



## Bygdelagenes Fellesraad Update 26 Sept 2017

- Congratulations to all of you for successful Stevner! Although I was not able to attend each Stevne, I have heard very positive remarks.
- We encourage all Stevne planners to take advantage of the new tool which has been developed for your use. Nancy Pickering of the Fellesraad Board has created this and provided information on it. See her email of 8/07/2017 for details. To access it, click on the [Link to Share/Edit Fellesraad Spreadsheet](#).
  - If you have any questions, send an email to Nancy at [nancyp@minn.net](mailto:nancyp@minn.net)
  - Please add your recent Stevne information to that database. Your additions to it are needed!
- Will each lag forward the names of new officers with their contact info to Gene Rodi? This info will be incorporated into the Fellesraad website and updated *Explore Your Norwegian Roots* brochure. Then a 1,000 more brochures will be printed for everyone's use. Let me know if you will want some of the printed brochures sent to you. Just send me the number, your postal address and phone number (both are needed for the mailing).
- Fellesraad is working on its 501c3 status, and we encourage each bygdelag to do this also, if you haven't already done so. This status is necessary for multiple reasons. There are tax benefits to us individually when we volunteer with a 501c3, which includes itemized deductions on property or money not reimbursed, mileage etc. See this website for more details: <http://yourbusiness.azcentral.com/tax-deductions-officers-nonprofit-organization-10706.html>

- I am asking each Lag to submit what information you have of your Lag's history to the Norwegian American Historical Association in Northfield, MN. It is critical that we save our Lags' histories. Our children may not think our bygdelag historical information is very valuable, after we are gone. So let's donate some of that now. Attached is a document on the NAHA Donation guidelines.
- Keep up the good work you are doing in your Lag! It is a privilege to work with you!

## *Attachment:*

### **NAHA Archives & Fellesraad:**

The Norwegian-American Historical Association was founded in 1925. Its purpose is to locate, collect, preserve and interpret the Norwegian-American experience with accuracy, integrity, and liveliness. It is an independent organization located in Rolvaag Library at St. Olaf College.

Collection P0465 of the NAHA Archives is Bygdelagene. Most of the affiliates of the Fellesraad are represented in this collection, although the extent of material varies considerably from lag to lag. Gudbrandsdalslaget, Totenlag, and Trønderlag are especially well represented. Hadeland Lag and Sigdalslag also have extensive material.

The NAHA Archives welcomes additions to this important collection. Of particular interest is material that documents the history of each bygdelag and of the Fellesraad. These include:

- Constitution
- Organizational records
- Membership rosters
- Clippings
- Event programs
- Yearbooks
- Newsletters
- Photographs, including panoramas

Inclusion of this material in the NAHA Archives will ensure that a record of the Bygdelag movement is properly preserved in an accessible collection.

For further information, see “Donations of Archival Material” under the Archives section of the NAHA site: [naha.stolaf.edu/archives](http://naha.stolaf.edu/archives)

To discuss a potential donation, contact: [naha-archivists@stolaf.edu](mailto:naha-archivists@stolaf.edu)

The NAHA office is at: 507-786-3221. DAG, 4/2017