

The Norwegian-American
Historical Association

Northfield, Minnesota

NEWS



LETTER

From the Secretary's Office to the Association Members

NUMBER 62

Editor, LLOYD HUSTVEDT

AUGUST, 1981

Triennial Meeting

"A triennial meeting of the members shall be held every third year." So state the NAHA By-laws. The nineteenth such meeting will be held on Saturday, September 26, 1981, in the College Center at Augsburg College, Minneapolis. President Roy Thorshov will call the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

The meeting will consist of reports from the officers and deal with other matters of business prescribed by the Charter. The terms for all members of the Executive Board expire at this time and a new board must be elected. Members who live far away from Minneapolis and who cannot attend are invited to forward their proxy (see page 3) to the Secretary. Those living in or near Minneapolis are urged to attend. Over and above the agenda of the business meeting, which can use broad representation and many voices, is the fellowship and the revival of interest that takes place when good folks get together in support of common objectives. The officers of the NAHA in particular both need and enjoy contact with the members who sustain the Association.

THE BANQUET

As has been true in the past, a banquet will follow the afternoon business meeting, preceded by a social hour (6:30-7:00). The dinner, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. in the College Center, will feature Dr. Rochelle Wright from the University of Illinois at Urbana. "Shelley," as she is known to her friends, will lecture on immigrant ballads. She provides a remarkable blend of analysis and entertainment. In addition to her scholarly insight into this interesting subject, she plays the guitar and has a fine singing voice. Sidney A. Rand, former president of St. Olaf College and former Ambassador to Norway will be the M.C.

Because the social functions sponsored by the NAHA are at best infrequent, we wish to make the most of those that do take place by reaching as many members and potential members as is possible. Members are encouraged to make it known that the banquet is open to all interested persons and are further encouraged to bring guests. For reservation form, see page 3. The price per plate is \$10. This includes a small surcharge to cover some overhead expenses.

The members of the banquet committee are Norma Knutson (chair), Lawrence Hauge, Lois Rand and Hildegarde Strom, all of Minneapolis; and Lloyd Hustvedt, Northfield, Minnesota.

The Chair Fund

Below are listed the contributors since the March newsletter. The fund now approaches \$66,000, leaving a balance of \$4,000 yet to be raised, if the goal established for the second year (1981) is to be reached. The original plan called for raising \$90,000 over a three-year period. Because the fund will not be activated until the end of 1982, the interest that accrues in the meantime should easily lift the total to the desired \$100,000. Developments in our economy make it increasingly clear that a permanent fund of this type is essential to the future security of the Association. We are now looking for contributions on a broad base, no matter what the amount. Do what you can.

Name	Gifts and Pledges
Anonymous	\$5,000.00
Sons of Norway	
Norrøna Lodge #50*	150.00
June Rasmussen Belawski	100.00
Gerhard A. Ellestad*	100.00
Harlan and Beatrice Foss	100.00
Clyde H. Johnson*	100.00
Nancy O. Wick	65.00
Donald M. Follingstad	50.00
Gudrun Hovde Gvåle	40.00
Aaker Family	35.00
Nordis Felland	35.00
C. F. Jacobson	30.00
Marvel C. Benson	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert R. Bjork	25.00
N. W. Glendening	25.00
J. Steen Jacobsen*	25.00
Esther M. Kjorstad	25.00
Clarence E. Pedersen	25.00
Rev. George R. Qualley	25.00
Mrs. Esther Rudge	25.00
Harold A. Ullring, Sr.	25.00
Florence L. Lien	20.00
Franklin M. Scott*	20.00
Erling Andersen	15.00
Mrs. Isak Hystad	15.00
Vesterheim	15.00
Marie J. Barry	10.00
Erling Bjørndal	10.00
Rodney L. Hanson	10.00
Martha Johnson*	10.00
Steven L. Johnson	10.00
Gerald Larsen*	10.00

Odd S. Lovoll	10.00
Marion Nelson*	10.00
Det Litterære Samfund	10.00
Lloyd Svendsbye*	10.00
Roy E. Jorgensen	5.00
Austin Lillehammer	5.00
Lois Stee Lang	5.00
Elizabeth Walker	5.00

*Has contributed previously

PUBLICATIONS

Ethnicity Challenged: The Upper Midwest Norwegian-American Experience in World War I by Carl H. Chrislock will be distributed to the members in September.

The following publications are in the making. *A Chronicler of Immigrant Life: Svein Nilsson's Articles in Billed Magazine*, translated by C. A. Clausen (1982). *Norwegian-American Studies*, volume 29 will emphasize the background of emigration and will also contain an index of volumes 1-29 (late 1982). The third will be volume 30 of *Studies*. This book will treat the Pacific Northwest (for 1983).

We have used copies of several books that have been out of print for a long time: *Laur. Larsen* by Karen Larsen (6 copies), *Norwegian Settlement in the United States* by Carlton Qualey (2 copies), and *Frontier Parsonage: The Letters of Olaus Fredrik Duus*. The first two titles sell for \$10, the third, \$5.

A new and up-dated brochure and membership application form has been printed. Copies will be sent to members upon request. Please indicate amount desired.

LITERARY CONFERENCE

A conference on Scandinavian-American literary life will be conducted at Luther College on October 30-31. The conference, at which twenty-five papers will be given, is sponsored by Symra, a Decorah literary society and Luther College.

BANQUET RESERVATIONS

\$10 per plate

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed for _____ reservations for the Nineteenth Triennial Banquet for members and friends of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, 7:00 p.m., September 26, 1981, College Center, Augsburg College, Minneapolis.

Your banquet tickets will be issued upon arrival. Please return reservation requests to Norwegian-American Historical Association, Library, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota 55057.

NAME _____

NORWEGIAN - AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION PROXY TO VOTE

Members who cannot attend the Nineteenth Triennial Meeting are requested to send their proxies to the Secretary. If you do not know of any member who will attend the convention, you may wish to appoint an Executive Board member as your proxy. Officers who have stated that they will attend are listed below:

Oscar A. Anderson
John Christianson
Reidar Dittmann
Rolf H. Erickson
Lloyd Hustvedt

Norma Arnesen Knutson
Elsie Melby
Rolf A. Syrdal
Roy N. Thorshov

_____ of _____ in the state of _____ appoint _____, with full power of substitution, to be my substitute and proxy, to vote at the meeting of the members of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, to be held at Minneapolis, Minnesota, on September 26, 1981.

Date _____ Signature _____

Return to: Norwegian-American Historical Association, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota 55057.

News in Brief

- Several books and studies that relate to our interests have been received. Arnfinn Bruflot's novel, *Inn i Amerika*, treats the first three years of a young immigrant's life in and around Tacoma, Washington. The author clearly relies on many of his own experiences as he depicts life in factories and in lumber camps in the late 1920s. The book is available through Det Norske Samlag, Postboks 4672, Sofienberg, Oslo 5.
- *Recollections . . . My First 75 Years* by Palmar J. Hertsgaard, a well-written autobiography, covers childhood, education, the depression and the later positions he held in many areas of service.
- *Scando-Americana: Papers on Scandinavian Emigration to the United States*, edited by Ingrid Semmingsen and Per Seyersted was published by the American Institute at the University of Oslo.
- Two additional studies on Norwegian-American writers arrived recently: Drew Rogers, "The Norwegian Immigrant Experience as Depicted in the Fiction of Simon Johnson;" and "Nicolai Severin Hassel: The First Norwegian-American Novelist," by Veslemøy Steenæs Omenaas.
- From Selma S. Casberg of Holmen, Wisconsin came *Svartbek, Christiansen, Tømmerstigen, Kasberg and Casberg Family History*, 1980, an impressive work of 526 pages.
- Lawrence O. Hauge, a member of the NAHA Executive Board, received recently the Norwegian St. Olaf Medal. The presentation was made by Knut Hedeman, the Norwegian Ambassador to the United States.
- Charlotte Jacobson, Archivist and Curator, recently completed processing the papers of Andrew E. and G. Norman Wigeland, a collection filling thirteen document boxes. Andrew Wigeland, prominent Chicago banker, served as Treasurer of the NAHA for many years, and together with his brother supported generously Norwegian-American interests.
- On the cover page of the Texas telephone directories (Southwestern Bell) is a reproduction of a painting portraying ten persons who played an important part in the state's history. One of these is Elise Waerenskjold. The NAHA published her letters and articles under the title *The Lady with the Pen* in 1961.
- The University of Oslo International Summer School offered for the first time a course, consisting of 26 lectures, on Norwegian emigration. It was taught by our editor, Odd S. Lovoll.
- The University of Oslo press hosted a seminar on Norwegian emigration, followed by a luncheon on August 11, attended by 30 persons. The purpose was to give scholars and NAHA members an opportunity to meet Dr. Lovoll. Erik Rudeng of the University press and Kjetil Flatin, Director of the International Summer School, made the arrangements.

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St. Olaf College
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