

Letter from the President – September 2026

The 2026 Stevne is over and I think we all had a good time. The highlight was a day trip to Norway Block in Minneapolis where we had a morning session at Mindekirken ending with a traditional Norwegian lunch and then moved across the parking lot to Norway House for another speaker, a tour, Hardanger fiddlers and dancers, and finished the day with a salmon dinner for our banquet. Then we moved back down to Northfield for the last day and a half of more speakers, and our business meeting.

Next year, Hallinglag will be joining up with Valdres Samband for a joint Stevne in Glenwood, MN. Glenwood and the surrounding communities were settled by Norwegians and the Hallings had a large presence in the area.

We also are planning a joint heritage trip with Valdres Samband to Norway the end of July into August, 2027. If you are descended from people from either, or both areas, consider joining us on a fun and fabulous itinerary to where our forefathers came from. A goal for many is to get on the farms that our people left behind when they immigrated to America and in many cases, that does happen on these trips.

Part of being a member means receiving a quarterly magazine containing articles related to Norwegian immigrant history and culture, especially those that are directly connected with Hallingdal or people from there. Our editor is always looking for articles, so if you are a writer, please consider contributing to the magazine.

Another benefit of membership is that we offer three scholarships a year of up to \$300 each for school age children and grandchildren of members to attend certified Norwegian language classes at various camps around the country and Canada. Details of how to apply for a scholarship will be in one of the upcoming Hallingens.

If you are not already a member, I hope you will consider joining the Hallinglag. We would love to meet you, and who knows, we might even be related. Our genealogist can probably help us out on that discovery.

Marie Renneke - President