH Lag Genealogist

Two hundred years ago, in April and May of 1814, 112 men met in Eidsvoll, Norway and hammered out their country's constitution. According to the web page of the Eidsvollsmen Council of North America, the constitution that was adopted by the Eidsvoll Convention on May 17th is the second oldest written constitution in the world still in existence. Norway is well known for its parades on the 17th of May celebrating the constitution. This year, the celebrations will be especially significant, celebrating 200 years of the constitution.

April 10th outside the Eidsvoll church and formally opened their assembly the next day. The presidents and vice presidents were chosen for a period of one week and then new officers took office. In just over five weeks, the process was completed.

The impetus for the development of the constitution was the defeat of Napoleon and the subsequent decision that Denmark – which had ruled Norway since the days of the Black Plague and had also supported Napoleon – should be punished by having Norway taken away from its rule. As part of this process, Norway was placed under the rule of Sweden, which offended many Norwegians, who thought that their country should be independent.

The Eidsvoll group consisted of two main factions – those who wanted full independence and those who wanted a union with Sweden. While all parts of Norway were to be represented, the northern part of the country was less well represented due to travel conditions. Also, the assembly had a significant number of representatives chosen from military units.

The genealogy of these men – including their descendants – is the main topic for three groups/projects. Special events are also planned for descendants who come forward, such as being invited to be honored by the Norwegian legislature. A fourth site provides a digital museum of the building and grounds of Eidsvoll, while several other groups have associated special projects.

Four of the representatives were from Hedmark fylke, while two military men were selected to also represent Hedmark, even though they did not live there.

Turning to the web site and projects, closest to home on the genealogical front is the Eidsvollsmen Council of North

America, which is headquartered in Madison, WI and headed by Michael Bovre, a member of NHOH. Mike's research has been on the US descendants of the signers of the constitution at Eidsvoll and he



Oscar Arnold Wergeland's painting of the Eidsvoll Assembly

By comparison to present day legislative deliberations, the process of developing the constitution in 1814 was very fast and very democratic. The group first met on

authored an article on his research in the Spring 2004 issue of NHOH News. In his article, Mike listed the four Eidsvoll men from Hedmark and listed some of their living descendants in the US. The four men are:

Claus Lars Bendeke, born in 1763 in Vang and governor of Hedmark from 1804-1816. He married Magdalena Catharina Pihl and they had six children. Mike had found two descendants in the US.



Claus Lars Bendeke

Ole Olsen

Evenstad was born in 1776 in Elvdal, and married Gjertru Helgesdtr Søstu Stai. They had one child, also named Ole Olsen Evenstad, who married Ragnild Eriksdtr Søstu Sail. They had two children, but Mike was not aware of any descendants in the US.



Ole Olsen Evenstad

Andreas Aagaard Kiønig was born in 1771 in Grue, and died in Elverum. He was a judge in Østerdalen and never married.



**Andreas Aagaard
Kiønig**

*Portrait by
Jacob Munch*

Eilert Waldemar Preben Ramm was born in 1769 in Furnes and had 14 children. Mike found many descendants in Utah.



**Eilert Waldemar Preben
Ramm**

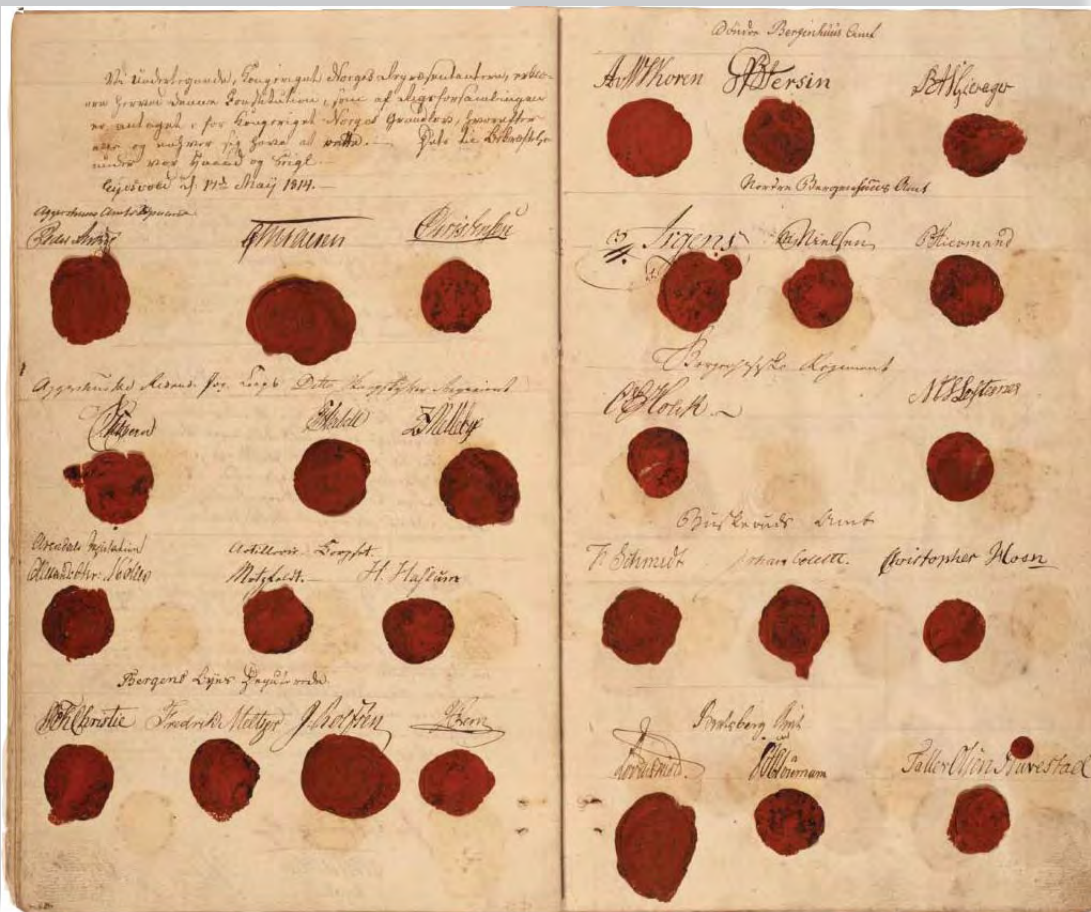
as sketched in one of a series of portrait studies by Oscar Arnold Wergeland in development of his famous 1885 painting of the Eidsvoll Assembly. In the final portrait (see page 10) Ramm is standing in the back of the room, looking out the window.

In Mike's article in NHOH News, he noted that he had found US descendants of 63 of the 112 Eidsvoll men. However, by January of this year, this list had expanded to having found descendants of 86 of the signers, including one descendant of Eilert Ramm living in Madison, WI, which is also where the Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag was founded 20 years ago. (Thus, 2014 is 200 years for the Norwegian constitution and 20 years for the lag. The lag has a great model to follow!)

The web page of the Eidsvollsmen Council of North America lists all 112 signers of the constitution and invites people who have any of these men as ancestors to submit data. Other volunteer positions to help with this project are also listed.

the database, and for only 17 of the “Men of Eidsvoll” is there no information about descendants.

The site is set up with pictures of the men on the right hand side of the page and, by clicking on those with a tree showing, the family tree is accessed. The family tree is in Norwegian, but the basic family relationships are very understandable. In the family tree, clicking on the tab of ‘Etterkommer’ gives a block chart of descendants, and the number of generations can be chosen. For one person, I had the page show 9 generations of descendants, which included people born less than 10 years ago. Information on living people is very limited, but locations are given for most people, along with dates of birth, spouses, siblings and children.



First Page of the Eidsvoll Constitution

As part of the 2014 celebrations, the Council is having an Eidsvollsmen Descendants 2014 Norway Tour from May 13-27, 2014, and limited places are still available. The web page for the group is found at www.eidsvollsmencouncilofna.org/.

Besides this project and site in North America, there are two genealogy projects and web pages in Norway that are important.

First is the site of the Eidsvollsmennenes etterkommere (the Eidsvoll's men's descendants) located at <http://www.eidsvollsmenn.no/english>. Put together jointly by the National Archives of Norway (Riksarkivaren) and the Genealogy Society of Norway (DIS-Norge), the project aims to list descendants of all the “Men of Eidsvoll”, no matter where in the world they are today. As of May 2013, there are around 45,000 names in

to English, and there is considerable historical material available in English in four sections:

- The Eidsvoll House
- 1814 - the year of miracles
- Restoration
- About us

Each section has a short write-up, and, in addition, the section on '1814 – the year of miracles', has five subsections, which each subsection further divided:

- Background
- 1814- before the constituent
- The constituent at Eidsvoll
- 1814 –after the constituent
- The story of 1814 in 1-2-3

Moving away from English, under the Norwegian language portion of this web page, the genealogical information is found by clicking on the tab which reads '1814 og Grunnloven'. There are five tabs under this heading, of which the second and fifth provide the genealogical information:

1. Mirakelåret 1814 – the miracle year 1814, which, as noted above, is available in English.
2. Eidsvollsmennene – the Eidsvoll's men.

Four subcategories are provided: (1) a list of all the men of Eidsvoll, including their party and which fylke they represent and links to their portraits and biographies, (2) a short article on the military representation, (3) other important people in 1814, and (4) a chart of where the representatives sat in the assembly in Eidsvoll.

3. A short description of the original constitution and the changes that it has gone through
4. A diary for 1814, from January 1st to December 31st, with the ability to choose any day.
5. A painting of the men of Eidsvoll in assembly, with individuals marked with a key to their names.

Also available on this site are tabs for the Constitution celebrations taking place in Norway in 2014 and a section on current day democracy in Norway.

All three of these sites invite people with additional information on the genealogy of the Eidsvoll's men to share it through the web pages.

In addition to these three sites, three other related sites and projects will be of interest to those who want to delve further into this subject.

Directly related to the Eidsvoll assembly, a digital museum site for Eidsvoll (<http://digitaltmuseum.no/folder/299>) has 110 photos of the building and grounds of Eidsvoll from the period of 1890 to 1964. It's a great way to see the building from the comfort of home.

Another project is by the Norwegian Genealogical Society (Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening at <http://www.genealogi.no/>) and looks at the Eidsvoll representatives from the point of view of their ancestry and is publishing a commemorative book this year.

The book can be found by clicking on the picture at the top left hand side of the web page under the heading of Grunnlovsmarkeringen. Titled 'Juileumsprosjektet 1814', the book sells for 495 kroner, about \$83.

An entirely different vantage point is being taken through a project underway by the Digital Archives to compile a list of all people who were living in Norway in 1814. The strategy is to begin with the 1801 census and, with the use of the church records, add those people born up through 1814, include information on the marriages during that time, and remove those people who died during that period. A description of the project (in Norwegian) can be found at <http://www.arkivverket.no/arkivverket/Digitalarkivet/DNF1814>; the status can be found by going to 'Transkribering', and, then, in the lower right hand corner, by clicking on the two pdf documents. Currently, just over half the NHOH areas have had their records entered and additional help is needed to complete the others.

There are probably many other projects which are underway for the 200th anniversary of the Norwegian constitution. If you have any ancestors related to the signers, be sure to share your information with one or more of these projects. But even for the rest of us, we can all both celebrate the joy of this achievement or offer our assistance in the research of adding new information to that which already exists. And, of course, we can all contribute assistance to our lag, so that our first 20 years is only the first step to the 200 year mark of Norway!



The Eidsvoll Assembly House
undated photo from the Eidsvoll digitaltmuseum.no folder



LANGUAGE CAMP Norwegian Ridge Language Camp

was established by the Giants of the Earth Heritage Center (a non-profit educational organization) and is set in southern Minnesota at Spring Grove, the first Norwegian settlement in Minnesota.

The camp provides an opportunity for students of all ages to have a high quality experience of learning Norwegian in an immersion atmosphere classroom, as well as in sports activities and traditional folk arts instruction. Campers have hands-on involvement in many educational and creative activities, including preparation of traditional Norwegian foods. Students from out of town are housed by local host families and there is an opportunity for grandparents and grandchildren to attend camp together. Full details and registration information can be found at www.norwegianridge.org.

Week 1, June 9-13 for age 4-7 \$195

Week 2, June 16-30 for age 8 to adults \$295

Deadline to register: May 27. Grants/Scholarships may be available.



Duluth's Nordic Center

The new Nordic Center in Duluth, Minnesota is located in a beautifully renovated space at 23 N. Lake Avenue. Several years of planning and hard work have produced some stunning results and exciting programs. The Nordic Center opened its doors in the fall of 2013 and is now offering language classes, rosemaling, lectures, Nordic films, conversation groups, children's fun days, and much more.

The Nordic Center Mission is to preserve and advance Nordic culture through social, educational, and cultural/arts programs that serve the greater community. In other words, it has been created to make a place for those of Nordic descent to explore and celebrate our Nordic cultural identity.

The Nordic Center is a warm and welcoming space where you can enjoy a cup of coffee with friends, browse through a small Nordic gift shop, pick up a Nordic book or magazine to read, or participate in one of the many programs.

The next time you are in Duluth, you are invited to visit the Nordic Center, or check us out on line at: nordiccenterduluth.org.

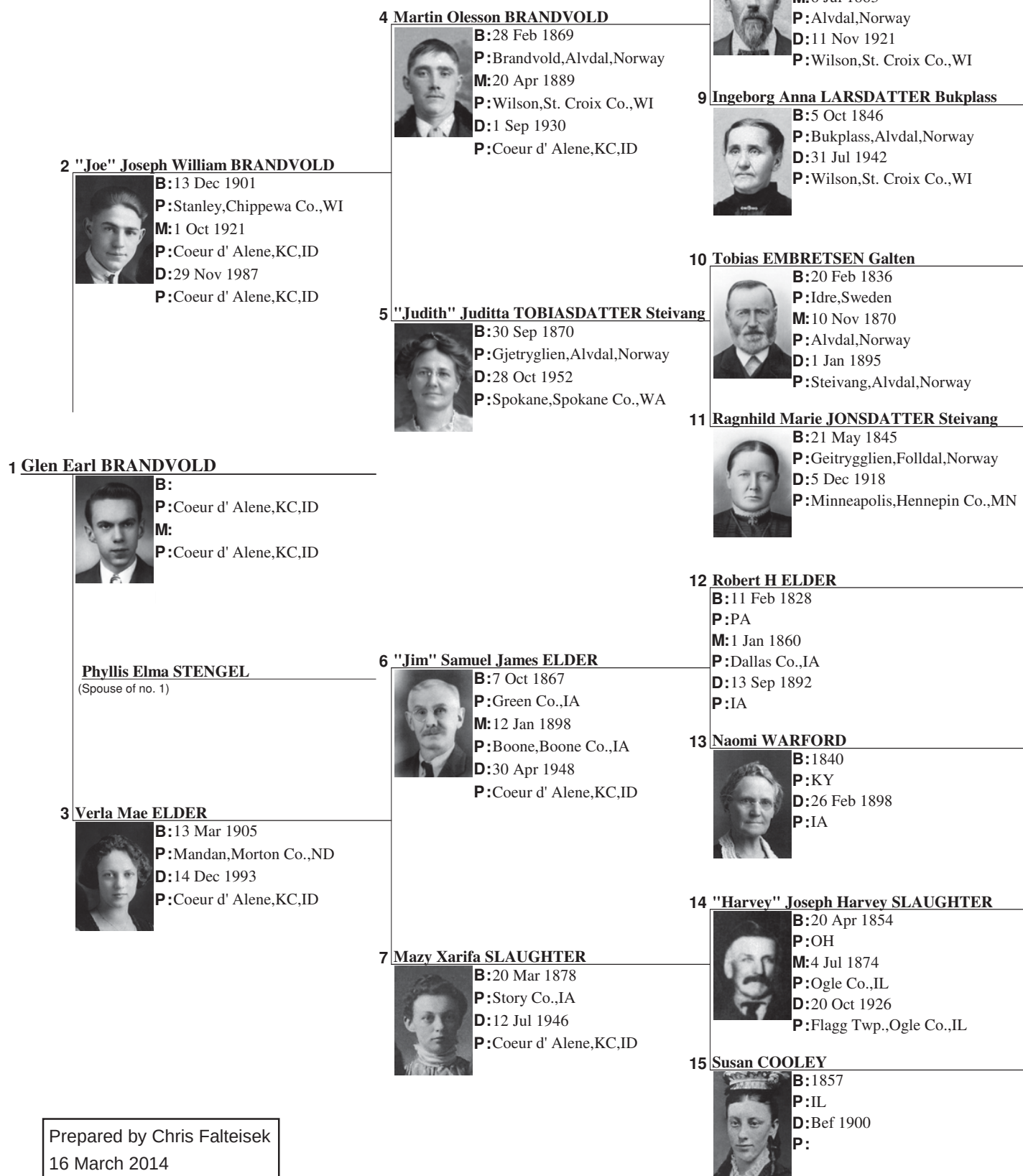
*Article contributed by Kathy Botten
Program Coordinator at the Nordic Center*

PHOTO PEDIGREE CHART PROJECT

Have you ever wanted to have a professional computer-generated photo pedigree chart? Have you ever needed "a little" help in finishing your 4-generation pedigree chart? Do you have studio photos of your parents, grandparents & great grandparents that you would like scanned and don't have the necessary technology? Would you like to have your Hedmark ancestor's photos preserved and archived as part of our Lag's history? If you have said yes to any of these questions, our lag is starting a project that just might interest you.

In concert with the Tre Lag Stevne 2014 Country Quilt theme, we felt it was important to focus on our member's Norwegian ancestors but also assist them with other branches of their family as they all shaped who we have become. Chris Falteisek is heading up this initiative and has already begun work on several Nord Hedmark members' photo pedigree charts. Glen Brandvold has graciously allowed us to show his pedigree chart, so you can see what we're trying to accomplish with this project. Most of us have spent many hours researching our family and many have shared our family histories with lag genealogist, John Reindl. We're trying to take our cousin-finding project a step further. If you would like to join this photo pedigree chart project, bring your photos and updated histories to our August stevne and talk with Chris Falteisek and John Reindl. These charts will become a part of our genealogy lab and will help future Lag members in finding cousins, ancestors and photos.

Pedigree Chart for Glen Brandvold



Prepared by Chris Falteisek
16 March 2014

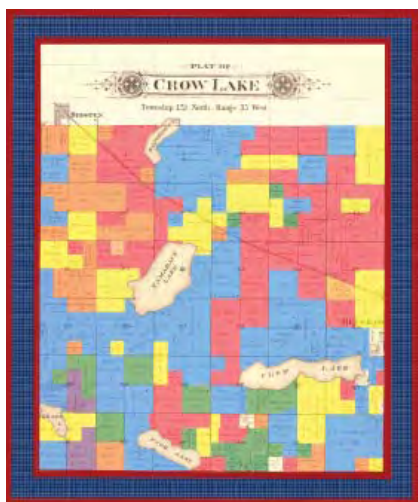
Nord Hedmark of Hedemarken Lag News

March 2014

Dixie Hansen / Spring Issue Editor

1411 Osceola Ave

Saint Paul, MN 55105-2312



FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

Tre Lag Stevne
August 6-9, 2014



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 _____