# The Norwegian-American

### **Historical Association**

NEWS

Northfield, Minnesota

From the NAHA Office to the Association Members

NUMBER 107

Editor, KIM HOLLAND

SEPTEMBER 1999

### GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 30, 1999

The Twenty-fifth Triennial Meeting of the Norwegian-American Historical Association will be called to order on Saturday, October 30th at 3:30 p.m. at the Minnesota Humanities Center in St Paul, 987 East Ivy Avenue. The Center provides free, on-site parking as well as handicapped accessible parking. The schedule for the day includes: 1:00 p.m. Executive Board meeting, Library Room; 3:30 p.m. General meeting, Library Room, followed by a meeting of the newly elected board for the purpose of electing officers for the upcoming triennium. At 5:30 p.m. there will be a social hour with cash bar in the Atrium. At 6:30 dinner will be served in the Commons.

President Lawrence O. Hauge will preside over the general meeting, including reports from the Publications, Archives, and Finance committees. The Nominating Committee (appointed by the President) will present a slate of candidates and the main item of business will be the election of a new board of directors. Nominations from the floor are also in order.

### **SPEAKER**

Our dinner speaker will be former U.S.Vice-President, and former Ambassador, the Honorable Walter F. Mondale. We are privileged to have this distinguished Life member of NAHA share with us his recent experiences as the U.S. Ambassador to Japan. We know he will also reflect on how he has been influenced by his Norwegian-American heritage and upbringing throughout his years of public service.

## RESERVATIONS AND PROXY

If you are unable to attend, you are urged to forward your proxy to the NAHA office. Proxies are essential in order to establish a legal meeting according to the by-laws. Please note: a Proxy form is included with this newsletter, and a selfaddressed envelope is enclosed. Also attached is the reservation form for dinner. Guests of NAHA members are cordially invited. We are limited in our seating number for dinner so please reply promptly. More details are included in the attached reservation form.

See Questionnaire on Insert Page Please complete the following questionnaire and return it to the NAHA office in the enclosed envelope. We want to know our members better.

### **Prince Haakon Visit**

With almost 500 guests in attendance, HRC Crown Prince Haakon was welcomed June 7th to the Radisson South Hotel in Edina, Minnesota, for a festive benefit banquet. Prince Haakon made his first official visit to the Midwest after completing his political science studies at the University of California in Berkeley. The Norwegian-American Historical Association and other Norwegian-American organizations, Mindekirken, The Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Vesterheim Museum, Decorah, Iowa, and the Sons of Norway Foundation, Minneapolis, will each receive one quarter of the banquet proceeds. June 7th was a special date for Norwegians and the royal family. It was on June 7, 1940, that the royal family left for Great Britain in the face of encroaching Nazi occupation. It was also on June 7, 1945, that the royal family returned to Norway. We were pleased to have NAHA well represented at the head table with young Prince Haakon. President Lawrence Hauge, his wife Lois, Lois Rand and her husband Sidney, former Ambassador to Norway, and John Tunheim and his wife Kathryn all had roles in the evening's proceedings.

#### **Additions to the Archives**

• Received from Joralf Gjerstad, his *I Vesterled Snåsninger og andre nordmenn;* hard cover, 115 pages. A topical study of the emigration from Snåsa that begins with discussions of Ole Rynning and Bernt Julius Muus. The concluding chapter concerns the author's own trip to the United States in 1996, which included returning the records (minutes) of the Snåsalag i Amerika. Håkon Seem, the last secretary of Snåsalaget, died at his daughter's home during a 1958 Norway visit. Among the things he left were the minutes. These records have been added to the NAHA bygdelag collection.

• Received from Christine Klinger, her 1999 dissertation entitled "Between the Immigrant Novel and the Fairytale: The Quest for Happiness in Selected Novels by O. E. Rølvaag." Ms. Klinger compares the immigrant novel with the fairy tale from a vantage point that Rølvaag was a writer between two countries, two cultures, two languages as well as two opposing literary schools: romanticism and realism. The quest for happiness is examined as well as Rølvaag's characters: the immigrants who may contain some of the Ash Lad's special qualities. Hard bound, 88 pages.

• Received from Stephen A. Sheldahl, *Searching for Roots: A Study of Ancestors*, soft bound volume with index, photos, 248 pages. Details the learning process and the results of finding "treasures" of family photos and history when an aunt died. The family emigrated from the Etne area.

• Received two copies of the June, 1999, Varland Vanguard family newsletter, from Walt and Elaine Varland in Cincinnati, Ohio. Circulation is now over 250 in the United States and Norway. Keep up the good work.

• Received from Robert W. Wilman, a 53-page family tree for the descendants of Elling Johannessen Saxhaug and Marie Christensdatter Odlaug. Wilman has also supplied the ancestors for the Saxhaugs as far back as 1660. After arriving in America, the descendants settled in Ashland, Wisconsin, and in the area around Puyallup, Washington.

• Received from Anna Francis, a three-volume set entitled Norwegian Immigrants and Their Ancestors in Doniphan County, Kansas. These transcribed newspaper articles deal with Norwegian immigrants and their descendants. The area was settled in 1869, originally named East Norway, later undergoing a name change to Moray, Kansas. The articles chronicle weddings, births, graduations, church picnics, and tragedies of these pioneers from 1874 through 1941. This interesting addition to the archives expands our understanding of the Norwegian Americans in the plains state of Kansas.

• Received from the University of Iowa Press, *The Follinglo Dog Book: A Norwegian Pioneer Story from Iowa* by Peder Gustav Tjernagel (1864-1932). Originally recorded in 1909, the author wrote stories involving his neighbors and relatives in Story county, Iowa. A charming cast of humans and their canines experience the hard work, seasons, and events of farm life around the turn of the century. The author's grandson, Peter Harstad, director of the Indiana Historical Society, ties everything together with a prologue and epilogue. 240 pages, University of Iowa Press, 1-800-621-2736. This will supplement the Nehemias Tjernagel papers already in the archives.

• Received from Constance J. Ternes four *bygdebøker:Gards- og ættesoge for Nesset*, volume 5, by Kaare Bakkevig, 1985; *Bygdebok for Eid*, by Karl Myskja, 1987; *Bygdebok for Lesja* 2 and *Bygdebok for Lesja 3*, by Arnfinn Kjelland, 1992 and 1996, respectively.

### Lloyd Hustvedt Legacy Gift

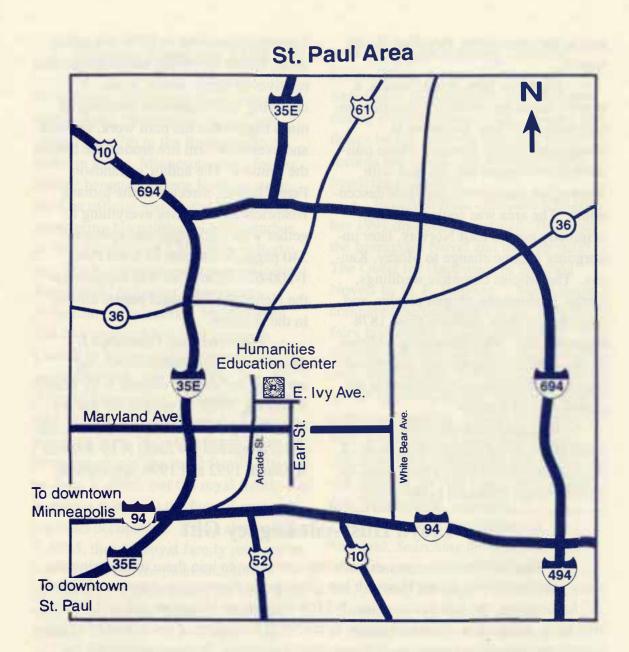
The Board of Directors extends this invitation to join them in honoring the forty years of service Lloyd Hustvedt has given to the Norwegian-American Historical Association. As you can imagine, NAHA remains an important part of Lloyd's life. He is steadfast in his commitment to the NAHA purpose of collecting and caring for the documents and writings of Norwegian-Americans. We are grateful for the years of time and dedication he shared with this Association. Although Lloyd has stepped down from his day to day activities at NAHA, he is currently working on an updated *Guide to Manuscripts Collections*.

Please join us in making a generous contribution to the "Lloyd Hustvedt Legacy Fund". Few gifts would mean more to Lloyd than ensuring the continuity and well being of the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

\_\_\_\_\_Enclosed is a tax-deductible check to NAHA for the Lloyd Hustvedt Legacy Fund.

\_\_\_\_\_Included is a note I wish Lloyd to receive. (The gift will be announced at the NAHA Triennial meeting October 30th, 1999.)

**Please use the envelope provided for the proxy.** You may also send your gift/note to NAHA at 1510 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057. Feel free to call us at 507.646-3221 for questions or to assist in making special arrangements. We look forward to hearing from you and honoring this distinguished service to our association.



Norwegian-American Historical Association 1510 St. Olaf Avenue Northfield, Minnesota 55057 Tel: (507) 646-3221 e-mail: naha@stolaf.edu e-mail: naha@stolaf.edu

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### NORWEGIAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION **PROXY TO VOTE**

Members who are unable to attend the twenty-fifth Triennial meeting are requested to send their proxies to the NAHA office. You may name a fellow NAHA member as your proxy, or you may wish to appoint a member of the Executive Board. Below are listed the names of Board members/officers who will be attending.

John R. Christianson	Lawrence O. Hauge
Ruth Hanold Crane	Lloyd Hustvedt
Robert Firing	Odd. S. Lovoll
E.T. Fjelde	Todd Nichol
Nancy Gossell	Lois Rand
I,	, of(city)
In the State of	appoint

with full power of substitution, to be my substitute and proxy, to vote at the meeting of the Norwegian-American Historical Association to be held in St.Paul, October 30, 1999.

Date\_\_\_\_\_Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Return to NAHA. A self-addressed envelope is provided for you.

#### **BANQUET RESERVATION \$35.00** per plate

Enclosed is my payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_(number) reservations for the Twenty-fifth Triennial Banquet for members and friends of the Norwegian-American Historical Association on Saturday, October 30th, 1999, at the MN Humanities Center at 987 E. Ivy Avenue, St. Paul. (Directions included) Ph. (651) 774-0105. Social Hour 5:30pm, Dinner at 6:30. Your banquet ticket will consist of a ready-made nametag. Please return the reservations to the NAHA office (see enclosed envelope) by October 20, 1999. Telephone 507.646.3221.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s)\_\_\_\_\_

#### QUESTIONNAIRE

We would appreciate your taking the time to complete this brief questionnaire. Your efforts will help me get to know you, our NAHA members, better.

The survey may be returned in the enclosed envelope provided for the proxy and this survey. This information will assist us in planning upcoming activities.

Name:	and the second s
Address	
Phone N	Iumber: ( )
Email A	ddress:
l. publicati	Are you interested in meeting the author of a NAHA ion at coffee reception or book signing event?YesNo
2.	Would you travel up to 30 minutes to attend a book signing party? _YesNo. If yes, please continue on to Number 3
3.	Are you willing to pay a small fee for a reception/booksigning?
4. ample a	Are you interested in getting together with other NAHA members? For ex- bookclub in your area?YesNo
5.	Have you visited the NAHA website at: www.naha.stolaf.edu?
6. ographie	What areas of Norwegian-American History interest you the most? (i.e. Bies, Church history, Immigrant Women, Civil War)
7. yes, via	Do you have any contact with acquaintances/relatives/friends in Norway? If letter/phone/email? (Circle all that apply to this question)
8 please li	Are you involved with other Norwegian-American organizations? If so, st below.

9. Have you visited our Archives?

Kim Holland