

NHOH News

Volume 22 Number 1

Spring 2017

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

2017 Tre-Lag Stevne

August 2-5, 2017

Radisson Hotel



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Poolside - 2 Doubles \$115

To make reservations on-line

www.radisson.com/lacrossewi

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You won't want to miss the tour on Wed., Aug. 2nd. After leaving the Coon Prairie Church, we will drive though the "Coulee" where a lot of tobacco was grown, see the tobacco sheds, as well as seeing the Snowflake Ski place that is world famous on the way to Norskedalen. See page 5. Guides on both buses.

What's Inside?

1. 2017 Stevne Info / and Pres. Letter
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11. Østerdal Lag/ Fellesraad Annual Mtg
12. Membership Application

Fra Presidenten,

In my letter in the last newsletter I wrote about sorting through the genealogy materials amassed by my parents and my desire to preserve and share the information and stories with my family. My motivation for organizing and condensing the information increased after we had a smoky kitchen fire before Christmas. My realization that it all could have been lost had the house burned down added urgency for me to get working on preservation of both the genealogy materials and my photo collections.



All the hard work gathering historical documentation, all the memories captured in our pictures can so easily be lost. Fortunately, there are many digital tools available for copying documents and photos and saving them in a variety of places. Everything does not have to be kept physically with us. As much as I love having the original photos and documents of my ancestors, I have no problem making copies to be saved on my computer, in "the cloud", on discs or removable drives that can be stored in a safe deposit box. Protecting the research and documentation against possible physical destruction is worth the effort.

My advice is to not put a chicken carcass to simmer on the stove to make soup, leave the house and forget it for over four hours. Though you may not set the house on fire, getting the smoke smell out of everything you own will take time away from the pleasure of working on your genealogy and photo files.

On a less personal note, please take a look at all of the good articles in this issue of the newsletter. The Board of Director's met in February and has approved changes to the scholarship program to provide financial support to members attending classes related to Norwegian culture. The Tre-Lag Stevne Steering committee is working hard to prepare for the stevne in La Crosse in August. It's going to be another good one.

Hilsen fra *Joy Shong*



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 Elvedal
Trysil

District 3:

Hedemarken and Hamar

Furnes
Hamar
Løten
Nes
Ringsaker
Romedal
Stange
Vang



Expanded Scholarship Program

Your NHOH Board is expanding the scholarship program to include classes in Norwegian history, language, and culture. Lag members, and members of their extended family, are eligible to receive these scholarships. They will be in the form of reimbursements for fees (tuition) and educational materials and are limited to one hundred dollars (\$100), per class. See page 10

For more detailed information and to download the application form, visit our web site at:

www.nhohlag.org

Members are encouraged to contribute to the newsletter.

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

Send to Editor Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld by e-mail SASLAX@aol.com

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

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.

NHOH Lag Officers & Directors

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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



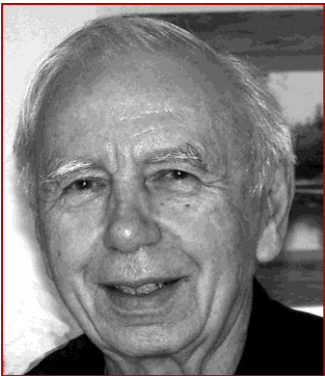
Necrology



Irma B. (Sorensen) Krogstad, age 90, passed away peacefully Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Red Wing, Minn., on Nov. 23, 1926, to the late Frederick and Lillian Sorensen.

Rollie and Irma were avid travelers and Badgers fans. They enjoyed camping, taking cruises, attending sporting events, including several Badger Bowl games. Over their years of traveling, they managed to visit all 50 State Capitals and almost all Wisconsin State Parks. Rollie and Irma also enjoyed working on family history.

Irma leaves behind her loving husband of 69 years, Roland; sons, James (Jill), Gary (Laura), Ronald (Karen), and Kevin (Jane); grandchildren, Amy, Matt, Katy, Andy (fiancée, Courtney), Kristina (Kaleb) and Alena; step-grandchildren, Kyle (Stephanie), Sara (Doug), Eric, and Ryan; her one and only great-grandchild, Elisha; sister, Lois Sargent; and brother, Norman Sorensen. She was preceded in death by her parents and daughter, Pamela.



Lester Herbert Floeter, age 88, of Prairie du Sac, Wis., passed away on Jan. 3, 2017. Les was born on Jan 15, 1928, to Albert A. and Anne E. (Kohnke) Floeter in Westfield, Wis. He graduated from Westfield High School in 1947. On June 6, 1970, he married Janet Sperstad.

Les is survived by his wife, Janet of Prairie du Sac; daughter, Kristin (Ryan) King of Prairie du Sac; grandsons, Tyler, Kyle, Andrew, and Jason; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Anna Floeter; brothers, Arnold Floeter and Marvin Floeter; and sister, Sadie (Floeter) La Rock.

Our sincere sympathy to Jan. Les and Jan came to most of the stevnes

A message from the Fellesraad 100 year celebration in photos

See what the Norwegian-American 100th Celebration of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad 2016 was like. 38 Minutes. <https://youtu.be/PuGQ4vkOqRU>

Any one that belongs to lags or friends may go to fellersraad and download many of the photos in the video. **HD Photo collage of the 100 year Celebration of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad in America** (umbrella organization for the Bygdelag).

<http://www.fellesraad.com>



Keith Nolan Olmanson was born at St. Peter MN on July 28, 1929 to Bennett and Helen Olmanson. He graduated from St. Peter High School in 1946. He attended Bethany Lutheran Junior College in Mankato and Northwestern Lutheran College in Watertown WI. He graduated from Bethany Lutheran Seminary in 1955. His first call was to the Jerico-Saude parish in Iowa.

There he met Sonja Johnson who became his wife in August of 1957.

As a pastor, he served several congregations: Messiah in Eau Claire WI; Faith in Nicollet MN; Salem in Eagle Lake MN; Immanuel in Mankato MN, and Faith in New Ulm MN. After his retirement, he served as vacancy pastor for various lengths of time, in Texas, Florida, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

He enjoyed reading, gardening, hunting, fishing, watching football and other sports. He belonged to a local Norwegian club and also two Norwegian Lags. Keith translated his great-grandfather's letters, written in Norwegian, while serving in the Civil War, and had them published in a book. He and Sonja had the opportunity to visit relatives in Norway twice, and also traveled throughout the U.S.A. during summer vacations.

Keith is survived by his wife, eight children: Karl, Daniel, Andrew, Marie, Paula, Amy, John, Rachel, their spouses, twenty-two grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. His surviving siblings are; Duane, Hope, Omar, Carol and Leif, their spouses, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Evan...



The Radisson from the river at night

New American Embassy in Oslo

Norway's new American Embassy, currently under construction in Huseby, a western suburb of Oslo, will be completed by the end of the year.

Designed by New York's EYP Architecture & Engineering, the five-building campus features a chancery, underground annex, Marine security guard quarters and three entry pavilions. Workspaces in the building will support a staff of 200 employees. Planned outdoor spaces take cues from Norwegian design principles by utilizing the area's mature trees and stream to meld the new building with the natural landscape.

Serving an important and unique function, the new embassy site and building plans had to meet a number of key requirements. The previous building's location near Oslo's city center is dense and highly trafficked and posed security challenges. In addition, the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Overseas Building Operations issued a new list of guiding principles in 2011 which required that consulates and embassies be both "safe and functional and inspiring places for the conduct of diplomacy and ... a facility that represents the best of American architecture, design, engineering and construction." In essence, buildings must be aesthetically beautiful and meet high security and safety requirements. In respect of these principles, architects sought inspiration

from local materials, utilizing white Norwegian granite on the building's façade and a copper roof, inspired by the Norwegian copper utilized in the Statue of Liberty.

In addition to design and safety considerations, sustainability and energy efficiency were also at the forefront of plans for the project. The new embassy will qualify for a Silver Certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and energy needs for the building will be met almost entirely by renewable energy sources.

To learn more and to see plans of the building, visit <http://ey-paedesign.com/design-diplomacy>

Norway welcomes USMC

The U.S. Marine Corps will establish a limited rotational force presence of approximately 330 Marines in Vaernes, Norway beginning in January 2017. The US initiative to augment their training and exercises in Norway by locating a Marine Corps Rotational Force in Norway is highly welcome and will have positive implications for our already strong bilateral relationship, says Defence Minister Ine Eriksen Søreide.

The United States is a long term and close ally to Norway. US participation in military exercises and training in Norway is one element in this long-standing and close security policy relationship.

...The Norway Post - October 24, 2016

History of the Selbu Mitten

Norway is renowned for its woolen knitwear with intricate multi-color patterns. One of the country's national symbols is the Selbuvott or Selbu mitten named for a small town near Trondheim. This type of mitten has the unusual distinction of having traceable origins to its original designer.

The story goes that in 1857, milkmaid Marit Emstad (born Guldset in 1841) was asked to knit some black and white socks for the farmer on the property where she worked. She did, and also stitched some two-color mittens for herself and her sister, using an åttebladsrose, or eight-point star rose. On a whim, the girls wore their eye-catching mittens to church, causing quite a stir. Soon everyone wanted to learn how to make them. This style caught on from farm to farm, spreading around Norway and to other countries in Europe.

The mittens were originally black and white, though other colors eventually came into fashion. Each knitter personalized the design to suit the recipient, often naming the new patterns after the farmstead or items in their daily lives: Kallarstrø-rose, the Heggset-rose, the Coffee-Pot-rose, the Tree-rose. While there are over a thousand

mitten and glove patterns from Selbu, the eight point star-rose pattern known as the "Selbu rose" prevails as the favorite. This pattern is often erroneously referred to as a snowflake design in English.

Although the two-strand technique had previously been used in Telemark, it was the Selbu rose and the mitten in particular that was eventually considered "typically Norwegian."

Prior to the 20th Century, mittens were only given as personal gifts and could not be purchased, but the town of Selbu harnessed the popularity of the mittens to pull themselves out of economic hardship. The mittens have been a major export since 1900 with help from the trend of downhill skiing between wars. The majority of Selbu mittens still bear the original star-rose motif that Marit Emstad designed 150 years ago.

In 2010, the Selbu Husflidlag (craft group) knitted the world's largest Selbu mitten and later discovered that you need to make a pair to qualify for a world record. It took three years and 45 people to knit the first 8 foot (2.4 m) long mitten. A second mitten was added by 2014 when the knitters claimed their record.



Norwegian Reindeer Moss: Plant of Many Uses

By Rebecca Swanson on Sons of Norway blog

Did you know that Norway is a worldwide supplier of a natural material central to crafts and interior décor projects around the world?

The botanical name of the plant is Cladonia



Stellaris, but it is popularly known as Norwegian reindeer moss (technically, a lichen).

One company reports selling 32,000 square meters of the

moss in 2016, with 85% being exported from Rendalen to locales in South Korea, Italy, the United States and beyond.

Harvested largely from Norway's vast Eastern valleys, the moss can be used in a variety of applications for crafts and home décor. From model train displays and terrariums, to framed wall art and vertical gardens, the moss is used to bring the outdoors inside and to evoke a fresh, natural and calming feel. The moss is sometimes tinted to blend with a home or businesses' interior, with colors such as pacific green, sienna and burgundy comprising the palette of available colors. The processed moss is widely available from online and retail outlets.

Reindeer moss grows in lush mats over large areas of the ground. It is slow-growing and sustainably harvested by hand to minimize impact on the local environment and forest animals. The moss is specially treated to maintain softness, and manufacturers keep inventory in cool, climate controlled storage. The moss is often treated with preservatives to ensure fire resistance.

More than just a pretty plant Long before reindeer moss was used for decorative purposes, it sustained the reindeer population, which is how the lichen's name originated. It is also reported that during World War II, Norwegian resistance forces survived by eating reindeer moss when enduring long periods of time in the snow-covered wilderness.

Although containing a good bit of vitamin C, the lichen was barely palatable. It was either dug up and cooked with fire ash or retrieved from the bellies of dead reindeer to be cooked and re-consumed by the resistance fighters.

Whether to feed reindeer, beautify homes or sustain outdoor survivalists, Norwegian reindeer moss has proven to be a unique and useful national asset!

Benrud Chapel Norskedalen

1886



The little white Benrud Chapel at Norskedalen had been the Trinity Lutheran Church in Sparta WI, then was converted to a rental, until it was moved in two big sections to Norskedalen – where the Benrud family reconstructed it as it was in **1886**. Julie Backus, who was the president of the Benrud group when they brought it to Norskedalen, will be there for the tour of this chapel.

Country Coon Prairie Church near Westby



Blaine Hedberg will be our guide at this church where many of the oldest Westby area settlers are buried. This is part of our tour on Wednesday, August 2nd.

The paperclip as a symbol of resistance during World War II.



In April of 1940, just a few months into World War II, Adolf Hitler knew that he needed a way to break past the Allied blockade of Germany if he had a hope of winning the war. He set his sights on Norway—a risky endeavor, but control of Norwegian waters would make transporting goods into Germany a little bit easier. Norway had declared itself neutral in the conflict, but Hitler wasn't about to let a little thing like neutrality stop him from getting what he wanted.

After a few months of struggle, the Germans successfully began their occupation of Norway, driving Allied troops out. The Norwegian royal family and government were also driven away, forced to conduct business from exile in England. Meanwhile, the people of Norway lived under German rule.

With the real Norwegian government out of the way, the Germans attempted to strip away Norway's culture and replace it with Nazi ideals. Norwegian teachers were told to join the Nazi Party and teach Nazism in classrooms, and the church was told to teach obedience to the leader and the state.

Anti-Jewish legislation was passed, culminating in the deportation of 700 Norwegian Jews to Auschwitz. Mass executions were not unheard of, though most were done on a smaller scale in comparison to the horrific events taking place in certain other areas of Europe. The people of Norway also had to deal with German soldiers day in and day out for five years. By 1945, some 400,000 German troops were operating in Norway, controlling the population of about 4 million people.

It was in the autumn of 1940 when students at Oslo University started wearing paperclips on their lapels as a non-violent symbol of resistance, unity, and national pride.

Symbols related to the royal family and state had already been banned, and they wanted a clever way of displaying their rejection of the Nazi ideology. In addition to wearing a single paperclip, paperclip bracelets and other types of jewelry were fashioned as well, symbolically binding Norwegians together in the face of such adversity.

Why the paperclip? Besides the idea of binding things together, it's thought the paperclip was chosen as a symbol of resistance in part because many people incorrectly believed that the inventor of the paperclip was Johan Vaaler, a Norwegian man. Vaaler was granted a patent for his paperclip in Germany as well as the United States in 1901, though didn't apply for a patent in his native Norway.

The problem was, he didn't really invent the thing we call a paperclip, and that paperclip (the Gem paperclip) was around and very popular throughout Europe before Vaaler came up with his design.

Vaaler's paperclip had the papers inserted by lifting the outer wire slightly and pushing the papers into the clip such that the rest of the clip stood out from the paper at around a 90 degree angle, which was necessary because of the lack of the critical second loop to allow the papers to be more or less embedded in the clip flatly.

Vaaler's design also made it so the papers wouldn't be held together very well as they relied only on how bend-able the wire used was to hold the papers. The double looped Gem style paperclip, on the other hand, exploits the tor-sion principle to help bind papers together.

Vaaler's design was never manufactured nor sold and his patents eventually expired. Nevertheless, many an encyclopedia falsely credits him as the inventor of the paperclip and the 23 foot tall statue (pictured above) was made in his honor in 1989, even though it shows the Gem paperclip, instead of the one Vaaler came up with. Further, a commemorative stamp was created honoring Vaaler that also depicted the Gem style paperclip, not Vaaler's design.

Nevertheless, the idea that the paperclip was invented by a Norwegian man was prevalent and the fact that paperclips bound things together and were cheap, readily available, and not out of place made it seemingly the perfect symbol for non-violent, subtle resistance in Norway.

In time, the Germans caught on to the fact that the paperclip was being used as a symbol of resistance and wearing a paperclip promptly became a criminal offense.



Johan Vaaler, a Norwegian inventor, designed a paperclip in 1899 which was patented in Germany and the USA in 1901. However his design, pictured below, was impractical and was never put into production.



Sven: I'd like some lefse.

Clerk: Are you Norwegian?

Sven: Vell, yes, but let me ask yew someting. If I asked for Italian sausage, vould yew ask me if I vas Italian? If I asked for bratwurst, vould you ask me if I vas Yerman? If I asked for French bread, vould you ask if I vas French? Vould yew, huh? Vould yew?

Clerk: Well, no.

Sven: Vell, all right den, vhy did you ask me if I'm Norwegian yust because I asked for lefse?

Clerk: Because this is a hardware store.



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.

Membership Renewal Policy

Members need to check the year next to their name on the newsletter address label, especially on the fall newsletter.

Reminders will 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.

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



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>
NHOH Book	_____	\$22.50
Total Enclosed		
Surface Shipping to Norway – add \$5.50		

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523 S. Concord Rd., Oconomowoc, WI 53066



Tobacco Plants



Tobacco Shed at Norskedalen Bekkum Farm

The Homestead Act brought settlers to America

Article from Gudbrandsdalaget Facebook by Edward Wick

“The 150-year-old homestead act lured americans looking for a new life and new opportunities how the west was settled” - Author Greg Bradsher

National Archives and Records <https://www.facebook.com/groups/gudbrandlag/permalink/1334233503307867/>

The Homestead Act, which became law on May 20, 1862, was responsible for helping settle much of the American West such as North Dakota and middle Canada.

When the war for American independence formally ended in 1783, the United States covered more than 512 million acres of land. By 1860, the nation had acquired more than 1.4 billion more acres, much of it in the public domain. How to dispose of the public land was a question that Congress addressed almost continuously.

At the nation's beginning, the land was seen primarily as a source of revenue to reduce the national debt, and most land laws adopted before the Civil War provided for the sale of public lands, after 1820, at \$1.25 an acre.

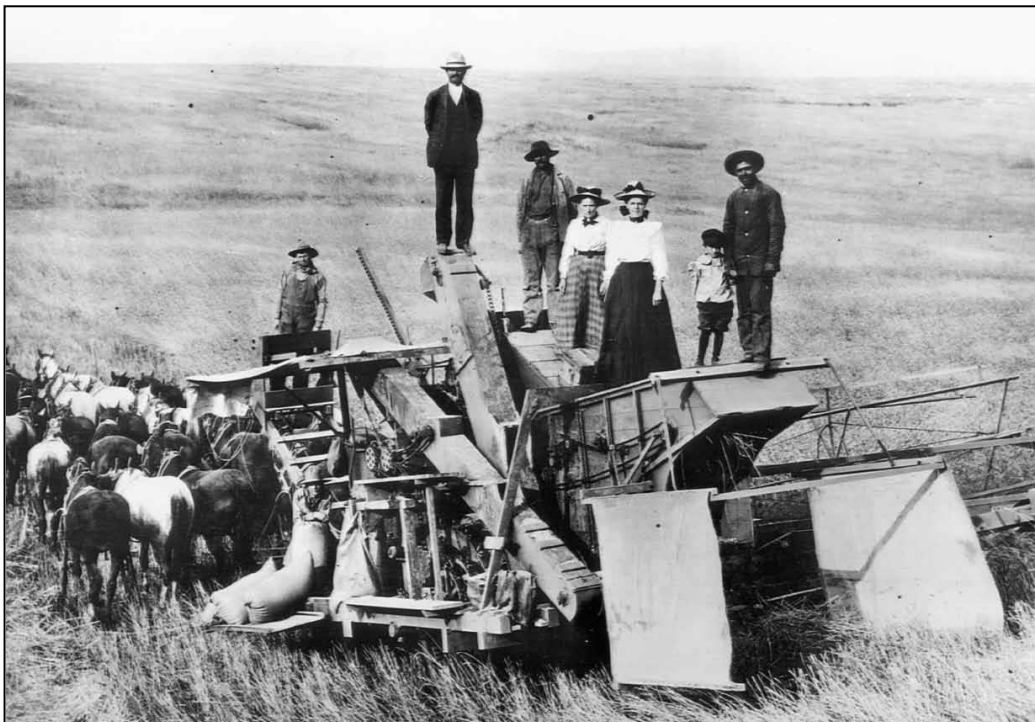
From the 1820s through the 1840s, westerners pushed for more liberal land laws, calling for “free homesteads” or “donations” for those who would settle on the land. During the 1840s, the call for homestead legislation received support from eastern labor reformers, who envisioned free land as a means by which industrial workers could escape low wages and deplorable working conditions.

Congress did, on occasion, offer free land in regions the nation wanted settled. But the landmark law that governed how public land was distributed and settled for over 100 years came in 1862. The Homestead Act, which became law on May 20, 1862, was responsible for helping settle much of the American West.

In its centennial year in 1962, President John F. Kennedy called the act “the single greatest stimulus to national development ever enacted.” This past year marked the 150th anniversary of the Homestead Act.

The provisions of the Homestead Act, while not perfect and often fraudulently manipulated, were responsible for helping settle much of the American West. In all, between 1862 and 1976, well over 270 million acres (10 percent of the area of the United States) were claimed and settled under the act.

Earlier Laws Bred Confusion for Settlers Pre-Homestead Act legislation included the Armed Occupation Law of 1842, which offered 160 acres to each person willing to fight the Indian insurgence in Florida and occupy and cultivate the land for five years. Between 1850 and 1853, Congress offered 320 acres to single men and 640 acres to couples settling in the Oregon Country.



A similar, but less generous proposition was extended in 1854 to include the New Mexico Territory. During the 1850s, the demand for free land increased. The Republican Party's 1860 presidential platform called for passage of a homestead measure. President-elect Abraham Lincoln on February 12, 1861, said he thought a Homestead Act was worthy of consideration so “that the wild lands of the country should be distributed so that every man should have the means and opportunity of benefiting his condition.” In the decades before passage of the Homestead Act, there was opposition to giving away the public domain.

After the Mexican War added vast areas of land in the West, southern slaveholders worried that opening the undeveloped territories to small, independent farmers opposed to slavery would upset the delicate political balance between the slave and free states in the Senate.

Others voiced fear that the offer of free land would spur immigration from Europe. But the proponents of an act achieved success with “An Act to Secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain” in 1862.

At that time, a billion acres of government land (much of it mountain and desert unfit for agriculture) were available for homesteading. Under the act, any citizen (or person who intended to become one) who was the head of a family, or a single person over 21, who had never taken up arms against the U.S. government could apply for a quarter-section of land—160 acres. Potential homesteaders included women who were single, widowed, or divorced or deserted by their husbands. Eventually, under certain situations, some married women could file homestead claims on land adjacent to their husband's holding.

The homesteaded land had to have been surveyed and be in one of the 30 "public domain states." All states were "public domain states" except the 13 original states, and Kentucky, Maine, Vermont, West Virginia, Tennessee, Texas, and eventually Hawaii.

There were, however, strict rules for those who got one of the parcels. The prospective homesteader paid a filing fee of 10 dollars to claim the land temporarily. Then he made a small payment to the land office representative.

He had six months to begin living on the property. He could commute his claim before the end of five years to a cash entry, \$1.25 per acre, as long he had lived on the property for six months.

The government would issue a patent (deed) for the land after five years of continuous residence. But during that period, the homesteader had to build a dwelling and cultivate some portion of the land. No specified amount of cultivation or improvements was required, but there had to be enough continuous improvement and actual cultivation to demonstrate good faith.

During the five-year period, the homesteader could not be absent for more than six months a year, nor could he establish legal residence anywhere else. A leave of absence for one year or less could be granted when total or partial failure or destruction of crops, sickness, or other unavoidable casualty prevented a homesteader from supporting himself and his family. After publishing his intent to close on the property and paying a six-dollar fee, the homesteader received the patent for the land.

A Slow, Early Start Picks Up Steam - The Homestead Act was often amended.

The first amendment came in 1864, when a person serving in the U.S. military was allowed to make a homestead entry (application) if some member of his family was residing on the lands. In January 1867, Congress allowed Confederate veterans to take homesteads if they signed an affidavit of allegiance to the U.S. government.

An 1872 amendment permitted veterans to receive credit for their period of service in determining the time required for residence in perfecting a homestead entry. This same privilege would later be extended to veterans of the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, and World War I.

The first claim under the Homestead Act of 1862 was made on January 1, 1863, most likely by Daniel Freeman, a few miles west of Beatrice, Nebraska.

With the end of the Civil War, homesteading began in earnest. In 1865, applicants filed for fewer than a million acres. A year later, the total was nearly 1.9 million acres. In 1872, more than 4.6 million acres were claimed.

During the first decade after the act's passage, few homesteaders took up land in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. More substantial numbers staked out homesteads in Missouri, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

By 1876, when homesteading was ended in all but Alaska, those five states contained about 20 percent of all homesteads.

Before the Civil War, settlements had begun to spring up in eastern Kansas and Nebraska. After the war, the influx began.

Pioneers first moved out along streams, where good farming land and timber awaited them. After 1870, they advanced onto the rolling plains. Every mile of railroad across Kansas or Nebraska drew settlers westward.

After 1875, when the Red River War cleared southwestern Kansas of Native tribes, the tide swung in that direction, following the Santa Fe Railroad. Other settlers built their homes along the Union Pacific right-of-way in Nebraska.

African Americans were part of this early movement westward, especially to Kansas.

Some were former slaves coming from Tennessee. After the end of Reconstruction in 1877, a new wave of African Americans came to Kansas. The 1879 exodus alone brought to Kansas approximately 6,000 African Americans, primarily from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. Many settled in Nicodemus, in northwest Kansas.

Between the earlier gradual migrations and the 1879 exodus, Kansas gained nearly 27,000 black residents in 10 years. If you go to the website mentioned in the beginning of this article, you can read a lot more – 34 pages.

Notes on Sources:

The National Archives and Records Administration holds the original Homestead Act as well as the Land Entry files and the Homestead files (patented and unpatented).

The 1885 annual report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to Congress and other documents are available of the Bureau of Land Management's website: www.blm.gov/es/st/en/prog/glo/historical_documents.html.

More information about the Homestead Act may be found at the website for the Homestead National Monument of America: www.nps.gov/home/historyculture/ind

NORD HEDMARK OG HEDEMARKEN LAG SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NHOH is expanding its scholarship program for 2017. In addition to a college scholarship, our Lag is also offering scholarships to support learning in the Norwegian language, its culture and its history. The two categories are outlined below.

College Scholarship:

One, Five Hundred Dollar (\$500) scholarship will be granted to a graduating high school senior who will be attending a technical school, a four year college, or a university in the 2017 - 2018 academic year. To be considered for this scholarship, perspective candidates must:

- Be related to a current NHOH Lag member
- Be graduating from high school in 2017
- Have been accepted by a technical school, a four year college, or a university for the 2017–2018 academic year
- Submit an application form (see below) with all the required information and mails it to NHOH Scholarship Committee by May 1, 2017
- All applications will be reviewed by the NHOH Board and the successful candidate will be notified by June 1, 2017.

Norwegian Language, Culture, and History Scholarships

Scholarships, in the form of reimbursements, are available to members and to a member's extended family. They are designed to support learning in all aspects of the Norwegian culture and are not limited by age. Young students (elementary, middle school and high school) who attend a Norwegian language camp in the summer are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Members, who take classes in any aspect of the Norwegian culture, may apply for his scholarship.

Reimbursements are limited to fees (tuition) and expenses for educational materials, up to \$100. Expenses for mileage are not covered. While funds are limited, candidates may reapply for this scholarship a second time during the calendar year. To be considered for this program, a candidate must:

- Submit an application form (see below)
 - Included a copy of all payments for fees (tuition) and related education materials
 - Provides evidence in the form of a certificate-of-completion that the class/course was completed.
- Note:** In lieu of a certificate, a letter or note from the instructor is acceptable.
- Mail application form to: NHOH Scholarship Committee before the end of 2017.

NOTE: If you have questions regarding the process for applying, please send your inquiries to Gary M. Olson at the following: www.olson.gm33@gmail.com

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Scholarship Program Application Form

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Are you a member of NHOH? _____ Yes _____ No (Please check appropriate line)

If you are related to a lag member, please state the person's name: _____
and, explain your relationship to that person: _____

What is the name (title) of the class you completed? _____

Address of the school where the class/course was taught? _____

How many days or weeks did you attended this course/class? _____

Expenses for the class/course (fees and educational materials)? _____

Please state the amount of reimbursement you would like to receive? _____

Include a certificate-of-completion or letter from your instructor stating that you successfully completed the class.

Name of high school you will be graduating from in 2017: _____

Address of school: _____ Date of graduation: _____

Include in your mailing the following:

- A copy of your letter of acceptance from the institution you will be attending in the fall of 2017
- A letter of recommendation from a high school faculty member — counselor, teacher, or administrator
- A short essay (two or three paragraphs) describing your career goals and how you would benefit from a NHOH scholarship. Sign and date your essay.

Mail application form and all requested information to:

NHOH Scholarship Committee, Attention: Gary M. Olson, 2510 28th St., SE, Rochester, MN 55904

*This article was in the Fergus Falls Daily Journal
18 June 1910 – the Formation Meeting*

ØSTERDALSLAG

Reunion of Former Residents of Osterdal Being held here – National Gathering.

The Østerdalslag, a reunion of the former residents of Østerdal, which lies along the Glommen river, the largest stream in Norway, is in progress here today. This is the first meeting and is called for the purpose of organizing a national society. Fully seventy five are present from Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and other states, besides a large number from this locality.

The visitors held a brief meeting Saturday morning to map out a program for the day. It was decided to visit the insane hospital immediately after noon, and at 3 o'clock, a business meeting is to be held for the purpose of perfecting an organization. A banquet is to be held this evening, followed by addresses by N.T. Moen, Senator Sageng, Rev. T.H. Eggen, editor of Lutherannen, of Minneapolis. Rev. T.H. Eggen, editor of Lutherannen, of Minneapolis, Attorney Osberg of Valley City ND and others.

Fellesraad Scandinavian Event Calendar

June 15-17: Valdres Samband and Vestlandslag meet in Shoreview MN

July 20-23: 7 Lag Stevne meets in Decorah IA
Lags involved: Hedeland, Landingslag, Numedalslågenlag, Ringerike Drammen Districts, Sigdalslag, Telelag and Totenlag

August 2-5: Tre-Lag Stevne meets in La Crosse WI
Lags involved: Gudbrandsdal Lag National, Trønderlag of America and Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag

August 10-12: Hallinglag meets in Grand Forks ND

August 10-12: Sognefjordlag meets in Stoughton WI

September 13-16: Romerikslaget I Amerika and Solørlag meets in Hudson WI

September 3: Nordfjordlag-WI meets in Ferryville WI

September 19: Nordfjordlag meets in Spicer MN

September ??: Nordfjordlag meets in Spicer MN

For more information, go to the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad home page or contact the lag directly by visiting their home page.

Norway to America: Memories & Dreams



Invitation to attend Fellesraad Annual Meeting 5 & 6 May 2017

Plan now to attend the Annual Meeting of the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad. Breakout sessions will be held to provide pertinent information for Lag positions. It will be an exciting and productive 1 ½ day event! **Rune Nedrud**, Chairman of the Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening in Norway (Fellesraad's newest partner) will be presenting at the Genealogists session and giving the Keynote address! Special sessions with training will be held for the following:

Genealogists – Wave of the Future by Marilyn Sorensen
Treasurers – Pertinent Info – Bob Torkelson & Don Teigen

Newsletter Ed – Tips and Tricks – Jean Borgerding

Stevne Planning: Bootcamp – Jean Knaak

Webmasters: Updates – Gene Rodi

Publicity/Soc.Media – Using Current Tool to

Move our Lags Forward – Elaine Hasleton

Place: Mindekirken, The Norw. Mem. Lutheran Church
924 East 21st St., Mpls, MN 55404

Fri., 5/5 1:00 pm to approx.. 8:00 pm

Sat. 5/6 9-3:30 pm

Cost: Fri. only \$10; Sat. only \$17; both days \$20 if paid by March 31. Registration form on the right side here.

Bygdelagenes Fellesraad

Annual Meeting/Workshop Registration Form

924 East 21st St., Minneapolis MN 55402 May 5 & 6
All are welcome to attend at Mindekirken

Name _____ Delegate? Y N
(others are guests)

Phone _____ Email _____

From _____ Lag
2-day Early price received by March 31 is \$20
All other registrations due before April 15 at \$25

Fri (1-7 pm) and Sat. (9-3:30 pm) incl meals \$ _____
(Fri. especially for Genealogists, Webmasters, Treasurers)

Friday only price is \$10 \$ _____

Saturday only price is \$17 \$ _____
(9 am Sat. 101st Annual Meeting, speaker Rune Nedrud and 1 PM workshops for Newsletter Editors, Publicity, and Social Media, Stevne Planning)

Send check to Fellesraad Treasurer, Robert Torkelson,
4725 Bayswater Road, Excelsior MN 55331

Checks **to be received** by BF Treasurer by stated deadlines, please !

Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News
Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld, Editor
215 Juniper Ln., Holmen, WI 54636

March 2017



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 _____