

# NHOH News

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## *Fra Presidenten*

I sincerely hope that everyone is staying safe and healthy during this pandemic. Though our movements are restricted we have found ways to socialize, and opportunities for using our time differently.

Your Board of Directors met via Zoom in August, taking advantage of technology that allows us to stay connected. (This must be a very different experience than our ancestors during the 1918 flu epidemic.) It was good to see the faces, hear the voices and get work done just as we would if we had been in the same room. One of the results of the meeting is the ballot for selecting the officers of the lag. This is an opportunity for all members to vote for board members, not just the members who, in the past, attended the annual meeting in person at the stevner. Please take advantage of this opportunity to vote and mail your ballot by the indicated deadline.

With the cancellation of many of my regular activities, such as stevne planning, church volunteer work, and traveling, I have found more time to work on genealogy and organize family memorabilia. (I just finished scanning over 125 obituaries and funeral cards from a box I put under the bed in 2012 with my mother-in-law's memorabilia. I meant to get at this years ago.) I have also spent time learning more about my genealogy software and exploring the Family Search web site. I found the Research Wiki to be one of the best resources for getting started with research. See the article in this newsletter that gives a brief overview of what you can find using the Research Wiki and how to use it. I highly recommend using your time to look in the boxes you have tucked away, organize your stuff, and learn more about your ancestors.

On a sad note, we lost several long-time members of the lag in the last month. Gary Flatgard was a director on the NHOH board whose most recent term expired this year. He will be

greatly missed. We also lost Jean Larson, 96, one of our charter members who joined in 1996 and another long-time member Dennis Johnson. Please see the obituaries of our members in this issue.

Hilsen fra  
*Joy Shong*



Don't forget to vote for  
**NHOH Board Members** using the enclosed  
ballot. Ballots must be  
**post-marked by 10 October 2020.**

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## 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



## Our NHOH 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; and to encourage the research and writing of family, immigration, and settlement histories.

## Membership

NHOH Lag members benefit from expert genealogy research assistance, are invited to participate in our annual 3-day conference and receive our newsletter three times a year.

## Membership Renewal

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.

## NHOH Website

The NHOH website can be found at: [www.nhohlag.org](http://www.nhohlag.org) with information on how you can become a full-fledged member of our organization.

Photos taken at previous stevner are posted on the NHOH web site. Click on the "Stevner" tab to access available photos from all past stevner. For most, you can click on the image for a larger view. And if you want to copy or save it, right click on it to use browser commands. Our newsletters, genealogy information, photos, and scholarship information are there too.

## Join Our Facebook Page

Members and non-members alike are encouraged to join our Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Facebook page and participate in the discussion. We welcome those who have an interest in and/or have ancestry in the North Hedmark and Hedemarken areas of Norway. You don't have to be a NHOH lag member to join our Facebook page.

New Facebook page joiners must request to join on their own (we don't accept members added by others) and new joiners must briefly answer the "why do you wish to join" security questions.



## NHOH Board Members

**President: Joy Shong**  
president@nhohlag.org

**Vice-President: Chris Falteisek**  
chrisfalteisek@gmail.com

**Secretary: Jeri Johnson**  
jerijon@aol.com

**Treasurer: Ron Helstad**  
ronh@eacpas.net

**Membership: Dixie Hansen**  
dx@dxhansen.com

**Director: Open**

**Director: Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld**  
SASLAX@aol.com

**Director: Julie Glowka**  
julieg0503@gmail.com

**Past-President: Dixie Hansen**  
dx@dxhansen.com

**Newsletter Editor: Julie Glowka**  
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**Genealogist: Chris Falteisek**  
chrisfalteisek@gmail.com

**Webmaster: Dixie Hanson**  
dx@dxhansen.com

## NHOH Newsletter

The newsletter is published three times each year – Spring, Summer and Fall

Members are encouraged to submit 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 your contributions to the Newsletter Editor: Julie Glowka: [julieg0503@gmail.com](mailto:julieg0503@gmail.com)**

**Policy on advertising in the 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 Board Meeting in August via Zoom



Board Members in attendance for our August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting are:

Back Row (L to R): Joy Shong, President; Dixie Hansen, Past President, Membership and Webmaster; Ron Helstad, Treasurer.

Middle Row (L to R): Julie Glowka, Newsletter Editor and Board Member; Jeri Johnson, Secretary, Chris Falteisek, Vice President and Genealogist

Front Row: Shirley Lokstad Schoenfeld, Director

**FREE "Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken – Highlights of the First Ten Years 1995-2005" FREE**

Anyone interested in copies of the book can have them for the cost of postage. Future new members will be sent a copy of the book until the remaining supply runs out.

NHOH Book Order Form: Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 shipping per book

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to NHOH

Mail to: Send to Joy Shong, 523 S. Concord Road, Oconomowoc, WI 53066

**Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag  
Highlights of the First Ten Years 1995-2005**

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.



**2021 Tre Lag Stevne**



**August 11-14, 2021**

Middleton, Wisconsin  
**Madison Marriott West**  
1313 John Q Hammons Dr.  
Madison, WI 53562, Phone: 608-831-2000

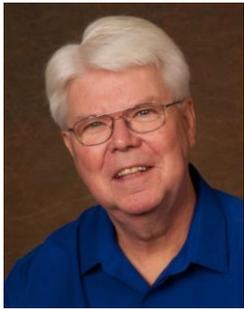
**Important Note:** The dates we've settled on are a week later than our usual August slot.



Photo used with permission.

## In Memorium

### Gary Eugene Flatgard



Flatgard, Gary Eugene Age 82 of Minneapolis, MN. Died June 21st, 2020. Preceded in death by his parents, Grant & Margaret Flatgard (Hunt); his brother, Dennis Flatgard and his daughter, Anna Flatgard.

Survived by his wife, Nancy

Flatgard; his sisters, Diane Hansen, Leatrice Hecht (Chuck); brother, Jon Flatgard (Victoria); daughter, Tina Caye (John); grandson, Evan Caye; many other loving relatives & friends. Gary was born in Jackson, MN on October 18th, 1938 and was subsequently baptized on Christmas Day of that same year at Bethany Lutheran Church in Windom, MN. He was ordained back at Bethany Lutheran Church in Windom, eventually becoming a parish pastor at Pella Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, an associate parish pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, chaplain & director of social services, and eventually the acting administrator at Luther Memorial Home, before finally becoming Kenyon Sunset Home's nursing home administrator before his retirement & return to Minneapolis. He had an affinity for his Norwegian ethnic background, doing a summer study in Norway in 1980 and returning there on several more trips for personal venture & connecting with his familial relatives from which his family name was born. His love for family, faith, travel, music, theater, reading, gardening, and his kind & caring soul which touched the lives of so many will remain with us forever.

### Dennis Gordon Johnson



September 20, 1940 ~ August 25, 2020 (age 79)

Born September 20, 1940 at the Wright Memorial Hospital in Fergus Falls, Dennis Gordon Johnson was raised on an 80 acre dairy farm with purebred Jersey cattle by Elmer

Gordon Johnson and Mary Evelyn (Muckala) Johnson in Tordenskjold Township, Ottertail County, Minnesota. Siblings are Stuart Dale, Marilee Juneal (Bergerson), Brian Elliot, and Virginia Rae (Carlson).

The atmosphere reflected hard work and strong social conscience. He attended rural school district 95 for 8 years. It was an idyllic experience. The family were members of Tordenskjold Lutheran Free Church which provided Sunday school, worship, confirmation and community.

He attended West Central School of Agriculture (WCSA) in Morris from 1953 - 58 before enrolling in the Dairy Science program at NDSU in Fargo, ND. He graduated and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the infantry in 1962. To his great good fortune, he met and fell in love with Carole Arlene Petersen of Grenora, ND who he pursued with determination. He worked his way through college by making butter at the Cass Clay Creamery. Needed human relations skills were developed by membership in Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity.

Carole and Dennis were married December 27, 1964 in Havre, MT upon completion of 2 years active duty with the 39th Mechanized Infantry Battalion. They moved to St Paul for the next three years. Carole marketed textiles and taught Home Economics at Central High, St. Paul as Dennis started graduate school at the University of Minnesota in Dairy Cattle Breeding. His Masters work was a study of the inheritance of fertility in dairy cows and PhD dissertation research evaluated genetic change in Holstein cattle from DHIA records.

In 1968 Dennis was appointed Dairy Scientist at the West Central School and Experiment Station Morris and Carole accepted a position teaching Home Economics at Hancock High School. In 1969 David Johannes was born followed by Mary Elynn in 1972. A dairy scientist is responsible for applied research in dairy production and outreach education on dairy production. His approach was unusual in deemphasizing journal publication with more direct farmer outreach. Work included introduction of total mixed rations, use of waste milk in calf diets, forage preservation, organic production, grazing systems, and fertility methods. The projects led to travel to Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Denmark, Uruguay, Norway, France and Germany. His efforts regarding world hunger were associated with nearly 20 years as synod coordinator for the ELCA hunger appeal. That included travel to Kenya, Tanzania, Israel, Bolivia, Peru and South Africa. Dennis was deeply committed to serving his community, some of the many included First Lutheran Church in Morris, MN, the Land Stewardship Committee and the Vesterheim Museum in Decorah Iowa where he served on the board.

Dennis' table prayer always ended with these words: "Blessed be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed."

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the ELCA World Hunger, the Land Stewardship Project, First Lutheran Church, Morris, MN or Vesterheim Museum, Decorah, IA.

## Jean Larson



November 8, 1923 ~ August 26, 2020

Jean Larson, age 96, of Spring Valley, died Wednesday, August 26, 2020 at Valley Villas in Spring Valley.

Jean was born November 8, 1923 to Fred and Grace (Hatch) Larson in Rock Elm Township, Pierce County, Wisconsin. She grew up and attended school at Spring Valley, graduating with the Class of 1941. She had been a member of the Congregational Church in Spring Valley for many years.

She continued her education at the UW-River Falls, obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1945.

She later received her Master's Degree from the University of Southern California in 1970.

She taught at Fort Atkinson Elementary School, Arcadia California School. She spent 37 years of teaching first and second grade students for the Department of Defense at schools in Germany, for 7 years, and Madrid Spain, for 30 years. Her favorite pastimes were photography, music, and travel. She especially enjoyed a trip to Africa in 1951. She remembers her plane had to land during the daytime because there were no lights on the runway.

She enjoyed teaching and recognizing the talents of others and states, "I'm grateful for all the people I've met along the way and who've been so helpful."

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Grace; and sister Marge Fontana.

Survivors include brother Jerry (Joyce) Larson; nephews and nieces: Tom (Sharon) Fontana; Fred (Lori) Larson; Bruce (Kelly) Larson; and Beth (Ross) Carlson; grand nieces and nephews; other relatives and friends.

## New Agder Lag Formed

A new lag has been formed! Agder lag is a reformation of the previous Agder and Setesdal lags. The area includes Aust and Vest Agder which encompasses the Setesdal Valley.

The first meeting was held during the Romerike and Solorlag Stevne in September of 2018. The attendees determined to move forward with lag formation and a committee was formed to begin plans for a meeting in 2019. The committee spent a large amount of time developing the incorporation, necessary documents and their plans for going forward. They met in July of 2019, passed all of the required documents and elected their officers, and made plans for 2020.

One can find contact information for Agder lag on the Fellesrad.com website under Agder. Additional information is available at Agderlag.org or the 7lagstevne website.

Many potential members are already active in other lags, so understand the assistance for genealogy assistance and forming bonds with potential distant relatives. Agder needs initial membership and one has the opportunity to be a charter member by joining this year.

Please consider exploring your connections to ancestors from the Agder area of Norway. Help to form the lag which will provide genealogy and cultural information specific to this area.

Any questions, email [knaak002@gmail.com](mailto:knaak002@gmail.com).

An advertisement for Lokstad Rolling Pins. The top section features a red rolling pin with a white label that says "LOKSTAD LARGER DIAMETER - ROLLS EASIER". To the right, the text "Since 1950" is written in a cursive font, and below it, "EXPERIENCE HANDMADE HISTORY" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The middle section shows a group of people standing behind a table at an outdoor event. A sign on the table reads "Our Founder: John E. Lokstad 1905-1993". There are also blue balloons and a sign that says "Try It!". The bottom section shows a close-up of several rolling pins. To the right of this image, the text reads: "Lokstad Rolling Pins Made from hard-rock sugar maple Polished Smooth finish Lifetime quality Crafted in Jenkins MN Founded in Newfolden MN Mike Baumann 651-491-0211 [mike@lokstadproducts.com](mailto:mike@lokstadproducts.com) [www.lokstadproducts.com](http://www.lokstadproducts.com)".

## Making Butter the Old-Fashioned Way

by Joy Shong

When helping clean out my grandmother's house in 1991 the family salvaged several handmade wooden articles from the kitchen. One item was a large carved, red-painted trough.



I assumed it was a mixing bowl used for kneading bread. When I asked my mother, she told me it was used for making butter but didn't explain how. I always thought butter was made in a churn, so this confused me. I pondered the response briefly, and I filed the information away in a mental note.

Several years ago, I stumbled on a video that showed a woman in Norway making butter and using a trough like mine. She did use a churn to make the butter and then washed it in the trough. Here are the basic steps for making butter:

- Strain milk to remove debris. (Fresh or sour)
- Store the milk in a cool place and let the cream float to the top.
- Move the cream to a clean butter churn.
- The motion of the plunger in a rhythmic pattern makes the butterfat congeal into lumps and separates the fat from the buttermilk. It can take an hour or more of churning.
- Scoop the butter into the trough and save the buttermilk in a container for use in cooking or drinking.
- In the trough, pour clean water over the butter and knead the butter to remove all the remaining buttermilk. Continue to wash and rinse with clean water so no cloudy white liquid is left to spoil the butter.
- After the remaining water is drained off, pat the butter out in the trough and sprinkle it with salt and knead it well. (About  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{3}$  cup salt to 4 cups of butter)
- Pack the butter into containers being sure to press out any air bubbles.



My grandmother also had a butter mold they used at holidays to form a butter ball on a plate with a floral impression on the top. There is a hole in the bottom to push the plate with the carving and the butter out of the mold.

If you would like to view the video on making butter it is here:  
<https://talknorway.no/homestead-making-butter-the-old-way-norway/>



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## Welcome New Members

NHOH Ancestors from:

<b>Carol B Mangold, Plymouth Wisconsin</b>	<b>Stange, the Bjørnstad Farm</b>
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## The Pine Tree at Drevsjø

*Researched, written, and translated by Torill Hokstad Steivang*

The district near the Swedish border in Hedmark has wide spans of forest. You can walk for hours and days without seeing anything but trees, only hearing the whisper of the forest. Today the silence might, now and then, be interrupted by the sound of a chainsaw but, if you put yourself some decades back in time, you might hear the ring of an ax.

Røros Copper Works was, from the beginning of the 1600's, dependent on an ample supply of burnable wood for the melting process, as well timber for buildings and homes. As the mining works grew, so too did their need for fuel. They owned some woods outright, but their primary source of timber was from the state forests which covered large areas from Singsås in the north to Rendalen in the south. This story centers around one specific pine tree in one of these forests. The tree was growing in Rendalen's state woods, near Drevsjø.



**Forest in Rendalen, Hemark**

Photo courtesy of lag member Morten Undseth

In March 1852, the Forest Bailiff of 5th Søndenfjeldske Forest District, Jens Lassen, sent a letter about Engebret Torbersen Fløtningen to his superior, Forest Inspector Johan Wilhelm Nissen, at the Røros Works. He reported that Engebret had illegally cut a large pine tree in the forest that now belonged to the Røros Copper Works. Forest Bailiff Lassen obviously thought this was bad enough, but he continued: "This tree was one of the biggest and best that you can possibly find in these forests, and could well have been used to make axles or something similar." There is no doubt that Lassen was serious about his job. Forest Bailiffs had an extensive scope of responsibilities over the Røros Copper Works' present and future supply district. They provided service to the Røros Copper Works and also enforced the government's interests.

When Forest Inspector Nissen at the Røros Copper Works received the report, he didn't hesitate to forward it to the Bailiff of Østerdalen, with his own additional note that "*the person involved must be held liable under the law for his forest theft, and because the tree is said to be of some value to the Works, it would be unfortunate if other persons committed the same [crime], which well could happen if an example is not set.*"

The Bailiff of Østerdalen, Henrik Johan Paus, then forwarded the case to Magistrate Heiberg for the needed [action](#). The Magistrate called for an interrogation, which was set to take place at O. Thobroe's home at Storstu-Berger in Rendalen on April 27th at 11 am. The summons was sent to the sheriff, who was commissioned to ensure that it would be served on the accused as well as on the witnesses. It was to be served in person, and if the intended recipient was not at home, any person there would be responsible for passing the message on to the concerned person.

On the day of the interrogation, April 27<sup>th</sup>, the only person who answered the summons was the accused, Engebret Torbersen. Not a single witness showed up. Engebret was interrogated anyway. The Magistrate's sworn representative, Examinatus Juris Fleischer led the interrogation in the presence of sworn jury members, Haagen Olsen Berger and Brynjulf Johnsen Berger.

Engebret's explanation gives us some information on his background: He said that he was born "8 days before Christmas in the year 1792" at the Sorken farm. His parents were Torber Torbersen and Berit Olsdatter. He was confirmed at age 17 in Idre, Sweden. After that, he was employed both in Sweden and Norway until, about 30 years previous, he was married to his "*still living wife Judita Fredriksdatter Skancke, with whom he had 11 children of whom 3 are deceased.*" For over 20 years he had owned and lived at the Fløtningen farm in Idre,

Sweden, which was located "a half quarter distance from the State frontier." Engebret had never been in military service and had never been accused, sentenced, or convicted. He had, because of his poor financial straits, earned a living at different places, both in Røros and Rendalen. The last year he had been staying at Drevsjø Hytte while his wife and some of the children remained at Flåtningen, Sweden.

Engebret had been a woodcutter for years. He cut in his own woods at Flåtningen and floated the timber across Vurrusjøen [a lake], to Drevsjø Hytte, but he was never able to sell any of it. He also cut in the part of the Rendalen State Woods that belonged to Røros Copper Works. However, this was only dead timber, roots, and twigs, which were collected outside "the preserved circumference quarter mile area surrounding Drevsjø Hytte.

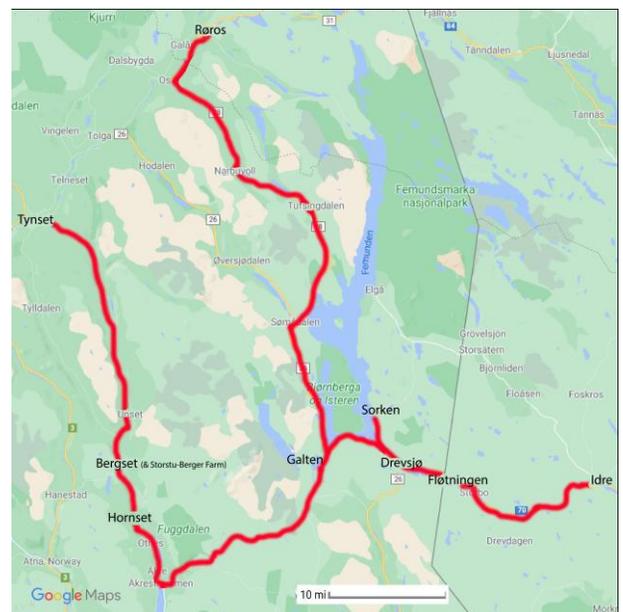
Engebret said that since last Christmas he had been staying at Helbladstuen with the church song leader, John Semmingsen, for whom he had been doing some woodcutting. It was last month, "at the time of the Grundset Market" [Grundsetmartn is held annually in February], when Engebret cut that one tree in Røros Copper Work's woods which would lead to his misfortune. Ironically, misfortune is exactly what he had meant to stave off. Engebret had seen an opportunity to settle outstanding debts by making baking troughs ["baketrau" - flatish wooden bowls for kneading and rising bread dough]. The tree he cut measured around 7.5 to 8.5 meters high and had been transformed into 14 baking troughs of various sizes. This project was, unfortunately, not a success, as nobody wanted to buy them. In the end he gave them away. Engebret also had to admit that he was not authorized to cut the tree in question. Other than that, he had not been cutting anything in the woods of the Røros Works, except for 6 or 7 [tylfter] (1 tylft = 12 pieces) of pine logs that would be used for buildings materials. However, this was at the request of his landlord, John Semmingsen.

Since none of the witnesses were present that day, a further interrogation was postponed.

On May 18th they tried again to continue the interrogation, this time at Hornset in Rendalen. However, once again, none of the witnesses appeared. The reason was simple: Nobody had received the summons. The sheriff's messenger admitted that "the summons had not been served because, at this time of the year, it is impossible to get over the mountains partly because of the snow, and also because all rivers and streams are at their highest floods..." The jury members attested to the fact that it could have been fatal to serve the summons.

Sheriff Enevoldsen explained that in the (never-delivered) summons he had instructed the witnesses to meet at Hornset instead of Berger. If they had any chance of appearing, it would be "impossible to choose a different route than via Hornset". The sheriff's thoughtfulness didn't help anyway, so the interrogation had to be postponed again.

A few weeks went by until the terrain was passable over the mountain, and on June 11th the interrogation took place at Storstu-Berger. The 1st witness was the church song leader at Drevsjø Chapel, John Semmingsen, 45 years old. Last March he had met Forest Bailiff Jens Lassen Elgaaen in the forest. They noticed that a big pine tree had recently been cut just off the road between Kvilten farm and Drevsjø Hytte. The tree was cut into smaller pieces. John Semmingsen then spoke to the defendant, who admitted having cut the tree and made baking troughs from it. Semmingsen did not know the number of troughs or what was done with them later. Semmingsen had permission from the Røros Works to clear a space [to build a home] in the woods of the Works and was thereby entitled to take pieces of wood in the forest. So he told the defendant that he could help himself to dead trees and roots. Semmingsen also said that the accused, without permission, had cut some logs in the Works' wood at Vurrusjøen last summer, and that Semmingsen then asked Forest Bailiff Lassen if he would be allowed to use some of these logs. Lassen agreed, though he didn't think they would be suitable for building timber. Semmingsen then paid the Engebret for the logs and for the work he had



**Map showing the distances between the locations where this story took place**

done. Semmingsen didn't think that the Engebret intentionally meant to do any harm, but that he simply wasn't aware of the consequences of "*cutting in another man's forest without permission.*" Engebret believed that he was asked by Semmingsen to do the woodcutting at Vurrusjøen, but Semmingsen denied this.

The 2nd witness was John Olsen Engerdalen, 31 years old. One day in March he had been accompanied by Forest Bailiff Jens Lassen and John Semmingsen through the forest, where they saw the stump of a recently cut pine tree. Olsen had heard rumors that the accused had cut the tree and made troughs of it. That was all he knew of the case.

The third witness, Peer Fredriksen Skancke, 36 years old, explained that the accused had been staying with him and been busy cutting trees for John Semmingsen. The defendant had told Skancke that he had cut a pine tree and made troughs of it. Skancke had seen some of the troughs and understood that the accused intended to sell them.

The fourth witness was Christopher Olsen Staff, 52 years old. He had seen pieces of the tree that were cut by the accused as well as some of the troughs. The accused had offered to sell two troughs to Staff, but Staff did not need them and refused the offer. The accused then gave one trough to Staff's wife, and for the second one he received "some insignificant goods" from her. Staff was not aware that the tree was cut without permission. The defendant also told Staff that he had cut some logs last summer by the Vurrusjøen in the woods belonging to the Røros Works. Staff estimated the count of logs at 8-9 tylfter. The accused first said, it was Lars Olsen Gløtvolden, leaseholder under Røros Works, who had asked him to cut the logs, but that later Gløtvolden would not admit having requested this. That was all Staff knew about the case.



**Well used baketrau (baking trough)  
owned by lag member Morten Undseth**

Finally, it was Engebret's turn to give evidence. Engebret admitted now, that neither Lars Gløtvolden nor John Semmingsen had asked him to cut the logs at Vurrusjøen last summer. The reason that he did it anyway, was that he already knew John Semmingsen would be in need of sawn logs to build his home at his forest clearance. After Semmingsen had talked to the Forest Bailiff and got his permission to use the cut timber, Engebret handed it over to Semmingsen who paid him for it. Engebret also admitted that he had, in vain, offered to sell two of the troughs to Staff, and then gave them to Staff's wife who gave him some coffee in exchange.

Almost a month went by until the Court convened again, on July 17th at Storstu- Berger. Engebret was charged "*to suffer criminal conviction.*" His statement was read out, and he had no additions or alterations to it.

The Court decided that "*The defendant must be approximately 60 years old*" and that "*Røros Works' financial condition is good, but the defendant's is in default.*" The Court determined that the pine tree was appraised at 72 shilling, and the other timber at the Vurrusjøen at 2 [ort] per [tylft]. Engebret had no comment on this nor had anything to add nor need to obtain additional information.

The sentencing did not come until the end of August when the Court met at the Magistrate Office at Nysted in Tynset. The Court held that the woodcutting was considered a theft, even if the defendant denied his "*action to be of a thievish kind.*" The Court determined to "*impose the ordinary penalty for 1st time petty theft, of imprisonment on water and bread, and the time of penalty should be 10 days.*" Engebret also had to pay 72 shilling in compensation for the single pine tree. He would not have to pay for the timber that he had cut for Semmingsen's house building, but he would have to pay for all other expenses in the case.

The proceedings did not go fast, and it wasn't until September 14th that the sentence was read out to Engebret. He was at home with his family at Fløtningen when the appointed witnesses in Rendalen, Tollef Sanden and A. Balstad, visited him. Engebret was not happy with the verdict and appealed on the spot.

The case then went over to [Christiania District Court's 2nd Department]. But that did not change anything as the Court simply ruled that the judgement of the lower court should stand.

In mid-November Engebret was visited by the appointed witnesses, Krogh and Ellevold. He was staying at the Raudsandli seter at that time. When he learned that his appeal had led nowhere, he accepted the sentence and did not want to appeal further. Game over, Engebret had to go to jail. It must have been a sad Christmas that year, both for Engebret and his family. He was imprisoned on Christmas Eve and remained there past New Year.

The day after Engebret's release in January 1853, Sheriff Enevoldsen sent a report to the Bailiff, confirming that Engebret had been imprisoned "*on water and bread*." The sheriff also attached a bill for "punishment costs" 2 [spesiedaler] and 75 shilling. The sheriff reported that Engebret only owned a very few things of no particular value which probably would not be sufficient to cover the expenses of the compulsory payment and auction. So the sheriff attached a certificate regarding Engebret's lack of assets. The sheriff also explained that, since the accused was residing at the "*remote eastern mountains*," it had been impossible to execute the sentence at an earlier date, because of the strong storms and snowfall that blocked the roads for a long time.

This was an episode in Engebret's life that made a significant imprint on someone who struggled just to earn a daily living for himself and his family. Engebret was neither the first nor the last person to cut trees unlawfully in the woods of Røros Copper Works nor was he the last to suffer a penalty for that crime. But there were likely many others who were just as guilty but never got caught.

Engebret died at Fløtningen in 1861, at age 68. Juditta moved to Ålen in Sør-Trøndelag where one of her daughters lived, and she died there in 1880. Their children did well, and Engebret and Juditta have a large posterity in Norway, Sweden, and America.

Little did Engebret know that his way of acquiring trees has been inherited, all the way across the Atlantic. One of his great-great grandchildren in Minnesota has, for years, surreptitiously acquired her Christmas tree for free late on Christmas Eve, by helping herself from the remnants in the lot after the tree sellers have closed up shop for the year.

### References

*Østerdalen Fogdeembete/Domsakter Nordre Østerdalen, Box GA-22. The Regional State Archives in Hamar, Norway*

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## **Genealogy Tips: Family Search Research Wiki**

by Joy Shong

The Research Wiki, provided by Family Search, is one of the most comprehensive tools for researching family history for both beginners and experienced researchers. According to the description on the Family Search site It is an online guide with "links to genealogy databases, websites, other resources, research strategies and

genealogical guidance to assist in the search for your ancestors." And the wiki is free.

Each country has a main wiki page with similar sections that have links to research tools specific to that county, and explanations of how best to search in that country's resources. The Scandinavian countries were some of the first with wiki pages created and therefore have more details than other counties. It is a work in progress with new tools and educational materials being added all the time. When you come back to the wiki you may see new

content and other changes as the pages are being developed.

**TIPS:**

Some links point to items on the same page, some point to other Research Wiki pages or to other web sites.

For beginners, start with articles in the “Getting Started with Norway Research” or with Guided Research. For experienced researchers, click the button for “Norway Online Genealogy Records” or select the county of interest.

**Search Norway:**

- Enter the Family Search web page in your Internet browser: **www.familysearch.org**.
- Click **Search** on the menu at the top left, then click **Research Wiki**.



- Enter the place (Norway) or other topic in the search box or click the map region and pick a country from the list and press **Enter**.



If you enter **Norway** you can then select the **Norway Genealogy** wiki page. (part of page shown here)



**Section Headings in the Norway Genealogy page:**

- Norwegian Genealogy
- Country Information
- Getting Started
- Finding your Ancestor’s Town in Norway
- Norway Clickable Map
- Jurisdictions
  - Counties
  - 2020 County Mergers
  - Parishes
  - Regions in Norway
  - Clerical Districts
- More Norway Research Strategies
- More Norway Research Tools
- Family Search Resources
  - Research Tutorials

You can scroll down the page to view each section. For example, scroll down to **Government Offices and Sites** then click on one of the counties or parishes in the maps or lists provided to be taken to that specific page.

The menu on the right side of the home wiki has links to the tools and additional information. This menu is also on other subpages (but not all) to make navigation easier.

Beginning Research	Record Types
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guided Research</li> <li>• Research Strategies</li> <li>• Record Finder</li> <li>• Finding Town of Origin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books</li> <li>• Bygdelag</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Census</li> <li>• Church</li> <li>• Civil</li> <li>• Court</li> <li>• Death Notices</li> <li>• Emigration &amp; Immigration</li> <li>• Farm Books</li> <li>• Genealogies</li> </ul>
Record Types	Record Types
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Books</li> <li>• Bygdelag</li> <li>• Cemeteries</li> <li>• Census</li> <li>• Church</li> <li>• Civil</li> <li>• Court</li> <li>• Death Notices</li> <li>• Emigration &amp; Immigration</li> <li>• Farm Books</li> <li>• Genealogies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matrikkel</li> <li>• Military</li> <li>• Newspapers</li> <li>• Nobility</li> <li>• Occupations</li> <li>• Online</li> <li>• Periodicals</li> <li>• Probate</li> <li>• Religious</li> <li>• School</li> <li>• Taxation</li> </ul>

TIP: click an item in the path at the top left to go back to a previous page:

Norway → Hedmark County → Alvdal

## Scenes from Alvdal

This issue we're highlighting Alvdal. Alvdal is a village that you'll want to visit on your next trip to Norway. Photos are courtesy of lag and board member Chris Falteisek, who took them on a trip to Norway in 2016 and 2018. Descriptions reprinted from the Go Norway website.

### Alvdal Church



The church was drawn by C.H.Grosch, who also was the architect of the University of Oslo and the cathedral of Tromsø. The church was finished in 1861, and is a large and plain church, that according to the original drawing holds 602 persons. The church is representative for its period. The altarpiece, painted in Munich in 1882 by the Norwegian painter Carl Fridtjof Smith, was ordered by and settled by the storekeeper Ingebret Eggen in Trondheim. The piece was given as a gift to the church in 1883, with a wish for honoring the memory of Ingebret Eggen's wife, Marit Halvorsdatter.

The two wall carpets hanging on each side of the altar piece, are a gift from Trygve Gjelten and his children; "In memory of Kristine Gjelten". The carpets are drawn by Unni-Lise Jonsmoen and weaved by Anne Grete Stuksrud. The present organ is built by Bruno Christensen & sons in Denmark, and was taken into service in 1980. There are two bells in the tower, they were transferred from the St. Nicolai church (previous church in Alvdal). The bells are from 1740 and 1778.

### Alvdal from the Church Belltower



Alvdal is a parish of approximately 2.500 inhabitants and an area of 943,0 km<sup>2</sup>, situated in Nord-Østerdal. The  
continued on page 14

administrative centre of the municipality is the village of Alvdal. The Rørosbane railway line passes through Alvdal. Alvdal is bordered by Tynset to the north, Rendalen to the east and south, Stor-Elvdal to the south, and Follidal to the west. The highest mountain in the municipality is Storsølnkletten at 1,827 metres tall. Tron, Tronden or Trondfjell mountain is 1.665 meters and close to Alvdal. It lies on the border to Tynset. Alvdal was called Lille-Elvedalen until 1917. The built-up area is concentrated along the rivers Glomma and Folla, which meet at the center of Alvdal, called Steia. North Europe's biggest canyon Jutulhogget, lies in the municipalities of Alvdal and Rendalen.

Alvdal is an agricultural village, but also has industry and service trade important to the local community. One of the oldest skis ever found in Norway, was found here in Alvdal, and Alvdal as a ski village has raised many well-known names through the ages. The municipality also has ski in its coat-of-arms symbol.

### Kjell Aukrust Statue and Tower



Kjell Aukrust was a Norwegian author, poet and artist. He was born in Alvdal. He is most famous for his memoirs of his childhood in Alvdal in the books *Simen*, *Bonden* and *Bror Min*, and his creation of the fictional Norwegian village of Flåklypa and its cast of idiosyncratic characters. This setting was the basis of the 1975 animated film "Flåklypa Grand Prix", directed by Ivo Caprino. The film was the first full length animated feature in Norway, became an international success and has been translated into more than seventy languages. In Britain it is known as "Pinchcliffe Grand Prix". The protagonist Reodor Felgen (English version: Theodore Rimspeke) has become synonymous in Norway with Rube Goldberg type contraptions.

Some of the characters who populated the village of Pinchcliffe were also the basis for the first full length hand drawn animated feature in Norway, "Solan, Ludvig og Gurin med reverompa". Released in 1998, this movie takes place in Oslo and Alvdal. In Britain it is known as "Gurin with the Foxtail".

## Husantunet – Open Air Museum



Northern Husan, or Husantunet in everyday speech, is one of Norway's best preserved country courtyards, with totally 18 buildings, all of them preserved at their original site. The oldest one, "The little Booth", is from the last part of the 1600's. Husantunet presents a good view of the life of an average family in Alvdal from the first part of the 17th century through the present time. The courtyard was scheduled as an ancient monument in 1941, expropriated by the municipality in 1942/43, and opened as a museum in 1958. Husantunet is open for guided tours during the summertime.

Descriptions from the Go Norway website. For more details, go to:

<http://www.gonorway.no/norway/counties/hedmark/alvdal/76388b44ee5ebae/index.html>

**Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag News**

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**Ancestors in Hedmark from kommune: (check all that apply)**

- Åmot     Alvdal     Elverum     Engerdal     Follidal     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 \_\_\_\_\_

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- 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!

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