



# Sognefjordlag Bladet

## Newsletter of Sognefjordlaget



www.sognefjordlag.com



Vol. 62



Summer Edition 2024

### President's Message

By Lucy Ghastin

I am looking forward to seeing you all again in New Ulm, Minn. on August 15-17. There are many historical places here and current shops to explore when you have time. The Wanda Gag home here is one such historical place. Her family was artistic; her father designed the family home. Wanda was an American author, print-maker, translator and illustrator. She is well known for her book, Millions of Cats, which she wrote and illustrated.

The Gag family house is an historical landmark and a work of art. For the quilters in our Sognefjordlag group, New Ulm has three quilting shops to choose from (see New Ulm Tourism booklet). Another landmark to check out on your own (perhaps Saturday afternoon on your way home) is the August Schell Brewing Company and the Schell Mansion Gardens. These public gardens are free. When our stemne ends at noon on Saturday, you can choose from a variety of restaurants in New Ulm for lunch. Some of the many options are Lola-An American Bistro, 209 Pub & Grill, Perkins, Main

Jiang House (Chinese), Plaza Garibaldi (Mexican) and many more.

Other points of Interest: the Glockenspiel, Minnesota Music Hall of Fame and Prince's large guitar out front, Defenders Monument, German-Bohemian Immigrant Monument, Governor Lind House, Hermann Monument, Kiesling House, Martin Luther College (WELS), various city parks, and a statue of Wanda Gag in front of the New Ulm Public Library.

Lucy Ghastin  
leghastin@gmail.com



## Stemne to feature trolls, music, New Ulm history

Our stemne events will begin with registration on Thursday, August 15 at 8:30 am at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1515 Garden Street, New Ulm, MN 56073. Bring your Norwegian treats and Silent Auction items that morning.

Joel Botten's talk on the history of Hanska will begin at 9:15 a.m. We will have time to socialize before we go to historic Turner Hall for lunch at 11:00 a.m.

After lunch our bus will pick us up and depart for the afternoon history trip to the Norwegian town of Hanska just south of New Ulm. Thursday evening dinner will be at Christ the King Lutheran Church, followed by Diane Hanson Lambrecht entertaining us with her presentation on "How to Find a Troll." Find out all the types



continued on P. 2



### Remember!



Norwegian-related item donations for the Silent Auction will be gratefully accepted Thursday morning.

**Proceeds go to the student scholarship fund.**

Members unable to attend the meeting can mail scholarship donations (please note on check) to  
Jan Robertson  
6205 Mineral Point Rd. #213  
Madison, WI 53705

Bring your favorite treat to share – Norwegian or otherwise. Without member contributions, coffee breaks won't be nearly as tasty!



### What's inside



Stemne schedule and speakers continued



New Ulm Stemne Registration Form

## Schedule/speakers *~* Continued from Pg. 1

of trolls there are and what they like to do.

On Friday, August 16, Joel Botten will talk about Theodora Cormont, a Norwegian-American composer and performer from this area, and a tour of the Brown County Historical Society Museum.



**Joel Botten**

Lunch will be at the church, followed by Diane Lambrecht's talk, "Highlights of New Ulm" at 1:15 p.m. After our morning visit to the Brown County Historical Society Museum you can ask Diane any questions you may have regarding the New Ulm area. She will also give an overview of places to visit Friday afternoon on your own in New Ulm.

The rest of the afternoon will be open for you to shop and explore downtown New Ulm until we meet at the Glockenspiel at 4:50 p.m. to see the moving figures and hear the 5:00 p.m. musical chimes. We have 5:15 p.m. dinner reservations at the Kaiserhoff Restaurant, which is a block from the Glockenspiel. Be sure to reserve your place(s) for dinner on the

registration form. After dinner we will return to the church for our evening entertainment, a flute concert by professional flutist Dr. Maria Harman.

Saturday morning Jen Dauer, with the help of Hunter Dauer, will talk about her husband's German ancestors in the New Ulm area and what happened to them during the US-Dakota War in 1862. We will finish the Silent Auction and have our Annual Meeting. Lunch will be on your own in the area; you may want to catch some other sights here before going home.

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**Diane (Hanson) Lambrecht** is a Norwegian now living in New Ulm. She will talk to the stemne gathering about the highlights of New Ulm and give a presentation entitled "How to Find a Troll." She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and was a reading specialist in education at various levels for 36 years. Her master's degree focused on using storytelling in the classroom.

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**Dr. Maria Harman**, professional flutist, will provide musical entertainment Friday, interspersed with comments and stories about the music. Maria, a native of Le Mars, Iowa, resides in Briarcliff Manor, New York, a village north of NYC, with her husband, Ismael Cunha, and their son, Filipe. Prior to moving to NY, she was the director of bands, instrumental studies, and music education, at MidAmerica Nazarene

University.

As a soloist, and ensemble member, she has performed in Europe, Asia, Mexico, Bolivia, and throughout the US with a variety of ensembles including principal flutist of the Kansas City Wind Symphony, Midwest Winds, the Rome Festival Orchestra, and as a substitute with the Dallas Bach Society, Orchestra of New Spain, and the West Point Military Band. Maria earned a BA from Augustana College, in Sioux Falls, SD, and an MM and DMA, in flute performance, from the University of North Texas (UNT). At UNT, she was a teaching fellow, Priddy Fellow in Arts Advocacy and Leadership, co-director of the UNT Fine Arts Series, and intern at the Kennedy Center, in Washington, DC.



*Photo courtesy of UNT*

**Dr. Maria Harman**

At Augustana, Maria participated in Norwegian music events and became more familiar with Norwegian ways after making friends with various Norwegian students.



### Brown County Historical Society Research Library

Researchers request that people who wish to do genealogical research make an appointment at

**507-233-2619 or  
research@browncountyhistorymn.org**

(Entrance to research library is included in cost of museum admission.)



### Hermann Monument

10 Monument St – Atop Center St. hill

Climb the spiral stairs to see the view from inside the dome or continue up attic-like stairs to view the river valley from the walkway with railing just below Hermann's feet.

**Admission:** \$3/person

**Hours:**

Wed./Thursday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday/Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

\*Closed during inclement weather



# Sognefjordlag Stemne REGISTRATION

August 15, 16, 17, 2024

Christ the King Lutheran Church  
1515 N Garden Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073

Name (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Description	Price x number of people	Total
Registration fee      Adult	\$30.00 x	
Registration fee      Youth	\$10.00 x	
Thursday, August 15 <b>Tour/Bus Trip</b> to Hanska      Adult Covers travel on air-conditioned, deluxe coach	\$35.00 x	
Thursday, August 15 <b>Tour/Bus Trip</b> to Hanska      Youth	\$17.50 x	
Thursday, August 15 <b>Lunch</b> at Turner Hall German plate (gluten free option available)	\$15.00 x	
Thursday, August 15 <b>Dinner</b> Happy Joe's Pizza (gluten free available); served at the church	\$10.00 x	
Friday, August 16 <b>Lunch</b> Sandwich and salads (gluten free available); served at the church	\$10.00 x	
Friday, August 16 <b>Dinner, Dutch treat</b> Number of reservations at Kaiserhoff Restaurant	# Reservations	
<b>Total to Sognefjordlag</b>		\$

**Registration due by August 6, 2024**

Check payable to **Sognefjordlag**.  
Email questions: [leghastin@gmail.com](mailto:leghastin@gmail.com)

**Mail form and check to:**

Lucy Ghastin  
7130 Century Avenue  
Middleton, WI 53562

Identify special dietary needs for meals:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Sognefjordlag**  
**% Jan Robertson**  
**6205 Mineral Point Rd. #213**  
**Madison, WI 53705**

**To:**

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER**

**Check the mailing label above to make sure your membership is current. If not, please renew today. If you have had a change of address, please notify Jan Robertson. Ask a friend to join!**

**SOGNEFJORDLAG RENEWAL**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Farm name or area of your Norwegian heritage** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Annual membership \$10.00**

\_\_\_\_\_ **3 year membership \$25.00**

**Make checks payable to Sognefjordlag**

**Send to:**

**Jan Robertson**

**6205 Mineral Point Rd. #213**

**Madison, WI 53705**