



NORWEGIAN-AMERICAN
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Inspiring
connections
to Norwegian-
American
experiences
through discovery,
scholarship, and
stewardship

Unidentified photo from
the Anton Olsen Satrang
papers, 1880-1940

PRODUCE OF NORWAY

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20
22

ANNUAL
REPORT

2022 IN REVIEW

— ARCHIVES —



→ In October, we celebrated the completion of our new climate-controlled vault during a **visit from Her Majesty Queen Sonja of Norway**. A program in Rølvaag Memorial Library highlighted our collections, our preservation efforts, and the research that students are doing in the NAHA Archives. The opening of the new vault marks a new chapter of collaboration in nearly a century of partnership between NAHA and St. Olaf College.



(TOP) NAHA Archivist Kristina Warner describes our preservation efforts to Her Majesty Queen Sonja. **(BOTTOM LEFT)** During the program, students Teague Peterson-McGuire, Skye Federation, and Leah Berdahl read from immigrant letters and diaries in the NAHA collection. **(BOTTOM RIGHT)** Caroline Flaten was one of four students who presented their archival research to Queen Sonja.

→ Throughout 2022, we **digitized significant portions of the 1925 Norse-American Centennial Collection**. This project was made possible by the people of Minnesota through a nearly \$87,000 grant funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. We also digitized 35mm slides from the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation collection and items from the Temperance Movement Papers, in cooperation with the Minnesota Digital Library.



2022 BY THE NUMBERS

7,500+

Items digitized

700+

Minutes of oral histories transcribed

180+

Research and material requests

34

Donations added to our archives

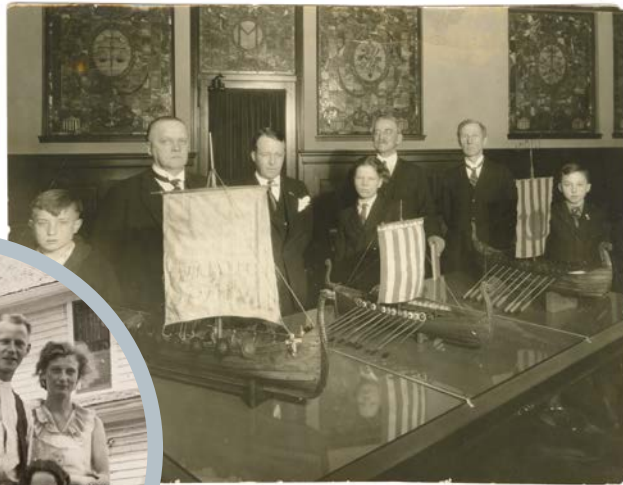
7

Student internships

5

In-house researchers from Scandinavia

This was taken last summer 1933 on our way down from Canada, at Madisa, Minn. where I spent my first year of high school. It is taken at Mrs. Onerheim's home. The man is Bertinus Onerheim a brother of the Rev. myself. Raithe, nephew a schoolmate of mine, Margret a sister of hers and Rhys. The woman is Dad's all. I traded in present a really between don't. 1933



(LEFT) Photo taken at the home of Reverend Onerheim in Madison, Minnesota, from the Olaf M. Wangensteen papers, 1896–1980. (RIGHT) From the 1925 Norse-American Centennial Collection.

→ Throughout the year, we continued actively collecting materials, assisting researchers, and expanding our digital repositories. Some **significant additions to the archives** included the Ivar and Hulda Aas/Aus family papers, 1938–2021; the Olaf M. Wangensteen papers, 1896–circa 1980; and the Harstad/Fjeldstad/Gilbertson family papers.

EVENTS

→ In April, our **virtual event, Transatlantic Frameworks**, featured the emerging scholarship of two of our members. Miranda Moen presented “Ethnicity, Class, and Regional Building Styles: The Foundation of Immigrant Architecture.” Henrik Olav Mathiesen shared “Early Transatlantic Correspondence and Translocal Communication Structures: The Case of the Vossing Letters from the Nesheim Books.” The event was moderated by historian Annette Atkins, a NAHA board member.

→ In June, more than a dozen North American members of NAHA attended a **seminar at the Norwegian Emigrant Museum in Ottestad, Norway**. The conference theme was “Nordic Identity Formation in a Transnational Context,” hosted by **NAHA-Norge**, our partner organization in Norway.

Following the seminar, NAHA offered its week-long **Artistry and Industry of Norway tour**. Participants traveled from Oslo to Bergen, exploring the cultural, industrial, and agricultural history of southern Norway. Stops included Oslo’s new Munch Museum and Deichmann Bjørvika Library; Heddal Stave Church; the Rjukan-Notodden Industrial Heritage Site; the Telemark Canal; fish and fruit farms in the Hardanger region; the Oleana knitwear factory; and Trollhaugen, the home of composer Edvard Grieg.

→ In October, nearly a hundred members enjoyed our **biennial member meeting**. The day included four engaging presentations, a Nordic-themed lunch, news from NAHA leadership, and the election of new board members. Our theme was Norwegian Americans in the Twin Cities, and it included the launch of our latest book, *The Heart of the Heartland: Norwegian American Community in the Twin Cities*. Author David C. Mauk gave the keynote presentation.



(TOP) Artistry and Industry of Norway tour participants enjoyed an overnight at the historic Dalen Hotel in Telemark. (BOTTOM LEFT) NAHA members Mike Oiseth, John and Birgitte Christianson, and Dennis Gimmestad caught up at our biennial member meeting. (BOTTOM RIGHT) NAHA Editor Anna Peterson (right) guided the Artistry and Industry tour and Executive Director Amy Boxrud served as host.

Several NAHA events are recorded and available online — look for them on the Events page of our website.

PUBLICATIONS



→ In the fall of 2022, NAHA released Volume 40 of our scholarly journal, **Norwegian-American Studies**, published in cooperation with the University of Minnesota Press. The journal is dedicated to showcasing the best work in the field of Norwegian-American studies, including the related disciplines of history, literature, religion, art, and cultural studies.

This year's featured journal articles:

- "The Development of an Ethnic Colony: Stoughton, Wisconsin 1850-1920," by Trond Espen Teigen Bjoland
- "An Immigrant Woman Views Niagara: The Letters and Sketches of Linka Preus," by Gracia Grindal

- "Waldemar Ager, Realism, and Woman Suffrage," by Greg Kocken
- "Elisabeth Koren and Her Letters Home," by Øyvind T. Gulliksen

The journal also includes photographic features, book reviews, works-in-progress, and updates on teaching, learning, and researching in the field of Norwegian-American studies. In addition to our print edition, free digital access to the journal and all past issues are available to NAHA members on the Project MUSE digital library.

NAHA members also received our newest publication, **Heart of the Heartland: Norwegian American Community in the Twin Cities** by David C. Mauk. The book was co-published with the Minnesota Historical Society Press.

NEW FELLOWSHIPS In 2022, NAHA created two new opportunities for researchers. The NAHA Archives Fellowship, made possible thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, will encourage research using the NAHA collections. The NAHA Publications Fellowship will stimulate scholarship in the field of Norwegian-American studies that results in a manuscript. The first application deadline for our fellowships is October 1, 2023, and we plan to make our first awards in January of 2024. Keep an eye on our website for more details.

INTERNSHIPS AND AWARDS

Each year, NAHA offers internships for students to pursue their interests and gain practical experience in archives, public history, and nonprofit management. Many of these internships are made possible with funding from the Sigvald Quale Norwegian Society Fund.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) Norse-American Studies in the Digital Humanities Interns Eric Moe '23 and Ryan Kiser '23 created a digital history project using primary sources from the 1925 Norse American Centennial Collection. The internship was made possible thanks to funding from the St. Olaf College Norwegian department. ♦ Helen White was a NAHA Archives Outreach intern. In addition to promoting awareness of the archives, she developed a digital history project on Norwegians in Texas. ♦ Helen Murphy was a practicum student from the Information School at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She worked for NAHA cataloging and transcribing oral interviews. ♦ NAHA awarded Mattea Diedrich of Luther College our Odd S. Lovoll Award in Norwegian-American Studies. The award recognizes originality, excellence, and creativity in undergraduate research and writing. Diedrich's winning essay explores Norwegian-American ethnic identity at Washington Prairie Cemetery, Winneshiek County, Iowa. It will appear in Volume 41 of *Norwegian-American Studies*.

FINANCIALS

FUNDING FOR OPERATIONS

Distributions from investments	\$133,746	38%
Grants income	\$86,689	25%
Donations (for operations)	\$63,335	18%
Membership fees	\$35,161	10%
Temporarily restricted	\$24,575	7%
Other sources	\$8,848	2%
TOTAL	\$352,354	100%

INVESTED FUND BALANCES

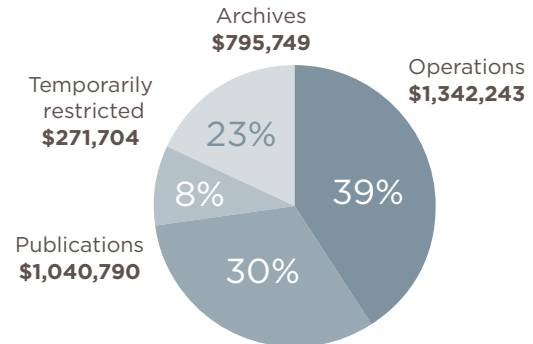
Market value as of December 31, 2022

Ole Edvart Rølvaag Memorial Fund	\$1,143,412
Other Operations	\$198,831
Blegen Bjork Publications Fund	\$999,520
Other Publications	\$41,270
Fosholt Hydle Archives Fund	\$310,455
Nathan and Denise Lindgren Endowed Fund for the NAHA Archives	\$54,689
Archives Fellowship Fund	\$22,815
Other Archives	\$407,790
Sigvald Quale Norwegian Society Fund	\$271,704
TOTAL	\$3,450,486

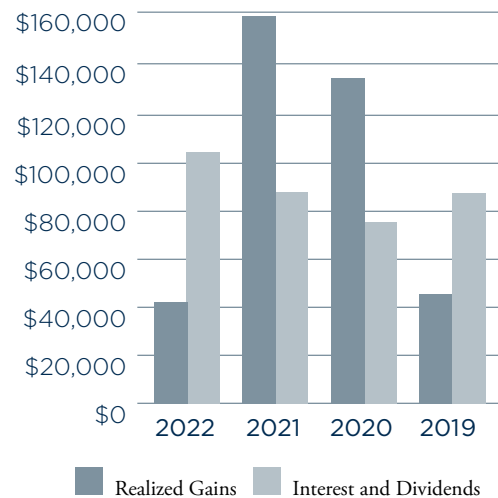
SUMMARY OF EXPENSES

Salaries and benefits	\$193,498	55%
Administrative, programs, supplies	\$72,616	21%
Publications	\$34,690	10%
Development initiatives	\$32,475	9%
Contract labor	\$19,075	5%
TOTAL	\$352,354	100%

DESIGNATION OF ENDOWED FUNDS



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Full financials are available upon request.
Contact naha@stolaf.edu or call 507-786-3221.

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If you have included the association in your estate plans, or if you believe you should be included in our Leadership Circle, please let us know. For more information on our Legacy and Leadership Circles, please contact Amy Boxrud at naha@stolaf.edu.



(ABOVE) Nurses marching in a 1925 Norse-American Centennial parade in Brooklyn. (BELOW) The start of the American Birkebeiner race in downtown Hayward, Wisconsin, circa 1980.



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