



[Subscribe](#)
[Past Issues](#)
[Translate ▼](#)


Volume XXIX — March 2026



**Stoughton:**  
 Connections, Community, Culture  
 July 15-18, 2026  
 Host: Telelaget of America



## Greetings Members! We're the hosts this year!

Arrangements by the Telelag *Stevne* committee (Naomi, Amber and Wendy) for this summer's event are going well. We hope the information in this newsletter inspires you to make your summer plans to join us at this year's event! For those of you attending, the planning committee will be seeking volunteers to help in some small way. Expect to see a monthly email through August.

### ***New 7+ Lag Website!***



As part of this year's event, the Norwegian Stevner Incorporated (NSI) board has created a new [website](#) for 7+ Lag members and is the "go-to" location for this year's *Stevne*. As new information about this *Stevne* becomes available, it will be added to this new website.

### **Theme: Stoughton: Connections, Community, Culture**

If this theme sounds familiar, it's our lag's theme too! And it speaks exactly to what our members enjoy about our lag and past *Stevner*...connections, community and culture.

Welcome to Stoughton, Wisconsin, where the Norwegian American traditions, culture, and heritage we celebrate at our annual *Stevne* are woven into the community's day-to-day in very special ways.

Discover the home of the largest *Syttende Mai* celebration in the U.S., a town where you can buy



May 15-17, 2026

*brunost* with a quick stop on your way home from work or drink at a bar shaped like a Viking ship. A place where rosemaling is everywhere you look, *bunader* are on display at the library, and Norwegian Dance is a high-school sport.

With presentations and events taking place in a variety of historic buildings, a bus tour of the culturally significant Koshkonong prairie, the state-of-the-art Livsreise Heritage Center steps away, and unique partnerships with Stoughton's downtown businesses, this year's *Stevne* offers a unique way to discover the connections, community, and culture of this distinctively Norwegian American place.

## **Schedule of Events**

### **Event Cost for Active Telelag Members...**

Registration \$56.00

Bus Tour With Lunch \$25.00

Banquet \$30.00

Class fees range from \$5-\$10. No fee for presentations and videos.

### **Regional Bus Tour**

Renowned tour guide Dana Kelly will lead us through the Koshkonong prairie, and we will learn about its historical significance. Learn more at this [link](#).

### **Genealogy**

Explore the printed resources of 8 lags (dozens of Norwegian municipalities) and take advantage of the guidance of over a dozen experienced genealogy researchers. Get help with online resources or translations, too!

### **Cultural Sessions**

Choose from 24 educational and demonstrative sessions on the 16th and 17th. See the entire list of cultural sessions [here](#).

### **Telelaget Annual Meeting**

This year's meeting will be on Saturday morning (July 18th). Plans are not finalized. Stay tuned for updates.

### **Lodging**

Telelaget has a block of rooms at the **Tru by Hilton Stoughton** for *Stevne* attendees.

**Reservations can be made at this time.** The *Stevne* rate is \$159 per night, and people can add on or take off 1+2 days on their reservation. If you prefer to place your reservation by phone, call **386-843-3070** and mention "7+ Lag Stevne" to get the group rate.

If you miss the group reservation or these accommodations do not meet your needs, the Stoughton area visitor site presents other [lodging options](#).

**Register at our website -> <https://www.telelagetofamerica.com/stevne#stevne2026> or if you wish to pay by check, download this [fillable PDF form](#).**

Deadline for registration and hotel booking deadline: June 15

### **Meals**

Stoughton features many options for food and drink. The hosts have purposefully excluded meals in the event schedule so you can enjoy the cuisine you prefer while in Stoughton. Check out this

Stoughton site to view restaurant options in Stoughton - there are many choices.

### Stevne Around Stoughton - 5 Amazing Blocks of Main Street ([map](#))

Downtown Stoughton is a one-of-a-kind adventure full of Norwegian culture, art, and heritage, and the entire community is excited to welcome us. Explore businesses on this easily walkable Main Street and experience the Norwegian connections around every corner. The Chamber of Commerce is creating a local business passport. Upon your visit, businesses will stamp your passport and at the end of the event, stamped passports will be entered into a prize drawing. Many of the local businesses have graciously modified their hours, customized their offerings just for our event!



We hope you'll join us at this annual event and the Telelag member meeting.

Your Stevne Planning Committee

Naomi Nowland — [president@telelagetofamerica.com](mailto:president@telelagetofamerica.com)

Amber Walters — [vicepresident@telelagetofamerica.com](mailto:vicepresident@telelagetofamerica.com)

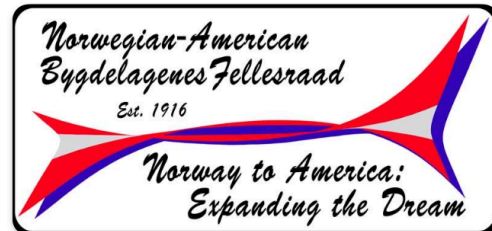
Wendi Storhoff -- [treasurer@telelagetofamerica.com](mailto:treasurer@telelagetofamerica.com)

## Fellesraad News

### 2026 Annual Meeting May 1-2

**“Connecting our Future with our Past.”**

Go to [Fellesraad.com](http://Fellesraad.com) for details



Representatives from each of twenty-nine *bygdelag* meet yearly in Minneapolis beginning on the Friday before the first Saturday in May. Friday's meeting is held via Zoom. Saturday's meeting takes place (in person) at Mindeskirken, 924 E 1st Street, Minneapolis, 55404. For the schedule, cost and registration, visit at [www.fellesraad.com](http://www.fellesraad.com)

Welcome  Velkommen

**New Members!**

Zachary Johnson — Shoreview, MN  
William Hull — Avondale, AZ  
David Landsverk — Los Angeles, CA  
Marla Olson — Hudson, WI  
Janet Ostlie Leifeld — Estherville, IA

Bjørg Oseid Kleivi — Norway  
Ken Hougey — Whitney, TX  
Janice Somerfeld — Brooklyn, WI  
Carol Witt — Sheboygan, WI

Your Subscription expires <<Expiration date>>

[Click Here to Renew](#)

# TOA Website

**A new genealogy resource has been added to our website.**

Launched in February, the Edgar Johnson Genealogy site contains over **33,000 individuals** — most of them from **Holla, Lunde, Solum, and Drangedal** in Telemark. The bilingual (Norwegian and English) genealogy database is publicly available here: <https://www.edgar-johnsen-slekt.no> Many with Telemark heritage may discover ancestors — and perhaps even some family connections they didn't know existed.

This website was developed through a collaboration between **Edgar Johnsen** and **Holla Historielag**, the local historical society that has supported the project financially.

Note: Check our website to view other genealogy resources.



[Heritage Resources](#)

[Renew or Become a Member](#)

[Events & Happenings](#)

[Telelag Store](#)



Telelaget of America Social Media Accounts

[View email in browser](#)

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

