

SynNor Brevet

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Synnøve-Nordkap
Lodge #1-008



April 2017
Number 17:04

**District 1 Lodge of the Year 2013 and
Family Lodge of the Year 2006, 2008,
2014 and 2015**

April is Membership Dinner Month

Bring a prospective member and both of you receive dinner - FREE!



Membership Dinner

Tuesday, April 11 at 6:30 PM

We have a fabulous lodge - let's share the experience with others! Please join us for our annual Membership Dinner and invite a guest to learn about what our lodge has to offer. It will feature the Junior Lodge program with a performance by the Peer Gynt Dancers, and other lodge information will be available that evening as well.

Magnolia's Restaurant will again cater this event. The menu will be Chicken Kiev, wild rice mixture, green beans w/almonds, fruit plate, salad and rolls, dessert and beverage.

Cost is \$10 (\$5 for Dancers). As in past years, if you bring a prospective member, both of your dinners will be free!

Reservations are required by April 7!

Contact Mary Beth Mutchler at 651-484-8872 or e-mail mbe43@q.com

Make checks payable to Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge and send to: 3496 Nancy Place

Shoreview, MN 55126-8005

As in previous years, membership pins will be awarded to present lodge members for 5 years, 10 years, etc. Please check the list on page 7 and try to come to be recognized if your name is on the list.

Scandinavian Culture and News

By Don Halvorson Norse Mythology 2: The Nine Worlds

Cradled in the branches of Yggdrasil, the World Tree, lay the nine worlds of Norse Mythology. Each one of these separate worlds was home to different type of beings: humans, gods and goddesses, giants, and dwarfs.

In most interpretations of the Norse myths the position of the worlds are stacked in three different levels, one atop the other, around the tree. On the topmost level lies Asgard, home of the gods. Here sits the long hall of the gods and Valhalla where those slain in battle feast nightly with Odin, supreme deity of the world.

In the Norse pantheon there are 12 major gods and 13 goddesses. Thor, son of Odin, is the god of thunder and lightning and the strongest god behind his father. Tyr, god of war, is the bravest god. Baldr, god of light, is the most beautiful. Other notable gods are Njord god of wind, seafarers and inland waters, Mimir god of memory and Braggi god of poetry and music.

The goddess Frigg is the wife of Odin. She is a sorceress and is associated with love, marriage, fertility and motherhood. Freya is the goddess of love, but is also associated with beauty, fertility and sorcery. Idun is the goddess of youth, Sif the goddess of grain, and Gefion the goddess of fertility and agriculture.

To the left of Asgard sits Vanheim, home of the Vanir, an older tribe of gods known for their sorcery and the wisdom to predict the future. Third on that level is Alfheim, the realm of the light elves, minor gods of nature and fertility and home of the god Freyr.

On the next level, connected to Asgard by the rainbow bridge Bifrost, is Midgard, home of humans. Surrounding Midgard is a large protecting sea. Connected to Midgard is Jotunheim, the mountainous wilderness realm of the giants, and Svartalfheim, the underground home of the dark elves and dwarfs. They are the master craftsmen of the gods. Some of their gifts include Thor's hammer and Odin's arm ring and spear. The giants and the gods are continually fighting, and the controversial figure, Loki, companion and trickster of the gods also comes from here.



On the bottom level lies Niflheim, the coldest region in Norse mythology, which also includes the world of the dead. Apart of this world is Helheim. Named after its guardian, Loki's monstrous daughter Hel, it is the place of the dishonorable dead. South of these realms is Muspelheim, the land of fire. Home of the fire giants, it is ruled by the giant Surtr, sworn enemy of the gods on Asgard.

This was the world of the pre-Christian Norsemen, until, as predicted, the Norse apocalypse Ragnarok would arrive. This would begin when Midgard had suffered two winters with no spring in between. The sun would turn black, and the final battle would begin between the gods and the creatures of the underworld. In the end, all beings would die, and the world would be consumed by fire. Then, after an indeterminate period of time, a better world would be reborn and new life would eventually begin again.

Sagas of the Norsemen, Viking & German Myth. Myth and Mankind. Time Life Books, 1997.

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge normally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, usually at 7:00 PM at Gustavus Adolphus Church
1669 Arcade Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55106 (use the South entrance)

Web Page: <http://synnove1.com>

On Facebook, look for "Synnove-Nordkap"

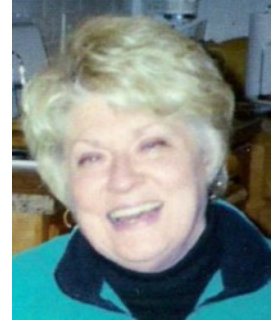
Junior Lodge: see <https://peergyntdancers.wordpress.com>

Online photo album: <https://wNorse Mythology 2: The Nine Worlds>

Fra Presidenten

Dear Members,

Spring has sprung, and I can't decide if it came in with a bang or a whimper. Is there something between the two? If so, then I think that is what just happened.



One thing we do know is that Spring is busy, very busy. And our Lodge business follows with an array of busy-ness. We are part of Zone 9 in District 1. On March 25, Dianne Anderson, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Susan Stow, and I will participate in that get-together. Ron Stow will be there in his position as Vice President of District 1. I only wish more of you would try to attend one of these meetings. Not only do we learn wonderful things, but we get to interact with enthusiastic members of other Zone 9 lodges.

April brings our Annual Membership Dinner and Program. This year we ask that you invite family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and acquaintances who have expressed an interest in things Scandinavian to come to hear more about Sons of Norway. (We do ask that you invite people that who are genuinely interested in becoming members.) I would like you to consider how many of us have enlarged our circle of friends through our connections with Sons of Norway and Synnove-Nordkap, but what about turning that paradigm around? Think how much fun it would be to include those same family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, and acquaintances in our Lodge events? How about saying something like, "How often have you heard me talk about the interesting programs, fun people, things Scandinavian, wonderful food, etc.? How about joining our Lodge so we can do all these great things together?" Remember the cute skit Ron and Susan Stow did at the February meeting. They gave us some great ideas.

I would like to thank Lowell Johnson for his hard work as the editor of the Brevet. His life right now is just too busy to continue in THAT role, but will still continue to be active in many other ways. I would also like to formally announce and recognize Jennie Read as our new Brevet editor. She is currently our pianist who plays at our meetings. She is a very busy lady who is really going above and beyond for us and our Lodge. Two other members, Chuck and Jean Draheim, have assumed leadership roles. Kudos to you all!

Dear Members, this is a gentle reminder for you to not only appreciate, but thank our fellow members in leadership roles. Each works very hard to make our Lodge successful! They come to board meetings, serve on special committees, work from home, cook, set up, clean up, write, mail, greet, do I.T., photograph, run Junior Lodge, etc. This involves time and talent, but most of all COMMITMENT to excellence by serving our Lodge and ultimately YOU! (By the way, these are all volunteer positions.) Now that I have said all this, I need to stress that we always need more people to step up to help the afore mentioned members. HINT...maybe you!

Since I am speaking (or more precisely writing) about volunteering, we need you to participate in another annual Spring activity—Festival of Nations. Cooking Day happens on Monday, May 1. The actual event is May 4-7, Thursday through Sunday. But we also need help on Wednesday, May 3rd, when Pat Carlson drives in all our equipment that needs to be unpacked and set up. No matter what your skill-set is, we can always use a willing spirit. This is our Lodge's major fundraiser, so remember, many hands make light work....Let's all Spring into action.

Blessings, Sharon

The deadline to submit items to the Brevet for the coming month is normally the 20th of the previous month. Please keep this time frame in mind, and keep those news items coming! Thanks, Lowell, Lynn, and Ken.

Lodge News

Board Meeting Minutes, 7 March, 2017

Attendees: Sharon Amann, Ron and Susan Stow, Lynn Hoffmeyer, Pat Carlson, Dianne Anderson, Kathy Manderscheid, Naomi Hagen, Dave and Mary Beth Mutchler, and Jean Draheim.

After a warm-up question, we reviewed the February meeting. The chili was good, turnout was low. The members were glad to meet Paul Dormody, our new financial representative.

We previewed the March meeting with Holly Harden. Jean will introduce her with Sharon as the back-up. Reservations are needed for the April Membership Dinner. Susan and Ron will work up a skit to advertise the Dinner since we have not had good turnouts of late.

We discussed other programs for 2017, as well as a summer outing. Outing possibilities mentioned included the Norwegian Center in Stoughton, WI, Gammelgarden Scandia, Norway House, Hjemkomst, and Decorah, IA. We'll discuss it more at our next meeting.

Ron discussed the wood carving program on April 29. There are 12 people signed up and 1 on a waiting list. Jean said that there is room at the C.S.P.S. (Sokol) Hall for a couple more enrollees.

Pat reported on Festival of Nations (FON). Lefse has been ordered and needs to be picked up in Eau Claire. Several of us offered. Sign-up sheets will be at the March meeting. We will sell bottled water from Walmart.

Susan gave a Junior Lodge report. 8 dancers have completed the work for a medal, with 2 more possible. The audition for FON is on April 19.

Kathy Manderscheid provided a proposal for 2 applicants for summer language camp at Skogfjorden. We approved her recommendation for funding (motion by Dave, seconded by Susan). One scholarship is for 4 weeks; one for 2 weeks; both cover partial cost only, and total \$3,035 from the lodge.

Ron mentioned the Zone 9 Leadership workshop on March 25. We should have at least 4 volunteers from our lodge, but so far have none. This is open to all lodge members, not just those on our Board.

Ron reported there is no further information on the Dist.1 Bowling Tournament and no volunteers from our lodge. He also stated that a meeting regarding International Convention in August 2018 will be held on Thursday, March 9.

We discussed how to proceed with Lodge survey results. We need to let members know they were heard, and we are working on the ideas that were forthcoming. Naomi has facilitator training and volunteered, but we need her input at the meeting. She agreed to find another facilitator for a separate meeting with the Board to be held soon.

The next board of directors meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 4 in the Board Room at the Maplewood library. Submitted by: Dave Mutchler, Secretary

Lodge Meeting - March 14, 2017

40 members and guests attended. Sharon Amann welcomed everyone, we sang the anthems and did the pledge of allegiance. The minutes of the February meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Sharon assured members that results of the improvement survey will be forthcoming. She encouraged everyone to bring a guest to our April Membership Dinner. Ron and Susan Stow did a skit encouraging us to recruit membership candidates.

Ron and Sharon encouraged members to consider attending the Zone 9 Leadership Retreat on Saturday, March 25, from 9:00-2:00 in Champlin. We should really have at least 4 people attend.

Pat Carlson gave a report on Festival of Nations, May 4-7, with Cooking Day May 1 from 9:00-noon. Pat had sign-up sheets, and has ordered lefse. Lefse needs to be picked up in Eau Claire on May 3. (Paul Dormody has since volunteered to do this.)

Ron reminded everyone of the figure carving class on April 29 at the CSPS Hall in St. Paul, taught by Jock Holmen, "the Norwegian Termite." More information will appear in the next newsletter.

We thank Jennie Read for volunteering to be our next newsletter editor, replacing Lowell Johnson.

Jean Draheim gave a brief Treasurer's report, and Chuck read a letter from Eivind Heiberg to all lodges expressing the goal that each lodge increase their membership by 10% in 2017, which would mean 24 new members for Synnove-Nordkap. Sharon then adjourned the meeting.

Holly Harden, who has led anything but an ordinary life, working and writing for Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" was our featured program. Holly brought a candid look at her life as a wife, mother, teacher, and writer. She writes about ordinary things in an extraordinary manner, and donates book proceeds to help kids eat better and learn more. We ended with treats from Lenore Jesness and Mary Beth and Lisa Mutchler. Mange takk!

Calendar of Coming Events

Sat. April.1	Genealogy Group meeting Meeting will be at new Shoreview Library See box at right for more information.	10:00 AM To Noon
Tues. April 4	Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting Maplewood Library Communi room	7:00 pm To 9:00 pm
Tues. April.11	Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge meeting Gustavus Adolphus Luthern Church Annual Membership Dinner	6:30 pm
Mon. May 1	Cooking Day! For Festival of Nations Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church	Watch for Further Announc ements
Tue. May 2	Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting Maplewood library Board room	7:00 pm To 9:00 pm
Sat. May 6	NO GENEALOGY MEETING See box at right for more information.	
Tues. May 9	Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge meeting Gustavus Adolphus Luthern Church	7:00 pm To 9:00 pm

Genealogy Group

Join us for the April 1st (no fooling!) Genealogy Group Meeting as our group continues to help each other locate records of our ancestors using the Norwegian Digital Archives. There is no time like the present to begin your search.

The meeting is from 10 am to noon at the new Shoreview Library, 4560 North Victoria Street, Shoreview, MN 55126. An optional lunch at a nearby restaurant will follow the meeting.

The Genealogy Group does not meet in May so that members can participate at the lodge's Norway Café at the Festival of Nations.

Festival of Nations May 4th to 7th

**Cooking day is Monday,
May 1st, 2017**

**Watch for more info or contact
Pat Carlson to volunteer!**

Refreshments and Treats - Servers Schedule

April 11th 2017 Sheryl Hove, Jacquie Carlone, Meredith Berg
May 9th 2017 Chuck & Jean Draheim

Norwegian Language Classes - Norsk Nordmenn og Norge



No Tuesday Class April 11 before the Membership Dinner.

"Norsk Nordmenn og Norge" book & "Ny i Norge" book
Thursday Classes, April 13 and 27, 1:00-2:30 p.m.
SunRay Library, 2105 Wilson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55119

WELCOME to new members!

Please contact Class Facilitator Sheryl Hove at sherylhove@netzero.net or 651-738-4908

Junior Lodge Update

The Junior Lodge version of "March Madness" is preparation for two programs at the Festival of Nations. We had our review on Sunday, March 19th at 4:50 at the International Institute in St. Paul. I must say, it went very well.

Every member of Peer Gynt will perform two dances in the children's program, *Tre Klappdans på Rekkje* - one that we use in the Winter Carnival parade, and *Seksmannsril*, a high paced reel forming a star pattern. Our teen group of experienced dancers really has progressed to more complicated choreography in their two dances - *Gilleråsen*, a weaving dance from Nordmore, and *Gammelreinlender*, a challenge even for adult dancers.

Part of our March rehearsal time was conquering the next step in the Folk dancing for Youth Cultural Skill. Eight of our members already have these pins as well as one for figure carving. Those who have not completed this unit wrote out their opinions on their favorite dances, described performances or taught a folk dance to another youth group. Since the Minneapolis lodges Fjell og Fjærd group came to visit in February, we taught them "*Olaf's Skål*", an audience participation dance, so that worked out well for fulfilling the requirement. We are anticipating our performance for the Synnøve-Nordkap Membership Dinner on Tuesday, April 11th. If you have children, grandchildren or friends with boys and girls between the ages of 7 - 17 who might have interest in our junior group, please invite them to the dinner performance so they can see the group in action.

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What are Genealogy Tales?

by Susan Stow

If you are curious about your family history and start looking for information, you will quickly discover that genealogy is a riddle, a mystery, and a puzzle. It can easily become an absorption as well.

Each member in our Synnøve-Nordkap Genealogy Group is writing a tale about how they became fascinated with researching their ancestors. Usually, amazing life circumstances make some forebears more interesting than others. Sometimes it is the constant "brick wall" with little or no information that finally is pierced and the name, farm, family, marriage, or emigration route becomes clear. An **aha!** moment, if you will.

What amazes me is how difficult and time consuming family research was before computer access. Now with so many sources on line, there is a wealth of information. The lodge website that is found by typing in www.synnove1.com has a link to our genealogy page with so many outstanding sites for investigation. Check them out.

Our Genealogy Group members have attended numerous workshops. Many are members of several research groups. These Synnøve-Nordkap members are so willing to help out anyone who comes to a monthly meeting. They will go an extra ten miles to help you. There is no extra charge for seeking help from the Genealogy Group. Only friendship and fun and research experience is offered.

A tale, by definition, is an imaginative narrative of an event. We hope our **Genealogy Tales** written for the on-line Brevet and maybe even the printed newsletter, will capture your interest in searching for the history of your family.

Congratulations to the following members who will receive membership anniversary pins at the membership dinner on Tuesday, April 11. You must be present to receive your pin. If you are on this list, please try to come to the April meeting so that you may be recognized.

45 years Anna Gallagher

40 years Ruth Gibson

35 years Lois Schaaf

30 years Curtis Hoganson

25 years Wayne Bjorum, Shirley Brekke, Ellen Frilseth, Kathleen Stevens

20 years Kathleen Carlson, Timothy Carlson, Kimberly Johnson, Emily Larsen, John Nordale, Joanne Nordale, Marquerite Pederson, Robert Smith, Peter Windey, Sharon Windey

15 years Ed Gilbertson, Svein Husevold, Sharon Kalmes, Gavin Thorsrud

10 years Heath Bartness, Norma Erickson, Kelli Johnson, Claire Keller, Laura Sherman

5 years Arline Carlson, George Carlson, Shirley Hegdahl, Kathy Manderscheid

Thank you all for your dedicated membership in Sons of Norway and Synnove-Nordkap Lodge.

Sunshine News

Our sympathy to **Dona and Bob Peterson** on the sudden death of their son, Joel. May he rest in peace.

Best wishes for a complete recovery to Dave Erickson, husband of member **Norma Erickson**, who suffered a stroke several weeks ago.

2017 Peer Gynt Dancers

The Peer Gynt Dancers of our Synnøve-Nordkap Junior Lodge have been part of St. Paul Sons of Norway since 1981. This school year we are twenty-two members strong. The children range in age from 7 - 17. They meet once per month, on the second Saturday, for meeting/rehearsal. The cultural emphasis this year has been the Norwegian flag, While cultural skills have focused on the Folk Dancing for Youth. New participants in Junior Lodge need to have a sponsoring adult who is a member of Synnøve-Nordkap senior lodge. The bunader, Norwegian national dress outfits, the dancers wear have been provided by the lodge for the time the student participates. Performances each year are varied: The European Christmas Market at Union Depot, The Winter Carnival Grande Day Parade, our lodge either at the picnic, or meeting or both, nursing homes, The Norway House fund raising event, Vestlandslag yearly meeting.



HELP US KEEP TRACK OF OUR MEMBERS!

**Mary Beth Mutchler is our sunshine person. If you know of someone who is sick, had surgery, etc., please call her at 651-484-8872 or email her at mbe43@q.com and she will send a card from the lodge. Also, if your phone, e-mail, or address change, please let us know at 651-484-8872 or dmutchler@q.com.
- Thanks!**

**Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge
#1-008
Sons of Norway
1611 Hydram Av Ct N
Oakdale, Minnesota 55128**



To:

The Mission of Sons of Norway is to promote and to preserve the heritage and culture of Norway, to celebrate our relationship with other Nordic countries, and to provide quality insurance and financial products to its members.

Synnøve-Nordkap Lodge welcomes visitors and new members!

For More Information Contact:

Sharon Amann, President

651-631-0399 slamann@comcast.net

Chuck Draheim, Vice President

651-433-2008 cmdraheim@aol.com



**SYNNØVE-NORDKAP
SONS OF NORWAY
LODGE #1-008**

Gustavus-Adolphus
Lutheran Church
1669 Arcade Street
St. Paul, MN 55106

St. Paul, MN

Norwegian Language Classes

Norsk Nordmenn og Norge

SunRay Library

2105 Wilson Ave, St. Paul

WELCOME to New Members!

651-738-4908

April 1	Genealogy Group meeting at Shoreview Library	10:00 To Noon
April 4	Synnøve-Nordkap Board Meeting Maplewood Library Board Room	7:00 pm To 9:00 pm
April 11	Membership Dinner! Bring a Friend - Invite Guests!	6:30 pm
May 1	Cooking Day for Festival of Nations!	Watch for more info soon!
May 4-7	Festival of Nations, St. Paul Peer Gynt and Lodge Food Stand	Watch for more info soon!

Genealogy Tale

by Susan Stow

Hearing family stories as a child, I didn't mind their retelling, for somehow the tale became embroidered, embellished and a bit more dramatic with each repetition. One such story was of my paternal grandmother's coming to Stillwater, Minnesota at the age of two.

It wasn't until I moved to Stillwater to teach school that I found out there was far more to the tale than I ever knew before. My Grandma Jennie rode along to help set up my tiny apartment. Along the way, she commented, "You know I was born in South Stillwater?" (now known as Bayport). I imagined that she was confused and told her, "Grandma, that makes no sense at all. You came from Hellesylt, Norway when you were two years old." "Well, I did, but I was born in South Stillwater."

What was revealed that day was a very poignant story about her mother, Anna Helset Saeter, a woman known to me only by name, one photo, a recipe for "Cry Baby Cookies" and snippets of family lore. It was the lure of knowing more about Anna that peaked my curiosity about genealogy.

Birth certificates of (Grandma) Jennie Caroline Saeter, 1894 and her brother, John Peder Saeter, 1892 were registered in the Washington County Courthouse in Stillwater. So the first fact was proven.

I knew from Norwegian Helset relatives where the home farm was located at the end of the Geiranger fjord near Hellesylt in Sunnelven, Møre og Romsdal, but I didn't have the background about her birth family. Through digitalarkivet.no, I was able to piece together her family. Anna Pedersdatter Helset grew up on the Helset farm as the oldest of ten children. Two of the ten died within weeks of their birth and two died of diphtheria at ages 3 and 6.

In the warm summer months, Anna was the "seter jente" at the Liadalen mountain meadow, tending goats and cows. Winter time meant helping at home and learning to weave. Later, at a talk at a NAGA event, I learned that the oldest daughter's role in a farming family was just that, seter jente, often not marrying but remaining in the service of her brother inheriting the farm and his family.

Jørgen, Anna's oldest brother who should have inherited the farm, wanted the adventure of emigrating to America. He was the first to leave Helset. Perhaps the letters from Jørgen postmarked Minnesota made Anna to seek her future in America as well.

Her journey was through the fjord to the coast, from Norway to Hull, England by boat, and then by train across England to Liverpool on the Western Coast. More research, online revealed that Anna traveled on the *Bothnia*, a Cunard Line ship, to New York. There were 300 cabin passengers and 548 people in 3rd class. I am quite sure Anna's ticket was 3rd class. Anna Helset arrived in New York on 9 May 1891 and is recorded on the passenger list as a dressmaker from Norway.



How she traveled to Minnesota would be conjecture on my part, but probably train and then paddle wheeler up the St. Croix River to Stillwater from the Mississippi. Records for this type of travel have eluded me thus far.

By September of that same year, Anna was married to a Norwegian lumberjack, Johan Andreas Jenssen Saeter, who grew up on an island off the coast near Ålesund named Godøy. After his confirmation, Johan moved to another island, Valderøy, to work on the Gjøsaeter farm. Locals on that island shortened the name to Saeter, a name that followed Johan to America. Of course, this information led me to search Johan's interesting family too. Believe me, the hunt became infectious! A mystery, a puzzle!

Two children were born to Anna and Johan, a son John in 1892 and daughter in 1894. Three months before Jenny Caroline was born, Johan was killed in a lumbering accident in what the Stillwater Gazette newspaper called, "The Pineries".

The Tozer Lumber Company gave Anna the choice of return passage to Norway with the two children, or a house built for her in South Stillwater. Anna chose another journey. In May of 1894 after Jenny's baptism, the three return to Helset farm, finding refuge there for nearly a year. Hard times for supporting a large family encouraged Anna's parents to recommend that she would find a better life in America.

Crossing the Atlantic Ocean for the third time, Annie Saeter is recorded on a U.K. passenger list, again out of Liverpool, England to New York, as a 26 year old mother with an infant daughter. They arrived in the United States 23 March 1895, once again documented on a passenger list. The most heartbreaking part of Anna's second journey is that she has left her 3 year old son with his grandparents on the farm. She doesn't see him until he makes his own journey after his confirmation at age 16 in 1909.

Since delving into my Grandma Jennie's journey, I have traveled to the Helset farm in Western Norway four times. Fortunately, relatives have been able to share more family stories of those who remained in Norway. The ultimate thrill was being on that same farm, seeing the same mountains and lake, hiking to the seter and then imagining Anna as a girl who decides to seek a new future.

Three thousand, eight hundred and sixteen miles separate Stillwater, MN and Hellesylt, Norway. Three generations separate Anna Helset Saeter and me, however confirming some facts about her have made her life real to me.

In our Synnøve-Nordkap Genealogy Group, we refer to finding the proof behind our search for family information. Many in the group are experts at guiding "newbies" to sources of information. Our lodge website genealogy page has a wealth of links that will help you search for the Anna's in your family.

