

7+ Lag Stevne 2025 ~ Austin, Minnesota - July 9 - 12, 2025
Norwegian Crossings 1825-2025

The Landings Lag stevne committee has been busy gathering and sharing information and ideas for our upcoming event this summer. We will explore some of the local Norwegian history in Austin and offer speakers featuring a variety of topics. Our event will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton & Austin Conference Center, 1701 4th St. NW, Austin, MN, 55912.

DoubleTree - room rate of \$139/night for July 9 - 11, 2025 - call 1-507-433-1000; press # and you should get a live person. Ask for no the 7+ Lag Stevne block room rate of \$139

Days Inn - room rate of \$120/night for July 9 - 11- 2025, conveniently close to the DoubleTree
1-507-299-5675; press 1 (new reservation); request the room rate for the 7+ Lag Stevne special event.

The stevne will begin on **Wednesday, July 9** with a tour and lunch starting at 11 a.m. at St. Olaf Church in Austin. At this time, we are renting 2, 15-passenger vans to transport tour participants to the town of Grand Meadow, Minnesota to explore with guided tours the Bear Creek Norwegian Lutheran Church, the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic Hall), also known as Booth Post No. 130, and the Grand Meadow Chert Quarry. Cost of the tour is \$40 which includes lunch. Return time is estimated at 5 p.m.

← **7+ Lag Stevne 2025 ~ Austin, ...**

gy, and vendors (if we have them).
Address by Dale Goodman (through
y of the 1825 "Restoration sloop from

its roots, through the voyage itself, the reception in New York City, and finally to the first Norwegian settlement in the US in Kendall. NY.

Classes begin after lunch from 1 - 5 p.m.

The evening is set aside for individual Lag meetings. All Lags should plan this activity on your own. If you wish to use some space at the convention center let me know.

Friday, July 11 will continue with a full day of genealogy, classes, and hospitality, 9 a.m - 3 p.m. A social hour with an open bar in the lobby from 5 - 6 p.m. Banquet seating begins at 6 p.m.; all banquet tickets need to be purchased in advance. We are happy to announce the following choices for the plated meal to be served at the banquet:

1. Stuffed Pork, Green Beans w/almonds, Baby Red Potatoes, Garden Salad, Strawberry Shortcake w/whipped cream, water - \$35
2. Chicken Provolone, Glazed Carrots, Mashed Potatoes w/gravy, Garden Salad, Strawberry Shortcake w/wipped cream, water - \$35
3. Quinoa Bowl, Garden Salad, Strawberries in a bowl, water - \$30

Entertainment follows the banquet featuring the NORWEGIAN BACHELOR FARMERS

Saturday, July 12, 9 - 11:30 a.m. is the closing session featuring George Olson and his presentation entitled “They Brought More Than Lutefisk and Lefse.” A mixture of light history, traditions, some humor and song, both traditional that our immigrant ancestors brought with them and “immigrant” songs. Entertainment will officially end the stevne.

Introducing the NORWEGIAN BACHELOR FARMERS

The Norwegian Bachelor Farmers, Kyle and Dave, have been entertaining audiences for over two decades with their eclectic blend of Scandinavian music, storytelling, and humor. Past credits include: Hostfest in Minot, ND, Nordic Fest in Decorah, IA, Norwegian National League in Park Ridge, IL, Scandinavian Day at Vasa Park, IL, Syttende Mai in Stoughton, WI, and many other Scandinavian festivals throughout the Midwest.

<https://kyleanddave.wixsite.com/songs>

Our speakers and their topics:

Dale Goodman- Keynote Speaker @ 9:30 am Thursday talking about our theme Norwegian Crossing and the ship, the Restauration. (through Vesterheim in Decorah, IA). This presentation



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Make tweaks, leave comments, and share with others to edit at the same time.

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through the voyage itself, the settlement in the US in Kendall. NY. Austin, MN) His passion is in topics in immigration & World War I. DESIGN PRACTICE, LLC (Austin, itecture and its influences from ng customs in Norway & then -Americans, specifically her

Karen Fried & Nancy Gulbranson, food demonstrators. Nancy is a retired Family & Consumer Science teacher/HS Principal. Karen is a retired Spring Grove School District employee and member of the SG Sons of Norway Lodge. Both are members of the Spring Grove Giants of the Earth Heritage Center. They will be making Norwegian Kransekake (Norwegian Wedding Cake). Fun, Fun, Fun!

Thomas Jacobson - will speak on pastor Clausen who worked on establishing mission churches among the Norwegian settlements. He was the pastor who was active at Beaver Creek. Tom will speak on Claus Lauritz Clausen, who was instrumental in founding Beaver Creek Lutheran Church in Mower County in 1856.

Tom is Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church, Thornville, Ohio (NALC) and Assistant Professor of History at the Institute of Lutheran Theology. He has written a book on Hans Nielsen Hauge and the Haugean Movement which will be offered for sale at the stevne.

Since our Wednesday tour will include Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, I suggested to Tom that he might want to speak on Thursday, so he doesn't have to commit to spending three days at the stevne.

Caitlin Sackrison - Her focus seems to be on women. I think we can request a certain emphasis - either their role in homesteading, or the Dakota War. She could stick with her study of women in Brown County, or else try to give a more general view of women in Mower and its neighboring counties, if that would work for her. Let me know what you think and I will get back to her with our preferences.

Caitlin completed her Ph.D. in history in 2023, with a dissertation topic entitled “Practice and Partnership, Ownership and Inheritance: Norwegian Women Homesteaders in Brown County, Minnesota, 1850-1900.” As the name highlights, it was focused on Norwegian immigrant women in Minnesota's Brown County where her grandmother's family from Valdres lived.

Gracia Grindal - author and presenter

Candace Simar - renowned poet and author from Pequot Lakes, MN and grandchild of Scandinavian immigrants, she enjoys a passion for Minnesota history and how things might have been. She will have her books available for sale.

Kelly Herness - Title: Heritage and Horizons: A Norwegian Study Abroad Experience
Bio/Blurb: Kelly Herness grew up on a family dairy farm in rural Western Wisconsin. In high school, Kelly was active in FFA, music, athletics, and the community. Through her involvement in FFA and her farm upbringing, she became passionate about all things agriculture related and now attends the University of Wisconsin – Madison, studying Agricultural and Applied Economics, Life Sciences Communication, and Public Policy. Through UW, Kelly was able to attend a study abroad program during the Fall of 2024 in Bø I Midt-Telemark, Norway. During her study abroad experience, she learned more about her family heritage and the stories that had been passed on from relatives and expanded her horizons with new, exciting, and challenging experiences. Currently, Kelly is involved in Collegiate Farm Bureau and the Association of Women in Agriculture at UW-Madison and has enjoyed sharing her study abroad experience with other organizations, such as the Madison Torske Klubben. UW-Madison student who recently studied abroad in Norway.

The Norwegian Bachelor Farmers



