



2005: Fargo, North Dakota - 3-6 August

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

26 April 2005

**"Norwegian Immigrants - Fulfilling the Dream"**

Descendants and friends of Trøndelag, Gudbrandsdal, and northern Hedmark regions of Norway are invited to learn more about the Norwegian culture and spirit at the **Tre Lag Stevne** from **August 3-6, 2005**. The stevne (gathering) will be held at The Ramada Plaza Suites and Convention Center, 1635 42<sup>nd</sup> Street SW, Fargo, ND. The event is open to the public.

The stevne opens on Wednesday, Aug. 3 with a guided tour to Fort Abercrombie, Bagg Bonanza Farm and the Richland Church - areas where many Norwegian immigrants settled. Genealogy labs will be open in the evening Aug. 3, all day Aug. 4 and the morning of Aug. 5. Trained genealogists with extensive research materials (bygdebøker, church records, various publications from Norway and U.S.) will assist participants wishing to expand their knowledge of their Norwegian family history. Attendees can also take part in several classes including beginning genealogy, Norwegian genealogical materials available in the US, and unique resources that can be researched in Norway.

Thursday afternoon there will be a tour to the Hjemkomst Interpretive Center in Moorhead, MN, along with a "pitchfork fondue" dinner for all participants.

The Friday, Aug. 5 program includes the Opening Ceremony and Keynote Speaker, Verlyn Anderson who will discuss "The Promise Fulfilled: From Norwegian immigrants to Successful American Citizens." There will be demonstrations of Hardanger embroidery by Dorothy Moorhouse and wood carving of a Norwegian farmstead by John Rostad, along with presentations: "Hans Nielsen Hauge" by Johanna Hocker; "Norway's Independence" by Dawn Tommerdahl; "Norwegian Story Teller" - Dale Lammi; the story of "Astri My Astri" by Deb Nelson Gourley. In addition, there will be vendor sales and displays on both Thursday and Friday.

Participants can enjoy a social hour followed by the banquet on Friday evening. Bunads are welcome! The banquet speaker will be Hiram M. Drache, "Prairie Pioneers: Norwegian Immigrants on the Dakota-Minnesota Frontier."

On Saturday participants can attend their lag business meetings and participate in a special language class, "Norwegian for Travelers," taught by Roger Reinhart, pastor of Richland Lutheran Church. The stevne will conclude with a luncheon at the Sons of Norway Hall, musical entertainment and closing ceremony.

Final program details will be available in June from stevne registrar Dixie Hansen, in the lag newsletters, or on the lag websites listed below.

For Stevne reservations, please contact **Dixie Hansen** at [dx@dxhansen.com](mailto:dx@dxhansen.com), 651-690-0872 (evenings). Information and the registration forms will also be posted on the lag websites: [www.nhohlag.org/](http://www.nhohlag.org/) and [www.tronderlag.org/](http://www.tronderlag.org/) and [www.gudbrandlag.org/](http://www.gudbrandlag.org/). Reservations are required for the tour, dinner and banquet by July 15. Walk-in registrations will be permitted if space is available.

Please contact the **Ramada Plaza Suites & Convention Center** in Fargo directly for room reservations. Phone: 701-277-9000. Be sure to ask for the "Tre Lag Stevne rate". Cut-off date for the special stevne room rate is July 15.

**We greatly appreciate your assistance in sharing  
this information with your members!**