



Telelaget of America

CONNECTIONS COMMUNITY CULTURE

2025 Stevne

April 24-26 Spicer MN

The Patchwork of our Ancestors' Lives

The Telelaget *Stevne*, "The Patchwork of Our Ancestors' Lives," is a vibrant three-day celebration of the heritage, history, and culture of those with roots in Norway's Telemark region.

This year's event offers a rich array of activities, including genealogy workshops, cultural presentations, engaging lectures, and entertainment with a Norwegian flair. Highlights such as the *Bunad* and Sweater Parade, *Revy* (talent show), and informal gatherings provide ample opportunities to forge meaningful relationships and explore Norwegian traditions.



Thursday – Saturday, April 24 - 26 2025

Little Crow Resort & Conference Center
15980 MN-23 MN, Spicer, Minnesota

We have reserved a block of rooms with a nightly rate of \$132 – \$137 (includes breakfast)

Phone: (320) 347-1500 – <https://www.littlecrowresort.com/lodging>
Use Code: 042425TEL for Telelaget rate

Stevne Registration Deadline April 10, 2025

Daily Schedule

Thursday, April 24

2:00 - 4:00 pm Registration
2:00 - 5:00 pm Genealogy
4:00 - 4:30 pm Welcome and Introductions
4:30 - 5:15 pm **Class 1**
5:15 - 6:00 pm Cash Bar
6:00 pm Dinner
7:00 - 8:00 pm Log Church Players present three entertaining skits.

Friday, April 25

6:00 - 8:45 am Breakfast for Hotel Lodgers
8:30 am - 4:00 pm Genealogy
8:45 - 10:15 am **Class 2**
10:15 - 10:45 am Break
10:45 - 11:45 am **Class 3**
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch, Visit Displays, Social Time
1:30 - 2:30 pm **Class 4**
2:30 - 3:00 pm Break
3:00 - 4:00 pm **Class 5**
4:00 - 5:00 pm Break
5:00 - 6:00 pm Cash Bar
6:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner
7:00 - 9:00 pm Sweater & *Bunad* Parade, *Revy**

Saturday, April 26

6:00 - 9:00 am Breakfast for Hotel Lodgers
8:30 am - 2:00 pm Genealogy
9:00 - 10:00 am **Class 6**
10:00 - 10:30 am Break, Hotel Checkout,
10:30 - 11:30 am **Class 7**
12:00 - 1:00 pm Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 pm **Class 8**
2:00 - 3:00 pm Raffle Drawing, Time for Coffee, Visiting

Class Description

Thursday, April 24

Class 1 - Norway at time of emigration ... Anne Haugen Wagn

Friday, April 25

Class 2 - *Bunader*

Presenter: Naomi Nowland

Class 3 - East Telemark *Bunader*

Presenter: Anne Haugen Wagn

Class 4 - Tradition & Acculturation

Presenter: Jim Skree

Class 5 — *Sølje*

Presenter: Marne Olson

Saturday, April 26

Class 6 - Navigating our Website

Presenter: Amber Walters

Class 7 - What was in the Trunk Q & A

Presenters: Elaine Nordlie, Jim Skree, Anne Haugen Wagn

Class 8 — Crossing 200 Celebration in Norway and the U. S.

Presenter: Anne Haugen Wagn

Anne Haugen Wagn is one of Telelag's liaisons in Norway. She will be with us for the weekend sharing her vast knowledge of everything Telemark!

Post Stevne Event - Sunday, April 27

Matinee opera performance in Sioux Falls SD of "Giants of the Earth."

Additional **I**nformation

Steвне **M**eals

Breakfast

- Free for hotel guests (\$10 per person for those not staying at the hotel)
- Available beginning @ 6 am
- Breakfast Choices: Eggs, Meat, Bagels, English Muffins, Cereal, Waffles, Coffee, Juice, Milk
- Location: Breakfast room adjacent to hotel lobby

Lunch & Dinner *Served Buffet Style*

Thursday Dinner Pasta (Chicken and Mushroom Penne, Beef and Chicken Lasagna) with Caesar Salad

Friday Lunch Deli Sandwich (choice of Ham, Turkey or Beef) served on Croissant Roll, Coleslaw and Kettle Chips

Friday Dinner Salmon Fillet, Baby Red Potatoes, Cucumber Salad, Dessert

Saturday Lunch Sliced Roast Beef w/Mushroom Gravy, Roast Turkey w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans w/Almonds

Genealogy at the **S**teвне

Are you looking for information on a specific area in Norway? Let us know what you are looking for on your registration, and our genealogists will be sure the information is at *Stevne*. Check our library holdings on the website at www.telelagetofamerica.com/library

Log **C**hurch **P**layers

The Log Church Players will join us on Thursday evening to present three entertaining plays.

- Many stories of the local Norwegian pioneers have been handed down and retold from generation to generation. **"The Thank You Gift"** is a touching story about pioneer Kari Glesne's interaction with a local group of Native Americans.
- Choosing land to homestead, was an important decision; and apparently, sometimes competitive. **"The Great Race"** is a story about how two cousins settled their dispute.
- **Ole gets His Elk"** is the entertaining story of an elk hunt in 1861 by three local pioneers.

Bunad & **S**weater **P**arade

It's one of our traditions to showcase *Bunad* at our *Stevner*. This year we also want to encourage our members to wear their Norwegian sweaters to the banquet and take part in the parade. These items may have rich family histories and we believe our members would be interested in your story about them. If your family has any old pictures of your family wearing their *Bunad* or sweaters, please send them, along with your family name to lilajsb@gmail.com. They will be shown on screen during the parade.

Revy

What is a *Revy*? (pronounced Rev'ee)? It is a type of variety show that can include vocal and instrumental music, Norwegian dancing, dramatic readings, and maybe even a sing-a-long. If you have a talent that you would like to share in a 10-15 minute presentation, please contact Elaine Nordlie by phone (320-296-2955) or email enordlie1946@gmail.com

Cultural **D**isplays

Do you have items that have been handed down from your ancestors? We will have a display in our conference room set up if you would like to bring items. Include any information about your item on a 3x5 or 4x6 index card.

- Farm equipment & tools
- Kitchen Utensils
- Musical Instruments
- Quilts
- *Bunads* & Jewelry
- Carvings
- Rosemaling
- Textiles

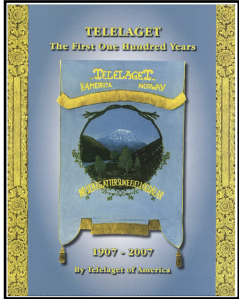
Raffle

Throughout the weekend, we will have a raffle for Norwegian influenced items. The drawing will be held on Saturday after lunch. If you have any items you would like to donate to the raffle, please bring them with you!

Publications

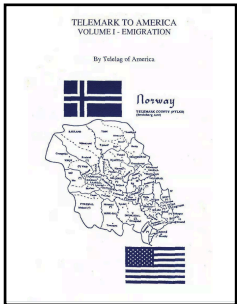
Telelaget of America has published books that are of historical significance about families' emigration journey. During this *Stevne*, four books will be discounted 20%. They are always available to purchase from our web site, but this event gives you an opportunity to see the actual publication and its content, avoid paying shipping costs, and get a great discount! Think ahead for birthday gifts, even Christmas! Books make excellent family gifts!

Four Discounted Books - 20% off during the *Stevne*



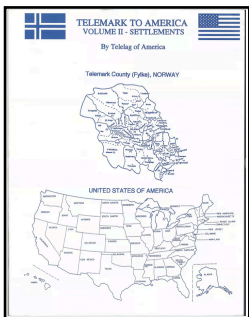
Telelaget: The First 100 Years 1907-2007 - USD \$20.00 Sale: \$16.00

Telelaget of America celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 2007 and published this collection. The contents of this volume include the history of the *bygdelag* & *stevner*, the history of board members and translators, the Telesoga and TeleNews, group tours to and from Norway, and Telelaget's age of technology.



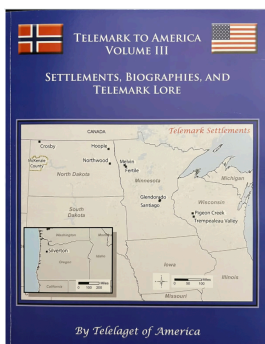
Telemark to America: Volume I - - USD \$20.00 Sale: \$16.00

In 1837 the first Telemark emigrants set off for America beginning a stream of thousands starting a new life in a strange land. They retained a love for Telemark that has been passed down through the generations. This volume is a collection of articles written both by authors from Telemark and Americans with roots in Telemark, as well as translations of articles written long ago. It tells as complete but concise a story of Telemark emigration as possible and gives insight into the country that the immigrants left behind.



Telemark to America: Volume II - - USD \$20.00 Sale: \$16.00

In 1992, Telelaget printed 500 copies of Telemark to America Volume II-Settlements; it has since been revised and updated. This volume is rich with settlement history from Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota. This 179-page book has an index including over 5,500 names and places. All the chapters are translations from the early Telesoga written by Torkel Oftelie. Torkel visited most of the Telemark settlements in the above-mentioned states between the years 1907 to 1926. The first issue of Telesoga, published in 1909, contained the first settlement history. Torkel documented the names of those living in these settlements and the stories of their ancestors - the first settlers in these areas. Revisions in the book included adding twenty-four more pictures, making numerous translation and grammatical corrections, explaining the location of many place names, and making it more user-friendly for younger generations by translating slang terms.



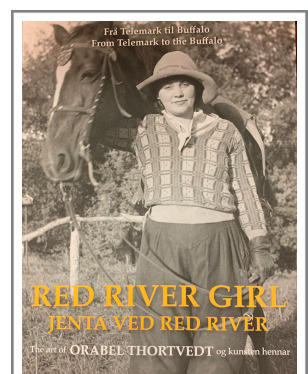
Telemark to America: Volume III Settlements, Biographies and Telemark Lore - - USD \$20.00 Sale: \$16.00

Volume III of the Telemark to America series was published and released in July 2011. The book is divided into three parts: articles on settlement history, emigrant biographies, and Telemark folklore. Much of the content was provided by Torkel Oftelie who he spent over twenty years visiting the settlements and documenting the lives of the Telemark emigrants. Torkel was concerned that the rich Telemark cultural heritage not be left behind. As with the other volumes, it is a valuable resource in searching for your Telemark ancestors, farms, and customs

“Red River Girl” – USD \$45.00 (regular price).

The text is both in Norwegian and English. Orabel Thortvedt, granddaughter of pioneer Olav G. Geitestad/Thortvedt, devoted much of her life exploring and depicting her story. She was a trained artist, loved animals and was inordinately interested in local history. This beautiful, coffee table style, book portrays the work of this fascinating artist, while at the same time telling a touching family saga.

Various past issues of the Telesoga – USD \$3.00 each.

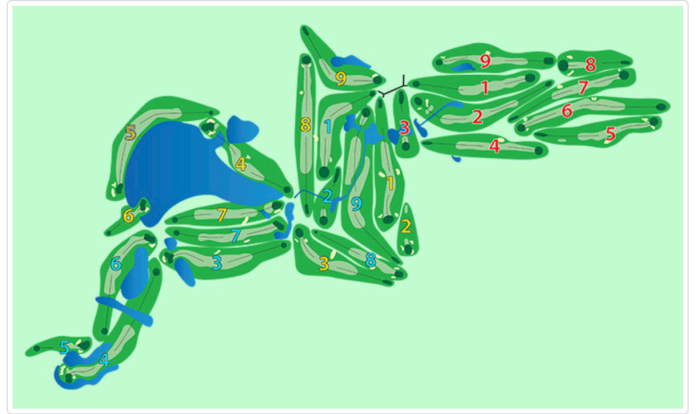


Little Crow Golf Resort

In 2024, the 27-hole golf course at Little Crow opened for the season on April 10! If you're a golfer, watch for this year's opening date at [Little Crow Golf Resort](#). With 5 sets of tees for players of all levels as well as a full service driving range, there is a golf experience for everyone. Voted "Best Golf Course" by West Central Tribune the last 4 years.

To learn more about the golf at Little Crow Resort, call - 320-354-2296 or visit their [web page](#) for all the information you need to book your tee time/

27 Holes: 3 sets of 9



Historical Attractions in the Area

Come to the *stevne* a day early, or stay a day longer and visit some of the historical attractions in the area. These locations include fascinating outdoor historical buildings, military data, and genealogy related to Norwegian settlers within 75 miles of Spicer. Click on the name for more information.

1. [Kandiyohi County History Center](#) in Willmar -- 13 miles away -- Open M-F 9am-4pm
2. [Yellow Medicine County Historical Museum](#) in Granite Falls -- 55 miles away -- Open W-S 9:30am-3:30pm
3. [Lac Qui Parle County History Center](#) in Madison -- 63 miles away -- Open W-F 10am-4pm
4. [Camp Release State Monument](#) in Montevideo -- 55 miles away -- 24 hrs
5. [Historic Chippewa County](#) in Montevideo -- 63 miles away -- Check the website for 2025 opening date
6. [Tokheim Stoneware](#) - Scandinavian folk art, Dawson MN -- 65 miles away -- Call 320-769-2142 for hours
7. [Old Log Church](#)- west of Norway Lake, Pennock -- 14 miles away -- Grounds open 24 hrs
8. [Paisley Threads](#) (quilt store)New London, MN -- 2 miles away -- M-F 10am-5pm Sat. 10am-3pm
9. [Berger Thoreson Monument](#) -- 14 miles away -- 24 hrs

Financial Note: Cost of the *stevne* is defrayed with "Thrivent Choice" dollars directed to *Telelaget* by our members and by a Thrivent Action Team Grant. If you are a Thrivent member, consider donating your "Thrivent Choice" dollars to Telelag to help offset the cost of special events like this *Stevne*.