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SIGDALSLAG SAGA

SINCE 1911

SERVING NORWEGIAN-AMERICANS OF SIGDAL, EGGEDAL AND KRØDSHERAD

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Sigdalslag Saga-October 2013

Gode ønsker til dere alle, Another stevne has come and gone. Some old friends were sadly missed but hopefully new friendships have also sprung up. There were so many interesting things to do and see that about the only complaint heard was that one could be in only one place at a time. It was fun to see the next generation gathering and enjoying each other too. I think that follows the wishes of our forefathers. One of my favorite parts of the Stevne was watching the youngsters learn to dance with members of Furuleiken Spel og Danselag from Norway. They and the accompanying musicians, Streng og Belg made the bunad parade an absolute feast for the eyes and ears. See more pictures from the stevne on page 11. Till next time, Jean Borgerding



Velkommen, nye lag medlemmer!

Phillip Rauk
Marilla & Don Schenk
Bill Shufan
Priscilla Kachmar

Sigdalslag Members at the 7-Lag Stevne in St. Cloud

Row 1: Ruth Manning, Dan Manning, Dianne Snell, Jorun Nerdalen, Naomi Paasch, Irene O'Connor Navarre, Lee Rokke, Jean Knaak, DeVon Jokstad, Shirley Augustine.

Row 2: Lexi Hanson Roe, Lizzie Hanson Roe, Linda Mohn, Connie Tiegen, Carol McCall, Cindy Monroe, Dave Rokke

Row 3: Betty Kosbau, Lila Harp, Jill Hanson, Karen Olson, Elaine Helgeson Haselton, Betty Knutson, Marlys Larsen, Carol Niewinski, Karen Nute

Row 4: Harold Kosbau, Cal Jokstad, Earl Knutson, Dale Buisman, Bill Larsen Bekkestad, Barbara Torkelson, Lowell Torkelson, Elaine Lange, Donald Lange, Eunice Helgeson, Andrew Brevik, Barbara Charlson



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Fra Presidenten,

The 2013 7-Lag Stevne held from Thursday, July 11 to Saturday, July 13 was very successful. It was held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Anne Sladky, the Stevne coordinator, and the Hadeland Lag did a very innovative job of programming. There was great entertainment and the Norwegians in the Civil War theme was carried out by excellent speakers. This year was also special because there was a children's program that included a field trip day, folk dancing, writing in runes, and learning some Norwegian! We also enjoyed the special get-together times with Sigdalers where we did lots of visiting.

Our lag meeting was held on Saturday afternoon, July 13. The program on our Norway trip was fun and showed some of the things that we did, especially in the Sigdal/Eggedal/Krodsherad area.

The 2014 Stevne is planned for July 19-21 in Wahpeton, North Dakota. There will be lots of information later, but mark your calendars now.

For another "mark your calendar" event, underline May 7, 2016 in the Minneapolis area. This is the Fellesraad Bygdelagenes (the umbrella organization for all of the lags) 100 year anniversary. There will be lots more information forthcoming, but it should be a very special time.

Rosella Goettelman, (affectionately called Rosie), who gave tirelessly in translating genealogy and family letters as well as being a wonderful translator in the genealogy room at many, many stevnes has recently died. She will be greatly missed and was a fine example of one who treasured her Norwegian heritage.

We have received additional histories for the Sigdalslag book, so thank you for your submissions.

Remember the feature on our website that collects and publishes the obituaries of our Sigdal/Eggedal/Krodsherad ancestors. If you find any from your family, contact our genealogist Garth Ulrich, whose contact information is listed with the board directory. Obituaries can be the original from a newspaper or typed if not readable in that form.

We will be looking for a couple of people to serve Sigdalslag. The first opportunity will be as a Vice--President after July of 2014 and a historian. Please consider these commitments to our heritage.

Please feel free to email me at any time with questions or concerns at knaak002@bevcomm.net or call 651-357-613.

Hilsen,

Jean

**NARVEL ANKER SOMDAHL**

Eulogy by Dave Rokke

Narv was a multi-faceted diamond. I have known him for over thirty years but when I read his obituary I realized that I had not fully known him.

Yes, he was a family man, yes, he was a churchman, yes, he was a soldier, yes, he was an engineer. He had made Perkins Pancake House a better company and left them only because they wanted him to move from Minnesota. Yes, he helped the state of Minnesota with their energy issues. By the way, one of his coworkers at the state wrote him a month or so ago saying, "I am so grateful that you have been part of my life." That says a lot about the quality of the man.

But did you know he was a Norwegian-American? His ancestors were all from Norway including his great grandfather, Halvor H. Burtness who fought in the Civil War. My task today is to express the gratitude of the Norwegian-American community for all Narv did for us.

It is true that Marilyn for over 30 years has gone from leadership position to leadership in our community, all of it requiring hard work and lots of time and resulting in the St. Olaf medal from King Harald. And where Marilyn was you often found Narv. They were partners in work as well as in life. But Narv had his own territory.

He was the president of the Ringerike Drammen Lag for 11 years and edited their newsletter for 9 years. And he was the president of the 7-lag stevne for 11 years. Now why is this important?

When the immigrants came from Norway to a strange land they were lonesome for old neighbors and cousins, many of whom had come to America but to different places. They longed to speak with someone who spoke their own dialect and they longed for news about their old neighborhood. So a hundred years ago they organized these clubs (we call them lags) to have

an annual gathering of the people from their home valley in Norway. It was precious to them.

Now we are not immigrants anymore but miraculously these clubs have survived for more than a hundred years. Because people like Narv find these organizations as an opportunity to help people find their beginning heritage, helping people work out their genealogy, organizing trips to Norway where people see the farm that great grandma grew up on and the church where grandpa and grandma were married, publishing newsletters that recount the immigrant experience and describe life in the home community in Norway today, all build a strong tie to our past and to Norway today.

Seven of these lags have a joint convention every year and draw 300 to 400 people. It is no small task to plan for 400 people. And each year there is a new convention manager. Narv has been the mentor for these people. He provided strength and continuity as the president of this umbrella for seven groups. Each year the manager would have to give a speech at the opening session. Narv gave them a word for word copy of what was essential. Part way down there was a blank paragraph, and then another, and each had in parenthesis, (insert a Ole and Lena joke). And by the way, you never saw him in long pants in July. He was a shorts man.

To have a leader who is totally honest, capable, friendly, and able to create a consensus among opinionated Norwegians has been priceless. That was Narv.



Thanks Narv! Blessed be your memory.

OUR NORWAY ADVENTURE JULY 10-30, 2013



My name is Charles Johnson. I was raised on a farm in Kandiyohi County, MN, 5 miles north of Sunburg. When I was a child I would listen to my father (Peder), my aunts and uncles, and neighbors talk about if they had any relatives in the "old country". They always talked about this in Norwegian.

My grandfather, Engebret Pedersen Tjernås, was born in Eggedal, Sigdal Norway in 1862. He immigrated to America in 1890 and took the name Engebret Johnson. He married my grandmother Emma in 1903, settled on the farm where I was raised, and they had 9 children. Engebret died in 1925 when my father was 15 years old. The only family history that my father knew of was that he had 2 aunts that immigrated to the Sunburg area and they died in 1893 and 1919. He also thought that my grandfather had been in the military in Norway.

My wife Joyce and I were planning a trip to Norway in the summer of 2013. I wanted to research my ancestors so we could visit the area that they immigrated from and find out if there were any distant relatives there. Not knowing where to start, my neighbor in New London suggested that I contact Mr. Earl Knutson and join the Sigdalslag. With the help of Mr. Garth Ulrich, the Sigdalslag Genealogist, I learned a lot more about my family history and that I also had some living relatives in the Eggedal, Sigdal area. We contacted the relatives via letter and email, and started communicating in Feb. 2013. They were also curious about any relatives in America.

Joyce and I flew to Oslo in July, drove to Eggedal and met the relatives at the Eggedal Borgerstue (hotel where we stayed). They took us to my great-great grandfather's farm. All the buildings

are still standing and we also walked the fields. Then they took us to the Tjernås farm where my grandfather (Engebret) and my great grandfather lived. All that is left there is the concrete foundation from the fireplace. We walked the road through the woods that my grandfather used for his horse and wagon. Then they took us to their home farm and their summer farm higher up on the mountain. They served us some traditional Norwegian food including rommegrøt, moose meat, goat cheese, kling, lompe, cloudbberries, strawberries, good Norwegian coffee, etc. They gave me a wooden bowl that was hand carved by my great uncle around 1850. They laughed when I spoke a little Norwegian and were surprised that I grew up speaking Norwegian. They said I spoke the old Eggedal dialect. We traced our forefathers back to 1150 A.D., through a local man in Eggedal. We were treated like royalty by our new cousins and we felt like we had known them for many years.

After spending 4 days in Eggedal, we returned to Oslo and joined a bus tour group from Koob Agency out of Glenwood, MN for a 10 day trip. We stayed in Oslo, Lillehammer, Dombas, Geiranger, Sogndal, Stalheim and Bergen. The scenery was unbelievable (the mountains, glaciers, fjords, switchbacks, lakes, museums, etc.) and kept getting better and better. The tour guide and bus driver were very experienced and knowledgeable. Koob Agency does this Norway tour every July and we highly recommend them. After the bus tour we spent 2 more days in Bergen on our own, then we went down to Stavanger for 3 days and flew home from there.

We really enjoyed our trip to Norway. It is so beautiful, clean, and safe there. This was our first trip there but it won't be our last! Many thanks to Mr. Garth Ulrich for helping me find my cousins, a new chapter in my life!





The closest thing Sigdal ever had to a King

*An excerpt from "The History of Sigdal" by
Sigdalslag founder Anders Braatelein Pedersen, circa
1912*

translated by Rosella Goettelman, 2010-2011

We have mentioned that, as far as we know, none of the Norwegian petty kings have lived in Sigdal. But there actually was a man in the parish who was called Sigdal's king, not because he had any kingdom, but because, at his time, he was the most powerful man in the parish. And, since I, as well as others, have an interest in finding out about the interesting man in the legend, I don't think it is out of the way to relate what Mr. Mads K. Strand in Drammen voluntarily has forwarded to me. With a thorough investigation he has discovered the history as well as the parish legend about this man, our king, Iver Olson Kolsrud.

In fortune and possessions, he was not only the most powerful in the parish, but possibly for a great deal of southern and eastern Norway. Besides Kolsrud, for which he had bought the right for a lumber sawmill, he owned extensive farm and forest properties, along with log cutting at Evju, Solum and Haugfoss. In addition, he had all of Sigdal's churches which he bought in 1722 from King Frederick the Fourth, with attached profits, such as the king and church tithes, along with several farms, such as Kringstad, Mjoseng, Grasvig, Tveiten and Albjer, with several farms in Eggedal and Krødsherred. Since, at that time, it was not permitted for anyone to sell finished lumber, it can be understood that a person who could buy from the king the right to set up and run a sawmill had a monopoly. It could work for a great and sure profit.

There is nothing at hand that can be said with certainty where Iver Olson was born, although it has been said that it was near to the Swedish border. But it is thought that he grew up near Drammen, or probably in the town itself, since it seems that he has been in possession of an advanced education. Among other things, he had a neat and well styled hand writing. He is presumed to have come from one of the better situated families in the community. He was also honored with the French title "Signor" but possibly he had received it in his later years. Documents have been found that show that he was born in 1685 and that he was buried 6 July 1758, nearly 73 years old. He was buried below midships in the old Holmen church, which was torn down in the 1860's. Then, as it came into view, they found an elegant coffin, which was preserved, with his name on a silver plate. But it seems that no one thought to take care of it and it is lost. Probably it has gone into the melting pot of some silversmith in the parish.

Later, a magnificent silver decorated drinking horn was found in Aadalen or Valdres. It had belonged to Iver and was engraved with his name. It later was in the ownership of Director J. Gjerdrum. This is according to Prof. Dr. Daae in a historical periodical in 1887. I spoke with Mr. Gjerdrum in St. Paul, Minn. when he was here on a trip. We discussed the horn and he said that it was in his family. Mr. Daae also told some parish legends about our subject. They show how far gossip and superstition can make the unbelievable accepted and probably, at the time, taken in good faith by the common people.

According to Mr. Daae, the legend said that the beginning of his riches was that he, along with another, went around in the land to buy logs for the buyer in Drammen and that he had supplied them with an iron box full of money. One time when they rowed across the lake they capsized and the box sank to the



bottom. It was searched for, but no box was found. Therefore, it is believed that the box was well protected before the capsizing took place. Another legend that Mr. Daae tells shows that even after his death Iver did not escape mystical superstition, possibly gossip fabrication. It is told that when his funeral procession went up the steep hill at Kolsrud, the hearse stopped. Even though it was hitched to two frisky horses, it wouldn't go, no matter what they tried. Someone in the company exclaimed, "If it will not go in God's name, let it go in the Devil's." Then it went so fast that they could barely follow.

As far as it has been investigated, one finds nothing historical that stamps Iver Olson as an immoral or deceitful man. But, on the contrary, one finds evidence that he was noble and helpful. It seems that he looked after Nils Nilsen Green, the historian says, from Modum. But it is not likely, since there is no farm by that name in Modum, but several in Sigdal and the annex, Krødsherred. He bought the captain's rank for him and gave him a company in Hallingdal. Presumably it is the Captain Nils Kolsrud who later lived at northern Green. His estate around 1740 appears to be very deeply in debt. Since Iver was the largest creditor, he declared that he did not want his share before the other creditors' demands were covered. His balance should stand in the property as long as the widow lived. After her death the farm should be sold at public auction and the selling sum should be divided equally among her children. One of her daughters was married to a Kvisle and presumably the name Nils at Kvisle is derived from that or the family living there.

There is nothing that explains about the condition of his assets before he came to Sigdal. But if not before, he laid the groundwork for his fortune by marrying the rich widow of Jens

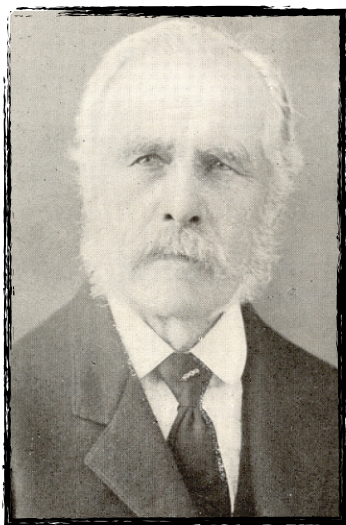
Nilsen Kolsrud, with a large farm in the outer part of Sigdal. Iver came to live there until his death. It is understood that he did not have children with this, his first wife, and that she was older than Iver. And here comes a legend that says that he once imagined himself sick. Yes, he even asked for prayers for him in the church and that was done to establish a mutual will between his wife and him. It happened that she died first. He was married for the second time to a Dorteia Selena Karre. This is as much as is found in the report. But my informant believes that he was married for the third time, since it has been found written down that Iver Olsen's stillborn child was buried on the 3rd of December 1736, and on the 14th of the same month, Mr. Iver Olsen's wife, Aletha Maas. There is a legend about him and his dead child, as well as other legends that I have heard in the parish, but they are all of such a superstitious nature that I will not offer them a place in this document.

Documents have been found which show that he had a lawsuit with his neighbors at Skyliholt and Jokstad about the division in the outlying fields. And here comes the judge and says that he has won the case on the place in question by swearing that he stood on his own ground. He could do that, because before he left home, he had filled his shoes with soil taken from the home ground at Kolsrud. But my correspondent believes that this is a fabrication, since he has seen documents on the case, and it seems to be conducted as properly as possible. According to the knowledge he had about the strict legal action at that time, he understood that not a great weight was laid on what the fighting parties claimed, even under oath, especially in this case, since it was decided by a special commission appointed by the king. Legal documents show that Jokstad, with his lawyers, gave up the case and paid the court costs when Iver's rights seemed clearly proved. It also seems



that as a church owner he did more for them than most do who have churches in their possession. He put new altar pieces in all his churches, but in the main church, he also put a tablet with notes on the parish ministers, way since the Reformation, with their names and biographies. In the Eggedal church, the altar piece from that time has been preserved.

Note from past Historian Dianne Snell: This manuscript in its entirety will be included in the new Sigdalslag history book which will soon be on the way to the printer. The handwritten manuscript was discovered in 2010 by Lee Rokke, buried in the files at NAHA (Norwegian American Historical Association), and entitled "Descriptions of the Land, Legends and Customs of Sigdal in the late 1800's and early 1900's". Lee, a noted genealogist and historian, recognized the historical significance of the document and turned it over to Rosella for translation. Rosella worked an entire year on the project and presented it, hand printed, back to NAHA. Scott Brunner and I have just finished retyping it for the new book so it may forever be an invaluable resource for information on the early days of Sigdal Kommune.



Anders B. Pedersen

Dear Sigdalslag Board and Members, I wish to express a big THANK YOU for the Norwegian spoon necklace that was presented to me at the annual meeting. I wear it constantly, and as you know, my Norwegian roots and my Sigdalslag connections are always in my mind and heart. I will miss not being the historian any longer, but after 10 years it was time to pass on the job to someone younger in years and with a fresh perspective. I hope that the perfect person will step up soon to take over the job. I will continue to attend the Stevner as long as physically possible, and I will always cherish the memories of past times and the wonderful people I have known and count as friends.

Mange Tusen Takk!

Dianne Enger Snell



Irene Navarre, with her great niece Janelle Wesloh at the Stevne banquet

Your Help Is Needed

As the next Sigdalslag Book is being completed, we need to create a name index for this volume. This index will be placed at the end of the book as has been done with our other book volumes. A couple of volunteers are needed to help extract names out of the text to compile the index. If interested please contact Scott Brunner, brunner315@yahoo.com.

In Memory...



Dean Larsen

October 6, 1935

April 11, 2010

(Stanley) Dean

Larsen died on April 11th, 2010 in Willmar, Minnesota after a year long battle with Merkel Cell skin cancer. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Marlys (Honrud) Larsen and children Dr Kevin Larsen of Washington DC, Todd and Ilse (Rohrbach) of St

Paul, MN and Kim Larsen of Spicer. Also surviving are: grandchildren Alicia and Patrick Larsen, Isabela and Mario Larsen, Brother Oren Larsen and Marge of Hazard, NE and brother-in-law Broeck Broeckmeier of Ravenna, NE and sisters-in-law Henny Ann Larsen of Kearney, NE and Gloria Honrud Schultz of Spicer, MN. Also deceased are brother Dale Larsen, and sister Mardelle Larsen Broeckmeier, and grandson Brady Wuollet.

Dean was born on October 6, 1935 to Tenis Gunvald Larsen and Petra LuDella (Larson) Larsen of Hazard Nebraska which was a small community of Norwegians in the middle of Nebraska. Dean attended a one room school in Hazard until entering junior high and high school in Ravenna. He attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD, graduating in 1957. He worked as a youth director from 1957-1959 at First Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD. He was drafted into the Army and served as a chaplain's assistant from 1959-1961. He entered Luther Seminary in 1962 and graduated in 1966. He served as intern at Central Lutheran Church in Chippewa Falls, WI. He was summer director of Luther Crest Bible Camp of Alexandria, MN 1963-1964. He married Marlys Honrud of Rothsay, MN in 1964. His first call to the ministry from 1966 to 1970 was to a two point parish in rural South Dakota: Smithwick and Hermosa. He led a capital campaign and the Smithwick church moved its church home and built a new church at Hot Springs, SD. Sons Kevin and Todd were born in Hot Springs.

In 1970, he received a call to Grace Lutheran Church in Watertown, SD where he served as Youth Pastor. Dean was involved in planning the addition to the church at Grace Lutheran. In 1974 the Larsen's adopted Kim.

In 1975 Dean received a call to fulfill his life's dream- to be full time director of Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN and retired from there in 1988.

He led the camp through expansion and growth of its ministry: building the Chrysalis House at Green Lake, pioneering Lutheran Day Camp in SW MN, acquiring Shores of St Andrew Camp of New London, MN and acquiring Camp House in Brimson, MN. During his tenure at Green Lake he was twice elected President of the newly formed National Lutheran Camping Association: the merger of LCA and ALC national camps.

After his retirement he helped raise his two grandchildren, Alicia and Patrick. After his retirement he helped to maintain rental property in Marlys' business. He enjoyed fishing trips with camp director friends, working on Marlys' family farm and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

He was well loved by all who knew him and was a mentor to many people who worked for him. His service was at the Green Lake Bible Camp Chapel on Saturday May 1, 2010 at 11 am. Following the service there was a Norwegian meal served to all at the Chrysalis House dinning room at the Bible Camp. Dean began his camping love while in high school. He attended the Cedars Covenant Camp in NE. After college in 1957 he was member of a delegation of 24 American students (Lutheran World Work Camp) selected from Lutheran Colleges to help build a church camp at the Budor Turisthytte, Elverum, Loten, Norway. While at First Lutheran Church he took his youth to Outlaw Ranch at Custer, SD. While a seminary student he volunteered at Plymouth Christian Youth Center and took students to Wilderness Canoe Base, a camp in N MN. During two summers during seminary he was the Director of Luther Crest Bible Camp at Alexandria MN. While there Luther Crest was a pioneer host location for the Concordia Language Camp. While on internship he took his students to camps in WI. The first summer out of the seminary he was the director of the Atlantic Mountain Camp associated with Outlaw Ranch. In his first parish he took students to Outlaw Ranch and Atlantic Mountain Camp in Black Hills, SD. While serving in Watertown he took students to NESODak Bible Camp in Waubay, SD and to Outlaw Ranch. While at Watertown he also led a group of three bus-loads to a National Youth Conference in New York.

Dean and Marlys are both of full Norwegian ancestry. Marlys is an active member of the Sigdals Lag and Ringerikke Lag and has family roots in: Gronset and Skuggerud and Vatnos in Sigdal, Vestern in Hadeland, Honerud in Ringerikke and Wamre and Øestru in Numedal. Dean's family has family roots in: Vikse and Eileras (Haugesund) and Bjerkeland and Tveitia and Haakas in Sveio in Hordaland and Nordaland and also Olsen at Sondfjord. Dean made several trips to Norway.

Paul Brian Tandberg

June 7, 1983-June 29, 2013

Paul Brian Tandberg was born June 7, 1983 at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Denver, CO. Littleton and 6577 S. Lee Ct. was to be his home all of his growing up years. Paul was blessed with five older siblings including four older brothers, one older sister and one younger brother. He attended Highland Elementary, Euclid Middle School and Heritage High School. Paul enjoyed all the normal growing-up activities and sports of a boy growing up in a large active family. He also loved the outdoors participating in Boy Scouts and hiking and climbing the Colorado mountains and Fourteeners. Paul earned his Arrow of Light Award in Cub Scouts and his Eagle Scout Award in Boy Scouts including his On My Honor religious award. He also earned his Duty to God religious award from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Paul graduated from Heritage High School and from Seminary; his Church's religious education program for high school students. Paul suffered a major stroke at the age of 16 which left him with significant deficits on his left side seriously affecting his left arm and hand, and left leg and foot. Paul was determined to not let this affect his activity level or accomplishments. While the after-effects were difficult for him he pursued and accomplished many of his major goals in life. Paul attended BYU Provo after high school, but transferred to BYU-Idaho to be nearer to his brother, Steven. Paul graduated from BYU-I with 142 credits only needing 120 to graduate, which says much about his enjoyment and friendships in his BYU-I experience. While in college a friend of his from the Netherlands graduated and Paul had the opportunity to visit him and toured much of Europe with a group of friends. In his final year at BYU-I he came to understand that he was to serve a two year mission for his Church and was called to serve in the Durban, South Africa Mission. This was a wonderful experience for him growing to love the people of South Africa and Swaziland. Upon his return from his mission, employment in his field was very difficult to find. He helped his father finish their basement while awaiting eventual employment. He was currently employed by the Jefferson County Workforce Department and thoroughly enjoyed his work and co-workers.

Paul purchased his home in Arvada about a year and half ago on a foreclosure and immediately went to work cleaning and restoring it. He quickly fixed up the main floor and then with his father and mother, finished his basement. About six months ago he acquired a dog and named him Rico. While Rico was quite a terror he was Paul's companion and friend.

Paul was killed in a tragic car accident on June 29, 2013. Paul loved his family; adoring and treasuring his brothers and sister. He was an active participant in his Church and was close to and loved his Savior, Jesus Christ. He thoroughly enjoyed being with family playing ping pong, foosball, tennis, skiing and hiking in the beautiful Colorado mountains. While in Arvada he played in a tennis and indoor soccer league creating many friendships. While Paul had his sweet idiosyncrasies he also had a great sense of humor and loved and cared for all those around him. He will be sorely missed, but leaves a part of him with all he came to know.

He is survived by his dear family; parents, Mark and Julie and his siblings, Jeffrey Mark, David Allen, Kristin Marie, Scott Michael, Steven Robert and Daniel James.

A Funeral Service will be held on Friday, July 5, 2013 at 10:30am with visitation one hour prior at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1454 Myrtle Street in Brighton. Graveside Service will follow at 2:30pm at the Littleton Cemetery, Littleton, Colorado.

Please share with us your families' news of marriages, graduations, long term anniversaries, significant milestones, and the passing of loved ones. Send info to the Saga Editor:

Jean Borgerding
509 8th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55413 or
email: jlborkerding@msn.com

Donations to Sigdalslag Library

1) Sigdal og Eggedal Navn-og gardsregister Bind X. Published by Sigdal Kommune 2007, 225 pages hard cover. Donated by Lila Harp.

2) Norwegian Fylker (Districts) and Kommuner (Municipalities). (map). Donated by Deb Nelson Gourley, Astri My Astri Publishing.



Hazel I. Skaim
February 9, 1924
May 9, 2013

Hazel Irene Skaim was born at home on February 9, 1924, the daughter of Henry Ansten and Inga Myran. She was baptized and confirmed at Madison Lutheran Church, Decorah, Iowa. She attended rural school in Madison

Township and graduated from Decorah High School with the class of 1942.

After high school, during World War II, she worked in a factory in Decorah that made secret parts for the war effort. She later found out that the parts were for radar equipment. After the war, Hazel and her cousin, Mable Berg, went to California. She worked in a factory that made some of the first TVs.

On December 28, 1951, in a double wedding ceremony, Hazel I. Ansten and Oscar J. Skaim, along with her cousin Mabel Berg and Ernest Mikkelsen were united in marriage by the Rev. M.B. Quill at the Madison Lutheran Parsonage in Ridgeway. This union was blessed with two daughters, Luane in 1953 and Susanne in 1956. In 1960, Hazel began working at Deco Products Company and worked until her retirement 28 years later.

After retirement Hazel and Oscar enjoyed traveling and visiting with friends and relatives. In 1986 Hazel went to Norway with her siblings and a first cousin to visit the sights and a trip to Sigdal to see ancestral homes. She enjoyed her flowers, crocheting, spending time with her grandchildren and the Red Hat Society. She also enjoyed making rommegrot for the Nordic Fest church suppers. She rarely missed the monthly Class of '42 dinners.

She was a very kind and gentle lady and always tried to be helpful to everyone.

She became a resident of Aase Haugen Home Assisted Living in 2010. In March of 2013 she transferred to the Aase Haugen Nursing Home.

Our Heavenly Father called Hazel home to an eternal life with Him on Thursday, May 9, 2013 at the age of 89 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Oscar on January 6, 2002; a sister, Malene Cash; a brother Telford Ansten; a son-in-law, James Henzler; and a granddaughter, Eliabeth Henzler.

She is survived by her two daughters: Luane (Bill) Tillman and Susanne (Paul) Bruvold of Decorah; 7 grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 3 step great-grandchildren and two sisters: Rosella Goettelman of Decorah and Gladys (E. Art) Varon of Camarillo, CA.

Rosella Goettelman
February 13, 1927
September 19, 2013

Rosella "Rosie" Goettelman, age 86, of Decorah, IA, died on Thursday, September 19, 2013, at the Winneshiek Medical Center in Decorah, IA.



Rosella "Rosie" Lillian (Ansten) Goettelman was born on February 13, 1927, the daughter of Henry and Inga (Myran) Ansten in Madison Township, Decorah, Iowa. She was baptized and confirmed at the Madison Lutheran Church. She attended rural school in Madison Township and graduated from Decorah High School with the class of 1945. In 1945, she attended the summer session at Luther College and received her teaching certificate. She taught for three terms in rural schools near Decorah. On June 6, 1948, Rosie married Virgil Goettelman at the Madison Lutheran Church. They were blessed with two daughters, Sharon in 1950 and Eileen in 1952. Rosie enjoyed sewing, bird watching, crossword puzzles, genealogy and Norwegian translating. She translated six books for Sigdalslag; several items for Washington Prairie Lutheran Church and various letters, obituaries and information for others. She had traced her ancestry back into the 1200's in some branches.

Rosie is survived by her two daughters: Sharon (Curt) Buhr, Lake of the Ozarks, MO, and Eileen (Byron) Meyer, Postville, IA. Four grandchildren: Stacey Meyer, Santa Barbara, CA; Bradley (Rachel) Meyer, Central City, IA; Kristi Mundy and her fiancé, Jason Miller, Des Moines, IA; and Scott Buhr, Des Moines, IA. Two great grandchildren: Nora Mundy and Zane Meyer. One sister: Gladys (E. Art) Varon, Camarillo, CA. One sister-in-law: Jane Severide, Cedar Rapids, IA. One brother-in-law: Carl Cash, Alexandria, KY, and several nieces and nephews.

Rosie was preceded in death by her parents: Henry and Inga (Myran) Ansten. Her husband: Virgil Goettelman on September 7, 2009. Two sisters: Malene Cash and Hazel (Oscar) Skaim. One brother: Telford Ansten. Her father and mother-in-law: Charles and Mabel (Bolger) Goettelman. Two brothers-in-law: Floyd (Vera) Goettelman and Robert (Freda) Goettelman.





Sigdalslag Family History Surveys have been received on:

- 1) Endre Fingarsen Hovlandseie-submitted by Flo Cade
- 2) Helge Eriksen Lindbo-submitted by Mary Lindbo
- 3) Anders Helgesen lauvli-submitted by Linda Autrey
- 4) Engebret Halvorsen Sølund & Mari Olsdatter Kleiv-submitted by Marilla Schenk

If you have not yet submitted a Genealogical Survey about your Emigrant Ancestor, it can be found online at <http://www.sigdalslag.org/index.php/Genealogy/Survey/>

For members without internet access, a copy may be requested from our Genealogist, Garth Ulrich (see page 2 for contact information).

Emigrant Obituary Project

-Thank you to the following members for their contributions to the Emigrant Obituary Project: Rodney Pletan, Cal Jokstad, Kathy Dota, Judy Sosted, and Carol McCall.

We would appreciate receiving a copy of the obituary of your emigrant ancestor from Sigdal, Eggedal, or Krødsherad. Please email a scanned copy to our Genealogist, Garth Ulrich, or mail him a photocopy (see page 2 for address).

SIGDALSLAG SAGA

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