

**Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee  
Plaza Hotel and Suites, Eau Claire, WI  
October 25, 2014, 9:30-3:30**

**Members:** \*Chris Falteisek (H), \*Robert Fossum (T), \*Dick Lundgren (G), \*Jim Olson (G), \*John Reindl (H), \*Linda Schwartz (T), \*Joy Shong (H), \*Marilyn Sorensen, \*Trudy DeKeuster (T), Barry Dahl (T), Nancy Hawkinson (T), Cheryl Goodin (T), Dixie Hansen (H), Elaine Hasleton, Ron Helstad (H), Dave Kearin (H), Kathy Pedersen (G), Betty Strand (G)

\*Voting member

**Bold = present at this meeting**

**Chairman Dick Lundgren called the meeting to order**

**I. Introductions and review of current membership list**

The group reviewed and updated the list. Joy has updated and distributed her chart.

**II. Review and adoption of agenda**

Agenda was approved with the addition of discussion of the hotel contract with Plaza Hotel and Suites (VI) and site selection (VII-K)

**III. Status of officers and committee assignments**

Voting membership and assignments are indicated on Joy's chart.

**IV. Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the April 27, 2014 meeting in Minneapolis was available for review. Several available members met at the Plaza Hotel and Suites, Eau Claire, on Saturday, September 13, to look over the facilities. The group agreed to recommend the Plaza for the August 2015 Stevne.

**Facilities Tour**

The group took time out from the meeting to tour the facility and made some tentative plans for use of various areas, using primarily the three-part Crystal Ballroom, the four-part Four Seasons Hall and Executive Board Rooms 1 & 2. At this point we're looking at using Crystal 1-2 for genealogy, Crystal 3 for large group presentations including opening ceremonies/keynote, banquet, and Saturday morning frokost. Executive Board 1 has a large table and good lighting appropriate for hardanger. Four Seasons 1-4 could be a combination vendor and hospitality area, and Four Seasons 2-3 would be combined to use as a presentation area. Executive Board 2 could be used for a small-group presentation area. Two Rivers Ballroom, in a separate area of the building, has steps that would be appropriate for picture taking if it is available during the time we do that. We'll not reserve that, but use if available. By making use of Crystal, Four Seasons (divided as indicated) and Board Rooms, all group areas will have easy access to all areas from the Registration/display area in the hallway between Crystal and Four Seasons.

**V. Treasurer's report**

The final (corrected) Financial Statement for the August 2014 TLS in St. Cloud was presented and discussed. The Balance August 31, 2014 was \$3,258.84 (including \$610.00 seed money from each lag). Final Distribution of Net Receipts of \$1428.84 was:

Gud (38.43%)	\$560.10
NH-H (28.35%)	407.22
Trond (33.22%)	<u>461.52</u>
	\$1428.84

**VI. Hotel Contract**

We will request a block of about 65 hotel rooms for Wednesday through Friday (August 5-7, 2015), and make sure that rooms will be available Tuesday, August 4, as needed.

We will want to reserve Crystal Ballroom 1-2-3, Four Seasons 1-2-3-4, Executive Board Rooms 1-2 for August 5-8 and use of Two Rivers 1 for photos (August 7) if available.

There are still questions to resolve regarding food including banquet, Saturday breakfast, breaks and a possible Wednesday box lunch. Joy and possibly Cheryl will negotiate food options, prices etc. We will want to know how sale of food will/may affect other rentals. We also need to resolve costs for equipment rental (piano, AV equipment).

Dick will complete contract when variables are pinned down.

**VII. Review of activities from St. Cloud TLS and implications for 2015**

**A. Evaluations**

Trudy DeKeuster presented the review of 2014 Evaluation Results for discussion.

**B. Genealogy**

The arrangement of materials used in 2015, with reference materials along the walls, proved to be a success; it made materials easy to find and saved space. If we choose to use space as planned, there will be a dedicated genealogy room, so "tear down" time can be more flexible.

**C. Hospitality**

If we choose to combine the hospitality area with vendors in Four Seasons 1-4, there will be access to water, and both areas will be near Registration.

**D. Memorial service**

The memorial service done as in 2014 will be repeated. By having the memorial with the opening ceremonies and keynote reaches more participants than past practice. The lack of the planned piano accompaniment was a problem that needs to be avoided in the future.

**E. Programs**

Tabled for now.

**F. Entertainment**

The ventriloquist program was well received and unique. A musical program – hopefully with a Norwegian theme was suggested for 2015. Robert Fossum will investigate local possibilities.

**G. Facilities/local arrangements**

Feedback on the St. Cloud facilities was overwhelmingly positive.

**H. Tour**

Because St. Cloud is not in a Scandinavian area, the tour was less Norwegian-themed than usual. That will be more possible in the Eau Claire area. Suggestions for 2015 included the Ager home/museum, Amish culture, Norwegian church in area (i.e. Dovre), Chippewa Valley Museum, mill in Augusta area and others.

**I. Publicity**

Elaine Hasleton was very helpful providing local publicity and contacts in the St. Cloud area. She furnished a handout with suggestions in the Eau Claire area. We will want to advertise in local newspapers, Ch13 TV, WHWC radio. We will have a generic/general announcement ready in April if possible.

**J. Registration**

Dixie was her usual helpful self.

**K. Site selection**

It would be good to be able to announce the next year's site at Stevne if possible.

**L. Vendors**

There were fewer vendors this year. We'll have a good space in 2015, and hopefully Cheryl will be able to confirm vendors in a more timely manner.

**VIII. New Business**

**A. Assignments/responsibilities**

See committee responsibilities on Joy's revised chart.

**B. Schedule**

Will be finalized at a later meeting.

**C. Theme**

Because Eau Claire was the home of Norwegian-American newspaper man and author Waldemar Ager, a newspaper/writer theme was discussed – also an emphasis on how communication media helps the community connected -- then and now. (i.e. "From Posten to Posting" or similar)

**D. Speakers**

Several potential speakers/topics were discussed, including: Fanney (sp?) on the history of the Chippewa Valley, "starting over" (Dixie), Tulla Froyen (sp?), Eau Claire newspaper, Odd Lovoll. John Kotar, EC – forestry/logging in the area, W. Ager, history, home, museum (Robert Fossum is a member), area Scandinavians

and/or businesses, UWEC resources, S/N Loven Lodge, John Peterson (translator, etc.) , genealogy via newspapers, Doug Ohman – photos of churches, etc., famous people of Norwegian heritage.

**E. Tour – other special events**

Some possibilities:

- Ager House – can accommodate groups of about 20 people. If not part of the Wednesday tour, could be included as an option later in the week.
- Chippewa Falls historical museum
- Phil Odden – wood carver –Barronett
- Augusta – Dells Mill and Museum
- Robert Fossum will look over possibilities in the area

**F. Entertainment**

See VII-F.

**G. Site Selection**

Some sites to consider for 2016: Decorah, LaCrosse, Mankato, Rochester.

**IX. Next Meeting of TLS Steering Committee**

Next meeting will be held Saturday, January 24, 2015 at the Plaza, Eau Claire with a back-up date of February 7.