



NEWS FOR DESCENDANTS OF EMIGRANTS FROM THE TELEMAR REGION IN NORWAY

VOLUME XXV NUMBER I

MAY 2018

The mission of Telemar of America is to enable members to learn about and gain an appreciation of the history, culture, and customs of their ancestors from the Telemar region of Norway.



The Lure of the Land Dreams & Realities

7-Lag Stevne - July 12-15, 2018

Willmar Conference Center -Willmar, Minnesota



- Gloria Brekke, Winona MN
- Grace Gardipee-Harris, Clancy MT
- Oliver Olsen, South Londonderry VT
- Bruce Anderson, Princeton MN
- Una Høydal, Notodden, NO
- Madelyn Krinke, Elk River MN
- John Ameson, Stoughton WI
- Jessica Egelhof, Bemidji MN
- Lois Egelhof, Bemidji MN
- Marla Larson, Helena MT
- Kjell Rekanes, Lunde, NO
- Valerie Torgerson, Spring Grove MN

The 7-Lag Stevne will be held from Thursday, July 12 — Sunday, July 15 at the Willmar Conference Center in Willmar, MN. The schedule for the weekend and additional stevne information appears inside this newsletter, and the insert contains your registration form. You can also register online at www.telelaget.com or www.7lagstevne.com.

The Telemar Annual Meeting will be held in the Friendship Room at Calvary Lutheran Church, 302 Olena Ave SE, in Willmar beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. You'll be served a hearty breakfast of scrambled eggs with cheese, freshly baked caramel or cinnamon rolls, fresh fruit and coffee for \$8.00. Breakfast will be followed by our business meeting.

The Board of Directors' terms for Doug Framness, Deanna Zentgraf, and Jim Oftelie are up. Doug has

agreed to stay on for a second three-year term. We will be electing two Telemar members to fill the other two positions. If you, or someone you know, is interested in filling one of these vacancies, please contact one of the board members listed on page 4 of your Telesoga.

After our annual meeting we will hear about a world-renowned Norwegian carver, Fred Cogelow. In the space of his 40-year career, this self-taught woodcarver has gained an impressive international following. In 2010, *American Woodworker* magazine profiled him as one of the country's "great woodworkers" and *Woodcarving Illustrated* named him 2013 "Woodcarver of the Year." Born in Oslo, Cogelow currently resides in Willmar. One of his carvings is displayed in the Friendship Room at Calvary.

Telemar's Genealogy Library



The *Drangedal Bygdebok* and the *Fjersdal Bygdebok* are in need of repair. If you would like to make a donation to Telemar to

help cover the cost of repairing these books, please send it to Telemar, % Deanna Zentgraf, 47427 111th St., Rosholt, SD 57260.

We have recently received several book donations to our library. These include a Vinge, Norway history book and a tablet of handwritten notes from 1923. NAGA donated to Telemar, *A Family History – As We Remember* by Ella Ellefson Gilberts, *Oyffjell i segn og soge Akademiet i Rauland*, and *Skiens Historie, Bind I and II*. All of our genealogy books and free genealogy and translating help is available to all Telemar members at the stevne.

Stevne Schedule

Thursday, July 12	
8:00 - 10:00 am	Genealogy Set-up
10:00 am - 5:00 pm	Genealogy Open*
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch**
1:00 - 5:00 pm	Classes (4 slots X 3 classes each plus Hardanger Embroidery)
1:00 - 5:00 pm	Norwegian-American Food Fest
5:00 - 7:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm	Opening Session - The Kingery Family
8:30 pm	Reception with Cash Bar
Friday, July 13	
7:30 - 9:00 am	Vendor set-up
8:00 am	Registration opens
9:00 am - 7:00 pm	Vendors Open
9:00 am General Session	Dr. John Christianson "The Lure of the Land - How It Spread Across Norway and the Changing Reality of America" Many examples Dr. Christianson uses in his presentation are from the Telemark area.
9:45 am - 5:00 pm	Genealogy Open*
10:00 am - Noon	Classes (4 slots X 3 classes each)
10:00 am - Noon	Norwegian-American Food Fest
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch**
1:00 - 5:00 pm	Classes (4 slots X 3 classes each plus Rosemaling)
1:00 - 5:00 pm	Norwegian American Food Fest
5:00-7:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm	General Session - Lorna Landvik
Saturday, July 14	
7:30 - 9:30 am	Telelaget Annual Meeting at Calvary Lutheran Church
7:30 - 9:00 am	Vendor set-up
8:00 am	Registration Open
8:00 - 10:30 am	Genealogy*
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Vendors Open
9:00 am General Session	Dr. Beverly Nagel, Dean of the College, Carlton College - "Sexual Mores: Courtship and Marriage in Norway 1850's and Now"
10:00 am	Jon Pederson "Honoring our Heritage - Norway House"
9:00 - 11:00 am	Dance classes (2)
11:30 am - 4:30 pm	Tours
Noon - 1:00 pm	Lunch**
1:00 - 3:00 pm	Classes
3:00 pm	Vendors close
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Meet & greet Bjorn, the Norwegian Fjord Horse (photo ops)
4:30 pm	Cash bar opens
5:15 pm	Bunad picture with Bjorn
5:30 pm	Banquet Seating
6:00 pm	Traditional Norwegian wedding procession & mock wedding
followed by	North Star Nordic Dancers - old time wedding dance
Sunday, July 15	
9:30 - 10:30 am	Lag Member Memorial - Whitney Music

*There will be short "Genealogy Hints" sessions in the genealogy room on the hour during open hours.

**You can sign up and pay for a plated lunch at a special rate of \$11.00 each day to save time during your daily schedule.

Three Area Tours

all loading at 11:30 a.m. Saturday

Tour #1 - Northwest Kandiyohi County

▸Lecture stop at Eagle Lake Church. This is a descendant of the first church built in Kandiyohi County. The site of that first church is about a mile away.

▸On-bus stop at the Isle of Refuge important during the US-Dakota War.

▸On-bus stop at First Lutheran Church of Norway Lake, site of the famous 1859 foot race to settle a land dispute.

▸Lecture stop at the Old Log Church and the Knudson Cabin. The OLC is a replica of the first church build in Arctander Township (1868). The Knudson Cabin is a restoration of a log cabin built in 1861.

▸Lecture stop at East Norway Lake Lutheran Church, a descendant of the Old Log Church. The sanctuary dates from 1875.

▸Lecture stop at the Vikor Church, gravesite of the US-Dakota War heroine, Guri Endreassen.

▸Return to the Conference Center

Tour #2 — Forest City Stockade and Ness Church

▸Acton Massacre site. On August 17, 1862, four Dakota attacked a small group of settlers in Acton Township in Meeker County, Minnesota. 5 settlers were killed in this incident which sparked the beginning of the Sioux Indian Uprising.

▸The historic Ness Church, established in 1858, was originally known as the St. Johannes Congregation of Meeker and surrounding counties. A 15 foot monument in the cemetery, one of Minnesota's oldest monuments, marks the common grave of the first white settlers killed at Acton Township during the 1862 Sioux Indian War.

▸The Forest City Stockade was quickly built on September 3, 1862 by members of the Home Guard and citizens of Meeker County, Minnesota, in response to the threat from the warring Dakota. The stockade was reconstructed as a Meeker County project for the 1976 Bicentennial and serves as a lasting memorial to the early pioneers who settled the area and sought safety there during the Sioux Indian Uprising of 1862.

▸Return to the Conference Center

Tour #3 - Big Grove Lutheran Church, Redhead Creamery & Jer-Lindy Farms

•Lunch at Big Grove Lutheran Church. This church building is over 100 years old with the congregation existing more than 150 years.

•Redhead Creamery & Jer-Lindy Farms. A dedication to sustainability and energy efficiency is second nature for Jer-Lindy Farms in Brooten, Minnesota. The 258-acre farm uses the most sustainable methods to cultivate corn and alfalfa and provide the best environment for its 200 dairy cows. For its innovation in sustainable farming, Jer-Lindy Farms has been recognized with a 2016 U.S. Dairy Sustainability Award for Outstanding Dairy Farm Sustainability.

•Redhead Creamery has been making ridiculously good, artisan cheese on their family dairy farm since 2013. You will view the creamery and sample some cheese.

•On the drive, you will pass by and learn a bit about the windmills of a large wind farm project completed in December 2012.

•Return to the Conference Center.

Classes and Demonstrations

The Norwegian-American Food Fest will present demonstrations on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. Sampling and coffee will be available every hour for 15 minutes beginning at 45 past the hour. Presenters will include:

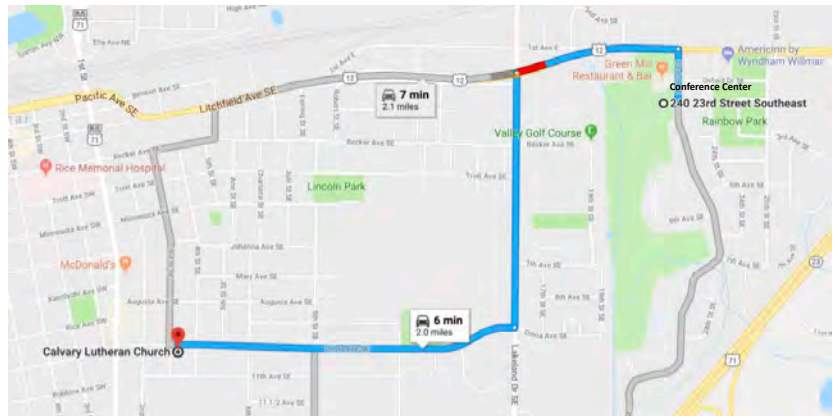
- Jean Knaak "Norwegian-American Food: Then and Now"
- Dennis and Carol Johnson "Traditional Meats and Cheeses" (3 hours), "The Seven Christmas Cookies of Norway"
- Lorraine Jasinski "Kransekake"

Other Presenters include:

- Torbjørn Greipsland "To the Ends of the Earth" Stories of some of the 1000 Norwegian-American missionaries featured in his book
- Jon Pederson "Honoring Our Norwegian Heritage - Norway House"
- Mary Rosendahl "Developing Family Cookbooks"
- Clarice Deiter "Styles of Rosemaling"
- Hands-On Hardanger and Rosemaling Workshops (3 hours each)

Check the website, www.7lagstevne.com for more information as the *stevne* dates get closer.

Directions to the Telegaget Annual Meeting



From the Conference Center to Calvary Lutheran, go north from the parking lot to Hwy. 12. Turn left onto US-12. In .4 miles, turn left onto Lakeland Dr. SE/15th St. SE. In .6 miles, turn right onto Olena Ave. SE. In .9 miles, Calvary Lutheran will be on your left. It is 2.0 miles, about 6 minutes, from the conference center to the church.

Stevne Entertainment

Thursday evening: **The Kingery Family**

Mike Kingery, former professional baseball player and his talented family will entertain with music and an inspirational message.

Friday evening: **Lorna Landvik**

Award-winning Minnesota homegrown author and performer will entertain with her humorous observations. Lorna's books are available on Amazon.

Banquet: **North Star Nordic Dancers**

The evening will begin with a traditional wedding procession. Enjoy the program as a guest at a mock traditional Norwegian wedding ceremony with accompanying festivities. Dine as a welcome guest at the wedding banquet. Welcome guests wearing bunads from different regions of Norway. The North Star Nordic Dancers will perform and lead guests at the old time wedding dance.

Sunday morning: **Whitney Music of Willmar**

The one-hour Sunday morning program will include a slideshow remembering lag members who left us for Valhalla this year.

Lodging Information

Best Western Plus — 2100 US-12 — Willmar MN
\$109/night — 320-235-6060 — Ask for the "7-Lag Stevne" rate
This hotel, previously the Holiday Inn, is attached to the Conference Center.

Holiday Inn Express and Suites — 250 23rd St. SE — Willmar MN
\$129/night — Ask for the "7-Lag Stevne" rate — 320-231-2601
This is the newest hotel in Willmar. It is also attached to the Conference Center.

Days Inn — 225 28th Street SE — Willmar MN
\$99/night — 320-231-1275
Ask for the "7-Lag Stevne" rate

Susan Elizabeth (Cain) Hanson



Susan Hanson, age 87, of Bloomington, passed away on February 27, 2018. Sue was born in Evansville, Wisconsin. She attended the University of Wisconsin as a young woman and later graduated from the University of Minnesota with

a degree in home economics. She worked as a substitute teacher and started a business importing fabric and marketing sewing kits for the traditional Norwegian work shirt called *busserull*. She was active at St. Stephen Lutheran Church and several Norwegian-American organizations. Susan was a Telelaget board member (Program's director in 1992-1993, Treasurer & Membership in 1994 - 1997). She was a wonderful hostess, cook and baker (famous for her delicious pies) and an accomplished seamstress. She enjoyed travel, genealogy research and golfing with her friends. She was preceded in death by Borg, her husband of 69 years. The funeral was held at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN on March 6.

Available for Purchase at Stevne!

Telelaget published a three-volume set of Norwegian-American history books. The first volume focuses on Norwegian history and its people, Telemark emigration, and settlement history in general. Volume II is a collection of histories and stories gathered by Torkel Oftelie from Telemark settlements in the Midwest. Volume III includes settlement histories from Northern Minnesota, North Dakota, and Washington.

**Telelaget to America:
Volume I – Emigration;
Volume II – Settlements;
Volume III – Settlements,
Biographies, & Telemark Lore.**
\$20 each or \$50 for the series.

Telelaget of America celebrated their 100th Anniversary in 2007 and published **Telelaget, The First One Hundred Years**. The contents of this volume includes the history of the *bygdslag* & *stevner*, the history of board members and translator, the *Telesoga* and *Telenews*, group tours to and from Norway, and Telelaget's age of technology. The cost of the book is \$20, or it is free for a limited time to new lifetime members!

A Year on Haugo Farm — \$20.

In this book, author Ingebjørg Draugedal tells of her life as a girl growing up on a Telemark farm during

the Nazi occupation. Ingebjørg recounts how they shared the work, the hardships and the pleasures of living on a close-knit family farm. The book describes in detail the practical work that was done on the farm, but it also tells about the relationships between the family members and within the local community, and about the intimate interaction with the surrounding landscape.

Back issues of the Telesoga are available for \$5.00 per issue, and a DVD containing the complete set of all *Telesoga* printed from 1909 through 2017 is \$30.00.

Mugs and miniature Telelaget fane are available for \$5.00 each, and totebags are \$10.00 each.

If you are unable to attend the *stevne*, these items can be purchased on the website or by contacting Shelley Jerviss, email smjerv@goacentek.net, tel: (507) 459-2143, mail: P. O. Box 292, Houston MN 55943



We send updates or notices to our members via email a few times each year. Be sure that we have your current email address on file! Send it to telenews@telelaget.com.

2018 Bygdslag Stevner

Stevne is a Norwegian word that means conference, gathering, or reunion. Below are some of the yearly *stevne* for other *lags*. Go to www.fellesraad.com or the *lag* website for more information.

Nordlandslag — June 20-22 in Fargo, ND

Vestlandslag and Valdres Samband — June 20-23 in Alexandria, MN

Tre-Lag (Gudbrandsdal, Trønderlag, and Nord Hedmark og Hedmark) — August 8-11 — Austin, MN

Hallinglag & Sognefjordlag — August 9-11 — Decorah, IA

Opdalslag — September 8-9 — Centerville, SD

Romerikslag and Sølørslag — September 12-15 — Fergus Falls, MN

Nordfjordlag — September 16 — Spicer, MN

Vest and Aust Agder is in the process of forming a Bygdslag.

DOLLAR\$&CENTS

- Telelaget of America is a 501(c)(3) organization making your donation tax deductible.
- Thrivent Choice Dollars can be directed to Telelaget of America! To direct your Choice Dollars call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" or go to www.thrivent.com & click on "Making a Difference".
- When you shop on Amazon, start at smile.amazon.com. and select Telelag. Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Telelag. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.



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