



TRE LAG STEVNE

COUNTRY QUILT



A gathering of descendants and friends of the Trøndelag, Gudbrandsdal,
and northern Hedmark regions of Norway



August 6-9, 2014

Best Western Plus Kelly Inn • Saint Cloud, Minnesota



Velkommen til Stevne!

Welcome to Saint Cloud, Minnesota and to the 2014 Tre Lag Stevne – the annual meeting of Gudbrandsdalslag, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag, and Trønderlag. The organizing committee has worked throughout the year to provide a location and experience where our members can meet and talk, share stories, and learn more about their immigrant ancestors' history and culture.

Although Saint Cloud was not a hot bed of Norwegian settlers, this area is central to where many immigrants from various ethnicities settled. The theme for this meeting, "Country Quilt," reflects the ethnic diversity of central Minnesota. Settlers in this area produced a blend of people of varying backgrounds that has evolved into the social structure of America today.

I urge you to take advantage of all we offer for the next four days – From the tour, presentations, hospitality room, vendors, music, movies, lag group photos and business meetings, banquet and hospitality hour, frokost, and concluding with the Antiques Roadshow Appraisals. And last but not least, don't overlook the resources and expertise found in the Genealogy labs. Each lag has brought the best they have to share with you so that you might find new information about your ancestors. You could even find a new cousin!

Welcome to the 12th annual Tre Lag Stevne!

Linda Schwartz



Linda Schwartz
President, Trønderlag of America



Joy Shong

Joy Shong
President, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag



Jim Olson

Jim Olson
President, Gudbrandsdalslag

Wednesday, 6 August

Time	Event	Location
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Registration Desk Open for Tour Participants <i>(only)</i>	Hallway
1:00 PM - 6:15 PM	Tour: Stearns History Museum and Cathedral of St. Mary's Includes guide, museum entry fee, cathedral donation, box dinner, and bus transportation	Meet in Main Lobby
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Registration Desk Re-Opens <i>(for all attendees)</i>	Hallway
6:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Genealogy Lab Open Lag Genealogists: John Reindl (<i>Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken</i>) Marilyn Sorensen (<i>Gudbrandsdalslaget</i>) Barry Dahl (<i>Trønderlag</i>)	Grand Ballroom
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Seminar: Beginning Norwegian Genealogy - Jumping the Pond Linda Schwartz Locating information about your Norwegian immigrant family can be a frustrating experience if you try to go directly to Norwegian records or think you're going to find all the answers on the Internet. It's important to start by collecting all of the "data" available about your Norwegian immigrant ancestors after they got to America -- before you "Jump the Pond". Linda will share various tools and resource materials that will help in your search. At the conclusion of the session, the group will move to the Genealogy Lab to meet the lag genealogists and learn about the materials available there.	Boardroom <i>Limited Seating</i>
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Movie: Trollhunter Shot in a vérité style, Trollhunter is the story of a group of Norwegian film students that set out to capture real-life trolls on camera after learning their existence has been covered up for years by a government conspiracy. A thrilling and wildly entertaining film, Trollhunter delivers truly fantastic images of giant trolls wreaking havoc on the countryside, with darkly funny adherence to the original Norwegian folklore. We'll watch it in Norwegian with English sub-titles to add to the adventure!	Husky Hospitality Room <i>Limited Seating</i>



LAG BOARDS

TRØNDERLAG OF AMERICA

Website: www.tronderlag.org

Linda Schwartz	President, Editor, Webmaster
Trudy DeKeuster	Vice President
Nancy Hawkinson	Secretary
Jon Satrum	Treasurer / Membership
Barry Dahl	Director / Genealogist
Elaine Hasleton	Director
Robert Fossum	Past President

NORD HEDMARK OG HEDEMARKEN LAG

Website: www.nhohlag.org

Joy Shong	President
Chris Falteisek	Vice President
Gay Kearin	Secretary
Ron Helstad	Treasurer
Gene Nelson	Director
Shirley Schoenfeld	Director
Joe Waddell	Director
John Reindl	Genealogist
Dixie Hansen	Past President/ Membership
Bob Christensen	Webmaster

GUDBRANDSDAL LAG NATIONAL

Website: www.gudbrandlag.org

Jim Olson	President
Richard Lundgren	Vice President
Katherine Pedersen	Secretary
Anne Haugen	Treasurer
Anne Farning	Director
C. Marvin Lang	Director
Crystal Bloecher	Director
Betty Strand	Membership
Marilyn Sorensen	Genealogist
Jan Floeter	Editor
Gary Romsaas	Webmaster
Gerald Hanson	Historian
Robert O. Olson	Archivist
John F. Peterson	Past President



2014 Tre Lag Stevne
Steering Committee Chair,
Dick Lundgren

2014 TRE LAG STEVNE STEERING COMMITTEE

Officers

Richard Lundgren, Chair
John Reindl, Vice Chair
Ron Helstad, Treasurer
Nancy Hawkinson, Secretary

Committee Members

Barry M. Dahl
Trudy DeKeuster
Chris Falteisek
Robert Fossum
Cheryl Goodin
Dixie Hansen
Elaine Hasleton
Dave Kearin
Jim Olson
Kathy Pedersen
John F. Peterson
John Reindl
Linda Schwartz
Joy Shong
Marilyn Sorensen
Betty Strand

With very special thanks to those many volunteers who step up during the Stevne and say "how can I help?"

You can and do... and everyone benefits. Hospitality? Registration? Hanging Signs?

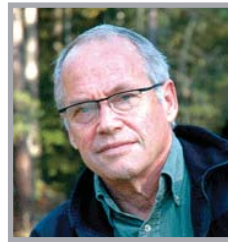
Introducing Speakers? AV Assistance? Running Errands? Genealogy Mentoring? *Thank-you!*



Vickie Jo Anderson



Cora Christensen



Arnfinn Engen



Hjordis Helgestad

Til Minne Om Remembering Lag Members and Associates Who Have Recently Passed Away

- Vickie Jo (Olson) Anderson • 1959-2013 • Bloomington, MN • G NH
- Cora O. (Nelson) Christensen • 1910-2014 • Madison, WI • NH
- Arnfinn Engen • 1944-2014 • Lillehammer, Norway • G
- Hjoridis Mae Randine Helgestad • 1944-2014 • Onalaska, WI • G
- Albert M. Holman • 1930-2013 • Grand Forks, ND • NH
- Anthony W. Lofstrom • 1965-2014 • LaCrosse, WI • G NH
- Mattilde Gunelie (Score) Mjaatveit • 1908-2012 • Edmonton, AB • T
- Arthur J. Pesja • 1923-2014 • Minneapolis, MN • G
- Mary Ann (Ekberg) Teigen • 1936-2014 • Edina, MN • NH



Albert Holman



Tony Lofstrom



Mattilde Mjaatveit

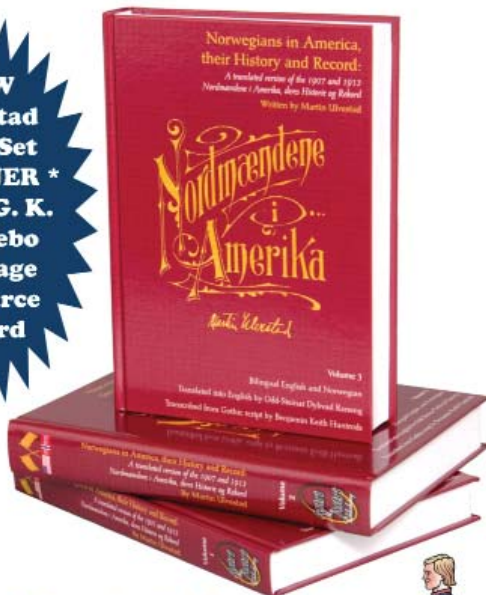


Arthur Pejsa



Mary Ann Teigen

NEW
Ulvestad
3 Vol Set
*** WINNER ***
of the G. K.
Haukebo
Heritage
Resource
Award



Astri My Astri Publishing
 Deb Nelson Gourley
 602 3rd Ave SW
 Waukon, IA 52172
 Phone: 563-568-6229
 gourleydeb@gmail.com
 http://www.astrimyastri.com



Thursday, 7 August

Time	Event	Location
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Gudbrandsdalslag Membership Meeting	Husky
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration Desk Open	Hallway
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Vendor Displays Open	State
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Opening Ceremony – Emcee: Tre Lag 2014 Chair, Dick Lundgren; Call of the Lur - Gene Nelson; National Anthems of Canada, Norway, and the US; Video remembrance of Lag Members who have recently passed away (music recorded by Chris Falteisek); Welcome from the Lag Presidents and the Fellesraad	
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	Keynote Lecture: Post Civil War Homesteaders in West Central Minnesota – Taryn Nelson Flolid Illustrating the Norwegian homesteaders' experiences, Flolid will feature the stories of four families who emigrated from Norway and homesteaded in Douglas county, Minnesota after the Civil War, with a brief history of western Minnesota settlement before the war, and events during the Civil War and the Minnesota Indian Uprising of 1862. We'll take a closer look at Douglas County families from Trøndelag, Hedmark, and Gudbrandsdal, and the Urnes brothers who were Civil War Veterans.	 University A
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Break	
10:45 AM - 3:30 PM	Hospitality Room Open Come to eat and kick back and chat with good friends in the Tre Lag Hospitality Suite. ... and please volunteer to serve to work for a 2-hour shift during the Stevne: welcome guests, keep the plates full, making coffee (instruction provided!), and tidy, up as needed. Sign up in the hospitality room..	 Husky
10:45 AM - 9:00 PM	Genealogy Lab Open	 Grand Ballroom
11:00 AM - 11:05 AM	Welcome From St. Cloud Mayor, Dave Kleis	Univ A
11:05 AM - 12:05 PM	Seminar: The Norwegian Constitution – John Christianson What happened on the 17 of May 1814 that was so important we're still celebrating it today—200 years later? How did those events of 1814 affect the lives of our ancestors in Gudbrandsdal, Hedmark, and Trøndelag? This talk and the PowerPoint illustrations will examine why Norway has never recovered from what happened that day, and how it has affected us in America as the descendants of those who lived through the great changes of 1814 in Norway and may have taken part in those events or known some of the leading participants.	 University A
12:05 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch (<i>on your own</i>)	

An Evening Concert of Nordic Music

***In Concert: Helen Scherer, Chris Falteisek, Maf Berg,
Katherine Pedersen and Louise Lang***

Master of Ceremonies: Marv Lang

Thursday Night - 7:00 PM

Thursday, 7 August






1:30 PM - 4:00 PM	<p>Hardangersom Klubb - Informal Workshop - Ginny Nelson</p> <p>If you're curious, come see. If you're a "stitcher", come stitch. Bring your finished pieces for display, sharing and passing on the heritage. Miscellaneous supplies are furnished. Beginners are welcome!</p>		Boardroom
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<p>Seminar: Senator Knute Nelson: Norwegian Immigrant and American Political Success – Gary Lund</p> <p>History buff, Gary Lund, steps into the role of Senator Knute Nelson and brings the persona of this interesting Norwegian-American to life - taking us from Nelson's very humble beginnings through to his inspirational success in the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and National political scenes.</p>		University A
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Coffee and Refreshment Break - Visit Vendors		Poolside
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<p>Seminar: Settlements in West Central Minnesota; Church Record Project, including the early visitation of Pastor Nils Brandt in 1869 – Blaine Hedberg</p> <p>Blaine Hedberg will fill us in on a project he is working on. He's been indexing Norwegian Lutheran church records from West Central Minnesota, connecting them back to the 1880 census and to the birth records of the children – and then, by tying them back to earlier settlements they passed through and birth records in early settlements in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota, looking for family settlement patterns. He'll also mention a few things about Nils Brandt's early visit to Minnesota, whose ministerial acts here in 1869 are recorded only in Brandt's handwritten notes.</p>		University A
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Dinner (<i>on your own</i>)		
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Tre Lag Musicians Practice Session		University A
	Evening Entertainment Option		
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	<p>An Evening Concert of Nordic Music</p> <p>In Concert: Louise Lang, Helen Scherer, Maf Berg, Katherine Pedersen and Chris Falteisek Emcee: Marv Lang</p> <p>Join us for an evening of music and song. Enjoy the sweet sounds, both familiar and new, of musical selections sure to appeal to the heart of anyone with Nordic roots.</p>		University A



Friday, 8 August

Time	Event	Location
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Membership Meeting	Univ B
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration Desk Open	Hallway
8:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Genealogy Lab Open	Grand Ballroom
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Vendor Displays Open	State
9:00 AM - 2:15 PM	Hospitality Room Open	Husky
9:00 AM - 11:15 AM	<p>Hardangersom Klubb - Informal Workshop – Ginny Nelson If you're curious, come see. If you're a "stitcher", come stitch. Bring your finished pieces for display, sharing and passing on the heritage. Miscellaneous supplies are furnished. Beginners are welcome!</p>	 Boardroom
9:15 AM - 10:15 AM	Concurrent Seminars	
	<p>Seminar: Norwegian Reciprocal Troop Exchange – Colonel Scott St. Sauver Initiated in 1974, the Norwegian Reciprocal Troop Exchange (NOREX) is the longest-running military exchange partnership between any two nations. Norwegian Home Guard Soldiers stay and train at Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Minnesota National Guard Soldiers and Airmen conduct training operations with the Norwegian Home Guard and stay with Norwegian families. The yearly exchange promotes good will and sharpens military readiness between the nations as well as provides opportunities for cultural understanding.</p>	 University A
	<p>Seminar: Lapland, How Can People Live So Far North? – Chris Falteisek and Birgitta Åryd Chris and Birgitta give an insight to the land of the <i>Sámi</i> people, where mining and the railway system changed their lives, leaving their cultural traditions and lifestyles untouched. Today Lapland is a multicultural society where the <i>Sámi</i> people are part of the Swedish, Finish, Norwegian & Russian lands. Chris and Birgitta will introduce you to Lapland – a land of deep forests, high mountains, lots of clean lakes and rivers, the Midnight Sun, the Northern Lights and the <i>Sámi</i> culture which was originally centered around reindeer herding.</p>	 University B
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Break: Visit the Hospitality Suite and Vendor Displays	
10:45 AM - 11:45 AM	Concurrent Seminars	
	<p>Seminar: Building a House History in West Central Minnesota: Was My Childhood Home a Hospital? – Elaine Hasleton The research on Elaine's childhood home in Alexandria, Minn began years after her Grandmother, Ella Toft Helgeson, mentioned that she thought this house might have been the hospital where her little brother, Paul Toft, died in 1895. What she uncovered and the sources she checked are very intriguing!</p>	 University A
	<p>Seminar: What, You're Not Interested in Genealogy? – Chris Falteisek Chris' presentation will give you a new perspective on how to present your family's history and pique interest of family members who are not interested in genealogy. He'll focus on his Hedmark, Gudbrandsdal & Akershus ancestors, his visit to Norway, and how he organizes his pictures and documents. The presentation will include a musical slideshow of pictures from his trip to Norway, a music video celebrating the life of his Norwegian/Swedish grandmother, a video of Haakon Lawrence – a Wisconsin photographer from Trondheim and through storytelling and pictures, he will give you a window on the lives of these Norwegian immigrants and how he is preserving their heritage</p>	 University B

Friday, 8 August

Time	Event	Location
11:45 AM - 1:15 PM	Lunch (<i>on your own</i>)	
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM	Concurrent Seminars	
	<p>Seminar: Kjære Sigrid – Letters From an immigrant Trunk – Sandra Hendrickson Sigrid Haagensdatter Børset immigrated in 1914 and died in 1927. During her years in America she maintained a letter correspondence with friends and family at home. Over 100 of the letters she received were stored in her America trunk for nearly a century. In 2011 the box of letters was opened and this marked the beginning of a two year project between Sigrid's nephew in Norway and her granddaughter in America. The letters were deciphered, transcribed, translated and entered into a book. This class discusses the project and looks at everyday life during World War I, the Spanish flu epidemic and other events of that period.</p>	 University A
	<p>Seminar: Rosemaling– Clarice Dieter Clarice has been rosemaling since 1977, when she first took a community education class in Morris, Minnesota. Since that time she has taken many rosemaling classes from artists in Norway as well as from Vesterheim Gold Medalists. She paints and teaches in the Telemark, Os, Agder, Valdres, and Hallingdal styles and will show and explain the different styles of Rosemaling.</p>	 University B
2:15 PM - 2:45 PM	Coffee and Refreshment Break - Visit Vendors	Poolside
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM	<p>Seminar: A Postcard History of St. Cloud – Harold Zosel As an avid delitologist (someone who collects and researches postcards) Harold Zosel recently published a book on St. Cloud postcards. The postcards show building and street scenes that are long gone or so changed that they are almost unrecognizable. Through postcards, meet Samuel Pandolfo, who decided to build an automobile here in 1917 and learn about the tin can chair and the "great wall" of the St. Cloud Reformatory.</p>	 University A
5:15 PM - 6:15 PM	Hospitality Hour	Grand Ballroom
5:15 PM - 5:30 PM	Group Photo: Gudbrandsdal Lag	 TBA
5:30 PM - 5:45 PM	Group Photo: Trønderlag	
5:45 PM - 6:00 PM	Group Photo: Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag	
6:15 PM - 8:30 PM	<p>Stevne Banquet Emcee: Gary Olson Music: Chris Falteisek Bunad Parade Entertainment: Ventriloquist, Kevin Doely</p>	  Grand Ballroom





Gudbrandsdal Lag National - Oconomowoc, Wisconsin - 2013

- Front row:** Sylvia Falteisek, Joy Haugan Williams , Jim Olson, Chris Falteisek, Blaine Hedberg.
- Row 2:** Shirley Ball, Shirley Schoenfeld, Marlene Lien, Les Floeter, Dick Lundgren, Anne Haugan, Linda Lowry, Elaine Domier
- Row 3:** Nancy Olson, Crystal Bloecher, Louise Lang, Ruth Grau, Mary Martin, Marilee Mortenson, Peg Schellin, Edith Syftestad, Marilyn Sorensen, Vicky Finstad
- Row 4:** Dorothy Zimmerman, Marv Lang, Kathy Wilson Mork, Barbara Howard, Alice Alderman, Katherine Howard, Helen Scherer, Ginny Wegenast, Sandy Aune
- Row 5:** Larry Sizemore, Karen Sizemore, Kathy Pedersen, Hanard Lien, Darlene Paulson, Gordon Paulson, Ken Domier
- Back row:** Marsha Alderman, Jan Floeter, Bruce Willis, Joel Botten, Ed Scherer, Mark Mortenson, Gary Romsaas, Gerald Hanson



Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag - Oconomowoc, Wisconsin - 2013

Front row: John Reindl, Joy Williams, Bob Christensen, Dixie Hansen, Chris Falteisek.

Row 2: Shirley Schoenfeld, Virginia Sem, Irma Krogstad, Joy Shong, Ginny Nelson, Linda Lowry, Elaine Domier.

Row 3: Sylvia Falteisek, Marlene Lien, Gay Kearin, Birgitta Åryd, Shirley Ball, Eunice Ellifson, Doris Modahl, Marilyn Sorensen, Vicky Finstad.

Row 4: Judy Mathison, Sonja Olmanson, Chuck Laehn, Lois Laehn, Gilmore Sem, Roy Modahl, Sandy Aune.

Row 5: Keith Olmanson, Gene Nelson, Louise Lang, Hanard Lien, Ken Domier.

Row 6: Ron Helstad, Rollie Krogstad, Dave Kearin

Back row: Bud Helstad, Marv Lang, Ray Olson, David Oyen, Glen Brandvold, Gary Romsas.



Trønderlag of America - Oconomowoc, Wisconsin - 2013

- Front row:** Blaine Hedberg, Marlene Lien, Virginia Sem, Robert Fossum, Robin Fossum, Carolyn Lyle, Elaine Domier
- Second row:** Shannah Gillespie, Trudy DeKeuster, Marcia Petree, Mary Martin, Carolyn Satrum, Linda Schwartz, Joy Haugan Williams, August "Gus" Haugan, Sandy Aune
- Third row:** Doug Gillespie, Karen Mullen, Louise Lang, Nancy Hawkinson, Art Hawkinson, Hanard Lien, Gilmore Sem, Ken Domier
- Fourth row:** Larry Sizemore, Karen Sizemore, Valerie Pearson, Barry Dahl, Susan Westhoff, Kathy Pedersen
- Back row:** Bruce Willis, Marv Lang, Jon Satrum, Ray Olson, Jon Pederson

As New immigrants Arrive in Central Minnesota, the Sense of Community Evolves

by Caitlin Yilek (cyilek@stcloudtimes.com)

The following article about past and present immigration and settlement in central Minnesota was originally published in the St Cloud Times on March 15, 2014. It is reprinted here with the permission of (and with our grateful thanks to) the author, Caitlin Yilek, and the publishers of Times Media and St. Cloud Times.

Think back to the mid to late 1800s and the early 1900s when our Norwegian immigrant ancestors came to the US in search of new opportunities and faced the challenges of “fitting in.” The past and present inform each other and lead to greater understanding.

Central Minnesota's German heritage is just as thick as some of the accents that remain in the families that settled here decades ago.

But as a new wave of immigrants plants roots in Central Minnesota, Germans are losing their reign.

Thirty-nine percent of Benton, Stearns and Sherburne County residents reported having German heritage, according to three-year estimates from American Community Survey data collected between 2010 and 2012.

That's down 1 percent from the three-year estimate for 2007-09.

“Ever since the end of the Vietnam War ... we had a good population of Vietnamese coming here,” said John Decker, director of archives at Stearns History Museum. “Hispanic was the next wave. Now Somalis have come in the last 15 years.”

Almost 32 percent of the foreign-born population in Benton, Stearns and Sherburne counties comes from eastern Africa, according to ACS estimates for 2008-12. Twenty-six percent are from Latin America, and 32.5 percent were born in Asia.

Central Minnesota is taking a new cultural shape, yet many of the struggles immigrants and their families face are similar.

German heritage

The Weber family, who eventually settled in a farmhouse in St. Martin Township, was part of the first significant influx of immigrants to Central Minnesota.

Most of the immigrants were of German-Catholic descent and began to arrive in the 1850s, according to Stearns County's website.

Jerome Weber says his great-great-grandfather and his two brothers arrived in Chicago in the 1850s. Before settling in St. Cloud, the trio had a short stint in Wisconsin.

One of the brothers went into the brick business. He had a contract to build the first courthouse in St. Cloud, Weber said. Another brother opened a clothing business. Weber says his family lost track of the third brother after he moved to Duluth.

Later generations of the Webers stayed in Central Minnesota — like many German families — and the area

became known as being predominately German.

“When my dad was 12 years old, his mother said, ‘We have to find work for the kids,’ ” Weber said. “They bought a farm (in St. Martin), and I'm still living on that farm. It was bought in 1910, and I'm still living here.”

Twenty years later, the Great Depression hit.

“This farm was a 240-acre farm, and in the Depression years, my grandfather had to sell 120 acres in order to keep the farm,” Weber said. “In 1934, when it was so dry ... we had a hard time keeping the cattle alive, and we came through it by selling 120 acres.”

Weber, 89, still owns the 120 acres.

Refuge in Minnesota

Many German immigrants left Europe seeking better economic opportunity, or political or religious freedom. The opportunities in farming convinced many to stay in Central Minnesota.

Decades later, people of Asian, Latino and African descent found refuge in Minnesota after leaving harsh political environments.

After the collapse of Somalia's central government in 1991, political turmoil in the country pushed many Somalis to flee.

Mohamoud Mohamed, executive director of St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Organization, says Somali refugees came to Minnesota because of necessity.

“The necessity was they were fleeing from their war-torn country,” Mohamed said. “And they spent time in refugee camps, which was (a) very hard, harsh experience.”

Mohamed spent almost eight years in refugee camps; some of his family members are still living in such camps in Kenya. People resettled without having housing, sanitation or much else. The food and privacy were limited.

“The safety was zero,” he said.

The St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Organization assists refugees in finding housing or with social services.

Mohamed said some of the people they help have been living in refugee camps for 20 years and arrive in Minnesota with nothing but the clothes they are wearing.

Mayuli Bales, executive director of Casa Guadalupe in Cold

Spring, said some Latinos flee their countries of origin because of violence and war.

"There is (little) respect for human rights," Bales said.

But many are also leaving for the job prospects in Central Minnesota.



Charlie's Cafe server Whitney Toenies delivers plates of ethnic German food to Steve and Diane Stenerson of Rothsay. Central Minnesota is still strongly influenced by its German heritage, although the demographics are changing. / Kimm Anderson, kanderson@stcloudtimes.com

Why Minnesota?

Bales said wages and job opportunities play an important role in where immigrants end up.

Meatpacking plants and the agricultural industry in Central Minnesota are a big draw, she said, especially for refugees or immigrants who may be illiterate.

Stephen Phillion, a professor of sociology at St. Cloud State University and chairman of the Greater Minnesota Worker Center, said the area's influx in immigrants is partly shaped by employers who need workers.

The availability of work also spreads by word of mouth.

"Earlier generations of immigrants from Norway, from Germany, from Sweden were hearing stories from relatives about the availability of work, the availability of land," Phillion said. "Likewise, whether we're talking about Somalis ... whether we're talking about Latinos, they are hearing stories from persons who have settled here and found work and about the availability (of jobs)."

After spending much of his childhood in refugee camps in Kenya, Abdul Kulane found refuge in Ohio.

His cousin invited Kulane to live with him in St. Cloud. "He said he could help me until I buy my own car, until I get my

life together," Kulane said. "That's the reason many people ended up here in Minnesota."

Kulane started working at New Flyer; he enrolled at classes at St. Cloud Technical & Community College and later transferred to St. John's University.

He said he lived with his cousin for three months before he was self-sufficient and has since had the opportunity to help others in need of guidance.

Kulane founded Language Bank LLC, an interpretation and translation company, and also is an activist in the community.

Learning the language

Language barriers are another struggle for immigrants. Many know very little, if any, English when arriving in Central Minnesota.

Though Jerome Weber and his sister Helen were born in Central Minnesota, their family continued to speak German as a first language.

"When I went to school, the teachers were pretty mad about (me speaking German)," Jerome

said. "I knew very little English. When we were out in the playgrounds and we were talking German, the teachers would take us into the school and made us write 100 times 'I must speak English.'"

He learned English quickly after that.

Helen, 76, also learned English in school but was spared from writing sentences. As she advanced in school, her class had to help a non-German-speaking teacher communicate with the younger students who hadn't yet learned English.

"One of our teachers in third, fourth and fifth grade was Irish, and she did not understand German, so we had to help her with the first-graders," Helen said. "It didn't take very long and they knew English."

Bales said learning English is a big obstacle for first-generation immigrants.

Kulane acknowledged that knowing English in Central Minnesota is a necessity. Without the means to go to school, many adults are struggling to learn English.

"Many adults don't have the option to go to school because they have to provide for the family," he said. "English becomes secondary."

The perceptions

As immigrant and refugee groups continue to trickle in to Central Minnesota, their customs and traditions will help shape Minnesota’s future.

Yet, as the Germans experienced decades ago, there are still negative perceptions about these newcomers.

“Germans were certainly perceived as a problem because they were Catholic,” Phillion said. “They were also perceived as a problem by some because they weren’t English-speaking. In similar ways, in harsher ways, later generations of immigrants in town are regarded by (some natives) as a threat.”

“People often forget their ancestors’ struggles and are very quick to judge,” Kulane said. Those struggles, Phillion said, are best overcome by uniting.

Germans, Swedes and Norwegians didn’t have as great cultural differences among them as Americans with European heritage today have with Somalis or Latinos, but there were real frictions that made it difficult for them “to organize in a way that empowered them all,” Phillion said.

Kulane said he hears at mainstream community events that immigrants don’t necessarily want to integrate into the community.

“What else do you want if I work, I send my kids to school, (I’m) paying rent and being a good, ethical citizen?” Kulane said.

Phillion points to a fear of getting to know people who are different as a driving factor behind these perceptions.

“If the mainstream community is defensive, there is no way (immigrants) can integrate,” Kulane said. “Let’s talk about it. Let’s be a community.”

PLACE OF BIRTH AREAS FOR FOREIGN-BORN RESIDENTS

Of Benton, Stearns and Sherburne counties



SOURCE: 2008-12 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

TOTAL ANCESTRY REPORTED



*Includes parts of Asia, Africa, Latin America

NOTE: Does not include all ancestries.

SOURCES: 2007-09 American Community Survey 3-year estimates; 2010-12 American Community Survey 3-year estimates

GRAPHIC BY LISA MUELLER, LMUELLER@STCLOUDTIMES.COM

@ 2014, St. Cloud Times, reprinted with permission



Vendors and Crafts

Julie Olsen Backus
Lena and Ole's Gifts
405 315th St
Wilson, Wisconsin 54027
414-745-4362
jewelsdi@yahoo.com
Gifts



Diane Hoven
760 Florence St
Baldwin, Wisconsin 54002
715-684-3137
Hardanger embroidery



Karen Mullen and Char Peters
Loppemarked Boutique
521 S 58th St
Omaha, NE 68106
402-312-6067
fraumullen@yahoo.com
Pre-owned one-of-a-kinds!



Judy Davis
Rosemal in Rogaland Style
11002 460th Street
Wanamingo, Minnesota 55983
507-824-2517
Rosemaling

James B. Olson
Weathervane Antiques & Books
3016 South 10th Ave
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105
605-332-1321
jimolson@iw.net
Norwegian genealogy books
and resources



Deb Nelson Gourley
Astri My Astri Publishing
602 3rd Ave SW
Waukon, Iowa 52172
563-568-6229
gourleydeb@gmail.com
Books



Shirley A. Strom
507 Bluebird Court
Sartell, Minnesota 56377
320-253-9648
shirley.strom@att.net
Photography

Saturday, 9 August

Time	Event	Location
7:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Frokost - Breakfast with a Norwegian Flair Join us for a farewell-until-next-year breakfast	Pool Area
7:45 AM - 9:00 AM	Trønderlag Membership Meeting	Husky
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Antiques Roadshow Appraisals – Professional Appraisers, Jim Marrinan and Bonnie Lindberg Come as a spectator or come to have your antique object appraised. Do you still have that old object/artifact around that you've always wondered what it's called, what it's used for, or where it came from? Is it worth anything? This is the opportunity to find out! Objects (Scandinavian or otherwise) will be appraised for a Stevne donation of \$10 each and the appraisers (of Appraisal Specialists Midwest) will share their knowledge about the artifacts that are brought in. (See your Lag newsletter for guidelines on what types of objects can be appraised).	University A



*Safe Travels...and see you next year at Tre Lag 2015
IMPORTANT: Before you leave...please turn in your Stevne evaluation!!*



James B. Olson Weathervane Antiques and Books

3016 South 10th Avenue
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105

Phone: 605-332-1321
E-mail: jimolson@midco.net

Jim Olson, Owner

Specializing in resources for
Norwegian Genealogy;
Norwegian Local History,
Town and County Histories
Antiques and Collectibles

Tre Lag Stevne Music



The Star Spangled Banner



Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free, And the home of the brave

O Canada!

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North strong and free!
From far and wide, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.
God keep our land glorious and free!
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.



Ja, vi elsker dette landet

Rikard Nordraak, melody

Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson, lyrics

Ja, vi elsker dette landet,
Som det stiger frem
Furret vær bitt over vannet
Med de tusen hjem,
Elsker, elsker det og tenker
På vår far og mor
Og den saganatt som senker
Drømmer på vår jord,
Og den saganatt som senker,
Senker drømme på vår jord.
Norske mann i hus og hytte,
takk din store Gud!
Landet vilde han beskytte,
skjønt det mørkt så ut.
Alt hvad fedrene har kjempet,
mødrene har grett,
har den Herre stille lempet
så vi vant vår rett.
har den Herre stille lempet
limpet så vi vant vår rett.



Yes, We Love This Land of Ours

Translation O.O. Lien

Yes, we love this land of ours
As with mountain domes
Storm-lash'd o'er the sea it towers
With the thousand homes.
Love it dearly, ever thinking
Of our father's strife
And the land of Saga sinking,
Dreams upon our life,
And the land of Saga sinking,
Sinking dreams upon our life.
Norsemen, in whatever station,
Thank your mighty God;
He has kindly saved our nation
From oppression's rod.
That for which our sires contended
And our mothers wailed,
Silently the Lord defended
So our rights, our rights prevailed.
Silently the Lord defended
So our rights, our rights prevailed.

Hils fra Meg der Hjemme

(A Sailors' Greeting)

I den stille tause natt
Står jeg her ved skipets ratt,
under himmelens stjernevell,
Ene og forlatt.
Under himmelens høye tak
Høres fjerne vingeslag,
Fugletrekket atter gar
Mot nord, mot lyse vår.

Hils fra meg der hjemme,
Hils min far og mor,
Hils de grønne lier
Og den blanke fjord
Hvis jeg hadde vinger
Fløy jeg hjem med deg
Til de lyse netter,
Hils dem! Hils fra meg!

Greet them All Back Home

On the deck I stand at night,
When the stars above are bright,
Far away from friends and home,
Lonely here I roam.
Swallows on their wings so high,
Now in spring they homeward fly,
To the land where sunlight beams
In to my childhood dreams.

Greet my dear old mother,
Greet my father too,
And my little brother
When he welcomes you.
If I had wings to follow,
Happy would I be.
Dearest little swallow,
Greet them all from me!

I Jesu Navn

I Jesu navn går vi til bords.
Å spise, drikke på ditt ord.
Deg Gud til ære, oss til gagn.
Så får vi mat i Jesu navn.
Amen

Nidelven

Langt i det fjerne bak fjellene blå,
Ligger et sted jeg har kjær.
Dit mine tanker og drømmer vil gå,
Alltid du er meg så nær

Nidelven, stille og vakker du er
Her hvor jeg går og drømmer.
Drømmer om henne jeg hadde så kjær
Nu er det bare minner.

Den gamle bybro er lykkens portal,
Sammen vi seiler i stjernes koral.
Nidelven, stille og vakker du er,
Her hvor jeg går og drømmer.

The Nid River

Far off in the distance behind mountains blue
There lies a place I love dear.
There all my thoughts and dreams wander too
Always you seem to be near.

Nid River beautiful, silent you are,
Here where I walk in dreamland.
Dreaming of her that I love most of all,
Now it is only memories.

The old city bridge is the portal of love,
Together we sailed under stars up above,
Nid River beautiful, silent you are
Here where I walk in dreamland.





Kan Du Glemme Gamle Norge?

Kan du glemme gamle Norge?
Aldri jeg det glemme kan,
: som med stolte kippeborge
er og blir mitt fødeland :

Kan du glemme dette landet
som dig først tok i sin favn?
: Mon du finne vil et annet
med så stolt og herlig navn? :

Kan du glemme Norges skover
med sin furu, birk og gran?
: Kan du glemme sjøens vover,
ald du da forglemme kan. :

How Can Your Forget Old Norway?

How can you forget old Norway,
land of rock and narrow fjord,
: Where the mountains are like castles
stand like sentinels on guard? :

How can you forget old Norway
land of everlasting fame?
: Can you ever find another
with so glorious a name? :

How can you forget old Norway
And its narrow fjords so grand,
: in and out between the mountains?
'Tis my own, my native land. :



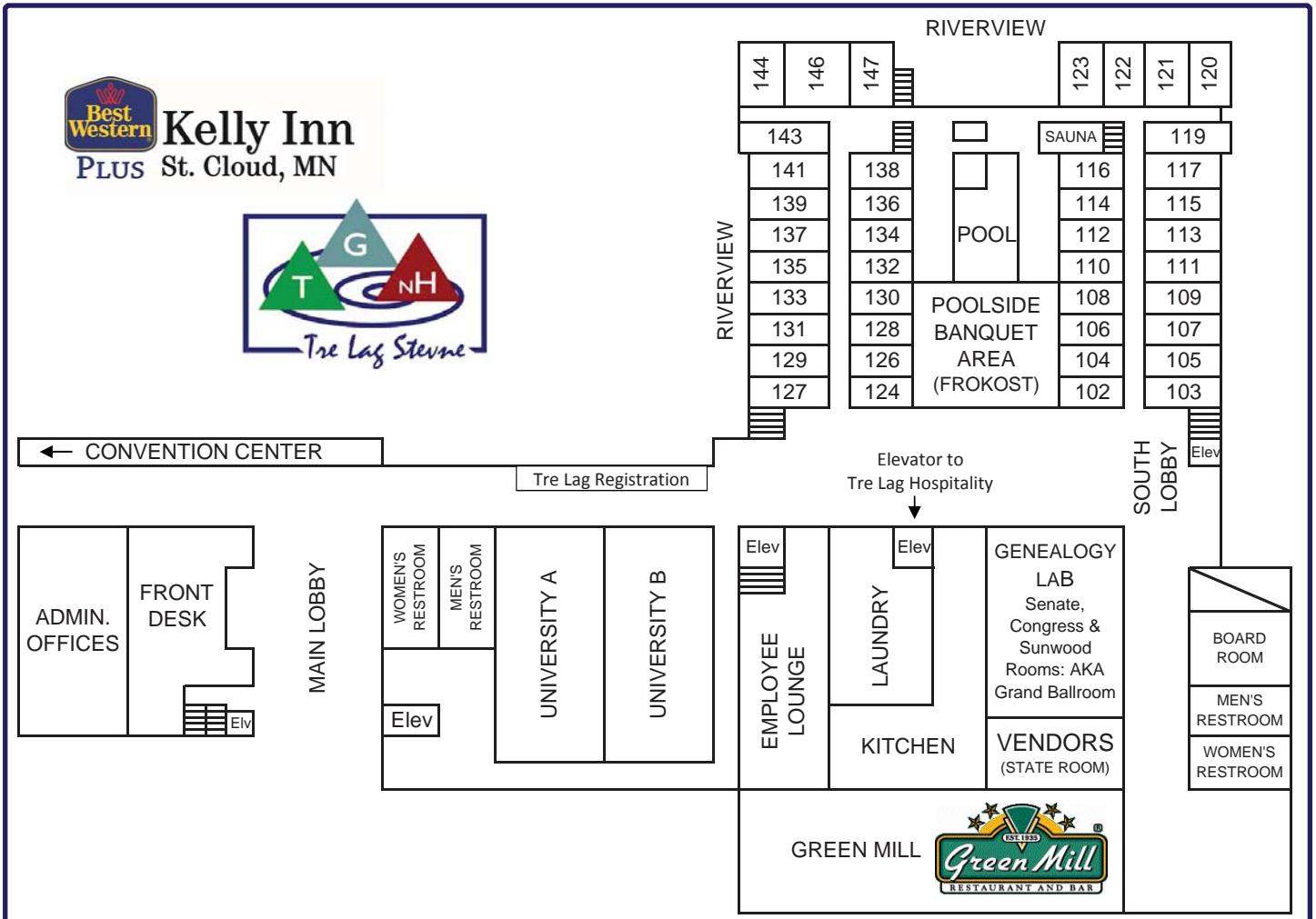
Loppemarked Butikk

(Norwegian for Flea Market Boutique)

Visit our booth this year - We feature pre-owned Norwegian (and other Scandinavian) items, often one-of-a-kind pieces: Rosemaling, Pewter, Sølje & other jewelry, buttons, framed art, Norwegian porcelain, linens + more ...just check us out!

Karen Mullen, Omaha NE

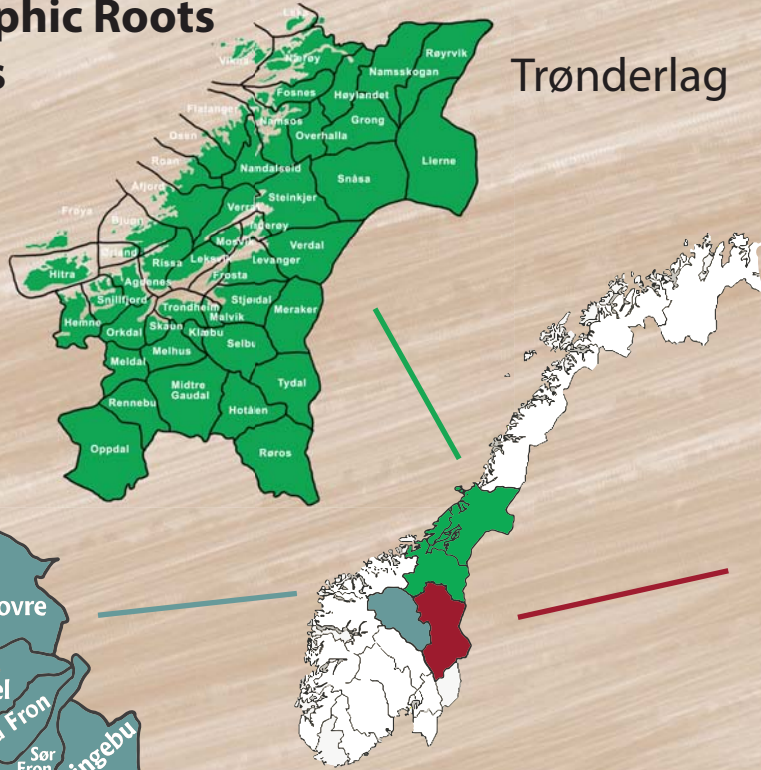
402-312-6067



The Geographic Roots of our 3 lags



Trønderlag



Gudbrandsdal



Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken

Parting Shots...



Before



After



Conjoined Cousins

