

***Celebrating 100 Years  
of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad in America***



*Norway to America: Memories & Dreams*



1916 - 2016

*Fellesraad Centennial Celebration*

***May 5-8, 2016***



***DoubleTree by Hilton  
Earle Brown Heritage Center  
Brooklyn Center, Minnesota***





Dear Friends of Norway,

The entire Fellesraad Board welcomes you; we are happy you came! The theme for our celebration is From Norway to America: Memories and Dreams. According to the Fellesraad constitution, the annual meeting is to be held the first Saturday in May to elect officers and hear reports. Having large enough venues was an early priority. The convenient, nearby hotel for receptions and seminars offers excellent value for both meal options and program offerings. We especially thank our sponsors for their generous financial support and the Centennial Committee led by Dr. Jean Knaak for making the plans a reality. Their dedication and cooperation has been superb.

You are in for a treat as we honor our heritage and history. The best talents possible were secured for the program, besides a multitude of proud bygdelaag with stately banners, lag exhibits, and published books for sale. At the banquet you will enjoy the wearable art of authentic bunader, representing various areas of Norway. Celebrations also happen at individual summer stevner (meetings), but this one seeks to let the festive features take root in memory and hover there to inspire future leaders and members.

This year 28 lag from specific geographic (lag) areas of Norway have affiliated with the Fellesraad; each has a special genealogical history, directly related as descendants of people who originated there! Direct descendants of recorded charter members in most lag will be recognized at lunch on Saturday.

Notable Norwegian Americans or Norwegians from all walks of life who have contributed greatly to sharing Norway with other Americans in the bygdelaag and elsewhere will be honorees Friday evening. A number of these were awarded knighthood or the St Olav Medal by Norway's kings. Leaders present from other Norwegian-based organizations will also be recognized.

It is 117 years ago that the Valdres began the bygdelaag movement in America. In the following 20 years it is estimated that at least 75,000 annually attended a summer stevne! Over 20 national groups had organized along with regional sub-groups in America before the advisory council known as Bygdelaagenes Fellesraad organized in 1916 and later incorporated in Minnesota in 1926. North Hedmark and Hedemarken, the most recent lag, organized in 1995.

Volunteers are the strength of these organizations and there is rarely enough thanks to cover the dedicated hours and energy put forth. I can only say we could not have enjoyed this party without you! Thanks from the bottom of our collective heart. Annually elected for 26 years, I now look forward to the past president's board position. Warmest thanks to Treasurer R. Lee Brown who will need time to settle Centennial accounts as he leaves the board. Congratulations and welcome to the new officers elected Saturday! May the coming years spark imaginative ideas for leaders in all bygdelaag. Again, we thank each of you for coming. Enjoy the celebration!

*Marilyn Dahlen Somdahl*

Thank you to our generous Sponsors



Family Search  
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Sons of Norway Foundation





The Conference Committee warmly welcomes you to the Centennial Celebration. We hope that you enjoy all the wonderful things we have planned for you.

| CONFERENCE COMMITTEE           | Lag Affiliation  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Jean Knaak, Coordinating Chair | NHOH, Rogalandslag, Romerikslag, Sigdalslag  |
| Marilyn Sorensen, Co-chair     | NHOH, Gubbrandsdal, Ringerike Drammen Districts                                    |
| Lynne Beck                     |  |
| Betty Berglund                 |  |
| Jean Borgerding                | Landingslag, Sigdalslag, Toten   |
| Joel Botten                    | Gudbrandsdal, Møre og Romsdal, Romerikslag, Valdres Samband                        |
| Aimee Brown                    |  |
| Lee Brown                      | Hadeland, Møre og Romsdal, Toten   |
| Marie Brown                    | Hadeland, Møre og Romsdal, Toten   |
| John Christianson              | Gudbrandsdal   |
| Laurel Dikken                  | Hardangar, Nordland, Numensdal   |
| Earl Evenstad                  | Valdres Samband  |
| Judy Ghastin                   | Sognalag, Sognefjord,  |
| Dennis Gimmestad               | Nordfjord  |
| Gracia Grindal                 |  |
| Mary Gross                     | Romerikslag  |
| Elaine Hasleton                | Gudbrandsdal, Hallinglag, Sigdalslag, Solørlag, Telelag, Trønderlag                |
| Nancy Hawkinson                | Nordlandslag, Trønderlag   |
| Eunice Helgeson                | Ringerike Drammen Districts, Romerikslag, Sigdalslag, Telelag                      |
| Sandra Hendrickson             | Landingslag, Numedalslagen, Sigdalslag, Trønderlag, Valdres Samband                |
| Barbara Horn                   | Landingslag  |
| Elaine Nordlie                 | Telelag  |
| Nancy Sand Olson               | Gudbrandsdal, Hardangar  |
| Ray Olson                      | NHOH, Solørlag   |
| Robert O'Neil                  | Nordfjord  |
| Gene Rodi                      | Nordfjord  |
| Ann Romo                       | Romerikslag, Sognalag, Sognefjord lag  |
| Bob Rowe                       |  |
| Anne Sladky                    | Hadeland, Landingslag, Sigdalslag, Telelag   |
| Marilyn Somdahl                | Hallinglag, Ringerike Drammen Districts, Rogalandslag, Sigdalslag, Valdres Samband |
| Joanne Sorbel                  | Hallinglag, Solørlag, Trønderlag   |
| Duane Swanson                  |  |
| Don Teigen                     | Hardangar, Møre og Romsdal, NHOH, Ringerike Drammen Districts                      |
| Mike Wick                      | Nordlandslag   |



# A Brief Schedule of Conference Events

Please see pages 20-23 for Full Details



| <b>Thursday, May 5</b> |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 5 PM                   | Registration Opens<br>View Special Exhibits   |
| 7 PM                   | Dessert & Coffee Reception  |
| 7:30                   | Doug Ohman-Stories about Norwegian Images in Minnesota  |
| <b>Friday, May 6</b>   |   |
| 7 AM                   | Registration Opens  |
| 8 AM                   | Opening Session-John Christianson-“Jänteloven”  |
| 9-10:30                | Classes   |
| 10:30                  | Coffee Break  |
| 11:00                  | Classes   |
| 12:00                  | Luncheon-Øyvind Gullikson   |
| 1:30-3:00              | Classes   |
| 3:00                   | Coffee Break  |
| 3:30-4:30              | Classes   |
| 4:30                   | Norwegian Heritage, Research and the Future   |
| 5:30                   | Happy Hour and Dinner on your own   |
| 7:00                   | Reception-Lena & Ole Build a Lag House, Recognition of Significant Norwegian Americans  |
| <b>Saturday, May 7</b> |   |
| 8:00                   | Annual Meeting/Norwegian Day Camp<br>Lag Displays, Vendors and Information Tables open  |
| 9:00                   | Opening Session, Call of the Lur, Presentation of Flags, Anthems, Fellesraad History and Recognition of Norwegian Organizations and Stoughton High School Dancers |
| 10:30                  | Coffee Break  |
| 11:00                  | Class   |
| 12:00                  | Luncheon, Charter Member Recognition, Norwegian Glee Club   |
| 2:00                   | Classes   |
| 2:45                   | Coffee Break  |
| 3:10-4:45              | Classes   |
| 5:00                   | Social Hour/Lag Displays, Vendor and Information Tables Close   |
| 6:45                   | Banquet-US District Court Chief Judge John Tunheim, Bunad Parade  |
| <b>Sunday, May 8</b>   |   |
| 9:00                   | English Service at Mindekirken  |
| 9:00-1:00              | Open House at Norway House  |
| 11:00                  | Norwegian Service at Mindekirken with light lunch following   |
| 1:00                   | Book reading/signing at Norway House-Neal Bascomb   |



## 1916 Fellesraad Board

Ditlef G Ristad  
Vice President  
Tronderlag



Andrew A Veblen, President  
Valdres



Lars P  
Thorkveen,  
Secretary  
Gudbrandsdal



Carl L Opsal, Treasurer  
Mjøsen



Conrad D Mørck, Archivist  
Nordland

## 2016 Fellesraad Board



Marilyn Sorensen  
Vice President



R. Lee Brown  
Treasurer



Mary Gross  
Secretary



Eunice Helgeson  
1st Director



Marilyn Somdahl  
President



Jean Knaak  
4th Director



Eugene Rodi  
2nd Director



Donald Teigen  
3rd Director



## Bygdelagenes Fellesraad History

- 1899-1914 formation of 23 bygdelag before establishment of the Fellesraad
- 1903-1915 Annual meeting of some bygdelag representatives
- 1914 trek to Norway to celebrate the Jubilee of the Constitution and to bring gifts to home communities
- 1914 happenings with 17th May Committee as Bygdelag representatives became 17th May committee
- 1916 Bygdelag representatives worked to establish umbrella concept
- 1916 Constitution of Faellesraad of Bygdelags
- 1916 Fellesraad Board established with A. A. Veblen as President
- 1916-1930 five more lags formed
- 1925 Norse American Centennial idea initiated by Stavanger Lag and all lags joined in the planning and implementing of the event—80,000 attended
- 1926 Fellesraad Incorporated in Minnesota
- 1945-1975 lags encounter meeting hurdles
- 1952-1954 Assisted Emigrant Museum in Norway acquire first cabin from North Dakota (\$500)
- 1967 Data collection & funding toward the 1975 Odd Lovoll book, *A Folk Epic: the Bygdelag in America* (\$8,000+)
- 1975-1986 Morgan Olson rebuilt interest in bygdelag
- 1979-1995 five more lags formed
- 1980 family history movement strengthens lags
- Skogfjorden Language Camp donations
- Lag newsletter grants
- Avisen subscriptions for lag genealogists
- Large ads in April Viking magazine, newsletters or papers
- Promotions: bulletins, roots brochure, website & festivals
- Heritage organization memberships: Vesterheim Museum, Nordmanns Forbundet and Norwegian-American Historical Association
- Lag area Microforms
  - o Purchased fiche and films for Vesterheim Center (Norwegian-American Genealogy Center in Madison, Wisconsin)
  - o Fellesraad/Norwegian-American Genealogy Association (Minnesota) permission to buy films for lags—processed over 700 films
- 1985-1998 Annual lag genealogist meetings
- 1987 five lag genealogists explore Salt Lake City research facilities
- 1999 Bygdelag Centennial with over 1000 attending
- Lag centennial gifts as each group reaches 100 years
- 2004-2016 lag leadership memorials—Muskego Church
- 2007-2009 project to encourage lag genealogists to attend Norwegian Lag Week (\$100 stipend)
- 2006-2016 Annual Norwegian Lag Week is scheduled and announced on the Fellesraad web page
- 2012 Facebook page begun for Lag Week
- 2013-2015 Norway House \$10,000
- 28 lags currently are members of Fellesraad
- 2016 Fellesraad Centennial



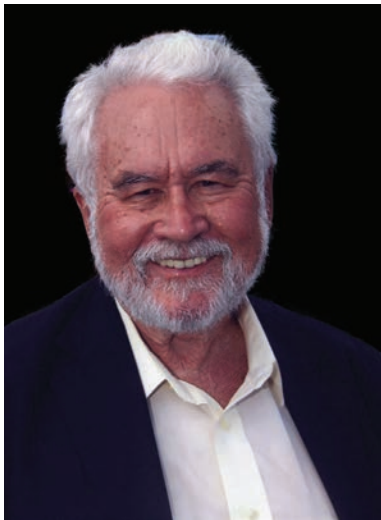
## Men Who Made an Impact

Morgan Olson is described as a tremendous leader for Norwegian American Heritage. He is one person who rebuilt the interest in bygdelag. Listed below are some of his many accomplishments.

Leader of Norwegian heritage groups  
President of Council of Norwegian-American Bygdelags  
Revitalized at least eight lags  
As president of Hadeland he activated lag  
Member Nordkap Men's Chorus  
Vice President of National Association of Norwegian American Singers  
On numerous boards



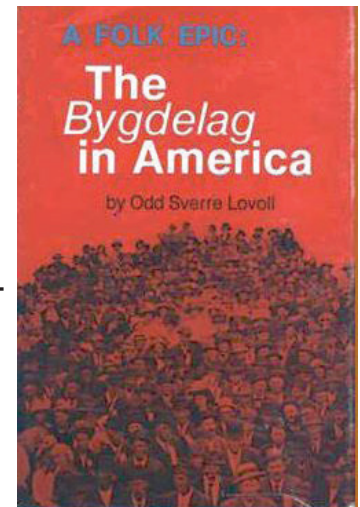
*Morgan Olson*  
1910-1986



*Odd Sverre  
Lovoll*

Odd Lovoll's study was supported by Fellesraad from 1966-1973. The product of his studies, *A Folk Epic: The Bygdelag in America*, was published in 1975 by the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

Lovoll was decorated with the Knight's Cross First Class of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit in 1986 by Olav V of Norway. In 1989 he was inducted into membership in The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters. He was inducted into the Scandinavian Hall of Fame at the 2001 Norsk Høstfest.





# Connect Generations

Find your place in history at FamilySearch.  
Discover billions of free records and tools to  
preserve your family story.

[FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org)



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*The mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic Countries, and provide quality insurance and financial products to our members.*



**SONS OF  
NORWAY**

## Supporting Members and Their Communities

For more than 120 years Sons of Norway has been providing financial and cultural support to its members while playing an active role in hundreds of communities throughout North America and Norway.

If you'd like to join us or learn more about what it means to belong to Sons of Norway, visit us on the web at [www.sonsofnorway.com](http://www.sonsofnorway.com) or call (800) 945-8851.





## CALL OF THE MOUNTAINS

An American Artist in Norway

Thomas George

*Mixed media—oils, Inks, watercolors, gouaches*

Opening May 15, 2016  
Galleri at Norway House



### VISIT

#### NORWAY HOUSE EDUCATION CENTER

Norway House has a variety of spaces available to rent for your next gathering, corporate meeting or special event.

**also** ingebretsen's

GAVEBUTIKK | KAFFEBAR

Norwegian pastries, classes, coffee, specialties, + more

### HOURS:

**Monday:**  
Closed

**Tuesday - Saturday:**  
10 AM–4 PM

**Sunday:**  
11 AM–3 PM

### SUPPORT

Become a member, and become a Friend of Norway House, visit [norwayhouse.org/membership](http://norwayhouse.org/membership) to find out more details and benefits.

913 E FRANKLIN AVENUE  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA U.S.A

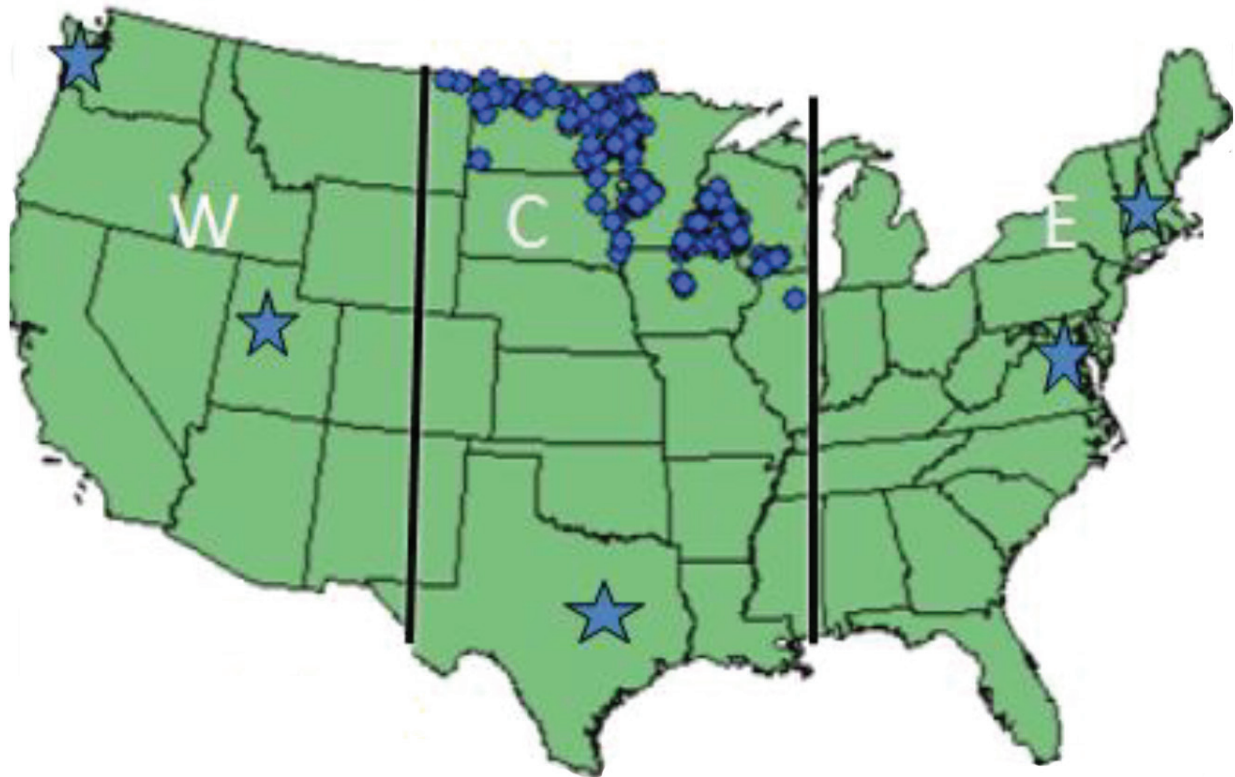


612 871.2211

[NORWAYHOUSE.ORG](http://NORWAYHOUSE.ORG)



# Norwegian Family History Reference Sites



## Resource Locations in Western States

### Seattle area

Sons of Norway Library  
 Nordic museum  
 Academic libraries  
     Pacific Lutheran  
     U of Washington

Seattle Public Library

### Salt Lake City, UT

Family History Library

### Other Areas

Regional archives  
 State & county historical societies  
 Family history centers  
 Local libraries  
 Local Historical Societies  
 Interlibrary loan

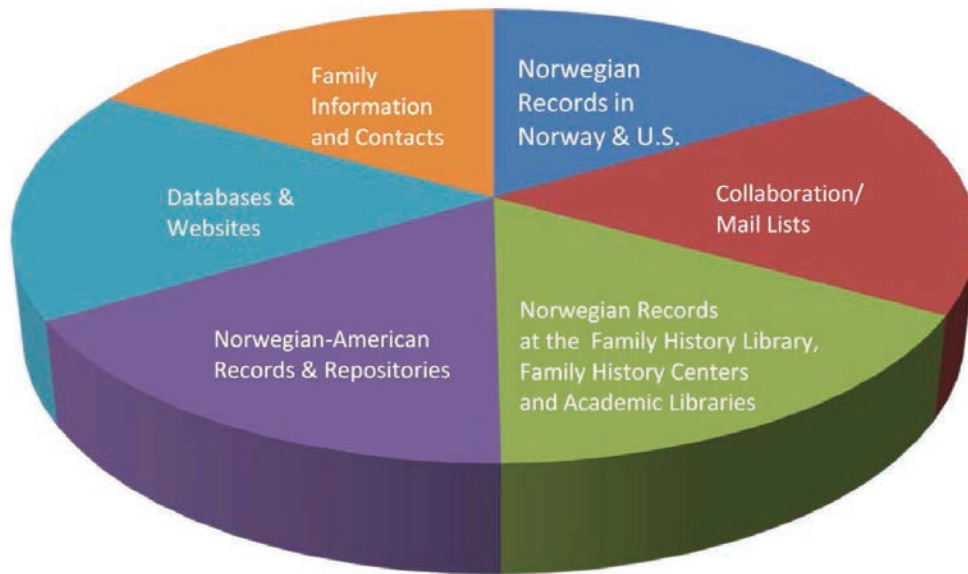
## Resource Locations in Central States

Cleng Peerson Memorial Library  
 Concordia College  
 Luther College  
 Norskedalen  
 Norwegian-American Genealogical Association  
 Norwegian-American Genealogical Center  
 Norwegian-American Historical Association  
 St Olaf College Library  
 University of Minnesota  
 University of North Dakota  
 University of Wisconsin  
 Family history centers  
 Local libraries  
 Local historical societies  
 Regional archives  
 State & county historical societies  
 Interlibrary loan

## Resource Locations in Eastern States

Library of Congress  
 Harvard University Library  
 National Archive and Regional centers  
 State & county historical societies  
 Local historical society  
 Local libraries  
 Family history centers  
 Interlibrary loan

## Norwegian Family History Research



Reference Site Displays  
on view Thursday & Friday, May 5-6  
at the DoubleTree by Hilton  
in the Lake of the Isles Room

| Reference Site   | Location           | Website  |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Arne Brekke Bygdebok Collection/<br>University of North Dakota                     | Grand Forks, ND    | <a href="http://library.und.edu/special-collections/bygdebok/">http://library.und.edu/special-collections/bygdebok/</a>                |
| Canadian Resources   | Canada             | Multiple sites   |
| Family History Library   | Salt Lake City, UT | <a href="https://familysearch.org/locations/saltlakecity-library">https://familysearch.org/locations/saltlakecity-library</a>          |
| Minnesota Historical Society   | St. Paul, MN       | <a href="http://www.mnhs.org/">http://www.mnhs.org/</a>  |
| Norskedalen  | Coon Valley, WI    | <a href="http://www.norskedalen.org/">http://www.norskedalen.org/</a>  |
| Norwegian-American Genealogical Association  | South St. Paul, MN | <a href="http://www.norwegianamerican.org/">http://www.norwegianamerican.org/</a>  |
| Norwegian-American Historical Association/<br>St. Olaf College Special Collections | Northfield, MN     | <a href="http://www.naha.stolaf.edu/">http://www.naha.stolaf.edu/</a><br><a href="http://sage.stolaf.edu/">http://sage.stolaf.edu/</a> |
| Riksarkiv-Norwegian Archival System  | Oslo, Norway       | <a href="http://www.arkivverket.no/eng/The-National-Archives">http://www.arkivverket.no/eng/The-National-Archives</a>                  |

# Featured Speakers



**Doug Ohman**

## Thursday Reception

### Norwegian Images in Minnesota

Travel with Photographer & Story Teller, Doug Ohman. Doug uses his camera to tell the story of Minnesota history. The program will focus on a variety of Norwegian sites he has photographed along the back roads, small towns and neighborhoods of the state. He will share stories along with photographs that highlight the richness of Norwegian history & culture.

Doug Ohman has a background in history and geography so he travels the state to locate scenes that include his interests and have a story to tell. In addition Doug is an experienced photographer, an author, a storyteller and an impressive presenter.

[pioneerphotos@comcast.net](mailto:pioneerphotos@comcast.net)



**John R.  
Christianson**

## Friday Opening Session

### “Jänteloven” – Is That What It Means to Be Norwegian?

Jänteloven (the Law of Jänte) says, “Don’t think you’re so great!” Is that what it means to be Norwegian? Or are we the opposite: the GREATEST?

John R. Christianson is an historian, author and Professor Emerita of History from Luther College. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. He helped to plan six royal visits to Decorah and escorted three generations of Norwegian royalty around the town. Dr. Christianson has written, edited, or translated a dozen books and 130 articles on Scandinavian and Scandinavian-American history. In 1995, King Harald V dubbed him a Knight of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit.

[christianson@luther.edu](mailto:christianson@luther.edu)



**US District Court  
Chief Judge  
John Tunheim**

## Saturday Banquet

### Essential Relationships Between Norway and the United States

John R Tunheim graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota and University of Minnesota Law School. He was appointed a United States District Judge taking his oath of office in December 29, 1995. From 1994-1998, he served as the Chairman of the U.S. Assassination Records Review Board, an independent federal agency responsible for reviewing and facilitating public disclosure of previously classified government records related to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. He has also invested a significant amount of time in international rule of law development. Countries he has worked in are: Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal and Maldives.

Chief Judge Tunheim currently serves as the Chair of the Dean’s Advisory Council at the Humphrey School and Chair of the Board of Regents of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. He is the Past President of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, Chair of the Board of the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights–US Foundation, and a member of the Board of Trustees for the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights–Norway.



# Centennial Speakers



**Lynne Beck**

**Future of Printed Materials in Academic Libraries**  
*(Friday)*

It is true that Academic Libraries are turning away from printed books and moving towards electronic access to materials. Promising news for genealogists is the effort for Academic Libraries, governments and organizations to work together to provide digitalization of archival material. Discover some of these projects and how they will help your research.

Lynne, Librarian specialist for family history at the University of Minnesota Libraries specializing in genealogy, government information, and general research. She is responsible for the genealogy webpages and answering genealogy questions at the University of Minnesota. Library has resources for genealogists, especially the Norwegian genealogist.

[l-beck@umn.edu](mailto:l-beck@umn.edu)



**Betty A Bergland**

**Enduring Ethnicity—Two Approaches**  
*(Friday)*

Dr. Betty Bergland will examine the concept of “symbolic ethnicity”. American sociologist Herbert J. Gans used this term to describe the descendants of immigrants for whom their ethnic past was less functional in their daily lives. Yet, they would often align themselves to the symbols of their ethnic background through food, clothing, and celebration. Scholars have debated the degree, extent, and purpose of this symbolic ethnicity even into the sixth and seventh generations. Betty will discuss this approach to understanding ethnicity, especially with respect to Norwegian-Americans.

Betty Bergland is Professor Emerita of History at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. She has a B.A. from St. Olaf College, a M.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. With Lori Lahlum, she co-edited *Norwegian American Women*, published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press. Her current work focuses on the intersecting histories of Norwegian immigrants and indigenous people in the Upper Midwest.

[Betty.A.Bergland@uwrf.edu](mailto:Betty.A.Bergland@uwrf.edu)



**Ida Marie Bringedal**

**Contemporary Art Scene in Norway**  
*(Saturday)*

Ida Bringedal will give an introduction of the Norwegian scene of contemporary art based on her professional experience in the field. Both artistic expressions, cities and economies will

be presented and evaluated. Combined with presenting Norwegian artists present in the American market, the presentation aims to give new perspectives on the vibrant and complex Norwegian contemporary art scene.

Art curator and historian Ida Marie Bringedal is the Director of the Telemark Art Center in Skien, Telemark, Norway. She has three degrees with emphasis in art history/aesthetics and public management. She is fluent in German, Spanish, English and Norwegian

[ida@telemarkkunstsenter.no](mailto:ida@telemarkkunstsenter.no)



**Gary DeKrey**

**The Future of Ethnicity in the Twenty-First Century**  
*(Saturday)*

What is the future of ethnic identity in 21st-century multi-cultural North America? What future might ethnic organizations – especially Norwegian-American organizations – have in our changing culture? These and other questions will be addressed by focusing on the resources and online tools available at the archives of the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

Gary DeKrey spent his early years surrounded by Norwegian-Americans. He attended St. Olaf College. Gary has a Ph.D. from Princeton University. Since 1988 he has taught European and British history at St. Olaf. Currently he is the archivist both for the college and for the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

[dekrey@stolaf.edu](mailto:dekrey@stolaf.edu)



# Centennial Speakers



## Knut Djupedal

### **Ingrid Semmingson Library at the Norwegian Museum of Migration** *(Friday)*

This is a talk about where a visitor can find genealogical information at our museum, our services, and the services of

other institutions in Hedmark County and Norway.

### **Story of the Bygdelag and the Founding of the Norwegian Emigrant Museum** *(Saturday)*

In February, 1940, The Norseman's Federation began the process of creating a museum dedicated to the story of Norwegian emigration to overseas destinations. The war stopped the project, but afterwards, the work went ahead with the assistance of the Bygdelag and the Fellesraad. Without their help, that museum almost certainly would not have been founded. This talk will tell that story.

Knut Djupedal is Director of the Emigration Museum located in Hedmark. He emigrated as a child to the USA, returned to Norway as an adult and settled there. He has a BA and MA in History from American universities and a MA in Folklore from University of Bergen.

[Knut.Djupedal@annomuseum.no](mailto:Knut.Djupedal@annomuseum.no)



## Bradley Ellingboe

### **The Contributions of Norwegian Immigrants to the Musical Life of the United States.** *(Friday)*

Professor Bradley Ellingboe will provide an overview of how Norwegian immigrants, from ca. 1870 - 2010, affected the musical life of the United States, particularly in regard to classical music.

Bradley Ellingboe is a graduate of Saint Olaf College and the Eastman School of Music and has done further study at the Aspen Music Festival, the Bach Aria Festival, the University of Oslo and the Vatican. He retired in 2015 after serving on the faculty of the University of New Mexico for 30 years, where he was Director of Choral Activities, Professor of Music and Regents Lecturer. For his scholarly work in making the songs of Edvard Grieg more accessible to the English-speaking public, he received the Medal of Saint Olav (Sankt Olavs Medaljen) from the King Harald VI Norway in 1994.

[brellingboe@hotmail.com](mailto:brellingboe@hotmail.com)



## Laurann Gilbertson

### **Norwegian Folk Art in America: Past, Present and Future** *(Saturday)*

Explore and expand your ideas of what is "tradition" and "traditional" while looking at historical

objects and pieces made today by artists working "within the tradition." Examples will include textiles, woodcarving, knifemaking, and rosemaling.

Laurann Gilbertson holds a B.A. in Anthropology and a M.S. in Textiles & Clothing from Iowa State University. She has been the Textile Curator at Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, Iowa, for 19 years and is now Chief Curator. She cares for the museum's artifacts, prepares exhibitions, leads textile study tours to Norway, and other tasks.

[lgilbertson@vesterheim.org](mailto:lgilbertson@vesterheim.org)



## Dennis Gimmestad

### **Enduring Ethnicity—Two Approaches** *(Friday)*

This celebration of the Fellesraad's centennial is clear evidence that Norwegian-American ethnicity has not been lost to the melting pot. Yet, as the gener-

ations continue, the nature of this ethnicity changes. This session will consider two approaches to understanding the meanings surrounding the endurance of ethnicity in contemporary America.

The session will be introduced and moderated by Dennis Gimmestad

Dennis Gimmestad has worked as an historian for the Minnesota Historical Society and for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Cultural Resources Program. He currently serves on the board of the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

[dengim@q.com](mailto:dengim@q.com)





# Centennial Speakers



## Gracia Grindal

**Early Norwegian American Leaders as Exemplified by Linka Preus and Elisabeth Koren** *(Friday)*

Elisabeth Koren and Linka Preus, pastors' wives in the Norwegian American Lutheran church, came to this country as well bred, fine ladies, like most of their compatriots. While some did not survive in this country, and had to return to Norway, Elisabeth and Linka survived and flourished, leaving behind a culture and community still shaped by their sketches and writings.

Gracia Grindal, Professor Emerita of Luther Seminary, has spent a lifetime reading the stories of Norwegian Americans. She has written several books on the women leaders in the Norwegian American Lutheran church groups and has been especially fascinated about how they took what they knew from Norway and learned how to adapt it to the New Land which took incredible strength of character and intelligence.

[ggrindal@luthersem.edu](mailto:ggrindal@luthersem.edu)



## Øyvind Gullikson

**Strength, Grace & Skills of Norwegian-Americans** *(Friday)*

The talk will focus on a few women voices in Norwegian-American immigrant literature and history, from Elisabeth Koren until today, and how they helped to define qualities such as strength, grace and skills.

Øyvind T. Gulliksen was born in Ulefoss, Telemark, Norway. He has a PhD in American Literature from the University of Bergen. He is a Professor Emerita (American Literature and Culture) from University College of Southeast Norway, campus Bø i Telemark. Presently he is "Honorary Research Scholar in Nordic Studies" at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. His project is "The Letters of Elisabeth Koren, 1853–1868."

[Oyvind.Gulliksen@hit.no](mailto:Oyvind.Gulliksen@hit.no)



## Elaine Helgeson Hasleton

**Twenty First Century Norwegian Family Research, Melding Old and New** *(Friday)*

Norwegian family history research has evolved considerably over the last ten years. This class will encompass both the old and new research techniques and numerous resources, and how they can be used efficiently to add content to your family tree.

Elaine Helgeson Hasleton is a native Minnesotan with Norwegian ancestral lines. She is an Accredited Genealogist for both Norway and Sweden and has done professional Scandinavian research for over forty years. She is currently a Deputy, Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch in Salt Lake City. She has participated in numerous conferences, both planning and attending, in the U.S. as well as Scandinavia.

[hasletonEE@familysearch.org](mailto:hasletonEE@familysearch.org)



## Barbara Horn

**Preparing for a Research Trip in the 21st century – Getting the most out of your time and tools** *(Friday)*

Whenever you make a trip to a repository, courthouse or other location containing records, you want to use your time as efficiently as possible. Spending the time before your trip so that you know exactly where you are going, what you are looking for and have the information at your finger-tips during the trip are key to your success. This presentation will help you prepare for a successful trip.

Barbara Horn, N-AGA-Norwegian Research Specialist, has been working on family history research since the mid 1970's. Her ancestors are mostly Norwegian and German with a dash of Dane. In recent years, she has concentrated on Norwegian research helping many people find their ancestors, teaching seminars and writing newsletter articles.

[bahorn@usfamily.net](mailto:bahorn@usfamily.net)



# Centennial Speakers



## Terje Mikael Hasle Joranger

### **American, Norwegian, or Sogn-ing? Norwegian-American Identity Formation in the 19th and 20th Centuries** (Friday)

Norway is the country in Europe with the highest number of emigrants to America in relation to its population in the nineteenth century except Ireland. How did Norwegian immigrants adapt to new surroundings in America, and how did their new life affect who they were? This presentation discusses the identity formation process among Norwegian immigrants to the United States and their offspring in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

### **A Sense of Place: Norwegian-Americans in the Upper Midwest** (Saturday)

The largest concentration of Norwegian-Americans in the United States today is found in the Upper Midwest. Norwegian-Americans are the largest Nordic immigrant group in terms of numbers, and they also tend to be more rural than most immigrant groups to the United States. How can we explain these factors, and to what extent are there specific characteristics tied to Norwegian-Americans in the Upper Midwest today?

Terje Mikael Hasle Joranger is a lecturer in American history and civilization at the University of Oslo. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Oslo in 2008. His study was the transfer of traditions in Norway to the United States from the 1850s until present. Terje Joranger has been chair of the Norwegian-American Historical Association – Norway Chapter and is currently working on a book about the creation of a Norwegian-American identity.

[t.m.h.joranger@ilos.uio.no](mailto:t.m.h.joranger@ilos.uio.no)



## Jean Knaak

### **Norwegian Heritage, Research Skills and the Future** (Friday)

Jean Knaak, PhD, has been a teacher, school administrator, business owner and educational consultant in more than 10 countries. Raised in the rural America

Norwegian tradition, she is intensively interested in Norwegian genealogy and culture and is active in a number of Norwegian-American organizations.

[knaak002@gmail.com](mailto:knaak002@gmail.com)



## Karen Humphrey

### **Bringing Families Together: Historical Societies, Archives, and the 21st Century** (Friday)

(Friday)

Karen's presentation centers on the wealth of historic treasure in the 21st century for people searching and seeking family stories.

Karen Annexstad Humphrey grew up in Norseland, MN, where she became enamored with history at the age of 8. She is an independent scholar, author of two books and several articles. Currently she is President of the Norwegian American Historical Association. She works with individuals and families in philanthropy at the Minnesota Historical Society.

[Karen.humphrey@mnhs.org](mailto:Karen.humphrey@mnhs.org)



## Fredrik Larsen Lund

### **The Norwegian Archival System including information about various relevant services and sources for Norwegian-American family history** (Friday)

How to use the Norwegian archives for family history research? This presentation will

give an introduction to what the National Archives of Norway (Riksarkivet and Statsarkiv) has to offer, and how to access the archives both online and in person.

### **Finding Family in Norway: What You Should Know Before You Travel.** (Saturday)

How to prepare for your visit to Norway? Some thoughts from archives and libraries about how to make the most out of a trip in search of ancestors and relatives on the other side of the Atlantic.

Fredrik Larsen Lund works for the National Archives of Norway as an adviser in the Outreach Section. He has an MA in History from the University in Oslo and has published a book about Norwegian immigration and settlement in Australia. Fredrik has also been a journalist for many years.

[frelun@arkivverket.no](mailto:frelun@arkivverket.no)



# Centennial Speakers



## H Christine Midelfort

### Enduring Ethnicity—Two Approaches *(Friday)*

H. Christine Midelfort will explore some inner aspects of enduring ethnicity. In the mid-20th century, Dr. Christian F. Midelfort found

interesting connections between ethnic identity and aspects of mental health. Later, his work as a physician and H.Christine Midelfort's training as an anthropologist came together in an article about Norwegian Americans and family therapy. H.C. will review this earlier work, and add her observations from over thirty years of living and working within the Norwegian and Norwegian-American communities.

H. Christine Midelfort has master's degrees in Scandinavian Studies (University of Minnesota) and in Cultural Anthropology (Brown University). She has been a cultural consultant to psychotherapists and small businesses, and a translator of all things Norwegian. She currently teaches classes in the Norwegian Language and Culture Program at Mindekirken in Minneapolis, and at the Concordia Language Villages adult program.

[hcmidelfort@gmail.com](mailto:hcmidelfort@gmail.com)



## Marvin Slind

### The Cultural, Social, and Economic Dimensions of Norwegian Immigration to America *(Friday)*

This presentation will provide an overview of the "push" and "pull" factors that stimulated emigration

from Norway to America. It will also look at the role that the Lutheran Church and other institutions played in the development of Norwegian American society.

Marvin Slind has his PhD from Washington State University. He is Professor Emerita of History at Luther College, in Decorah, Iowa. Courses he taught included History of Scandinavia and Scandinavian Immigration History. He has published books and articles related to Norwegian American history.

[slindmar@luther.edu](mailto:slindmar@luther.edu)



## Marilyn Sorensen

### Norwegian Heritage, Research Skills and the Future *(Friday)*

### Fellesraad - An Abbreviated History *(Saturday)*

This presentation about the history of the Fellesraad will be given in partnership with the President of the Fellesraad. This presentation will be abbreviated with the full power point running in a loop throughout the day. Fellesraad has a legacy but we must dream for an enriching, a cooperative and an expanding future.

Marilyn Sorensen is an educator and worked primarily in various areas of special education. She has given leadership both openly and behind the scenes to a number of Norwegian-American organizations including chair of Mindekirken's Tuesday Open House program and Vice-President of Fellesraad since 1990. Norwegian culture and family history are an important interest.

[rddlagen@usfamily.net](mailto:rddlagen@usfamily.net)



## Marilyn D Somdahl

### Fellesraad - An Abbreviated History *(Saturday)*

This presentation about the history of the Fellesraad will be given in partnership with the Vice-President of the Fellesraad. This presentation will be abbreviated with the full power point running

in a loop throughout the day. Fellesraad has a legacy but we must dream for an enriching, a cooperative and an expanding future.

Marilyn Somdahl is a well-known name as a volunteer with Norwegian-American activities. She joined the Fellesraad board in 1987 and served as president for 25 years. She has been active in a number of bygdelag as president, editor and translator. In 1996 she received the St Olav Medal awarded by King Harald V for her exemplary service to Norwegian-American activities.

[somdahl2@usfamily.net](mailto:somdahl2@usfamily.net)

# Centennial Speakers



## Johnathan Storlie

### DNA impact on Norwegian Family History Research

(Friday)

Genetic genealogy has come a long way in the last ten years due to the increased number of markers and millions of people who have now been tested. Learn how to take advantage of this new technology to fill in those blanks in your family tree. Topics discussed include: choosing the best DNA testing service for you needs, maximizing the fruitful detective work between you and your DNA relatives, and even using tools to discover which Neanderthal traits you have.

Dr. Johnathan Storlie received his PhD in Microbiology from the University of Iowa and his MA from Boston College Grad School in Philosophy. He has taught Genetics at the University of Iowa, Luther College, and Viterbo University. Since 2009 he has been the director of Genetic Genealogy for Giants of the Earth Heritage Center in Spring Grove—Minnesota's first Norwegian settlement.

[john@storlie.org](mailto:john@storlie.org)



## Garth Ulrich

### Canadian research for Norwegian family history.

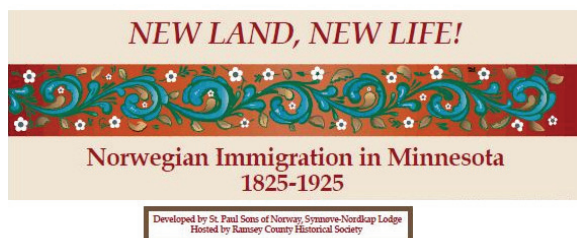
(Friday)

This session will focus on the Canadian Genealogical Resources (largely those available on the internet) that can be used for tracing those with Norwegian ancestry in Canada. Specific sources for the four western provinces that attracted many of the Norwegian settlers (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba) will also be discussed.

Garth is a Special Education Teacher in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He is a member of several lags, including Sigdalslag for which he is the Genealogist.

[gulrich@sasktel.net](mailto:gulrich@sasktel.net)

## Thursday & Friday Exhibits



***New Land, New Life: Norwegian Immigration in Minnesota: 1825-1925*** will be on display Thursday & Friday, May 5 & 6, during the Fellesraad Centennial Celebration. It is a poster display about immigration of people to Minnesota from Norway from 1825- 1925. It shows a time line starting with Eric the Red and Leif Eriksson, moving on to settling in the 1880s. It shows maps where high concentrations of Norwegians settled. The series of twenty panels depicts the first 100 years of Norwegian immigration in Minnesota. It is lent to the centennial celebration and is a collaboration of RCHS and the Synnove-Nordkap Sons of Norway Lodge.



***“A View from My Heart”***, a special display from Norway of Norwegian landscape and wildlife by photographer Øystein Johnsen will be exhibited on Thursday & Friday, May 5 & 6, at the Fellesraad Centennial.



# Conference Highlights



Lena and Ole will be featured in **“Lena and Ole Build a Lag House”** at the centennial reception on Friday evening, May 6 at 7 pm. This original and humorous skit has been developed specially for this occasion by Elaine Nordlie using information provided by the different lag. The cast includes:

Elaine Nordlie as Lena  
Jeffrey Huset as Ole  
Sandra Gilbert as Kari  
Eric Goplin as Lars

Enjoy the fun and learn something about lag history!



Colorful flowing bunads, smiling faces, and abounding energy will greet us as we watch the precision and humor of **the Stoughton High School Dancers**. For sixty-three years, the community of Stoughton, Wisconsin has supported the Norwegian dance culture. The group is comprised of twenty high school dancers and three high school keyboardists, who wear authentic customs, shoes, and jewelry imported from Norway. This venue will give an opportunity for the male dancers to show off their strength and athleticism, especially during the famous “Halling” dance and for the girls to demonstrate their countless spins. They are dedicated to the continuation of the Norwegian folkdance heritage while touching people’s lives and brightening their days.

## **The Call of the Lur**

A lur similar to the Viking war instruments has been played by farmers and milk maids in Nordic countries since at least the Middle Ages (probably longer). These lurs were used mainly for calling cattle, communication and signalling - it was the instrument of the dairy maid. In Norway these lurs are called Neverlur (Birch bark lur). The lur will be sounded by Jon Olson.



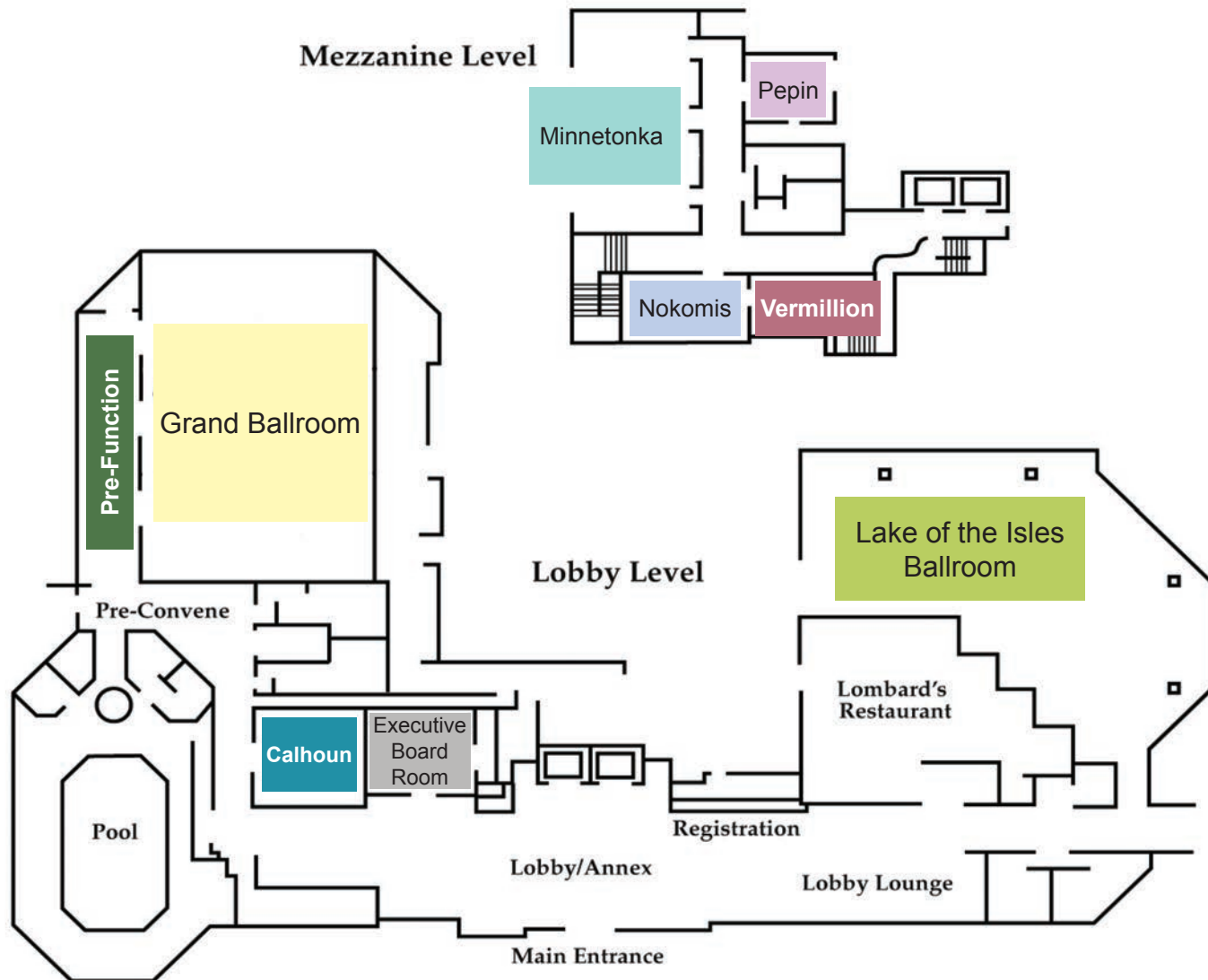
Saturday luncheon will feature **the Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis**. This is a Member Chorus of the Norwegian Singers Association of America, bringing the musical treasures of Norway to the American public and reminding us of our great Scandinavian heritage.



**The Bunad Parade** will be presented at the banquet on Saturday, May 7, at the Fellesraad Centennial at the Earle Brown Center. Many areas of Norway will be represented so there will be a large array of colors and styles. All individuals who have bunads may participate if they are registered for all day Saturday.



Thursday & Friday, May 5 & 6, 2016  
 DoubleTree by Hilton  
 Brooklyn Park, MN



Thursday Events

| Time                               | Event  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 11:00- 2:00 PM                     | Lag Meeting for Nordland   |
|                                    | Lag Meeting for Romerike   |
| 1:00-4:00PM                        | Preparation by Board and Committee   |
| 4:00                               | Board and Committee Meeting  |
| 5:00                               | Registration Opens   |
| 6:00                               | Volunteer Meeting  |
| 7:00                               | Dessert & Coffee Reception   |
| 7:30<br>Robert O'Neil<br>Presiding | Program<br><b>Doug Ohman</b> - Stories About Norwegian Images in Minnesota |

| Special Exhibits<br>Thursday & Friday |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Exhibit                               | Presented by                |
| New Land,<br>New Life                 | Sons of Norway              |
| A View From<br>My Heart               | Øysten Johnsen<br>Photo Art |

To locate your event, match the color in the schedule with the color on the site map.



# Friday Events

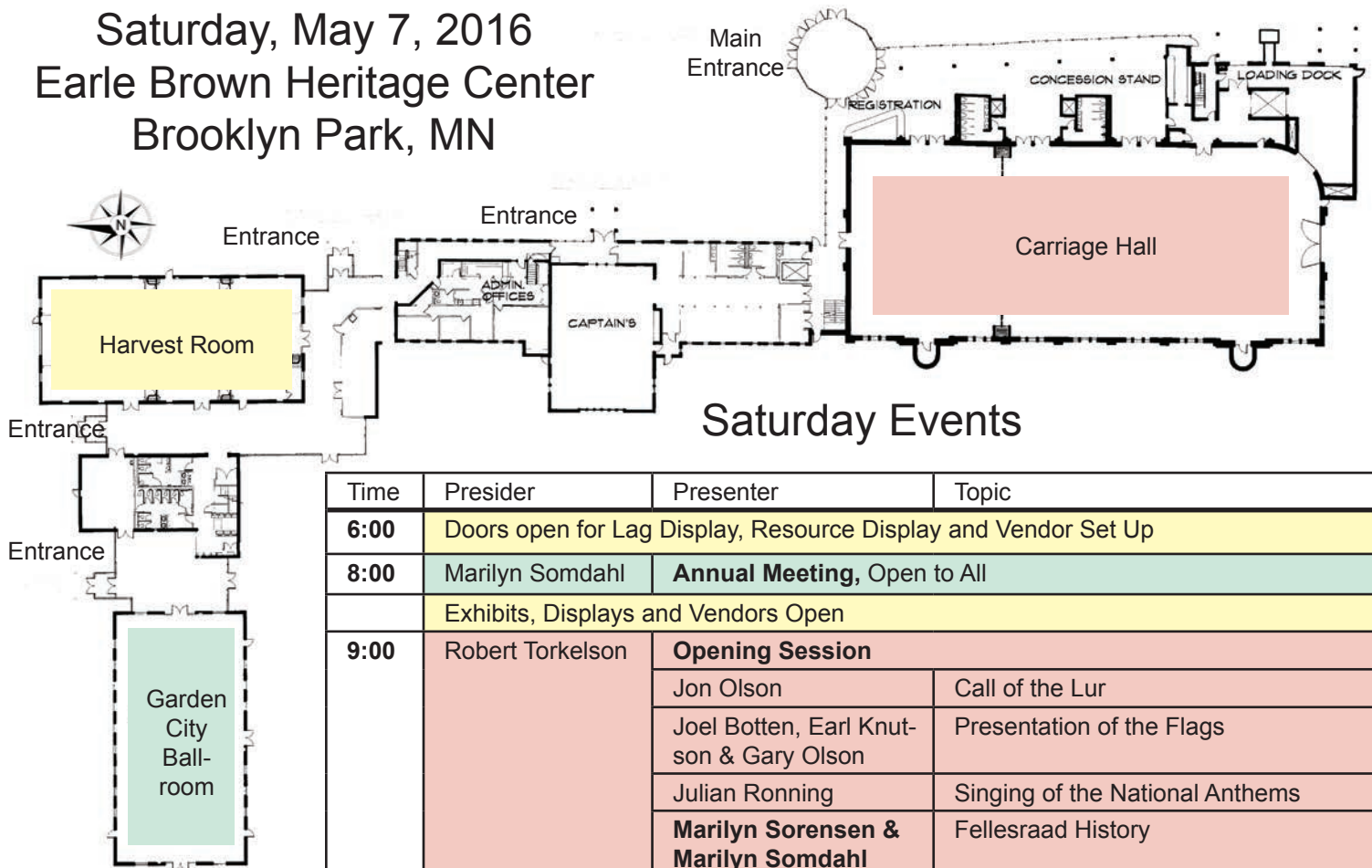
|              | Norwegian-ness   |  |  | 21st Century Family History |                            |   |
|--------------|--|--|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Time         | Presider   | Presenter  | Topic  | Presider                    | Presenter                  | Topic   |
| <b>7:00</b>  | Registration Opens   |  |  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>8:00</b>  | Jean Knaak   | <b>John Christianson</b>   | "Jänteloven" - Is That What it Means to be Norwegian?  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>9:00</b>  | Lynn Nord  | <b>Marvin Slind</b>  | The Cultural, Social, and Economic Dimensions of Norwegian Immigration to America                  | Kathy Johnson               | <b>Karen Humphrey</b>      | Bringing Families Together: Historical Societies, Archives, and the 21st Century              |
| <b>9:45</b>  |  | <b>Bradley Ellingboe</b>   | The Contributions of Norwegian Immigrants to the Musical Life of the United States                 |                             | <b>Knut Djupedal</b>       | Ingrid Semmingson Library at the Norwegian Museum of Migration                                |
| <b>10:30</b> | Coffee Break   |  |  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>11:00</b> | Doug Johnson   | <b>Terje Mikael Hasle Joranger</b>   | American, Norwegian or Sogning? Norwegian-American Identity Formation in the 19th & 20th Centuries | Earl Knutson                | <b>Lynne Beck</b>          | Future of Printed Materials in Academic Libraries   |
|              |  |  |  | Sheila Arndorfer            | <b>Barb Horn</b>           | Preparing for a Research Trip in the 21st Century-Getting the most out of your time and tools |
|              |  |  |  | Rod Pletan                  | <b>Garth Ulrich</b>        | Canadian Research for Norwegian Family History  |
| <b>12:00</b> | Luncheon   |  |  |                             |                            |   |
|              | Nancy Olson  | <b>Øyvind Gullikson</b>  | Strength, Grace & Skills of Norwegian-Americans  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>1:30</b>  | George Olson   | <b>Dennis Gimmetstad, H. Christine Midelfort &amp; Betty Bergland</b>                                  | Enduring Ethnicity-- Two Approaches.   | Deb Jarvar                  | <b>Elaine Hasleton</b>     | 21st Century Norwegian Family Research, Melding Old & New                                     |
| <b>2:15</b>  |  |  |  |                             | <b>Fredrik Larsen Lund</b> | The Norwegian Archival System   |
| <b>3:00</b>  | Coffee Break   |  |  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>3:30</b>  | Jim Oftelie  | <b>Gracia Grindal</b>  | Early Norwegian American Leaders as Exemplified by Linka Preus and Elisabeth Koren                 | Dale Buisman                | <b>Jonathan Storlie</b>    | DNA Impact on Norwegian Family History Research   |
| <b>4:30</b>  | Marilyn Sorensen   | <b>Marilyn Sorensen &amp; Jean Knaak</b>   | Norwegian Heritage, Research Skills and the Future   |                             |                            |   |
| <b>5:00</b>  | Volunteer Training for Saturday  |  |  |                             |                            |   |
|              | <b>Happy Hour</b> pricing at Lobby Lounge/ <b>Conference Registration</b> Available<br><b>Dinner</b> on your own. Buffet available in Lombard's Restaurant |  |  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>7:00</b>  | Ann Romo   | Centennial Reception<br>Lena & Ole Build a Lag House<br>Recognition of Significant Norwegian Americans |  |                             |                            |   |
| <b>8:45</b>  | Lag Meeting for Sognefjordlag  |  |  |                             |                            |   |
|              | Lag Meeting for Telelag  |  |  |                             |                            |   |



# Saturday, May 7, 2016

## Earle Brown Heritage Center

### Brooklyn Park, MN



## Saturday Events

| Time  | Presider   | Presenter  | Topic   |
|-------|--|--|---|
| 6:00  | Doors open for Lag Display, Resource Display and Vendor Set Up |  |   |
| 8:00  | Marilyn Somdahl  | <b>Annual Meeting</b> , Open to All  |   |
|       | Exhibits, Displays and Vendors Open                            |  |   |
| 9:00  | Robert Torkelson   | <b>Opening Session</b>   |   |
|       |  | Jon Olson  | Call of the Lur   |
|       |  | Joel Botten, Earl Knutson & Gary Olson   | Presentation of the Flags   |
|       |  | Julian Ronning   | Singing of the National Anthems   |
|       |  | <b>Marilyn Sorensen &amp; Marilyn Somdahl</b>  | Fellesraad History  |
| 9:40  | Recognition of Norwegian Organizations                         |  |   |
|       | Stoughton High School Dancers                                  |  |   |
| 10:30 | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |  |   |
| 11:00 | Lee Grippen  | <b>Terje Mikael Hasle Joranger</b>   | A Sense of Place: Norwegian Americans in the Upper Midwest              |
| 12:00 | Jeffrey Huset  | <b>Luncheon</b> /Charter member recognition/Norwegian Glee Club  |   |
| 2:00  | Sandra Gilbert   | <b>Knut Djupedal</b>   | Story of the Bygdelag and the Founding of the Norwegian Emigrant Museum |
|       | Betty Knutson  | <b>Laurann Gilbertson</b>  | Norwegian Folk Art in America: Past, Present & Future                   |
| 2:45  | <b>Coffee Break</b>  |  |   |
| 3:10  | Pat Shaver   | <b>Ida Marie Bringedal</b>   | Contemporary Art Scene in Norway  |
|       | John Haugo   | <b>Fredrik Larsen Lund</b>   | Finding Family in Norway: What you should know before you travel        |
| 4:00  | Karen Olson  | <b>Gary DeKrey</b>   | Future of Ethnicity in the 21st Century                                 |
|       | <b>Rehearsal for Bunad Parade</b>                              |  |   |
| 5:00  | <b>Social Hour</b> / Exhibits, Displays and Vendors Close      |  |   |
| 6:15  | Seating for Banquet Begins                                     |  |   |
| 6:45  | Gary Olson   | <b>Invocation by Pastor Kristin Sundt</b><br><b>Banquet</b><br><b>Introductions</b><br>Guest Speaker: <b>US District Court Chief Judge John Tunheim</b><br><b>Greetings From the Honorary Consulate General</b><br>Bunad Parade Narrated by Sandra Hendrickson |   |

### Norwegian Day Camp

for those 5-18 years of age  
**8:00 AM**- Meet on the Dance floor of the Carriage Hall. A full day of fun, informative events that conclude at 5:00 PM

### Day Camp Highlights

- Stoughton Dancers
- Call of the Lur
- Norwegian History
- Norwegian Folk Songs
- Lunch
- Games and Crafts
- Visit from a ventriloquist
- A Little Bit of Norwegian





Sunday, May 8, 2016  
Mindekirken & Norway House  
Minneapolis, MN

Sunday Events

**Mindekirken Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church**

924 East 21st Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

**9:00 AM:** English Service

**11:00 AM:** Norwegian Service

Light lunch following the 11:00 AM service

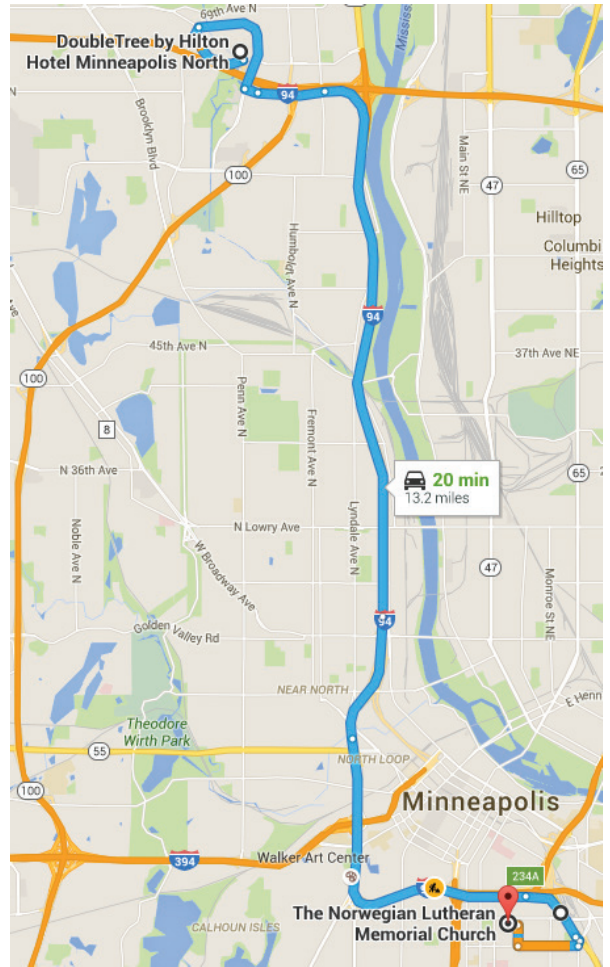


**Norway House**

913 East Franklin Ave  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

**9:00 AM - 1:00 PM:** Open House with Coffee and Cookies

**1:00 PM:** Book reading / book signing with national awardwinning and New York Times bestselling author, Neal Bascomb. Mr. Bascomb's newest book, *The Winter Fortress*, tells the true tale of one of the greatest feats of sabotage during WWII, the destruction of the heavy water plant in Telemark Norway.



**Driving Directions**

**20 min** (13.2 miles)

via I-94 E

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Minneapolis North**

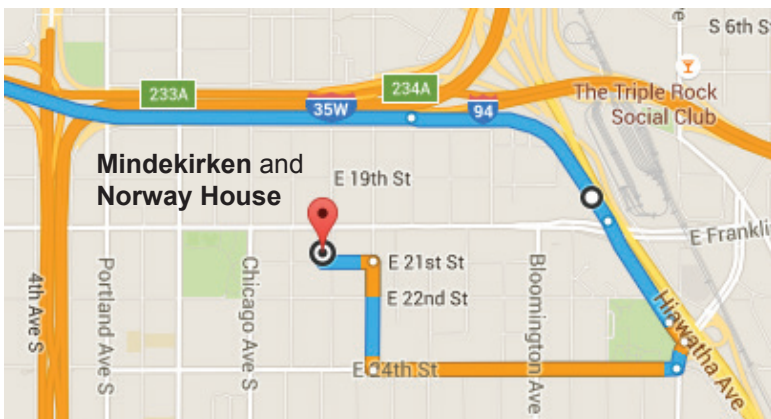
2200 Freeway Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55430

- > Get on I-94 E from Freeway Blvd and Shingle Creek Pkwy  
5 min (2.5 mi)
- > Follow I-94 E to MN-55 E/Hiawatha Ave in Minneapolis. Take exit 234A from I-94 E  
10 min (9.6 mi)
- > Take E 24th St and 11th Ave S to E 21st St  
5 min (1.2 mi)

**Norway House and  
The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church**

924 East 21st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404

**Mindekirken and Norway House** are located on the same block with shared parking.



**Enlarged view of Freeway exit and street routes**



Guide to Non-Profit Organization Information,  
Lag Displays and Vendor Tables  
Saturday, May 7, 2016  
Located in the Harvest Room and Common Areas  
Earle Brown Heritage Center

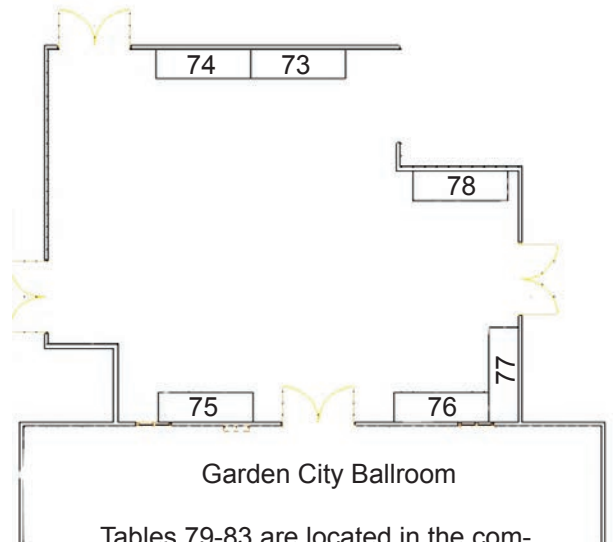


| <b>Lag Displays</b>                  |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Lag</b>                           | <b>Table #</b> |
| Gudbrandsdal Lag                     | 53-54          |
| Hadeland Lag                         | 39-40          |
| Hallinglag                           | 16-17          |
| Hardanger Lag                        | 21-22          |
| Landingslag                          | 41-42          |
| Møre og Romsdalslag                  | 27             |
| Nordfjord                            | 14-15          |
| Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag(NHOH) | 35 & 55        |
| Nordhordland/Sunnhordlands Lag       | 28-29          |
| Nordlandslag                         | 26             |
| Numedalslågen Lag                    | 44-45          |
| Ringerike Drammen Districts Lag      | 43             |
| Rogaland Lag                         | 23             |
| Romerikslag                          | 36-37          |
| Seven Lag                            | 38             |
| Sigdalslag                           | 46-47          |
| Sognalag                             | 30-31          |
| Sognefjord Lag                       | 32             |
| Solør Lag                            | 33-34          |
| Sunnfjord Lag                        | 24-25          |
| Telelag                              | 48             |
| Toten Lag                            | 49-50          |
| Trønderlag                           | 51-52          |
| Valdres Samband                      | 12-13          |
| Vestlandslag                         | 19             |
| Vosselag                             | 20             |

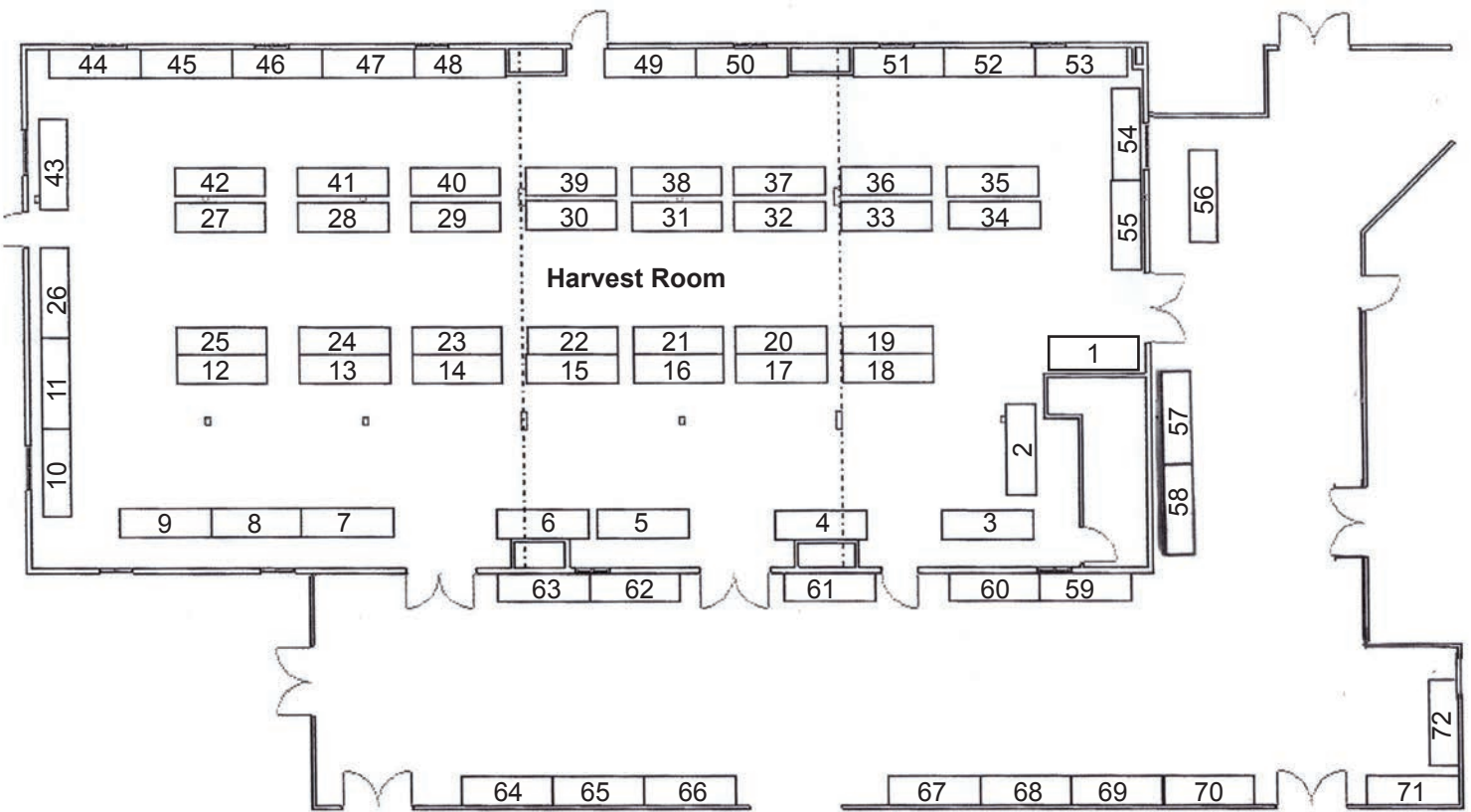
| <b>Vendors for Fellesraad Celebration</b>                 |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>Vendor</b>   | <b>Table #</b> |
| American Norsk Gal - Rosemaling                           | 61             |
| Astri, My Astri Publishing                                | 76-77          |
| Bitzer, Hal - Carving                                     | 67-68          |
| Borton Overseas Travel                                    | 62             |
| Brekke Tours  | 78             |
| Debbie's Doll Dresses                                     | 56             |
| Lefse Land  | 80             |
| Loppemarked Boutique                                      | 73-74          |
| Rose Marie Meuwissen- Books, Photo cards, Sweaters, Nisse | 64             |
| Mindekirken   | 58             |
| Norsk Heritage Workshop - Rosemaling Fashions             | 59-60          |
| Norsk Wood Works  | 79             |
| Norway House  | 57             |
| Norwex Products   | 81             |
| Rural Route Bookstore                                     | 65-66          |
| Scandi-lion Nordic Art                                    | 82-83          |
| Scandinavian Dolls  | 69             |
| Simar, Candice, Fiction - Scandinavian Immigrants         | 75             |
| Smith, Jan - Fiction Norse Life                           | 63             |
| Swensson, Karen, author                                   | 70             |
| Weathervane Antiques and Books - Jim Olson                | 71-72          |



| Non-Profit Organaization Information            |         |
|---|---------|
| Organization                                    | Table # |
| Concordia Language Villages                     | 9       |
| Daughters of Norway                             | 8       |
| Family Search                                   | 3       |
| Giants in the Earth Heritage Center             | 10      |
| Livsreise- Norwegian Heritage Center, Stoughton | 6       |
| Minnesota Historical Sociey                     | 11      |
| NAGA -Norwegian American Genealogic Assoc.      | 4       |
| NAHA - Norwegian American Historical Assoc.     | 5       |
| Nordmanns Forbundet                             | 7       |
| Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum            | 2       |



Garden City Ballroom  
Tables 79-83 are located in the commons area near the Carriage Hall.



# Locate Your Bygdslag

**COUNTY (FYLKE) BYGDELAG**

1) Akershus Romerikslag

2) Aust-Agder --

3) City of Bergen - see #7, Hordaland.

4) Buskerud Hallinglag  
 Numedalslågen Lag  
 Ringerike Drammen Districts Lag  
 Sigdalslag

5) Finnmark Nordlandslag  
 Sami Lag

6) Hedmark Solørlag of America  
 Nord Hedmark  
 og Hedemarken Lag

7) Hordaland Hardanger Lag  
 Nordhordland Lag  
 Sunnhordland Lag  
 Vosselag

8) Møre og Romsdal Møre og Romsdalslag

9) Nordland Nordlandslag  
 Sami Lag

10) Nord Trøndelag Trønderlag

11) Oppland Gudbrandsdals Lag  
 Hadeland Lag  
 Landingslag  
 Totenlag  
 Valdres Samband

12) City of Oslo Romerikslag

13) Rogaland Rogalandslag

14) Sør Trøndelag Trønderlag  
 Opdalslag

15) Sogn og Fjordane Nordfjord Lag  
 Nordfjord-WI Lag  
 Sognalag  
 Sognefjord Lag  
 Sunnfjord Lag

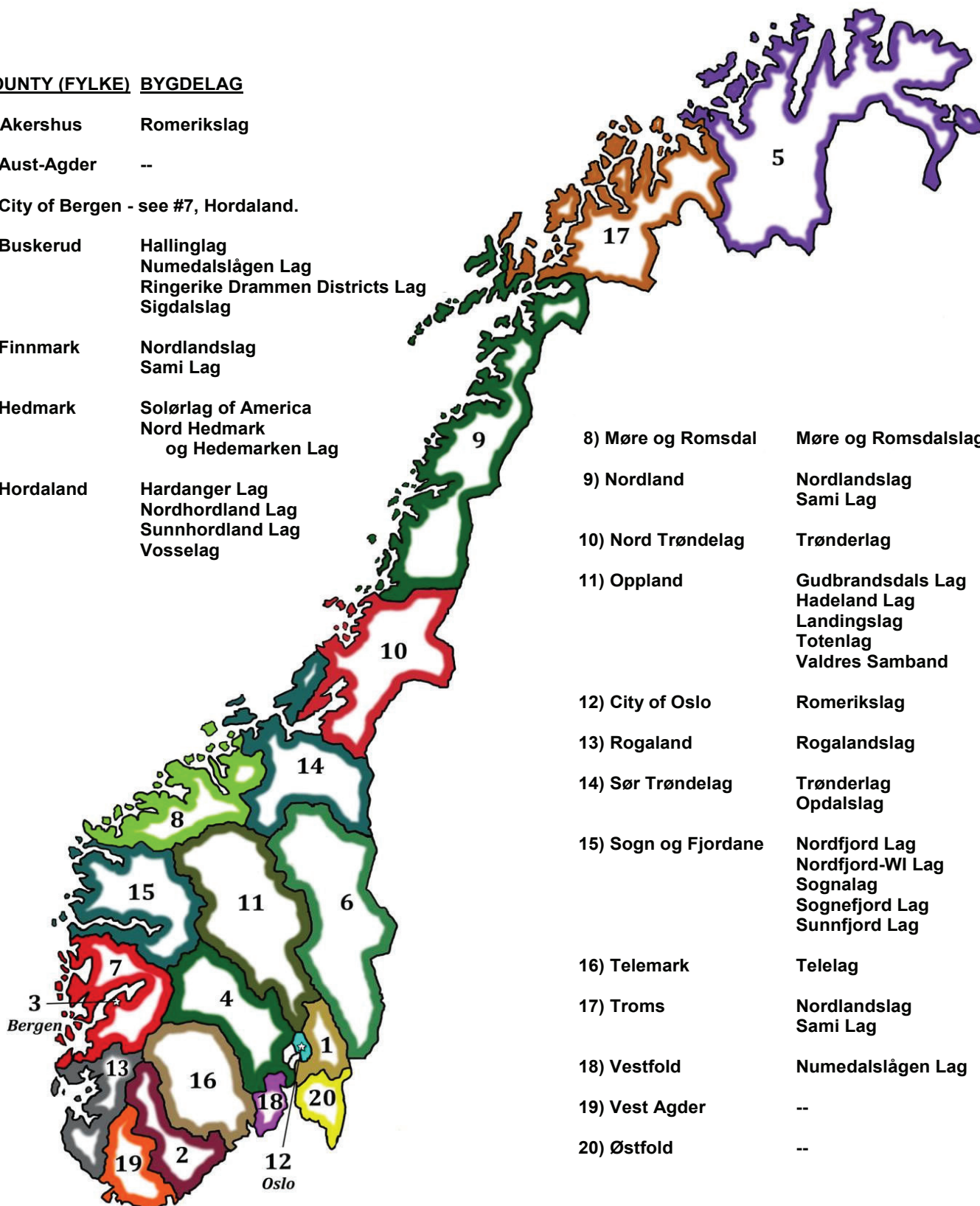
16) Telemark Telelag

17) Troms Nordlandslag  
 Sami Lag

18) Vestfold Numedalslågen Lag

19) Vest Agder --

20) Østfold --



## Lag Information

| BYGDELAG                        | FOUNDING DATE   | STEVNE                          | WEBSITE  |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Gudbrandsdal Lag                | 12 Sept 1909 in Minneapolis, MN   | Tre Lag Stevne                  | <a href="http://www.gudbrandlag.org/">www.gudbrandlag.org/</a>                                   |
| Hadeland Lag                    | 7 Sept 1910 in St. Paul, MN   | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.hadelandlag.org/">www.hadelandlag.org/</a>                                   |
| Hallinglag                      | 9 Mar 1907 in Walcott, ND   | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://fellesraad.com/hallinglag/">fellesraad.com/hallinglag/</a>                       |
| Hardanger Lag                   | 15 Aug 1911 in Sioux Falls, SD  | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://fellesraad.com/hardanger/">fellesraad.com/hardanger/</a>                         |
| Landingslag                     | 17 Jun 1910 in Minneapolis, MN  | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://landingslag.org/">landingslag.org/</a>   |
| Lappmark Lag                    | 1992 (Inactive)   |                                 |  |
| Møre og Romsdal                 | 25 Jun 1910 in Moorhead, MN   | Vestlandet Stevne               | <a href="http://www.moreogromsdallag.org/">www.moreogromsdallag.org/</a>                         |
| Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag  | 1995  | Tre Lag Stevne                  |  |
| Østerdalslaget                  | 1915 (Inactive)   |                                 |  |
| Mjøsenlaget                     | 1915 (Inactive)   |                                 |  |
| Nordfjord Lag                   | 8 Sept 1909 in St Paul, MN  | Nordfjordlag Stevne             | <a href="http://nordfjordlag.com/">nordfjordlag.com/</a>   |
| Nordfjord-Wisconsin Lag         | 1989  | Nordfjordlag WI Stevne          | none   |
| Nordhordland/Sunnhordland Lag   | 3 Sep 1913 in Mpls, MN/8 Sep 1911 in Story City, IA                           | Vestlandslag Stevne             |  |
| Nordlandslag                    | 20 Jan 1909 in Minneapolis, MN  | Nordlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.nordlandslaget.com/">www.nordlandslaget.com/</a>                             |
| Numedalslagen Lag               | 17 Jun 1908 in Fargo, ND  | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://numedalslagenlag.org/">numedalslagenlag.org/</a>                                 |
| Opdalslag                       | 1920 in/Re-estab 2002   | Opdalslag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.fellesraad.com/opdalslag/">www.fellesraad.com/opdalslag/</a>                 |
| Ringerike Drammen Districts Lag | 7 Jun 1916 in Albert Lea, MN  | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.rddlag.org/">www.rddlag.org/</a>   |
| Rogalandslag                    | 8 Sep 1910. Stavanger Lag org in Story City, IA - was predecessor to this lag | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.rogalandslag.org/">www.rogalandslag.org/</a>                                 |
| Romerikslag                     | 1990  | Romerikslaget & Solørlag Stevne | <a href="http://www.romerikeusa.org/">www.romerikeusa.org/</a>                                   |
| Sigdalslag                      | 24 Jun 1911 in Fergus Falls, MN   | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.sigdalslag.org/">www.sigdalslag.org/</a>                                     |
| Sognalag                        | 28 Nov 1908 in Albert Lea, MN   | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.sognalag.org/">www.sognalag.org/</a>   |
| Sognefjord Lag                  | 1979  | Sognefjordlag Stevne            | <a href="http://www.sognefjordlag.com/">www.sognefjordlag.com/</a>                               |
| Solørlag                        | 7 Sept 1910 in Minneapolis, MN  | Solørlag Stevne                 | <a href="http://www.solorlag.com/">www.solorlag.com/</a>   |
| Sunnfjordlag                    | 18 Jul 1912 in Minneapolis, MN  | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://fellesraad.com/sunnfjord/">fellesraad.com/sunnfjord/</a>                         |
| Telelag                         | 16 Jan 1907 in Fargo, ND  | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.telelaget.com/">www.telelaget.com/</a>                                       |
| Totenlag                        | 10 Jul 1910   | Seven Lag Stevne                | <a href="http://www.totenlag.org/">www.totenlag.org/</a>   |
| Trønderlag                      | 17 Sept 1908 in Fergus Falls, MN  | Tre Lag Stevne                  | <a href="http://www.tronderlag.org/">www.tronderlag.org/</a>                                     |
| Valdres Samband                 | 25 Jun 1899 in Minneapolis, MN  | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.valdressamband.org/">www.valdressamband.org/</a>                             |
| Vestlandslag (Umbrella Lag)     | 1973  | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/Vestlandslag/">www.facebook.com/groups/Vestlandslag/</a> |
| Vosselag                        | 1909  | Vestlandslag Stevne             | <a href="http://www.vosselag.org/">www.vosselag.org/</a>   |

# Nordlandslaget av Amerika og Kanada



**President**  
booklady@runestone.net  
**Genealogist**  
genscan@tds.net

**Americans & Norwegians with heritage & roots in "Northern Norway" of Nordland, Troms & Finnmark**

**Facebook**  
"Norwegian-American Nordlandslaget"

**Weekly posts on Northern Norway places, news, heritage, culture**

## Congratulations to the Fellesraad on 100 Years!

from the

### Hadeland Lag of America



Celebrating our ancestral and cultural connections to and with Gran, Jevnaker, and Lunner in Oppland County, Norway

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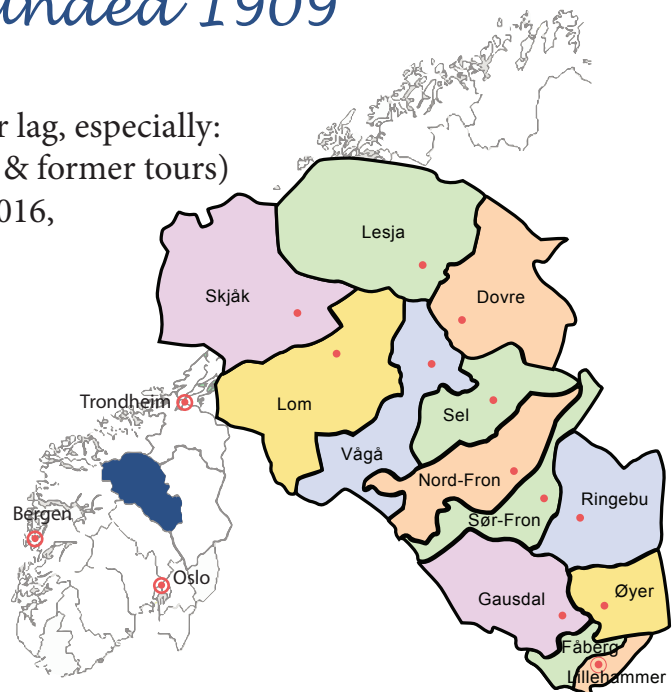


## GUDBRANDSDALS LAGET

*Founded 1909*

Visit [www.gudbrandlag.org](http://www.gudbrandlag.org) to learn about our lag, especially:

- Travel Program (June 19-July 2, 2016, & former tours)
- Annual Tre Lag Stevne (August 3-6, 2016, Clarion Hotel, South St. Paul, MN)
- Genealogical Resources
- Membership Application





# CONGRATULATIONS

To

*NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN  
BYGDELAGENES FELLESRAAD*

1916-2016

Celebrating 100 years of partnership with bygdelag in America!

FROM

## *Landingslaget*

Landingslaget was founded in 1910 by a group of Norwegian settlers from the community called Land in Oppland, a county in south central Norway.

Explore your Norwegian roots—join a Bygdelag  
<http://www.landingslag.org>



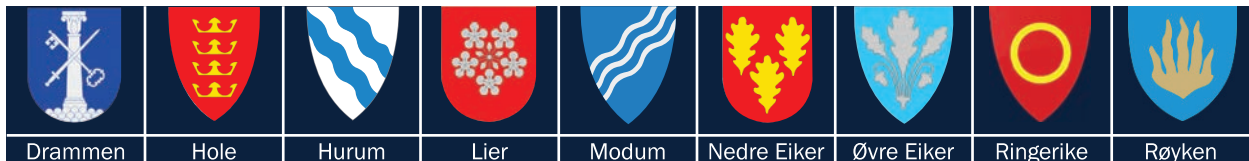
## R-DD Lag congratulates Fellesraad on their 100th anniversary!

Thank you for all you do to support Norwegian Heritage!

R-DD is made up of 9 Kommune in the southeast corner of Buskerud County. Have ancestors from that area? We would be glad to help expand your genealogy.

Visit our website at [rddlag.org](http://rddlag.org) or check out our Summer Stevne (Get Together) in Austin, MN July 13-16, 2016.

## RINGERIKE - DRAMMEN DISTRICTS LAG





## THE VALDRES SAMBAND

The Valdres Samband is the oldest Bygdelag in America, founded in 1899. We are descendants of those who emigrated from the Valdres valley in Oppland Fylke. We share the common interests of preserving and teaching the genealogy, culture and history of this region and its descendants.

We invite you to join us at our Stevne which is held every June. Please visit us online at [www.valdressamband.org](http://www.valdressamband.org) Here, you can learn more about our organization and request a copy of our bi-annual publication, The Budstikken.

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*Contact: Joel Botten 507 351-6712, email: [joelbotten@gmail.com](mailto:joelbotten@gmail.com)  
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# TELELAGET of AMERICA

EST. 1907

## CONGRATULATIONS

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Hallinglag of America congratulates  
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# Nordfjordlaget

## In America

Since 1909



Our stevne home in recent years has been on Green Lake in Spicer MN. The forested hills, stave church and blue waters remind us of our ancestral homes in Nordfjord. Come, join with us, as we greet old friends, meet new friends and renew our heritage.

We meet each year on the 3rd Sunday of September.

[www.nordfjordlag.com](http://www.nordfjordlag.com)



*Congratulations to Bygdelagenes Fellesraad on your  
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612-874-0716 • [www.Mindekirken.org](http://www.Mindekirken.org) • [www.MNLCP.org](http://www.MNLCP.org) (classes)



# Vestlandslag

## Our Organization

- ◆ Formed in 1979 with 4 lags
- ◆ Now 8 lags in membership
- ◆ Each lag meets separately one morning to support special interests
- ◆ Speaker sessions and banquet are shared
- ◆ Main interests are culture & genealogy



## Member Lags

|  |                                   |   |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Hardanger Lag</b>                       | President - Don Teigen            | Minneapolis, MN<br>dteigen@q.com            |
| <b>Møre og Romsdalslag</b>                 | President - Gary Erickson         | Sunburg, MN<br>gerickso@tds.net             |
| <b>Nordhordland /<br/>Sunnhordlandslag</b> | President - LaRee Opdahl          | Oakdale, MN<br>laopdahl@comcast.net         |
| <b>Rogalandslag</b>                        | V. President - Rhonda<br>Smerchek | Union Grove, WI<br>rsmerchek@gmail.com      |
| <b>Sognalag</b>                            | President - Martha Blomberg       | Oahkosh, WI<br>gmb811@gmail.com             |
| <b>Sunnfjordlag</b>                        | President - Tamra Foster          | Minneapolis, MN<br>sunnfjordgen@comcast.net |
| <b>Vosselag</b>                            | President - Jean Marthaler        | St. Joseph, MN<br>marwendt@charter.net      |

President—  
Ann Romo - Cannon Falls, MN  
<annromo04@gmail.com>  
507-824-2297 cell 507-990-6397

Membership and Newsletter  
Robert Hanson, Elk River, MN  
<h4414463dve@q.com>  
651-470-0236



## Numedalslågen Lag of America



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Vestfold  
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Lardal  
Larvik

If you have connections or interest in this area visit our webpage <http://www.numedalslagenlag.org> for information on membership, stevnes and contact addresses.

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## Vosselag

(Voss, Evanger & Vossestrand)

**President, Historian & Genealogist team - Jean Marthaler**

139 7th Ave SE, St. Joseph, MN 56374

320-363-7949 [marwendt@charter.net](mailto:marwendt@charter.net)

**Vice-president Kenton Moen**

10616 Sumter Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55445

763-425-3022 [alvinamoe@comcast.net](mailto:alvinamoe@comcast.net)

**Secretary Richard Flisrand**

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**Treasurer Marge Moen**

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**Genealogist Vivian Gullickson White**

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604-858-6510 [va7tkc@telus.net](mailto:va7tkc@telus.net)

**Assistant Gen. Ruth Christ**

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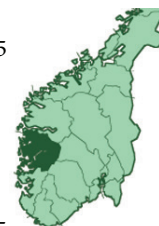
[ruth-christ@uiowa.edu](mailto:ruth-christ@uiowa.edu)

**Director Jean Marthaler** (above)

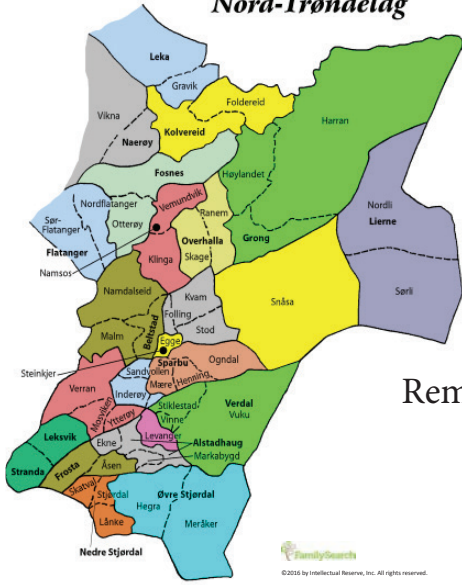
**Delegates Jean Marthaler** (above)

**& Richard Flisrand** (above)

**Web Site** [www.vosselag.org](http://www.vosselag.org)



**Nord-Trøndelag**

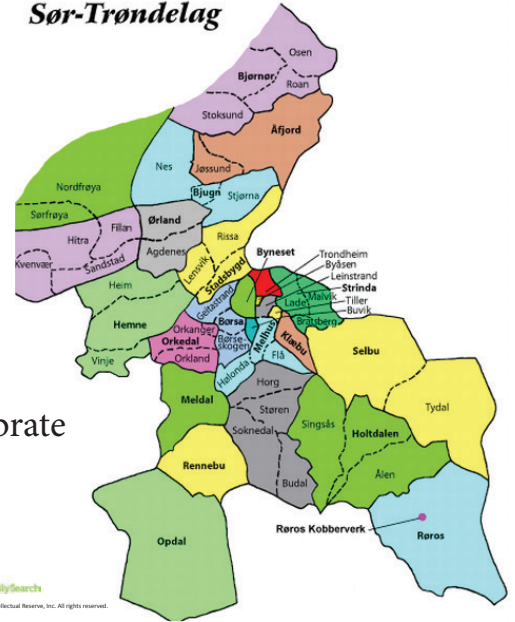


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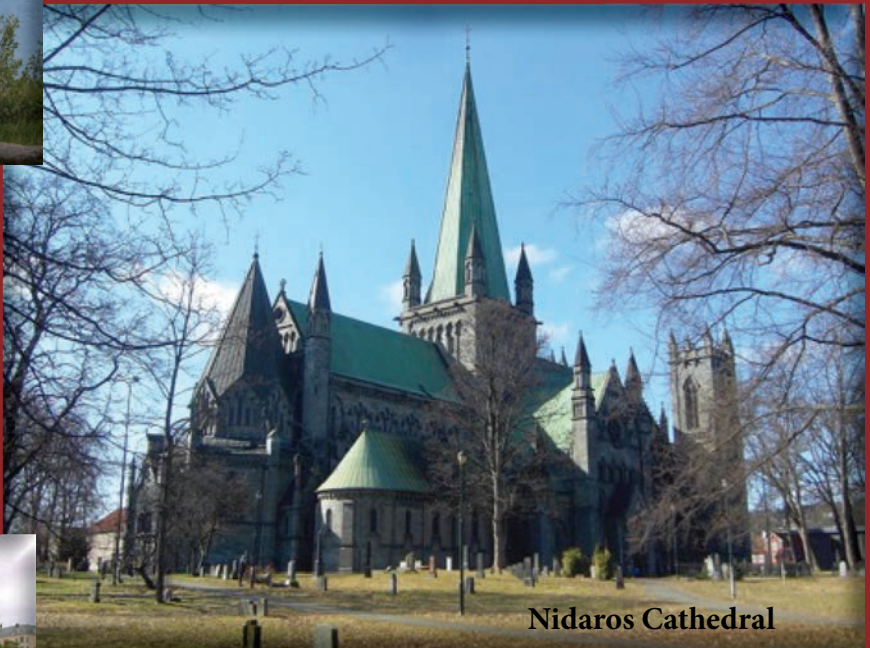
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TO THE

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ON

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FROM

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IN AMERICA



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or

[www.facebook.com/Totenlaget-in-America-519619404813738/](https://www.facebook.com/Totenlaget-in-America-519619404813738/)







# Solørlag of America

## Genealogy Weekend (not a full stevne this year)

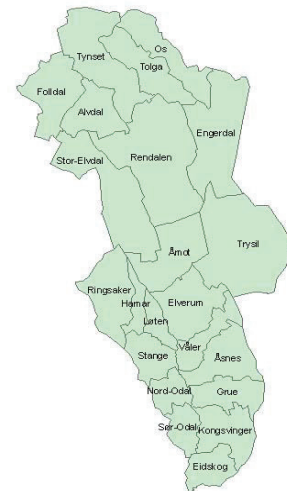


September 16-17, 2016  
in Hudson, WI

A block of rooms is on hold at a discounted price for our event  
Hudson House Grand Hotel, 1616 Crest View Drive, Hudson, WI 54016  
Phone: 715-386-2394; Email: hudsonhousegrandhotel@comcast.net  
Rooms must be reserve by 15 August 2016 for the special rate . When reserving room ,  
please specify it is for the Solørlag weekend event .

Plan to research at the Hudson Jesus Christ Church of Latter Day Saints facility just a short drive from the hotel, maybe Skype contact with researchers in Hedmark, make use of our extensive collection.  
Friday evening we will dine together at the hotel so we can elect officers whose terms are up.

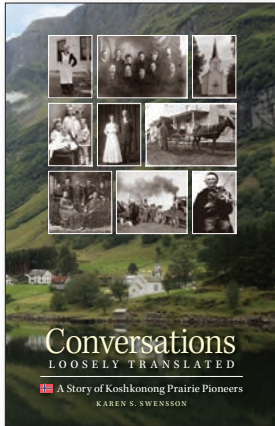
**Solørlag** is an organization representing the descendants of Norwegian emigrants from the Hedmark Fylke area in Norway.  
Yearly membership includes newsletter & genealogy helps. Join and get the newsletter or Watch website for details and updates  
[www.solorlag.com](http://www.solorlag.com)



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kjohnson44@ameritech.net

**Stop by her table and meet the author!**

# Triumph over tragedy – the immigrants' journey



Guided by the ghosts of her ancestors, Karen retraces their brave journey from small farms nestled in the mountains and along the fjords in Norway, to Amerika and a new settlement on the fertile prairie near Lake Koshkonong in the territory of West Konsin. Once devastated by the fire that leveled the Nasett farmhouse and claimed the lives of four family members, including her mother, Karen discovers the rich cultural heritage they left behind.

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Dedicated to locating, collecting, preserving, and interpreting the Norwegian-American experience since 1925.

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**Møre og Romsdalslag**  
Siden 1910

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*is becoming*



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- Norwegian Genealogy Experts
- Links to other Organizations
- N-AGA-owned Bygdebøker
- MGS Library Access

Website/Events/Contact: [www.norwegianamerican.org](http://www.norwegianamerican.org), and find us on Facebook.



## Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag Congratulations to the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad as it commemorates the Centennial of the Bygdelag Movement in America

Our ancestors came from 16 kommuner in the districts of Nord Østerdal, Sør Østerdal, Hedemarken, and Hamar in the Hedmark Fylke.

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*A Very Special Thank you to :*

*Julian Ronning for singing  
 the National Anthems*

*Carolyn Bliss for piano accompaniment*

*The Lag for their participation*

*Our Ad Customers*

*Our Vendors*

*Our Resource Display Organizations*

*The Centennial Conference Committee*

*Marilyn Sorensen, the Conference Co-chair*

*Jean Knaak, The Conference Chair*

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### *Bordvers*

*I Jesus navn går vi til bords  
og spiser, drikker på ditt ord.  
Deg, Gud til ære, oss til gavn,  
Så får vi mat i Jesu navn.*



*Amen.*



## JA, VI ELSKER - Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson

Ja, vi elsker dette landet, som det stiger frem,  
furet, værbit over vannet, med de tusen hjem;  
elsker, elsker det og tenker, på vår far og mor,  
og den saganatt som sender drømmer på vår jord,  
og den saganatt som senker, senker crømmer på vår jord.

Norske mann i hus og hytte, takk din store Gud!  
Landet ville han beskytte, skjønt det mørkt så ut.  
Alt hav fedrene har kjempet, mødrene har grett,  
/: har den Herre stille lempet, så vi vant vår rett. :/



## O CANADA - R. Stanley Weir, D.C.L.

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

Chorus:

God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.



## THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

- Francis Scott Key

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

