

# Flere Lag Stevne



## *Friluftsliv: "Fresh Air Life"*

From Nordic Lands to North America

An annual gathering of descendants and friends of the Trøndelag, Gudbrandsdal, Northern Hedmark, Solør and Romerike regions of Norway



3–6 August 2022  
Empire Event Center  
Best Western Hotel  
Rochester, MN





# Velkommen til Stevne 2022!

Welcome to the first, of we hope many, Flere Lag Stevner. This is a union of Tre Lag Stevne and the Romerikslag and Solørlag joint stevne.

The Stevne Steering Committee has planned for you a great meeting with the theme: *Friluftsliv* or "Outdoor Life". This is maybe even more important to Norwegians than "koselig" in their everyday life. While living in Oslo my daughter attended Tømm Murstads Friluftsbarnehage at Frognersetteren. After entering the warming hut a child would be told by a "tante" to "Vær så snill å gå ut og steng døren." Outdoor life begins at birth in Norway.

At this Stevne we will learn much about the heritage we have of outdoor life. The tour will take us through much of Minnesota's Driftless Area to the first Norwegian settlement in Minnesota. We will learn about several of the outdoor activities that pervade Norwegian-American life. So "Vær så god".

*Robert Fossum, Flere Lag Stevne Steering Committee Chair.*



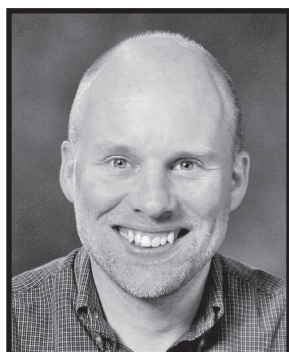
Norma Kjenstad Barnes  
President, Romerikslaget i Amerika



Robert Fossum  
President, Trønderlag of America



Joy Shong, President, Nord  
Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag



John F. Peterson  
President, Gudbrandsdals Lag National



Kathy Johnson  
Co-President, Solørlag of America



LeAnn Hookom  
Co-President, Solørlag of America

# 2022 Flere Lag Stevne Steering Committee

## Officers

Robert Fossum, Chair  
Norma Barnes, Vice Chair  
Joy Shong, Treasurer  
Nancy Pickering, Secretary

## Committee Members

Mary Baumgartner	Jeri Johnson
Sam Christenson	Kathy Johnson
Diane Clouch	Richard Lundgren
Barry Dahl	Marilyn Sorensen
Dixie Hansen	Sid Stivland
LeAnn Hookom	

## Lag Boards

### **TRØNDERLAG OF AMERICA**

Website: [www.tronderlag.org](http://www.tronderlag.org)

Robert Fossum	President / Editor (pro tem) /Acting Historian
Trudy DeKeuster	Vice President
Karen Erickson Mullen	Secretary
Jon Satrum	Treasurer / Membership / Webmaster
Barry Dahl	Genealogist
Linda Schwartz	Past President
Joy Haugan Williams	Director
Sam Christenson	Director

### **ROMERIKSLAGET I AMERIKA**

Website: [www.fellesraad.com/romerikslaget/](http://www.fellesraad.com/romerikslaget/)

Norma Kjenstad Barnes	President
Steven Ask	Vice President
Eunice Helgeson	Secretary
Mary F. Gross	Treasurer
Deb Jarvar	Director of Genealogy
Susan Waldera	Director of Membership
Mary Baumgartner, Joel Botten, Bill Naseth, Alberta Rupert, Chris Falteisek	Directors
Julie Clauson	Past President

### **GUDBRANDSDAL LAG NATIONAL**

Website: [www.gudbrandlag.org](http://www.gudbrandlag.org)

John F. Peterson	President
Robert Gjengdahl	Vice President
Nancy Pickering	Secretary / Editor
Marilyn Sorensen	Genealogist
Martha J. Balfanz	Treasurer
Nancy Olson	Membership
Gary Romsaas	Webmaster
Gerald Hanson	Historian
Robert O. Olson	Archivist
Richard Lundgren	Director / Stevne Liaison
Dorothy Zimmerman	Director
Sid Stivland	Director

### **NORD HEDMARK**

### **OG HEDEMARKEN LAG**

Website: [nhohlag.org](http://nhohlag.org)

Joy Shong	President
Chris Falteisek	Vice President
Jeri Johnson	Secretary
Julie Anderson Glowka	Treasurer / Editor
Linda Domier Lowry	Director
Debra Lee Pritchard	Director
Gary Romsaas	Director
Dixie Hansen	Past President / Membership / Webmaster

### **SOLØRLAG OF AMERICA**

LeAnn Hookom	Co-President
Kathy Johnson	Co-President
Denny Kalvig	Secretary
Doug Johnson	Treasurer
Elaine Hasleton	Genealogist
Kathy Johnson	Membership
Karen Weiberg	Archive & History
Forrest Emmett	Publication
Jean Berg	Publicity
Andy Berg, Julie A. Clauson, Shanna Kurth, Mary Martin	Directors at Large
Shanna Kurth	Research Materials Manager

# Til Minne Om

## *Remembering Lag Members and Associates Who Have Recently Passed Away*

Dennis Lee Amb • 1940–2020 (Age 80) • Lansing, IL • N

Rhys Evan Hanson • 1934–2021 (Age 87) • Lacy, Washington • N, T

Carol Ann (Mathewson) Moore • 1938–2022 (Age 84) • Brillion, IA • N

Jon Russell Pederson • 1950–2019 (Age 69) • Spicer, MN • T

Rohl Carlo Peterson • 1935–2021 (Age 86) • Tucson, AZ • T

Julie Ann Tremble • 1957–2022 (Age 64) • Republic, WA • T

Beverly May (Bateman) Slettehaugh • 1934–2021 (Age 86) • Crystal, MN • R

Tordis (Nordgård) Trønnes • 1952–2022 (Age 69) • Tretten in Øyer, Innlandet, Norway • G

Tusen takk to those many volunteers who step up during the Stevne and say “How can I help?” You can and do... and everyone benefits. Hospitality? Registration? Hanging signs? AV Assistance? Introducing speakers? Running errands? Genealogy mentoring? Thank You!



*Many thanks to several lag photographers who contributed photos for this booklet: Joel Botten, David Grindberg, Jeanne Engelsmeier, Chris Falteisek, Robin Fossum, Dixie Hansen, Doug Johnson, Gary Romsaas, Jon Satrum, and Dorothy Zimmerman.*



Livsreise: Norwegian Heritage Center at Stoughton, WI  
Visited on Tre Lag Stevne 2021 Tour

## Wednesday, 3 August

Time	Event	Location
	Registration Desk Open	
	<p><b>Genealogy Lab Open</b> Expert help available for each lag... or just dig in to the myriad of resources on</p> <p><u>Lag Genealogists:</u> <span style="float: right;"><i>(NHOH is open)</i></span></p> <p>Marilyn Sorensen (<i>Gudbrandsdalslaget</i>)      Elaine Hasleton (</p>	
	<p><b>Genealogy Research Demos</b> <i>(every hour on the half hour)</i> Topics: Research Wiki, Wordmine, Norgeskart, VPNs, SnagIt, Find A Grave</p>	
	<b>Hospitality Suite Open</b>	
	<b>Light Dinner Onsite</b> <i>(elective; must be registered)</i>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Looking Toward 2025 and Beyond</b> Executive Director of the Norwegian American Historical Association (NAHA)</p> <p>In 2025, the Norwegian American community will commemorate the bicentennial of organized Norwegian migration. In addition, the Norwegian American Historical Association will celebrate its centennial. NAHA Executive Director Amy Boxrud will update stevne participants on plans for 2025 within the Norwegian American community and across the Atlantic in Norway. She will also share how the Association's vision is evolving approaches its centennial by expanding access to its collections, stimulating research, and offering new perspectives on migration.</p>	






## An Evening Concert of Nordic Music




*In Concert: Chris Falteisek, Robin Fossum, Matt Dahl & Louise Lang  
... along with the dulcet sounds of the sing-along audience!*

*Thursday Night—7:00 PM, Royale A*





## Thursday, 4 August

Time	Event	Location
	Trønderlag Annual Business Meeting	
	<b>Registration Desk Open</b> <i>Registration will be closed during the tour and reopen upon return</i>	
	Call of the Lur, National anthems of Canada, Norway, and the U.S., Welcome from Lag Presidents and from the Bygdelagenes Fellesraad.	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cherished History,</b></p> <p><b>Contemporary</b>            Jenna Coughlin      Professor of Norwegian Language and Literature at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota            is really a simple concept: It describes the variety of social practices that take place in nature for the purpose of recreation. Yet in Norway this concept not only has its own special word, often translated as “Open Air Life,” but it is also regarded by as an essential part of Norwegian culture and identity. In short, it is [typically Norwegian]. Recently, global media outlets have taken an interest in the concept, pointing to Norway as an example of how to incorporate nature into life to reduce stress and promote wellbeing. But how did hold such a central place in Norwegian identity? And is it really so unique to</p> 	
	<p style="text-align: center;">: With stops at <b>Giants of the Earth Heritage Center</b>            Spring Grove and <b>Norsland Lefse</b>  <i>our Registration required</i></p> <p>Giants of the Earth Heritage Center is a non educational institution, dedicated to honoring, preserving, and interpreting the history and heritage of the people from Spring Grove’s Norwegian Ridge in southeastern Minnesota.</p> <p>Norsland Lefse has been producing traditional lefse for nearly a quarter century in Rushford, M town based in SE Minnesota, nestled in beautiful bluff country on the Root River. In addition to the lefse bakery, it has a cafe and a gift shop.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Genealogy Lab            to allow Tour participation for all      pens at 5:00 PM)</p>  	
	<b>Hospitality Suite Open</b>	
	<b>Registration Desk Open</b> ( <i>Registration will be closed during the tour and reopen</i> )	
	lag Annual Business Meeting	
	<b>Genealogy Lab Open</b>	
	Romerikslag Annual Business Meeting	
	<b>An Evening Concert of Nordic Music</b> presented by the Flere Lag Stevne <i>We invite you to join in      <a href="mailto:chrisfalteisek@gmail.com">chrisfalteisek@gmail.com</a></i>	

## Friday AM, 5 August

Time	Event	Location
	Gudbrandsdalslaget Business Meeting	
	<b>Registration Desk Open</b>	
	<p><b>Vendor Displays Open</b>            A wide selection of items of interest to Norwegian books, clothing, jewelry, rosemaling,</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>5 for a list of the 2022 Flere</i></p>	
	<b>Genealogy Lab Open</b>	
<b>Concurrent Seminars</b>		
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>... or is it Viking Chess?</b></p> <p>Dee Dee and Jason Halvorson            Kubb is a yard game. The word rhymes with 'tube'. Legend has it that it was created by the Vikings, but there is no written proof or photos. The concept is to toss wood batons (dowels) at wood kubbs (blocks) The team that clears the kubbs then the center King wins. No scoring. Teams can be one to six players. Big in the Midwest. Huge in Norway, Sweden, Germany. Some call it Viking Chess. I'll explain and demonstrate how to play and throw the baton. We will discuss some variations of backyard ru and US tournament rules. I'll also cover some of the strategy and what makes the game so fun for all ages and skill levels</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Birkebeiner            America's Biggest XC Race!</b></p> <p>Barry Knapp &amp; Darald Bothun            for the Rochester Nordic Ski Team</p> <p>Baby Prince Haakon's rescue in 1206 by warriors on skis and wearing birch leggings ("birkebeiner") created the legend behind the American Birkebeiner cross country ski race held annually in Northern Wisconsin. Barry Knapp and Darald Bothun, active ski coaches and multi year "Birkie" racers, will tell you the story of Prince Haakon then take you to cross country skiing today and the 50km American Birkebeiner. The talk will also include a brief description of the various types of xc skiing, the many different events held during Birkie week, and the story of Per Ostigaard, from Hoffman, MN, who skied over 30 Birkies and 10 Korties until</p>	
	Visit Hospitality Suite and Vendor Area	
<b>Concurrent Seminars</b>		
	<b>... or is it Viking Chess?</b>	Dee Dee and Jason
	<b>The Birkebeiner North America's Biggest XC Race!</b> Barry Knapp & Darald Bothun	
	Visit Hospitality Suite and Vendor Area	

## Friday PM, 5 August

Time	Event	Location
	<b>Concurrent Seminars</b>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Minnesota's First Permanent Norwegian Settlers: The History Behind I</b></p> <p>Bill Fried is a retired educator from Spring Grove, Minnesota, who was born and raised in Marshall and is currently the Executive Director of Giants of the Earth Heritage Center. He is a fourth generation Norwegian American with ancestors originally from Karmøy, Norway.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Genetic Genealogy Family History</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">, Director of Genetic Genealogy, Giants of the Earth Heritage Center, Spring Grove, MN</p> <p>Genetic genealogy has come a long way in the increased number of markers and millions of people have now been tested. But how do you maximize your detective work between your DNA relatives? One of Dr. Storlie's DNA genealogy provides an example: he created a family tree start Spring Grove area going back hundreds of years that lists over 65,000 people! how to take advantage of this new technology your family tree.</p>	
	Refreshment Break, Visit Vendors	
	<b>Concurrent Seminars</b>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Minnesota's First Permanent Norwegian Settlements: The History Behind I</b></p>	
	<b>Genetic Genealogy DNA and Norwegian Family</b>	
	Auction Bids End; Collect	
	Social Hour with Cash Bar	
	<b>Lag Group Photos: : be on time for your lag's photo</b>	
	Gudbrandsdals Lag National	
	Hedmark og Hedemarken Lag	
	Romerikslaget i Amerika	
	<p><b>Stevne Banquet Entertainment &amp; Entertainment: Luren Singing</b></p> <p>This group is the oldest Norwegian American men's singing society in the United States, founded in 1868.</p> <p><b>Bunad Parade</b></p>	



## Saturday AM, 6 August

Time	Event	Location
	Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken Business Meeting	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scandia Kicksled A Norwegian Tradition for All Ages</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Christie Fingerson</p> <p>Kicksleds are a Scandinavian tradition that has caught on more and more in the United States. Scandia Kicksled is a Minnesota based family business. We sell Norwegian kicksleds and accessories. In addition, we educate groups, demonstrate, and hope to share the love of kicksledding to all ages. In recent years, we've seen schools and park districts purchasing kicksleds to rent/provide for individuals. Our business has recently been featured in news stories, newspaper articles, and recently on <i>Minnesota Bound</i></p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sam Haugdahl, the New Sweden Creamery, World Champion Butter Maker</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Karen Humphrey of the Minnesota</p> <p>Norwegian Sam Haugdahl was well trained in the art of buttermaking in his home country. When he and his wife Anne Vasket immigrated to America in 1891, they found a home and the creamery where he could apply his art at the country crossroads community of New Sweden, Nicollet County, Minnesota. The cream provided by immigrant families was of such quality, and Haugdahl so confident in his art and skill of making butter that he entered the product in the 1900 World's Fair in Paris. This story explores the agricultural contributions of a Scandinavian immigrant community that help shape Minnesota's rich rural heritage.</p>	
<b>Safe Travels! See you next year</b>		

## Simultaneous Event at Stevne!

### Silent Auction

*In the Genealogy Lab; begins Wednesday.*

*Items of cultural interest welcome; indicate the tag to which the proceeds will be donated by filling out a form and attaching a color-coded tag.*

*Bids will be accepted until 3:45 pm on Friday; pickup of items and payment (cash or checks only) after 4:15.*



## Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken— Middleton, Wisconsin—2021



Front row, Left to right: Barb Lewison, Jack Pedersen, Ray Olson, Karen Mullen, Judy Mathison, Dixie Hansen  
Second row: Dana Kelly, Gary Swain, Jeri Johnson, Marilyn Sorensen, Don Teigen, Martha Swetka, Sylvia Falteisek, Vicki Jurek, Carol Byerly, Jill Hanson, Jean Knaak, Rhonda Smerchek, Ann Helstad, Julie Glowka  
Third row: Art Storbo, Lois Laehn, Joy Shong, Chuck Laehn, Pam Mathison, Sally Nelson West, Lila Burmeister, Christy Berger  
Back row: Ron Helstad, Gary Romsaas, Larry West, Pat Skaiem, Debra Lee Pritchard, Bud Helstad, Sandy Johnson, Darrell Johnson



## Trønderlag of America—Middleton, Wisconsin—2021



Front row, left to right: Shae Monson, Cate Monson, Ray Olson, Karen Mullen, Robert Fossum, Robin Fossum, Megan Fritz, Caylin Fritz, Khlöe Fritz, Liam Fritz, Darien Fritz, Rhonda Smerchek,  
 Secnd row: Bree Monson, Kyle Monson, Jill Monson, Sue Eckert, Louise Lang, Roberta Takle, Carol Byerly, Ardis Danger, Trudy DeKeuster, Mary Martin, Kathy Pedersen, Lila Burmeister  
 Third row: Barry Dahl, Art Storbo, Gerald Ugland, Linda McKeen, Gene Danger, Julie Glowka, Sharon Frisbie  
 Back row: Dave Grindberg, Gary Romsaas, Chuck McKeen, Darrell Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Tom Westhoff, Gerald Frisbie, Carolyn Satrum, Sue Westhoff, Jon Satrum



## **Gudbrandsdalslaget—Middleton, Wisconsin—2021**



Front row, left to right: Wyatt Bunderson, MacKenzie Bunderson, William Bunderson, Marilyn Sorensen, Helen Scherer, Jack Peterson, John F. Peterson, Martha Balfanz, Anne Farning, Mary Tyner, Grace Tyner, Ella Tyner

Second row: Bentley Bunderson, Jessica Bunderson, Cathy Zange, Angela Cowgill, Ginny Wegenast, Linda George, Sylvia Falteisek, Nancy Olson, Kris Grodahl, Mary Martin, Diane Clouch, Kathy Pedersen, Rhonda Smerchek, James Tyner, Jeanne Engelsmeier, Dorothy Zimmerman, Elaine Nordlie

Third row: Gary Swain, Ed Scherer, Jan Floeter, Dale Zange, Peg Schellin, Sandra Fjelstad Gilbert, Valerie Matthiesen, Lila Burmeister, David Clouch, Gail Winger

Back row: Gerald Hanson, Gary Romsaas, Ryan King, Steven Schellin, Kristin King, Art Storbo, Dick Lundgren, Sid Stivland, Don Matthiesen, Bob Gjendahl



## Romerikslaget i Amerika—New Ulm, Minnesota—2021



Front row, left to right: Mike Miller, Norma Kjenstad Barnes, Joel Botten, Eunice Helgeson, Steven Ask  
 Second row: Rod Bjerke, Chuck McKeen, Kirsten Bornus, David Bornus, Mary Baumgardner, Deb Jarvar, Paul Meierding  
 Back row: Linda McKeen, Julie A. Clauson, Vicky Finstad, Joy Shong, Barbara Nelson



### **Solør Lag of America—New Ulm, Minnesota—2021**



Front row, left to right: Dennis Ingvoldson, Juanita Ingvoldson, Yvonne Natvig, Linda Embertson, Jean Berg, Kathy Johnson, Ralph C. Olson, Ray Olson, Linda Poissant  
Middle row: Darrell Johnson, LeAnn Hookom, Karen Weiberg, Julie A. Clauson, Joanne Sorbel, Sharon Gunderson, Jan Gunderson, Mary Martin, Rodney Kurth  
Back row: Sandy Johnson, Vicky Finstad, Denny Kalvig, Barry Olson, Raymond Embertson, LaVonne Hookom, Andy Berg, Doug Johnson

# 2022 Flere Lag Stevne

Lois and Ron Mueller  
**Nordic Designs**  
1225 W. Main St.  
Platteville, WI 53818  
608-348-3398  
[nordic@mhtc.net](mailto:nordic@mhtc.net)  
*Jewelry using gemstones from  
Norway, rosemaling items and  
rosemaling books.*

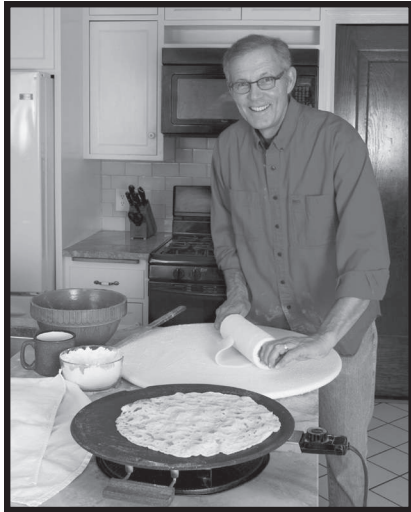


Karen Mullen  
**Loppemarked Butikk**  
521 S. 58th St.  
Omaha, NE 68106  
cell 402-312-6067  
[fraumullen@yahoo.com](mailto:fraumullen@yahoo.com)  
*Norwegian sweaters, Norwegian jewelry,  
Henning carvings and  
candy figurines, Hardanger and tatted  
pieces, rosemaled pieces and more.*

Donna Johnson & Lyn Rein  
**(MOD) "Mor og Datter" Nordic Arts**  
[www.modnordicarts.com](http://www.modnordicarts.com)  
Faribault, MN 55021  
(Friday only)  
Donna: 1128 Carlton Ave.,  
[johnsonpl@charter.net](mailto:johnsonpl@charter.net)  
507-332-7628  
Lyn: 608 East Division St.  
[lynrein94@gmail.com](mailto:lynrein94@gmail.com)  
507-491-1012  
*Norwegian Rosemaling, specializing in the  
regions of Gudbrandsdal, Telemark, Hallingdal,  
and Rogaland.*



# Vendors and Crafts



Gary Legwold  
**The Lefse King**  
<https://lefseking.com/>  
 5205 Knox Ave. S.  
 Minneapolis, MN 55419  
 612-926-1877  
[glegwold@lutefisk.com](mailto:glegwold@lutefisk.com)  
 (Friday only)  
*Lefse & many lefse-related items.*



Paul Anderson  
**Chip Carving & Bowl Carving**  
 3535 39th Avenue South  
 Minneapolis, MN 55406  
 612-388-6722  
[paulhanderson@usiwireless.com](mailto:paulhanderson@usiwireless.com)  
 (Friday only)



Mike Hughes  
**Nordic Woodcarving**  
 1309 Crystal Lake Rd. E.  
 Burnsville, MN 55306  
 952-212-7927  
[mahclre@comcast.net](mailto:mahclre@comcast.net)  
 (Friday only)

Julie and Lane Backus  
**Lena and Ole's Gifts**  
 891 N. Roadrunner Rd.  
 Apache Junction, AZ 85119  
 414-745-4362  
[jewelsdi@yahoo.com](mailto:jewelsdi@yahoo.com)  
*Norwegian and other Scandinavian jewelry, kitchen linens incl. Swedish washcloths, childrens books, Norwegian jerseys, flags, Finnish hand lotion, gnomes, greeting cards, socks and more.*





# Romerikslaget/Solørlag Joint Stevne 2021



Tour Group pose, at Hanska Stabbur

## *Loppemarked Butikk*

*(Norwegian for Flea Market Boutique)*

*We feature pre-owned Norwegian (+other Scandinavian) items,  
one-of-a-kind pieces: Rosemaling, Sølje & other jewelry,  
Pewter, buttons, framed art, Norwegian porcelain,  
Dala Horses, linens and more... just check us out!*

[fraumullen@yahoo.com](mailto:fraumullen@yahoo.com)

Karen Mullen, Omaha NE

402-312-6067

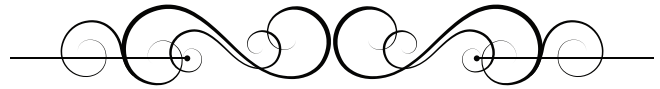
# New Ulm, MN



Joel Botten in *Toten bunad*, and Norma Kjenstad Barnes in *Romerike hverdags bunad*



Romerikslaget Banner with Julie Clauson



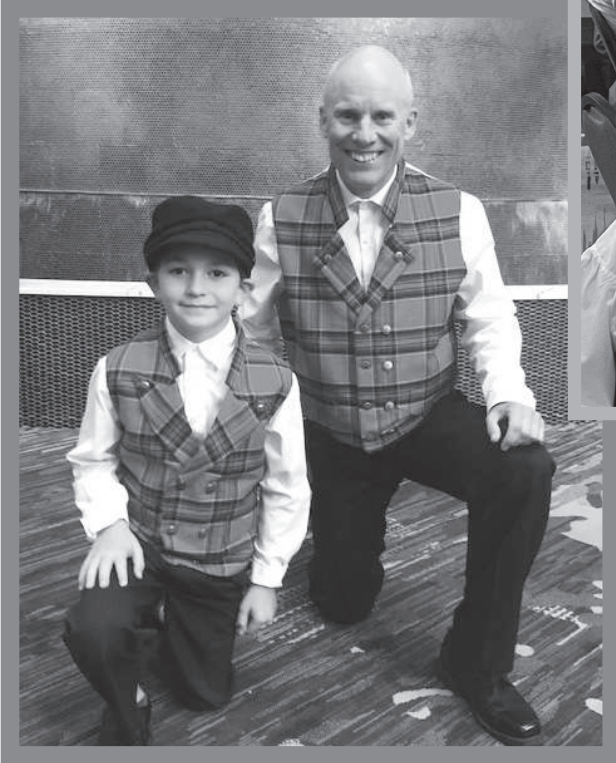
## Casual Shots



Back to the bus at Hanska Stabbur; tour included historic Norwegian sites in Brown County

# 2021 Tre Lag Stevne, Middleton, WI

## Casual Shots



William Bunderson with John Peterson

*Look at all the Petersons/Pedersen!*



Helen and Ed Scherer



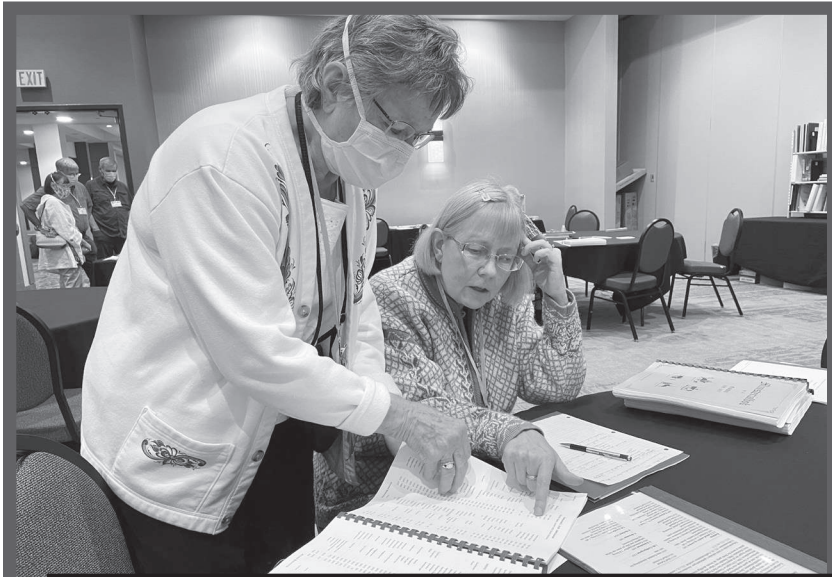
Barne Fun



John "Jack" Peterson and Kathy Pedersen



# Gudbrandsdalslag, Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken, and Trønderlag



Showing his love of the Norwegian flag is Gary Swain



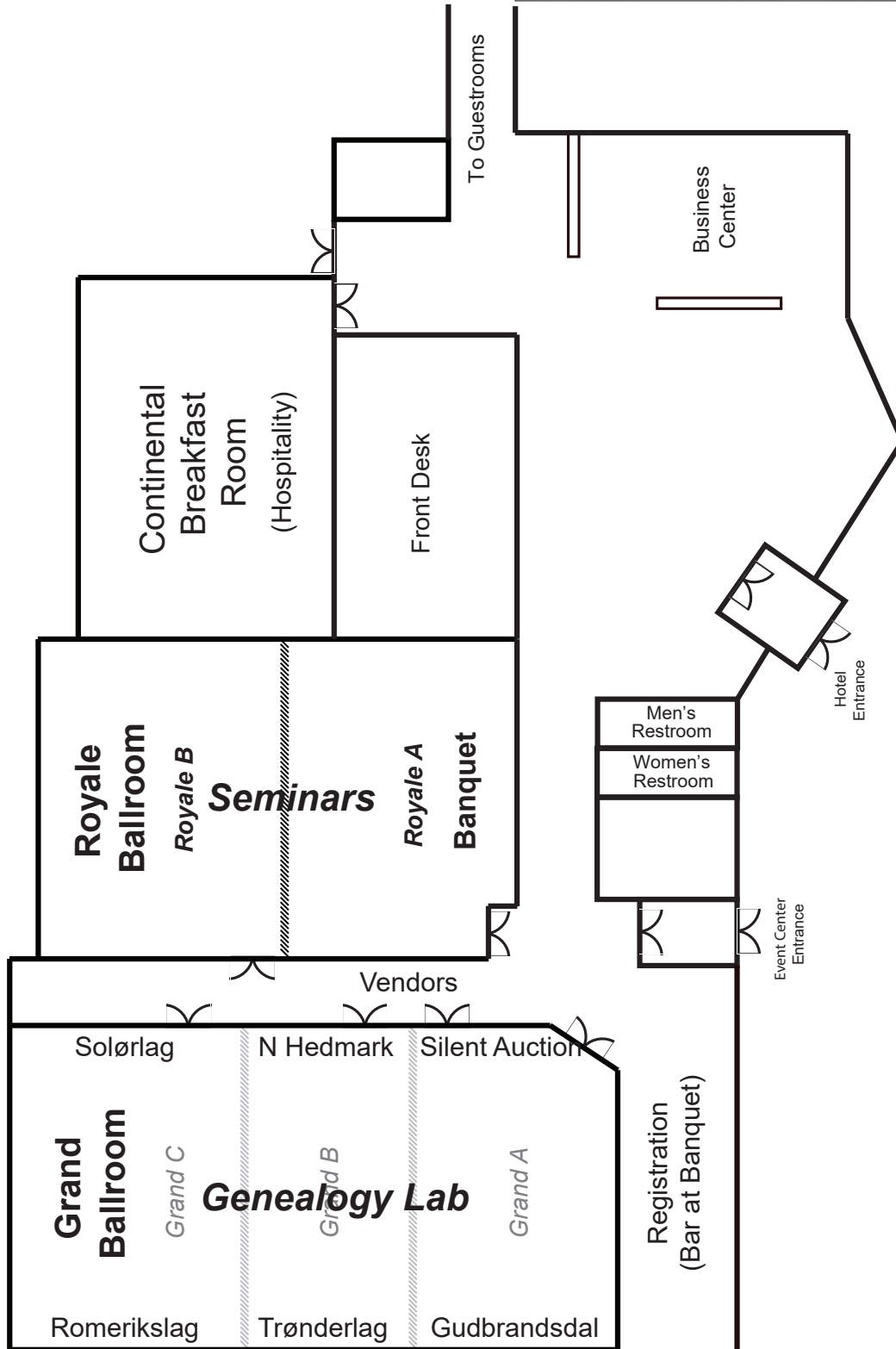
Top: Genealogy Lab

Middle: Bunad Parade at Banquet

Bottom: Banquet participants:  
Jeanne Engelsmeier, Dorothy Zimmerman,  
Ginny Wegenast, Marilyn Sorensen



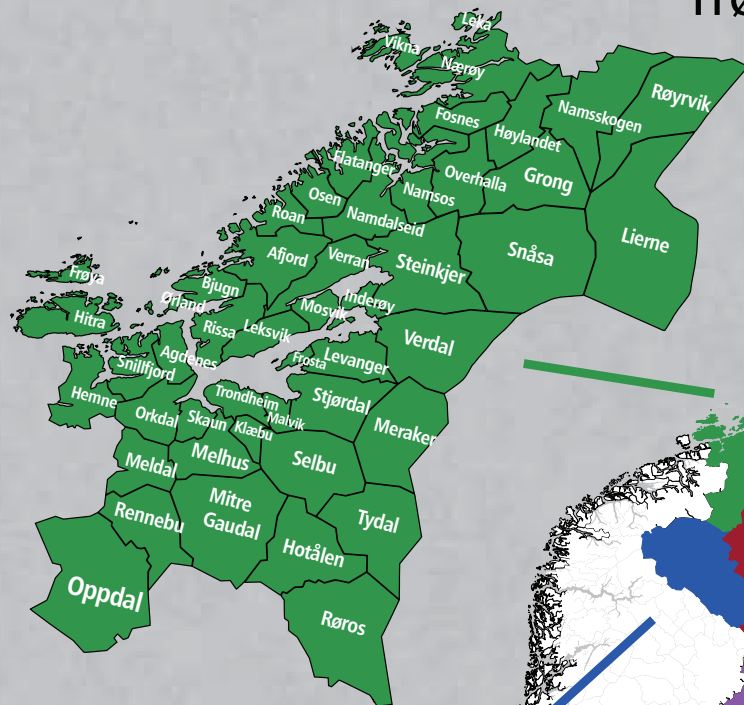
# Empire Event Center/ Best Western Hotel Rochester, MN Conference Spaces



# The Geographic Roots of our lags



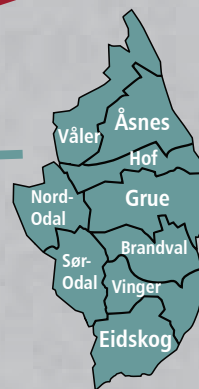
Trønderlag



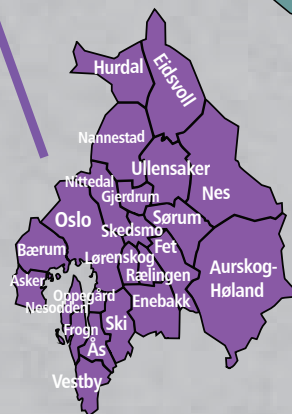
Nord Hedmark og Hedemarken



Solørlag of America



Romerikslag



Gudbrandsdal

