

SIGDALSLAG SAGA

SINCE 1911

SERVING NORWEGIAN AMERICANS OF SIGDAL, EGGEDAL AND KRØDSHERAD ANCESTRY

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Sigdalslag Has Leadership Change

We are fortunate to welcome another wonderful president to lead our lag. Karen Olson was elected Sigdalslag president at the Annual Meeting in Fargo last July. She is not new to leadership as she has been a Sigdalslag VP for many years. Karen is a hard-working, humble, and very capable human. She is a heck of a baker, too. She does everything with a calm, pleasant demeanor, making all her hard work seem effortless. She is married to George (Ole) Olson, who is president of Totenlag, so theirs will be quite a busy household.

Jean Knaak has been a very industrious and capable president. Since becoming president in 2011, she has overseen 2 trips to Norway (2012 & 2017), steered the publication of *The Sigdalslag 2014*, chaired the Fellesraad Centennial celebration (2016), and orchestrated the 7-lag Stevne (2018). Each of these events required many planning and organizational meetings, which she generously hosted with food and drink. No job has been too big for Jean to tackle and she is good at encouraging people to step up and take on tasks they may not think they able to. She will continue to serve on the board as she was elected to take the VP position that Karen left. She is also on the Fellesraad board and a big promoter of Norway House. A big "Thank You" to Jean Knaak and Karen Olson for their contributions to Sigdalslag. We are fortunate to have you both on the board.

In the past year we have lost 3 women who have also contributed much to Sigdalslag in their lifetimes. (See page 8) Two past presidents, Corrine Johnson and Carol Meade, and Irene Navarre who gave her time and resources to promote Sigdalslag. Each person brought a unique skill set to our lag, from which we have all benefited. I am very grateful to those who came before and those who continue on in helping us celebrate and discover our precious Norwegian heritage.

VELKOMMEN NYE LAG MEDLEMMER!

Tiffany Ellis

Champlain, NY

Robin Fingerson

Erie, CO

David Harris

Idaho Falls, ID

Kevin Hoff

Blaine, MN

Rachael Ketchum

Tieton, WA

Jane McCullough

Scottsdale, AZ

June M. Minske

Karlstad, MN



Attendees at the Sigdalslag Annual Meeting, July 13, 2019, Fargo, MN

Front (on floor): Elizabeth Roe, Tess Borgerding

First Row(seated): Sarah Ani, Andrew Brevig, Linda Mohn, Jean Knaak, Karen Olson, Rod Pletan, Audrey Pletan, Jean Borgerding

Row 2: Dianne Snell, Connie Teigen, Sheila Winstead, Jill Thompson, Betty Knutson, June Minske, Marilyn Somdahl, Lila Harp, Ruth Christ, Cheryl Nousaine, Karen Nute, Sophie Borgerding

Back Row: Ginny Blood, Kristy Blomgren, Garth Ulrich, Earl Knutson, Ed Harp, Judy Jacobson, Debra Lee Pritchard, John Glesne, Marlys Larsen, Sandra Tangen



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Fra Presidenten,

This is my first news article as President of Sigdalslag and I hope that it finds you enjoying our beautiful autumn days. Perhaps you have been enjoying the bounties of your garden as I have and trying to get it taken care of before frost. We are so fortunate when we can enjoy those fresh vegies. I often think when I am canning how lucky I am to have the modern conveniences, unlike our ancestors who worked so hard to provide food for the family.

Were you able to enjoy the 7-Lag Stevne in Fargo in July? I always think of it as a family reunion. It was very busy, but I hope everyone had a great time. We had our Sigdalslag annual meeting on Saturday, July 13th of stevne and we changed out a couple board positions. Jean Knaak stepped down as President and agreed to take my position as one of the Vice Presidents. In turn, I agreed to the position of President. Jean will be a tough act to follow, but I certainly believe that with the help of the hard-working board and each individual member, Sigdalslag will stay strong. I joined Sigdalslag in 2004 and became one of the Vice Presidents in 2009. It has certainly been fun to work with the board. And, I thank Jean for all her many hours behind the scenes working for Sigdalslag as President!

If you attended the Sigdalslag annual meeting, then you probably enjoyed popcorn and the movie "Lutefisk Wars". Such an interesting title! It provided a few laughs for our group. Thank you to all that were able to attend this year.

Next year we will be in Duluth, MN for stevne, hosted by Hadeland. That should be a very fun time and I believe is the first time that a 7-Lag Stevne has been held in Duluth. If you have been to Duluth, you know what a great feeling it is to be along the shores of Lake Superior. We are already thinking of possibilities for our lag meeting in 2020, so if anyone has ideas to share, please let me know.

I would like to encourage both new and old members to check out the Sigdalslag website. Our webmaster, Dale has done a great job of keeping it updated. It seems like every time that I look at it, I find something new. So, I challenge you to "take a look" if you have not been on the website in a while. There are also archived copies of the SAGA for you to read. And, you can also order copies of the Sigdalslag history books. (I hate to mention it this early, but it is something to think about to give as a Christmas present for a family member!)

We have our fall board meeting on October 27th. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please let me know in advance and we can try to address them.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your Sigdalslag President and enjoy the rest of 2019!

Karen Olson



Knitting, knitting, knitting



A wonderful tour and lunch

The New World Oseberg Wagon Project

The New World Oseberg Wagon Project is in its infancy. We anticipate that it will take several years to complete. Periodic displays and presentations will share its progress.

In formally organizing this endeavor, we have formed an Association, with officers and directors. We are in the process of gaining tax free / tax deductible status.





There will be many challenges along the way. We will appreciate your moral and financial support in looking forward into the past!

Sponsorships are yet to be defined... possibly to include invitations to Association meetings and special project presentations. Sponsors may be formally recognized on a special Wagon chassis plaque as well.



If you share our interest in this project and would care to be a sponsor, please leave us your name and email address.

Thank you,

Don Rorvig and Rodger Hansen



Progress update on the Oseberg Wagon Project with Ragnar (Don Rorvig) & Rodger Hansen



Happy Birthday, Sandy!!



Bløtkake with Karen Nute

Scenes from the 7-lag Stevne in Fargo, ND



A really cute welcome committee



So fun to welcome new member from Norway, Tor Steinar Fossen



Beautiful Bunader



All the way from Norway, Tor Ivar Strøm, Lill Renate Arnesen with Henrik and Jørgen



Lovely banquet centerpieces Totenlag president, George Olson made the butter spreaders for all to take home



Longtime friendships



2020 7-Lag Stevne – A Preview

Anne Sladky

It's not too early to start thinking about next summer's 7-Lag Stevne in Duluth! We'll be in the heart of the city at the waterfront with an up-close view of the Lift Bridge in the Harborside Convention Center, part of the Duluth Entertainment complex (DECC).

The stevne will begin on Wednesday, July 8, with a public open house for genealogy and vendors from 3:30 – 6:30. You will be able to pick up your nametag or register during that time as well. After the open house, stevne workers and early arrivals can take a harbor dinner cruise.

On Thursday, our first general session will offer an overview of the Viking Age. After a full day of classes, another harbor dinner cruise is scheduled. After the cruise, local musicians will provide the evening's entertainment.

We're trying something new this year – each lag will be able to schedule its meeting and activities in either the morning or afternoon on Friday. The morning stevne program will repeat in the afternoon so regardless of when your lag meets, you won't miss a thing.

Saturday there will be a full slate of classes followed by the banquet, which will be held at the Holiday Inn. We're working to again bring Norwegian musicians and folk dancers to Duluth for

dance classes and a Saturday night performance.

Duluth is a hot summer destination, and hotels run \$200 and up. We have a 'great' rate of \$169/night at the Holiday Inn connected by skyway to DECC – but an economical alternative to this are dorm rooms at UMD (about 15 minutes away). Parking at DECC is \$5/day – and you can leave and return as you please during the day without additional charges.

The program will include Viking re-enactors, presentations about Norwegians on the North Shore and Viking settlements in places like Greenland, Iceland, and Newfoundland, craft classes and activities for students. On Sunday, enjoy a bus tour of the North Shore from 9-5.

Mark your calendar! Join us in Duluth for the 2020 7-Lag Stevne!

New Member Profile!

My name is Tiffany Ellis and I was born in Willmar, Minnesota, but when I was 4 years old, we moved to Arizona and I basically grew up in Chandler, Arizona. Almost 7 years ago my family and I moved to Montreal, Quebec, Canada for my husband's job. We like it so much we want to stay and are currently waiting for our final paperwork to become permanent residents here.

I had done some history work for my family when I was much younger, but life got in the way and I set it aside for quite a while. So long ago that most of my research was on floppy disks, but our journey to become potentially citizens of Canada had me thinking about my ancestors once again and I've literally been nose deep in this history work for a couple months now.

My great-grandmother was Clara Pladson, one of the daughters of Christian Edvard Olsen Pladson and Kari Olsd. Skarhus. She is one of my ancestors who brings me into the Sigdal region.

My 2nd great-grandmother, mother to Andrew Ellingson (who was Clara Pladson's first husband), Anna Knudsdtr Engareie (Kiland) and her family also brings me to Sigdal.

I'm looking forward to connecting with you all and hopefully you can all teach me more about the Sigdal region.





Norway's Changing Internal Regional Borders

Sigrid Kvisle & Garth Ulrich

The Norwegian Storting (Parliament) passed law in 2017 that would see the 19 fylker (counties) reorganized through mergers to become 11 fylkeskommuner (regions) by 2020.

The fylker (fylke, singular form) were established in 1918 or 1919 when the former administrative divisions known as amter (amt, singular form) were reorganized and renamed to become the fylker as we have recently known them:

Akershus fylke
Aust-Agder fylke
Buskerud fylke
Finnmark fylke
Hedmark fylke
Hordaland fylke (absorbed the former Bergen fylke in 1972)
Møre og Romsdal fylke
Nord-Trøndelag fylke
Nordland fylke
Oppland fylke
Oslo fylke
Rogaland fylke
Sogn og Fjordane fylke
Sør-Trøndelag fylke
Telemark fylke
Troms fylke
Vestfold fylke
Vest-Agder fylke
Østfold fylke

Some of the mergers have already taken place, and the others are to take place by January 2020. The 11 new divisions, called fylkeskommuner, that will replace the fylker are:

Troms og Finnmark (by merging Finnmark and Troms fylker in 2020)
Nordland (no change, the same as Nordland fylke)
Trøndelag (by merging Nord-Trøndelag and Sør-Trøndelag in 2018)
Møre og Romsdal (no change, the same as Møre og Romsdal fylke)
Vestland (by merging Hordaland and Sogn og Fjordane fylker)
Rogaland (no change, same as Rogaland fylke)
Agder (by merging Aust-Agder and Vest-Agder fylker in 2020)
Telemark og Vestfold (by merging Telemark and Vestfold fylker in 2020)
Innlandet (by merging Hedmark and Oppland fylker in 2020)
Viken (by merging Akershus, Buskerud, and Østfold fylker in 2020)
Oslo (no change, same as Oslo fylke)

Furthermore, the number of kommuner (townships or municipalities) in Norway will be reduced from 426 to 354. It has been suggested that Sigdal, Krødsherad and Modum might be merged to form one kommune, but this has not been finalized. There has been much controversy over the changes to both the fylker and the kommuner, so we must wait to see what the final outcome will be.

Why does Norway have Mountains but not Sweden?

Mike Wick

It all happened long ago when North/South America and Europe/Africa were pushed apart. The map rendering shows the similar mountain ranges in the world. The Appalachian and the Caledonian mountain ranges have the same age and structure. Geologists agree that the Scandinavian Range was elevated in a similar way to the mountains of Eastern Greenland. The mountains of the Norwegian range are not very high but are among the steepest in the world.

The Scandinavian Mountains are largely composed of very old rock formed some 400 million years ago when the Caledonian mountain range was thrust up.

The west side of the Scandinavian plate was heaved up just off the coast of Norway, while the east side of Sweden remained lower. The whole plate was therefore at an angle, with the west side much higher than the east and all the rivers consequently flowing east.

Since this tilting of the plate some 50 million years ago there have been numerous ice ages which have eroded it, particularly the western higher side. In the last 2.5 million years it is estimated there have been some 40 different ice ages alone. These ice ages have been the main shapers of the landscape we see today as the glaciers which came and went scraped away valleys, often leaving the higher peaks protruding through the ice.

The last of these ice ages was 10,000 years ago and that's when people began to migrate into Norway from Europe and Russia. There have been some minor ice ages since then, and even as recently as the mid 18th century there was a mini ice age when glaciers surged forward again, enveloping farms and fields.



Scholarship Recipient-Katya Torkelson

Dear Sigdalslag Members,

Thank you so much for the opportunity for this scholarship. With this I was able to visit Skogfjorden for my eighth year as a camper. This year I went for four weeks so I was able to learn much more Norsk, than in my past years as a camper. During the first two week session, I was in marine bla streng, where we learned about grammar and how to say proper sentences in Norwegian. In that two week session there was also an event where all the camps got together to celebrate international day. There were many different ethnic foods, drink stands, and music with all of the camps languages. In the next two week session I was in the folehøgskole program where the camp simulated folkhøgskole in Norway. We had a project of something to do that would make an impact around Skogfjorden. For my project with a group of friends we created posters to put around and help people with their mental health. As a group we put together many quotes and sayings to translate from English to Norwegian.

A normal day at Skogfjorden would start with the radio waking everyone up and thirty minutes later heading to breakfast. For meals the cooks would make authentic Norwegian food to fully immerse us into the culture. The counselors would also only speak Norwegian while using gestures and acting to make sure everybody understood what was happening. After breakfast there was all sang where everyone in the camp came to sing songs. We then had an activity for about an hour to teach us about different things in Norway like Vikings and peace. After that we had streng gruppe twice, and our choice of a Norwegian related activity twice. Then it was basically time for bed to have energy for another day at Skogfjorden.

I really enjoyed camp. It has been a great experience in my life. Thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Katya Torkelson

(4th from the left in the 2nd row)

Visit our website, Sigdalslag.org for scholarship info



Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, Bygdelag, and Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening Partnership

Elaine Helgeson Hasleton, AG

25 March 2019

The partnership between the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad (representing the 29 Bygdelag) and Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening represents a major bonding between the two organizations on both sides of the ocean.

The Bygdelagenes Fellesraad was founded on 12 November 1916 in Minnesota. It is the umbrella organization for the twenty-nine Bygdelag, each based on a different geographical area in Norway. Some of the Bygdelags were established earlier than the Fellesraad, such as the Valdres Samband founded in 1899 in Minneapolis, and Trønderlag founded in 1908 in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

The founders of these Bygdelag organizations were initially the immigrants themselves who organized to “retain their original identity and a strong emotional attachment to their local home area in Norway.” When these immigrants passed away, their children and other descendants took over the Bygdelag movement.

Today Bygdelag members are often the descendants several generations down from the original immigrant, who primarily live throughout the U.S. They are interested in learning about their ancestral areas, talking with others who know about those areas, and researching their ancestral lines often using the Lag Genealogists.

Bygdelags always sponsor a yearly Stevne in various towns in the upper Midwest, where friends and family meet to participate in Norwegian cultural and research classes and other activities. The Genealogy Lab is always open during Stevne time. See the Fellesraad website for specific information on the Bygdelags and their Stevner: www.fellesraad.com and then click on Lag Information Sheets.

Genealogy is a very large part of Bygdelag activities. Lags have genealogical collections of sources relevant to their localities in Norway. They are often very knowledgeable in their localities in the U.S. Because the Bygdelag and Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening have the same interest and drive to find family members and ancestors, I see a great potential in this partnering. With the Norwegian-American Forum established, research questions can

be cooperatively resolved. Lookups can be done by members on both sides of the ocean. Online sources, documents, and links can be shared. We can exchange not only Lag newsletters, but we can also share or donate Norwegian-American family histories and publications for the NSF Library.

With the exchange of Lag Genealogists and NSF memberships, the potential for success can be experienced in both organizations. The influence of both organizations will be felt throughout the Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogical and historical communities. Partnering builds visibility of both of our organizations in Norway and Norwegian-America.

Together we can help each other find needed information. And, of course, we (Bygdelag) invite you to attend our Bygdelag Stevner, where you will be received like royalty.



Fellesraad Board: Front row: **Mary Gross, Elaine Haselton, Marilyn Sorensen, Jean Knaak**
Back row: **Don Teigen, Robert Torkelson, Nancy Pickering, Gene Rodi and Rune Nedrud**, our contact at Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening (missing is Marilyn Somdahl)

Now is a good time to make a donation to Norway House. Fellesraad has put matching funds of up to \$45,000 for lags and individuals who contribute to Norway House. Please include "**Bibliotek**" in the memo line of your check. Fellesraad will match funds from now until April 30, 2020. The financial situation for Norway House looks positive and they look to break ground in fall of 2020. We will all benefit greatly from the success of Norway House!!



The
NATIONAL
NORWEGIAN
CENTER
in America

Memorial Service for Jon Pederson

from Norway House

A memorial service to honor our tireless supporter and friend, Jon Pederson will be held at Mindekirken on Sunday, October 13, at 3:00pm.

An outdoor reception will follow the service, and Norway House will be open for those who wish to sit inside with coffee. Norway House and Mindekirken are located on the same block with a shared parking lot.

The address for Mindekirken, The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church is:
924 East 21st Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Among the many hats Jon wore in the Norwegian-American community, he served on the Norway House Board of Directors and was the former Board Chairman. He touched many lives through his steadfast involvement in our community until his sudden passing on August 29. His funeral was held on September 5 in Spicer, MN.

Volunteer or Bake for the Memorial

If any would like to honor our beloved Jim Pederson by bringing a baked good, especially Norwegian, for his memorial service, it would be appreciated.

Stine Aasland of Nordic Waffles will be serving waffles outdoors, in honor of Jon. Mindekirken and Norway House will serve coffee and baked goods. Between our organizations and volunteers, we feel we can accommodate the many friends we anticipate coming to the Memorial.

Please contact Nancy Olson by email or phone if you are able to contribute baked goods, indicating the type and approximate amount you can bring.

We will need the baked goods to be delivered to Norway House on Saturday, October 12th between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. If you need to have your cookie container/tin returned to you, please mark it with your name and phone number on masking tape.

We'll also need volunteers to help with plating and serving. Let Nancy know if you would be willing to help. As Jon used to say, "Many hands make light work".

Nancy Olson, norskheart@aol.com , 612-384-7535

For **Jon Pederson's** full obituary see:

<http://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/0000325221/>



Sigdalslag's Lost Treasures

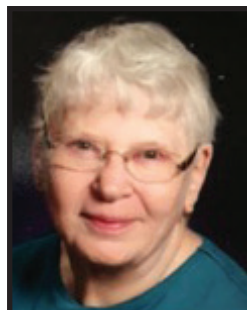
Sigdalslag has lost some powerful contributors in the past year. These women have done so much to promote and enhance our dear Sigdalslag. Please take a moment to acknowledge their contributions. These excerpts have been taken from *The Sigdalslag 2014*.

Corrine Johnson was president of Sigdalslag from 1995-1998. Following the successful tenure (1982-1995) of Marilyn Somdahl as Sigdalslag's first woman president, Corrine Lesteborg Johnson was elected as Lag President in 1995 and served through July of 1998.



Many good things happened during Corrine's time in office, including the Lag's 85th anniversary celebration in 1996, the publication of English translations of the Sigdalslag yearbooks for 1914, 1920, 1929, 1932 and 1941; and one bad thing – she suffered a serious fall during opening ceremonies at the 1997 Stevne in Wahpeton which resulted in a broken arm and two months of physical therapy. Not one to be hindered by adversity, Corrine was back in 1998 and was instrumental in the initial planning stages for the Sigdalslag heritage trip to Norway in 2000. During the stevne in Decorah, Iowa, that year she resigned as president to concentrate on her genealogy pursuits and publication of family history book.

Carol Rugland Meade was president of Sigdalslag from 1998-2000. Carol was elected as Sigdalslag President in July 1998, at Wahpeton, North Dakota, but she had become passionate about Norway and searching for her Norwegian roots long before that. Carol joined Sigdalslag following her first trip to Norway in 1982, and in an interview for the Saga she recalled her feelings upon first seeing her ancestral home: (Oct. 1998 Saga)
 "My daughter Birgitta and I rode the early morning bus from Åmot to Eggedal. We saw the mist from the cooking pots of the trolls rising from the forest.

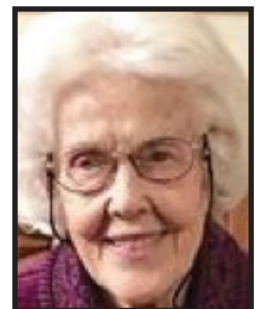


What a thrill to get off the bus at Eggedal church and later to see the stabbur that stood on the Rugland farm when my great-grandparents left to sail to America."

Carol attended most of the stevner since retiring from nursing in 1996. She served as secretary for Norwegian Stevner, Inc. and was representative to Bygdelagenes Fellesraad. She was president of Sigdalslag during the trip to Norway in June of 2000, and was responsible for the design and commissioning of wood carvings by Harvey Refsal that were presented to the mayors of Sigdal and Krodshead kommuner during that trip.

Carol proudly debuted her new Sigdal bunad at the 1996 Stevne banquet. It was constructed in Wisconsin at Oden's Husflid, and the vest was made in Norway. She enjoyed the camaraderie of her friends in Sigdalslag, studying genealogy, and learning about Norwegian immigrant culture. Carol was a prime example of the dedicated leaders that have kept Sigdalslag a viable and active force for nearly a century. She reported that she was very gratified to see the strong leadership and active participation of lag members in recent years.

Irene Navarre, Sigdalslag Benefactor. Irene O'Connor Navarre was a descendant of Eggedal immigrant Elling Pedersen Enger and his parents. She was married for 45 years to Albuquerque oral surgeon Dr. Harry Navarre, who was also a pilot and an "adopted" Norwegian. He passed away in 2008.



They enjoyed many adventurous trips in their own plane across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Irene was an avid supporter of Sigdalslag for years and served as parliamentarian for the annual meetings. She paid Sigdalslag family memberships for numerous nieces, nephews and cousins in America and Norway. She enjoyed seven trips to Norway and kept in close touch with the descendants of all seven of her Norwegian immigrant great-grandparents.

At the Sigdalslag 2009 Stevne business meeting in River Falls, Wisconsin, Irene was awarded a lifetime membership award for the promotion of Sigdalslag within her family.

IN MEMORY...

Larry Elwood Voldeng
1940-2019

Larry passed away peacefully with his family by his side on April 25, 2019, in Prince George, BC. Larry was born June 8, 1940 in Naicum, Saskatchewan to Richard and Alice Voldeng.



Larry enjoyed fishing, golfing and wintering in Cabo San Lucas and Yuma, Arizona. He leaves behind to celebrate his life: Shirley, his loving wife of 55 years, daughter Laura Jacobs (Darren), son Dale Voldeng (Angela), grandchildren Shawna Porteous (James), Alicia Giroday (Jonathan), Miranda Voldeng and Jeremy Voldeng, as well as seven great-grandchildren: Kaleb, Jordan, Ryder, Parker, Jacob, Gemma and Jase. In October 2018, Larry & Shirley moved back to Prince George after spending 16 years in Ladysmith. He enjoyed this time with his family. He is predeceased by his father Richard, mother Alice, and brother Merlin. An open house was held May 3 at Sintich Trailer Park Hall, 7817 Highway 97 South. A special thank you to Drs. Inban Reddy and Andrea Larson for their help in carrying out Larry's final wishes. To all the nurses and support workers who cared for Grampa in his final days, the family is deeply grateful. In lieu of flowers, donations in his name to the Prince George Hospice Society would be appreciated. Emigrant ancestors were: Jorgine Jensdatter Skavredalen, Jens Olsen Green & Turi Stenersdatter Halvorset

Published in The Prince George Citizen

Bob O'Neil
April 27, 2019

Age 86, of Stillwater, MN
Passed away April 27, 2019
Survived by wife, Sharon;
daughter, Kris (Dan) Otto; sister, Peggy Swensen; stepchildren, nieces, nephews, grandchildren & great-grandchildren.
Published in the Pioneer Press



Roy Sund
April 27, 2019

Sund, Roy M. died peacefully on April 27th, 2019 in Annandale, Minnesota, at the age of 84. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Carol; Daughters, Sandra (Sund) & Cindy (Fredrickson); Stepchildren: Ronald (Kim) Olsen, Karen (Jeff) Jensen, Theodore (Jenny) Olsen, and Joran (Ken) Swedzinski; Brothers: Delmer Sund & Orville (Phyllis) Sund. Sisters; Gerd Myers & Janice (Dale) Steffen. Roy will also be forever remembered by his numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. A Funeral Service in memory of Roy was held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at Hosanna Lutheran Church, 1705 Hwy 25, Buffalo, MN 55313. Emigrant ancestor was Gullik Torstensen Lindbo. Published in the StarTribune



Marion Matson
1927-2019

Marion Ida Rosella Olson Matson, age 92 of Bloomington. Died May 4, 2019 in Bloomington. She was born February 9, 1927 to Albert and Betsy Olson. Marion married Pastor John Winton Maston in June 1960. She was active in the Idun Guild at the Swedish Institute and Fidelis Guild. She also enjoyed sewing and quilting. Preceded in death by husband, John and sister, Phyllis Marquardt. Survived by son, Philip (Cheryl Snyder) Olson; grandchildren, Henry and Lydia; brother, Richard (Janelle) Olson; nieces and nephews. Funeral service was held Saturday, May 11th at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 1701 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington. Interment Bloomington Cemetery. Memorials preferred to St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Marion Matson was a former secretary of Sigdalslag, back in the 1980s. Emigrant ancestors were Asle Eriksen Redalen and Erik Aslesen Redalen
Published in the StarTribune



Joyce Dahlen

1946-2019



Joyce A. Dahlen, age 72, resident of McVille, ND, formerly of rural Whitman/Michigan, ND, died Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at the NCHS Hospital in McVille.

Joyce Arlene Hjelseth was born August 26, 1946 at Lakota, ND, the daughter of James and Agnes Kvalevog Hjelseth. She was raised and educated in the Michigan area, graduating from Michigan High School in 1964. Joyce married Gerald Klug on August 27, 1965. Gerald died in 1973. Joyce married Ronald Dahlen on July 22, 1975. They lived and raised their family together on the Dahlen family farm near Whitman. Ronald died August 16, 2016. Joyce was the owner/operator of JD's Café in Michigan and JD's Lower Level in Petersburg. She also cooked at many local restaurants, Lakota High School, and Park River Bible Camp. She received her dietary certification and cooked at the Nelson County Hospital in McVille. Joyce was very active in her community. She volunteered at the Nelson County Food Pantry and Hospice, was a board member of the Nelson County Health Foundation, the local Farmers Union, Sarnia United Lutheran Church and WELCA for many years, and most recently the McVille Lutheran Church. Joyce enjoyed being surrounded by family and friends for any occasion, writing poetry, listening to music, dancing, an avid Elvis Presley fan, butterflies, bible studies, Church worship, laughing with friends and family, and she always had a smile. She believed in living life to its fullest and sharing compassion to those in need. Joyce will be deeply missed by her 5 children: Dennis (Mary) Dahlen of Rochester, MN, Allen (JoAnn) Dahlen of Grand Forks, ND, Kevin (Jill) Dahlen of Grand Forks, ND, Jody (Mark) Slettebak of Perham, MN, James (Josh) Dahlen of Sacramento, CA; 9 grandchildren: Nicole (Dominick) Ruggiero, Matthew Dahlen, Sara (Mason) Rector, Joshua Dahlen, Lexie (Jason) Larson, Ian Dahlen, Hope Slettebak, Emma Dahlen, and Aaron Slettebak; 3 great grandchildren: Alistair Ruggiero, Harper Rector, and Vivianna Ruggiero; a sister: Beverly (Gar-

field) Clemens of Cooperstown, ND; and a sister-in-law: Marilyn Somdahl of Bloomington, MN. She was preceded in death by her parents; and both husbands, Gerald Klug and Ronald Dahlen. Joyce's late husband Ron was descendant of Anders Bjørnsen Torstenrud, Karl Ellevsd. Glasrud, Ingeborg Endresd. Hunstadhagen.

Alice Evenson

1921-2019



Alice Evenson died on Friday, July 5, 2019 of natural causes at the Stewartville Care Center where she had resided since May of 2016.

Alice Helen Sanderson was born on April 11, 1921 in Rock Dell Twp, MN to Ole and Caroline (Evenson) Sanderson. She attended country school and was confirmed at East St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Rock Dell, MN. She helped on the family farm and also was employed as a waitress for a few years. Alice was married in 1944 to Helmer Evenson. They lived on the Evenson Family farm before Helmer built a house closer to Stewartville in 1950. Alice was a homemaker and farmwife. Helmer was a farmer and self-employed carpenter. They moved into Stewartville in 1958 where they raised their daughters and continued to make their home. Alice was employed as a custodian at the Stewartville Post Office until her retirement. The couple traveled to Norway together before Mr. Evenson's death in March of 1966. In 1971, Alice purchased her mother's house in Stewartville where she lived until moving to Root River Estates in 2011. Alice was an active member at Zion Lutheran Church, helping in the kitchen, with its Ladies Aid, quilting and bible studies. She was an active volunteer at the Stewartville Care Center and Channel One. She loved to bake, cook and play 500 and belonged to many card clubs. Throughout the years Alice was a friend to many, helping them stay in their homes by cooking and doing housework. She was always ready to entertain others in her own home. Alice enjoyed traveling with her daughters visiting friends and loved time spent with family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Alice's family would like to thank the Stewartville Care Center and Seasons Hospice for their excellent care.

Alice is survived by her two daughters: Delores Peterson (Gene Reed) of Racine and Sandra (Richard)Wiles of New Richland, MN; 4 grandchildren: Jeff (Tracy) Peterson, Debra (Jake) Hershberger, Alisha (Andy) Hackerson and Derek Wiles; 8 great grandchildren: Anna Gehrking (Jason Jackson), Evan Hackerson, Jadie Wiles, Bailey Peterson, Rachel (Nick) Duckett, Brynn Hackerson, Gavin Wiles and Joy Peterson; and 3 step grandchildren: Andrew, Brandon and Matthew Lastine; and nieces and nephews. Alice was preceded in death by her husband Helmer; twin infant sons: Rodney and Roger; 2 sisters, Gladys Feldt and Selma Clement; and 2 brothers, Howard Sanderson and Clarence Sanderson.

A service was held on July 9, 2019 at Zion Lutheran Church. Burial will take place at Woodlawn Cemetery in Stewartville. The family suggests memorials to the Activity Dept. at the Stewartville Care Center or Seasons Hospice in Rochester. Arrangements are with Griffin-Gray F.H. in Stewartville. Condolences and memories of Alice are welcome at www.griffin-gray.com

Alice was the grand-daughter of Sigdal immigrant Gullik Evenson Neggen 1850-1914

Allard Stevens

1920-2019

Allard E. Stevens, 98, was born in 1920 to Edgar and Mabel Stevens on the farmstead in Hazel Run Township, Yellow Medicine County, where he lived until his passing. He graduated from Hanley Falls High School in 1938 and worked the farm with his father, Edgar.

Al married Judith Olson of Hazel Run in 1941. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in Oct. 1942 training B-26 flight crews in Texas. He was discharged as Airborne Radio Operator/Mechanic when the war ended in 1945. He returned home to his wife and twin daughters, Sandra and Sharon, who were then two-and-a-half years old. A third daughter, Marilyn, joined the family in 1949. He rejoined



the military in 1957 with the Air Force Reserve and was awarded Outstanding Air Force Reservist for the USA in 1970. He was discharged from MN Air Guard as Senior Master Sergeant in 1977.

Al retired from farming in 1960 and went to work for Rodgers Hydraulics. He left Rodgers in 1968 to begin a career teaching Fluid Power (Hydraulics) at the new Granite Falls Technical School. His wife Judy lost her battle with cancer in 1978, and he retired from teaching in 1980.

In 1981, Al married Ann (Norman) Hamre, adding daughter Susan and son Bob to his family. After he answered an ad for Air Force reservists to serve with FEMA, Al's next 20 years were punctuated by 95 responses to evaluate natural disasters in locations coast to coast and Puerto Rico. He retired from FEMA in 2002, which allowed him to pursue genealogy research and collecting and restoring antique tractors, mainly Twin City and Minneapolis-Moline. Al and Ann's later years were enriched with volunteer work, and they walked three days a week at the KCC, a practice he continued after Ann's death in 2013 until his own on Aug. 8, 2019. Al is survived by his children: Sandra (Derrald) Meyer of Granite Falls; Sharon (John) Stamson of Longville; Marilyn (Mick) Mohrlant of Oakdale; Susan Hamre (Martin Keller) of Minneapolis, and Bob Hamre of Richfield; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren.

Allard Stevens passed away Thursday, August 8, 2019 at Granite Falls Health at the age of 98. Allard had been president of Ringerike-Modum-Eiker lag for 10 years and treasurer of Valdres Samband for 17 years. He was not connected directly to Sigdal-lag but had friends and relatives among us.

Member obituaries not previously noted

Rev. John Matson, April 17, 1927-Nov 19, 2013
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/120669435/john-winton-matson>

Donna Voxland, Sept 9, 1952 - Jan 5, 2016
<https://www.korsmofuneralservice.com/obituaries/Donna-Voxland/#!/Obituary>

Harold Campbell, June 21, 1917 - Sept 28, 2006
<http://www.tributes.com/search/obituaries?first=harold+&last=campbell&state=MN&simple=1>

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