



NORDFJORDLAGET is the connecting link between
America and Nordfjord, Norway

May 1986

To: Nordfjordlaget Members
and Associate Members

From: Arvalene Vedvik, Newsletter Editor
RFD Box 17, Ferryville, WI 54628
Phone: 608/734-3192

Re: 1986 Nordfjordlag Stevne

GREETINGS FROM VEDVIKDALEN IN THE FJORDS OF COPPER CREEK!

This is the year to again think about going to a one-day stevne. It is also that time of year to think about graduations, schools getting out for the summer and where to go for our vacations. For some of you who will not see an article about the stevne in your local paper, this will be a short notice. But sometimes to do something on the "spur of the moment" is a fun thing to do.

The 1986 Nordfjordlag Stevne will be held in Belview, Minnesota on Sunday, June 1st at the Odin Hall with potluck picnic dinner at 12:00 o'clock noon. Some-one planning to attend the one-day stevne may ask -

- Where is Belview, Minnesota? It is located about 30 miles north and east of Marshall, or, south of the Minnesota River between Granite Falls and Redwood Falls, or, south of Willmar 50 miles to Redwood Falls on Hwy # 71, go west ten miles on Hwy # 19 and 67 and north four miles on Hwy # 273.
- What do I bring for the potluck? Well, I can tell you what not to bring. Bread for the sandwiches, coffee, koolaid and cream for the rømmegrøt will be furnished by the Lag.
- What's for the program? The Lag officers are to bring something for the program! Surprise! Surprise! Come - Look - Listen.
- Who are the host and hostess? Henry and Irene Knutson invited the Lag officers to their home on Saturday, March 19th for a planning and officer's meeting. I'm sure they will have other Nordfjording descendants involved.
- Has the Lag met in Belview before? Yes, in 1922, 1937, 1946 and 1953. All the meetings were held in the Odin Hall. Also, a Lag president (for 23 years - 1920 to 1943) lived in Belview. Lars Gimmestad emigrated from Gloppen, Nordfjord, Norway to America in 1879 with his mother and four brothers. They settled in Swedes Forrest near Belview. There was a large settlement of Nordfjordings in the Belview area.

NORDFJORDLAGET IS THE CONNECTING LINK BETWEEN AMERICA AND NORDFJORD, NORWAY

This statement was made by Steinar Hauge of Stryn, Nordfjord, Norway on Sunday afternoon, August 4th at a gathering of several host families and their guests from Nordfjord. Marilyn Kvigne called me the next day to thank me for convincing her to have house guests. She said, "I now have a better understanding of what Nordfjordlaget is all about." I'm sure this is the feeling of many who attended the Lag's "75th Anniversary Stevne" with our special guests from Nordfjord, Norway. Our time together will long be remembered. This saying intrigued me so that I doodled until I came up with this symbol of connecting links.

NORDFJORDLAGET HAS MEMBERS IN
37 STATES, CANADA AND NORWAY

- 604 Members - Wisconsin
 - 283 " - Minnesota
 - 33 " - South Dakota
 - 31 " - California & South Dakota
 - 28 " - Iowa
 - 22 " - Illinois
 - 19 " - Michigan
 - 12 " - Texas
 - 11 " - Indiana and Nebraska
 - 10 " - Missouri
 - 8 " - Arizona and Colorado
 - 7 " - Oregon and Pennsylvania
 - 6 " - Washington
 - 5 " - Tennessee
 - 4 " - Alaska and Ohio
 - 3 " - Arkansas, Kentucky and Montana
 - 2 " - Alabama, Delaware, Florida, New Mexico, New York & Utah
 - 1 Member - Connecticut, ~~Maine~~ *MASS.*, Maryland, North Carolina, Nevada, Rhode Island, Vermont and Virginia
 - 10 Members - Canada
 - 100 Members - Norway - *HONORARY*
- 1283
- Grand total - ~~1180~~ members in 1984-85
(as of July 18, 1985)

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"75th ANNIVERSARY STEVNE ATTENDANCE

Members of Nordfjordlaget came from many states to attend this special anniversary stevne year and to visit with our guests from Norway. The states represented were: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. There were two members from Canada and 99 Nordfjording guests. Throughout the four day event, there were over 700 people that attended the stevne.

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THE LAG'S OLDEST MEMBER IS 102!

A Minnesotan still holds the title of being the oldest member of Nordfjordlaget. Severt Rasmuson was born on August 3, 1883 in Hornindal, Nordfjord, Norway to Rasmus and Ingeborg Ytrehorn. Besides himself, there were six brothers and four sisters in his family. He came

(continued on page 10 - oldest member)

A CHARTER MEMBER ATTENDS STEVNE

As a young woman, Marie Devenport attended the first stevne for Nordfjordlaget in America. It was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota in June of 1910. She attended the opening session for the "75th Anniversary" of the Lag on Friday evening, August 2, 1985. It was the privilege of the Lag to present her with a rose corsage. She is the only Crawford County resident, who is still living and attended the 1910 stevne.

Marie was born and raised in Sugar Creek Valley in the Town of Freeman, Crawford County, Wisconsin. Her parents were Hendrik Kaspersen Tippen (Haugland) and Janikka Jakobsdatter Vedvik, both from Eid, Nordfjord, Norway. She married Edward Devenport, who was also from the Town of Freeman, and they lived in Mt. Sterling, Wisconsin most of their married life. They have four children; Margaret, James, Anna Marie and Edward. Marie is now a resident of Sannes Skogdalen Home in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin.

* * * * *

THE LAG'S YOUNGEST MEMBERS

Heather Ann, daughter of John and Deanna Anderson of rural Gays Mills, Wisconsin was born on June 28, 1985. Her grandparents are Orvin and De Lee Anderson, also rural Gays Mills, and they gave her a gift membership to the Nordfjordlag on June 30th. Her great-grandmother is Mrs. Kenneth (Lillian) Emerson of rural Ferryville. Heather's ancestry traces back to Skrede, Rand and Moldestad gaards (farms) in Norway. All are members of Nordfjordlaget.

Another member missed being the youngest by four days. Amanda is the daughter of David and Jennifer Grimsled from La Crosse, Wisconsin. Her parents made her a member on July 11th. Grandparents are Reuben and Doris Grimsled of La Crosse. Her ancestry traces back to Grimsleid, Vedvik, Skrede and Strand. All are members of the Lag.

Both gals were in attendance for the stevne on Saturday at Sugar Creek Bible Camp. Jacob Vedvik introduced them to the audience during the business meeting.

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(Bits 'N Pieces continued on page 9)

75th ANNIVERSARY STEVNE - NORDFJORDLAGET IN AMERICA

Held in Crawford County, Wisconsin

August 1 - 4, 1985

THURSDAY, August 1, 1985 - Bus Tour

Two busses left Ferryville and traveled south on Highway 35 along the Mississippi River. The other two busses left the Utica Church parking lot and traveled south on Highway 27 until they came to Mt. Sterling, then west on Highway 171 to Highway 35, and then south on Highway 35 along the Mississippi River. The first stop was at the United States Lock and Dam Number 9, which is several miles south of Lynxville.

United States Lock and Dam Number 9 is one of 27 such locks and dams located on the Mississippi River, which were constructed during the period of 1930-1940, to move boats traveling north and south on the river from a lower level to a higher level, or vice versa. Lock and Dam Number 1, located at Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, is 669 miles north of Lock and Dam Number 27, located at Granite City, Illinois. The river falls about 420 feet when traveling south this distance. The purpose of the locks and dams are to create a series of slackwater pools with adequate depths for today's river transportation. The locks, in effect, act as steps by which vessels are lifted or lowered from one pool to the next, while the pools themselves remain practically level. The lockmaster you met at this dam was Harold Vedvik.

Our next stop was at MacDonalds Restaurant (first two busses) in Prairie du Chien, where we ate our lunch. (The other two busses stopped at Hardee's Family Restaurant, also in Prairie du Chien.) Prairie du Chien is the second oldest city in Wisconsin. People first settled here in the early 1800's. The name comes from the Fox Indian Chief, who was known as Dog. Early French voyagers called this Dog's Prairie, or (in French) Prairie du Chien. After lunch, we continued south on Highway 35 (and Highway 18) until we reached a county road which led to Wyalusing State Park.

Wyalusing State Park was established in 1917 and covers 1671 acres. The junction of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers can be seen from one of its lookouts. Wyalusing is an Indian word meaning "home of the warrior."

Returning to Prairie du Chien, we stopped at Design Homes and the DH Satellite Disc Factory, both owned and operated by Franklin Weeks.

Design Homes is a plant where modern American houses are constructed, and the completed house is for sale and can be moved (in two sections) to the purchaser's home site. The DH Satellite Disc Factory is located adjacent to Design Homes. These discs are used to improve television reception. Franklin Weeks is a grandson of Jacob Jonson Tisthamar from Utvik, and a great-grandson of Mons Johanneson Gald from Innvik.

From Design Homes we returned north on Highway 35 to Highway 171 and then traveled east to the Village of Gays Mills. We crossed the Kickapoo River just before entering Gays Mills.

The Pioneer Log Village is located west of Highway 131 between the Village of Gays Mills and the Crawford County Fair Grounds. A spring-fed creek flows through the site. The Crawford County Historical Society planned and had constructed this village in the late 1960's and 1970's. Bob Sherman, County Historical Agent, and Leita Slayton, President of the Crawford County Historical Society at that time, coordinated the plans and early work for the village. The purpose of the Village was to "preserve folk architecture of the Kickapoo Valley." An eleven-unit village was planned. To date, there are eight log buildings, namely, the Wauzeka Ridge school house, the DuCharme house (French), the Nedrelo granary (Norwegian), the

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Barker house (Yankee), the Zweifel corn crib (Swiss), the McCann house (Irish), the Matti chicken house (Bohemian) and the Tucker house (Irish). These buildings are characteristic of those found on the farms of the early Nordfjording settlers.

The Pioneer Log Village was our last stop for the bus tour on Thursday. The final event for the day was a Beef Roast at the Craig and Pat Forde farm. To get there, we returned west on Highway 171 until we came to the Village of Mt. Sterling. Then we traveled north on Highway 27 to the Village of Rising Sun. We arrived at the Forde farm by taking Smith Road west from Rising Sun.

The Beef Roast was held on the Forde farm in Freeman Township. Craig Forde is a great-grandson of Nils Rasmuson Forde, who emigrated from Breim. The farm was formerly owned by Nils' uncle, Søren Olson Seime, who emigrated from Breim in 1863. Søren was one of the first Nordfjordings to settle in Crawford County. Craig and his wife, Pat, operated a modern dairy farm and keep Holstein cattle, which many of the bus tour people observed being milked. Arnold Grimsliid roasted the beef for the evening meal, and Alfred Nedrelo and his son, Ronald, provided musical entertainment later in the evening.

After the beef roast the Nordfjordings returned to the Utica Lutheran Church, where they were assigned to various homes in the area for housing on Thursday, Friday and Saturday night, and they met the people they would be staying with.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1985 - Bus Tour

We left the Utica Lutheran Church parking lot and traveled north on Highway 27 to Fairview, where we turned left onto the Boma Ridge Road. Now, we were to begin the first part of our tour through, or past, the Nordfjording settlements located in northern Crawford County. After following the Boma Ridge Road for several miles, we came to an intersection, where we turned right onto the North Buck Creek Ridge Road, which we followed to Highway 35. During this part of the tour, we drove through, or past, farms located in the following settlements, that were formerly owned by early Nordfjording settlers, whose names are listed along with the prestegjeld they emigrated from in Nordfjord:

Boma Ridge, Settlement

Lars Guldranson Djub, Utvik

Gulbrand Nilson Djub, Utvik

~~Mikkel Melkierson Fjellkaarstad, Utvik~~

John Olson Fjellkaarstad, Utvik

Mons Pederson Hopland, Utvik

Hans Hanson Kaarstad, Utvik

Rasmus Torgerson Langeset, Innvik

Anders Olson Moldrheim, Utvik

Jon Jenson Rand, Utvik

Bersvein Jonson Rand, Utvik

~~Arne Svendsen Roberg, Innvik~~

Kristen Pederson Seime, Breim

Mathias Bottolfson Skrede, Hornindal

Isak Rasmuson Sølberg, Utvik

Nils Antonson Saarheim, Breim

Mons Jakobson Tisthamar, Utvik

South Buck Creek Ridge Settlement

Jakob Olson Fossheim, Breim

Mons Johanneson Gald, Utvik

Bent Arneson Moldrheim, Utvik

Anders Absalonson Svarstad, Innvik

Jakob Jonson Tisthamar, Utvik

David Larson Verlo, Utvik

Ole Olson Verlo, Utvik

Buck Creek Valley Settlement

Nils Ivarson Djub, Utvik

Anders Jaspersen Egge, Breim

Jon Jenson Moldrheim, Utvik

Peder Jonson Skrede, Utvik

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North Buck Creek Ridge Settlement

Anders Monson Aaland, Utvik
Daniel Larson Djub, Utvik
Mathias Jakobson Fjellkaarstad, Utvik
Anders Arneson Frøyset, Utvik
John Akselson Førde, Breim
Lars Jonson Hjelle, Breim
David Olson Kandal, Breim

Martinus Svendson Roberg, Innvik
Jens Ingebrigtson Støyva, Breim
Rasmus Isakson Sølvsberg, Utvik
Jens Rasmuson Sølvsberg, Utvik
Mathias Rasmuson Sølvsberg, Utvik
Bertil Absalonson Tisthamar, Utvik
Jens Erikson Tisthamar, Utvik

When we reached Highway 35, we turned right and continued north for a short distance until we came to County Road C. Here, we turned right and traveled east through the Sugar Creek Valley Settlement. The farms formerly owned by the following early Nordfjording settlers were located in, or near, this settlement:

Sugar Creek Valley Settlement

Kristen Kristenson Aaland, Utvik
Rasmus Kristenson Aaland, Utvik
Peder Pederson Birkelo, Breim
Torbjørn Pederson Bruland, Utvik
Søren Sørensen Egge, Breim
Lars Erikson Felde, Breim
Mons Arneson Frøyset, Utvik
Kristen Olson Førde, Breim
Nils Rasmuson Førde, Breim
Jens Erikson Grimslid, Hornindal
Ola Olson Hegdal, Innvik
Ola Olson Kandal, Breim
Kornelius Rasmuson Kandal, Breim
Peder Monson Klaeppe, Breim

Oliver Olson Kjøs, Hornindal
Jakob Rasmuson Reed, Breim
Nils Nilson Sandal, Breim
Jens Jonson Seime, Breim
Søren Olson Seime, Breim
Ola Pederson Skraeppe, Breim
Ola Erikson Strand, Breim
Thor Antonson Støyva, Breim
Hendrik Kaspersen Tippen, Eid
Jon Jakobson Tisthamar, Utvik
Halvard Olson Valaker, Utvik
Ola Olson Vanberg, Olden
Olai Olson Vanberg, Olden
Ola Olson Vereide, Gloppen

After leaving Sugar Creek Valley, we continued traveling east on County Road C on our way to Soldiers Grove. We again passed by, or near, more farms formerly owned by the early Nordfjording settlers, but these farms were not part of any large settlement. These settlers were:

Rasmus Monson Aaland, Utvik
Jørgen Davig, Davik
Torger Arneson Frøyset, Utvik

Lars Jørgenson Hilde, Innvik
Jens Antonson Langved, Innvik
Kristen Antonson Langved, Innvik

We covered about 17 miles in this part of our tour, and in about one-half of an hour we crossed the Kickapoo River just before entering the Village of Soldiers Grove.

Soldiers Grove has a population of 648 and is one of the villages of Crawford County that was mentioned earlier. It is now known as the "Solar Village." Because of flooding in the Kickapoo River, the entire business district of this village has been relocated to higher ground during the past ten years. Since it was necessary to construct new buildings, it was decided to construct them all with solar heat panels on the south side of the buildings to take advantage of the sun's rays as a source of heat in the winter time. Hence, the name "Solar Village."

While in Soldiers Grove we ate our noon meal at the Old Oak Inn. Because the seating capacity of this place was limited to 90 people, it was necessary to eat in two shifts. While the passengers on two of the busses ate their dinner, those on the other two busses toured the solar village, and vice versa.

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The Old Oak Inn is a beautiful old mansion constructed and formerly owned by Ole Knutson Himle, a Norwegian immigrant from Voss, Norway. A rather complete history of this house was given by the present owner. After dinner, there was an opportunity to tour the upstairs of this mansion.

When all of the passengers had eaten their noon meal, all four busses parked near the Sannes Skogdalen Home near the business district of the solar village.

The Sannes Skogdalen Home is a rest home for the elderly. Here, Petter Eide performed for the residents on his Hardanger fiddle, and some of the Nordfjordings did folk dancing. A large tent had been erected outside of the home for their annual picnic, and this tent made a pleasant place for everyone to sit, converse with some of the residents of the home, and enjoy the entertainment. During the program, Marie (Verlo) Bruland was presented with a corsage by the Nordfjordlag for being the only living native-born Nordfjording now residing in Crawford County.

After leaving Soldiers Grove, we traveled south on Highway 61 and then west on Highway 171 through five miles of apple orchards. We again went through Gays Mills, and when we came to Mt. Sterling, we turned right and traveled north on Highway 27 to Rising Sun. Here, we turned left onto County Road B and traveled west until we arrived at the Southwest Prairie Lutheran Church.

The Southwest Prairie Lutheran Church is the oldest Lutheran Church attended by the early Nordfjording immigrants. It was organized in 1855. The present church building replaced the original log church. Many of the early Nordfjording settlers are buried in the adjoining cemetery, as evidenced by the names on the tombstones--Aaland, Birkelo, Bruland, Casper-son (Tippen), Egge, Forde, Froiseth, Grimslid, Hegdal, Hjelle, Kandal, Kleppe, Olson (Valaker), Reed, Sandal, Seime, Stovey, Strand, Vanberg and Vereide. The Southwest Prairie American Lutheran Church Women served supper for the bus tour group in the basement of the church.

Everyone having finished eating at about 6:30 P.M., we continued on to the Utica Lutheran Church, for the musical program at 7:15 P.M.

The Utica Lutheran Church was organized in 1871, and the present building was constructed in 1872. Many of the charter members were former members of the Southwest Prairie Lutheran Church, who decided to organize a new congregation, so a church building could be constructed that would be more centrally located with respect to the area in which they lived. Many "newcomers" from Nordfjord also joined this church. In the adjoining cemetery the tombstones again give evidence of the immigrant Nordfjordings who are buried there--Aaland, Anderson (Stensaker, Langeset), Bruland, Danielson (Bjørlo), Dyb, Egge, Gald, Hjelle, Hopland, Jacobson (Fjellkaarstad), Kaarstad, Moldrem, Munson (Mel), Paulson (Taklo), Rand, Severson (Myklebust), Skrede, Solberg, Stove, Tisthammer, Vedvik, Verlo and Williams (Svarstad).

FRIDAY EVENING AUGUST 2 - Musical Program and Official Opening of the Stevne

The musical program from 7:15-8:00 P.M. featured William Kvigne, church organist, at the organ. Lillian (Felde) Moan sang a solo and was accompanied by her sister, Eva Felde, at the piano. Lillian and Eva are granddaughters of Lars Erikson Felde from Breim and his wife, Gjertrud Hansdatter Skipenes, from Eid. Pat Forde played two selections on her saxophone accompanied by William Kvigne. Petter Eide played two selections on his Hardanger fiddle.

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The official opening session of Nordfjordlaget in America was called to order by the Lag President, Lillie Skarsten at 8:15 P.M. A flag processional began the program with the American flag carried by Donald Anderson of Ferryville, Wisconsin and the Norwegian flag carried by Rolf Domstein, Vaagsoy, Nordfjord, Norway. As the flags were carried down the center aisle, the church organist played "God of Our Father, Whose Almighty Hand" (National Hymn). At the front of the church, the flags were held to form an arch while the audience sang "America" and "Ja Vi Elsker Dette Landet." Corsages were presented to the president and secretary of the Lag. It was also the privilege of the Lag to present a corsage to a charter member, Marie (Caspersen/Tippen) Davenport, now living in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin.

The Memorial Service commenced at 8:30 P.M. and lasted until 9:15 P.M. Reverend Harry Walker from Osseo, Wisconsin delivered the Memorial message. Harry is a grandson of Hallvard Olson Valaker and Dorothea Pedersdatter Bruland, both from Utvik. The Utica Lutheran Church Choir sang one anthem before Pastor Walker's message and two anthems afterwards. William Kvigne also sang a solo, "To God Be The Glory," before his message. After the Memorial Service, there was time for fellowship with the Nordfjordings. Coffee and brownies were served in the church basement.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1985

We gathered at Sugar Creek Bible Camp for the morning and afternoon sessions. A coffee hour began the day and registration was for those not previously registered.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp is a camp with 635 acres of wooded hills, open valleys, and clear springs which feed two streams. It is located in Freeman Township and is six miles east of Ferryville on County Road C. In the fall of 1965 two farms were purchased and the camp was incorporated in January of 1966. The outer farm was bought from Selmer and Clara Solverson. Clara is the daughter of Christen Pederson Bruland from Utvik. Prior to the ownership by Chris Bruland, it was also owned by Jens Jonson Seime from Breim. The inner farm was bought from Reuben Felde. He is a grandson of Lars Felde from Breim and Gertrude Skipenes from Eid.

Workshops were held during the early part of the forenoon. These were followed by the business meeting of Nordfjordlaget in America and musical numbers by the Felde Folk. After the noon lunch was served, we were entertained by the Langeset Slekt. The Bryllups Marsj took place at 3:00 P.M. with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Roemer from Eau Claire, Wisconsin, as the bride and groom. Petter Eide from Sandane, Norway and Engvald Orheim from Detroit, Michigan led the march, playing their Hardanger fiddles.

The bride, Margaret (Vedvik) Roemer, is 100% Nordfjording in ancestry. She is the daughter of Jacob Vedvik, Sr., who emigrated from Eid in 1904, and Agnes Anderson, who was born near Seneca, Wisconsin. Agnes' paternal grandparents were Torger Anderson Stensaker from Blakset and his wife, Anne Rasmusdatter Langeset from Markane. They emigrated to America in 1877. Her maternal grandparents were Rasmus Severinson Myklebust and his wife, Eline Johannesdatter Myklebust, both from Eid. They emigrated to America in 1871.

After the bridal march was over, there was time for afternoon coffee, and then people gradually started making their way to Seneca, where the late afternoon and evening festivities were commenced at 5:00 P.M. in the Seneca High School gymnasium.

Seneca is an unincorporated village located in Seneca Township and approximately in the center of Crawford County. The Seneca High School is located here, and our evening program was held in the Seneca High School gymnasium. The settlement of Nordfjordings on Oak Grove Ridge, which we did not

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visit because of road construction, was located just southwest of Seneca. Seneca was the place where these early settlers did their trading, and where many of their descendents attended high school.

We were served a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner at our banquet and by 8:00 P.M. everyone had finished eating. The evening events started with a square dancing performance by the Prairie Partners Square Dance Group from the Ferryville/DeSoto area. This was followed by a folk dancing demonstration by a group of Nordfjordings. We then had a break in the entertainment, when greetings from Norway were brought by Oddvin Drageset, Rolf Domstein, Steinar Hauge and Petter Eide. There was also an exchange of gifts between the kommunes, organizations in Nordfjord and Bergen, and Nordfjordlaget in America. Following this we enjoyed an Old Time Dance from 10:00 P.M. to 12:00 P.M. with the "Notes of Norway" from Hixton, Wisconsin providing the music.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1985

The final day of our stevne had arrived, and by 10:15 A.M. we had gathered at the Utica Lutheran Church for a Norwegian Church Service. Our guest pastor was Reverend Ernest Nelson from La Crosse, Wisconsin, and he led our service in the Norwegian language. He was assisted by Gladys Olson and Nels Kvalheim, who read the lessons of the day. It was interesting to hear the hymns sung in the Norwegian language, and the service reminded one of fifty years ago, when our church services were in the language every other Sunday. After the service was over, we had time for coffee, doughnuts and brownies in the church basement, before our final parting had come. We were sorry to see our Nordfjording guests leave, and we will long remember the good time we had with them at our 75th Anniversary Stevne.

A special thanks to the members of the Crawford County Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). They gave many volunteered hours before and during the stevne. Their help was used for the newsletter, registration, serving the coffee hour on Friday evening, for preparing the food and serving it at the camp on Saturday, for helping with the banquet on Saturday evening, and for the many other errands that were done. We say to them, "Mange Tusen Takk."

PRE-STEVNE EVENT - The Freeman American Lutheran Church Women entertained the bus load of members of Nordfjordlaget in America that arrived on Wednesday afternoon, July 31, with a supper in the Freeman Lutheran Church basement that evening. Two Nordfjording immigrants, Lars Erikson Felde and Mathias Hanson Skipenes, were among the founders and early members of this church. The Felde and Hanson names are found on some of the tombstones in the adjoining cemetery.

NORDFJORDING SETTLEMENTS NOT VISITED

Copper Creek Settlement

Villum Villumson Hage, Utvik
Peder Nilson Otteren, Davik
Rasmus Anderson Øvreberg, Olden

Coulee Valley

Mathias Hanson Skipenes

Towerville Settlement

Knut Markuson Bjørnereim, Breim
Jon Jonson Egge, Breim
David Rasmuson Reed, Breim
Thor Rasmuson Reed, Breim
Anderson Rasmuson Øvreberg, Olden

Oak Grove Settlement

Ola Bottolfson Aaland, Utvik
Anders Kristenson Aaland, Utvik
Knut Danielson Bjørlo, Eid
Kristen Olson Kongsvik, Hornindal
Anders Torgerson Langeset, Innvik
Mons Mikkelson Mel, Eid
Mikkel Monson Mel, Eid
Johannes Erikson Myklebust, Eid
Rasmus Severinson Myklebust, Eid
Rasmus Bottolfson Skrede, Hornindal
Elias Jonson Skrede, Utvik
Torger Anderson Stensaker, Innvik
Nils Ingebrigtsen Støyva, Breim
Anders Paulson Taklo, Eid
Hans Hanson Vedvik, Eid
Peder Olson Verlo, Utvik

ANNIVERSARY BOOK

The Anniversary Book will soon be ready. All we are waiting for are the pictures that were taken by the newspaper man from Norway. The book will consist of 130 pages including pictures of the stevne and gifts received from Norway. Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of this book should send a down payment of \$5.00 to Nordfjordlaget, % Arvalene Vedvik, RFD Box 17, Ferryville, WI 54628. Make check payable to Nordfjordlaget. You will be notified of the balance due before we send you the book. The total cost of the book will be determined by the number of copies ordered from the printer.

SEND YOUR ORDER NO LATER THAN JUNE 15th.

FILM CREW MOVIE has not arrived from Norway. It is to be here by June 1, 1986???. It was to have been here for showing on July 30 and August 2, 1985!!

STEVNE SITE FOR 1987

Please contact the Lag president, Mrs. Melvin Skarsten, if you would like to extend an invitation for the Nordfjordlag stevne to be held in your area. Her address is RFD 3, Benson, MN 56215.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED

Anyone willing to volunteer to do the Nordfjordlag newsletter, please contact the Lag secretary, Mrs. Oren Christensen, RFD 2, Box 170, Clarkfield, MN 56223.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Would you consider sending in your membership fees soon - hopefully by the end of June? Mange tusen takk. A membership list needs to be compiled for the next editor. This person will need the names and addresses for the next mailing.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERS

Membership fees for 1985-86 and 1986-87 are now payable. Persons with one or more ancestors from Nordfjord are eligible to become members, whereas persons with no ancestors from Nordfjord are eligible for Associate Membership. The membership fee is the same for Member and Associate Member--\$1.00 per person for each year.

* PLEASE RETURN THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM WHEN YOU SEND THE MEMBERSHIP FEE!
IT IS NEEDED FOR THE MEMBERSHIP RECORDS!

(cut here)

NORDFJORD LAG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

July 1, 1985 - June 30, 1986 and July 1, 1986 - June 30, 1987

Mr. _____ Member/Associate Member
Miss _____ Member/Associate Member
Mrs. _____
Mailing Address _____
(RFD & Box # or House # & Street or P.O. Box #) (City) (State) (Zip)

SOME FACTS ABOUT CRAWFORD COUNTY

There are 72 counties in Wisconsin and Crawford County is located in the southwestern part of the state. It is bordered on the west by the Mississippi River and on the south by the Wisconsin River. The Kickapoo River runs south through the middle of the county. The area of the county is 586 square miles, and its population is 16,739.

It is divided into 11 townships -- Bridgeport, Clayton, Eastman, Freeman, Haney, Marietta, Prairie du Chien, Scott, Seneca, Utica and Wauzeka. Each township has its own governing body. The City of Prairie du Chien is the only city and has a population of 5,887.

In addition, there are ten villages, each with a population less than 1,000. These villages are Bell Center, De Soto, Eastman, Ferryville, Gays Mills, Lynxville, Mt. Sterling, Soldiers Grove, Steuben and Wauzeka.

The governing body of the county is the County Board, consisting of a Chairperson and 16 Supervisors. The present County Board Chairperson is Robert Dillman.

The County is almost a completely rural area. Its main industry is dairying, with Holstein cattle being the predominant breed. Most of the farmers grow corn, oats and alfalfa hay. Many of the farms in the northern part of the county also raise tobacco.

Oldest member (continued from page 2) to America in 1903. At the time of the stevne, he was living in Detroit Lakes

EDITOR'S COLUMN -

My apologies to the Lag membership for not getting the Nordfjord newsletter out sooner. This newsletter is a combination of two newsletters - Fall of 1985 and Spring of 1986 issues.

I started compiling and typing the rough drafts early last September but each newsletter is getting to be a bigger struggle to get it written, typed, printed and mailed out. After 8½ years, it is now time for someone else to take over. I've been editor only the past two years.

Plans are to spend more time helping Jacob with his Crawford County Research Project. Since genealogy is one of my hobbies, I'm looking forward to getting involved.

Even though this mailing is late, my hope is that you will still enjoy reading and remembering the fun times if you attended the stevne. And to those who couldn't be with us - my hope for you as you read it, is that you will feel some of the excitement of the "75th Anniversary" stevne.

and was still driving his car to visit his wife in the nursing home.

Severt had planned to come to Wisconsin last August and display his woodworking hobby of making Norwegian furniture, but due to poor health he was unable to be with us. We were disappointed - we wanted to celebrate his 102nd birthday with him. Best Wishes on your 103rd birthday from Nordfjordlaget!

For additional family or gift memberships, list name(s) and address(es).

Mr. _____	Member/Associate Member
Miss _____	(Circle one)
Mrs. _____	Member/Associate Member
Mailing Address _____	
(RFD & Box # or House # & Street or P.O. Box #)	(City) (State) (Zip)