



Collection Name:

Valdres Samband papers, 1911-2006

Collection Number:

P0465 (Valdres Samband)

Extent:

2.8 cubic feet (7 archives boxes)

About Valdres Samband:

Organized at Como Park, St. Paul, August 31, 1902. The first stevne occurred in Minnehaha Park, Minneapolis, June 25, 1899. Until 1927 the name was spelled Valdris Samband.

Past presidents include:

A.A. Veblen (1902-20)
A.M. Sundheim (1920-21, 1929-32)
J.E. Haugen (1921-29)
C.M. Roan (1932-37)
R.N. Qualley (1937-39, 1941-49)
Olaf Hellie (1939-41)
Ole J. Braaten (1949-52, 1960-62)
Clara Thorpe (1952-58)
Arne Rosenlund (1958-60)
Joseph Haugen (1961-65)
Mrs. Arne Berg (1965-69)
Carl T. Narvstad (1969-)

Past secretaries include:

J.S. Johnson (1902-04, 1908-10)
A.M. Sundheim (1905-08, 1910-20)
A.A. Hall (1920-24)
Olaf Rudi (1924-26)
O.A. Hain (1926-29)
Rev. Helge Høverstad (1929-32)
N.A. Kirkeberg (1932-35)
Edwin Odegaard (1935-38)
Mrs. J.O. Quale (1938-21)
Ole J. Braaten (1941-42)
Celia Ormstad-Roang (1942-49)
Carl T. Narvestad (1962-69)
James E. Belgium (1969-70)

Hild Kringstad (1970-71)
Mrs. Alex Lerohl (1971-)

History of the Bygdelag:

Papers of "bygd" societies and their Common Council ("Bygdelagenes Fellesraad"), clippings, constitutions, correspondence, minutes and financial records, pamphlets, pictures, programs, and reports, dealing with conventions, officers, special projects, and the Norse-American Centennial of 1925. The bygdelag, organized around the turn of the century, are societies based on regional origins in Norway. They were active in the Eidsvoll Centennial in 1914 and the Norse-American Centennial in 1925. While activity dropped off after the beginning of World War II, a revival began in the 1980s as a result of renewal of ethnic interest, and with emphasis on family history. Odd S. Lovoll's "A Folk Epic; The Bygdelag in America" (NAHA, 1975), which includes a bibliography of lag publications.

Papers of the various "bygdelag," "social organizations of (Americans) from the same homeland district, usually rural" which began in 1899 with the organization of the Valdres Samband. About fifty other lag with national-wide appeal were formed, as well as many others which were more local. They held annual "stevner" (meetings) and many published periodicals, yearbooks, or monographs which often contained extensive genealogical materials. A decline came after World War II, with a revival in the 1970s particularly through renewed emphasis on genealogical research.

A Council of Bygdelags (Bygdelagenes Faellesraad) coordinates activities of the groups. They were very active in the Eidsvoll centennial celebrations in 1914, and the Norse-American Centennial in 1925. Holdings for the various lag vary, but usually include clippings of newspaper articles about their meetings, correspondence, programs, and copies of their publications, duplicates of library holdings, in the periodical and book collections (monographs and annuals included in the latter). In some cases regional associations are included with the national groups, and in others separate groups which later merged are included under the merged name.

Access Rights:

This collection is open to research.

Bibliographic Citation:

[Indicate the cited item here]. Valdres Samband Papers (Bygdelagenes Papers).
Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

Box	Folder	Description
56	4	Centennial and manual, 1920-2004 "The Centennial Period of the Valdres Samband 1994-2004" book by Aaron Hanson and Paul Scheffel, 2004; 95th and 96th anniversary stevne (meeting) programs, 16-18 June 1994 and 22-24 June 1995; photocopy of "The Valdris Book: A Manual of

		The Valdres Samband" by Andrew A. Veblen, pages 1-43, 211, 215, 216, and 274-276, 1920.
56	1	Secretary's minutes (photocopy), 1936-1972
56	2	Secretary's minutes (photocopy), 1972-1988
56	3	Treasurer's books (photocopy), 1934-1967
56	4	Treasurer's books (photocopy), 1967-1984
56	5	Treasurer's books (photocopy), 1984-1986
56	6	Language and memories books, 1919 and 1958 Includes: "Minder fra Valdres" ("Memories from Valdres") book by O.L. Kirkeberg 1919; "Valdres-Målet" ("The Valdres Language") by Olav T. Beito, 1958.
57	1	Valdres Samband, 1900 September 9-1965, 1971
57	2	Record Book, 1930-1960
57	3	Records, undated
57	4	Records, 1974-1987 Includes: "Norge i Lommeformat: Valdres"; "People of Valdres Samband 1899-1984" by Carl and Amy Narvestad; "Slidredomen" (English title: "The Cathedral of Valdres"), 1987; "Liv og Leik i Valdres" by Anne Ødegaard, 1945; "Valdres Samband 1899-1974" by Carl and Amy Narvestad (includes "Gunderson Ringen" Manuscript #320" tucked in back), circa 1974.
58	1	"Tidskrift for Valdres Samband"
58	2	"Tidskrift for Valdres Samband"
58	3	"Valdres Samband 1899-1974" by Carl and Amy Narvestad, circa 1974.
58	4	Samband Newsletter, 1911, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1917, 1924, 1928, 1931, 1932 February 1911-October 1912, April 1914-August 1914, April 1916-July 1917, Nr. 1-2 1924, March 1928, June 1931, December 1932.
59		"Budstikken," December 1992-December 2005, December 1983-May 1992 Includes "Budstikken" index, 2000-2009.
60		"Budstikken," May 1970-May 1983 Includes stevne program, 27-29 June 1996 (97th anniversary).
60	1	Valdres Samband listing by Gretchen Dokken-Hellie.
60		"Budstikken," May 1996
60	2	The People At Valdres Samband
60	3	Northwest Valdreslag records
61		"O Valdres" song pamphlet
61	1	Clippings
61	2	Northwest Valdreslag membership list
61	3	Northwest Valdreslag membership list
61	5	Stevne Program, 1959 Includes: "Samverssskikkar i Valdres" ("Conversation Customs in

		Valdres”) by Knut Hermundstad, 1975; “Tidsskrift for Valdres Historielag” (“Periodical/Magazine for Valdres Historielag”), 1916; “People of Valdres Samband, 1899-1984” by Carl and Amy Narvestad; “Valdresfolk” (“Valdres People”) by O.K. Ødegaard, 1919; “Valdresser i Amerika Aarbok” (“[People From/Members of Valdres] in America Yearbook” by A.M. Sundheim, 1922.
62	6	“Valdres Soga” Volumes I and II, 1944 Includes: “Valdrespresta/Valdres Pastors” by O.K. Ødegaard, 1917; “Tidsskrift for Valdres Historielag” (“Magazine/Periodical for Valdres Historielag”), yearbook, 1974; “Gamalt Fraa Valdres VI” (“Old From Valdres VI”) by O.K. Ødegaard, 1927; “Vestlandia,” Vestlandslaget Newsletter, January 1979-Summer 1987.
71	6	CDs and DVDs, 2006 “2004 Trip to Valdres, Noray” DVD; “Voices of the Valdres Samband” CD; “Presentation: Tracing Your Ancestors With EBay” by Bruce Weaver, 23 June 2006.