

Minutes
Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee
Saturday, January 16, 2010 – 10:00 A.M.
Arterial Restaurant, La Crosse, Wisconsin

Attending: Barry Dahl (Tr), Robert Fossum (Tr), Cheryl Goodin (Tr), Dixie Hansen (Hed), Nancy Hawkinson (Tr), Ron Helstad (Hed), Marv Lang (Gud/Hed/Tr), Dick Lundgren (Gud), Jim Olson (Gud), John Reindl (Hed), (Tr), Joy Shong (Hed), Marilyn Sorensen (Gud), Betty Strand (Gud)

Absent: Jan Floeter (Gud), Linda Schwartz (Tr), Joanna Shager Hocker (Gud/Tr), Betty Strand (Gud)

THEME: Looking Forward, Looking Back: Norwegian Spirit and Perseverance

2010 Stevne Date: August 4-7, 2010

2010 Stevne Site: Ramada, 1501 Northpoint Dr., Stevens Point WI 54481

- A. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by chairman, Joy Shong.
- B. Jim Olson moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting; seconded by Dixie Hansen; approved.
- C. TLSSC treasurer, Ron Helstad, reported a balance of \$1,801.09. All bills from the 2009 stevne have been paid. No advance deposits for the 2010 stevne have been requested.
- D. Stevne Plan - Schedule

1. Opening Ceremony:

Marv will invite the mayor of Stevens Point, Andrew Halverson, and Dr. Mark Nook, interim chancellor of UW- Stevens Point, to the Opening Ceremony, Wednesday evening.

2. Topics and Speakers:

- \$100 – for a single presentation**
- \$125 – double presentation**
- \$150 – keynote speaker**

Preferred Choices for 2010

- 1. Norwegian Resistance/65th Anniversary of Norway liberation from German occupation.
Marilyn Sorensen will contact Chris Skjervold to see if he is willing to speak on this topic, or if he can recommend someone.
- 2. Norwegian Humor During the Occupation.
Dixie will contact Kathleen Stokker, Professor of Norwegian, Luther College; author of *Folklore Fights the Nazis: the Humor in Occupied Norway, 1940-1945*.
- 3. Norwegian Food.
Marv Lang will contact Jerry Paulson, Director of Genealogical Research at the Norwegian-American

Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library (NAGC-NL). Knowledgeable on the culture and food of Norway.

4. 250th Anniversary of Founding of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters.
Robert Fossum will be attending the 2010 celebration in Norway and has offered to make a presentation at stevne.
5. Educational System in Norway.
Marilyn Sorensen or Cheryl Goodin will contact Pastor Kristin Sundt from Mindekirken.
6. Life/Struggle in Early Church in America.
Jim Olson volunteered to make a presentation.
7. "From Indian Land" - Malcolm Rosholt book.
Marv will contact Mark Seiler, Professor Emeritus, UW-SP.
8. The Hurtigruten—A Journey Across Time.
Jon Satrum has volunteered this presentation. Joy will confirm with Jon.
9. How to Read Bygeboker.
Presentations by lag genealogists: John Reindl, Marilyn Sorensen and Barry Dahl.
10. Using the Digital Archives.
Ken Domier volunteered a presentation on Digital Archives. Joy will contact him with suggestions as to what we would like to have covered in this presentation.
11. Google/Bing/Image Searches – Strategies for Research
Dixie volunteered to make a presentation.
12. The Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library (NAGC & NL)
Recently has had some major changes.
Marv will contact to see if Blaine Hedberg would be interested in making a presentation. A chance to promote NAGC & NL.
13. Norwegian Art/Literature
Suggested contacting Dr. Mary Jo Thorsheim, owner of Norway Art store in Minneapolis. Who was going to contact? John Reindl?
14. Children's Music/Music
Dixie will contact Chris Falteisek.
15. Significance of the Paper Industry to Stevens Point area.
Marv will contact UW-SP for a speaker.
16. Museum Artifacts.
John will contact the Wisconsin State Historical Society for suggestions.
17. Norwegians in Civil War – 15th Wisconsin
Marv saw a presentation by re-enactors reading Civil War letters. He volunteered to contact a speaker.

Sam and/or Carolyn/Caroline Solberg were mentioned.

18. UW-Area Research Center-Stevens Point

Close enough to walk over.

Marv will contact to see what could be arranged – tour and/or research possibilities.

19. Marv volunteered to contact the Portage County Historical Society for additional topics/presentations.

Keynote: John Reindl will contact Tom Loftus of Sun Prairie. Mr. Loftus is a former ambassador to Norway during the Clinton administration. Topic to be related to stevne theme. If Mr. Loftus cannot speak, suggest contacting someone from the Norwegian consulate in Madison.

Memorial Service: Last year's pastor, Rev. Dr. Mary Brown and/or Pastor Kristin Sundt from Mindekiken.

Second Tier Choices

1. Contribution of Women – suggested presenter Joan Buckley, Prof. Emeritus of English from Moorhead College.

2. Story Teller – suggested presenter Maren Hinderlie.

3. Anti-Semitism and Islam phobia -- possible presenter could be Jo Ann Magnuson.

Other Topics Discussed

1. DNA – Presented last year – best to wait until next year.

2. Janteloven – Presented last year – wait a year or two to re-visit.

3. Must Read Books – Perhaps better for newsletters than as stevne topic.

4. Travel Routes – Good topic when an Immigration theme.

5. Dakota Uprising of 1862 – Curtis Dahlin – Felt it would be better for stevne held further west.

3. Tour – Saturday A.M.

Marv provided information for a tour to possibly include:

A visit to the town of Rosholt

Named for Rosholt family

Rosholt house (being restored by Mark Siler)

Tour of Norwegian churches in area.

Hitterdahl LCMC (5 miles north of Iola)

Our Savior ELCA

Northland LCMC (8 miles north of Iola) – Food and refreshments could be provided at this stop

Contacts: Dale & Debbie Thompson (715-445-3156)

Barb Lashua (715-445-4110)

Redeemer church

Hartman State Park – site of the restored Hellestad log cabin

Mark Siler is willing to ride on bus and provide narration.

Suggest contacting Sue Eiler, author of book on the Hellestad cabin restoration, to narrate on second bus.

Marv will contact Lamar – renting of two buses – and if there will be park entrance fees.

4. Entertainment & Music

Johanna has volunteered Tre Lag Musicians to provide music..

Banquet:

Preview 2011 stevne at Friday night banquet.

Marv will check on price and availability of Ole and Sven (Phil Dybdahl and Dave Nelson).

Joy will check on price and availability of the Stoughton Norwegian Dancers.

D. Stevne Plan – Vendors

Vendor guidelines to be reviewed by vendor committee and approved by TLSSC.

Question: Should craft demonstrations be included under Vendors? Put statement in revised guideline.

Committee: Per bylaws, committee is to be composed of three to six people representing all three lags.

John Reindl (Hed), Chair

Robert Fossum (Tr)

Cheryl Goodin (Tr)

Marilyn Sorenson (Gud)

Robert suggested asking vendors to take out an ad in the Program – limited to Norwegian genealogy and/or culture. Dixie concurs that it adds to program.

Suggested vendor hours:

Wednesday: Open until 6:00 p.m. (or later). (Set up at 1:00 p.m.)

Closed for Opening Ceremony

Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (or later) with 7:00 a.m. set up

Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Committee will discuss, chose vendors and email decisions prior to next meeting.

Craft Demonstrator: Robert will contact wood carving team of Phil and Else Bigton of Barronett, Wisconsin.

D. Stevne Plan – Meals – Linda Schwartz

Linda was unable to attend but provided a handout with tentative banquet and coffee break information. Further discussion at next meeting.

D. Stevne Plan – Genealogy Lab – John Reindl

Genealogy lab open more hours since space is not needed for banquet turnover. If to be open on Saturday a.m., need to check if Tre Lag does have the genealogy lab ballroom on Saturday until noon. Genealogists to discuss specifics for next meeting.

D. Stevne Plan – Hospitality Room

Marv has made arrangements with local Sons of Norway lodges to host the Hospitality Room. Each lodge will provide “goodies”. TLSSC will provide coffee and also ask members to contribute additional goodies.

Wednesday: Vennligfolk Lodge (#5-627), Stevens Point

Contact person: Louise Lang (715-341-3201)

Thursday: Myrmarken Lodge (#5-609), Marshfield

Contact person: Sherri Framness (715-387-6675)

Friday: Elvedal Lodge (#5-556), Wisconsin Rapids

Contact persons: Tom & Sue Boudreau (715-886-4514)

Saturday: TBA (if needed)

D. Stevne Plan – Publicity – Nancy & Marv

Logo needs to be finalized and program semi-finalized.

First mailing by end of February.

Suggested advertising in Viking magazine and the Norwegian-American weekly out of Seattle if feasible.

Stevne to be featured in local area newspapers in July.

D. Stevne Plan – Evaluations – Jan Floeter

No discussion.

D. Stevne Plan – Budget

Will be focus of next meeting.

D. Stevne Plan – Other

Room rates:

Standard Room (double or king) \$84

Pool side \$99

Piano – Marv will arrange for rental of a piano.

Old Business

1. 2011 Site Selection

Stevne Dates: August 3-6, 2011

Nothing available in Duluth for 2011.

Jim Olson provided information for Best Western Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center in Sioux Falls SD.

Room rate: \$95.99 plus 9.5% tax (1 to 4 people); doesn't include breakfast.

Not negotiable – busy season – Sturgis motorcycle festival

Newly renovated with many amenities

Ample space for genealogy and vendors

Director of Sales, Karla Pfeifer, willing to work with TLSSC.

Motion: John Reindl made motion to accept the proposal from the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center for the 2011 stevne. Second by Marilyn Sorenson. Approved.

2. 2012 Site Selection

Robert visited Duluth. DECC facility is expensive to rent and is a distance from nearby hotels; hotels visited did not have adequate meeting space.

We have a proposal from Fargo; room rates appear high.

Finding adequate public space is problem.

3. NHOH Centennial

In the planning stage. Should have no impact on the stevne.

Next Meeting:

March 13, 2010 , Arterial Restaurant La Crosse, Wis., 10:00 A.M.

Motion to adjourn at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hawkinson, TLSSC Secretary